

The st thomas' story

21st March 2021

We will worship at 10.30am this Sunday using online resources only. .
Details at end of notice sheet for St Thomas' Online.

Following the service there will be a Zoom meeting chat. Details to join Zoom meetings can be found in Pastoral letter. Click on the link in [blue writing](#).

A short video '**Thought for the Day**' (recorded by David McCarthy) will be available on Facebook Monday to Thursday morning from the 'Rector Cave'.

Please check dates and times for **Midday and Night Prayers** for next week.

staff and contacts

Rector: Rev. David McCarthy
W: 0131 374 3694 M: 0741 123 6433
e: david@stt.church
Day off: Friday

Young Persons' Pastoral Worker:
Phil Taylor
T: 0131 285 8782
e: phil@stt.church
Part furloughed

Worship Coordinator: David Harvey
T: 0131 285 8782 (*Church Office*)
e: churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk

Church Coordinators:
Jane Ross & Rosemary Harvey
Office Hours: Open Mon, Wed, Fri only
9.30am – 12.30pm. Part furloughed
T: 0131 285 8782 (*Church Office*)
e: churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk
 @StThomasEdin
 St Thomas' Church, Edinburgh
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Vestry Secretary: Kathleen Demircan
T: 0131 285 8782 (*Church Office*)
e: churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk

Furlough of Staff

Please note the church office will be staffed on **Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings only** until further notice.

Thank you – to Phil & Triona Busby who have been re-varnishing and sealing the Sanctuary floor in preparation for our in – person return to the building!

Easter Services: You must let the office know if you'd like to be present for any of our in-person services. This will assist with track and trace should it become necessary. We'll let you know next week if there are any changes to the regulations. Our main worship will continue to be streamed online for those who cannot join us in person.

Holy Communion: We would like to invite all those who are followers of Christ to participate in Holy Communion on Easter Sunday. With this in mind, if you plan on watching online, we will deliver pre-prepared bread and wine to your home the week before if you let the office know. Please do so by 12pm on Monday 29 March.

Holy Week will look like this:

Sunday 28 March	10.30am Palm Sunday Worship
Thursday 1 April	7pm Maundy Thursday Holy Communion
Friday 2 April	Joint Online Service with Corstorphine Churches Together (details to be confirmed but probably at 7pm)
Sunday 4 April	8am Holy Communion (Outside St Ts') 10.30am All-age Worship followed by Holy Communion

Easter Invitations: We have ordered 1000 invitation cards for our Easter Day worship in person and online. Our aim is to deliver them to homes in the vicinity of the church from **Sunday 28 March**. If you can help do this, please contact the office this week. If you would like a few to give to your neighbours or friends, we should have enough, so please ask!

Rooted Bible Study

It fills us with joy to announce that with the beginning of the new programme (Acts 8 – 12: The Lord's Word Dispersed to Judea and Samaria) we will offer two Rooted meetings every week to accommodate the growing number of ladies – **starting this week: one on Mondays at 4pm and one on Wednesdays at 4pm**. Details are in the Pastoral letter to join the Zoom meeting or contact Kerstin Prill.

Pastoral Care Plan

Kerstin Prill has been working hard on a plan for Pastoral Care at St Ts' which the vestry and trustees have now approved. We will now seek to implement it with your help, encouragement, and prayers. You have received a copy with this letter.

St Thomas' Church Annual General Meeting 28 March at 12.30pm

While it now looks like we can meet for worship on the day of our AGM, we will not be permitted to meet for business! We will therefore meet by 'Zoom'. You will have received information about nominations to vestry with this letter. Details to join the AGM are in the Pastoral letter.

Phil Taylor writes: For those who might be wondering, Sue and I now have a vague plan for getting married. I say vague because all the Government plans for opening up are dependent on the circumstances, but in theory Sue and I will be getting married on April 17. To those of you holding us in your prayers, many thanks and please do continue to do so as we work towards this hopeful date. Assuming it all goes ahead as planned it will be streamed and I will be sure to post a link here ahead of time.

NEW LOGO

The vestry and trustees have also now given approval for the introduction of a new logo for use in our social media, website, communications, and signage. Many thanks to the team who have worked tirelessly on this for many months. It will be rolled out in the coming weeks. The finalised image is below:



Seeking Accommodation

Tiffany Butler, a prospective PhD student at Edinburgh University, is seeking accommodation. She is resident in Edmonds, Washington State and is a member of the council of the Diocese of Cascadia, Anglican Church in North America. If you can help, please let contact me.

Bill McGillivray passed away on Friday 12 March. Because of the travel difficulties caused by Covid-19, services to give thanks for his life will not be held until July. Please continue to keep Bill's family in prayer.

St Thomas' Church Online **Week Beginning 21st March 2021**

Please note that all 'Zoom' meetings now require participants to enter a passcode. This feature has been added to boost the security and safety of those taking part.

Online Worship & Gathering

All worship events are available online at:

<https://www.facebook.com/stthomasedin>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1r0Eq3PqBmxioDssYXCbGQ>

<https://www.pscp.tv/StThomasEdin>

Sunday 21 March

Online Worship @ 10.30am.

Post- Worship Chat: Zoom details on Pastoral letter.

Monday 22 March

@12pm - Midday Prayer (Facebook)

@ 4.00 - 5.15pm - Rooted Bible Study

Contact Kerstin Prill (kerstinprill67@gmail.com) to join this 'Zoom' meeting.

Tuesday 23 March

@ 9.30pm – Night Prayer (Facebook)

Wednesday 24 March

@ 12pm – Midday Prayer (Facebook)

@ 4.00 - 5.15pm - Rooted Bible Study

Contact Kerstin Prill (kerstinprill67@gmail.com) to join this 'Zoom' meeting.

Thursday 25 March

@ 10am - 'Zoom' Coffee Online: Zoom details on Pastoral letter.

Sunday 28 March - Online Worship @10.30am

for our prayer

Give thanks for the unity at the launch of the Anglican Convocation Europe and for our first gathering of Synod – pray that we will grow in number as churches join us and as new church plants are created.

Pray for Westhill Community Church as they negotiate about property with the diocese of Aberdeen – that an equitable settlement will be reached.

Give thanks that we will be able to worship in person from Sunday 28 May – pray that all plans for safe meeting will be in place and that it will be glorious! Pray too that the government guidance might permit singing, even from behind our masks!

Pray for our Easter Day worship – that new people will come as we invite them.

For good governance – that local and national politicians will work hard on our behalf and serve with integrity.

For those young people in Edinburgh who have chosen to commit violence against bus drivers – that this will stop and that all people can do their work in safety.

For business owners who are struggling in this lockdown – that opening up will be possible soon and that they will prosper.

For those who are sick – Kerstin Prill's brother, Detlef; Anna McLaggan as she continues to recover; Cathy Murray in hospital

Give thanks for Helen Eberstein's return home – pray as she adjusts to this and to the care she will need.

Give thanks for the life and ministry of Bill McGillivray and pray for his family as they grieve his passing. Pray that the plans to come to Edinburgh in July for a service of thanksgiving will come to fruition.