

# The st thomas' story

30 May 2021

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**We will worship at 10.30am this Sunday in church and online.**

Details at end of notice sheet for St Thomas' Online. **Please book early.**

**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.

Please check dates and times for **Midday and Night Prayers** for next week, they have changed.

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## staff and contacts

**Rector:** Rev. David McCarthy

W: 0131 374 3694 M: 0741 123 6433

e: [david@stt.church](mailto:david@stt.church)

Day off: Friday

**Young Persons' Pastoral Worker:**

Phil Taylor

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**Worship Coordinator:** David Harvey

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**Church Coordinators:**

Rosemary Harvey

Office Hours: Open Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri  
9.30am – 12.00pm.

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 @StThomasEdin

 St Thomas' Church, Edinburgh

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**Vestry Secretary:** Kathleen Demircan

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**St Thomas' office will be open on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday morning, 9.30am to 12.00pm.** Please book for in-person at services as early as possible. We can only take bookings two weeks ahead.

**Thank you from Sue Gordon,**

I took the most recent batch of 150 Beanie Hats knitted over the last quarter to the Mission to Seafarers Chaplain, the Revd Tim Tunley. He is so grateful for these, knitted generously and with love for the seafarers he visits in his duties round the Scottish ports. The really chill weather especially in our waters over these months has made the hats such a welcome and appreciated gift to the seafarers, and an opportunity for him to express the Christian hope and love by which they have been made and given. Thank you to each of our knitters.

For others who may like to join the knitting, the patterns are available from the Church Office. Thank you, Sue Gordon.

We have received a late Easter card from **Akemi Hashimoto**, in Japan, she used to attend St. Thomas, please contact the office for more information.

**From Monday 17 May, our online prayer times will be as follows:**

- Midday Prayer on Tuesdays at 12pm
- Night Prayer on Thursdays at 9.30pm

In addition, we will add a short interactive '**Zoom**' prayer gathering once a week. Sunday's at 6.30pm – 7pm. Details of this will appear in the weekly pastoral letter.

As we explore how we can begin meeting together in person again, we are also looking at the possibility of making the Prayer Base and Central Meeting in June events which will take place in St Ts' building.

## **Coming Out of Lockdown – Legal Requirements**

Since Easter, it has been great to gather for worship together on Sundays.

However, we remain under some difficult restrictions –

- We are limited in how many can be present in our building
- We must maintain social distancing of 2m
- We must ensure that surfaces are regularly sanitised
- Congregational singing is not permitted
- The law says we must require people to wear masks

We remain hopeful that as we go through summer, some or all of these restrictions will be lifted. For now, they remain law and we must follow them, or risk intervention by the authorities. If we had an outbreak focussed on St T's, we would run the risk of our in-person worship being stopped. It is therefore essential that we abide by the regulations as best we can, believing that they will help keep everyone safe and confident to worship with us.

A few weeks ago, a visitor to the congregation wore a lanyard indicating that they were exempt from wearing a mask. That was a helpful indicator and put others at ease, so we ask that those who can't wear masks do the same. It helps others who worry about this and means that awkward questions are avoided!

Please go to <http://exempt.scot/> to find out more.

**St Thomas' World Concern:** If you have a member log-in for the St Thomas' Church website, you will now be able to find monthly prayer updates from our mission partners and other mission and international news for prayer. Click on "updates" on the World Concern menu. If you don't have a log-in and would like one, please contact the office.

**Volunteers:** While we recognise that many among us need not to be too tied to volunteering duties, we should also be aware that will make restarting some of our ministries before the summer quite tricky. One example is the 'F.A.S.T. Club' which was piloted at Christmas time. It might be that we need to take our time to focus on putting together a strong programme and team for an August holiday club, which might then serve as a launch pad for the F.A.S.T. Club. I encourage you to prayerfully consider through the summer how to re-engage, how to serve, and how to give of your time. Many of us have had a year off serving at St Ts'. Once we have enjoyed the returning freedoms, we will all need to work together to help rebuild our fellowship, perhaps in new ways.

**St Thomas' Church Online**

**Sunday 30 May 2021**

to

**Sunday 6 June 2021**

**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. Our service at 10.30am will continue to be streamed online for those who cannot join us in person.

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.

Sunday worship and some other events are available online at:

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

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

<https://www.twitter.com/StThomasEdin>

## **Sunday 30 May**

**@ 10.30am Online Worship – Pentecost Sunday**

**Post Worship Chat**

“Zoom” meeting details in Pastoral letter.

**@ 6.30pm Zoom Prayer gathering, details in Pastoral letter.**

## **Monday 31 May**

**@ 4pm – ‘Rooted’ Bible Study**

“Zoom” meeting details in Pastoral letter or contact Kerstin Prill.

## **Tuesday 1 June**

**@ 12pm - Midday Prayer (Facebook)**

## **Wednesday 2 June**

**@4pm – ‘Rooted’ Bible Study**

“Zoom” meeting details in Pastoral letter or contact Kerstin Prill.

## **Thursday 3 June**

**@ 10am-11am - ‘Zoom’ Coffee Online**

“Zoom” meeting details in Pastoral letter.

**@ 9.30pm – Night Prayer (Facebook)**

## **Sunday 6 June**

**@ 10.30am Online Worship**

**Post-Worship Chat**

“Zoom” meeting details in Pastoral letter.

**@ 6.30pm Zoom prayer gathering, details in Pastoral letter.**

# for our prayer

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## **For David McCarthy:**

Preaching at Westhill Community Church on Sunday 30 May - for safe travel, God's Word to be preached faithfully and for the Body of Christ to be built up.

Pray for our World Concern partners, **Paul & Isolde James-Griffiths**, who are able to take holiday time in the Highlands over the next few weeks – pray for rest and refreshment as they contemplate the opening up of the Edinburgh which might bring more visitors.

## **St Ts'**

Give thanks for the **F@ST Club** for children on Friday afternoon this week – we have a team of volunteers. Pray for resourcing, enthusiasm, and for children to come!

Pray for **Watson Wilson**, who is in hospital following a stroke on Wednesday – for comfort and peace.

Pray for **Gillian and Michael Brown**, following the burglary of their home this week – for restoration of that which has been taken and for continuing calm in the face of such upset.

Pray for **Angela Benzies' mother**, who is in hospital in Belfast and for Angela as she offers care and support to the family.

For **David Harvey**, who continues to suffer from a very painful damaged shoulder – for healing and patience.

**Cath Murray:** Her new address is Windsor House, Victoria Manor, 63 Albert Street, Leith, EH7 5LW. Let's continue to remember Cathy in prayer.