

# The st thomas' story

13 June 2021

---

**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 join us for Midday and Night Prayers on Tuesday and Thursday.**



---

## 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  
T: 0131 285 8782  
e: [phil@stt.church](mailto:phil@stt.church)  
Part furloughed

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

**Church Coordinators:**  
Rosemary Harvey  
Office Hours: Open Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri  
9.30am – 12.00pm.  
T: 0131 285 8782 (*Church Office*)  
e: [churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk](mailto:churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk)  
 @StThomasEdin  
 St Thomas' Church, Edinburgh  
<https://saintthomas.org.uk>

**Vestry Secretary:** Kathleen Demircan  
T: 0131 285 8782 (*Church Office*)  
e: [churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk](mailto:churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk)

**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.

**Prayer Ministry:** We are glad to say that prayer ministry 'in person' will be available again soon. This will be immediately after the service on given Sundays. The ministry team will maintain social distance and wear face masks as appropriate. This might seem strange, but think of Jesus healing the centurion's servant...He didn't have to lay hands on him, He was miles away! (Matthew 8:5) It is still Jesus who heals today, and face masks don't get in His way!!

If you would prefer to have prayer ministry by Zoom or Skype, or by phone, please contact the ministry team on [sttsprayer@gmail.com](mailto:sttsprayer@gmail.com) you can also contact us on this email if you would simply like the ministry team to pray about something; for instance, if someone in your family is ill.

And look out for news about a new WhatsApp prayer group starting soon...!

### **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 13 June 2021**

to

**Sunday 20 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 13 June**

**@ 10.30am Online Worship**

**Post Worship Chat**

"Zoom" meeting details in Pastoral letter.

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

### **Monday 14 June**

**No – 'Rooted' Bible Study, please join on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June.**

**Tuesday 15 June**

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

**Wednesday 16 June**

**@4pm – ‘Rooted’ Bible Study**

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

**Thursday 17 June**

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

“Zoom” meeting details in Pastoral letter.

**@ 7.30pm – Zoom Central Meeting details in Pastoral letter.**

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

**Sunday 20 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

---

Give thanks for the **F@ST Club** for children on Friday afternoon this week – we have a team of volunteers. Pray for Phil Taylor and the team as they prepare, for a growth in numbers, continued resourcing, and much enthusiasm!

Pray for **Rob Hyder** and **Delia** as Rob recovers from surgery – for healing, grace, and strength.

For **Helen Eberstein** following a fall last Sunday – for recovery, and wisdom for doctors as they treat her broken limbs.

Pray for comfort and hope for **Watson Wilson's daughters, Kay & Lois**, as they prepare for his funeral this week.

Pray for **Stephen & Alison Carter**, giving thanks for how they shared with us last Sunday. Please pray for Stephen's 97-year-old mother Claire following her husband's death this week and for his sister Pamela whose husband is seriously ill too. Pray for Stephen as he writes his father's eulogy, and that the funeral on 15th June will be an opportunity to witness to non-Christian relatives.

Pray for **the people of St Silas', Glasgow** following the death of Esther Brown, a retired missionary and senior member. A 30-year-old man has now been charged with rape, murder, and robbery. Pray for the clergy as they listen to and pray with the many people in the church and locally who are grieving and pray for the Lord's love and peace to be proclaimed.

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.

Pray for **those whose time at school is coming to an end** – for clarity for the next stage of life, a sense of purpose and hope, and ample provision of the resources they need.

Pray for the **governments in Westminster and Holyrood** as they make difficult decisions which must consider balancing the needs for mental, physical, and economic health.

Pray that the **economic issues brought to Northern Irish trade** because of Brexit will be resolved.

Pray for the **G7 leaders as they gather in Cornwall** – that they will dream big dreams of aiding those who are suffering under the spread of Covid-19, but who lack the resources we have. Pray too that there will be consensus on how to work together to tackle climate change which will have the most severe effect on the poorest people of the world.

Pray for **opportunities for all of us** to show and tell others about the Good News of Jesus this week.