

Ploughshare

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LOCAL CHURCH LOVING JESUS CHANGING LIVES



Your Kingdom Come

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60p per copy or £3 per year

ST THOMAS' CHURCH OFFICE

Chatsworth Rd, Chesterfield, S40 3AW

Open Monday-Friday 9am -3pm

For general, baptism, marriage, funeral and booking enquiries please contact
Telephone: **01246 558461** email: admin@st-thomas-brampton.org

Prayer requests can be emailed to the Church office at
admin@st-thomas-brampton.org
– or can be phoned or sent in by letter.

Rector	Canon Matthew Barnes rector@st-thomas-brampton.org	01246 567634
Acting Rector	Revd David Owens david.owens@st-thomas-brampton.org	01246 566047
Associate Minister	Revd David Mouncer revdavidmouncer@gmail.com	01246 551313
Parish Manager	Sally-Anne Beecham admin@st-thomas-brampton.org	01246 558461

COFFEE BAR open Monday-Friday 8.30-4; Saturday 8.30- 2.30;
Sunday 10-2

Centre manager Beth Robson-Smith 01246 279916
beth.robson@stthomascentre.com

SUNDAY SERVICES

9.30 am – Parish Communion using 'Common Worship'. Accompanied by the organ.

11am – Service of the word: for those with families.
An informal service; sung worship led by the band.

Activities for children 0-12.

Once a month Holy Communion.

6pm – Evening Worship. A relaxed service with
in-depth teaching and extended sung worship
led by the music team.

Once a month Holy Communion.

7.45-9.30pm Youth Group for 14-18 year olds



HEARING LOOP INSTALLED
Switch hearing aid to T-coil

Dear friends,

I am writing this piece towards the end of Christian Aid Week. I would like to say a **sincere ‘thank you’** to everyone in the Church and the Parish for supporting this year’s appeal – ‘God’s Kingdom is Stronger than the Storms’, which focussed particularly on the needs of the people of Haiti. It is a good thing when people of all sorts join together to work, give and pray to help those who are poorest in our world. It brings hope and comfort to our neighbours, who, even if far away, will be encouraged by our compassion for them. It is good to help people to help themselves out of poverty and live safer and more secure lives.

The Lord’s Prayer contains these words “**Your Kingdom come, Your will be done**” (Matthew 6:10), which Jesus taught his disciples when they asked him for help with how to pray. When we pray this prayer obediently we are asking God for help to equip and guide us as to how to do his Kingdom’s work here on earth.

Jesus said that “**The kingdom of heaven** is like a mustard seed which a person took and planted in their field” (Matthew 5:31). Although a mustard seed is one of the smallest seeds on earth (only 1-2mm in diameter) it grows to become a large plant. The bushes reach an average mature height of between 6 and 20 feet with a 20-foot spread, although exceptional plants can reach 30 feet tall under ideal conditions. That is quite some growth! Jesus uses the example of the mustard seed to tell us how God’s Kingdom can grow and flourish. If we unite in faith with others in doing small things, even small acts of kindness and generosity can grow into something far beyond our imagination.

The **community** here at St Thomas’ is made up of a wide variety of people – all ages, well and not so well, young and old in faith, with many different life experiences. I would like to think that we are an example of a lively community who respect and value each other and work together towards a common vision. Working to bring God’s Kingdom in is an important part of that vision and is seen in the work we do in our local community as well as further afield. (If you would like to know more about what we do, go to our website or search for us on Facebook or Twitter).

Working together is a biblical mode of activity and you would be most welcome to join with us in the things we are doing. Come and visit the Centre and find out more about what activities are available to enjoy there, not to mention sampling the great food and drink on offer. If you have any suggestions as to what new things you think we might be involved in please do get in touch.

Last, but definitely not least, you are most warmly invited to come and join us for worship on a Sunday. There are a variety of worship services held regularly which are attended by ordinary people who come to praise God, learn more about his Kingdom and strive to be a community in which the love of Christ is both experienced and seen.

You will receive a **warm welcome**.

Hope to see you soon.

Superheroes Run

In the last issue we mentioned Kevin Morley's family run on 13th May in Regents Park. Kevin said the day was a wonderful family day and they enjoyed their 5k runs. Hana – Kevin's daughter ran the children's race and finished 6th having started at the back.

The event raised £850 for the Saltergate Children's Home in Ethiopia – this will feed, clothe and educate four children for a year.

Wonderful news – thank you to all who supported Kevin and his family.

Comments and opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors, The PCC or the clergy of St Thomas' or St Peter's.

COPY FOR NEXT MAGAZINE by 22nd JULY PLEASE

General comments, information or articles for the magazine can be emailed to editor@st-thomas-brampton.org or on paper via the letter rack at the back of St Thomas' Church

MESSY CHURCH

The last messy church was held on 28 April. It was certainly very busy with lots of familiar faces, plus new people, friends bringing more friends etc. and a wet Saturday afternoon when children needed something to do! There was a range of crafts, treasure hunt, a short talk, songs and food. Everyone had a great time.

NEXT MESSY CHURCH SATURDAY 30 JUNE 3.30-5.30 IN THE CENTRE SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN AGED 0-11 – ACCOMPANIED PLEASE.

We are looking for some new helpers with the delivery of the session – 5 times a year – dates known well in advance. The crafts are prepared and instructions given.

Also help with planning the activities – we meet usually just after a messy church session to review and plan the next one – times for meetings can be flexible and it takes about an hour.

If you are interested please contact either Janet Bradbury or Marie Witham via either the church or centre office, or at a service – usually 11am or 6pm.

MESSY TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Learn about the Discipleship Pilot, Messy Outdoors, Messy Vintage, Extreme Crafts and Messy Science PLUS ideas for evaluating and developing your Messy Church.

This a new event which is being run twice. Book by visiting the diocesan website or email Sarah.brown@derby.anglican.org

4th June 11.30am (coffee from 11.00) – 2.30pm at St Barnabas, Danesmoor, S45 9BU. Bring your sandwiches, we will provide drinks and cakes.

9th June 2-4pm We will cover the same areas as the longer event, but in a little less detail.

ST THOMAS' CENTRE

It is hard to believe that the centre has now been open for 7 years! It moves from strength to strength. There is a huge variety of events and activities offered both by church groups and others. Pick up the very useful guide to activities booklet available in the centre.

One of our recent very successful events was the Big Brekkie in aid of CHRISTIAN AID. This was held between the Sunday morning services on 13 May. It was very busy and a great breakfast was had by all the 100+ people who attended. HUGE THANKS to the kitchen staff and to our suppliers who donated everything – so that all the money raised could go to Christian Aid.

Thanks to Houldsworths for the meat

Arden Coffee for tea bags, coffee and a filter machine

Winster Foods, all sorts!

Marian and Joe Pateman for the preserves

Alison and Graham Wells for Fairtrade products.

£530 was raised for Christian Aid – the appeal this year centred on Haiti -
God's Kingdom is greater than storms.

This success followed on from the Easter Day lunch attended by 118 people – again sufficient donations were received to enable the centre staff to host another church lunch – possibly harvest time. Ben Widdowson deserves special mention as he loaned a camping gas stove to enable the show to go on as one of the ovens chose that day to not work!

2 July The Mission Committee will have stalls with information about mission partners. There will be games and activities – please join us.

The Christmas and Easter Make and Bake sessions have been successful and a further one is planned for October half term.

The 5 star hygiene certificate has just been re-awarded to the cafe.

Please see the advert on p 19 for details of the space available to book –

wedding receptions are also now offered.

The centre staff are appealing for help at busy times – with general clearing, washing up etc – if you can offer any time – please speak to Beth Robson-Smith in the centre office and she will give you dates of the busiest days when help is needed. - Tots cafe – term time Monday mornings is one such time.

Being good stewards of God's earth the centre are encouraging the use of reusable coffee containers if you need a take away – reduction of 10p on cost – or a charge of 10p will be made for disposable cups. Also if you provide a box for your take away cake it will be 10p cheaper but if you need one of our boxes the charge will be 10p.

The estates Manager job is still vacant if there is anyone who has the skills to tackle this. Please pray about whether this is where God is prompting you to service.

EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO
HARVEST LUNCH, BONFIRE PARTY, MURDER MYSTERY -
CHECK THE WEBSITE OR CALL INTO THE CENTRE FOR DETAILS OF
TICKETS ETC

HOPE HOUSE

Repair work has not yet started but should do so soon.

Most of the previous residents are now in stable long term accommodation and are doing well.

Please note at the moment we are **unable to accept** donations of goods as we have no storage – any money donations will still be gratefully accepted at the centre.

A wish list of items needed will be produced once we are able to access the building again.

SCRAPBOOK AND SOUP

Marie Witham

This is our latest Heritage inspired activity. Jane Simmonds and Karen Herrick have put together a very interesting programme based around the various aspects of heritage in the church - the whole church – the clock – the people who work in church – music – -the windows – celebrations.

A small number of people have gathered over 6 weeks to consider the theme, describe memories associated with the theme, do a piece of art work which has then been inserted into their own scrapbook, having a hard cover which has also been decorated. A number of volunteers have assisted with recording the memories and typing them up so they can be inserted into the scrapbooks. The session has then finished with a very sociable and enjoyed soup lunch, provided by the cafe.

For the whole church session members focussed on memories of home and what home means to them. They did a paper collage for a background and then stuck on a house of their design – which may have shown aspects of previous homes they have lived in.

The clock session related to any memorable clocks – be they gifts, or ones that meant clocking on and off at work, or large scale clocks – like the one on St Thomas' tower. The art piece was a stencil of clocks and numbers done with dye packs and sponges.

We were ably assisted by David Mouncer for the session about people who work in church and looked at some of the varying attire that a vicar may use in his day to day activities. This sparked much discussion about uniforms and work that people had done throughout their lives. The participants did an acrylic paint roller background and then stamped patterns / flowers onto this – the following week when it was dry they traced round their hands on the patterned paper.

The music session was by far the liveliest – singing and dancing in

abundance! Adam Parrish played the organ at the start of the session which was much appreciated. We had a whole variety of recorded music and many recitals of favourite tunes. Memories were abundant of dance music and dance halls, singing in various choirs, and the many aspects of life that music permeates. For the art activity a card “record” was cut out and placed in a decorated sleeve.

For the window session we took inspiration from the magnificent windows in the church and talked about the views people had had from a variety of windows – in their homes or when on holiday. We did paper collages and stamped images of windows onto them.

We have not yet completed the series – but I am sure it will be a great celebration to end a fascinating series of meetings.

Andy, Ann, Beatrice, Dawn, Kevin, Pauline, Sylvia, Winifred and myself have all enjoyed the meetings and have learned a lot about each other and about aspects of Chesterfield, and particularly Brampton, over the years.

A huge thank you must go to Jane Simmonds, Karen and Phil Herrick for all the thought and preparation that has made each session so interesting and such a success.

Please see the page 12 for a poem written by Ann Marsden, inspired by the clock session.

Thank you to all those who contribute to the magazine. As you will see this edition is quite slim. Please send items in good time for the next edition which will cover August and September.
Marie Witham.

The Passage of Time

Tony Witham

How many of us during the Sunday services spare a thought for the clock that is steadily ticking away above our heads in the tower? We may notice it chime at the hour (or wish that it would chime if the preacher is going on a bit too long!) but most of the time (forgive the pun) we are oblivious to the clock. I recently had the opportunity to accompany Churchwarden Mark Hoare as he climbed the tower stairs to wind up the clock. The clock has to be wound every week and this is usually done by Phil Riley but Mark was standing in for Phil whilst he was on holiday.



The clock is powered by two weights suspended within the tower on long cables. One weight drives the 'going train' – the mechanism that measures the passage of time and moves the hands - and the other drives the striking train to strike the hours. The job of winding the clock involves winding a crank to raise each weight in turn back up to the top of the tower. The lighter going train weight is relatively easy to wind and requires 56 turns of the crank to fully raise it. The much heavier striking train weight is a real brute to wind and takes 69 strenuous turns of the crank to raise it.

The clock was installed in the tower in October 1920 by Joseph Haslam as a thanks offering for the safe return of his two sons from World War 1. Since 1920 the clock has been wound over 5,000 times. Mark told me that as the clock was designated as a Public Clock (i.e. there for the benefit of the general public) the Council used to employ a clock-winder to visit St Thomas' every week to wind the clock. The next nearest public clock was at that time the Market Hall – so the St Thomas' clock provided the growing local community with a vital and much closer public clock. Household clocks were scarce at the time. Nowadays the winding is done on a voluntary basis.

The clock chimes out the hours by striking a bell that weighs about 250kg (4 to 5cwt) and is designed to be heard at least a quarter of a mile away. Each day the bell is struck 216 times so during its life it has been struck over 7 million times!

If you know anything of the clock's history, or have any interesting anecdotes, please get in touch with me. Tony Witham (01246 206820) I would like to be able to write a longer article about our faithful clock that has told the time to Brampton for nearly a hundred years.

I would like to acknowledge some information from the Heritage Leaflet about the church.

*Thank you Lord that we can be honest with you,
That we don't have to wear the masks we feel we must wear in life.
Thank you that nothing will shock you,
That we needn't put on the guise of strength when we are really weak,
That we need not wear success, when we have failed again.
Thank you that you understand the languages
Of loss and disappointment, failure and fragility,
Thank you that you deal in fresh starts,
Understanding the brightest of lights and the grimmest of nights.
The Good Shepherd not afraid to get his hands dirty
In order to help the sheep*

Dave Hopwood – recommended by Robin Dawson who has heard Dave speak at Scargill House – look at some of his thoughts on his website

<https://davehopwood.com/>

Used with permission

“Clock” Wednesday

Ann Marsden

Today was the outing
and where had we gone:
to visit the folks now
at number one.

The gallery kitchen was clean and neat
a welcome mat to wipe our feet.

Into the parlour -
where the cupboard was stacked
with cups and saucers and bric-a-brac.

The mantelpiece gleamed and there atop
was the wonderful, marvellous, chiming clock.
Every quarter hour it suddenly went BONG,
the conversation halted, but not for long.

What an adventure, a day to recall
was it really now time for our coats
from the hall?

The Lad's prayer

From Joe Pateman

Our beer,
which art in barrels,
Hallowed by thy drink.
Thy will be drunk,
I will be drunk,
At home as it is in the local.
Forgive us this day our daily spillage
as we forgive those who spillet against us.
And lead us not into the practice of poncey wine tasting,
and deliver us from alco-pops,
for mine is the bitter,
the ale and the lager,
forever and ever Amen.

General Data Protection Regulation.

At the end of May new legislation comes into force which takes over from current Data Protection law. The new law is a lot more strict, particularly for anyone holding sensitive personal information (which includes religious affiliation).

Personal information is any information that can identify a person, and includes names, addresses, contact numbers, email addresses, etc

From the end of May we are legally **allowed** to hold personal information if:

- the person is aware and happy that we are holding it, and they understand why we are holding it (eg to communicate changes in group times)
- we are holding it for a specific reason (eg they belong to a group and we need to contact them if a group is cancelled etc)
- the information is up to date
- the information is kept safe

Thank you to all of you who have completed forms in Church giving the details you are happy for us to hold and how you wish us to communicate with you.

As magazine editor I hold a list of addresses for distributors to deliver your magazine each month. If you are no longer happy that this is the case and wish to collect the magazine please let me know.

At the moment this seems to be a difficult topic to ensure we get right, but you can be assured that every effort is being made that we comply with the new regulations and keep your data safe.

Thank you to Sally-Anne Beecham for information and all her hard work in ensuring that as a church we have taken the necessary steps to comply with these new regulations.

Thy Kingdom Come

Prayer for Thy Kingdom Come

Almighty God,

your ascended Son has sent us into the world

to preach the good news of your kingdom:

inspire us with your Spirit

and fill our hearts with the fire of your love,

that all who hear your Word

may be drawn to you,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement, which invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus Christ. What started out as an invitation from the Archbishops' of Canterbury and York in 2016 to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer.

The hope is that:

people will commit to pray with God's world-wide family - as a church, individually or as a family;

churches will hold prayer events, such as 24-7 prayer, prayer stations and prayer walks, across the UK and in other parts of the world;

people will be empowered through prayer by the Holy Spirit, finding new confidence to be witnesses for Jesus Christ.

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses ...to the ends of the earth. When he had said this...he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight...Then they returned to Jerusalem ... and were constantly devoting themselves to prayer...

When the day of Pentecost had come they were all together in one place... All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit... and that day about three thousand persons were added." Acts 1,2

"In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities."

Archbishop Justin Welby.

At St Thomas' prayer was offered at 7.30am and lunchtime from 14-18 May – a form of words was used but there was plenty of scope for adding individual prayers for our community, our church activities and concerns from around the world. Other church members I am sure prayed at home.

The cover photo was taken one beautiful morning on the way into church. There is a particular focus from 10-20 May – but it does not stop there. Look at the resources that have been produced for Thy Kingdom Come – for individuals and groups.

EXCITING TRUMPET CALL UPDATES

We are pleased to tell you that the National Day of Prayer, on June 9th, for turning in the nation – is taking shape. This 'turning' will be powerful and awesome. God's mercy and love releases and renews us so we can sing, *"I am no longer a slave to fear, I am a child of God."*

We will return to God's great challenge – *"If my people will come to me..."* remembering that as we do come to Him, He will hear from heaven and heal our land. SATURDAY 9 JUNE will be a profound day for our nation. All over the world we are seeing signs of God's favour, we will hear how ordinary Christians are being used to bring many to Jesus. It is time for the church to be refilled and sent out.

We are delighted to be joined by some key people who love the word of God and are hungry for this move of God. R.T.Kendall, Malcolm Duncan and Yinka Oyekan from *'The Turning'* will be sharing with us, and the worship will be led by local worship leaders. We are delighted that many hungry Christians are responding to our cry – *"It is time to turn."*

We live in extraordinary times! The future of our nation is now in the hands of every Christian, whatever age or background who makes this commitment to pray for a mighty move of God. It is time. Join us.

ST PETER'S SERVICES AND EVENTS

St Peter's Church, Cotton Mill Hill, Holymoorside, S42 7EJ

Associate Minister Bill Bazely: 01246 558461
associate@st-thomas-brampton.org

Website www.stpetersholymoorside.org.uk

District Warden, Maxine Rotheram 01246 769040
District Warden, Diana Hinchliffe 01246 566651
DCC Secretary, Ken Franklin 01246 568401

Sunday Services at 9.30am

Morning Prayer - First Sunday of each month
3 June, 7 July

Holy Communion - 10 June, 24 June, 14 July, 28 July

All Together Worship – 17 June, 21 July

(Communion is offered at All Together Worship)

Evensong Sunday 4pm - 17 June, 21 July

Meditation The meditation group will now be held in the evening on Wednesdays at St Peter's at 8.30pm. For further information please ring 01246 769040.

Churches Together Bible Study 10am United Reform Church, Holymoorside.

Coffee & Communion 10am Wednesday, – Churches Together – Held at the URC Church. First Wednesday of each month – led alternately by St Peter's and URC.

SPEAK TO ME

Maxine Rotheram

*I walked the village labyrinth today
I sit in the centre and my heart says
speak to me, speak to me of self and choices
speak to me of God and life
speak to me of beauty, expectations and loss.*

*I walk the labyrinth alone
as my life, yet a well trodden route,
with its twists and turns.
I see scorched grass and dry earth,
I see wild flowers and freely growing grasses.
I see litter and debris left before me.
I raise my eyes and see the beauty,
different shades and shapes of trees,
gentle green hills and hedges,
people stopping to admire the river.
Birds singing
A gentle breeze kisses my skin and the sun warms my face.*

*Sometimes I see only the scorched grass and the dry earth.
Feel only the loneliness and debris
In seasons I am able to look up,
feast my eyes on the beauty
allow the gentleness to caress me and the sun to warm a smile on my heart.*

*From the beginning and amidst it all
I have chosen to love and seek God.
To see the master hand that creates and releases,
to feel the love that flows in seasons,
that gives my life purpose and meaning.
The beauty I behold allows me to love too, in small measure.*

For this I thank God, for my life.

On seeing Yeld Wood, Baslow in spring

Robin Dawson

Swinging through the bends below the Robin Hood,

Ahead, a sudden wider vista,

Ahead, on a steep bank a cascading wood.

Beech, birch, oak on gritstone. Yeld Wood.

On spring mornings, fresh sunlit in clear light

It gives me joy.

The swelling buds are purple and maroon,

Bursting they cover the slope with green foam,

Green of so many different shades.

Once the wood was bare,

Now fermenting with growth.

Why the joy?

This is a new birth every year,

Rebirth from the winter wood's dull grey

In the northern hemisphere's resurrection season.

How many more times will I see it?

Not many.

When my time comes this wood will continue its yearly outburst.

So what then?

My faith offers me little information

Except the promise of glory and me continuing to be me.

“One short sleep past, and we wake eternally”

Will part of this glory be the self rejuvenating wood?

And the sharing of the joy with the organiser of the whole business?



st thomas centre

Chatsworth Road
Brampton
S40 3AW



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- Use of projection equipment
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To hire a room or for more information contact the Centre Manager,
Beth Robson-Smith at enquiries@stthomascentre.com or 01246 279916



The Centre boasts a large main hall, two meeting rooms, a suite, a snug and coffee bar available for hire. Our quiet location includes spacious grounds, parking and high quality food and drink.

THE MAIN HALL is able to accommodate up to 100 guests; with audio visual facilities, a fully licensed bar and is ideal for a wide variety of social occasions.



THE TWO MEETING ROOMS are perfect for training events and meetings. Each room is able to host up to 25 people. One of the rooms has access to a walled garden.



THE SUITE is an additional building to the Centre with its own kitchenette and can accommodate 30-40 people.

THE SNUG is ideal for small groups or meetings, hosting up to 10 people.

THE COFFEE BAR can host up to 30 people. It has a licensed bar and can be hired as its own venue or in addition to another room.



Refreshments can be arranged through our excellent in-house Coffee Bar.



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Monday 16th July

Doors open 7pm for 7:30pm start

Olde House, Newbold

Tickets available for £5 from Robyn Riggans (07796904128) or Jane Simmonds (07974831274)

Hope to see you soon!

SOS Charity
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