

Sunday 12th September 2021

15th Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to everyone today both in our church buildings and those who join us, online, from their homes.

Keeping us all safe in church

- Face coverings in church are **optional** but encouraged.
- Some pews are closed to allow space to those who would like it.
- The Peace may be shared physically. A wave and a smile is still acceptable!
- Holy Communion will be administered in both kinds. If you do not wish to receive the chalice, please feel able to leave the rail having received the bread.
- Please take this sheet with you to use during the week
- Please join us for refreshments after the service in the Hall.
- ***Please remember that not everyone will want to be physically close to others and respect their preferences.***

**PROCESSIONAL
HYMN**

***St Thomas* 90
St James 368**

The Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading *Isaiah 50.4-9a*

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I

was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

GRADUAL HYMN

St Thomas **18**

St James **4**

Gospel Reading Mark 8.27-end

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that I am?' And they answered him, 'John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.' He asked them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered him, 'You are the Messiah.' And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

OFFERTORY HYMN

St Thomas **551**

St James **473**

COMMUNION HYMNS *St Thomas* 55, 465
St James 64, 76

Prayer after Communion

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy;
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FINAL HYMN *St Thomas* 426
St James 376

The Week Ahead & Information

Monday-Saturday

	9am	Morning Prayer on <i>St Thomas' Facebook page</i>
Tuesday	10am	Eucharist at <i>St James'</i>
	12pm	Eat & Meet Lunch at <i>St James'</i>
	2pm	Mothers' Union Eucharist at <i>St Thomas'</i>
Thursday	10am	Eucharist at <i>St Thomas'</i>
	11am	St Thomas' Refectory Café open until 1pm
Friday	9.30am	Church cleaning at <i>St Thomas'</i>

Next Sunday – 16th Sunday after Trinity

	9.15am	Eucharist at <i>St Thomas'</i>
	10.45am	Eucharist at <i>St James'</i>
	3.30pm	Evening Prayer (BCP) at <i>St Thomas'</i>

Macmillan Coffee Morning at *St. James*

Saturday 25th September 10am – 12pm

We do hope you feel able to join us for a cuppa and cake to support this worthy cause. Any contributions of cakes most welcome.

Please see Marjorie Charnley or Emily Westlake

Macmillan at *St. Thomas'*

Saturday 2nd October, 10am-12pm

There will be a 'pop-up' cake stall with some coffee available too. Donations

of cakes and biscuits very much-appreciated and any help on the day. Please speak to Joanne Smithson.

Harvest Festivals & Lunches

St Thomas' – Sunday 26th September; At St James' – Sunday 1st October
Harvest Lunch tickets are on sale TODAY! If you are willing to make a **pudding** for one of our lunches, please let Fr David or Fr Andrew know.

St James' are collecting donations for *Water Aid*. You can collect a jar from the Hall to start saving. St Thomas' will be supporting the work of the Rossendale Hospice who have suffered financially as a result of the pandemic. Harvest Collection Envelopes are available TODAY!

Both churches will also collect donations of food and toiletries for the use of our local food banks.

Flower Festival

St Ambrose' church in Grindleton is holding a flower festival and you would be made very welcome at it. Friday-Sunday, 17-19 September, 10-3.

Church Flowers

Please remember to sign up for Sundays for which you would like to pay for flowers for a particular anniversary or occasion. Money can be passed to Elizabeth Smart (St Thomas') and Julie Goodwin (St James').

Prayers

Please let Fr David know of anyone who should be included on our weekly prayer list. (frdavidstephenson@gmail.com, 07539 264279)

Names of those on the parish prayer lists will also be pinned to the prayer boards in each church.

For your prayers

For the work to make our churches healthy, equipped to transform communities.

For those working to sustain the earth's beauty and resources.

For all our work, begun and desired, with children and families.

For the sick: Ian, Edna, Charley, Mandy, Lizzie, Janet, Betty, Derek, Asia, Graeme, John, Gerald, Julie, John, Danielle, Gladys, Rita, Mother Enid, Margaret, Philip, Connie, Fred

For all who have died in the past week and all whose anniversaries fall in the coming week. *Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.*