

The Week Ahead & Information

*Morning Prayer returns from Tuesday this week,
9am on St Thomas' Facebook page*

Fr David is off on Monday & Tuesday this week

Tuesday 10am Eucharist at St James'

Thursday 10am Eucharist at St Thomas'
11-1 Refectory Café open at St Thomas'

Next Sunday –7th January – The Epiphany

9.15 Parish Eucharist at St Thomas'

10.45 Parish Eucharist at St James'

3.30 Holy Communion (BCP) at St Thomas'

Thank you to everyone who helped prepare our church buildings for Christmas celebrations. Thanks very much also to everyone who has supported our events and special services during December including those who have played, sung, read, prayed and welcomed.

Another thank you

to everyone who included the clergy on Christmas card and gift lists. We've been very well looked after this Christmas and it's hugely appreciated.

Christingle Collection

Please keep filling your collection boxes for the Children's Society and return them to church from next Sunday.

St Thomas' Christmas Appeal

Thank you very much for your support of this year's appeal, supporting a project, working with *Kids in Rossendale* and *Raft*. **We have provided 42 pairs of pyjamas for children in the valley.**

Ecumenical date for the diary *Saturday 27th January 2024, 2-4pm*

Christians from Haslingden and Helmshore churches are getting together at Haslingden Community Link. There'll be interaction, conversation, refreshments, singing, prayer, worship and exploration about what it means for us to live in love rather than difference. **EVERYONE** is invited! More details to follow but please put the date in your new diaries and calendars.

If you are an instrumentalist, or have one at home, please let Fr David know – they're needed for this event!

Epiphany Parish Lunch

At St Thomas' Hall, 12.30, Sunday 14th January is now **SOLD OUT!**

Halo Food Pantry

The **Halo Food Pantry** will be going live towards the end of January. This will help people access support and guidance from different agencies and give them access to an online grocery shop. We now need a few volunteers to help people order online and have a chat. There's a training session on 17th January, 1-3, at the Community Link. Please speak to Fr David or Fr Simon to volunteer.

Fairtrade update

Last few Sundays before the stall closes on 22nd January after 14 years of trading. HUGE thanks to Hazel who has worked so hard to keep the stall running and ensuring producers are paid a fair price for their work and goods.

Recycling for cash *at St Thomas'*

Old printer cartridges can now be left at the collection point in church for recycling. Please bring yours! **Collection point now at the back of St**

Thomas' (Please note that this is just for the small, squarish cartridges – not large/long ones.)

200 Club

Don't forget to renew your St Thomas' **200 Club** membership and help church funds and ministry. Subs are due on 1st January. Just £24 per number for the year. Subscriptions are **really** valued - 50% goes to the church and community and 50% to prize winners each month. See the 200 Club box at the back of church for bank mandates. If you would like more numbers, or a new number, contact Tricia, Lay Minister and 200 Club administrator, 07949 140108.

Volunteer Time

Thank you to everyone who has stepped up so far. Here are the last roles to fill ...

- St James' – Parish Safeguarding Officer – to work with clergy and PCC to help ensure we keep everyone safe
- St James' – leaders for Monday Tea, Toast & Tots to help ensure people are welcomed and safe at our drop-in event each week in turn time, working on a rota
- St James' – someone to launder the altar linens
- St Thomas' – Refectory –someone to prepare a *dish of the day* once or twice a month. All ingredients provided! **PARTLY FILLED!**

Eco Survey www.creationcare.org.uk *One of our church family households has moved up to silver from bronze this week! Have you had a look yet? Have a go!*

Walsingham Pilgrimage 26-28th April 2024

We have 20 places available on next year's pilgrimage. Please let Julie Davis (07931 744354) if you'd like to go, or for more information.

Prayers

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

Please also let us know when someone is unwell or goes in to hospital.

For your prayers

For the sick: Charley, Lizzie, Rachael, Quentin, John, Frances, Sheila, Emma, Steven, Neil, Sophie, Sarah, Lindsay, Kathleen, Cynthia, Jean, Margaret, Christine, Lola, Arnold, Alicia, Jacqueline, Vivienne, Edna, Brian, Emma, Mother Mo, Fr Croft

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.*