

Sunday 14th January 2024

3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Welcome to everyone in church today and to those joining us on online for our services. Please join us for refreshments after the service in the Church Hall. Please place your offering in the plate at the back of church before the service begins or use the QR code on each pew or use the card machine.

Hymns

	St Thomas	St James
Processional	45	56 omit * verses
Before the Gospel	See below Christ be our light	
Offertory	45	104
During Communion	27, 295	295
Final	270	345

Hymn before the Gospel

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
 Longing for truth, we turn to you.
 Make us your own, your holy people,
 light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
 Longing for hope, many despair.
 Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
 Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry.
 Longing for water, many still thirst.
 Make us your bread, broken for others,
 shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
 Longing for warmth, many are cold.
 Make us your building, sheltering others,
 walls made of living stone. →

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.

The Week Ahead & Information

Today	Fr David is covering at St Matthew's, Burnley, this morning 3.30 Evening Prayer (BCP) <i>at St Thomas'</i>
Mon-Fri	9am Morning Prayer <i>on St Thomas' Facebook page</i>
Tuesday	9.30 Thomas' Tots <i>at St Thomas' Hall</i> 10am Eucharist <i>at St James'</i> 12pm Eat & Meet Lunch <i>at St James'</i> 7pm PCC Meeting <i>at St James'</i>
Wednesday	1-3 Halo Food Pantry training <i>at Haslingden Community Link</i>
Thursday	10am Eucharist <i>at St Thomas'</i>
Friday	2pm Band rehearsal for Ecumenical event <i>at St James'</i>
Saturday	2pm 'Love Actually' ecumenical event <i>at Haslingden Community Link</i>

Next Sunday – 28th January – 4th Sunday of Epiphany

8am	Eucharist <i>at St Thomas'</i>
9.15	Parish Eucharist <i>at St Thomas'</i>
10.45	Parish Eucharist <i>at St James'</i>
4.30	Evensong <i>at St Ambrose, Grindleton</i>

Thank you!

Big thanks to everyone who was able to support St Thomas' Epiphany Lunch last weekend - to all who prepared, served, cleared away, donated and attended, helping to raise funds for the window repair project. Totals to follow!

Bishop Philip has written to all churches this week to say *thank you* to all who support the Bishop's Harvest Appeal which raised £30,000 to help Bishop Joseph Aba and the people of his diocese of Liwolo.

Farwell Fairtrade (stall)

A huge thank you to Hazel and all who have support St Thomas' Fairtrade stall for many years. After today it will be no more as a result of increased costs and wider availability of products elsewhere. Please visit the stall today and see what's left to buy.

Halo Food Pantry

Training was postponed due to bad weather but is re-scheduled for this coming Wednesday. Please turn up on if you've volunteered for training and helping, at the Community Link.

'Love actually', ecumenical event *Saturday 27th January 2024, 2-4pm*

Please remember to come along to the Haslingden Community Link next Saturday. 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!

Evensong *next Sunday 28th January, 4.30pm*

The Blackburn Branch of the Prayer Book Society are sharing Evensong at St Ambrose, Grindleton and we're invited to join them too. Followed by refreshments.

Candlemass

St Peter's church is holding a special service on Friday 2nd February, 7pm, to celebrate the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, more commonly known as *Candlemass*. We're all invited, with the rest of the Deanery, to attend.

Thomas' Tots Coffee & Cake *Saturday 10th February 10.30am- 12.30pm*

Cakes, preserves, knitted items, cards, pre-loved, toys, books, and clothes for sale. Raffle. Children's craft activities. Adults £3 children free. All welcome! Contributions for the stalls and raffle appreciated. Please speak to Lin Cutforth.

Weekly Prayer List for the sick

Our current prayer list for the sick ends today. If you would like someone to be included, or re-included, please use a slip at the back of church and hand it to one of the clergy.

Fundraising

St James' group will meet on Sunday 11th February after church, somewhere for lunch – details to follow – to talk and plan.

St Thomas' group will meet after the Eucharist on Thursday 1st February at church.

Lent Groups

Ash Wednesday is on 14th February this year and our Lent Group will begin on the following Tuesday evening at 7pm at St James' for 5 sessions as well as a daytime course. We will be following the diocesan course on Exodus which Bishop Philip has put together. Watch out for more details over the next couple of weeks.

Recycling at St Thomas'

Please continue to deposit used printer cartridges and blister packs from tablets and pills at the back of church.

Volunteer Time *One big last push! Please help if you can!*

- St James' – Parish Safeguarding Officer – to work with clergy and PCC to help ensure we keep everyone safe. Role descriptor at the back of church.
- 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 Thomas' – Refectory –someone to prepare a *dish of the day* once or twice a month. All ingredients provided! **ONE MORE PERSON NEEDED!**

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 *please see note above about renewing this list*

For the sick: Charley, Lizzie, Rachael, Quentin, John, Frances, Emma, Steven, Neil, Sophie, Sarah, Lindsay, 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.*

Please note that the funeral service for Kathleen Billington RIP will be at St Thomas' at 11am on Friday 2nd February.