

## The Week Ahead & Information

<b>Today</b>	4.30	Evensong <i>at St Ambrose, Grindleton</i>
<b>Mon-Fri</b>	9am	Morning Prayer <i>on St Thomas' Facebook page</i>
<b>Monday</b>	8.45	Tea, Toast & Tots <i>at St James'</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	9.30	Thomas' Tots <i>at St Thomas' Hall</i>
	10am	Eucharist <i>at St James'</i>
	7pm	PCC Meeting <i>at St Thomas'</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	1.30	Funeral service for Kenneth Wilson RIP <i>at St Thomas'</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	10am	Eucharist <i>at St Thomas'</i>
	11-1	Refectory Café open <i>at St Thomas'</i>
	10.45	Fundraising Group <i>at St Thomas'</i>
	2pm	Mothers' Union Eucharist <i>at St James'</i>
<b>Friday</b>	11am	Requiem funeral service for Kathleen Billington RIP <i>at St Thomas'</i>
	7pm	Candlemass Deanery Eucharist <i>at St Peter's</i>

## **Next Sunday – 4th February–**

### **Presentation of Christ in the Temple / Candlemass**

- 9.15 Parish Eucharist *at St Thomas'*  
*followed by 200 Club Draw*
- 10.45 Parish Eucharist *at St James'*
- 11.15 Holy Baptism of Penelope Gloster *at St Thomas'*
- 3.30 Holy Communion (BCP) *at St Thomas'*

## **Thank you!**

St Thomas' Christingle collection boxes raised £109.40 for the Children's Society.

Thank you to those who were able to support our Churches Together event yesterday.

## **Fundraising**

St Thomas' group will meet after the Eucharist this Thursday at church.

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

## **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.

## **Ash Wednesday / Palms**

Please return last year's palms to church over the next two Sundays for burning and making ash for the Ash Wednesday services (St Thomas' 10am; St James' 7pm).

## **Lent Groups**

Lent Groups begin in the week following Ash Wednesday.

Tuesdays, 7pm at St James'. Wednesdays, 2pm at 438 Holcombe Road (Maggi's), for 5 sessions. We will be following the diocesan course on Exodus which Bishop Philip has put together. Please put the dates in your diaries and make an effort to come along.

## **Tree Planting at Clough Edge Farm**

This is part of the massive project to plant 16,000 trees for Rossendale Forest. The first two planting sessions of 2024 will be taking place at Clough Edge Farm, off Reeds Lane, Crawshaw Grange, BB4 8PR, where the aim is to plant 850 trees. The sessions are due to take place between 10am and 3pm on Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> February and also between 10am and 3pm on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

Members of St Thomas' Eco Group are going. Please speak to one of them if you'd like to join in.

## **Food Bank**

Thank you for on-going support for our outreach and food ministry. We're now working in partnership with the Halo Food Pantry (along with other local organisations) and our role continues to be vitally important. At the moment we're a bit short of sugar, tea, coffee, rice, tinned veg (not peas!).

## **Recycling at St Thomas'**

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

## **Eco Tips January** (Rocha UK's Easy Eco Tips 2024 Calendar)

Make 'enjoying nature' your priority. From bird watching to writing about or drawing something that inspires you in nature, growing your own fruit or vegetables, or exploring an area of outstanding natural beauty in the UK, be sure to fall in love with nature in a new way this coming year and allow it to lead your thoughts towards God our Creator. Further ideas can be found at [arochoa.org.uk/ideas-to-enjoy-nature/](https://arochoa.org.uk/ideas-to-enjoy-nature/)

## **Home Insurance**

If you're due to renew yours, please consider switching to Ecclesiastical, our church insurers...

## **Help raise money for your church with Trust130.**

The way it works is simple. For every new home insurance policy taken out with Ecclesiastical, the UK's most trusted home insurance providers, we'll donate £130 to an Anglican church or cathedral of the policy holder's choice. For more information, please contact our team today on **0800 7830 130**.

## **Volunteer Time**

- 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. **POSSIBLY FILLED!**
- 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 **WE'LL BE CLOSING THIS DOWN FROM HALF TERM IF NO ONE OFFERS TO HELP**
- St Thomas' – Refectory –someone to prepare a *dish of the day* once or twice a month. All ingredients provided! **ONE MORE PERSON NEEDED!**

## **Weekly Prayer List for the sick**

The new prayer list begins today. If you would like to add a name to the list, please complete a slip from the back of church and hand it to one of the clergy.

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

### **For your prayers**

Sarah, Charley, Rachel, Quentin, John, Mother Mo, Sophie, Jean, Margaret, Adrienne, Kathleen, Vivienne, Alicia, Arnold, Edna

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.*