

Prayer and Thanksgiving this week

World

- We pray for the persecuted church remembering Christians especially in the Sudan, Mali, Kenya, across North Africa, Nigeria, Northern India, Pakistan and the Philippines
- For a peaceful resolution for the continuing tensions and suffering in Iraq, Ukraine, Holy Land and Syria, and we pray for wisdom for all the leaders

Church

- We pray for strengthening relationships between all the Beaconsfield churches as we seek to serve our community together in the coming year
- For the Beaconsfield Team Ministry for unity and fellowship
- For the Growing Leader's Course: for all the participants and leaders
- For our focus on God and the birth of Christ at the start of Advent
- For all the Churches in Beaconsfield as they prepare for the Christmas services

Community

- We thank God for our witness and opportunities in this community
- Tom Tots for the planning and preparation for the upcoming new year; we need 1 or 2 people to help with refreshments from 10-11am
- Holtspur Pre-School and Holtspur School
- For local businesses, Kiln Court and Senior Citizens group

People

- We pray for healing and wholeness for all who suffer in body, mind or spirit. We continue to hold in prayer Gareth Buchanan, John Lewis, Christine Ainsworth, Joyce Salmon and Jayne Eastgate
- For Derek Moores as he serves as Operations Director with Mission Aviation Fellowship in Kenya
- For our church family members: Pam Southgate; Oosman and Narinder Tegally; Reece Thomas; Camilla Walton; Adrienne Welling

Mission - Tansen Hospital, Nepal

We support the work at Tansen through our prayers and outside giving. They have particularly asked that we pray for:



- Solving the urgent need for a general surgeon
- Finance for a new x-ray machine as the old one is often breaking down
- God's wisdom as the hospital starts a certificate level training for laboratory workers
- Funding to continue the children education and feeding program

Contacts at St Thomas'

Vicar: Rev'd Narinder Tegally 670460
(day off – Monday) narindertegally@btinternet.com
Team Rector: Revd Jeremy Brooks 677058
Team Curate: Revd Kevin Beer 673021
Churchwardens: Derek Moores 673167
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Hall Bookings: Helen Poyser 07517151581
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Sunday 14th December 2014



St. Thomas' Church, Holtspur

To transform lives through faith in Jesus

**We give you a warm welcome
as you join us**



3RD SUNDAY OF *Advent*

Third Sunday of Advent

9.45am Church Prayer

10am Advent Morning Praise
Lead: Andrew Snelling
Preacher: Revd Narinder Tegally

Readings

- **Isaiah 61. 1 – 4, 8 - end (p. 748)**
- **John 1. 6 - 8, 19 - 28 (p. 1063)**

Collect for: Third Sunday of Advent

**God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare
the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**4-6pm Messy Church 'Christingle'
Service plus tea.
All are welcome.**

Services and Events Next Week

Monday 15th

7.30pm Talking about Jesus at Paul Cornelius's house
47 Burgess Wood Road South

Tuesday 16th

9am NO MORNING PRAYER
Year 1 & 2 Nativity at Holtspur School
6.30-8pm **Rock Solid and Synergy** at St Michael's
Church Hall

Wednesday 17th

8.30-3.30pm Narinder at St Mary's
6pm Advent Prayer hour in church

Thursday 18th

9am Morning Prayer
10am Holtspur School rehearsal

Friday 19th

8.45-12noon Hope Community Drop-in and
One Can Food Bank Project
9.30am Growing Leader's Prep
1pm Holtspur School Carol Service in church
7-9pm Holtspur Youth Club

Saturday 20th

Sunday 21st

Fourth Sunday of Advent

9.45am Church Prayer
10am Advent Holy Communion
Celebrant: Revd Narinder Tegally
Preacher: Andrew Snelling

Readings: Romans 16. 25 - end
Luke 1. 26 - 38

5pm Carols by Candlelight followed by mulled
wine and mince pies

other upcoming dates ...

Christmas Eve 4.30pm Christingle Service
11.30pm Midnight Communion

Christmas Day 10.00am All-Age Holy Communion

Sun 28th Dec 10.00am Morning Praise

New Year's Eve 8.00pm Party in St Thomas Hall



Thursday Luncheon Club - open to senior citizens. A three course home cooked meal for just £4. Come along to the Curzon Centre, Maxwell Road, every Thursday at 12noon and enjoy a meal and friendly conversation. Transport can be arranged. Please contact Elizabeth Meares on 01753 884970.

Prayers before the service from 9.45am to 9.55am will take place in the church office. We will be praying for the people leading the service as well as the people coming to worship. Do come and join us.

Prayer Ministry - If you would like prayer for yourself or for someone you are concerned for there will be someone from the prayer ministry group. **They will be available to pray with you at the back of the church during a Communion or after the intercessions in a Morning Praise service.**



Stewardship Responses – thank you to all those people who have responded already. It will be very helpful in preparing the budget for 2015 if the remaining forms could be given to Ruth as soon as possible. *Thank You!*

Church Christmas Card – rather than sending lots of cards to members of St Thomas', consider signing the large card at the back and making a donation to Wycombe Homeless Connection.



Request for home-made mince pies, please!

We will be holding our Carol Service on Sunday 21 December and would like to offer mince pies and other festive refreshments to all who attend. If you are able to make some since pies for this occasion, please sign the list in church. Many thanks. Chris Jones tel: 676975

Supporting Others at Christmas – the collection at the Christingle service will be given to The Children's Society; from the Carol service, 11.30 Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services will be given to Wycombe Homeless Connection. If you would like to donate some food to the One Can Food Bank, there will be a box at the back of Church until 21st December – shopping lists are available.

Christmas Day - If you know anyone who will on their own on Christmas Day, Bradbury House are offering on 'first come first serve' basis lunch. There are 5 places left. Please speak to Narinder for more information ASAP.

Hope Community Café – Are you able to offer help at the café on Friday mornings? It has a lovely welcoming atmosphere. You can offer for half mornings or whole mornings, as often as you want to do. John Wilson is putting together a new rota for the New Year so please email drjohn.wilson@btinternet.com.



Toms Tots starts on Tuesday 6th Jan 9.30-11.30am. We have been blessed with 1 regular person to prepare and serve refreshments, but we need a couple more to lighten the load. Please pray and discern whether that is a way you can serve you community. You are welcome to stay for the whole session but if your time is limited 10-11am would be a great support. Please speak to Narinder.



Used Postage Stamps - As Christmas approaches, can we ask you again if you could save all your used stamps for us. As you know we send them to REACH, the charity which supports children, like our granddaughter Jessica, born with upper limb deficiency. We are very grateful for all the stamps you have given us throughout the year. Margaret and Mike



Volunteers required for a morning or afternoon

- Are you able to help doing some painting on the 2nd or 3rd of January to support a local family who need some help. please speak to Paul for more details.



New Year's Eve - This year St Thomas' are holding a party in the Hall on 31st December from 8pm to 12.15pm – games, sketches, entertainment..... what can you do? The food will be a "bring and share" buffet. Speak to Ruth Moores (673167) if you would like to join in, but do plan to come – you'll be missed if you are not there!



Room Wanted. In January 2015, I will be starting a masters degree at the National Film and Television School. I am looking to rent a room in the area of Beaconsfield. If you have a room that you are willing to rent to me or know of someone, please telephone at 07725485901. Adam

