

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 Jordan, Mosul and the Philippines
- For all Christian people as we share in Christ's ministry
- For the Holy Land, Syria and Ukraine; wisdom for all the leaders; peace and tolerance in the world
- **A Prayer for those held in captivity** – Merciful Father, we cry to you from the depths of our concern for those wrongly imprisoned or held captive: for those trying to secure their release, that the ways of peace and diplomacy may prevail over acts of violence and aggression, that their captors may know a change of heart; through him who was sent to proclaim liberty for captives and to set free those who are oppressed, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Church

- We pray for strengthening relationships between all the Beaconsfield churches as we seek to serve our community together in the coming year
- As we begin our Lenten journey; for the Lenten Lunches and other activities during Lent

Community

- We pray for all who live and work in Holtspur and Beaconsfield; we thank God for our witness and opportunities in this community
- For Holtspur Park Friends, Hope Community Drop-in and One Can Trust and Tom Tots

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, Wendy, Nancy Haggard and Kieran Maguire
- For our church family members: Derek & Ruth Moores; Catherine & Richard Orton; Jonathan & Gill Pearce

Mission – Toybox

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19. 14



Last year, the Casa Vida programme in Guatemala gave several street children the opportunity to find permanent homes with loving foster families. We pray for the families who have accepted children into their homes. We ask that they will have patience and tolerance with the children, as they adjust to their new surroundings. We pray they will always be able to demonstrate God's love to the children so that they can begin to see that they are worth more than the street can offer them. We also pray for the children that they will be open to the genuine care of the foster families and that they relish the opportunity they have been given.

Contacts at St Thomas'

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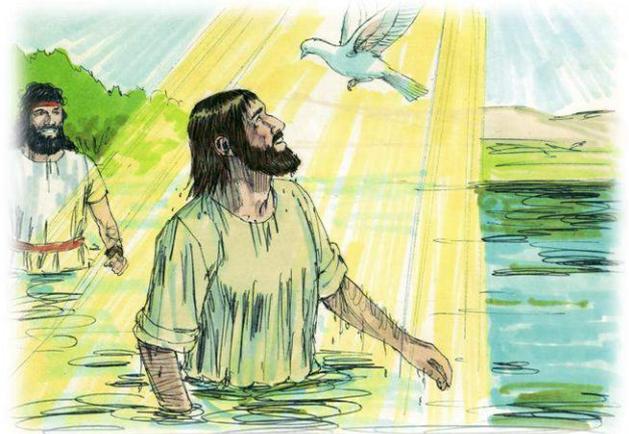
Sunday 22nd February 2015



St. Thomas' Church, Holtspur

To transform lives through faith in Jesus

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



First Sunday of Lent

9am

Morning Prayer

10am

Morning Praise

Lead: Hazel Chow

Preacher: Revd Narinder Tegally

Readings:

- **1 Peter 3. 18 – end (p. 1219)**
- **Mark 1. 9 – 15 (p. 1002)**

Collect for: First Sunday of Lent

**Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of
darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom
and prayer
that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Services and Events Next Week

Monday 23rd

Tuesday 24th

8.30am Morning Prayer
9.30am Toms Tots in St Thomas Hall (setting up at 9am)
2.30-4.30pm Senior Citizens group meets at Kiln Court
6.30 -8pm **Rock Solid and Synergy** at St Michael's Church Hall

Wednesday 25th

8.30-3.30pm Narinder at St Mary's

Thursday 26th

9am Morning Prayer
9.30am Holtspur School
12.30pm Lent Lunch at St Mary's FWC
3-4.30pm Standing Committee at St Thomas House
7.45pm Messy Church review meeting
7.45pm Bible Study group at the Snelling home

Friday 27th

8.45am-12pm Hope Community Drop-in and One Can Food Bank Project
9am Morning Prayer
7pm Holtspur Youth Club

Saturday 28th

7pm Church Meal at the Papermill

Sunday 1st March - Second Sunday of Lent

9am Morning Prayer
10am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
The Revd Kevin Beer
Readings: Romans 4. 13 - end
Mark 8. 31 - end
Narinder at St Mary's Church

Time and Talents - Following the presentation in church on Sunday 8 February, we are all asked to review and consider the use of our time and talents in the service of God. We have prepared a form (available from the Welcome Desk) which gives some ideas of areas where help is needed; please think about what you could do and how you can be involved. Completed forms to be returned to church by **Sunday 1 March**, please.

Church Meal Out - Sat 28 February 7.00 pm. We've arranged a meal out for the congregation at the Papermill in Loudwater (Brewers Fayre) on Saturday 28 February at 7.00 pm. We'd be delighted if you could come along - just sign up on the list at the back of the church; places are limited! A copy of the menu is available - main courses from £7-£10. Any questions - please contact members of the Social Group.



Day Away – Inspiring Women Summer Day: Making a Fresh Start. Tues 23rd June 2015 10am-3.30pm at Waverley Abbey House. Early bird price £29.25 up to 28 April including lunch (normally £32.50). Speaker Fiona Castle will look into Colossians 3 to see how we can all start afresh in God. This day will be a mix of teaching, worship, fellowship and a delicious lunch, all in tranquil and elegant surroundings. Please let Chris Jones know if you are interested in attending.



Lent Activities - This year, Churches Together will not be running specific Lent groups. Instead there are a number of activities which we are

encouraging people to join in with as a parish - Lent lunches, Bible studies and other small group activities, lectures and fellowship meals. A simple bread & soup at 12.30 each week. A chance for fellowship with a Lenten reflection and raising money for Christian Aid. Join us on 26th Feb at FWC, 4th Mar at St Teresa's, 11th Mar at Hope Church, 17th Mar at St Thomas', 25th Mar at St Michael's, 1st April at URC Aylesbury.

Barn Dance 2015 - We will once again be holding a Barn Dance at Hall Barn in aid of Newham Renewal. Date is Saturday 18th April from 7pm to 10pm. **Tickets** are £12.50 adults and £6 for young people under 16 (Available via the Parish Office). A splendid time is guaranteed for all.



Vacancies at Embrace the Middle East in Amersham – Trading Assistant (20 hrs/week), Office Manager/Executive Secretary and Head of Finance. See www.embraceme.org for more details. Apply by submitting CV directly to vacancies@embraceme.org.



Women's World Day of Prayer Service - Fri 6 March 2 p.m. at St. Thomas' Church. An interdenominational service prepared by the Christian women of the Bahamas. All are welcome.

Quiet Day - Lent is a time of spiritual refreshment, and preparation for the great festival of Easter. Come for a Quiet Day, and simply rest in His presence on 21st March at Burnham Abbey; 10.00 to 3.00. Join the sisters at Holy Communion first, at 9.30. Cost: Donation to Burnham Abbey; Leader: Rev Alison Caw. To apply and for further details, please contact Alison on 01494 674524 or matopos@waitrose.com

Please e-mail your notices to debra@stmarysbeaconsfield.org.uk or post to St Thomas' House, Mayflower Way HP9 1UF by Thursday evening each week. Many thanks.

We wish a Happy Birthday to...

Tim Jurdon & Jenny Shiell



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.**

A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 2016– 10-19 May 2016 with Narinder Tegally. A comprehensive 10-day pilgrimage based in Jerusalem and the Galilee. Cost is £1,745. If interested, speak to Narinder for more details.