

Prayer and Thanksgiving this week

People

- We pray for healing and wholeness for all who suffer in body, mind or spirit. We hold in prayer Emily Adam, Wendy, Hayley, Gareth Buchanan, Sybil, Roy, Sammy Smith, Ron Petts, Susan Painter and Sheena Young; we remember all those who care for them
- For our church family members: Kevin Beer; Peter and Pat Binns; Debra Bower; Jeremy Brooks; Gareth and Helen Buchanan

Community

- Pray that we may build together God's living community, bound together by love, hope and joy
- For all who live and work in Holtspur and Beaconsfield
- For Kiln Court and the Senior Citizens Group
- Thank God for our witness and opportunities in this community

Church

- Pray for strengthening relationships between all the Beaconsfield Churches as we seek to serve our community together in the coming year
- As we discern God's will for the next phase for St Thomas' Church and Community; for the 'Working Group'

World – Prayer as we look to 2016

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world, you transform the darkness of human lives with the light of your salvation.

So we pray that your transforming light would drive out darkness and fear and bring hope to the lives of those who do not know your presence with them.

That the world would awake from the darkness of winter and come into the dawn of your presence. **Amen**

Mission – Toybox



We give thanks for the recent changes to the law in Guatemala which have banned child marriage, by increasing the legal age from 14

for girls and 16 for boys, to 18 for both. Of course, this is a big change for any country to implement, so please pray that systems will be put in place to educate people and spread news of the law, to even the most remote parts of the country. Current statistics show that 7% of Guatemalan girls are married by the age of 15, and 30% by 18, so it will be good to see these figures decreasing as the law truly comes into effect. We can also pray that this will have a positive effect on the number of teenage pregnancies in Guatemala.

Contacts at St Thomas'

Team Vicar: The Revd Narinder Tegally - 01494 670460
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Churchwardens: Peter Honiball – 01494 689974
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Hall Bookings: Helen Poyser – 07517 151581
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www.stthomasbeaconsfield.org.uk

Sunday 7th February 2016



St. Thomas' Church, Holtspur

To transform lives through faith in Jesus

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

The Sunday next before Lent

9.45am Church Prayer
10.00am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
Revd Kevin Beer

Building Community Sermon 4

Readings

- **2 Cor 3. 12 - 18, 4. 1 - 2 (p. 1160)**
- **Luke 9. 28 - 43 (p. 1040)**

If you would like prayer for yourself or for someone you are concerned for there will be someone from the prayer ministry group at the back of the church during a Communion or after the intercessions in a Morning Praise Service.

Collect for The Sunday next before Lent

**Holy God,
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your goodness
and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**6.30pm Healing Service with Holy
Communion at St Mary's - All are
welcome**
Celebrant and Preacher:
Revd Narinder Tegally

Services and Events for Next Week

Tuesday 9th

8.30am NO Morning Prayer
9.15-11.30am Toms Tots in St Thomas Hall

Wednesday 10th

8.30am Morning Prayer at St Mary's
9am Ash Wednesday Holy Communion in Fitzwilliam Centre
10.30am Service at Kin Court
3.30pm Messy Church at Holtspur URC
7.30pm Holy Communion with Imposition of Ash at St Michael's

Thursday 11th

8.30am Morning Prayer
6-7.30pm WYLDLIFE Youth Group meets at the Scouts Hut Beaconsfield
7.30pm PCC Standing Committee meets in the FWC

Friday 12th

9am Morning Prayer
8.45-10.45am Hope Community Drop-in Café
7pm Holtspur Youth Club

Saturday 13th

8.30-10am Men's breakfast at URC Old Town

Sunday 14th First Sunday of Lent

9.45am Church Prayer
10am Second Sunday Special (Tbc)
Readings: 1 Corinthians 13. 1 - 13
Luke 4. 1 - 13
6pm Prayer Hour

Bible Study 'Introducing the book of Ezekiel' - Friday mornings at URC - 10.30am-12pm. 29th Jan - Chapter 34, The Lord is my shepherd; 5th Feb - Chapter 37:1-14, A valley of the bones; 12th Feb - Chapter 38-9, God wins; 19th Feb - Chapter 47, A river of living water. All very welcome. For more information contact Revd Nigel Douglas 07714 871505.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper - Tues 9th Feb - At 8pm in the Fitzwilliams Centre. Cost is £10. Contact the parish office at 676690 if you would like to come.

Mens' Breakfast - Sat 13th Feb - Richard Peters will give a presentation entitled "Why Lighthouse". Please let Paul know if you intend to come.

Child Bereavement UK Snowdrop Walk - Sun 14th Feb - from 11am-4pm, West Wycombe Park. Further details from 01494 568912 or www.childbereavementuk.org.

Film Show - Sun 28th Feb - at 2.30 pm in St Thomas' Hall showing *Saving Mr Banks* starring Tom Hanks and Emma Thompson. This entertaining film brings to life the untold story about the making of Mary Poppins. We hope you will come along, and also that our lovely cake-makers will provide some homemade goodies. If you are able to make something for this event, please would you sign the list at the back of the church - we really appreciate your delicious cakes!

Lent Lunches - Churches Together in Beaconsfield will be hosting simple lunches in Beaconsfield churches on Wednesday lunchtimes throughout Lent. Cost is £3 per person with proceeds to Christian Aid. If you would like to join others from St Thomas' at these lunches, please sign up on the sheets at the back of the church and liaise with each other if you would like to share lifts. Dates are:
Wed 17 Feb Free Methodist Church
Wed 24 Feb Quaker Meeting House
Wed 2 Mar Hope Church
Wed 9 Mar St Michael's Church
Wed 16 Mar St Teresa's Church
Wed 23 Mar URC, Aylesbury End

Lent Course 'Living in the End Times: Grave Talk and Growing Old' - Tuesdays starting 23rd Feb for 5 weeks - 3pm to 4.30pm in The Fitzwilliams Centre. Contact the parish office at 676690 to sign up.

'Clean for the Queen' - Sat 5th Mar - At 1pm, organised by The Beaconsfield Society there will be a big clean up of the town centre as part of the 'Clean for the Queen' campaign on the weekend of 4-6 March.

Pelagos Lenten Quiet Day - Sat 12th March - With Margaret Sentamu at St Thomas. 'Entering God's Rest' 10am-4pm. Cost £25 or £20 if booked by 14th Feb. More details at www.pelagos.co.uk or 07581 675996.

Newham Barn Dance - Sat 16 April - NOTE: The venue has been changed from Tylers Green to Hall Barn in Beaconsfield. More details to follow.

Dates to note:

28 Feb - Film Show and Tea
20 March - Palm Sunday lunch and *Food for the Hungry* talk
7 May - RAF Halton Band Concert

Please e-mail your notices to debra@stmarysbeaconsfield.org.uk by **Thursday 12 noon** each week. Many thanks.



Wishing a very Happy Birthday to...

Lois Simpson, Debra Bower & Adele Rawlinson

Next Phase for St Thomas' - Please join us for the 'Prayer Hour' 2nd Sunday of each month or the 4th Wednesday of each month from 6-7pm at St Thomas Church. (Please see dates below)

**Feb: Sunday 14th
Wednesday 24th**
**Mar: Sunday 13th
Wednesday 23rd**
**April: Sunday 10th
Wednesday 27th**

Join me if you are able for '**Morning Prayer**' on Tuesday, Thursday or Friday at 8.30am in Church.

Christian Aid 'Count your Blessings' 2016 - Please feel free to pick up a "Count your Blessings" form from the back of church which can be used for daily reflections during Lent (starting 10 Feb). I think you will find it very rewarding to follow the program which is short and simple but impactful, speak to Paul if you have any questions. There are also a few family forms if you would like to do it as a family.