

**PARISH CHURCH OF  
ST. THOMAS, DOUGLAS**



**April 2022**

# WELCOME TO THE ST THOMAS CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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## MINISTERS MESSAGE FOR THE MONTH

For this month I have chosen to let the psalmist speak to us all.

There are two psalm for you to read and reflect on the message. I look forward to hearing your thoughts about them.

### Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion  
blot out my transgressions.

<sup>2</sup> Wash away all my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.

<sup>3</sup> For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is always before me.

<sup>4</sup> Against you, you only, have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are right in your verdict  
and justified when you judge.

<sup>5</sup> Surely I was sinful at birth,  
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

<sup>6</sup> Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;  
you taught me wisdom in that secret place.

<sup>7</sup> Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;  
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

<sup>8</sup> Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

- <sup>9</sup> Hide your face from my sins  
and blot out all my iniquity.
- <sup>10</sup> Create in me a pure heart, O God,  
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
- <sup>11</sup> Do not cast me from your presence  
or take your Holy Spirit from me.
- <sup>12</sup> Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.
- <sup>13</sup> Then I will teach transgressors your ways,  
so that sinners will turn back to you.
- <sup>14</sup> Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God,  
you who are God my Savior,  
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
- <sup>15</sup> Open my lips, Lord,  
and my mouth will declare your praise.
- <sup>16</sup> You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;  
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
- <sup>17</sup> My sacrifice, O God, is<sup>[b]</sup> a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart  
you, God, will not despise.
- <sup>18</sup> May it please you to prosper Zion,  
to build up the walls of Jerusalem.
- <sup>19</sup> Then you will delight in the sacrifices of the  
righteous,  
in burnt offerings offered whole;  
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

## Psalm 121

- <sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes to the mountains  
where does my help come from?
- <sup>2</sup> My help comes from the LORD,  
the Maker of heaven and earth.
- <sup>3</sup> He will not let your foot slip  
he who watches over you will not slumber;
- <sup>4</sup> indeed, he who watches over Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.
- <sup>5</sup> The LORD watches over you  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;
- <sup>6</sup> the sun will not harm you by day,  
nor the moon by night.
- <sup>7</sup> The LORD will keep you from all harm  
he will watch over your life;
- <sup>8</sup> the LORD will watch over your coming and going  
both now and forevermore.

God bless.

Liz

Rev Liz Hull

CHURCH SERVICES
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**Sunday April 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

11:00 am            Holy Communion

Preaching :        Rev Liz Hull

Reader :            First reading : Tracey E  
                          Psalm 126

                          Gospel : Tracey M  
                          John 12 v 1 - 8

Prayers :            Tracey E

Sidesperson :     Peter Clague  
                          Pam Beedan

Tea Rota :          Phyllis Christian  
                          Sandra Peters

## **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday**

11:00 am            Holy Communion

Preaching :        Steve Hull

Reader :            First reading : Lilian  
                          Psalm 118 v 1 – 2 & 19 - end

                          Gospel : Rev Philip  
                          Luke 19 v 28 - 40

Intercessions :    Rev Liz Hull

Sidesperson :     Tracey Martin  
                          John Walmsley

Tea Rota :         Louise Faragher  
                          Joan Aitken

## **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> – Maundy Thursday**

7:00pm                      Holy Communion

Preaching :                Rev Liz Hull

Reader :                    First reading : Michael  
Exodus 12 v 1 – 4 & 11 - 14

Gospel : Gladys  
John 13 v 1 – 17 & 31b - 35

Intercessions :         Steve Hull

Sidesperson :            Volunteers from amongst the  
St Thomas congregation



## **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> – Good Friday**

10:30 am            Holy Communion

Preaching :        Rev Liz Hull

Reader :            First reading : Peter Martin  
                          Psalm 22

Gospel : Steve  
John 18 v 1 – 19 & 42

Intercessions :    Canon Rev Philip Frear

Sidesperson :     Volunteers from amongst the  
                          St Thomas congregation

## **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> – Easter Day**

5:45 am – 6:30 am Easter Sunrise Service on Douglas beach followed by breakfast at St Thomas

9:30 am                      Brunch

11:00 am                    Family Communion and Easter  
Egg hunt during service

Preaching :                Rev Liz Hull

Reader :                    First reading : Peter C  
Acts 10 v 34 - 43

Gospel : Rev Liz  
John 20 v 1 - 18

Intercessions :          Steve Hull

Sidesperson :            Jenny Copparelli  
Edward Littlewood

Tea Rota :                 Lorna Martin  
Pat Walmsley

## **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> – Easter 2**

11:00 am            Family Service

Preaching :            Canon Rev Philip Frear

Reader :                First Reading : Ruhamah  
                                 Acts 5 v 27 - 32

                                 Gospel : Edwin  
                                 John 20 v 19 – 3rd

Intercessions :        Tracey E

Sidesperson :         Peter Martin  
                                 Ralph Martin

Tea Rota :              The Gentlemen

If anyone cannot make their allotted date, please  
arrange cover

FRIDAY COFFEE MORNING ROTA
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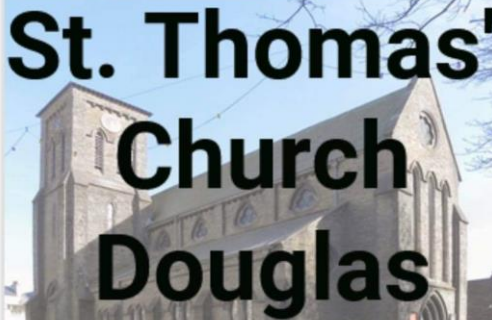
Jacqy Frear Pat Walmsley	1 <sup>st</sup> April
Edwin Creer Michael Farnworth	8 <sup>th</sup> April
June McDowell Lorna Martin	15 <sup>th</sup> April
Barbara Gibbon Viola Ferris	22 <sup>nd</sup> April
Joan Aitken Louise Faragher	29 <sup>th</sup> April

Please make sure you bring the milk and biscuits for the coffee morning.

FRIDAY FLOWER ROTA
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When it is your turn to provide flowers, you can arrange them on the altar when the Church is open on Friday coffee morning. Or if you are unable to be there in person, then please ask someone else to arrange the flowers for you, moving the previous weeks flowers to the side aisles.

LENT	1 <sup>st</sup> April
LENT	8 <sup>th</sup> April
DECORATING FOR EASTER	15 <sup>th</sup> April
DECORATING FOR EASTER	22 <sup>nd</sup> April
Val Clague	29 <sup>th</sup> April



**St. Thomas'  
Church  
Douglas**

**LENT  
LUNCHES**

**FRIDAYS 11th  
MARCH to 8th  
APRIL**

Delicious home made soup, roll,  
and cheese  
followed by dessert, tea or coffee.  
Suggested minimum donation £7.

ST.THOMAS' CHURCH, DOUGLAS, IM1 2PL

**A Warm  
Welcome  
to All**

**TIMES  
12.00pm  
to  
1.30pm**

Check out our  
website  
www.  
[stthomaschurch.im](http://stthomaschurch.im)

Follow us on:



## THE TAX MAN COMETH

April is the time of year that the tax man comes a knocking on the door.

But for all those who pay via envelopes or regular direct offerings, fear not St Thomas can help to ease the burden, particularly this year with prices escalating.



Pam, our Treasurer, can give you an invoice for tax purposes on your annual contributions that you can include with your tax return. Please ask her for further details.

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

We have made the decision to make the newsletter available to all at Church rather than having to add people's names to a list. So please take a copy at the start of the month.

A copy of the newsletter is also available on the church website at the start of each month for you to download :

[www.stthomaschurch.im](http://www.stthomaschurch.im)

Whilst these are produced for the benefit of the congregation, visitors, friends and family alike. There is a cost to producing them. So if you would like to make a donation towards the production of the newsletters then please do this in the usual way, by adding it to the collection plate, hand the monies to Mike or Peter our wonderful Church Wardens or use the donate button on the website.

Please enjoy reading the newsletter and if you would like to make a contribution of an article then we would love to add it to a future edition.

## MENS FELLOWSHIP

Normally the first Tuesday in each month from October to May.

5<sup>th</sup> April                      Mr Peter Clague  
  “Further Travels”

3<sup>rd</sup> May                         Mrs Elaine Christian  
  “Little things mean a lot”

AGM and outing to be arranged for June or July 2022

## FIRST AID COVER

St Thomas were wondering whether we had any First Aid trained people in our congregation who were willing to help out should there be any need for first aid at a service or an event.

Work places sometimes offer first aid training to staff or it maybe you volunteer at one of the first aid centres and have some training.

This is something the PCC are looking at and thought the best place to start was to see who we have trained already before we look into seeing whether we need additional cover for large events and services.

Please let Rev Liz, Mike or Peter know if you can help.



## SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW ST THOMAS CHURCH

These are some quiz questions that the Mothers Union were asked at one of their recent events. There are a list of events and some dates underneath. Can you match the event to the correct date. See if you can beat the Mothers Union 'high score'.

1. A peal of bells was donated
2. Became a registered building No 178 (Hint - Murals refurbished)
3. Chancel refloored with Italian Marble
4. Henry Bloom Noble became a Church Warden
5. The organ was installed
6. The Chancel Screen and Pulpit were dedicated
7. St Thomas Mothers Union formed
8. Major repairs to exterior stonework and clock faces repainted.
9. February – a fire broke out in the tower destroying the bells and damaging the organ.
10. July – A new peal of 6 bells was first rung.
11. Work on the murals began
12. The organ was repaired and updated with a choir organ and a 3<sup>rd</sup> manual.
13. The War Memorial, which was deigned by Archibald Know, was unveiled and dedicated (it was later moved to the Chapel of Remembrance)
14. Clock installed

15. St Thomas Day school opened
16. Vestries built on to the South East corner of the Church – Memorial window dedicated on 26<sup>th</sup> June
17. New gas lighting was installed
18. Oak reredos erected 1938
19. Electric lighting installed
20. 2 additional bells added to complete the octave – W H Okell of Glen Falcon bought and donated
21. “Hibernia” Princes road as a new vicarage
22. 5<sup>th</sup> Douglas (Bishop’s own) Scout group reformed
23. Murals completed. They cover 520 square metres (622 square yards) of plastered wall space
24. Chapel of Remembrance completed

1852	1897	1913	1928
1876	1898	1923	1929
1878	1899	1925	1939
1886	1910	1926	1944
1893	1912	1926	1999
1896	1912	1927	2017

WHAT'S ON AT ST THOMAS' IN APRIL 2022
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Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am Coffee and chat 11:00am Morning prayer for Lent short service 12.00pm Lent Lunch.
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9:30am Brunch 11:00am Family Service
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm Craft Group
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	7:30pm Mens Fellowship “Further Travels” by Mr Peter Clague
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am Coffee and chat 11:00am Morning prayer for Lent short service 12.00pm Lent Lunch.
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am Holy Communion
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm Craft Group
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm Maundy Thursday service
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am Good Friday Service
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	5:45am – 6:30am Sunrise service Douglas beach followed by breakfast at St Thomas 9:30am Brunch 11:00am Family communion and Easter Egg hunt
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm Craft Group

Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30am Coffee and chat
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am Holy Communion 1:30pm – 9:30pm Manx music festival
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm Craft Group
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	5:00pm – 10:00pm Manx music festival
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am Coffee and chat

If anyone has any future events they would like to put  
“in our diary” please let us know

## EVENTS FOR THE YEAR

We have pulled together all of the known planned events this year to try and let you plan ahead. Whilst this is our ‘best guess’ at times and dates, please check nearer the time to confirm and as ever, the details will be published in both the monthly newsletter and weekly service sheet.

These events are only the tip of the iceberg for the fellowship, fun and frivolity we have at St Thomas for you to come along and join in with:

Craft group – Mondays 2:00pm

Guides / Brownies – Wednesday’s

Mens Fellowship – First Tuesday of the month evening

Mothers Union – First Tuesday of the month daytime

Coffee mornings – Fridays 10:30am

Finally how could we forget our spectacular Sunday services at 11:00am and the all important festive services throughout the year all led by our very own Rev Liz Hull. A chance to unwind and spend some time with God.

### **April**

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> (12:00pm – 1:30pm) – Lent lunch

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> (12:00pm – 1:30pm) – Lent lunch

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> (1:30pm – 9:30pm) – Manx Music Festival

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> (5:00pm – 10:00pm) – Manx Music Festival

### **May**

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> (12:00pm – 1:30pm) – Light lunch

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> – Queens platinum BBQ

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Praying the Keeils

### **June**

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> (12:00pm – 1:30pm) – Light lunch

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> (7:30pm) – Summer concert

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> (7:30pm) – Summer concert

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> – Longest day, longest ride

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> (7:30pm) – Summer concert

### **July**

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> (12:00pm – 1:30pm) – Light lunch

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> (7pm) – Friends of St Thomas school

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> – 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of continuous Worship at St Thomas’

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> (7:30pm) – Summer concert

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> (7:30pm) – Summer concert

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> (7:30pm) – Summer concert

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> (7:30pm) – Summer concert

### **August**

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> (7:30pm) – Summer concert

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> (12:00pm – 1:30pm) – Light lunch

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> (7:30pm) – Summer concert

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> (7:30pm) – Summer concert

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> (7:30pm) – Summer concert

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> (7:30pm) – Summer concert

### **September**

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> (12:00pm – 1:30pm) – Light lunch

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Organ recital and buffet lunch

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> (7:30pm) – Summer concert

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> (7:30pm) – Summer concert

### **October**

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Heritage open day

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> (12:00pm – 1:30pm) – Light lunch

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> – Harvest quiz & supper

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> – Heritage open day

? – Manx concert brass & evening supper

### **November**

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> (12:00pm – 1:30pm) – Light lunch

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> – Remembrance Sunday

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> (2:00pm – 4:00pm) – Christmas Fayre

### **December**

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> (12:00pm – 1:30pm) – Light lunch

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> – St Barbara's day Royal Artillery service

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> – Christingle

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> – Carols by Candlelight

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> – Crib service

? - STAR service

## **Correspondance**

Two letters were received from the Diocese, one asking about the Communion table and whether we want to make the move permanent. The PCC agreed to put in a faculty application to make the change permanent.

The other regarding a change to the pastoral scheme to have Venerable Irene Cowell becoming the first vicar of the united benefice of St Thomas, St Matthews, St Georges and All Saints if it goes ahead. It was the Venerable Andrew Brown. The PCC had no objection to this change.

## **Finance**

The current bank account is fine, with funds that could be called on in the just giving (donate button on the website) should they be needed.

Pam reported that it was nice to see an increase in the number of people paying their weekly offering by direct debit now and would encourage others to do the same as when the bank charges come into being, the Church will be charged to put cash and cheques into the account.



It was also interesting to note the monthly outgoings by direct debit which are :

Shared mission	£ 2,941.91
Oil	£ 300.00
Gas	£ 130.00
Insurance	£ 263.86
Music	£ 148.00
<b>TOTAL per month</b>	<b>£3,783.77</b>

### **Diocesan Giving and Income Generation officer & Diocesan Treasurer**

We were very happy to host Philip Longworth and Lisa Johnson who came to talk about Philips new role and how he can help St Thomas with giving and income.

Philip has a background in working with charities and has strong links with business and trust who provide support for charities and groups. It's important to remember that not everyone can support financially. Some places can offer practical support for marketing, administration and so on.

Philip has noticed that all of the PCC's he so far been to are very committed to their churches and have a wide variety of skills between PCC's but they all tend to work in isolation. He would like to bring them closer together so that they can pass on knowledge, contacts and support for one another.

Firstly St Thomas needs to secure enough income to cover the housekeeping i.e. the monthly outgoings the Treasurer reported. Then we can concentrate on the re-ordering.

He asked to please be kept up to date with things as the earlier he can be involved, then the more time we have to plan and target the correct trust or company for support.

Some questions were asked of both Philip and Lisa regarding fund raising for the likes of the dish washer or some admin support. The PCC will follow these up with Philip.

### **Cast Iron Air Vents**

You may have noticed that some cast iron air vents in the walls are rotten, missing or bricked up. We have applied for a faculty to have these replaced and once granted we will carry out additional works like gutter clearing, down spout re-positioning, roof tile replacement and flora & fauna removal.

### **Rev Liz report**

Some services outside the regular Sunday ones have been successful others not so. It would be nice to understand what other services people would like to see St Thomas provide.

Lent lunches & community engagement at them is fantastic, people from all over the Island attending.

On the theme of engagement, Rev Liz would like to hear about anyone who used to attend St Thomas but has stopped maybe due to mobility issues or something else. She'd like to reach out to them as they may like home communion if mobility is the issue.

Rev Liz would also like to hear from young adults about what they want from Church. Change of service, different date, different style or whatever. But please ask anyone you know who would like to talk to Liz about this.

### **Fund Raising**

A list of the planned events for the year is included in this month's magazine. It's a fairly action packed calendar, but the un-doubted highlight will be a week long celebration of 150 years of continuous worship at St Thomas in early July. A small committee will be formed just for this event to handle all of the expected work that will be required. If you fancy helping out let us know. Once the event is over the committee will dis-band.

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

As usual, forms will be placed at the back of church for anyone willing to stand for any of the positions that are available. Please don't be afraid or concerned about them. Ask Rev Liz, Mike or Peter and they will be able to talk you through what is needed. It honestly is not too onerous and very rewarding.

## CHURCH CONTACTS

### **Minister**

Rev. Liz Hull - Tel 677711

### **Church Wardens**

Mr Michael Faragher, High View Road, Douglas – Tel 626655

Mr Peter Martin, 20 Maple Avenue, Birch Hill, Onchan  
Tel 622080/478076

### **Organist**

Bogumil Tomasz Godlewski

### **P.C.C Secretary**

Vacant

### **Treasurer**

Pam Beedan

### **Day School Head Teacher**

Mr Chris Kirk  
St Thomas School, Meadow Campus – Tel 674230

### **Junior Church Leader**

Jacqy Frear

### **Newsletter Editor**

Mrs Tracey Martin  
Email articles to – [tracey.candlelady@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tracey.candlelady@hotmail.co.uk)

### **Safeguarding Officer**

Mandy Bailey – Tel 393747 / 620984

**Please can ALL contributors to the magazine ensure articles are sent in no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> of the Month. (articles received after this date may not be included until the following month)**

**Did you know, you can find us on facebook or our website?**

For facebook search - St Thomas' Church of England, Isle of Man  
[www.stthomaschurch.im](http://www.stthomaschurch.im)