

Friday 25 March 2022

## ST THOMAS NOTICES & NEWS

Dear St Thomas Family

What excitement there has been as Caro and Pete Westwood left for the USA on Wednesday night, to meet their granddaughter and enjoy time with Sarah and Eugene. We wish them a wonderful holiday. Many thanks to the amazing team of volunteers who have so kindly stepped in to help in the office and surrounds. Thanks to John Paul (JP) who is sending out this Pew Leaflet email!

**Lent** is progressing fast, and many of us are really benefitting from the Wednesday **Lent Course by Archbishop Justin Welby**. I do hope that those who are unable to come in person are still listening to the videos, as sent out via WhatsApp every Thursday.

A reminder that **Thursday lunch time Intercessions** continue throughout Lent, from **1 – 1.45pm in the Lady Chapel**. Here is an opportunity to practice the Lent disciplines of **FAST** (miss lunch), **PRAY** (we intercede for the world, country, and church) and **GIVE** (what you would have spent on lunch can be placed in a jar for our Compassion Fund). All are welcome.

Looking ahead: **Palm Sunday on 10th April** marks the beginning of Holy Week.

Save the date – making **Palm crosses on Saturday 9th April at 9.30am** in the Koinonia Room.

We will have a **dramatic reading** of the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke at both morning services. Wendy Goddard will direct this.

We are needing **7 readers for each service** – we encourage folk to **sign the list on the clipboard at the back of the church**. Newcomers and new readers especially welcome! All readers must be available to come to a rehearsal on Saturday 9th April: 10.30am (for early service) and 11.30 (for 9.30am service)

Watch this space for details of **Holy week services....**

**Newcomers Welcome:** We invite all 2022 Newcomers (and those who missed the welcome Sunday last year) to come forward at Family Time at both morning services on Palm Sunday, so you can be introduced to the congregation. Then join us for tea after the 9.30am service, and let's use the opportunity to get to know one another!

Our monthly **Entrepreneurs Mini Market** takes place this Saturday morning from 8:30-12:30, in the church grounds. Please spread the word and come and enjoy some fellowship over a cup of coffee while supporting our vendors. See the attached poster and share.

**The Flower Guild** are planning a training session for anyone wanting to learn more about helping with flower arranging particularly in the church. The next generation needs to start improving their skills so they are ready to continue this important ministry. Please contact the parish office or **Rosemary Nunneley 0832988456** if you are interested in attending.

We are collecting **used birthday greeting cards** to recycle and sell for Fikelela funds. These are very popular so please bring your last birthday cards to the office.

**LADLES OF LOVE SANDWICHES** – Please bring your loaves of bread sandwiches to church on **Sunday or to the parish office by 10 am on Monday**.

**ABUNDANCE RECYCLING** will collect our recycling in the short term, so the **RECYCLING SUNDAY** is this **Sunday 27th March**. **PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED POSTER** for what can be

brought for recycling and what can't be brought. Once again please bring your clean recycling in neatly tied bags and boxes. Thank you! The recycling drop off will be next the hall and the door will be opened from 7am for drop-off

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**From the Youth Desk:**

**Inspire Kids Junior church** will be taking place this Sunday in the Koinonia room during the 9:30 service. This week's focus is on **Lost and Found**. We are so excited to welcome the St Thomas children to join us and welcome any new parents that have recently joined the parish community, we would love for your children to join us.

**Its time for a Teen revival.** We are calling out to all the St. Thomas Teens. If you are between the ages of 12 and 18 then we would like to invite you to the **Inspire Teens Friday Social** taking place on **Friday, the 1st April from 7:30pm**. This would be a chance for fun and fellowship as we seek to build a community young people who are passionate about Jesus.

Are you passionate about the environment and would like to become a mover and shaker, then join the **Green Teens Climate Activist workshop** taking place at St. Thomas on the 1 April between 9:30 and 1pm. If you are interested and between Gr. 8 and 11 then send your name to **JP via WhatsApp at 072 515 8039**. See the flyer attached to the email.

**Confirmation:** During Covid, it was not possible to offer Confirmation classes. Any young people who are interested in being Confirmed – Grade 9 and above- please take an application at the back of the church to complete and return to the parish office.

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Yours in the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ

Claire

**Revd Dr Claire Nye Hunter**

**Rector**

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