St.Thomas' and St. Luke's Ashton-In-Makerfield Church Magazine Price : 50p





October 2015

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Church Services in the Parish of St Thomas, Ashton-in-Makerfield

Sundays

St Thomas's		S	t Luke's
9.00a.m.	Holy Communion	8.30 a.m.	Holy Communion (1st Sunday Only)
10.45 am	Family Worship (1st Sunday Parade & 4th Sunday Family Communion)	11.00 a.m.	Family Worship (2nd Sunday Family Communion)
6.30 p.m.	Evening Worship (3rd and 5th Sunday Holy Communion)	4.15 p.m.	Holy Communion (3rd Sunday Only)
	Week	days	
Thursday 9.45 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP 1662)	Other services and Saints' Days as announced. Please see weekly notice sheet or visit website for dates, details or exceptions.	
Parish Office: St Thomas's Church Vestry, Thursday 6.30 – 7.30 p.m: For all enquiries regarding church matters and arranging baptisms and weddings. Contact - 01942 721484.			
Deadlines: Handwritten material should be given to Malcolm Taylor, and email material to stthomasandstlukesmagazine@gmail.com			
Deadline November 2015 December 2015		December 2015	
Hand Written	11th Oc	tober	8th November
Computer 18th Oc		tober	15th November
Magazine Release 1st Nove		ember	29th November

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Important Parish Information

Baptisms Baptisms are held at St Thomas Church at 12.45 on the 2nd & 4th Sundays. Baptisms at St Luke's are at 11 am on the 3rd Sunday. To qualify for baptism parents should	of your choice if certain criteria are shown to be met. For details please contact the vicar or call in at Vestry Hour on a Thursday
live within the parish boundaries or be a regular worshipper at St Thomas's/St Luke's. Parents and Godparents should also be prepared to undertake baptism preparation classes.	Funerals Every parishioner has the right to a service in church, followed by a



Letter from the Vicar

'Transforming Wigan' is a phrase that you will hear more and more of over the next few years. Hopefully it will become more than a phrase, a slogan or even a project and become known more as a movement and an enabler of growth.



The Director for Mission in Wigan, Tim Montgomery, describes it this way: "the Transforming Wigan vision is to engage 10% of people in the discipleship journey with Jesus. Transforming Wigan is all about helping people follow Jesus rather than about trying to preserve people in church buildings. It's a shift

from trying to work out how to not just look after the 1% of Christians who go to church - to trying to work out how we engage with the other 99% of people who might be interested in exploring Jesus' call to "follow me".

If 'church' really is the plural of 'disciple' then it is very likely that we will be exploring some new ways of gathering bunches of disciples together in the future. We will begin to focus



on making and growing disciples of Jesus - who make and grow disciples of Jesus."

Really, this is only focussing on doing what Jesus tells us to in the Great Commission - to make and grow disciples. It is an



Letter from the Vicar

exciting prospect that will see churches grow and develop, see church (that is the people) impacting local communities, see new ways of working closely with other agencies and organisations, but most importantly it will see transformed lives as more people come to know and follow Jesus.

There will be much work to do and much patience, love and compassion needed as we journey together. A key foundation to all that will be achieved is that we seek God's will rather than simply implement our own plans. Therefore, a particular focus for Transforming Wigan will be prayer. And again, 'the vision is simple and ambitious: to see prayer on every patch of ground in every moment of every day.' This is possible when every church and every denomination, every church member - in church or at home, in groups or in quiet times alone - join together in a new network of prayer. That Wigan will indeed be transformed.

If you are interested in joining us in prayer then contact us and we will help you to get involved. We will begin with a regular update, offering



prayer pointers and opportunities to gather to pray together. For now, simply pray for Transforming Wigan, for its vision and its initial aims, but particularly for God's will to be known and for us to join Him in building his Kingdom.



Daily / Weekly Events in our Church - October 2015

Monday Morning Prayer.

9.00am

TuesdayMorning Prayer.9:00amCoffee Morning. (Church Hall)10:00am - 12:00pmChurch open for prayer.7.30-8.30pm

Wednesday Morning Prayer.

9.00am

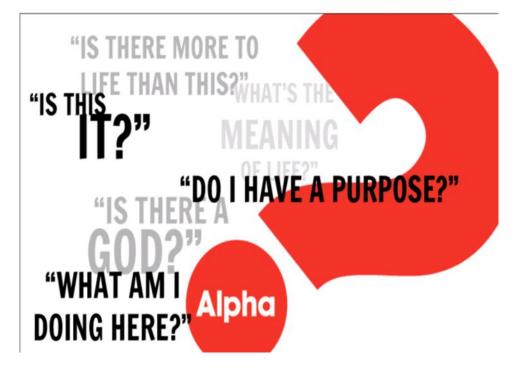
ThursdayHoly Communion.9:45amPrinces Pantry. (St Luke's)11:30anVestry hour.6.30-7.3

9:45am 11:30am - 1:00pm 6.30-7.30 pm

These are the usual events in our church, please see the notices for details of other activities taking place. For details of organisations and who to contact see back page of magazine.

Streets for Prayer:

This month we are praying for the people who live and work in **Heath Road (from Windsor Road), Ashton Heath, Heath Street, Mill Street and Druid Street**



If you have questions and would like to learn more, the next Alpha course will commence on Wednesday 7th October at 7.30pm in St Luke's Church.

For further information, please contact Izzy or Bill on 717300 or Helen on 01942 721962.



St. Thomas' C of E Primary School

A New Year

A full school assembly took place on Wednesday 2nd September to mark the beginning of the new academic year. Following meaningful prayers and some special singing to praise our Lord Mrs Jones delivered an inspiring sermon to all



staff and pupils, encouraging everyone to always strive to achieve their best and to be kind to each other, as well as wishing everyone lots of happiness throughout the new school year.



The 30 new pupils that started Reception Class (and of course would have felt a bit timid and nervous at first) have all settled in very well, in no small measure thanks to the help of our excellent Early Years Team. The Reception children are now all enjoying school, having lots of fun, learning new things and making new

friends,

John 3 (1:4) "Nothing makes me happier than to hear that my children live in the truth".

Back to School Prayer

Father,

We thank you for the opportunity to begin this school year,

and we ask you to bless all the teachers, children and our families that make our school a great place.



We pray that you will guide us in all ways, so that we will seek your will in everything we do.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. <u>Amen.</u>

I would like to welcome all our new children and at the same time wish a success to all the students who have just left us.

God's blessings be with you in all that you do.

Elaine Mateus



1st Ashton in Makerfield



Firstly Congratulations to 2 of our officers, Kat Duckworth and Jonathan Cornthwaite who got married at the beginning of August. We wish them well for their future together.

We have now all returned from our Summer break and are all looking forward to a good Autumn Session.

Anchors have 4 new recruits who are settling in well. This year, our groups have a Star Wars theme –

Team Jedi, Team Skywalker and Team Jedi so we hope the force will be with them as they journey.

Both Juniors and Company welcomed their promoted boys from last year.

We are always open to new recruits and our aim this year is to try to double our company numbers.

We have room in all sections so if you know any boys who are in Year 1 or above, (up to age 16) we would love them to join us. (Note: Reception children can come along in May next year)

An advance notice for our Christmas Fayre to be held in the Church Hall on Saturday 7th November between 11.00 am and 1.00pm. Any donations for the Tombola or raffle would be gratefully received.



ST. THOMAS AND ST. LOKE S CHOREN MA GAZINE OCIODEL 2015



Opening Ti	imes
Monday	9am-5pm
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Wednesday	9am-5pm
Thursday	9am-5pm
Friday	9am-5pm
Saturday	9am-4pm
Sunday Closed Except for	Mothering Sunday

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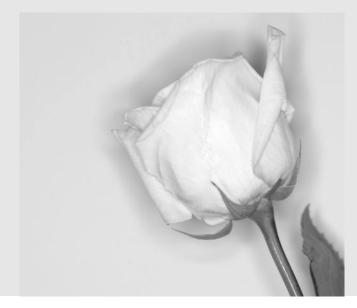
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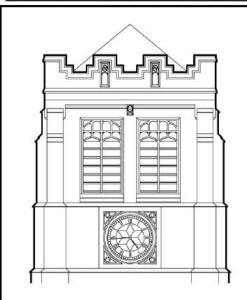
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DATE	LADIES ON DUTY	
3RD OCT	ALL LADIES—HARVEST FLOWERS	
10TH OCT	ALL LADIES—TIDY	
17TH OCT	Mrs Hibbert, Mrs Lyon, Mrs Davies	
24TH OCT	Mrs Laites, Mrs Malley, Mrs Vella, Kayleigh Speakman	
31ST OCT	Mrs Edwardson, Mrs Cook	

FLOWERS IN CHURCH DURING OCTOBER			
DATE	ALTAR	LADY CHAPEL	
4TH OCT	HARVEST—CONGREGATION	HARVEST—CONGREGATION	
11TH OCT	HARVEST—CONGREGATION	HARVEST—CONGREGATION	
18TH OCT	Anniversary remembrance of Auntie Marg from Pauline and Allen	Birthday remembrance of John Jolley from Gladys, David, Philippa, Gina and Alicia	
25TH OCT	75th Birthday remembrance of a dear husband Roy (14th Oct) from Mary	75th Birthday remembrance of a dear Dad and Grandad (14th Oct) from Jannette, Donald, Jessica and Ethan	



St Thomas' Flowers



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Birthday remembrance of Bill Herd (3rd Oct) a loving husband and Dad from Margaret and Tony



FLOWERS IN CHURCH FOR OCTOBER		
DATE		
4TH OCT	From CarolePye	
11TH OCT	VAC ANT	
18TH OCT	VAC ANT	
25TH OCT	VACANT	



The Film Review With Rob Carson



Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol (12A) Directed by Christopher McQuarrie Stars: Tom Cruise, Simon Pegg, Rebecca Ferguson, Sean Harris, Jeremy Renner, Ving Rhames, and Alec Baldwin

In a Nutshell: Not many franchises or series of movies can get themselves to five movies and retain their dignity in a big way, never mind get to a fifth movie and have it be one of the best ones.... but if anyone can, Tom Cruise can. After the series highpoint of Ghost Protocol, hopes were high for the follow up to be as big and cool as that delight. And it's a mission succeeded if not surpassed, but that's no bad thing. With globe trotting intrigue, a big conspiracy, the CIA on the trail of our hero making him a roque element, exotic ladies and exotic locations and a shadowy villain who's always a step ahead and very creepy... this has all the makings of a top spy thriller and it ticks off the usual spots with relish, whilst bringing back all your favourite characters and introducing a few new faces too. Cruise as always, is very game, jumping into a lot of massive stunts with gusto (not least the well known plane stunt and a daring underwater heist) and turning the charisma up to the top as well as proving a rugged and flawed hero, vulnerable yet willing to save the day... Simon Pegg proves the real heart as Benji, getting more into the action and making a good foil for Ethan as well as being really sweet yet serious at equal turns... whilst Rhames and Renner make a neat double act and new airl Rebecca Ferguson steals it as the mysterious Ilsa, who plays both sides and you never know what she will do next.... Baldwin as always is fun as the CIA head on Ethan's tail and Sean Harris is a quietly menacing nemesis. The action is big and fun, the characters are great, the locations are dazzling... what more do you need from a series that just keeps getting better and better, well nearly anyway... not much can be as awesome as Ghost Protocol at least. Rating: 9/10 SOD

Fantastic Four (12A) Directed by Josh Trank

Stars: Miles Teller, Michael.B.Jordan, Kate Mara, Jamie Bell, Toby Kebbell, Reg.E.Cathy, and Tim Blake Nelson

In a Nutshell: There is such a thing as anti-hype. As much as hype sets you up to be very excited for a movie and how good it might be, then the anti-hype sets you up for a fall, makes you dread a movie and just how bad can



The Film Review With Rob Carson



it be? And so went the pre-release anti-hype for this movie, and it's totally unfair and to be truthful hard to tell exactly where it came from... true the actual reviews it got were pretty damning too, but the eagerness for this film to fail even before that, wow! All I can say is it isn't anywhere near that bad, but it's a far drop from what could have been.... in the end, this is a bold attempt to shake up an established formula that somewhere along the line got shook up itself and went everywhere sadly. I can't fault the casting, Jamie Bell is as always pretty darn solid as Ben Grimm and Miles Teller, so terrific in Whiplash, is a solid choice for Reed, ditto Kate Mara whilst Michael.B.Jordan is a nice twist on the usual casting for Johnny Storm and the back story they created to explain this is sweet and well realised.... and

Toby Kebbell was so great in Dawn of the Planet of the Apes and steals so many other films that it seems a good choice too... it's just somewhere along the way there performances wind up just ok, not bad just decent without really trying. The effects are impressive one minute and a bit everywhere the next... and whilst for most of the movie, it's trying this dark and



serious tone and a realistic take on the material, more gritty and drama based... at the end it just turns into a Power Rangers episode, both with silly villains and with terribly cliched dialogue and action. Doctor Doom himself, is a terrible waste of Kebbell's talents... starting off a interesting antagonist and once reawoken as Doom, the standout sequence of the movie occurs as he unleashes his powers in a really dark and gory way that is really really fairly chilling... but why does he then turn into the silliest looking villain ever and completely fall flat after that? Like I said, it's nowhere near as mind numbingly terrible 'worst film ever' as you've been led to believe, but it's sadly a bit of a muddled fail all the same... and I guess it's only fitting that this review seems all over the place too, though probably not intentionally. It's worth a look, but throw your expectations to the floor and be open minded at the very least.... **Rating: 6/10**

Also Seen:

Absolutely Anything (12A) 7/10, Trainwreck (15) 8/10, Vacation (15) 7/10, The Man from U.N.C.L.E (12A) 8/10



St Thomas' October Donations



Please place your donation in an envelope with your full name and amount written on it. Please hand in at church or post to the vicarage. Please make any cheques payable to **St Thomas' PCC**. If you want the donation to be for something specific, please write clearly on the envelope. <u>GIFT AID</u>

If you are a UK tax payer and would like church to be able to claim back 25p for every £1 you donate, please complete a Gift Aid form or state on your envelope that you are a UK tax payer, would like the donation to be Gift Aided and include your full name and address.

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Brenda Percival,, Marion Bullen, Mary Shaw, Jean Rose Brown, David Bowen, Margaret Rogers, Alice Ashley

Other Donations:

Africa Fund, Thanks for Viewing Church from Debbie and Sue (Anglesey)

With effect from the **May** magazine we will only be showing the total of all donations made in the month, not the breakdown across the different funds. A record of the amounts for each fund will still be kept for accounting purposes.

Funds currently in use are: Africa Fund, Audio Visual, Building & Maintenance, Church Hall, Garden of Rest, General, Grave Maintenance, Heath Road Graveyard, Heating and Youth worker. **Unless otherwise stated donations will go into the General Fund.**

TOTAL DONATIONS RECEIVED BY ST THOMAS' FOR OCTOBER 2015 £205

If you want to discuss any issues around wills and legacies please ring the Parish Treasurer Sarah Riley on 01942 722747

Loving Birthday Remembrance of

Yvonne Critchley from Aunty Jean

In Fond Remembrance of

Margaret Sutton from Brian and Christine Sutton and Family

Thanksgiving for the Funeral of Lyn Pilling





The story behind ... O God, our help in ages past

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home!

Under the shadow of Thy throne Still may we dwell secure; Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defence is sure...

A thousand ages in The sight Are like an evening gone; Short as the watch that ends the night, Before the rising sun.



Isaac Watts (1674 – 1748) is often called the 'Father of English hymnody'. Certainly before his hymns came along, congregational singing was a tedious business.

Watts was born in July 1674 in Southampton. (At the time of his birth, his father, an educated deacon in a dissenting Congregational church, was briefly in prison for his non-conformist beliefs.) As a boy, Watts showed outstanding ability with language (learning Greek, Hebrew, Latin and French). He also had an unusual ability for easy rhyming in English. (At the age of five, when scolded for giggling in family prayers, it was because he had seen a mouse on the bell-rope, and instantly composed the line: '*There was a mouse, for want of stairs, ran up a rope to say his prayers!*)

Watts' literary ability, combined with his interest in theology, made him very unhappy with the congregational singing of the day, which focused almost entirely on strict metrical versions of the psalms. One Sunday after church, Isaac complained to his father about this. His father challenged him to write something better. Though only 18, Watts accepted the challenge, and produced his first hymn – which was duly sung the following Sunday.

It was such a success that he wrote new hymn texts every Sunday for the next two years. In all, he went on to write more than 600 hymns. Some of them are still well-loved today: from this one, 'O God, Our Help in Ages Past', which is a paraphrase of Psalm 90, to 'When I Survey the Wondrous Cross', and the Christmas carol 'Joy to the World'.

The ageing Church

British society is ageing. What are some of the implications for the churches?

Age of retirement. Should ministers, elders, trustees and others continue to retire at, say, 65, or, as in a number of denominations like the Church of England, at 70? Roman Catholic priests are not expected to retire until

they are 75. Should the age be extended to be more in line with the age of congregations?

Impact of older people. Their physical ability is usually less, (often finding stairs difficult , for example). Not all older people enjoy modern, especially loud, worship. Some churches are already appointing a Minister for Older People. Are



ministers in *training* being prepared to serve the needs of congregations where older people dominate? The increased life expectancy will mean that there are more *married* people at older ages.



Helping Grandparents. Many Third Agers are grandparents, with an average of 4.4 grandchildren in the UK. Many will spend part of their time looking after their grandchildren two or more days a week. In what practical ways can Christian grandparents be more than just child-minders/entertainers , and instead share Christian truth and values? Should the churches provide facilities especially for grandparents?

Finance. Third Agers may become less able to give as much support as they used to. How can churches cope with dwindling financial resources? However, in the Church of England, total giving in 2013 amounted to £953 million, the highest amount ever given to the church, with an average member giving £13 per week.

Transport. The older people get, the less easy it is for them to travel to church, doctor or hospital. Can churches help by providing some kind of transport rota, even 'bussing' people to church? Public transport is frequently simply / not convenient for many older people, and often too infrequent. Numbers using Mobility Scooters may also increase, churches needing space for access.

Elderly evangelism. Proportionately more elderly go to church than in other agegroups, but there are yet many who do not go to church at all, and still need to be reached with the Gospel. But like any group of churchgoers, they need to be befriended and enabled to join in suitable church activities. When Jesus said, "The fields are white, ready to harvest," that included those 65 and over!

St. Thomas and St. Luke's Church Magazine October 2015



Edith Cavell was a British nurse in charge of a hospital in Belgium during the First World War. She saved the lives of soldiers from both sides and helped Allied soldiers escape from German-occupied Belgium during the First World War, for which she was arrested.

Her strong Christian beliefs led her to help all those who needed it: she said, "I can't stop while there are lives to be saved."

Despite international pleas for mercy, she was shot by a German firing squad. The night before her execution, she told the Revd. Gahan, the Anglican chaplain who gave her Holy Communion: "Patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness towards anyone."

In the Anglican Church, 12th October is her commemoration day. This year Nurse Cavell is

featured on a special £5 coin to mark the centenary of the war.



PROPER POORLY

In the Middle Ages certain saints were associated with particular ailments, and became known as patron saints for people suffering from those illnesses. Can you guess who you might have asked to pray for you...

If you had toothache?

Dentista Apollonia Peter

If you had a migraine?

Aspren Aspirin Anthony

If you had a sore throat?

Blaise Flannel Godelina

If you had sore knees?

Neale Gangulphus Sebaldus

Worst of all, if you got the plague...

Agricola Adrian Quirinius

Answers at the bottom of the page.

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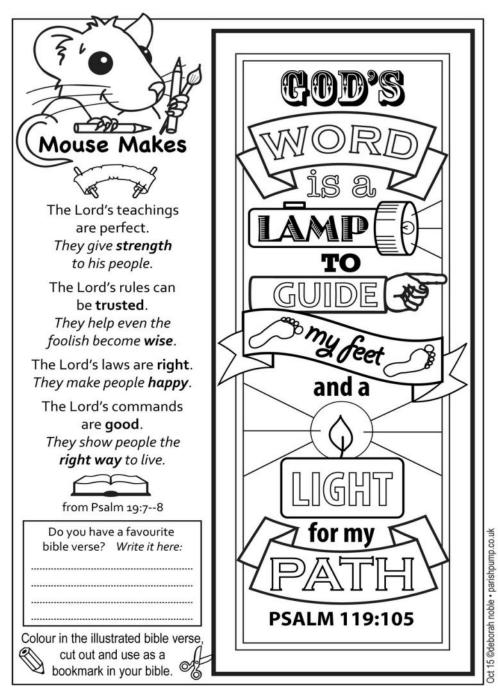
Doctor, Doctor I feel like I'm biscuits!

You mean the square ones? Yes!

The ones you put butter on? Yes! Oh, you're crackers!

жжжжжжжжжжж

Answers: 1. Apollonia 2.Aspren (honestly!) 3. Both Blaise and Godelina 4. Gangulphus 5.all of them





The Registers



Funerals - "May they rest in peace"

3rd August	Lesley Kilmurray	Allscott Way	74yrs
12th August	Richard Hodgson	Severn Road	49 yrs
21st August	Lyn Pilling	Princess Road	58 yrs
27th August	Martin Jackson	Heathstone Street	56 yrs
3rd Sept.	Eileen Moore	Buttermere Avenue	75 yrs
7th Sept.	Margaret Sutton	Windsor Road	63yrs

Holy Matrimony - "All the days of their lives"



2 9 t h August Jamie Allen & Jessico	Leput
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Holy Baptism -

"We welcome them into the Lord's family"

X	

16th August	Lucas David Smith	Sewage Farm
	Thea Elizabeth Green	Jennings Park Avenue
23rd August	Jack Matthew Ogden	Pretoria Road
	Jax James Ormesher	Bolton Road

Church Organisations in the Parish of St Thomas, Ashton-in Makerfield

Boys Brigade Captain: Gareth Hamlett (07903866501)Anchor Boys (Tuesday: 5.45 p.m.) Olwen Wright (389595)Junior Section (Tuesday 6.45 p.m.) Kat Duckworth (07517486188) Company Section (Tuesday: 7.30 p.m.) Contact Gareth HamlettMusic Group Sunday – 10.45 a.m.	Girl Guides Rainbows (Tuesday: 5.30 p.m.) Anne Wooff (724207) 3rd & 4th Ashton Brownies (Wednesday and Thursday: 6.30 pm) Irene Taylor (Wednesday) (703410) Susan Hughes (Thursday) (725291) St Luke's Brownies (Thurs: 6.15 p.m.) Susan Hughes (725291) 3rd Ashton Guides & Ranger Guides (Tuesday: 7.15 p.m.) Rachel Starkie (718350)
<u>St Thomas' Choir</u>	<u>Coffee Mornings at St Thomas'</u>
Sunday - 10.45 a.m. & 6.30 p.m.	Tues - 10 a.m.
Practice – Thursday: 7.00 p.m.	Thurs - (after 9.45 a.m. communion)
Paul Tushingham (711085)	Barbara Taylor (205136)
Children's Sunday Clubs – 10.45 a.m. Bubbles (Pre-School) Splash (R-Y2), Xstream (Y3-Y6) Bell Tower (Y7-Y11) Sue Thomas (727275) sue@stthomasandstluke.co.uk	<u>St Luke's Over Sixties</u> Monday – 2.00 p.m. Meet at Stubshaw Cross Labour Club
<u>Wednesday Weenies</u> Wed – 1.00 p.m.: Jan Cornthwaite (721626)	<u>St. Luke's Donation Secretary</u> Mike Pye (517318)
<u>Youth Work</u>	<u>St. Luke's Treasurer</u>
Sue Thomas (727275)	John Boon
Duke of Edinburgh's Award (14-18+)	<u>The PCC Secretary</u>
Sunday 6.30pm Church Hall	Dorothy Burgess (701 542)
Ceri Mansell (727417)	dottib1@yahoo.co.uk
<u>St Thomas' Mothers' Union</u>	<u>Flower Guild</u>
3rd Wed: 7.30 p.m.: Barbara Taylor (205136)	Meta Laites (723679)
Bowling Club Henry Hunter (712709)	

Church Officials in the Parish of St Thomas, Ashton-in Makerfield

<u>Vicar</u>	Administrator
Rev Jeremy Thomas	Rachael Campbell
(727275)	721 484 Parish office
Curate	Ordained Local Minister
Rev Helen Coffey	Rev Izzy Schafer
(721962)	(717300)
ReadersMalcolm BoldCarole Pye(276379)(517318)Alan Harrison(718618)Tricia Hancox(201540)Scott Campbell(711086)	<u>St Thomas' Church Wardens</u> Ken Laites (723679) Paula Gillespie (711270) <u>Deputy Wardens</u> - Barbara Taylor (205136) Nigel Robinson (726597)
<u>Electoral Roll Secretary</u>	<u>St Luke's Church Warden</u>
Paul Weston	Carole Pye
(202649)	(517318)
<u>Treasurer (St Thomas)</u>	Church Architect
Sarah Riley	Mr B. Schafer
(722747)	(717300)
<u>Church Hall Secretary</u>	<u>St Thomas' Organist & Choirmaster</u>
Rachael Campbell	Paul Tushingham
721484 (Parish Office)	(711085)
	<u>F.W.O. Secretary</u> Jackie Wilson (712368)
<u>Gift Aid Secretary</u>	<u>St Thomas' Donations Secretary</u>
Clare Hayton	Anita Archer
(273183)	(760082)
<u>Magazine Co-ordinator</u>	<u>Magazine Editor</u>
Jack Stuart	Rachel Webster
(726972)	(273453 - contact for advertising)