



ST THOMAS CHURCH LANCASTER

SHARING GOD'S LOVE FROM THE HEART OF THE CITY

Charity No 113 0550

1ST DECEMBER 2019 ADVENT SUNDAY

A WARM WELCOME to any visitors. Please fill in a contact form on the back of this bulletin, so that we can get to know you, and leave it in the grey box on the Welcome desk. Do stay for a drink and chat.

9AM HOLY COMMUNION

The children will join us for Holy Communion

She shouldn't be here

Matthew 1. 1-16

11AM MORNING SERVICE

Wonderful Counsellor

Isaiah 9. 6-7a

7PM EVENING SERVICE

MISSION PARTNERS Highlighted this month is Short Term Mission

THE CRAFTAID STALL there will be a stall in the foyer this Sunday and next Sunday, with Christmas cards, advent calendars and lots of gifts.



Extra Time

THIS WEEK

Tuesday 3rd December downstairs in the Church Centre come along for a 10:30 start or 10:15 for coffee. This week we welcome Janet Nelson with a talk entitled "Shopping in Lancaster and Surrounding Area 200 Years Ago". Why not come and join us. All are most welcome.

WOMEN'S COFFEE All women are invited for coffee and chat at the Print room café in the Storey Institute at 11am on **Saturday 7th December.**



POP-UP CAFÉ HOTC fundraiser **Saturday December 7th** at 2pm-4.30pm. Hot drink & mince pie or gingerbread £3.50; squash and novelty biscuit £2.50; biscuit decoration £1 per biscuit; Christmas present wrapping service and stalls with crafts for sale.

ST. THOMAS' BULLETIN

COMING UP

PARISH WALK to deliver the Christmas cards to the parish on **Wednesday December 11th**. Meet in the upstairs centre at 9am. Coffee and mince pies on your return! (Or collect a round from Church next Sunday)

HOTC FUNDRAISER—BRASS BAND Lancaster City Brass are playing a Christmas concert in church on **Wednesday 11th December** starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are £8 for an adult and £5 for a child, and can be bought from www.lancaster.gov.uk/victicketbox or 01524 5828031 or from Sally Wawszczyk at the 7pm service or email sallylwalker@hotmail.co.uk



MESSY CHRISTMAS SPECIAL Saturday 14th December, 3.30pm-5.30pm. Join us for an afternoon of Christmas crafts and games, listen to the Christmas story and enjoy a party tea for children and their families. Suggested donation £2 per family.



EVENTS ELSEWHERE

MORECAMBE BAY CHRISTIAN MEDICAL FELLOWSHIP All health professionals are invited to "Carols and Mince Pies" Saturday **14th December** 3pm- 6pm. Please could you bring either mince pies or festive nibbles. For details of the venue email morecambabaycmf@gmail.com or search Morecambe Bay CMF on Facebook.

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE: Light and Hope' at the Cathedral **Sunday 1st December** at 6.30pm. This will include music sung by the Cathedral Choir, Cathedral Girls' Choir and *Schola Cantorum*. There will also be the opportunity for all to join in singing the traditional Advent hymns. Seating will not be reserved this year, so simply arrive in good time.

LANCASTER CHURCHES TOGETHER are holding an Advent service at 6.30 pm on **Sunday 1st December** at St Paul's, Scotforth. And are also Carol Singing at Marketgate on **Saturday 14th December** from 10 – 11 and 11.30 – 12.30 pm. Anyone is welcome to join the Ecumenical Choir to raise money for the Homeless Christmas Shelter. There are various services being organised for Lancashire Sings Christmas on **19th December** from 7-8 pm – please see the Churches Together website for venues.

NOTICES

NEW WINE DISCIPLESHIP YEAR ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED We have the exciting opportunity of receiving two interns from Chile to help us with children's and youth ministry. We benefit greatly from having interns on the New Wine Discipleship Year placed with us at St. Thomas and this is only made possible when families or individuals are willing to host them for the year. The two Chileans are brothers (twins in fact) and they are the sons of the Pastor of the Church we have connected with. If you have a spare room in your house and would be willing to consider hosting an intern, please

speak to Craig or email craig@st.tees.org.uk and we are able to offer a modest allowance to help cover costs.

LOOKING FOR RECRUITS Only 3 more spaces left! We are needing new recruits for 11am service tea and coffee rota. If you are able to join a team, once every seven weeks please text Cheryl on 07720052566 or let the office know. It's a great way to get to know new people and hone your barista skills.

EMAILS HAVE BEEN GOING MISSING! Some people have reported that they don't receive team emails, rota reminders or information about their children's groups. As the emails seem to be being sent, please could you check the Junk or Trash or Deleted folders on your email. You will be able to arrange for emails from Churchsuite, children@st.tees.org.uk and Ministry leaders go into your Inbox so you or your child don't miss out.

CHILDREN'S TEAM VACANCIES!! Our children's ministry is growing and growing - we urgently need more leaders to share God's love with his children. Could you join one of these teams? Refresh (8-11 year olds) 2 people twice a month on Thursdays, 5:30-8pm and Ladybirds (1 & 2 year olds) 1 person twice a month on Sundays, 10:30am-12:45pm. Contact Emma and Sarah on children@st.tees.org.uk to find out more about what's involved.

HOTC FUNDRAISING UPDATE One of our church wardens, Linda Hendry, is now about half way through her 12 week slimming challenge to raise funds for the HOTC project. She is aiming to lose 14lbs (or 7kg) before Christmas – she's lost about 7lbs so far. Thanks to all those who have already sponsored Linda. If you'd like to sponsor her, you can do so at: [www.give.net/Linda H Slim Challenge](http://www.give.net/Linda_H_Slim_Challenge)

CHURCH FLOWERS If you enjoy flowers and would like to join the team, please think and pray. There are only Jane and Dorothy on the team now. Please contact Dorothy Mairs on 01524 382206 for a chat.

PRAYER FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION For 30 days of prayer points, see <https://www.worldprayer.org.uk/blog/30-days-of-prayer-for-the-general-election>

OPEN CHURCH between 9am and 3pm on **Thursday 12th December.**

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS staying in Lancaster over the Christmas holidays We would love to be able to link some of those international students with locals so that they can experience what Christmas looks like in the UK! If you are interested in hosting a student for Christmas Day, please do let Friends Internatioanl know by **Monday 2nd December!** If you could let us know how many students you are able to take, that would also be helpful.

READING THE BIBLE PASSAGE DURING THE SERVICE If anyone would like to join the rota for reading the Bible passage from the front of church during the service, please could you email admin@st.tees.org.uk, saying which service you would like to read at. The passage to be read is emailed to the reader mid way through the previous month.



INCLUSION BOX There is now a box in the servery on the right, containing sensory items, concentration aids, ear defenders, colour text overlays and accessible New Testaments. Please speak to someone wearing a blue lanyard if you or someone with you would like to use the items during any services or Church events. We just ask that you please return items after use so that they are ready for the next person.

PHOTOS IN CHURCH In line with our safeguarding policies, please do not take photos or videos in church services without asking permission of the clergy first.

VALUABLES Keep your valuables with you all the time while in church, even when going to take Communion or for prayer.

PASTORAL ISSUES Please inform the church office or one of the leadership of any pastoral needs that arise such as illness, accidents or bereavements.

PASTORAL PRAYER CHAIN Please send your prayer requests to Margaret Stocks on 01524 66257.

We use church management software called ChurchSuite. This gives all the adults on our database the option to access their rotas, the church calendar, sign up for church events, and update their contact details. If you don't have access to My Churchsuite, contact the church office. All information is stored securely in line with the Data Protection Act. Unless you choose otherwise, your details can only be accessed by church staff and those writing any rotas you might be on.



stthomaslancaster.churchsuite.co.uk/

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 If you have recently come to St Thomas's, we'd like to welcome you & get to know you. Please fill in this slip & hand it in at the Welcome desk.

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms Other)	
Address	
Postcode	
Telephone	
Email	
Children (include DOB)	
If you are interested in joining a Life Group tick here <input type="checkbox"/>	
If you are a student tick here <input type="checkbox"/>	
Is there anything particular you would like to get involved in?	

Please tick the box if we **may add** your information to our mailing list (Churchsuite). You can unsubscribe at any time by contacting admin@st.tees.org.uk

Please could you indicate your age group.
 Under 20
 20-30
 30-50
 Over 50

Which service have you come to?
 9am 11am 7pm