



ST THOMAS

CHURCH LANCASTER

SHARING GOD'S LOVE FROM THE HEART OF THE CITY

NOVEMBER 25TH

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 MORNING SERVICE

11AM HOLY COMMUNION *This life of Hardship & Hope 1 Peter 1. 3-9*

7PM EVENING SERVICE *The Intimate Spirit Isaiah 61. 1-3*

THIS WEEK

OUR MISSION PARTNER PRAYERS for November are for Friends International.



CRAFT AID will have a stall after the morning services today and **2 December**. Come to buy advent candles and calendars, Christmas cards and gifts.

NEW TO ST THOMAS' CHURCH? Then we'd love to get to know you! There will be an afternoon tea today, **Sunday 25th November** 4.00-5.30pm at 97 Barton Road for anyone who has started coming along to St Thomas' in the past year or so. Email claire@st.tees.org.uk to let her know you're coming and mention any dietary needs.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING C1/C2 training will be on **Monday 26th November** from 7.30-9.30 in the upstairs centre lounge. This is a chance to do this training without travelling to Blackburn

ROOFBREAKERS The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 27th November** from 7.00-9.00pm in the downstairs church centre.

LADS PIZZA NIGHT Wednesday **28th November**, 6pm-7pm, in the Downstairs centre. All Lad's in school year 7-13. Time to relax at this time of year and enjoy pizza. We will be ordering pizza's in as well as cooking a couple of shop bought pizzas. The young people will also need to rate the pizza's without knowing where each pizza come from.

ST THOMAS BOOK GROUP We will meet on **1st December** at 11am, Print Room Café at The Storey to discuss 'The Thread' by Victoria Hislop. All welcome, whether you finish the book or not! New members always welcome.

Charity No 113 0550

ST. THOMAS' BULLETIN

Through the roof

We will also be discussing our book choices for 2019 so please allow a bit more time. More Info: Alison Purvis via ChurchSuite or church office.

FURTHER AHEAD

HEART OF THE CITY UPDATE: Many thanks to everyone who has pledged their support for the building project. Since the end of October, an additional £414,174 (inc Gift Aid) has been pledged towards the project, taking our total pledged to an amazing £1,785,920 (inc Gift Aid). After we have finished paying approx. £250,000 for Phase 1, this gives us potentially £1.5 million to put towards the £2.8 million new centre. Encouraging though this is, we are still some way short of the total needed to proceed with confidence, so we are calling the church to a time of prayer, to ask God for his guidance and provision. There will be a church-wide day of prayer on **Sun 2nd Dec**, with intercessions in all of the services, and the church kept open for personal prayer from 2-5pm. There will also be an Open Meeting at 7.30pm on **Tues 11th Dec** in church. Please do join us for both of those if you can.



PARISH WALK on **Monday 3rd December** to deliver out parish Christmas card. Meet at 9.30am in the upstairs centre. Coffee and mince pies afterwards.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP Monday 3rd December 7.30pm in the church foyer. Drop in between 7.30pm-9pm for a chat over coffee/tea and cake. .

NOTICES

ASSISTANT CHILDREN'S MINISTER: Following the exciting news that Hannah Parry is pregnant and will be finishing on staff on 27th January, St Thomas' Church is looking for an Assistant Children's Minister to cover the remaining time before Sarah Evans returns from maternity leave. This will be a temporary role for 16 hours a week, beginning 27th January. For details of the post, please contact Emma Dixon on emma@st.tees.org.uk. Application deadline, 1pm Sunday 9th December.

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH MINISTRY – VOLUNTEERS We have a fantastic opportunity here at St Thomas's to share the good news of Jesus with the next generation. We are looking for new volunteers to join us in our vision to share God's love with children and young people. We have a number of Sunday groups and midweek groups across all ages, that have a real need for more people to join their ministry. If this is something you are interested in please speak to Emma Dixon: emma@st.tees.org.uk (Children) or Hannah Wolfenden: hannah@st.tees.org.uk (Youth) to find out more.

THE AUCTION OF PROMISES on Nov 16th raised more than £6000.

Thank you to all those involved as it was an epic effort. There are a number of fundraising events planned for the coming months and the fundraising event team need your help! There is to be a fundraising workshop sometime in the New Year to try and get some more help with the organisation of the various events. Please look out for this date and do consider coming along.



OFF TO BRAZIL Two of our interns, Chloe Dietz (children's) and Sarah Möller (youth) are heading out to Salvador, Brazil on 1st January 2019 on a 3 week mission trip in partnership with Vilas do Atlântico Baptist Church. They will be assisting the local community with physical as well as spiritual resources. The girls have both set up Just Giving pages, and have planned a range of fundraising events to help make this all possible. Please do contact either Chloe (c.dietz@st.tees.org.uk) or Sarah (s.moller@st.tees.org.uk) or speak to them directly to find out more. Link to Chloe's page: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/connection-campaign-northeast-brazil> Link to Sarah's page: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/sarah-mller>

AUTUMN FIESTA A total of £1556 was raised on the day and distributed amongst the four AS&R groups that helped to organise the Autumn Fiesta - City of Sanctuary, East meets West, RAIS and Lancaster University's Red Roses Refugees. In addition, different craft stall holders were able to raise for their own profits a total of approx £1400! If you would like to sign up to the mailing list to keep informed about events and appeals in relation to AS&R, please contact: stlancasterasr@websuite.co.uk



CHRISTMAS APPEAL—THE OLIVE BRANCH are collecting Christmas food; mince pies, chocolate, treats, luxury biscuits, tins of premium ham. Any donations can be dropped off at the Olive Branch or left in the Olive Branch 'bins' in the church foyer.



SHOEBOXES The Olive Branch are also asking for shoeboxes, made up and labelled as to whom it is suitable; filled with thoughtful treats like chocolate, toiletries and small gifts. These will be given out to those in need, locally.

LANCASTER HOMELESS ACTION CHRISTMAS NIGHT SHELTER will run from **24th-29th December**. Details from LDHAS Edward Street or email volunteering@ldhas.co.uk

SOUTH LANCASTER CHURCHES TOGETHER ADVENT service 6.30 pm on **Sunday 2nd December** St Paul's Scotforth – all welcome

DECK THE HALLS Carols organised by Lancaster students will take place in the Town hall on **Monday 3rd December** – please contact Jane for more info (jane@newlifelancaster.org.uk). They need mince pies and non-alcoholic mulled wine, if you are able to donate either please bring to the church office or leave in church.

HEART OF THE CITY PROJECT formerly known as **BUILDING FOR MISSION (BFM)** To give to the Heart of the City project you can make a payment to the Church's CAF Bank account with an on-line payment or by setting up a standing order. Details of the account are: Bank: CAF Bank; Account name: St Thomas's PCC Lancaster; Sort code: 40-52-40; Account number: 00030499; Reference: HOTC. You can also give by cheque to 'St Thomas's PCC Lancaster' in an envelope clearly marked HOTC and sent to the Church Office.

THE SERMONS ARE ONLINE The majority of the sermons are available to download, or listen to as a podcast. Go to www.st.tees.org.uk/sermons.

PHOTOS IN CHURCH In line with our safeguarding policies, which are intended to keep children and vulnerable adults safe in church, please do not take photos or videos in church services without asking permission of the clergy first.



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

PRAYER MINISTRY CORNER We offer prayer ministry after every main service, in the prayer ministry area at the back right corner of the main church. If you would like prayer for anything at all, please don't hesitate to go over to the prayer ministry corner, and ask a member of the prayer ministry team to pray with you.

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

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

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