

Monthly News for April 2024



Welcome to St Thomas'

Sunday 7th April:	<i>Chairs</i> Simon & Jane / <i>Coffee</i> Sheila & Maureen Theme – 8.30am Early Holy Communion 10.30am All-In (suitable for all ages) 6.30pm for coffee, starting at 6.45pm for prayer & praise
Sunday 14th April:	<i>Chairs</i> – Clive & Genette / <i>Coffee</i> – Jane & Ed Theme – 10.30am Holy Communion 3.00pm Wonderfully Messy Church 6.30pm for coffee, starting at 6.45pm for prayer & praise
Sunday 21st April:	<i>Chairs</i> – Geoff & Ed / <i>Coffee</i> – Helen & Ann Theme – 10.30 Morning Gathering 6.30pm for coffee, starting at 6.45pm for prayer & praise
Sunday 28th April:	<i>Chairs</i> – Sue & Rich / <i>Coffee</i> – Brian & Margaret Theme – 10.30am Morning Gathering 6.30pm for coffee, starting at 6.45pm for prayer & praise

Please share new items for the Notice Sheet before 20th of each month

PLEASE KEEP ME!

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THIS MONTH

CAFÉ ON THE CLOSE, every Thursday, 10am-12pm - Offering a place to relax & enjoy social time with others over coffee. Please note Café on May 2nd will be cancelled due to Walsall Council using church for the Elections.

PRAYER & PERCOLATION, Wednesday & Friday, 9.15am - Come and join us for coffee in the church lounge, while we pray for our church, the world and each other.

PHOENIX NAVIGATORS, every Friday evening during term time - Children and young people age 5-18. Friday evenings term time - allisonjhopkins@googlemail.com

BROWNIES & GUIDES, every Monday evening in Term Time - Contact Steph Chebsie - steph_steps@yahoo.co.uk

TOMS TODDLERS, every Wednesday morning term time, 10.00am-11.30am - For Children from birth to pre-school age. Contact Hannah Evans - hannahevans@stthomasaldridge.org.uk

FOOTPRINTS - every Wednesday in term time, 1pm - 2.30pm - For children from 2½ to school age. Every Wednesday term time, 1pm-2.30pm. Contact Hannah Evans - hannahevans@stthomasaldridge.org.uk

SPACE TO PRAY - Please note that Space to Pray will not be meeting on Wednesday 3rd April, but will then return as usual, every Wednesday evening, 6pm-7.15pm in church. Sit in the presence of the Lord; to lay before him the burdens of our hearts or just to sit at his feet and be refreshed. All welcome. For more details contact Liz Spiers, lizspiers55@blueyonder.co.uk

WONDERFULLY MADE, Wednesday 3rd April, at 2.00pm - Easter Special for children with additional needs and their carers.

FILLING STATION, Wednesday 3rd April, at Aldridge Parish Centre, at 7.45pm for refreshments, 8pm start - Join with the Churches of Aldridge for Filling Station. Taking place on the 1st Wednesday of the month at Aldridge Parish Centre.

HEALING ON THE STREETS, Saturday 6th April, 11am-1pm - Every 1st Saturday of the month. 11am - 1pm. Meeting outside Costa in Aldridge Shopping Centre.

EARLY MORNING HOLY COMMUNION, Sunday 7th April, at 8.30am

NEW GATHERING! Introducing our new afternoon worship! Starting on Thursday 11th April, at 12.15pm, and continuing every Thursday straight after Café on the Close.

FIZZ, Saturday 13th April, at 12pm - Church for adults with learning difficulties or special needs & their carers. Meeting at Tynings Lane Church at 12pm - 2pm, on the 2nd Saturday of each month, (except August).

SAYING GOODBYE TO ARCHDEACON JULIAN, Sunday 14th April at 10.30am - Archdeacon Julian Francis will be joining us for a special gathering with a Q&A time, as we say goodbye before he retires. We do hope you can come and pray for him at our 10.30am gathering.

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HOLY COMMUNION, Sunday 14th April, at 10.30am.

WONDERFULLY MESSY CHURCH, Sunday 14th April, at 3pm - A Faith based group for littlies with additional needs & their grown-ups. 2nd Sunday of the month, 3pm-4.30pm. Booking essential, contact vicar@stthomasaldridge.org.uk

MONTHLY MUNCH, Tuesday 16th April, at 12.15pm - An opportunity to meet once a month for a home-cooked lunch. Generally takes place on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (however dates can fluctuate) at 12.30pm, at St Thomas Church. Booking is essential, contact office@stthomasaldridge.org.uk. Suggested donations of £2.

BRICK CHURCH, Wednesday 17th April, at 4pm - Monthly on Wednesday afternoons (dates vary). 4pm-5.30pm (except Summer Holidays). Hear a Bible story, fun with bricks & share a chippie tea. Booking is essential!

WIDE AWAKE CLUB, Saturday 20th April, at 10am - Dads, Grandads & children up to age 10. 3rd Saturday of month, except August, 10am-11.30am. Hot drink & breakfast sandwich for adults. Toys, toast & squash for smaller people

KNIT STITCH & NATTER, Friday 26th April, at 10.30am in the Annex - Last Friday of month (excluding August & December), at St T's, 10.30-12.00pm. All welcome, bring your crafts. Contact lizspiers55@blueyonder.co.uk

SEE BELOW FOR OTHER EVENTS THAT ARE COMING SOON ...

OTHER EVENTS TO LOOK OUT FOR

FREEDOM IN CHRIST COURSE - beginning Thursday 2nd May - Taking place at St T's. This is a 10-week long, video-based discipleship course designed to help every Christian break free from what is holding them back and become who they are made to be in Christ. It is for every Christian - from those who have been Christians for a long time to those who are brand-new followers of Jesus. Contact Julie Fuggle to register interest in joining - fugglej@blueyonder.co.uk

CHURCH AGM, Sunday 5th May, at 12.15pm - to be held directly after the morning gatherings, with a light lunch of bread, cheese and crisps. We won't have our 8.30am Holy Communion that day and the meeting will be kept short and concise! Everyone is encouraged to join us and there will be provision for children.

BURNING QUESTIONS - **Coming Soon!** - An evening of interesting discussion and learning, with a different topic each time. Held at Aldridge Parish Church, at 7.45pm.

BISTRO NIGHT - Look out for dates for 2024 which will be shared soon!

NEW WINE UNITED, 28th-30th July. Taking place in Shepton Mallet. Find out more at <https://www.new-wine.org/events/newwine24>

CHURCH AWAY DAY, Saturday 28th September - A lovely day away with teaching on the theme of Nourish and Nurture, and fun things for our children. Full details to be shared soon, but please save the date!

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EXTERNAL EVENTS THAT YOU CAN JOIN

Lingotot's, every Tuesday morning in the Annex - An amazing opportunity to introduce a new language to pre-school children! Contact Amy to book - southstaffordshire@lingotot.com

Dance Lessons, every Tuesday morning or Wednesday evening - One-one tuition for adult couples or individuals. Contact Mandy Daniels to book - amandadaniels119@outlook.com.

Line Dancing, every Friday morning, 10am - 12pm. For all ages, everyone welcome, contact Dave Waring to find out costs, or just turn up - Contact dotluc@hotmail.com

MISSION FOCUS

Brian and Chris Clarke will hopefully be sharing news during April, about their wonderful work with Krasif Aid. This will then also be shared on our website under the heading Mission Focus <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/78262/view/>

LET'S PRAY

We meet for **Prayer & Percolation** in the church lounge on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays at 9.15 am - 9.45 am. Do join us even if you don't like coffee (tea is available).

Space to Pray - Wednesday evenings in church from 6.30 pm - 7.15 pm. Time to sit in the Lord's presence & pray as the Spirit leads. Do join us.

Church Prayer List - for prayer support.

Prayer Circle - for confidential prayer support from a small group of prayer warriors.

Remember that nothing is too small or too big for the Lord's help.

Prayer requests to Prayer Co-ordinator: Lizspiers55@blueyonder.co.uk or 01922 453944

Prayer Focus for April - Hallelujah Jesus Christ is risen!

We praise and worship the Lord Jesus Christ for His sacrifice made on the cross for our salvation. We focus our prayers this month to pray for revival around the world. We pray for the light of Christ to shine in all the dark corners of our world, setting the captives free, and bringing salvation to all. *'How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!'*
Ps.133.1. Hallelujah He is risen indeed!

COOPER & JORDAN SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Parents should be aware that we follow the school's admission policy on attendance & in accordance with Diocesan guidelines 'regular attendance' at **worship** constitutes a minimum of at least **two services per month**. The guidelines further suggest that regular attendance should have been for at least two years before application. Please check with one of the Team to ensure your attendance is recorded in the folder which is located on the large table at the back of church.

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GIVING TO ST T'S

Simply scan the QR code



- Alternatively, a card reader is located on the large table at the back of church.
- Our Team can also provide you with information to enable you to set-up a regular standing order.

Gift Aid: The Government can add an additional 25% to all of your future donations at no cost to you! Simply ask one of our Team to provide you with the relevant form to register for Gift Aid. Our Treasurer, Ron Heaton will also be happy to provide further information about this, please feel welcome to ask him. Your donations are greatly appreciated, thank you.

WHAT'S ON ...

Mon 1st April	BANK HOLIDAY <i>No Prayer & Percolation</i> <i>No Brownies & Guides</i>	Office Closed <i>Usually 9.15am (Lounge)</i> <i>Usually Evening</i>
Tues 2nd April	External – Dance Lessons <i>No Toddler Set-Up</i> Band Practice	9.00am – 1.00pm <i>Usually 1.00pm – 3.00pm</i> 8.00pm – 9.00pm
Wed 3rd April	Prayer & Percolation <i>No Toddlers</i> <i>No Footprints</i> Wonderfully Made <i>No Space to Pray</i> External – Dance Lessons Filling Station	9.15am (Lounge) <i>Usually 10.00am – 11.30am</i> <i>Usually 1pm – 2.30pm</i> 2.00pm <i>Usually 6.30pm – 7.15pm</i> 7.30pm 7.45pm for 8pm start (APC Centre)
Thur 4th April	Life Group (Sheila Gilchrist) Café on the Close External Room Hire	10.30am – 12.00pm 10.00am – 12.00pm 6pm-8pm (Lounge, Extension, Kitchen)
Friday 5th April	Prayer & Percolation External – Line Dancing	9.15am lounge 10am – 12pm
Sat 6th April	Healing on the Streets	11am-1pm (Aldridge Centre)
Sund 7th April	Gatherings on front sheet	
Mon 8th April	Prayer & Percolation Brownies & Guides	9.15am (Lounge) Evening
Tues 9th April	External – Dance Lessons External - Lingotots Toddler Set-Up Band Practice	10am – 1.00pm Morning (Annex) 1.00pm – 3.00pm 7pm – 9pm

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Wed 10th April	Prayer & Percolation Toddlers Footprints Space to Pray External – Dance Lessons	9.15am (Lounge) 10.00am – 11.30am 1pm – 2.30pm 6.30pm – 7.15pm 7.30pm
Thurs 11th April	Café on the Close Life Group (Sheila Gilchrist) Thursday Afternoon Worship	10am – 12pm 10.30am–12.00pm 12.15pm-12.45pm
Friday 12th April	Prayer & Percolation External – Line Dancing Navigators	9.15 (Lounge) 10am – 12pm Evening
Sat 13th April	FIZZ	12pm – 2pm (at Tynings Lane)
Sun 14th April	Gatherings on front sheet Wonderfully Messy Church	Including Archdeacon Julian, 10.30 3pm
Mon 15th April	Prayer & Percolation Adoption Support Group Brownies & Guides	9.15am (Lounge) 12.30pm-2.30pm Evening
Tue 16th April	External – Dance Lessons External – Lingotots Monthly Munch Toddler Set-Up Band Practice	10am – 1.00pm Morning (Annex) 12.15pm 1.00pm – 3.00pm 7pm – 9pm
Wed 17th April	Prayer & Percolation Toddlers Footprints Brick Church Space to Pray External – Dance Lessons	9.15am (Lounge) 10.00am – 11.30am 1pm – 2.30pm 4pm-5.30pm 6.30pm – 7.15pm 7.30pm
Thur 18th April	Café on the Close Thursday Afternoon Worship Short Thursday Gathering Life Group (Sheila Gilchrist)	10am – 12pm 12.15-12.45pm 12.15-12.45pm 10.30am–12.00pm
Frid 19th April	Prayer & Percolation External – Line Dancing Navigators	9.15am lounge 10am – 12pm Evening
Sat 20th April	Wide Awake Club	10.00am – 11.30am
Sun 21st April	Gatherings on Front Sheet	
Mon 22nd April	Prayer & Percolation Brownies/Guides	9.15am (Lounge) Evening
Tues 23rd April	External – Dance Lessons Toddler Set-Up Band Practice	10am – 1.00pm 1.00pm-3pm 7pm – 9pm
Wed 24th April	Prayer & Percolation Toddlers Footprints Space to Pray External – Dance Lessons	9.15am (Lounge) 10.00am – 11.30am 1pm – 2.30pm 6.30pm – 7.15pm 7.30pm
Thurs 25th April	Café on the Close Thursday Afternoon Worship Life Group (Sheila Gilchrist) Thursday at 12.15pm	10am – 12pm 12.15-12.45pm 10.30am–12.00pm 12.15-12.45pm

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Friday 26 th April	Prayer & Percolation	9.15am lounge
	External – Line Dancing	10.30-12pm (Annex)
	Knit Stitch Natter	10.30am-12pm
	Navigators	Evening
Saturday 27 th April	Songsmiths & Psalmists	2pm-5pm
Sunday 28 th April	Gatherings on Front Sheet	
Monday 29 th April	Prayer & Percolation	9.15am (Lounge)
	Brownies/Guides	Evening
Tuesday 30 th April	External – Dance Lessons	10am – 1.00pm
	Toddler Set-Up	1.00pm-3pm
	Band Practice	7pm – 9pm

Contacts

- **Clergy –**
Rev David Sims (VICAR) vicar@stthomasaldridge.org.uk, office number 01922 453942
 Rev Jeremy Bakewell 07790 986575
 Rev Sue Quibell 07889 88554
 If you would like to talk please feel free to phone on the numbers above.
- **Church Office –**
 Administrator - Genette Andrews. Office hours are **Monday to Thursday from 9 am till 12 pm.**
 Genette will be happy to help with your queries.
 Telephone - 01922 453942 / Email - office@stthomasaldridge.org.uk
 Please note that messages are not be seen or heard on Fridays, Saturdays or Sundays.
- **Children & Families Worker: Hannah Evans -**
 Telephone: office 01922 453942 / home 01922 693298 / mobile 07921 387241
 Email: hannahevans@stthomasaldridge.org.uk
Please note that messages are not be seen or heard on Fridays & Saturdays.
- **Intern –** Barney Doel 01922 453942
- **Prayer Coordinator: Liz Spiers -**
 Telephone 01922 453944 / email lizspiers55@blueyonder.co.uk if you wish to discuss any prayer needs, including ongoing prayer ministry & details of the Prayer Circle.
- **Wardens -**
Sue Grundy: 07772 925069 / susan.grundy@yahoo.com
Andrew Dickson: 07989 143388 / andrewjdickson999@hotmail.com
Glennys Davis: 07905 210399 / glennys49@hotmail.com
Joyce Peel: 01922 456140 / joycepeel@btinternet.com
- **Safeguarding -**
 Safeguarding is *everybody's* responsibility. If you have concerns about how somebody might be treating you or another person, please do not hesitate to contact the following people –
Sue Grundy (for children) - 07772 925069 / susan.grundy@yahoo.com
Sue Quibell (for adults) - 07889 885545 / s.quibell@googlemail.com
 (see poster in church foyer for other numbers & information). A copy of our safeguarding policy is available in the church foyer & church office.
- **Fabrics & Health and Safety –**
Andrew Dickson: 07989 143388 / andrewjdickson999@hotmail.com

Websites <https://stthomasaldridge.org.uk/> or www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4121/)