

Monthly News for December 2025



Welcome to St Thomas Church

Thursday 4 th Dec	7.30pm - Advent Reflection for Deanery with Archdeacon Liz
Sunday 7 th Dec	<i>COFFEE</i> Alison & Spencer <i>CHAIRS</i> Sue & Simon <i>WELCOME</i> Joyce & Eric Theme – The Emmanuel God with us, Matt 1:22-23, 8.30am – The Reflective One, with early Holy Communion 10:30 – The All-In One, for all ages with informal pop-up Nativity 18:30 – Worship in the Waiting, (18.30 for coffee, worship begins 18.45)
Sunday 14 th Dec	<i>COFFEE</i> Tony & Julie <i>CHAIRS</i> Sue & Rich <i>WELCOME</i> Ann Theme – The Prince of Peace, Isaiah 9:6-7 10:30 – Lively One with Holy Communion 3pm - Wonderfully Messy Church 18:30 – Carols by Twinkle Light (18.30 coffee & festive treats, worship begins at 18.45)
Sunday 21 st Dec	<i>COFFEE</i> Ed & Jane <i>CHAIRS</i> Phil & Colin <i>WELCOME</i> Gill & Les Theme – The Saviour, Luke 2:8-14 10:30 – The Lively One 16.00 – Blue Christmas (for those who prefer a quieter Christmas) 18:30 – Worship in the Waiting (18.30 for coffee, worship begins 18.45)
Thursday 25 th Dec	10.30 – Christmas Day Special!
Sunday 28 th Dec	<i>COFFEE</i> Colin & Sue <i>CHAIRS</i> Clive & Genette <i>WELCOME</i> ? Theme – The King of Kings, Rev 19:11-16 10.30 – The Lively One 18:30 - The informal one, (18.30 for coffee, worship begins at 18.45)

Please avoid parking in St Thomas Close
and take care not to block drives ☺

Monthly News for December 2025

A Message From our Vicar David Will Follow Separately



UPCOMING NEWS & EVENTS, INCLUDING CHRISTMAS DATES

FUNERAL OF MARGARET PLANT - The funeral of Margaret Plant will be held on Thursday 11th. Dec. at 11.15 am at Streetly crematorium. Afterwards all are invited to Caulderfields Golf Club for refreshments. I am told they have had to have the large room so would really appreciate as many as possible helping to fill it. If you wouldn't mind letting me know if you can come to Caulderfields I can pass this on, but as many as possible would be welcome.

Monthly News for December 2025

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDER - This year will be slightly different as we will be filling boxes for people who find themselves alone this Christmas. Please fill a box with goodies and treats to make someone's Christmas feel special this year. Boxes to be delivered to The Thomas Project **before Friday 19th December**. Please label boxes male or female and fill with items such as - chocolates, individual puddings, alcohol free wine or beer, tins, toiletries, perfume or cologne etc

WIDE AWAKE CLUB - **Saturday 29th November and 13th December**. Usually, every 3rd Saturday of the month, at 10am-11.30am (except August). For Dads, Grandads & children up to age 10. There's a hot drink & breakfast sandwich for adults, and toys, toast & squash for smaller people.

ALDRIDGE VILLAGE CHRISTMAS FAYRE - **Saturday 29th November**. The Churches of Aldridge will have a shared stall at Aldridge Christmas Fayre. There will be crafts, a photo booth, Nativity dressing-up and a choir. Do pop down to say hello.

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING PARTY - **Sunday 30th November, at 12pm** (immediately after the 10.30am gathering.) For young families - pizza, crafts and to help decorate our Christmas Tree.

ADVENT AFTERNOON TEA - **Sunday 30th November at 4.15pm** - To raise money for the TikTok Bible Appeal. Ticketed event, fully booked.

BROWNIES, GUIDES & RANGERS - Every Monday evening during term time. Breaking for Christmas on Monday 15th December. Contact Steph Chebsie - steph_steps@yahoo.co.uk

DANCE LESSONS - External booking for one-to-one dance tuition. Tuesday mornings and Wednesday evenings. Contact Mandy Daniels for information - amandadaniels119@outlook.com

TOMS TODDLERS - Every Wednesday morning, 10.00am-11.30am in term time. For Children from birth to pre-school age. Breaking for Christmas on Wednesday 17th December. Contact Hannah Evans - hannahevens@stthomasaldridge.org.uk

FOOTPRINTS - Every Wednesday morning, 1.00pm-2.30am in term time. For children from 2½ to school age. Breaking for Christmas on Wednesday 17th December. Contact Hannah Evans - hannahevens@stthomasaldridge.org.uk

SPACE TO PRAY - Every Wednesday evening, 6.30pm-7.15pm in church (except August), with the last one before Christmas being Wednesday 17th December. 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

FILLING STATION - Wednesday 3rd December and every first Wednesday of the month. Meeting in the Parish Church Centre next to Cooper and Jordan school from 7.30 for refreshments, 7.45pm start.

FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE PARENTS GROUP - Wednesday 3rd December at an external venue contact the office for details. Then meeting again on Friday 9th January, 10am-11.30am, at St T's.

CAFÉ ON THE CLOSE - Every Thursday, 10am-12pm. Offering a place to relax & enjoy social time with others over coffee and cake. Will not be meeting on Christmas Day or New Year's Day

Monthly News for December 2025

MIDWEEK GATHERING - Will break for Christmas after our gathering on 18th December. Usually meeting every Thursday (except August), immediately after Café on the Close at 12.15pm, for 30 minutes of worship, often with Holy Communion. Everyone is welcome.

ADVENT REFLECTION FOR DEANERY WITH ARCHDEACON LIZ, Thursday 4th December, 7.30pm at St T's - Everyone, including Life Groups are encouraged to attend for a joyful time of worship in the waiting.

SERMON DISCUSSION GROUP - Are invited to join the Deanery Advent Reflection at St T's on Thursday 4th December. The last meeting will be on Thursday 18th December. Usually meeting every Thursday in the kitchen, 7.45pm - 9pm. A discussion group for people who are not yet in a Life Group. Providing the opportunity to look in greater detail at the sermons and discuss.

HEALING ON THE STREETS - Saturday 6th December, at 11am - 1pm. Not meeting in January. Meeting outside Costa in Aldridge Shopping Centre. Usually takes place every first Saturday of the month.

SONGSMITHS & PSALMISTS - Saturday 6th December, at 1pm when you can join Andrew Clayton at St T's for songwriting sessions, music, prayer and coffee. All musicians and songwriters are welcome.

PRAYER & PERCOLATION - Every Monday, 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.

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY ALL-IN - With an informal pop-up Nativity and the opportunity for our children to dress-up and recreate the very first Christmas!

MONTHLY MUNCH - Tuesday 9th December, at 12.15pm. Join us for a delicious home cooked lunch. It's free of charge, with a suggested donation of £3. Everyone is welcome and booking is essential, email to reserve your place - office@stthomasaldridge.org.uk.

DOG TRAINING CLASSES - External booking, Most Friday evenings in church. For full information, contact Sarah & Kit info@throughthedogseyes.com

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

CAROLS BY TWINKLE LIGHT - Sunday 14th December, at 6.45pm.

SOUL CONNECT AT TYNINGS LANE CHURCH - Saturday 13th December - Theme Emmanuel from 3.30pm - 5.30pm

CAROLS & CREAM TEA - Saturday 14th December at 3pm. All are welcome for singing and delicious scones with jam and cream. Free of charge, donations are welcomed.

Monthly News for December 2025

BRICK CHURCH - Wednesday 17th December. Come and enjoy a Bible story, told through brick play, then enjoy a chip-shop tea together. Every 3rd Wednesday of the month but please note the following changes - **March** - no Brick Church / **April** - the date has been changed to the 1st of April due to Easter.

WONDERFULLY MESSY CHURCH - Sunday 21st December, 3pm - 4.30pm and on the second Sunday of the month (except August). This is a Faith based group for littlies with additional needs & their grown-ups. Booking essential, contact vicar@stthomasaldridge.org.uk

BLUE CHRISTMAS, Sunday 21st December, at 4pm - For those who may have lost a loved one or prefer a quieter Christmas gathering. Names of loved ones will be read aloud and there will be an opportunity to light a candle. Everyone is welcome, please contact the office if you wish to attend office@stthomasaldridge.org.uk

BEDTIME CHRISTINGLE - Christmas Eve, Wednesday 24th December, at 6pm. A traditional family celebration, with an orange, a candle, fruits and sweets.

MIDNIGHT COMMUNION - Christmas Eve, Wednesday 24th December, at 11.15pm.

THE CHRISTMAS DAY SPECIAL - Join us at 10.30am on Christmas Day, to celebrate the birth of Jesus!

COMPANIANSHIP CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH - Aldridge Methodist Church will be providing a Christmas Day Lunch for anyone who may be alone on Christmas Day. Please share this information with anyone who may be celebrating Christmas Day alone. A delicious traditional three-course Christmas lunch will be provided, with a focus on companionship and having some fun! Please contact Mary Vass from Aldridge Methodist Church for more details 07771 712291

EARLY NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY - 7pm - 9pm at St T's. All are welcome. Suitable for all ages! Join us for some light-hearted New Year's fun. There will be games and a quiz. Bring your own snacks and drinks.

NEW YEAR'S DAY LANTERN WALK - Thursday 1st January, at 4.30pm. Meet at church to make a lantern before setting off on our short walk and returning to church for a hot chocolate.

KNIT STITCH & NATTER - Taking a break for December and returning on Friday 30th January 2026. Usually, the last Friday of the month (excluding August & December), in the Annexe, 10.30-12.00pm. All welcome, bring your crafts. Contact lizspiers55@blueyonder.co.uk

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 - Usually meeting on Wednesday evenings in church from 6.30 pm - 7.15 pm (except in August). 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

Monthly News for December 2025

Prayer Focus for December – As we look forward to the joy of celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ this month, let us remember those people for whom Christmas can also be a sad time. For those bereaved and missing loved ones, for those without families, for those who are lonely, for those who are ill or in hospital, we pray that the Lord will bring them His comfort and His peace. We pray too for those caught up in war and conflict in our world who will be unable to celebrate with loved ones this Christmas and pray for the Lord to meet with them and bring comfort and peace into our troubled world. *Is. 9:6 "For to us a child is born...he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace..."*

COOPER & JORDAN SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

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 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.

GIVING TO ST T'S

- Simply scan this QR code with your phone.
- 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.
- Don't forget to add Gift Aid, ask a member of our Team for help with this.



CALENDAR

Mon 1 December	Prayer & Percolation Brownies/Guides/Rangers	9.15am Evening
Tue 2 December	Dance Lessons Toddler Set-Up Band Practice/Lessons	10am – 1.00pm 1.00pm-3pm 7pm – 9pm
Wed 3 December	Prayer & Percolation Foster & Adoptive Parents Toddlers Footprints Space to Pray Dance Lessons Filling Station	9.15am (Lounge) 10.00am – 11.30am (external venue) 10.00am – 11.30am 1pm – 2.30pm 6.30pm – 7.15pm 7.30pm 7.30pm
Thurs 4 December	Café on the Close Refresh Life Group Midweek Gathering <i>No New Life Group</i> Deanery Advent Reflection <i>No Sermon Discussion Group</i>	10am – 12pm 10.30am – 12pm 12.15-12.45pm <i>Usually 10.30pm (Lounge)</i> 7.30pm <i>Usually 7.45pm (Kitchen)</i>
Frid 5 December	Prayer & Percolation Foster & Adoptive Parents Group	9.15am (Lounge) 12pm – 2pm
Sat 6 December	Carols and Cream Tea	3pm
Sun 7 December	See Gatherings on Front Page	10.30am / 6.30pm
Mon 8 December	Prayer & Percolation Brownies/Guides/Rangers	9.15am Evenings

Monthly News for December 2025

Tues 9 December	Dance Lessons Monthly Munch Toddler Set-Up Band Practice	10am – 1.00pm 12.15pm 1.00pm-3pm 7pm – 9pm
Wed 10 December	Prayer & Percolation Toddlers Footprints Space to Pray Dance Lessons	9.15am (Lounge) 10.00am – 11.30am 1pm – 2.30pm 6.30pm – 7.15pm 7.30pm – 8.30pm
Thur 11 December	Café on the Close Refresh Life Group Midweek Gathering New Life Group Sermon Discussion Group	10am – 12pm 10am – 12pm 12.15-12.45pm 7.30pm (Lounge) 7.45pm (Kitchen)
Fri 12 December	Prayer & Percolation Dog Training Classes	9.15am (Lounge) 6pm – 9pm
Sat 13 December	FIZZ (Tynings Ln) Soul Connect (Tynings Ln)	12pm – 2pm 3pm – 5pm (Tynings Lane Church)
Sun 14 December	See Gatherings on Front Page Wonderfully Messy Church Carols by Twinkle Light	10.30am / 6.30pm 3pm – 4.30pm 6.45pm
Mon 15 December	Prayer & Percolation Brownies/Guides/Rangers	9.15am Evenings
Tues 16 December	Dance Lessons Toddler Set-Up Band Practice	10am – 1.00pm 1.00pm-3pm 7pm – 9pm
Wed 17 December	Prayer & Percolation Toddlers Footprints Brick Church Space to Pray Dance Lessons	9.15am – 9.45am 10am – 11.30am 1pm – 2.30pm 4pm – 5.30pm 6.30pm – 7.15pm 7.30pm
Thur 18 December	Café on the Close Refresh Life Group Midweek Gathering New Life Group Sermon Discussion Group	10am – 12pm 10am – 12pm (Lounge) 12.15-12.45pm 7.30pm (Lounge) 7.45pm
Frid 19 December	Prayer & Percolation Dog Training Classes	9.15am (Lounge) 6.30pm – 9pm
Sat 20 December	No Events	
Sun 21 December	See Gatherings on Front Page Blue Christmas	6.30pm 4pm
Mon 22 December	Prayer & Percolation Brownies/Guides/Rangers	9.15am Usually Evenings
Tues 23 December	Dance Lessons <i>No Toddler Set-Up</i> Band Practice	10am – 1.00pm <i>Usually 1.00pm-3pm</i> 7pm – 9pm
Wed 24 December	Prayer & Percolation <i>No Toddlers</i> <i>No Footprints</i> Bedtime Christingle	9.15am – 9.45am <i>Usually 10am – 11.30am</i> <i>Usually 1pm – 2.30pm</i> 6pm

Monthly News for December 2025

	<i>No Space to Pray</i>	<i>Usually 6.30pm – 7.15pm</i>
	<i>No Dance Lessons</i>	<i>Usually 7.30pm</i>
Thur 25 December	CHRISTMAS DAY SPECIAL Companionship Christmas Day Lunch	10.30am At Aldridge Methodist Church Book with Mary Vass 01922 712291
Frid 26 December		
Sat 27 December	No Events	
Sun 28 December	See Gatherings on Front Page	10.30am / 6.30pm
Monday 29 December		
Tuesday 30 December	Early New Year's Eve Party	6pm – 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.
- **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
Lisa Winnall: 07805 114471 / lisawinnall.church@gmail.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@gmail.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/)