

Sunday 8th February 2026

The Second Sunday before Lent

'And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?'

Welcome to everyone in church today and to those joining us online for our services. Please join us for refreshments after the service in the Church Hall. Please place your offering in the plate at the back of church before the service begins or use the QR code on each pew or use the card machine.

Hymns

	St Thomas	St James
Processional	422	436
Before the Gospel	<i>SHEET</i> In Christ Alone	372
Offertory	27	459
During Communion	204	84
	4	
Final	9	263

The Week Ahead & Information

- Mon-Fri** 9am Morning Prayer on *St Thomas' Facebook*
- Tuesday** 9.30am Thomas Tots at *St Thomas' Hall*
10am Eucharist at *St James*
12-2pm Eat and Meet at *St James Hall*
2pm St Thomas' MU in the *Refectory*
- Wednesday** 9am Whole School Eucharist at *St John's Stonefold*
- Thursday** 10am Eucharist at *St Thomas*
2pm St James MU AGM and Eucharist
- Saturday** 10.30-12 Coffee Morning at *St James*

Next Sunday – 15th February: Second Sunday before Lent

- 9:15 Sung Eucharist at *St Thomas'*
10.45 Sung Eucharist at *St James* followed by the baptisms of Polly and Cora Faulkes
3.30 BCP Evening Prayer

Thank you!

To Steve and everybody who helped with the ABBA tribute night.

Diocesan Renewal Programme

A reminder to keep the programme, and the participation of both parishes, in your prayers. Please pray the LyCiG prayer for growth as often as you can! Things will begin to pick up in speed during 2026. Your prayers are needed!

St. Thomas M.U. meet in the Refectory Tuesday 10th February at 2.00pm.

Jackie Summerfield is speaking about Volunteering All Welcome.

St James MU AGM and Eucharist 2pm St James Hall 12th February

Re-arranged from last week.

Fundraising coffee morning at St. James on Saturday 14th February 10.30am - 12 noon.

Come and have a friendly chat over a cuppa and cake! If you feel you can donate cake, please speak to Marjorie Charnley.

Ash Wednesday 18th February

Lent will be upon us soon and will begin with Eucharistic Services at both churches on Ash Wednesday (10:00am at St Thomas' and 7pm at St James). In advance could you please bring in your palm crosses from last year so that Fr Simon can prepare this year's ashes.

Lent Course begins 7pm Wednesday 4th March at St James

Based on the Stephen Cottrell book "The Things he Carried".

Spire Project Working Group

Please keep the Project and the Working Group in your prayers. Anybody who wishes to be part of this vital work in the future of our parish church please make yourself known to Fr Simon.

Mouse Trail at St Thomas'

Not real ones. The PCC would like to position knitted mice around the church as part of a child friendly mouse trail. Are there any keen knitters out there who would be willing to knit some mice for us?

“Sing, Move, Laugh” Monday’s 10-11.30 St Thomas’ Hall

This group is taking temporary residence in St Thomas’ Church Hall. It is for all ages and is run by “The Greater Good Project”. All welcome. For more information contact Cath Eddisford on 07727180164.

Foundation Governor’s Needed for St John’s Stonefold

If you might be interested in putting yourself forward for this rewarding and important role please speak to Fr Simon or Marjorie Charnley.

Eco Church

Why not pick up one of our Easy Eco Tips Calendars from our Eco church table. Better still download it from the arocha.org.uk website.

It provides a month by month focus on eco friendly topics to help us safeguard God's Earth and nature.

Inclusive Church

The Inclusive Church Group is always looking for ways to make St Thomas' more accessible for everyone. We have large print hymn books, Order of Service sheets, pew sheets as well as magnifying glasses both with and without lights. For anyone with any SEND needs, we have a wheelchair at the back of the church which can be used plus sensory toys and ear defenders to help anyone with sensory issues. Don't forget that, if you need to use the ramp at the back door, to ring the doorbell and someone will let you in. If you have any ideas or issues please mention them to Jo, Rachel, Phil or Tricia.

Repairs at St Thomas’

We are currently facing a number of bills at St Thomas’ for repairs. The Refectory floor has been repaired as has the leaking underfloor pipe. The ceiling at the back of church still requires some attention. Thank you for the donations already received towards the cost of these repairs. Your generosity is particularly welcome at this time where the church is somewhat strapped for cash. We did not meet our Parish Share in 2025 and may well struggle in 2026. This may have serious consequences for the future of the church and the thorny question of Stewardship and giving will be addressed later this year.

Saturday 28th March St Thomas' Hall 10-1pm Coffee Morning

Coffee Morning to raise funds for Church Repairs.

Donations welcome for Choc & Bottle Stall, Raffle, Gift Stall and Bric-a Brac Stall. Box at rear of Church.

Food Support

Please keep your kind gifts coming. We have undertaken a stock review and we have plenty of pasta for the time being. However, we are short of the following items: Long life milk, Tins of meat, Sugar, Soup, Tins of fruit, Toiletries and Toilet Roll.

Weekly Prayer List for the sick

Please contact Revd. Judith to include a name on the weekly prayer list.

For your prayers

Charley, Lizzie, Rachael, Quentin, John, Mother Mo, Sophie, Cynthia, Andrew, Anthony, Roz, Simon, Sara, Catherine, Christine, Kathleen, Arnold, Alicia, Jacqueline, Vivienne, Adrienne, Sylvia, Fr Roger Smith, Neville, Kenneth, Leo, Carl, Hazel, Gordon.

For all who have recently died, remembering James Neary, Harry Jackson and all whose anniversaries fall in the coming week. *Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.*

Please also let us know when someone is unwell or goes into hospital.

LyCiG Prayer for Growth

God of Mission,

Who alone brings growth to your Church,

Send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning,

Wisdom to our actions,

And power to our witness.

Help our church to grow in numbers in spiritual commitment to you,

And in service to our local community,

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.