

## Monthly News for February 2026



## Welcome to St Thomas Church

<b>Sunday 1st Feb</b>	<i>COFFEE</i> Alison & Spencer <i>CHAIRS</i> Sue & Rich <i>WELCOME</i> Geoff & Betty Theme – Nehemiah 1:1-3 Building with a Burden for 2026 8.30am – The Reflective One, with early Holy Communion 10:30 – The All-In One, for all ages 18:30 – Reflective Worship (18.30 for coffee, worship begins 18.45)
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<i>COFFEE</i> Helen and Ann <i>CHAIRS</i> Geoff & Ed <i>WELCOME</i> Clive & Joyce Theme – Nehemiah 1:4-11 Building through prayer 10:30 – Lively One with Baptisms (no Holy Communion this Sunday) 3pm - Wonderfully Messy Church 18:30 – Reflective Worship (18.30 for coffee, worship begins 18.45)
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<i>COFFEE</i> Colin & Sue <i>CHAIRS</i> Phil & Colin <i>WELCOME</i> Jim & Kay Theme – Nehemiah 2:1-8 Building with God's favour 10:30 – The Lively One 18:30 – Reflective Worship (18.30 for coffee, worship begins 18.45)
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb</b>	<i>COFFEE</i> Sheila, Anne and Jo <i>CHAIRS</i> Adam & Febe <i>WEL'</i> Clarice & Ann Theme – Nehemiah 2:11-20 Building with God's vision & planning 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 😊

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### A Message From our Vicar David

February always feels like a bit of a hinge month doesn't it! Christmas is well and truly packed away, (although I did find a selection box at the back of a cupboard last week!), the year is up and running, and Lent is just around the corner. Lent is a season that invites us to slow down a touch, take stock, and make a bit more space for God in the middle of ordinary life. To stop, be still, and know that he is God. As we head towards Lent, we'll be launching our Lent course called **Unanswered Prayer**. I know that sounds a bit weird- but let's be honest: most of us have prayed prayers that seem to have been prayed and prayed, and not yet answered. Questions linger, silence stretches on, and faith can feel a bit wobbly. This course makes room for honesty, curiosity, and trust, even when things don't make sense.

If you've ever wondered whether you're "doing prayer right", or felt stuck, disappointed, or unsure, this course is for you. Lent is a great time to lean in, ask real questions, and see what God might be doing beneath the surface. Come Holy Spirit- as we look to gather, grow and go, all for Jesus!

Every blessing in Jesus' name,

**David Sims**  
**Vicar**

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### UPCOMING NEWS & EVENTS, INCLUDING CHRISTMAS DATES

**CONGRATULATIONS** - Congratulations to Ellie & Hudson on their engagement (daughter of Jenny & Alan Grice).

**FREE BOOK** - Our wonderful missionary friends Brian and Chris Clarke have written a book called "Together, You, Me & God - ONE!" It contains reflections on 50 Bible passages from 50 years of marriage, and they would like to share them with us. So please feel most welcome to take a copy from the table at the back of church to enjoy.

**TEARFUND THANK YOU** - Tearfund thank us for our donation of over £942! .

**WONDERFULLY MESSY CHURCH** - **Sunday 8th February**, at 3pm. Church for children with additional needs and their carers. Future dates are - March 8th, April 5th, May 10th, June 14th and July 12th.

**MONTHLY MUNCH** - **Tuesday 10th February 2026, 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.office@stthomasaldridge.org.uk](mailto:email.office@stthomasaldridge.org.uk). This is a wonderful monthly meal for the community- but we are in desperate need of more team and we are in the position where this February **might have to be the last one** unless we can find a few more people to help join the team- particularly in the kitchen! We can help with food hygiene, and other training, and we keep the food simple and filling. If you think you can help, please get in touch with Anita and David.

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT** - **February 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> and March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2-4pm at Aldridge Methodist Church**. The Bereavement Journey will be running on Monday afternoons. Please contact Re. Bev Boden if you have any questions or would like more information, by email [bereavementjourneywalsall@gmail.com](mailto:bereavementjourneywalsall@gmail.com) or call 07970808819.

**BRICK CHURCH** - **Wednesday 18th February, 4pm -5.30pm**. Brick Church will be meeting as normal during Half Term. Come and enjoy a Bible story told through brick play. Then enjoy a chip shop tea. Usually every 3rd Wednesday of the month.

**RAYING FOR THE 34,000** - Join us on Zoom as we gather together across the Diocese to pray for more people to come to know Jesus. It will be really informal, you can have your camera on or off and feel relaxed as you pray. Taking place virtually every 3rd Thursday at 1pm, for 30 minutes. Meeting Code: 765 1017 3191 Password: PRAY34. See flyer in flyers section.

**LENT COURSE** - **Beginning Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June**. All Life Groups will join together in the evening for our Lent Course at church (time to be confirmed). If you would like to join but are not in a life group you will be most welcome. Please let Julie Fuggle or the office know in advance for practical arrangements - [fuggle.j@gmail.com](mailto:fuggle.j@gmail.com) / [office@stthomasaldridge.org.uk](mailto:office@stthomasaldridge.org.uk)

**WIDE AWAKE** - **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February**. For Dads, Grandads, Male Carers and kids! Includes coffee or tea with a breakfast sandwich for adults. Toast and squash for kids. There are toys and crafts to enjoy. Future Wide Awake Saturdays are - 28th Feb, 21st Mar, 18th Apr 16th May, 20th Jun, 18th Jul, None Aug, 19th Sep, 17th Oct, 21st Nov, 19th Dec.

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**PRAYER & PERCOLATION** - Monday, Wednesday & Friday, at 9.15am in St T's lounge for 30 mins of prayer with coffee or tea. (scroll down to flyer section for info)

**SPACE TO PRAY** - Every Wednesday, 6.30pm at St T's. Come and pray for everything on our hearts.

**BROWNIES, GUIDES & RANGERS** - Taking a break for Half Term on Monday 16<sup>th</sup>. Usually meeting every Monday evening in term time.

**HALF TERM SEND HAF ACTIVITIES IN THE ANNEXE** - on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February, Inspire School who meet in the Annexe are offering places for children and young people. To book a place contact <https://go.walsall.gov.uk/children-and-young-people/holiday-activities-programme-haf>.

**TOODERS & FOOTPRINTS** - Taking a break for Half Term on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>. Usually meeting every Wednesday in term time.

Toddlers - 10am-11.30am / Footprints - 1pm-2,30pm

**HEALING ON THE STREETS UPDATE** - Very sadly Healing on The Streets is no longer able to meet in Aldridge Shopping Centre. It is hoped that a new location can be found soon, and we will update you with any new information.

**CAFE ON THE CLOSE** - Every Thursday, 10am - 12pm. Offering a place to relax and enjoy social time with others over coffee and cake.

**DOG TRAINING CLASSES** - Friday evenings - 6pm - 10pm - [info@throughthedogseyes.com](mailto:info@throughthedogseyes.com)

**EXPLORING HEALING SEASON 2, GOING DEEPER** - Every Monday, until March 2<sup>nd</sup>. A weekly course, at Aldridge Parish Church, at 10.15am - 1pm, at the Church Centre. . Contact to book your place: Phil & Pauline Wilson or Wendy & Pete Brentnall 07977278808 / 07941831781 or email [ava777a@live.co.uk](mailto:ava777a@live.co.uk).

**GUEST SPEAKER** - Sunday 15th March, we are looking forward to welcoming Paul Knox, who works for Evangelical Alliance.

**TEARFUND CHRISTMAS FAYRE** - Saturday 14th November 2026! Yes, we are way ahead this year and have already booked a date for our Tearfund Christmas Fayre! So pop it in your diary and look forward to coming in November.

**EASTER DAY** - Bishop Tim will be visiting us for our wonderful 10.30am gathering, when we'll be celebrating with Confirmations, Baptisms, and Holy Communion.

**TIKTOK VICAR** - Hear David on his regular Radio Show (scroll down to flyer for info). Also soon to be on God TV date of airing to be shared soon. Finally you watch him on his regular TikTok videos.

**CAR PARKING** - thank you for parking with consideration to our neighbours, ensuring that their drives are not blocked, and avoiding parking partially on the pavement. Kingshayes Road is best suited to leave your car if the car park is full.

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### 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](mailto:Lizspiers55@blueyonder.co.uk) or 01922 453944

**Prayer Focus for February** - As the war between Russia and Ukraine continues into another year, let us concentrate our prayers this month on praying for peace. Let us pray for a miracle to change the hearts and minds of the Russian leadership from their ambitions of gain to those of peace with their neighbours. We pray too for those in Ukraine living in fear each day, for those who have lost their homes, for those without power and heating, for those grieving loved ones, for healing for soldiers and civilians injured and in hospital, and for the Christians praying for peace as we are. Lord have mercy and bring an end to the suffering of your people. *"I urge then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for all people - for kings and all those in authority that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness....."* 1.Tim.1-2

### 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.



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### CALENDAR

<b>Sun 1 February</b>	<b>See Gatherings on Front Page</b>	<b>10.30am / 6.30pm</b>
<b>Mon 2 February</b>	<b>Prayer &amp; Percolation</b> <b>Vintage Valuations</b> <b>Brownies/Guides/Rangers</b>	<b>9.15am</b> <b>10am – 3pm</b> <b>Evenings</b>
<b>Tues 3 February</b>	<b>Dance Lessons</b> <b>Toddler Set-Up</b> <b>Band Practice</b>	<b>10am – 1.00pm</b> <b>1.00pm-3pm</b> <b>7pm – 9pm</b>
<b>Wed 4 February</b>	<b>Prayer &amp; Percolation</b> <b>Toddlers</b> <b>Footprints</b> <b>Space to Pray</b> <b>Filling Station</b> <b>Dance Lessons</b>	<b>9.15am (Lounge)</b> <b>10.00am – 11.30am</b> <b>1pm – 2.30pm</b> <b>6.30pm – 7.15pm</b> <b>7.30pm – 9pm</b> <b>7.30pm – 8.30pm</b>
<b>Thur 5 February</b>	<b>Café on the Close</b> <b>Refresh Life Group</b> <b>Midweek Gathering</b> <b>New Life Group</b> <b>Sermon Discussion Group</b>	<b>10am – 12pm</b> <b>10am – 12pm</b> <b>12.15-12.45pm</b> <b>7.30pm (Lounge)</b> <b>7.45pm (Kitchen)</b>
<b>Fri 6 February</b>	<b>Prayer &amp; Percolation</b> <b>Dog Training Classes</b>	<b>9.15am (Lounge)</b> <b>6pm – 9pm</b>
<b>Sat 7 February</b>		
<b>Sun 8 February</b>	<b>See Gatherings on Front Page</b> <b>Wonderfully Messy Church</b>	<b>10.30am / 6.30pm</b> <b>3pm – 4.30pm</b>
<b>Mon 9 February</b>	<b>Prayer &amp; Percolation</b> <b>Brownies/Guides/Rangers</b>	<b>9.15am</b> <b>Evenings</b>
<b>Tues 10 February</b>	<b>Dance Lessons</b> <b>Monthly Munch</b> <b>Toddler Set-Up</b> <b>Band Practice</b>	<b>10am – 1.00pm</b> <b>12.15pm</b> <b>1.00pm-3pm</b> <b>7pm – 9pm</b>
<b>Wed 11 February</b>	<b>Prayer &amp; Percolation</b> <b>Toddlers</b> <b>Footprints</b> <b>Space to Pray</b> <b>Dance Lessons</b>	<b>9.15am – 9.45am</b> <b>10am – 11.30am</b> <b>1pm – 2.30pm</b> <b>6.30pm – 7.15pm</b> <b>7.30pm</b>
<b>Thur 12 February</b>	<b>Café on the Close</b> <b>Refresh Life Group</b> <b>Midweek Gathering</b> <b>New Life Group</b> <b>Sermon Discussion Group</b>	<b>10am – 12pm</b> <b>10am – 12pm (Lounge)</b> <b>12.15-12.45pm</b> <b>7.30pm (Lounge)</b> <b>7.45pm</b>
<b>Frid 13 February</b>	<b>Prayer &amp; Percolation</b> <b>Dog Training Classes</b>	<b>9.15am (Lounge)</b> <b>6.30pm – 9pm</b>
<b>Sat 14 February</b> <b>HALF TERM</b>		
<b>Sun 15 February</b> <b>HALF TERM</b>	<b>See Gatherings on Front Page</b> <b>Guest Speaker, Paul Knox, at 6.30pm</b>	

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<b>Mon 16 February</b> HALF TERM	<b>Prayer &amp; Percolation</b> <i>No Brownies/Guides/Rangers</i>	<b>9.15am</b> <i>Usually Evenings</i>
<b>Tues 17 February</b> HALF TERM	<b>Dance Lessons</b> <i>No Toddler Set-Up</i> <b>Band Practice</b>	<b>10am – 1.00pm</b> <i>Usually 1.00pm-3pm</i> <b>7pm – 9pm</b>
<b>Wed 18 February</b> HALF TERM	<b>Prayer &amp; Percolation</b> <i>No Toddlers</i> <i>No Footprints</i> <b>Space to Pray</b> <i>No Dance Lessons</i>	<b>9.15am – 9.45am</b> <i>Usually 10am – 11.30am</i> <i>Usually 1pm – 2.30pm</i> <b>6.30pm – 7.15pm</b> <i>Usually 7.30pm</i>
<b>Thur 19 February</b> HALF TERM	<b>Café on the Close</b> <i>No Refresh Life Group</i> <b>Midweek Gathering</b> <i>No New Life Group</i>	<b>10am – 12pm</b> <i>Usually 10am – 12pm (Lounge)</i> <b>12.15-12.45pm</b> <i>7.30pm (Lounge)</i>
<b>Frid 20 February</b> HALF TERM	<b>Prayer &amp; Percolation</b> <b>Dog Training Classes</b>	<b>9.15am (Lounge)</b> <b>6.30pm – 9pm</b>
<b>Sat 21 February</b> HALF TERM	<b>No Events</b>	
<b>Sun 22 February</b> HALF TERM	<b>See Gatherings on Front Page</b>	
<b>Mon 23 February</b>	<b>Prayer &amp; Percolation</b> <b>Brownies/Guides/Rangers</b>	<b>9.15am</b> <b>Evening</b>
<b>Tue 24 February</b>	<b>Early New Year's Eve Party</b>	<b>6pm – 9pm</b>
<b>Wed 25 February</b>	<b>Prayer &amp; Percolation</b> <b>Toddlers</b> <b>Footprints</b> <b>Space to Pray</b> <b>Dance Lessons</b>	<b>9.15am – 9.45am</b> <b>10am – 11.30am</b> <b>1pm – 2.30pm</b> <b>6.30pm – 7.15pm</b> <b>7.30pm</b>
<b>Thur 26 February</b>	<b>Café on the Close</b> <b>Refresh Life Group – Lent Course</b> <b>Midweek Gathering</b> <b>New Life Group – Lent Course</b> <b>Lent Course</b>	<b>10am – 12pm</b> <b>10am – 12pm (Lounge)</b> <b>12.15-12.45pm</b> <b>7.30pm (Lounge)</b> <b>Time to be confirmed</b>
<b>Fri 27 February</b>	<b>Prayer &amp; Percolation</b> <b>Dog Training Classes</b>	<b>9.15am (Lounge)</b> <b>6.30pm – 9pm</b>
<b>Sat 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Wide Awake Club</b>	<b>10am – 11.30am</b>

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## Contacts

- **Clergy –**  
**Rev David Sims (VICAR)** [vicar@stthomasaldridge.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:susan.grundy@yahoo.com)  
**Andrew Dickson:** 07989 143388 / [andrewjdickson999@hotmail.com](mailto:andrewjdickson999@hotmail.com)  
**Lisa Winnall:** 07805 114471 / [lisawinnall.church@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:susan.grundy@yahoo.com)  
**Sue Quibell (for adults)** - 07889 885545 / [s.quibell@goolemail.com](mailto:s.quibell@goolemail.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](mailto:andrewjdickson999@hotmail.com)
- **Websites:**  
<https://stthomasaldridge.org.uk/> or [www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4121/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4121/))