

# Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026

## The Second Sunday of Lent

*'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal 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
<b>Processional</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>272</b>
<b>Before the Gospel</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>445</b>
<b>Offertory</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>339</b>
<b>During Communion</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>307</b>
	<b>40</b>	
<b>Final</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>368</b>

### 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

**Wednesday** 1.30pm Hazel's Social Club in the Refectory

**Thursday** 10am Eucharist at St Thomas  
11 - 1pm Refectory Café open  
2pm St James Mother's Union in the Hall

#### **Next Sunday – 8<sup>th</sup> March: Third Sunday of Lent**

8:00 Said Eucharist at St Thomas'

9:15 Sung Eucharist at St Thomas'

10.45 Sung Eucharist at St James

### 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!

## **Lent Course begins 7pm Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March at St James**

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

## **Hazel's Social Group Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 1:30pm in the Refectory**

The talk will be from a Special constable about their work and non-members of the group are invited to attend. Please let Hazel know if you intend to be present.

## **St James Mother's Union. 2pm Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March.**

Speaker: Revd. Judith

## **Mothering Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March. 10:45am All-Age Service at St James**

Join us for our special service to mark Mothering Sunday. We will be joined by the Brownies and Guides who will parade their flags. Children will read for us and help lead our intercessions. All welcome.

## **Eat and Meet. 12-2pm Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March at St James**

Join us for a delicious, freshly prepared and cooked three course meal.

## **Messy Church Event. 2-4pm Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March at St Thomas' Hall**

Date for your diary. Join us for fun, fellowship and Jesus! Our topic will be Lent, Holy Week and Easter. Come along and join in.

## **Step into Spring. 2pm 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Helmschore Circular Walk.**

Our Eco team are hosting a local, circular 4.7 mile guided walk on Sunday March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2pm from the Refectory. Proceeds will go to our church repair fund and to the Baxenden hedgehog rescue hospital. £5 pp. See posters for details. Please highlight this to anyone in the community that you think might like to walk."

## **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> 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.

## **Chrism Eucharist 11:00 am Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at the Cathedral**

This is an important service in the Diocesan calendar where clergy renew their vows and collect oils of anointing. Members of our congregation are invited to attend to witness and support. Fr Simon has to let the Cathedral know how many are coming so if you would like to attend please could you let Fr Simon know when he returns from annual leave.

## **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.

## **Eco Church: Carbon Fast For Lent**

This Lent, take part in Climate Steward's Carbon Fast. Lent is a time when Christians traditionally fast and focus on God. The Carbon Fast will help you consider ways to live more simply, give you new ideas to cut your carbon footprint and invite you to focus on God and consider the whole of his creation. Beginning on 18th Feb, you'll receive a weekly email containing key facts, suggestions for how you could reduce your carbon footprint and a prayer to lead you through this Lenten season. Each week features a different theme designed to help us take climate action in manageable ways that bear witness to a God who has promised to restore all of his creation. Find out more and sign up at <https://climatestewards.org/resources/carbon-fast-for-lent/>. Weekly carbon fast guidance can be found on the Eco church hall notice board if you don't have access to the Internet.

## **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.

## **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, Gordon.

For all who have recently died, remembering Dorothy Mitchell 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.