

Sunday 26th April 2026

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

'I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly'

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	128	359
Before the Gospel	399	92
Offertory	231	381
During Communion	506	376
	414	
Final	522	120

The Week Ahead & Information

Mon-Fri	9am	Morning Prayer <i>on St Thomas' Facebook</i>
Tuesday	9.30am	Thomas Tots at St Thomas' Hall
	10am	Eucharist <i>at St James</i>
	7pm	Inclusive Group Meeting <i>chez Shatliff</i>
Thursday	10am	Eucharist <i>at St Thomas'</i>
	2-4pm	Thursday, Food and Friends <i>at St Thomas' Hall</i>
	7pm	Deanery Synod <i>at St Thomas'</i>

Next Sunday – 3rd May: Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:15 Sung Eucharist *at St Thomas'*

10:45 Sung Eucharist *at St James* followed by Baptism of Sky and Harvey

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! Thank you to those who have returned their survey forms. Any other forms still out there will be gratefully received.

St Thomas' Hall

After 8 years of hard work and dedication to the Hall, Lin has decided to stand down. She leaves the Hall in a dramatically improved fashion to the way she found it and leaves behind a well run and organised situation, and she leaves with my thanks and the thanks of the PCC. This leaves an opportunity for somebody to step up into this important role in the life of the Church. If you think that this might be for you, please speak to Fr Simon. Lin has kindly offered to explain the role to those who come forward.

Pentecost: Sunday 24th May

The parish eucharist services at both churches will be All Age services. We are hoping that they will be parade services with local uniformed organisations. Local schools will also be invited.

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.

Thomas Tots Needs You!

The Tots group need some extra hands to help with the little ones. Could this be you? Please speak to Lin or Fr Simon if you feel that you could help. All help is hugely appreciated.

Survey Required to Further National Lottery Application

As the next step in the Spire Project application for funds we need to undertake a new survey with regards to local attitudes and wishes for our church building. The survey can be best completed on line using the following link: [St Thomas' Church: Our Future Together](#) (which should work from electronic versions of this notice sheet, or by scanning the following QR code) – see over. Some paper versions are available at the back of church.



When you scan the QR code you might be met with an offer to download an App. Ignore this and press “Continue in browser”.

Without a significant number of surveys being completed and returned we will not be able to progress the application! Your assistance will be appreciated.

Eco-Church Notice: Stop Food Waste Day

Wednesday 29th April is Stop Food Waste Day. An unbelievable 33% of food produced globally is wasted every year. Just 25% of this wasted food would feed all of the 795 million undernourished people in the world. In addition 8% of greenhouse gas emissions every year are due to food waste.

Everybody can do their bit to help reduce this waste. For more information, tips and inspirational stories, have a look on <https://stopfoodwasteday.com> Or see the poster on the Eco Church table.

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.

Local History Fair: Helmshore Mills Textile Museums 9th May 11-4pm

Displays by St Thomas' Church, the Helmshore Local History Society, Helmshore British Legion and Model Railway.

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: Pasta sauce, 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, including Sheila Smith and remembering 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.