

Sunday 19th April 2026

The Third Sunday of Easter

"Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him"

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	268	485
Before the Gospel	490	117
Offertory	541	459
During Communion	299	123
	60	
Final	510	375

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*
12-2 Eat and Meat at St James' Hall
- Wednesday** 2pm Funeral of Sheila Conway *at St Thomas' (following from Commendation and Committal at Accrington Crem 1pm Family Only)*
- Thursday** 10am Eucharist *at St Thomas'*
- Saturday** 10.30-1.30 Spring Fair *at St James*

Next Sunday – 26th April: Fourth Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 Said eucharist *at St Thomas'*
9:15 Sung Eucharist *at St Thomas'*
10:45 Sung Eucharist *at St James* followed by APCM

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 James Spring Fair 25th April

Donations for raffle prizes, tombola and such will be gratefully received.

APCMs for 2026

St Thomas' after church today. Coffee and tea available in the vestry but not the Hall.

St James after church on 26th April.

There are nomination forms at the back of church for a number of important leadership roles. The roles available at both churches are:

Church Warden

PCC member (there is no need to re-apply if your term as member has not expired)

Deanery Synod representatives

The future of both churches relies on lay involvement in these leadership positions. Please give some thought and prayer as to whether you are being called to serve your church in one of these ways.

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.

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.

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. Some paper versions are available at the back of church.



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 Recycling Message

Tetrapak cartons can now be recycled at the local tip. If you would struggle to get there, please speak to Heather or Julian about taking them for you.

Earth Day 22nd April

This year the theme is " Our Power, Our Planet". The aim of Earth Day is to drive climate action, education and environmental protection. It calls on communities worldwide to take action to support clean air, clean water, clean energy and protect natural resources, and climate stability. Why not

check out the website www.earthday.org which gives plenty of ideas including fact sheets and quizzes to inform and encourage action.

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: 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 Betty Cormack and Sheila Conway, 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.