

# Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026

## Seventh Sunday of Easter: The Sunday after Ascension

*'All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer'*

**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>26</b>	<b>271</b>
<b>Before the Gospel</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>352</b>
<b>Offertory</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>357</b>
<b>During Communion</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>SHEET</b>
	<b>235</b>	<b>Take my life</b>
		<b>353</b>
<b>Final</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>SHEET</b>
		<b>Christ Triumphant</b>

## The Week Ahead & Information

**Mon-Fri** 9am Morning Prayer *on St Thomas' Facebook*

**Monday** 6.30pm St James PCC Meeting *in the Hall*

**Tuesday** 9.30am Thomas Tots *at St Thomas' Hall*

10am Eucharist *at St James*

12-2pm Eat and Meet *in St James Hall*

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

**Thursday** 10am Eucharist *at St Thomas'*

### **Next Sunday – 24<sup>th</sup> May: Pentecost**

8.00 *This is Cancelled*

9:15 All Age Parade Eucharist *at St Thomas'*

10:45 All Age Parade Eucharist *at St James*

1.15 Baptism of Finn and Luca *at St Thomas'*

2.30 Baptism of Albie *at St Thomas'*

4.00 Interment of Ashes Gordon Nuttall *at St Thomas'*

## **A Christian Aid Thank You!**

To everybody who contributed to the events at both churches over the past week. A special thank you to Joanne and Marjorie for driving the events at their respective churches.

## **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.

## **Pentecost: Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May St James and St Thomas**

The Parish Eucharist services at both churches will be All Age parade services. Please feel free to dress extravagantly in red, orange or yellow!

## **Spring 2026 Rossendale Art Trail - Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May at St Thomas'**

Andy Buttery, a local artist, will be displaying his art in the Refectory as part of the Rossendale Art Trail. Andy will be there 10am to 4pm both days and we will serve cakes and drinks from 11am to 3pm.

We would be very grateful to anyone who can bake a cake for us - please let Wendy or Sue know.

## **Mouse Trail at St Thomas'! Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May**

To coincide with the church opening for the Rossendale Art Trail we are launching our Mouse Trail. Find the mice, solve the clues and learn about the history of the church! The trail will be available between 11am and 3pm on the Saturday and Sunday of the Art Trail. We need a few volunteers to welcome visitors on those days. If we could get 4 pairs of welcomers to cover 11:00am until 1pm and then 1pm to 3pm both days that would be most helpful. Rota available at the back of church. Please add your name if you can.

## **Joint Service at St James 10:00am Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May**

We will continue our tradition of joint services on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, with St James being the host this time. As well as the congregation of St Thomas' we are delighted to welcome along Revd. Belinda and the congregation of St Peter's Laneside. Following this service there will be the planning meeting referred to below.

## **Centenary Celebration Planning: 12:15hrs Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May at St James**

The Diocese celebrates its 100 years anniversary on the weekend of 11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> September. It is proposed that St James, St Thomas and St Peter's church arrange a joint event for that weekend. A meeting has been arranged for Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June at 12:15hrs at St James for anybody who would be interested in planning something could attend. We are thinking initially of some sort of all age event at all three churches, one after the other, cumulating in an outdoor event at St Peter's using their outdoor space. Nothing is set in stone and we need to get representatives of all three churches together to plan something excellent.

## **Rossendale Encore Concert Band: 7pm Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June at St James**

Tickets available soon for £10 (watch this space). There will be a variety of music including film, pop, rock and roll and musicals. As well as music, each ticket holder can have a free glass of wine, and cheese and biscuits. Extra refreshment is available throughout the night for a donation.

## **Archdeacon Visitation: Holy Trinity Hoghton 7.30pm Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June**

Our churchwardens for the year ahead will be sworn in at the above event. Why not come along and show your appreciation for their sterling work.

## **New All Age Service at St Thomas' 3pm Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June**

A date for your diary. We are trying out something new at a time that might help attract those with young families and those who prefer a less formal style of service. The service will be non-eucharistic and will include a more modern style of hymn or worship song. Please let people know. All ages are welcome!

## **Hymns and Pimms: 2-4pm Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June St Thomas' Hall Gardens**

A date for your diary. Why not start thinking about your favourite hymns and be ready to add them to the list that will go out at church soon.

## **Musbury Talk**

Characters and stories from the life of the church and its people are popping up everywhere. George Garlick will be giving a talk on the life of the parish from early cooperation to striking bellringers at Haslingden Library at 5.30pm

on Tuesday 9th June. So bolt down your tea (or have something to put you on) and just turn up (no booking required). It's free.

Meanwhile, the history of St Thomas Musbury, 'A Church and its People', is available seven days a week at Neary's, and the Textile Museum four days a week for £5; sold in aid of church repairs. Tell your friends.

### **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.

### **St Thomas' Fabric Committee**

The work of maintaining the fabric of our church has largely fallen to our churchwardens and quite often their families! Maintaining the fabric is not usually the domain of churchwardens but is a responsibility of the PCC as a whole. We are looking to spread the load and asking for anybody who might be willing to work with others, as a team, under the direction of the PCC, to monitor and oversee repairs. This might involve regular checks, liaising with workmen and making the occasional phone call. Would anybody willing to give up some time, and be willing to work as part of a team, please contact Fr Simon or the churchwardens.

### **St Thomas' Hall**

Speaking of working as a team, Lin has stood down as Hall Manager but remains as part four-part team. Mary will be the contact for bookings, Lin will ensure supplies of disposables are maintained and the cleaning team will continue in their tasks. There is one final role which is currently vacant, that of maintenance and repair. Would anybody interested in giving up some time to look after this important aspect of keeping the hall in good order and full use please speak to Fr Simon.

With many thanks to Lin for her years of devoted service as manager.

### **Three Churches: Three Peaks**

Your vicar, and the vicar of St Peter's, are keen walkers. They have set themselves the challenge of arranging an assault on the Yorkshire Three Peaks, probably in May 2027. It is hoped that those members of the congregations who would see this as a challenge, rather than lunacy, would join them and make it an event for raising funds for both churches. More to come on this as the idea develops.

### **Survey Required to Further National Lottery Application**

If you haven't already completed your survey, please use a paper copy available at the back of church or go onto our Facebook page where you will be easily able to link to it electronically. Over 150 people have already filled it in for us. With special thanks to The Station and Helmsore Textile Museums.

### **Eco-Church Notice: Lancashire Wildlife Trust**

This local charity look after several areas around Lancashire, managing each to maximise wildlife and encourage species that we are at risk of losing through climate change and habitat loss.

See their website for opportunities to volunteer (Heather now volunteers at Summerseat nature reserve). The Trust also run many interesting activities such as guided walks, craft sessions and children's activities. Perhaps share the link with your friends and relatives if you are unable to benefit yourselves.

<https://lancswt.org.uk/>

### **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: 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.

For all who have recently died, including Gordon Murphy 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.