

# Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2026

## The Fifth Sunday of Easter

*'I am the way, the truth, and the 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.

<b>Hymns</b>	<b>St Thomas</b>	<b>St James</b>
<b>Processional</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>205</b>
<b>Before the Gospel</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>376</b>
<b>Offertory</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>336</b>
<b>During Communion</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>SHEET</b>
	<b>220</b>	<b>Be Still</b>
		<b>374</b>
<b>Final</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>495</b>

## The Week Ahead & Information

- Tue-Fri** 9am Morning Prayer *on St Thomas' Facebook*
- Tuesday** 9.30am Thomas Tots *at St Thomas' Hall*  
 10am Eucharist *at St James*  
 1.40pm Funeral of Sheila Smith *at Accrington Crematorium*  
 7pm St Thomas' PCC meeting *at the Refectory*
- Wednesday** 1.30pm Hazel's Social club *at the Refectory*
- Thursday** 10am Eucharist *at St Thomas'*  
 11-1pm Refectory Café open
- Saturday** 9.30-12.00 Christian aid Coffee Morning *at St Thomas'*

### **Next Sunday – 10<sup>th</sup> May: Rogation Sunday**

- 8:00 Said Eucharist *at St Thomas'*
- 9:15 Sung Eucharist *at St Thomas'*
- 10:45 Sung Eucharist *at St James*
- 1pm St T's Children's Ministry Group Meeting *Chez Palmeri*

## **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.

### **This year's Christian aid campaign is 10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> May**

It focusses on poverty relief and community support worldwide.

**At St. Thomas's we are offering our Coffee Morning in the church hall 9.30-12noon on the 9th May** to kick start the week and to help raise funds for this worthy cause.

Please let me know if you are able to make/bake anything - it will be much appreciated.

Donation envelopes will be available from church that week and from Neary's shop, where you can also drop off the envelopes. Many thanks to Pat at Neary's for helping with this, much appreciated.

The Charity are running a 70K in May challenge:- It's simple: travel 70K, in whatever way you want, throughout the month of May. Joanne Smithson is going to do it by logging her walking and cycling: sponsorship forms available at the back of church. You are more than welcome to challenge yourself too! If you wish to sponsor me then please get in touch on 07876015511. You can also register yourself on the Christian Aid website for the challenge.

By taking part, we're helping families facing hunger to grow food and build more secure futures.

Late news: Hazel Warren is also taking up the 70k in May challenge. Go Hazel!

Finishing Christian Aid week there is a **Coffee Morning at St. James Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 10.30am- 12 noon.**

Come and enjoy a cuppa and cake and support this worthy cause. Donations of cakes will be gratefully received on the day,

## **A History of St Thomas' Church launched today**

The 'A Church and its People: the History of St Thomas Musbury' printed booklet, packed with whip rounds, processions, bazaars and Rose Queens - and the building and its first days too of course - will be available from 3 May. Discover more about your 'hidden gem, one of the very best traditional churches we have left in Rossendale' (Civic Trust) 'perfectly illustrating the Church of England's structures and tradition'. 60pages, quality cover, paper and photo reproduction. £5 for building funds. Written by George Garlick, former editor of the Tor 'n' Town.

Copies in St Thomas' Church Hall today, Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

## **Helmshore Local History Fair. Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May 11-4pm**

At Helmshore Mills textile Museums. Local history displays including one from St Thomas' Church.

## **Blackburn Diocese Centenary Big Day Out! Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

Blackburn Diocese is marking 100 years with a Big Day Out in Blackpool — a full, joy-filled celebration for every age. With dedicated zones for families and young people, plus live music, comedy, a free hog roast lunch and a huge open-air worship gathering in St John's Square, it's set to be a fantastic day for our whole Diocese. Everyone is welcome, and pre-registration helps us plan food and spaces. Join us on Saturday 16 May 2026 for a big party in Blackpool to celebrate 100 years of Blackburn Diocese.

A couple of families from St James are hoping to attend. If you'd like to come along, please speak to Emily Westlake.

## **Pentecost: Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> 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: 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, Gordon.

For all who have recently died, 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.