

Monthly News for July 2025



Welcome to St Thomas'

Sunday 6 July	CHAIRS Sue & Simon / COFFEE Nigel & Jo / WELCOME Joyce & Geoff Theme – Acts 12, Escape From Prison 8:30 - The reflective one with Holy Communion 10:30 - The lively All-In one 18:30 - The informal one, enjoy coffee before worship begins at 18.45
Sunday 13 July	CHAIRS Phil & Colin / COFFEE Helen & Ann / WELCOME Eric Theme – Acts 13 & 14 10:30 - The lively one with Holy Communion 15.00 – Wonderfully Messy Church 18:30 – The informal one, enjoy coffee before worship begins at 18.45
Sunday 20 July	CHAIRS Jane & Adam / COFFEE Jane & Ed / WELCOME Ann Theme – Acts 15 10:30 - The lively one 18:30 - The informal one, enjoy coffee before worship begins at 18.45
Sunday 27 July	CHAIRS Sue & Rich / COFFEE Colin & Sue / WELCOME Gill & Les Theme – Acts 16 10.30 - Morning Gathering 18:30 - The informal one, enjoy coffee before worship begins at 18.45

We thank you for parking considerately,
and avoiding St Thomas Close 😊

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR VICAR DAVID

Summer is certainly upon us!

The long hot days, the sound of birds in the morning, the laughter at barbecues shouts of kids in paddling pools, the cool relief of the rainfall or a water fight. This all points back to a God who delights in giving us good things. Sometimes, we can get so caught up in the rush of life that we forget to just stop and soak in His presence, much like we forget to just sit and feel the warmth of the sun on our skin. Summer gives us space to slow down, to rest, to notice.

During the next month of August, many things will have a bit of a break- maybe July is a good time to start slowing down a bit. To be intentional about abiding in God's presence. Why not try to begin a Monday, Wednesday or Friday with us, at 9:15, as we start the day with a cuppa and a time to pray together? Or maybe our 18:30 evening gathering would be a great space to come and rest in his presence.

I'm reminded of the song "it is well with my soul"- and one of the lines is this.

*"In the heat of the day there is grace enough to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul."*

During July, may we know his grace with us- in the heat, and the shade, the busy-ness and the stillness!

Every blessing in Jesus' name,

David Sims
Vicar

UPCOMING NEWS & EVENTS

TOMS TODDLERS - Every Wednesday morning, 10.00am-11.30am in term time, with the last meeting on Wednesday 16th July before breaking for summer. For Children from birth to pre-school age. Contact Hannah Evans - hannahevans@stthomasaldridge.org.uk

FOOTPRINTS - Every Wednesday morning, 10.00am-11.30am in term time, with the last meeting on Wednesday 16th July before breaking for summer. For children from 2½ to school age. Contact Hannah Evans - hannahevans@stthomasaldridge.org.uk

SPACE TO PRAY - Every Wednesday evening, 6.30pm-7.15pm in church. Sit in the presence of the Lord; to lay before him the burdens of our hearts or just to sit at his feet and be refreshed. All welcome. For more details contact Liz Spiers, lizspiers55@blueyonder.co.uk

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FILLING STATION - Wednesday 2nd July. Come and join the Churches of Aldridge for this time of worship and teaching. Taking place on the first Wednesday of the month, at Aldridge Parish Centre, at 7.45pm for refreshments and an 8pm start.

CAFÉ ON THE CLOSE - Every Thursday, 10am-12pm - Offering a place to relax & enjoy social time with others over coffee and cake.

LITTER PICK - Friday 4th July, at 10am

MIDWEEK GATHERING - Every Thursday immediately after Café on the Close at 12.15pm, for 30 minutes of worship, often with Holy Communion. Everyone is welcome to come. We will take a break over the summer, with the last gathering on Thursday 24th July.

ALPHA COURSE - Every Thursday, at 7.45pm. Booking essential! An opportunity to explore the Christian Faith in an open and friendly way. Everyone is welcome. Contact Julie Fuggle to reserve your place or to find out more information - fugglej@blueyonder.co.uk.

PRAYER & PERCOLATION - Every Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 9.15am. Come and join us for coffee in the church lounge, while we pray for our church, the world and each other.

BROWNIES, GUIDES & RANGERS - Every Monday evening during in term time, with the last meeting on Monday 14th July, before breaking for Summer - Contact Steph Chebsie - steph_steps@yahoo.co.uk

HEALING ON THE STREETS - Saturday 5th July, 11am. Every first Saturday of the month, 11am - 1pm. Meeting outside Costa in Aldridge Shopping Centre.

SONGSMITHS & PSALMISTS - Saturday 5th July, at 1pm. Join Andrew Clayton at St T's for songwriting sessions, music prayer and coffee. All musicians and songwriters are welcome.

WONDERFULLY MESSY CHURCH - Sunday 13th July, at 3pm. A Faith based group for littlies with additional needs & their grown-ups. Meeting on the second Sunday of the month, 3pm-4.30pm. Booking essential, contact vicar@stthomasaldridge.org.uk

MONTHLY MUNCH - Monthly Munch is taking a break over the Summer and will return on Tuesday 9th September, at 12.15pm. Join us for a delicious home cooked lunch. It's free of charge, with a suggested donation of £3. Everyone is welcome and booking is essential, email to reserve your place - office@stthomasaldridge.org.uk.

FIZZ - Saturday 12th July. Church for adults with learning difficulties or special needs & their carers. Meeting at Tynings Lane Church at 12pm - 2pm, on the second Saturday of each month, (except August).

BRICK CHURCH - Brick Church is taking a break over the summer and will return on Wednesday 3rd September, at 4pm-5.30pm. Usually takes place once a month, dates can vary. Hear a Bible story, have fun with bricks & share a chip-shop tea. Please note that dates vary each month, and we don't meet in the Summer Holidays. Booking is essential!

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THE THOMAS PROJECT, GREEK BBQ - Thursday 13th July, 2pm. Enjoy a Greek BBQ cooked by Mike from Lazy Hill Fish Bar. Tickets are £10 and available from - office@thethomasproject.co.uk
[click here for flyer](#)

VINTAGE VALUATION DAY - Friday 18th July. Search for your treasures and bring them along to St T's for a free valuation. This was a hugely popular and successful event last year so keep a look out for opening hours and a flyer coming soon!

WIDE AWAKE CLUB - Saturday 19th July. Usually every 3rd Saturday of the month, at 10am-11.30am. For Dads, Grandads & children up to age 10. There's a hot drink & breakfast sandwich for adults, and toys, toast & squash for smaller people.

TYNINGS LANE, RECONNECT CAFÉ - Thursday 19th July, 3.30pm - 5pm [click here for Flyer](#)

NEWCOMERS CREAM TEA - Sunday 20th July, 3.00pm (by arrangement only) [click here for flyer](#)

MEN'S CURRY NIGHT - Monday 21st July, 7.30pm. At The Royal Oak, Daw End, Rushall, WS4 1LH. Cost is approximately £15 per head, depending on what you order. This is a licensed restaurant so PLEASE DON'T BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS. Booking Essential email jeremybakewell@gmail.com.
[Click here for website](#) / [Click here for menu](#)

GENTS OF ST JOHNS - Thursday 24th July, 7.30pm, at St Johns Church, Walsall Wood. £12 per ticket. A celebration of Choral Masterpieces [click here for flyer](#)

KNIT STITCH & NATTER - Friday 27th June. Meeting on the last Friday of the month (excluding August & December), in the Annexe, 10.30-12.00pm. All welcome, bring your crafts. Contact lizspiers55@blueyonder.co.uk

ADOPTION SUPPORT GROUP - Monday 28th July. Usually every last Monday of the month, 12.30pm - 2pm.

NEW WINE - July 30th - August 4th, at Shepton Mallet [click here for details](#)

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING, Coming Soon! - We encourage everyone who is required to complete safeguarding to do so online. For those who may find this difficult, we will be holding a group-based training course at church. The date of this course has been postponed, so keep a look out for a new date coming soon!

BISHOP TIM'S CALL TO PRAYER - Friday 19th September, at St T's, at 7pm.

TEARFUND CHRISTMAS FAYRE - We are looking forward to our Tearfund Christmas Fayre which will take place at St T's, on Saturday 15th November. Look out for more details nearer the time.

WELCOME BOX FOR NEW NEIGHBOURS

Speak to Sue Quibell or one of the Team if you would like to welcome new neighbours with an informative pack from St T's (including a little gift of chocolate too!)

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EXTERNAL EVENTS THAT YOU CAN JOIN

Dance Lessons - with one to one tuition for adult couples. Every Tuesday morning or Wednesday evening. Contact Mandy Daniels for more information - amandadaniels119@outlook.com.

Dog Training Classes, Through The Dog's Eyes - A wonderful new opportunity to join dog training classes. Taking place at St Thomas Church. Email Sarah & Kit for details - info@throughthedogseyes.com

LET'S PRAY

We meet for **Prayer & Percolation** in the church lounge on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays at 9.15 am - 9.45 am. Do join us even if you don't like coffee (tea is available).

Space to Pray - Wednesday evenings in church from 6.30 pm - 7.15 pm. Time to sit in the Lord's presence & pray as the Spirit leads. Do join us.

Church Prayer List - for prayer support.

Prayer Circle - for confidential prayer support from a small group of prayer warriors.

Remember that nothing is too small or too big for the Lord's help.

Prayer requests to Prayer Co-ordinator: Lizspiers55@blueyonder.co.uk or 01922 453944

Prayer Focus for July - As we have enjoyed the hot sunny weather in June and face the prospect of increasingly hot summers in the future, let us focus our prayer this month on climate change. Let's pray for world leaders, and others who are in positions to make changes, to do all they can to reduce the greenhouse gases their countries produce that build up in our atmosphere causing global warming. Let us also ask the Lord to show us what we as individuals can do to combat climate change in our daily lives and help to protect our planet. *Gen.1 "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.....And God saw that it was good."*

MISSION FOCUS

We periodically share emails, containing updates from our Mission Partners. After the email has been sent, it is uploaded to our website (A Church Near You) - Click the following link to see our latest update - <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/78262/view/>

COOPER & JORDAN SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Parents should be aware that we follow the school's admission policy on attendance & in accordance with Diocesan guidelines 'regular attendance' at **worship** constitutes a minimum of at least **two services per month**. The guidelines further suggest that regular attendance should have been for at least two years before application. Please check with one of the Team to ensure your attendance is recorded in the folder which is located on the large table at the back of church.

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GIVING TO ST T'S

- Simply scan this QR code with your phone.
- Alternatively, a card reader is located on the large table at the back of church.
- Our Team can also provide you with information to enable you to set-up a regular standing order.
- Don't forget to add Gift Aid, ask a member of our Team for help with this.



WHAT'S ON ...

Tues 1 July	External – Dance Lessons Toddler Set-Up Band Practice	9am – 1.00pm 1.00pm-3pm 8pm – 9.30pm
Wed 2 July	Prayer & Percolation Toddlers Footprints Space to Pray Filling Station Visitation Service Dance Lessons/Practice	9.15am (Lounge) 10.00am – 11.30am 1pm – 2.30pm 6.30pm – 7.15pm 7.30pm (APC Centre) 7.30pm (Lichfield Cathedral) 7.30pm
Thurs 3 July	Café on the Close Refresh Life Group Midweek Gathering New Life Group Alpha Course	10am – 12pm 10am – 12pm 12.15-12.45pm 7.30pm (Lounge) 7.45pm
Fri 4 July	Prayer & Percolation Litter Pick Dog Training Classes	9.15am (Lounge) 10am 6pm – 9pm
Sat 5 July	Healing on The Streets Songsmiths & Psalmists	11am (Aldridge Shopping Centre) 1pm – 4pm
Sun 6 July	See Gatherings On Front Sheet	
Mon 7 July	Prayer & Percolation Brownies/Guides/Rangers	9.15am Evenings
Tues 8 July	Dance Lessons Toddler Set-Up Band Practice	10am – 1.00pm 1.00pm-3pm 7.30pm – 9pm
Wed 9 July	Prayer & Percolation Toddlers Footprints Space to Pray Dance Lessons/Practice	9.15am (Lounge) 10.00am – 11.30am 1pm – 2.30pm 6.30pm – 7.15pm 7.30pm
Thur 10 July	Café on the Close Refresh Life Group Midweek Gathering New Life Group Alpha Course	10am – 12pm 10am – 12pm 12.15-12.45pm 7.30pm (Lounge) 7.45pm

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Frid 11 July	Prayer & Percolation Dog Training Classes	9.15am (Lounge) 6pm – 9pm
Sat 12 July	Possible Private Room Hire tbc FIZZ	10am – 4pm (tbc) 12.00pm – 2pm (Tynings Lane)
Sun 13 July	See Gatherings on Front Page	
Mon 14 July	Prayer & Percolation Brownies/Guides/Rangers DCC Meeting	9.15am Evenings 7.45pm (Annexe)
Tue 15 July	Dance Lessons Toddler Set-Up Band Practice/Lessons	10am – 1.00pm 1.00pm-3pm 7pm – 9pm
Wed 16 July	Prayer & Percolation Toddlers Footprints Space to Pray Dance Lessons	9.15am (Lounge) 10.00am – 11.30am 1pm – 2.30pm 6.30pm – 7.15pm 7.30pm
Thurs 17 July	Café on the Close Refresh Life Group Midweek Gathering New Life Group Alpha Course	10am – 12pm 10am – 12pm 12.15-12.45pm 7.30pm (Annexe) Usually 7.45pm
Frid 18 July	Prayer & Percolation Vintage Valuation Day Dog Training Classes	9.15am (Lounge) Morning (time to be arranged) 6pm – 9pm
Sat 19 July	Wide Awake Club	11am – 11.30am
Sun 20 July	See Gatherings on Front Page Newcomers Cream Tea	
Mon 21 July	Prayer & Percolation Men's Curry Night <i>No Brownies/Guides/Rangers</i>	9.15am 7.30pm (Royal Oak, Rushall) <i>Usually Evenings</i>
Tues 22 July	Dance Lessons <i>No Toddler Set-Up</i> Band Practice	10am – 1.00pm <i>Usually 1.00pm-3pm</i> 7pm – 9pm
Wed 23 July	Prayer & Percolation <i>No Toddlers</i> <i>No Footprints</i> Space to Pray Dance Lessons	9.15am (Lounge) <i>Usually 10.00am – 11.30am</i> <i>Usually 1pm – 2.30pm</i> 6.30pm – 7.15pm 7.30pm
Thur 24 July	Café on the Close <i>No Refresh Life Group</i> Midweek Gathering <i>No New Life Group</i>	10am – 12pm <i>Usually 10am – 12pm</i> 12.15-12.45pm <i>Usually 7.30pm (Lounge)</i>
Fri 25 July	Prayer & Percolation Dog Training Classes Knit, Stitch & Natter	9.15am (Lounge) 6pm – 9pm 10.30am-12pm (Annexe)
Sat 26 July	<i>No Events</i>	
Sun 27 July	See Gatherings on Front Page	

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Mon 28 July	Prayer & Percolation <i>No Brownies/Guides/Rangers</i>	9.15am <i>Usually Evenings</i>
Tues 29 July	Dance Lessons <i>No Toddler Set-Up</i> Band Practice	10am – 1.00pm <i>Usually 1.00pm-3pm</i> 7pm – 9pm
Wed 30 July	Prayer & Percolation New Wine at Shepton Mallet <i>No Toddlers</i> <i>No Footprints</i> Space to Pray Dance Lessons	Prayer & Percolation Until 4th August <i>No Toddlers</i> <i>No Footprints</i> Space to Pray Dance Lessons
Thur 31 July	Café on the Close New Wine at Shepton Mallet <i>No Refresh Life Group</i> <i>No Midweek Gathering</i> <i>No New Life Group</i>	10am – 12pm Until 4th August <i>Usually 10am – 12pm</i> <i>Usually 12.15-12.45pm</i> <i>Usually 7.30pm (Lounge)</i>

Contacts

- **Clergy –**
Rev David Sims (VICAR) vicar@stthomasalldridge.org.uk, office number 01922 453942
 Rev Jeremy Bakewell 07790 986575
 Rev Sue Quibell 07889 88554
 If you would like to talk please feel free to phone on the numbers above.
- **Church Office –**
 Administrator - Genette Andrews. Office hours are **Monday to Thursday from 9 am till 12 pm.**
 Genette will be happy to help with your queries.
 Telephone - 01922 453942 / Email - office@stthomasalldridge.org.uk
 Please note that messages are not be seen or heard on Fridays, Saturdays or Sundays.
- **Children & Families Worker: Hannah Evans -**
 Telephone: office 01922 453942 / home 01922 693298 / mobile 07921 387241
 Email: hannahevans@stthomasalldridge.org.uk
Please note that messages are not be seen or heard on Fridays & Saturdays.
- **Prayer Coordinator: Liz Spiers -**
 Telephone 01922 453944 / email lizspiers55@blueyonder.co.uk if you wish to discuss any prayer needs, including ongoing prayer ministry & details of the Prayer Circle.
- **Wardens -**
Sue Grundy: 07772 925069 / susan.grundy@yahoo.com
Andrew Dickson: 07989 143388 / andrewjdickson999@hotmail.com
Glennys Davis: 07905 210399 / glennys49@hotmail.com
Lisa Winnall: 07805 114471 / lisawinnall.church@gmail.com
- **Safeguarding -**
 Safeguarding is *everybody's* responsibility. If you have concerns about how somebody might be treating you or another person, please do not hesitate to contact the following people –
Sue Grundy (for children) - 07772 925069 / susan.grundy@yahoo.com
Sue Quibell (for adults) - 07889 885545 / s.quibell@googlemail.com
 (see poster in church foyer for other numbers & information). A copy of our safeguarding policy is available in the church foyer & church office.
- **Fabrics & Health and Safety –**
Andrew Dickson: 07989 143388 / andrewjdickson999@hotmail.com

Websites: <https://stthomasalldridge.org.uk/> or www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4121/