

4 before Lent – Disciples Depend on Christ

Welcome to St Thomas's Parish Church, working in unity with other local churches, with a care and love for the whole community. Please say hello and we would love you to stay for refreshments in our hall after the service.

You are welcome to use one of the blue church bibles; page numbers for the readings will be given out & will be on the screen too.

Usual Sunday Service times:

8.30am Communion + 10.00am Family Service + 11.30am Informal Service

And on Wednesday: 9.45am Communion

Occasional Sunday Evening services (please see church diary)

Morning Prayers: 9.15am Monday, Tuesday (with communion,) Thursday

Collect Prayer This Week:

Lord of the hosts of heaven, our salvation and our strength,
without you we are lost: guard us from all that harms or hurts
and raise us when we fall; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Sunday 8.30am & 10.00 am	Sunday 11:30 am	Wednesday 9:45am
Isaiah 6.1-8 (p690)	Luke 9v37-50 (p1040)	Colossians 3.1-22 (p1184)
Luke 9v37-50 (p1040)		Matthew 5.13-20 (p968)

Prayers for our community: If you would like to be added to the prayer list, please let Revs David or Ruth know. We would also like to receive 'thanksgiving' prayers.

The sick, including: Pat Whiting, Lorraine Pinnock, Bob Gunn, Louise Winter, Peter Pullen, Schweta

Those needing ongoing prayer: Joyce Burgess, Seyan Tills, Mike Clark

Those who are grieving for: David Farish, Pat Devlin, Trevor Munro, Olive Winfield, Brian Dudley, Ron Greenham, Karl Stipta, Jane Halls, Martin Smith, Justin Robertson

Inspirational Quotes: Fragrance is like light. It cannot be hidden. It is like love: intangible, invisible, but always at once recognized. — *Amy Carmichael*

Upcoming Church News:

After our Two-Coat appeal last week, we took over 17 bags and 2 full coat rails of warm and clean coats, jackets, jumpers, hats, scarves and gloves to Noah, the local homeless shelter. Thank-you to you all.

Wedding Thanksgiving Service Sat 16th Feb 2019 1pm: A special service to celebrate the gift of marriage. We would love you to join us. Signup in porch. Tell your friends.

Wedding Invitation. Sarah and Rares are getting married on 2nd March at 1pm at St Thomas'. The church family is invited to join them for the service.

Choir: Love belting out Nessun Dorma in the shower? Always wanted to learn how to read music? Want to enjoy some fun and fellowship whilst singing together? Then why not join our church choir? We're about to begin the RSCM Voice for Life scheme, designed to develop vocal skills and musical understanding. No previous experience is needed, so it's a great time to start! Any questions, please speak to John Alexander (Music-Director@stopsleyparish.org.uk) otherwise please join us for choir practice on Thursdays at 6.15pm!

Christian Meditation The next session is on Wed 20th Feb 7.15pm

Lent Lunches: Will be held each Wednesday of Lent from 6th March through to end of Lent. Let David Newbound know if you wish to attend one or more (See below). A sign up sheet will be in porch shortly

A Spring Supper and Social Evening: in aid of St Thomas' Church, on Friday 1st March 2019, 7pm for a 7.30pm meal with a raffle, at Haverings, Lancing Road, LU2 8JN. Suggested donation £15.00 per person, (£10 for under 16s). Please bring your own drink and glasses. Places need to be reserved by 17th February, please contact Deborah Bachini (dabachini@yahoo.co.uk) or the Church Office, choosing your starter (Florida Cocktail or Pate) and stating any special dietary requirements. If you will need transport, please ask.

Women's World Day of Prayer is on Friday 1st March at St Francis Church. Planning and rehearsals are on 14th and 25th February. Contact the office or Geraldine Sims for more information if you are interested.

The next Coffee Morning is rearranged from the usual 1st Saturday of the month to Saturday 9th March.

Parade Services In the past Parade Services were nearly always the 1st Sunday of a month. That is not always the case in the future. We will let you know when these are – the next Parade will be Sunday 24th March.



If we can't join em beat em!! We are planning a coffee and cake meet up for the "Ladies" of St Thomas Church. On Saturday 16th March, 12pm at Stockwood Discovery Centre Garden Cafe. If you fancy joining us for good coffee and even better company please let Donna Alexander know by the 9th March.
Email: donnamaria85@gmail.com or in person.

Concert and Cream Tea: Raising vital funds for Hands of Mercy, Saturday 23rd March 3pm in the Hall. Short concert performed by our choir/resident musicians; Cream Tea; Craft stall; Cakes for sale. You are invited to join us for a pleasant afternoon whilst supporting our Brothers and Sisters in the Philippines with our 'Children's Education Sponsorship'. Entry on donation and collections accepted throughout the event.

Let's Talk in East Luton – Crawley, Round Green, Stopsley & Wigmore wards. Meetings on 12th February at Wenlock Junior School at 6.30pm and Tuesday 26th February at Ramridge Primary School at 6.30pm.

Luton Roma Trust are seeking to appoint a new Charity Secretary. Until May 2019 the post will be 5 hours per week but then, it is hoped, increasing to 15. £11,538 per year for three years. Contact Office for details.

Sermon Series this Spring – Luke's Gospel		
Feb-10	Luke 9v37-50	Disciples Depend on Christ
Feb-17	Luke 9v51-56	The Path to Glory
Feb-24	Luke 9v57-62	The Cost of Discipleship
Mar-03	Luke 10v1-12	Workers, Lambs and Wolves
Mar-10	Luke 10v13-24	Authority and Joy
Mar-17	Luke 10v25-37	Neighbours on the Road to Glory
Mar-24	Luke 10v38-42	Choosing What is Better
Mar-31	Luke 11v1-13	Our Parent (Mothering Sunday)

Regular Dates for the Diary (some may be provisional)

1 st Wednesday	12:30pm Parish Lunch
1 st Saturday	10 –12 noon Coffee Morning
Mon afternoon	1.00pm – 4pm Craftanoon
Thurs morning	10am Scrabble Club
Thurs afternoon	2pm – 4pm Tent Project
Thurs evening	8pm Homegroup. Marshall's Home

Upcoming Dates for the Diary

Mon 11 Feb	2pm Funeral Brian Dudley (Crem)
Sat 16 Feb	1pm Wedding Blessing & Thanksgiving service for all married couples.
Wed 20 Feb	11:15am Burial Ashes David Farish
Wed 20 Feb	2pm Funeral Ron Greenham(Crem)
Wed 20 Feb	7:15pm Christian Meditation
Sat 23 Feb	3pm Concert and Cream Tea (Hall)
Sun 24 Feb	6:30pm Prayer Service
Fri 1 Mar	7pm Supper and Social
Sat 2 Mar	No Coffee Morning – instead on 9 th March
Sat 2 Mar	1pm Sarah & Rares wedding
Wed 6 Mar	7:30pm Ash Wednesday Service
Wed 6 Mar	12:30pm Parish Lunches Start each Wed.
Sat 9 Mar	10am Coffee Morning
Sun 24 Mar	10am Parade Service
Sat 6 April	10am Coffee Morning
Mon 15 Apr	7:30pm Holy Week Event led by Bishop
Thur 18 Apr	7:30pm Maundy Thurs Service
Fri 19 April	Good Friday Services
Sun 21 Apr	Easter Day Services

CONTACT US:

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Webpage www.stopsleyparish.org.uk  Twitter: [@stopsleyvicar](https://twitter.com/stopsleyvicar)

 Facebook: Stopsley-Parish-Church

We have a trained Counsellor, based at St Thomas's., by appointment. Please contact Parish office on 01582-729194.

Safeguarding concerns, please contact Judi Kingham 01582-619432 or Linda Clitheroe 01582-729194.

Loop Please switch your hearing aid to 'T.' If you need the service sheet made larger, please let us know.

Photos/videos are sometimes taken in services please let us know if you would rather not be in any church publicity
Please join the Parish Giving Scheme and Electoral Roll. Bank Sort Code 20-53-97 Acct. 10792063