

50 Pence



January 2019

The Trident



The Parish Magazine of



Serving Hanwell and Beyond

Registered Charity no: 1130519

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ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
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CHURCH OF ENGLAND

WE DO HOPE THAT YOU WILL FEEL WELCOME TO COME TO OUR SERVICES

SUNDAY

8.00 AM SAID EUCHARIST (BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER SERVICE)
10.00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL (TERM TIME & NOT 2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH)
10.00 AM PARISH EUCHARIST
6.30 PM EVENING PRAYER (BCP)
CHORAL EVENSONG FOR SPECIAL FESTIVALS (PLEASE SEE NOTICEBOARD FOR DETAILS)

WEEKDAY CELEBRATIONS OF HOLY COMMUNION

TUESDAY 12 NOON
WEDNESDAY 2PM

MORNING PRAYER

7.30 AM MONDAY TO FRIDAY (8.00 A.M SATURDAY)

EVENING PRAYER

DAILY 5.00 PM (EXCEPT SATURDAY AND SUNDAY)

PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS, OR NO FAITH AT ALL, ARE WELCOME AT ANY OF OUR SERVICES. THOSE WHO ARE FULL MEMBERS OF THEIR OWN CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONS ARE WELCOME TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION IN ST. THOMAS'.

REGULAR MEETINGS

MONDAY	12.30 PM	HANWELL HOMELESS CONCERN
	4.45 PM	RAINBOW GUIDES
	6.00 PM	BROWNIES
TUESDAY	5.30 PM	BEAVERS
	6.30 PM	CUBS
WEDNESDAY		
	10.30AM	MOTHER AND BABY/TODDLER GROUP
THURSDAY	7.00 PM	GUIDES
FRIDAY	10.30 - 12 NOON	'POP-IN'
	7.00 PM	SCOUTS (AT 'THE WARREN' TRUMPERS WAY)
	7.00 PM	CHOIR

FOR MORE INFORMATION LOG ONTO OUR WEBSITE:

WWW.THOMASHANWELL.ORG.UK

PLEASE E-MAIL US AT st.thomas.office@btinternet.com



From our Vicar

Dear Friends

Of all the letters I write throughout the year the January **one seems strangest. What follows now is a 'spoiler alert'; I write this in the middle of December! For that** reason this letter always feels slightly surreal, as I feel the inexorable pull to reflect on the new year when I have not even had my turkey and pigs in blankets.

However, this year feels easier than most as our country is trying to untangle the implications of Brexit. The confusion and emotions which have so dominated December seem set to dominate January and beyond. At the heart of all the chaos is the desire to reconcile two diametrically opposite views, and find a solution that few thought they would have to seek in order to satisfy everyone. Like many people I oscillate from sanguine resignation to barely contained annoyance as I try to work out what will happen. It is in the midst of all this that the light of faith begins to flicker as I have nowhere else to go. Like St Peter when our Lord gave him permission to run away, **all that can be said, "where can I go, you have the words of eternal life?"**

It is through the lens of the eternal that a sense of perspective is possible, even if neat answers are a distant hope and reality. That remains true for Brexit as it does for those entering this new year confronting illness. There are no neat answers, but there is the presence of a God who enters the eternal messiness of life with hope of transformation.

At Christmas God left the comfort and certainty of heaven, for a dodgy straw mattress at the back of an over-populated pub in occupied territories. The incarnation shows God inhabiting a world *as it is*, very far from perfect and in desperate need of hope. That hope came about through the words and actions of Jesus, and glimpses of heaven on earth were seen. In the new year we tend to review our lives and commit ourselves to new ways of living however monumental or trivial. In the Church we do this as disciples, **apostles who continue to carry the 'good news'. Thus, we have the opportunity to bring eternal light and life into darkness and death, real or metaphorical. By 'being Christ' we offer those glimpses of the eternal. We** may not be able to make the world perfect, any more than we can solve the Brexit conundrum, but we can offer a different voice, and way of living. Therefore, whatever 2019 throws at us, may we retain a sense and hope of and in the eternal.

May God grant you a joyous, prosperous and peaceful New Year!

Your friend and priest
Fr. Robert



Parish News

The big news for us in St Thomas' involves us saying, 'goodbye'. Two members of our church family are leaving us.

First, Ed, our Director of Music, has decided that his twice weekly journeys to us over the months from Somerset(!) are untenable. This is a huge loss to us, but perfectly understandable given the circumstances of where he lives. Thus, we are embarking on the process **of finding a new Director of Music, and Ed's help has been invaluable in identifying what would be best for us at St Thomas'.** We are extremely keen to grow and develop the choir so finding the *right* person is key. Adverts have gone out and we prayerfully await the responses. Please pray **for Ed, our choir and that the Holy Spirit will move in a musician's heart** so we can be taken on to the next stage of our musical and worshipping pilgrimage.

Also, we say goodbye to Mtr. Julia who is taking up the position of interim **priest at St John's Wembley, at the request of the bishop. It has been** wonderful having Mtr. Julia with us these past couple of months, and I am grateful for her ministry among us. Please do pray for her as she ministers to the people at Wembley.

St Thomas' Church Panto is also here again, 'oh yes it is!'. Cinderella promises to be the usual wonderful mix of fun, songs and talent. There may be tickets left, so please contact Sue by checking out the details on the poster in this Trident.

I would also like to thank our wonderful gardeners, and especially Jon Ashcroft for the wonderful re-landscaping outside the North-East Porch to accommodate the two bike racks/planters. Hopefully cyclists will benefit from something more ergonomic than a drainpipe, as we benefit from the improved aesthetics.

Finally, can I say a huge thank you to all who helped out over Advent and Christmas. To put together services and devotions of such variety, profundity and joy is a massive task and only possible thanks to very dedicated people. If you stuck *Jelly Tots* on a Christingle, thank you. If you sang at one of our services, thank you. If you lit candles, made wreaths, put flowers in oasis, mulled wine and mashed tea, thank you. Once again, this **season is a time when thanks are most heartfelt but don't seem to match** the scale of what is achieved. I have said it before, say it unreservedly **again, without everyone's help Advent and Christmas at St Thomas' would** feel very poor.

New year, New Hopes

On the news today (14th December) I was particularly struck by the initial peace agreement in Yemen, orchestrated by the United Nations to get two **warring sides together. One commentator said: 'This gives real hope because it can prevent a famine which affects 16 million innocent people.'**

Thank God that this has happened.

In a way this demonstrates a hope that we celebrate at Christmas. A hope that the Christian faith can shine a light into the darkness. It also gives us a sign of hope for the new year. A hope that we can build on those small things. Our hope would be that there will be a long-term peace agreement in Yemen and in other places of the world in conflict.

But closer to home we ponder on our own hopes for the new year. We have hopes for ourselves and for our families and friends. We pray for these hopes and allow the spirit of God to do its work. We set out on a course and pray that the Holy Spirit is with us.

This is also the case for myself. I've been asked to be an interim vicar at St John the Evangelist in Wembley starting on January 13th. I believe this is what God requires of me and go with a feeling of excitement and adventure looking forward to meeting a new community. But I also go with a huge **sense of thankfulness for having been at St Thomas' over the last few months.** I have felt nurtured, encouraged and supported with my re-engagement of parish life as a priest. To some extent I will take you with me. So thank you for having me, it has been a privilege being amongst you. I will pray for you (please pray for me) and you could always come and visit me in Wembley occasionally.

Prayers and blessings

Mtr Julia



A Prayer for January

Lord - You gave Jesus to be the light of the whole world. Help us to receive His light and to reflect it. Help us not to limit the extent of your love by the restrictions of our own understanding. Give us wisdom to look upwards and outwards and to allow your Holy Spirit to transform us day by day as we serve you. Thank you for the gift of wisdom and for those who respond to your prompting to find Jesus.

In His name,

Amen.



January - time for the gym

Up to a million of us will join a gym this month. Up to 800,000 of us will have given it up by February. But before you return to the couch, why not consider the following:

Only do exercises that you enjoy. Have fun, and nothing else! Don't torture yourself on the cross trainers if you prefer salsa dancing. Your endorphins will still be released, leaving you stimulated, inspired and generally better.

Start small. Okay, you like swimming, but why aim for 20 lengths your first time in the pool? You will never go back. Start instead with just two lengths, and then reward yourself with a coffee. Next time do three, and so on. Always end with a reward.

Go at the same time, on the same days. Make it a part of your week. You will meet the same people, and it will begin to feel natural. *Make it a habit.*

Be friendly. A lot of people are intimidated when they first go to a gym. So, the first week, smile at people, the second week try saying hello, and gradually you will get on friendly terms with enough of them so that you feel comfortable.

Don't forget the spiritual. Away from the gym, give yourself time for your inner, spiritual well-being as well - on a daily basis.

Keep your mind active. Read books or join an evening class. Do puzzles. Mental fitness is just as important as physical fitness.

Be creative. Make the space around you more beautiful in some way - decorate, paint, sew, knit, or even just add a vase of flowers.

Give some things up. As well as putting good things into your life, take some less-good things OUT of your life. What in your life is draining your time and energy, and giving little in return? Get rid of it!

The Beatles' last concert

It was 50 years ago this month, on 30th January 1969, that the Beatles gave their last public performance – on the roof of Apple Studios in London.

It was their first truly live show since their final tour ended on 29th August 1966, at Candlestick Park in San Francisco. They had become less popular in the US after John Lennon's controversial remark in an interview that 'we're more popular than Jesus now'.

In the rooftop concert, which lasted about 45 minutes, Get Back was the final song, and in the recorded version Lennon can be heard saying: 'I'd like to say thank you ... I hope we passed the audition.'

It was cold and windy, with a threat of rain. Lennon borrowed Yoko Ono's fur coat, and Ringo wore his wife Maureen's red raincoat. The group also varied their classic stage placements: Lennon took the middle spot, with Harrison to his left. Keyboard player Billy Preston guested.

The police are widely criticised for breaking up the session, but in fact they were nearby and could have shut it down after the first song; instead they let it continue and gave the band ten minutes' warning that they were about to intervene after complaints from neighbouring businesses.

The Beatles broke up formally in April 1970.

A poster for St Thomas' Church Panto 2019. The background is a dark blue night sky with white stars and silhouettes of bare trees. The title 'Cinderella' is written in a large, white, cursive font. Below the title, it says 'A Ben Crocker Pantomime' and '10th 11th 12th January'. The showtimes are '7.30pm Thurs & Friday' and '1pm & 6pm Saturday'. The venue is 'at St Thomas' Church Hall'. The box office information is 'Cinderella Box Office: 07850 889948 or stickets@me.com'. The ticket prices are 'Adults: £10 Children: £5 Thurs: All £5'. On the right side, there is an illustration of a pink slipper with a blue glass slipper on top, and a pink pillow with gold tassels.

All in the month of JANUARY

It was:

100 years ago, on 5th Jan 1919, that the German Workers' Party was founded by Anton Drexler. In February 1920 it was renamed the National Socialist German Workers' party - better known as the Nazi Party.

90 years ago, on 6th Jan 1929 that Mother Teresa arrived in Calcutta, India to begin working with the poor and sick.

80 years ago, on 26th Jan 1939 that General Franco's forces captured Barcelona as part of the Spanish Civil War.

70 years ago, on 1st Jan 1949 that the British Nationality Act came into effect. It established the status of 'Citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies' and granted those citizens the right to enter and live in the United Kingdom.

60 years ago, on 8th Jan 1959 that Charles De Gaulle was inaugurated as President of France.

50 years ago, on 30th Jan 1969 that the Beatles gave their last public performance, on the roof of Apple Studios in London.

40 years ago, on 7th Jan 1979 that Vietnamese troops captured the Cambodian capital Phnom Penh and overthrew Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge government.

20 years ago, on 1st Jan 1999 that the Euro officially became the new currency in 11 European countries. (Coins and banknotes entered circulation in Jan 2002.)

10 years ago, on 20th Jan 2009 that Barack Obama was inaugurated as the 44th President of the USA.



From the Editors

Happy 2019 to all our readers. May you be healthy and happy.

Jul & Sue

Mother Teresa -

90 years since her work began

Sister Mary Teresa – the future Mother Teresa – arrived in Calcutta 90 years ago this month, on 6th January 1929, to begin working with the poor and the sick.

Born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu in Skopje, Macedonia, in 1910, she was of Albanian heritage but had moved to Ireland in 1928 to join the Sisters of Loreto – formally known as the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Her father had died suddenly when she was about eight, but her mother was a firm and loving influence on her.

She received the name Sister Mary Teresa after St. Thérèse of Lisieux. After making her first profession of vows in May 1931, she taught at St.

Mary's School for girls. Six years later she made her final profession, after which she was called Mother Teresa.

As soon as she arrived in Calcutta she was exposed to the extreme poverty there, and this made a deep impression on her, eventually leading her to start a new order called The Missionaries of Charity, prompted by what she termed a 'call within a call' that she received in 1946, on a train journey from Calcutta to Darjeeling.

Her main objective was to look after people who nobody else was prepared to look after.

Magi

For those seekers
who put truth before comfort
and hope before security
we give thanks.

Grant us a wise man's hope—
light in darkness,
use for our gifts,
God at the end.

For those we know
who do not know
we will find what we worship
we pray tonight.

For those we do not know
trying to understand
and needing wisdom
we pray tonight.

Godfrey Rust



Teracycle news

Good news!

Because we have been so successful with collecting

- Ella baby food pouches
- Tassimo coffee pods and foil bags
- Biscuits wrappers both sweet and savoury and cake bar wrappers

We have been accepted into two new collection programmes

Pet food recycling programme

- All wet pet food pouches
- All pet treat flexible plastic packaging and pouches
- All dry pet food flexible plastic packaging

And

Crisp packet recycling programme

- All crisp packets

To ensure we get the most out of these programmes there are some simple rules to follow before putting these items in the collection boxes

1. All pet food pouches and baby food pouches must be rinsed of remaining food
2. Keep the different programme items separate, as if the consignments are contaminated with the wrong items, the whole batch will be rejected and we will not get any money for it

Look out for the new posters in the church and hall

This morning the first snow of winter fell
Upon the virgin willow, where she wept
Beside the pond I turned about, to tell
My beloved the news, and suddenly these leapt
A cold suspicion in my mind. I heard
accusing conscience say, "I am become
a monster unto many!" The unspoken word
"Died on my lips, and I was stricken dumb.

In poverty of spirit watching the snow
I saw the chasm of self we may not span,
The friend we think we know, yet never know,
The fantasy dividing man from man.
But then the willow slipped her icy glove,
And touched the pond with fingertips of love.

RICHARD CHURCH



Please continue to give by providing any of these items in one of the green Foodbank collection boxes situated inside the church porches. Thank you

The revised list of items needed:

Long life sponge puddings, savoury crackers & biscuits, peanut butter, jam and honey, long life fruit juice & squash, tinned custard and rice pudding, jars of cook-in/pasta sauce, cans of vegetarian chilli & curry, long-grain rice (1kg bags) & chocolate bars.

NB as our magazine is put together in advance, it's best to check the up to date list which can always be found at <https://ealing.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

Terracycle recycling for Organ Fund

We are still collecting

Tassimo pods

Biscuit wrappers

Ella's kitchen baby food pouches & lids

Find out more at www.terracycle.co.uk



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Friday	10am - 6pm
Saturday	10am - 5pm
Sunday	CLOSED

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Copy Dates!

Copy date for February will be
Sunday 13th January
Copy date for March will be
Sunday 10th February
Copy date for April will be
Sunday 10th March
Copy date for May will be
Sunday 14th April

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Diary Dates

DECEMBER

30th Sun

1st Sunday of Christmas



JANUARY

5th Sat

Churches Together in Hanwell
prayers at N. Hanwell Baptist
Church 10-1

10th (Thurs) -12th (Sat) **ST THOMAS' PANTO!!!**

FEBRUARY

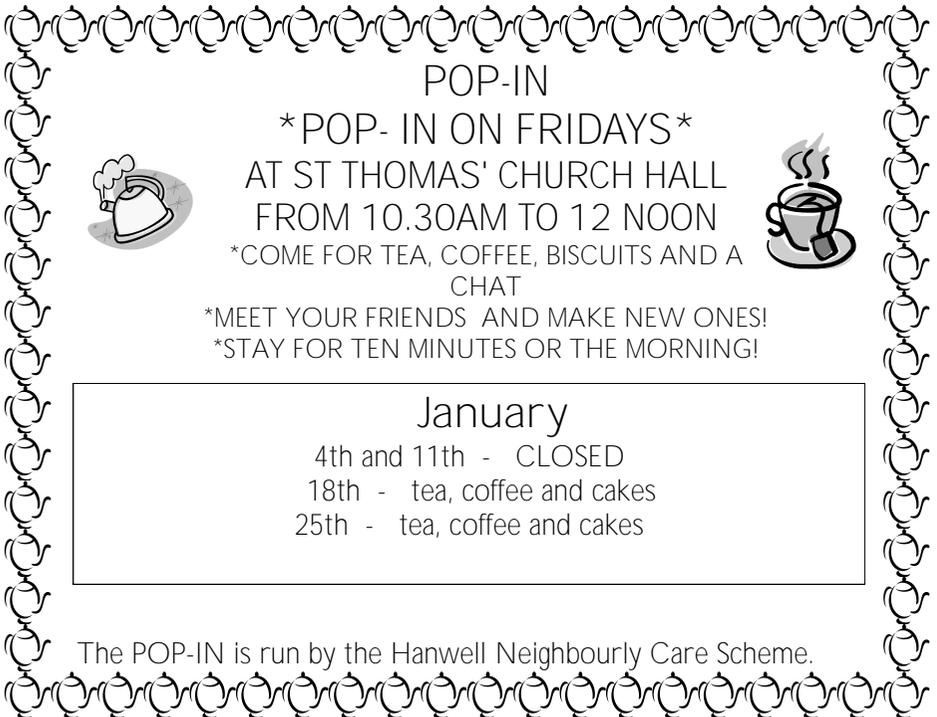
2nd Sat

Churches Together in Hanwell
prayers at St Thomas' Church 10-1

*Baby/
Toddler*

**Group
St Thomas'
Hall
On Wednesdays**

CLOSED on 2nd & 9th Jan



POP-IN

POP- IN ON FRIDAYS

AT ST THOMAS' CHURCH HALL
FROM 10.30AM TO 12 NOON



*COME FOR TEA, COFFEE, BISCUITS AND A
CHAT

*MEET YOUR FRIENDS AND MAKE NEW ONES!
*STAY FOR TEN MINUTES OR THE MORNING!

January

4th and 11th - CLOSED
18th - tea, coffee and cakes
25th - tea, coffee and cakes

The POP-IN is run by the Hanwell Neighbourly Care Scheme.

PARISH DIRECTORY



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<u>SUNDAY SCHOOL</u>	OLIVIA HEWLETT & ISSY CHAPMAN		c/o THE VICARAGE
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