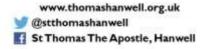


The Parish Magazine of



Serving Hanwell and Beyond

Registered Charity no: 1130519





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

<u>SUNDAY</u>

- 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

One of my great interests is wine; mainly the taste, but also for the stories that surround the alchemy of transforming grapes **into 'the nectar of gods'. One of the greatest and most** interesting stories surrounds, what later became known as *The Judgment of Paris*. Basically, at a time when France ruled the wine world, a competition was held to test the quality of the finest

French reds 'n' whites against the finest wines of California. The aim of the English wine merchant was to introduce very nice wines from the USA to the French, and thus, by extension, the world. He organised the blind tasting, and subsequent scoring, using the finest palates France had to offer. He hoped that the Californian wines would not be embarrassed too much, but as it happened the American wines came first in both the red and white category. Needless to say, instead of magnanimous congratulations, there was complete outrage. How could some Californian plonk be better than Chateau Mouton Rothschild? From that moment the world of wine changed and opened up; the upstarts had stolen a march on the establishment.

Just before I went on holiday I was reminded of this as I read Matthew 15.21-28. That is the story of the Canaanite woman who pleads with Jesus, so that her daughter may be healed. Jesus is shockingly blunt (rude!?) in his response:

"It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs". Hum, I thought, in the vicarage, the spaniel eats better than me at times! Anyway, back to the story.

In response the Canaanite woman does what no other person does in the gospels, be they teachers of the law, or Roman Governors: she outwits Jesus, and renders him almost speechless. She says, "Ah yes, sir, but even the house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table". Touché! The shock is palpable. However, unlike the French wine industry in the 1970s, you can almost hear Jesus laugh, and see him smile, as he says, "Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted".

The contrast between the two stories is one of the response of the powerful to the small. In Jesus there is grace and generosity. We may feel like life has not given us much to raise a glass to, but in Jesus the underdog and lowly have a voice.

As a new phase begins for many, particularly in education, do look out for God in surprising places, and like Christ, welcome the change. Like the woman in the story the ride may be bumpy, but the end brings healing. So pray for open eyes and an open heart.

Your friend and priest Fr. Robert

Parish News



September always seems to kick-start the next phase in our life together.

The Panto launch BBQ is on Saturday 31st August at 6pm in the Vicarage garden. Please bring something to BBQ, a salad and something to drink. If you would like to be involved in 2020's Panto, either on stage or behind the scenes, please do come along.

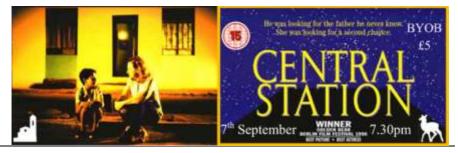
The following Saturday is our next film, the beautiful Central Station.

On 14th September we will be having a big Church and Hall Tidy-up. Please **put the date in your diaries, as 'many hands make light work'!**

Also, importantly, 22nd September sees our annual Harvest Thanksgiving Eucharist.

Finally, a date for the diary, on 5th October we will hold our Caribbean and International night at 7pm with a showing of the film *Green Book* at 8pm which last year won 3 Oscars.

I hope those of you who have had a holiday have had a wonderful break, and best wishes to our young people who are beginning a new academic year.





A Student's Prayer for the New Academic Year Lord Jesus, I ask for Your help as I begin this new year of study.

Allow me to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before me. Open my eyes to the new challenges and

exciting opportunities that this new year brings. Open my heart and mind to new friends and new teachers. Give me a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with my studies and courage to accept new opportunities. Help me to be attentive to my teachers and let me experience Your presence in my new friends. Jesus, inspire me to do my best this year!

Amen



Curates Corner Walking with our Schools

Praying + walking + eyes open = Prayer Walking As many of you will know I have spent several years working as a school chaplain at both Twyford and Bishop Ramsey Secondary

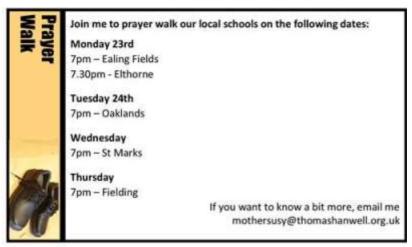
Schools. So it will come as no surprise that the beginning of September has one very strong association for me – the start of a new school year. Many of you will have already begun the process of buying new school shoes and uniforms for your children, as teachers are busy preparing lesson plans and wall displays in readiness for the new year.

We have no less than four schools within our parish boundaries, and countless links to others local schools through our congregation. This term I'd like to encourage you to join me in praying regularly for the work of our local schools as part of our mission and outreach at St Thomas'. This is a key way in which we can 'love our neighbours' right here in Hanwell.

We can pray for our schools on a wide variety of topics, here are some ideas to get you started:

- 1. Students for those starting new schools, moving into new year groups and those who find school difficult.
- 2. Teachers for a continued passion for teaching, and capacity to cope in an increasingly demanding environment
- 3. Leadership teams for clarity in decision making, vision for the coming year, and wisdom as they juggle all that is required of them.

If any of this has got you thinking, I would love to invite you to join me and other local Christians to prayer walk the schools in our area.



King Arthur & the Knights of the Round Table

This year the Brownies spent a week at a Pack Holiday venue in Luton. Our theme was King Arthur & the Knights of the Round Table. We named our centre Camelot. The site has a field, a small wood and a nice garden in which to play. On arrival the girls were "knighted" and given a sword and shield to paint and decorate. These were used to label their bunks in our large bed chamber. That evening we watched the "Sword in the Stone" film. We had a hobby horse for each group and it was kept in the stable. We made a colourful mane for each horse. We kept busy throughout the week with exploring, going on crusades and taking part in archery, sports and jousting contests. In the Great Hall we were able to play some medieval board games. Every evening we listened to a story about the famous knights of the Round Table.

On Monday we went swimming at the local leisure centre (the Lake of Avalon). We also built shelters for ourselves in the woods.

On Wednesday we had a special day out at Whipsnade Zoo. We got to see many animals including their 6 week old sealion pup and a very young giraffe. We had a ride on the train around the zoo, and we were treated to 2 shows - the sealion show and also the Birds of the World show.



We discussed the pros and cons of keeping animals in a zoo and learnt about camouflage and about the ways in which the keepers keep the animals challenged. After our day out we made animal masks.

Other crafts included making a special bowl in which we put some homemade sweets as a present for our Mums. We also worked on making an eco-brick with any waste plastic we had.

One of our last activities was a wide game based on a quest for the Holy Grail. We had to complete various challenges and collect numbers that would open a lock for us to get at the treasure. For our last evening we had a banquet and entertained King Arthur (Brown Owl) Merlin (Tawny Owl) and Guinevere (Caroline Lumb) with a few tricks, jokes, some gymnastics and a play.



We would like to say a special "Thank You" to Caroline for giving up her time to come and cook for us. The meals were delicious and we all ate very well. We are now thinking about our next holiday which will be to Westgate-on-Sea in Kent from 25th July to 1st August 2020.

The Origin of the Phrase... Mad as a Hatter

Lewis Carroll's 1865 novel "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" famously features an eccentric character called the Hatter, who's referred to in the story as "mad" and became popularly known as the Mad Hatter. However, the phrase "mad as a hatter," used to describe someone who's crazy or prone to unpredictable behaviour and didn't originate with Carroll. Instead, the expression is linked to the hatmaking industry and mercury poisoning. In the 18th and 19th centuries, industrial workers used a toxic substance, mercury nitrate, as part of the process of turning fur into felt for hats. Workplace safety standards often were lax, and prolonged exposure to mercury caused employees to develop a variety of physical and mental **ailments, including tremors (dubbed "hatter's shakes"), speech** problems, emotional instability and hallucinations. The use of mercury **in the hat making process was banned in the UK in the early1900's,** and in 1940 in the US.



Copy Dates!

Copy date for October will be Sunday 8th September Copy date for November will be Sunday 13th October Copy date for December will be Sunday 3rd November



Opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Church, the Vicar, the editors or the PCC.

2019 Confirmation

Who's it for.

Those who are over 11 and have, or wish to be baptised.

What is it?

Confirmation is the sacrament in which we are strengthened by the gift of the Holy Spirit, given by **the laying on of the Bishop's hands. This sacrament** confirms the gifts received at baptism.



This, then, is a decision made at a more mature age whereby the confirmation candidate can affirm those promises made at baptism.

Why do we have it?

- ♥ Valuable link between bishop and parishes.
- As a 'sign' we're not joining a local club but universal church.
- It 'stirs' up the gift of the Spirit within for service in God's Church and World.
- Solemn act of commitment and renewal of baptism's vows and grace.



Once confirmed you will be able to receive Holy Communion at the Eucharist, as the Confirmation course will cover the role of the Eucharist in our Christian lives.

How are we prepared?

Preparation is important, and Fr. Robert will make 'classes' available. There will be 4-5 sessions in September and October, and these will explore our Christian faith, and what it means for **us in today's world.**

The Confirmation Service will be Sunday 13th October, **I0am at St Thomas's Church.**

If you have any questions please call Fr. Robert (3302 1040) or Mtr. Susy (07522 189 826).

Presence

Expecting Him, my door was open wide: Then I looked round If any lack of service might be found, And saw Him at my side: How entered, by what secret stair, I know not, knowing only He was there.

TE Brown (1830 -97)



9th Sept - St Peter Claver - compassion for slaves

Here is a saint for anyone with a social conscience. Claver was born in 1581 near Barcelona at Verdu, and at 20 became a Jesuit. He went as a missionary to New Granada and worked to alleviate the terrible suffering of the slaves who arrived from West Africa, caged like animals. (It was said that you could smell the stench of a slave ship while it was still seven miles from shore.) Claver helped the poor slaves who survived long enough to reach dry land. He gave them food and medicine as well as spiritual comfort. He is said to have cared for and baptised 300,000 slaves. What a difference one life can make to thousands of people!

I am able to face anything through Him who gives me strength (Philippians 4:13)

St Thomas' Recycling

For some time now we have been recycling items that are normally difficult to recycle. We do this through a company called Terracycle.

We collect the items and send them off to the recycling centre who then give us money in exchange.

So far we have raised over £2,000

There are collection boxes in the hall and the church.

Please keep the different programme items separate as they have to be sent to different places. Please rinse the food out from the sachets.

Tassimo

What you can recycle in this programme



Waste not accepted

- Cans
- Cardboard packaging
- Paper packaging
- Hard plastic packaging
- Plastic bottles

Other collections are

Ella's kitchen

Biscuit wrappers Tassimo pods & silver bags Crisp packets



Are you a willing cook?

We are setting up a group of people who would be willing to cook for others in our church family and community, when they are going through those times when cooking a meal can be an effort. It may be a single person, a couple or a family. If you are interested in being involved in Willing Cooks, please email mothersusy@stthomashanwell.org.uk



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:

Tinned tomatoes, marmite & peanut butter, ready made custard - tinned, savoury & sweet biscuits, milk - dried and UHT, instant coffee, ketchup & mayo - small sizes please, tinned kidney beans & chickpeas, long life sponge puddings, nappies - size 5 & 6, toothbrushes & toothpaste. Thank you but the foodbank has plenty of baked beans at the moment.

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/



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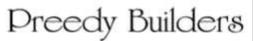
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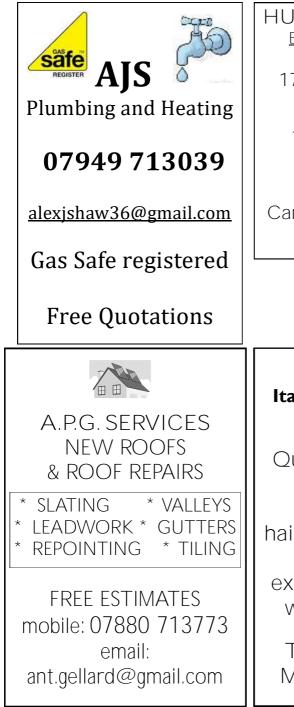
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Diary Dates

AUGUST	
31st Sat	Panto kick-off BBQ at 18:00



SEPTEMBER 7th Sat

14th Sat 22nd Sun Churches Together in Hanwell prayers at North Hanwell Baptist Church 10-11 Church and hall tidy-up (am) Harvest Festival 10am

OCTOBER 5th Sat

Churches Together in Hanwell **prayers at St Thomas'** Church 10-11 Caribbean and International Evening. 7pm

NOVEMBER 2nd Sat

Churches Together in Hanwell prayers at St Christopher's Church 10-11



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VICAR

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