50 Pence October 2015 The Trident

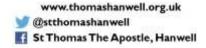


The Parish Magazine of



Serving Hanwell and Beyond

Registered Charity no: 1130519





ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE BOSTON ROAD, HANWELL 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'S.

REGULAR MEETINGS

TUESDAY

MONDAY 12.30 PM HANWELL HOMELESS CONCERN 4.45 PM RAINBOW GUIDES

6.00 PM BROWNIES 5.30 PM BEAVERS 6.30PM CUBS

WEDNESDAY 11.00AM - 12.30PM

10.30AM MOTHER AND BABY/TODDLER GROUP

7.30PM STUDY GROUP & COMPLINE (FIRST WED OF EACH MONTH)

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:

<u>WWW.THOMASHANWELL.ORG.UK</u>

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



From our Vicar

Dear Friends

At this time of year churches throughout the land think about the land, or, more accurately, the harvest. Throughout the country parishioners will be Thanking all their God, and *Ploughing the Fields and Scattering*. In suburban West London such concepts may seem a

little abstract as we walk the aisles of supermarkets yet the enduring attraction of Harvest Festival shows that it chimes with us in a deep way. The very best traditions are always 'living' traditions. These are the traditions that evolve over time, and are symbiotic. The heart of the tradition remains, yet its expression changes to reflect the community that observes it. Hence, we no longer wince at the sight of tins of food instead of sheaves of corn in front of altars. This is because we know that these are the gifts we should give thanks for, because they are the ones that nourish those around us, including those most in need.

At St Thomas's we have for a good number of years acknowledged this by giving gifts to various members of the community in the form of Harvest Boxes, and sending food to various charities. Both aspects are at the heart of Harvest. The first tells us, and the recipients of the Harvest Boxes, that food is something to bring joy, to celebrate, and give thanks for. The second aspect reminds us that food is essential for survival and that we, as the Church, have an important part to play in ensuring the most vulnerable are fed.

This combination of celebration and life-giving at the core of Harvest Thanksgiving is inescapable. It is inescapable for all who come to church and partake of the meal Jesus instituted himself: the Eucharist. At the heart of this divine meal we are reminded of the conviction that those of us who are fed must in turn feed others. It is this logic which means that the priests receive holy communion first and then give the sacrament to others who will then, in turn, give it to the rest of the congregation who come to the altar rail.

It is this weekly ritual which, at Harvest, reaches its zenith, as we see God's provision in a weekly service made *en large*.

My hope and prayer for this season is that we do 'count our blessings', but far more importantly see our place within the scheme of God's creation. So do celebrate the good things, and give thanks; but also find time to give to those for whom the wealth of the earth's bounty is a distant hope.

Your priest and friend

Fr. Robert



Parish News

Life is starting up at a breathless pace after the summer as we run to.... well, you know the event in December! This season is full of significant and fun devotions and events so please do check the forthcoming dates.

I would like to begin, rather self-indulgently, to say a big thank you to all those who have passed on good wishes

after my Graduation Ceremony at Lambeth Palace. The day was huge fun and far more moving than I anticipated. You may remember that I passed my viva on 20th September 2014 so this has been a long time coming (anyone would think the Archbishop of Canterbury had a whole Church to run!). As I received the degree and reflected afterwards, I was very aware that what appears, on the face of it, to be a very personal venture is only really possible because of other people supporting you. I would then like to say a huge thank you to all who have helped with everything from proof-reading the thesis to being kind enough to look interested as I give a rather too full answer to the question, "So what's your thesis about?". Thank you all at St Thomas's who gave prayers, encouragement and cajoling: I am forever grateful. If you want to look at the official Lambeth Palace Press Release here's the link:

http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/articles.php/5609/archbishops-examination-in-theology-three-doctorates-awarded

Over the past couple of months there have been very exciting developments concerning the garden to the south and west of St

Thomas's. Pictures in last month's Trident showed how much work has been done. Leanda is busy organising the next phase so by next spring it should be ready to receive very grateful community groups. The interior of the hall has been redecorated and also a full survey of the building done. From this survey proper plans and drawings will be made. This is an essential starting point for the beginning of the process of looking at how we can develop the existing hall to meet the needs of current and future groups.

The largest project is the on-going work on the organ which is progressing very nicely. Michael has been wonderful in keeping us up to date with the project. We are all crossing everything in the hope that our Christmas services will be accompanied by a resurrected and born again Walker Pipe Organ.

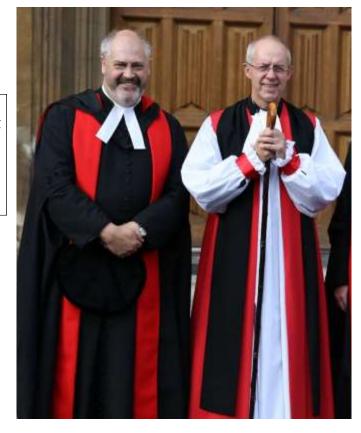
However, and it is a big however, in order to make this possible we need a big push to ensure that funds used for the organ are replenished. We still do need donations, as the electrical work has proved far more time consuming and convoluted than expected. Please do give any donations however big or small to Sheila, Michael, one of the wardens or myself.

In October the PCC are having an Away Day where we will review our Mission Action Plan and look at how our various committees help (or hinder) our mission. Please pray for us on 17th October.

Finally, it's the Panto... Oh yes it is! This next one is Camelot. Please note that read-throughs will begin at 2pm on 4th October. If you know of anyone who may like to be a part of it (on or back stage) please speak to Sue Cunningham or Chris Michell.

Do continue to hold all our various groups in your prayers as we approach the next few months.

Our very own Rev Dr Robert at his graduation ceremony with the Archbishop of Canterbury.





Ealing Foodbank is currently giving away nearly 1 tonne of food per week,

which is more than they currently receive.
They fed an average of 30 people per month in the first six months of this year, a third of whom were children.

So please continue to donate by using the green Foodbank bins situated inside the church porches and choosing any items from the following list:

Dried milk

Dried potatoes

Rice/noodles (not pasta)

Cake/cereal bars (not biscuits)

Vegetarian stews including curry

Remember it is not a great quantity we ask you to bring each Sunday, we only need each of you to bring one item from the list on the church bulletin. But to bring one every week would be great!! So when you come to church with your handbag, your house key, etc, remember to bring your Foodbank item.

Thank you.

Prayer for the month of October



Enrich our lives, O Lord, with the fruit of the Spirit; that being filled with love and joy and peace, we may live together in patience and kindness, in goodness, faithfulness and gentleness, ever exercising the grace of self-control, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

St Thomas's Pantomime 2016!!

Read-throughs/auditions will be on Sunday 4th October and Sunday 11th October at 2pm in the church hall.

Churches Together in Hanwell

As many of you will be aware, Churches Together in Hanwell hold a prayer meeting on the first Saturday of every month at various churches participating within the Group.

When I saw in the weekly bulletin that the August meeting was to be held at St Thomas's I decided to go along. There was only a small group but it was a joy to pray with Brothers and Sisters in Christ from about five different churches. The leader on this occasion was from St Mary's, Hanwell and she based the prayers on extracts from Terce (the mid-morning Office) and Scripture readings, Psalm 119:14, Ephesians 5:18-20 and Romans 13:13. We prayed for our churches as well as for the wider world.

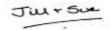
May I encourage you to come along to these meetings when you can? They start at 10.00 and last about an hour; the venue is announced in the weekly Church Bulletin. As an added incentive, Father Robert has taken over as Moderator of Churches Together in Hanwell from September.

Carolyn Figgett



From the Editors

We've got two quiz nights coming up - the Scout family quiz on Saturday October 17th and the St Thomas's one on Saturday November 14th. We hope to see you all at both of them.



Copy dates!

Copy date for the November Trident is Sunday October 11th Copy date for the December Trident is Sunday November 8th Copy dare for the January 2106 Trident is Sunday December 13th



7th Hanwell (St Thomas') Scout Group

Saturday 17th October 2015

St Thomas' Church Hall, Boston Road 6.45 for 7.00pm start



Please bring your own drinks and glasses Come as a team, or if you like we can put you in a team. Tables of 8 Entry £12 (Children under 14 £10) -Includes supper Prizes for the winning team To book a table or a place Contact: Richard Thompson 020 8840 2375

Email: richardthompson@btinternet.com



QUIZ NIGHT

Come and join us at this popular event

November 14th 2015 7.30 for a prompt 7.45pm start

> Tables of 6 or 8. Come as a team, if you like, or we can put you in a team.

A fish and chip supper is incuded, but please bring your own drinks. £10 adults. £7 children under 14.

To book a table or a place, please ring Sue (07850 889948) or email sue.cunningham@mac.com or see Sarah or Sue on Sunday mornings



The story behind ...

O God, our Help in Ages Past

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy

blast,

And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy Saints have dwell secure:

Sufficient is Thine arm alone. And our defense is sure.

A thousand ages in Thy sight Are like an evening gone;

Short as the watch that ends the

night,

Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,

Bears all its sons away:

They fly forgotten, as a dream

Dies at the opening day.

Isaac Watts (1674 – 1748) is often called the 'Father of English hymnody'. Certainly before his hymns came along, congregational singing could be a tedious business.

Watts was born in July 1674 in Southampton. At the time of his birth his father, an educated deacon in a dissenting Congregational church, was briefly in prison for his non-conformist beliefs. As a boy, Watts showed outstanding ability with language, learning Greek, Hebrew, Latin and French. He also had an unusual ability for easy rhyming in English. At the age of five, when scolded for giggling in family prayers, it was because he had seen a mouse on the bell-rope, and instantly composed the line: 'There was a mouse, for want of stairs, ran up a rope to say his prayers!'

Watts' literary ability, combined with his interest in theology, made him very unhappy with the congregational singing of the day, which focused almost entirely on strict metrical versions of the psalms. One Sunday after church, Isaac complained to his father about this. His father challenged him to write something better. Though only 18, Watts accepted the challenge, and produced his first hymn – which was duly sung the following Sunday.

It was such a success that he wrote new hymn texts every Sunday for the next two years. In all, he went on to write more than 600 hymns. Some of them are still well-loved today: from this one, 'O God, Our

Help in Ages Past', which is a paraphrase of Psalm 90, to 'When I Survey the Wondrous Cross', and the Christmas carol 'Joy to the World'.

Time to take advantage of Will Aid's 'Make a Will' Month

Been putting off writing or updating your will? This November, Will Aid's Make a Will Month returns and will offer you the opportunity to put your affairs in order, secure your loved one's future and give to charities helping the young, the elderly and whole communities in the UK and overseas.

Participating solicitors are inviting people to contact them to book appointments for November, when they will prepare basic Wills without charging their normal fee. All that they will ask in return is that clients consider making a voluntary donation to Will Aid. The suggested donation is just £95 for a single will, or £150 for a pair of mirror wills.

The money raised is shared by nine UK charities that carry out life-changing work here in the UK and around the world, namely ActionAid, Age UK, British Red Cross, Christian Aid, NSPCC, Sightsavers, Save the Children, SCIAF (Scotland) and Trocaire (N. Ireland).

More than half of UK adults (53%) don't have a will and so have not made any legally valid provision for what they would like to happen after their death. Even worse, around one third of people who die each year do so without a will and their estate is therefore distributed according to a set of rules which cannot adequately cope with modern family circumstances. This can lead to a great deal of stress and uncertainty, as well as financial hardship, for those left behind.

Even if you have a will, it is important to keep it up to date. Will Aid's research shows that almost 60% of people with a will have not revised it for more than three years and these older wills may be out of date. Assets will have been disposed of and new ones acquired; children and

any named guardians will have grown older; whole families could have been re-configured.

Experts recommend routinely reviewing a will and making a new one as soon as significant family changes occur.

Will Aid's Make A Will Month is the perfect opportunity to gain the peace of mind that comes from knowing your affairs are in order and that your wishes will be carried out after your death. In fact, writing a legally valid will is the only way of ensuring that this happens.

Please book early as solicitors tend to fill their appointments very quickly. Find a convenient participating solicitor at www.willaid.org.uk or by calling the hotline 0300 0309 558.

Plastic carrier bags

How many plastic carrier bags do you have stashed away? To save you the hassle of counting, it would probably be about 40 – that is the average for households in the UK.

But the amount of new bags that we use each month is likely to drop drastically from this month (October) onwards. For whereas in England shoppers used 11.7 free bags each month last year, in Wales, where a 5p charge for each bag was introduced, just two were used each month. And in October of this year the charge will be introduced in England.

The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart.

Helen Keller

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We can only accept smaller items that can be collected in a car, not furniture. No jumble, clothing or broken items please. For local collection phone David Clarke on **07952 011543** to arrange a timed evening or weekend visit. E-mail David at david-clarke28@sky.com. If bringing items to the church, please arrange with David Jewell or Michael Mappin to take them from you.



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FROM 10.30AM TO 12 NOON

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October

2nd - tea. coffee and cakes

9th - tea coffee and cakes

16th - tea coffee and cakes

23rd - tea coffee and cakes

30th - tea, coffee and cakes

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

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Terracycle recycling for Organ Fund

We can no longer collect yoghurt pots as these are collected by the council in your green boxes and we can no longer collect baby wipe packets

We are still collecting Coffee bean packaging Coffee jar lids Tassimo pods and foil bags Biscuit wrappers

Ella's kitchen baby food pouches & lids

Find out more at www.terracycle.co.uk







Baby/Toddler Group

St Thomas's Hall

On Wednesdays from 10.30am until 11.45am. All are welcome. Free.

Diary Dates

SEPTEMBER

26th Sat Harvest Supper 7pm 27th Sun Harvest Festival

OCTOBER

4th Sun18th Sunday after Trinity11th Sun19th Sunday after Trinity

17th Sat Scout Quiz

18th Sun20th Sunday after Trinity25th Sun21st Sunday after Trinity

NOVEMBER

1st Sun All Saints Day

8th Sun 3rd Sunday before Advent

14th Sat St Thomas's Quiz

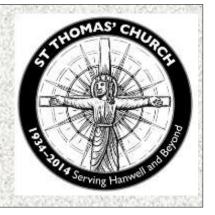
15th Sun2nd Sunday before Advent22nd SunSunday next before Advent

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Our vision is to be a place of welcome to all, sharing the joy of our Christian faith, and building on over 80 years of service within our community using our gifts for the benefit of all people.

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