

## Prayer topics

**Advent Prayer:** Father God, prepare our hearts not only for the celebration to come, but also for sharing that Good News with friends, family and work colleagues should opportunity arise. Grant us courage and a real willingness to talk about the love that came down to earth and walked among us. Amen.

- In our local church prayer circle, pray for Christ Church Cockfosters, that they would have a continual commitment to a Bible centred ministry.
- Praise the Lord for the work of Peter and Janet Dallman in Japan. Pray that the church they choose would be a great encouragement to their spiritual lives and help them to grow in God's knowledge. Pray for wisdom for Janet, that she would be able to make progress with the selection of candidates for OMF, and also in her role as the provider of pastoral and spiritual care.
- Praise the Lord for all that we have learned together through our study of the second letter to Timothy. Pray that we would have the same desire as Paul to spread the good news of Jesus' life, death and resurrection amongst our friends and neighbours. Ask God to give us the courage to be obedient, to trust Him in difficult circumstances and to follow Him wholeheartedly.
- Pray for our government, that God would lead the members of both Houses of Parliament with his wisdom and integrity as they shape, debate and vote on important legislation affecting all after our departure from the EU over the next few months.
- Ask God to bring the residents of Corby Crescent to Christ in repentance and faith.

**Pray for those known to you who are sick or in some kind of need, including:** Barbara Aves, Valerie Bostock, John Churchill, John Coekin, Elizabeth Duncan, Edward Ellis, Pam Fleming, David Henson (Judith's father), Peter Herbert, Ken Lock, Bill Marchand, Nicola McDowall, Joyce Stephens and Jack Thompson.

### The First Sunday of Advent

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## What's on this week?

### Today, Sunday 3rd December

- 4.30-6.00pm: Ygnite (Yrs 7-9) (Large Hall)
- 7.30-9.00pm: TNG (Yrs 10-13) (22 Curthwaite Gdns)

### Monday

- 8.00pm: F&GP Meeting (Choir Vestry)

### Tuesday

- 4.00-5.30pm: Cricket (Large Hall)

### Wednesday

- 9.30-11.00am: Parents and Toddlers (Guide Hut)
- 5.30-7.00pm: @Toms Yrs 3-6 (Large Hall)
- 5.30-7.00pm: @Tomix R-Yr2 (Guide Hut)
- 7.45 for 8.00pm: Pudding & Prayer (Guide Hut)

### Thursday

- 10.15-11.45am: New Kids on the Block (Guide Hut)
- 7.45 for 8.00pm: Real Food (79a Prince George Avenue)

### Friday

- 9.15-11.30am: Ladies Bible Study Group (Guide Hut)
- 6.15pm: Junior Choir
- 7.30pm: Adult Choir
- 7.15pm: Fusion (Large Hall)

### Next Sunday 10th December

- 10.30am: Holy Communion  
**The Prince of Peace**  
Isaiah 9:2-7  
Peter Pytches  
**Christingle Service**  
Ben Vane
- 4.00pm:

### Don't just give cash each week!

It's safer, easier and more efficient to give with Gift Aid, through the bank or with envelopes. Please speak to Jenny Hammond (01992 301529). The church bank details are on [www.st-toms.org.uk](http://www.st-toms.org.uk), or on a form available at the back of church. *Registered Charity Number 1129369*

### ST THOMAS OAKWOOD CHURCH OFFICE

[www.st-toms.org.uk](http://www.st-toms.org.uk) | [office@st-toms.org.uk](mailto:office@st-toms.org.uk)

Monday – Friday 9.30am – 1.30pm | 020 8245 9152



# ST THOMAS OAKWOOD

## Notice sheet | 3rd December 2017

## WELCOME SERVICES FOR TODAY

### 8.30am: Holy Communion BCP

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### 10–10.10am: Prayer in the Chapel

You are most welcome to come and pray with us before the service.

### 10.30am: All Age Service

**The serpent-crusher**

**Genesis 3:8-15**

Mark Jackson

### 6.15pm: Evening Service

**Hello, I'm Haggai**

**Haggai 1:1-2:9**

Andy Wadsworth

## Visiting?

*If you are visiting today we are delighted to welcome you to our service. Please do make yourself known to others and stay on for refreshments. At the 10.30am service, easy-to-join groups are run for 3-18 year olds (except at All Age Services).*

*A supervised crèche for under 3s is held every week. To find your way, follow the crowd. Babies may be fed or comforted in the glassed-in chapel at the back with sound relay. The chapel is also used for Holy Communion but please feel free to stay.*



**Our 10.30am and 6.15pm Sunday services are streamed live on our website** and on Youtube and are publicly available. Anyone standing on the platform or in the music group will be in view. The backs of heads of those in the front few rows of the congregation will also be in view, though distant and indiscernible.

What would bring you happiness, fulfilment, peace?

**LIFE|EXPLORED** Discover the greatest gift in the universe

Discover true joy through cinematic videos and short Bible passages. Suitable for anyone, even if you've never opened a Bible. Please speak to Ben (020 8352 2536, [benvane@gmail.com](mailto:benvane@gmail.com))

## Church Family Notices

*Today*

**Nativity Play Rehearsal** in church after the service. Please speak to Helen Price if your child doesn't have a part but would like to be involved.

There will also be a rehearsal next week after the service.

### Bella Cora Christmas Concert

'Heaven and Earth in Litel Space'

**Sunday 10th December**, 7.00pm

Seasonal music for voice and harp. Shona and her choir would love to entertain you at St Peter's Church, Vera Avenue, N21 1DN. Tickets on the door £10.00 adults, £8.00 concessions, £5.00 children 12 and under.

**Crèche Helpers Needed!** Please speak to Kat Peel.

## Annual Events

### SEGP Annual Conference 2018

'BELIEVING IN THE GOD OF MISSION'

**Friday 2nd February** 2.00-4.30pm and or **Saturday 3rd February** 10.00am-4.30pm at St Helen's Church,

Bishopsgate, London EC3A 6AT. Please see flyer at the back of church for full details.

### Summer Camp Bookings

Bookings for summer camps including Sparkford 2 (Y10-13) and Romsey 2 (Y6-9, now renamed Reigate 1) will open on **2nd January 2018** through [www.ventures.org.uk](http://www.ventures.org.uk). Places fill up very quickly, so book early! But for Sparkford 2, special status has been negotiated so that those who book a place **before January 7th** and put on the form that they're part of St Thomas's are guaranteed a place.



## December Services

### Christingle Service

**Sunday 10th December**

4.00pm

You are invited to bring a gift for a child in social care if you wish. Please mark the outside with the age and gender of the child. Followed by mince pies in the Large Hall.

If you are not able to attend but would still like to bring a gift you can do so earlier in the day at the morning service.

### Morning Service with Nativity Play

**Sunday 17th December**

10.30am

### Carols by Candlelight

**Sunday 17th December**

6.30pm

Invite a friend/family to this traditional candlelight service followed by mince pies in the Large Hall.

### Carols around the Crib

**Sunday 24th December**

4.00pm

### Midnight Communion with Mozart

**Sunday 24th December**

11.00pm

### All Age Christmas Service

Christmas Day

10.30am

*Other*

### Can you help to make Christingles?

**Sunday 10th December** after the 10.30am service.

### Mince Pies

Please sign up if you can bake some home-made mince pies for after our Christingle or Carols by Candlelight services.

### Christmas Choir

Please let Sarah Gentle know if you would like to sing in the choir at our Carols by Candlelight (17th Dec) or Midnight Communion Services (24th Dec).

### Christmas Carols Radio

If you like Christmas Carols, check out Christmas Carols Radio [www.christascarolsradio.org/](http://www.christascarolsradio.org/) - an internet radio station set-up by Ben. It plays carols sung by choirs 24 hours a day, with Bible thoughts on the nativity.



## Monthly Events

### 'Pudding & Prayer' Meeting

**Wednesday 6th December**. Refreshments at 7.45pm, for 8.00pm start, in the Guide Hut. Led by Mark Jackson.

### Thursday Fellowship *'A Christmas Celebration'*

**Thursday 14th December** at 2.15pm in the Guide Hut. Join us for Christmas carols, mince pies and mulled wine amongst other things.

## Weekly Notices

### Supporting our church abroad

**Please support our missionaries in prayer.** The latest prayer letters are available in the missionary corner. You can also ask the office to send them to you by email.

### Internet Fundraising

Every time you buy something on-line we get a small donation! To register to support St Thomas, go to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stthomassoakwood](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stthomassoakwood). Since we started in Dec 2011, 44 people have raised over **£1,993.61** for St Thomas Church, just by buying things they were buying anyway.

### If you enter this link:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/2Q4EP8/> we get an extra £1 for every one who joins.

### You can give by text

Send the following free text to the number 70070: TOMS20 £x where x is either £1,2,5 or £10. You will receive a text with a link for taxpayers to add Gift Aid if you wish.

### To update your regular giving

Please speak to Jenny Hammond (01992 301529) or send an email to: [jennmart.hammond@gmail.com](mailto:jennmart.hammond@gmail.com)

### Prayer app for St Thomas Church

'Prayer Mate' is a great mobile app to help organise what you pray for each day. Download it to subscribe to the St Thomas Church feed of things to pray for

### Crèche Duty Today, 3rd December

Mairi Lewis, Kat Peel and Fotoulla Santis.

### Crèche Duty Next Sunday 10th December

Charley Ballinger, Jenny Hammond and Eileen Tang.