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St Thomas . Penny Street . Lancaster

Worshipping God together and at home, we serve and proclaim Jesus wherever we are.

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## St.tees bulletin 21<sup>st</sup> February 2010

### Sermons for February

#### February 21<sup>st</sup>

- 10:30 am **Service of the Word** Hearing the voice of Jesus speaking to his church (4) Revelation 2:v18-19. Thyatira
- 6:15 pm **Holy Communion** Set Free from Slavery (5). Exodus 6:v28-11:end (v 10) Moses may be an inadequate speaker, but God's acts of judgement on the oppressor are clear enough
- 8:15 pm **After Hours** Faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. How can we live it? How are they God's character?



#### February 28<sup>th</sup>

- 10:30 am **Holy Communion** Jesus's encounter with women (2)
- 6:15 pm **Service of the Word**
- 8:15 pm **After Hours** Nooma DVD - Breathe

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**After Hours** Aimed at students and young adults aged 16 - 30. We meet in the downstairs centre following the Evening Service.

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**QUESTION TIME** "Are there proofs for the existence of God?" "Is the Bible Reliable?" "Is it not arrogant to say Jesus is the only way to God?" How can a good and loving God allow suffering in the world?"

**On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> March** we are holding a 'Question Time' event at the 6:15 pm service; an opportunity for us to ask and corporately explore some of the above questions and others you might have. A number of members of the congregation are going to attempt to answer these questions. The thinking behind this is to stimulate thought, prayer and response. The Bible encourages Christians to always be ready to make a defence to anyone who demands from us an account of the hope that is in us (1 Peter 3:15).

## THIS WEEK

**PCC MEET Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** 7:30 pm in the church lounge.

**Cooking for Student Alpha - Please, please, please** could you offer to cook for Student Alpha over the coming weeks - there are 20 people each week. There is a sign up sheet at the welcome desk if house groups, or people generally, would like to cook for Student Alpha. There are some ideas too!

**FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 22<sup>ND</sup> February - 7<sup>th</sup> March.** Have an event in house groups, at work or at school. The Big Brew: have a coffee morning with Fairtrade refreshments. The Big Swap: swap one of your usual items for a Fairtrade equivalent. Resources and details are in the Craft Aid Shop, open Tuesday - Fridays 10:30 am - 3:00 pm, Saturdays 11:00 am - 2:00 pm.

**COMPASSION UK** On **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February** at 7:30 pm in the downstairs centre, Darren Sharp from Compassion UK will speak about child sponsorship. Please could all those who already sponsor children around the world through Compassion come and share their experiences. Those who do not yet sponsor children are welcome to come and find out how to change the world for one child. Leaflets about Compassion are available on the welcome desk.

#### **PRAY FOR**

- **Peter Guinness (and Shell)**. Peter will be Licensed as Priest in Charge of St Mark's, Gillingham by the Rt Revd Dr Brian Castle, Bishop of Tonbridge and the Installation by the Ven Simon Burton-Jones, Archdeacon of Rochester at 7:30 pm on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January**.
- **Joan Robinson** leaving Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February to work for a month on the Mercy Ship in Togo. For information about Mercy Ships, pick up a leaflet from the welcome desk.



**FEEL GOOD IN FEBRUARY! Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February** 7:00 - 11:00 pm in church - keep it free for the **Bollywood Night**. Children's Dancing Competition, Demonstrations and a gorgeous Indian meal. Free soft drinks bar and henna painting. Tickets available today in church, or from the office during the week. £10.00 adults. £5.00 children under 12.

**PACT HOLIDAYS** (Christian Summer Camps for children and teenagers).

Those who went from this area in 2009 are meeting to see slides of the holidays at **7:00 pm on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February** in the Church Centre. This is also for families and friends and anybody who is interested in the possibility of going this year (as 'camper' or leader).

There will be another opportunity for the younger ones and their families to find out about it at **Fusion on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March**. Come along at 7:30 pm for the last half hour.

**PACT** offers "funpacked residential holidays for young people aged 9 - 17 ... explaining the Christian faith in a fun and relevant way". (All leaders are Christians but it does not matter whether or not the 'campers' have a church background). Groups are going from Lancaster to all four holidays this year.

For further details collect a brochure from the welcome desk, look at the website ([www.sctivities.org.uk](http://www.sctivities.org.uk)), see Richard Silman, Chris Maude or Sarah Hawksby in church or phone Chris on (01524) 66313.

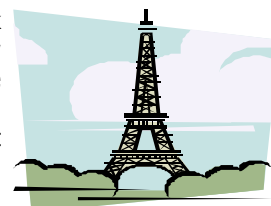
## **EVENTS COMING UP**

**WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March** 2:00 pm in St Paul's, Scotforth, Lancaster. Speaker Sister Maureen Coyne. This year's service is organised by the Christian women of Cameroon under the banner "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord."

**SHELL GUINNESS** is speaking in March at *Words on the Water* - the Keswick Literary Festival - a totally secular event. It's quite a coup for Authentic (now Koorong) to get their authors in, and they (and also the festival committee) are very keen the seminar should be well attended - or they probably won't go back to Authentic to invite Christian writers next year. So Shell is asking if anyone from St Tees might like to go and/or take non-Christian friends. A ticket is £7.00, or you can buy a festival entry ticket and attend more than one seminar.

Tickets are on sale from Theatre by the Lake. Online: [www.theatrebythelake.com](http://www.theatrebythelake.com). Tel 017687 74411.

Shell is speaking on **Friday March 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:45 am** in the Studio at the Theatre on the Lake on *Vive La France*. It is a wonderful venue for a day out - with great café in the theatre.





**LAKES GOSPEL CHOIR** entitled '*Heaven on my Mind*' performing at St Thomas; Church, Blackpool on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March** 7:00 pm. Book now by ringing 01253 399 276. See poster for more details.

### PRAYING TOGETHER

A series of prayer meetings to encourage us to join together as a church to pray and to focus on different aspects of the church - 7:30 pm in church -

- **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March**
- **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May** - to be led by members of PCC

If a date falls on a house group evening, maybe you would consider meeting as a group with the church community. If you are unable to make any of those dates, do pray as triplets, or individuals in your own home.

**TearFund Sunday - 21<sup>st</sup> March** TearFund is a Christian relief organisation that uses the local church around the world to distribute resources that have been given. Many church members save up their planned giving to God to give to TearFund. This year Mike Chesterton, Tearfund's Church Relationships Manager will be speaking at both the morning and evening services. As a church we will be forming a link with Uganda through Tearfund and Mike will launch this project on 21<sup>st</sup> March.

**ONE GENERATION FROM EXTINCTION?** How can the church connect with the unchurched child? Are we one generation from extinction as a witnessing community? In a compelling and thought provoking presentation, Mark Griffiths examines how the church reached the unchurched child in the past and details how many pioneering groups are seeking to do the same in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In St Thomas's Church, **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March** 7:30 - 9:45 pm. Entry £5.00 including refreshments. Please book in advance on line: [www.childrenmatter.net](http://www.childrenmatter.net). Leaflets on the welcome desk.

## Special Delivery Holiday Club

for children in Reception to School Year 6

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April**

It's going to be amazing ... pick up your registration form from the welcome desk.

Forms and money need to be returned to Sarah Evans by **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March** at the latest.

**We need more people to be part of the Holiday Club Team**

Sign up on the welcome desk or contact Sarah Evans (01524) 590 418

[sarah@st.tees.org.uk](mailto:sarah@st.tees.org.uk) to find out more about what's involved.

## JUNIOR CHURCH

We urgently need more help with our regular children's groups:

- **Ladybirds for 1 and 2 year olds** meets for the first hour of the Sunday morning service, except for All-Age weeks. We need more people to join the rota to help care for our little ones.
- **Buzzy Bees for 2 - 4 year olds** also meet for the first hour of Sunday morning services. We need at least one more person to be part of the team.
- **Fusion for 8 - 11 year olds** meets Thursdays from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. First half - tuckshop, games, craft and a chance to chill. Second half - games, stories, talking and a chance to find out more about God. We need more people to join the team.

Please think and pray about this and contact Sarah Evans [sarah@st.tees.org.uk](mailto:sarah@st.tees.org.uk) or 01525 590418 to find out more.

**Thank you**

## NOTICE BOARD

**CONFIRMATION**  
**6:15 pm Sunday**  
**13<sup>th</sup> June**

in St Thomas's with Bishop Geoff Pearson, Bishop of Lancaster. Being Confirmed is an opportunity to affirm your baptismal vows and commit yourself to Christian ministry in the wider church and world and would be for those from 12 years old, including adults. Have a word with Saju or one of our Youth Pastors if you are interested.



**CHURCHES TOGETHER IN LANCASTER** - celebrations in 2010 - A Milestone Year!

Here in Lancashire there are opportunities to Run, Sing and Be Inspired for local Mission as we celebrate 2010 together. Dates for your diary:

- **Sat 8<sup>th</sup> May** - Run for the World - along Morecambe Promenade
- **Wed 12<sup>th</sup> May** "Better Together" - an evening of inspiration at CTL's new style Annual Meeting & Forum
- **Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> May** Celebration Praise! Ecumenical Choirs from across the county.

See notice board for details - further information following.

**1STEP2STEP Host Families Wanted 22<sup>nd</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> April.**

To showcase how disabled children are cared for in the UK we're inviting six Thai officials to come over and experience it for themselves and we need somewhere for them to stay! Host families need not to have young children, have space for two guests, time to attend events like the welcome meal, reception and 1S2S picnic etc., and time to create breakfast and some of the evening meals.

A big ask we know, but if you can help please get in contact through the website ([www.1step2step.org](http://www.1step2step.org)) or see Chris Rowbotham, Sally Anderson, David Dawson or one of the other 1S2S committee members in church.

**SHORT-TERM MISSION FUNDING** is available from St Thomas's Mission Support for those who plan to be involved in short-term Christian work during the summer. If you would like to apply for funding please ask for a form at the welcome desk, complete this and return to the church office. Deadline 20<sup>th</sup> May 2010.



**SINGLE BED**, mattress and headboard free to a good home. Contact Jane Guilfoyle on (01524) 752410

**THE INTERNATIONAL CAFÉ** - for overseas students and families. Pick up information from the welcome desk of events happening this term.

**WEEKLY FOOTBALL Sundays** 9:00 - 10:00 pm at the University of Cumbria Sports Centre on the astroturf. All Welcome. For more information contact Phil on 07900 037 590.

REFRESHMENTS TEAM

Today	21 Feb	10:30am	Roger & Margaret Oliver's house group
		6:15pm	David & Cathleen Dawson's house group
Sunday	28 Feb	10:30am	Slyne house group
		6:15pm	Harry & Iona Price's house group

For general information & further details about St Thomas's activities, do visit our website [www.st.tees.org.uk](http://www.st.tees.org.uk)

Office hours: usually 9:00am to 3:00pm Mon - Fri

☎ 01524 590 410  
e-mail [admin@st.tees.org.uk](mailto:admin@st.tees.org.uk)

Charity No 113 0550

**WELCOME.**

If you have recently come to St Thomas's, or even if you've been coming for a while, we would like to welcome you and get to know you better. Please fill in this tear-off slip and hand it in at the Welcome Desk or put it in the church letter box in the St Thomas Centre behind the church (The letterbox is at the top of the concrete external stairs).



First name	<input type="text"/>	Surname	<input type="text"/>	Title: Mr/Mrs/Ms/...	<input type="text"/>
Address	<input type="text"/>			If a student tick box	<input type="checkbox"/>
Post Code	<input type="text"/>	Tel No	<input type="text"/>	age ? 20+, 30+, 40+, 50+	<input type="text"/>
		e-mail	<input type="text"/>		
I would like more information about....			I am interested in house groups <input type="checkbox"/>		