



Serving the community of Bedhampton  
by sharing God's love and friendship

***Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025***  
*Last Sunday before Lent*

**St Thomas'**  
**9.00am Holy Communion**  
Romans: Salvation  
Romans 4.13-25  
John 12.37-50  
**4.00pm Compline**

**St Nicholas'**  
**10.30am Messy Church**

### ***Collect***

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives:  
set straight our crooked hearts,  
and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### ***Rector's Reflection***

*"You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water."*

That is how the Psalmist begins the sixty-third Psalm. A statement of desire to be intimate with the creator God, and perhaps one that many of us could echo. Even those who have no faith might relate to such a desire to be at one with the source of all life. It has been said that there is a missing part of the human psyche, that can only be made complete when at one with God. Perhaps this is why often have a feeling that I am missing out in my devotions to God, that there is more to be had which is just out of sight. Maybe you too feel that itch, but fear not. In the sentiment of my favourite prayer, I believe that your desire for intimacy with God will find closeness, even if there is still more to be had. Let us in the spirit of the Psalmist continue to thirst for that intimacy with our Father God.

## *Prayer*

### **Prayer Is Vital**

Our Wednesday morning prayer is 8am most weeks. You can join online in your web browser at [www.bton.uk/pray](http://www.bton.uk/pray) or Facebook at [www.fb.me/BedhamptonNews](http://www.fb.me/BedhamptonNews) Whatever you do, please pray for God's mission in Bedhampton.

### **Prayer Pointers**

1. Children, young people, and families
2. Fun Club toddler group
3. Ingledene Close
4. Bedhampton train station team
5. Ukraine and the Middle East

### **Those requesting prayer**

Janice, Ted, Paddy. Alan

## *What's on*

### ***Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March***

**8.00am Parish Prayer.** [www.bton.uk/pray](http://www.bton.uk/pray) or Facebook at [www.fb.me/BedhamptonNews](http://www.fb.me/BedhamptonNews)

**9.30am Holy Communion.** St Thomas' Church.

All are welcome. Tea, coffee and biscuits available after the service.

### ***Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March***

**9.00am Fun Club.** St Nicholas' Church

**10.00am Online Holy Communion.** [www.Bedhampton.church/tv](http://www.Bedhampton.church/tv) or Facebook.

### ***Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March***

**10.30am Coffee & Cake.** St Nicholas' Church

### **New Grandchild**

We give thanks for the arrival of Isobel Maeve Matthews, born on 4th February. A daughter for Duncan and Lauren and an 8th grandchild for Alec and Sandra.

### **Electoral Roll**

We have to renew our Electoral Roll this year. If you would like to remain on the roll please complete the form online at [www.bton.uk/roll](http://www.bton.uk/roll) or collect a paper copy from either church venue and give it to Deb, in the office.

### **Annual Meeting (APCM)**

On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April we will have a joint service at St Nicholas' at 10.30am. This will be followed by our APCM and celebration, bring and share, lunch.

### **Romans Sermon Series**

Our current sermon series looks at the Book of Romans. It's been said that if the New Testament were the Himalayas, Paul's Epistle to the Romans would be Mount Everest. You might want to pick up the accompanying book by Andrew Ollerton from The Bible Society to read as we travel through this series together. It is called "Romans: A Letter That Makes Sense of Life", and is available from all the usual places.

### **Singles Afternoon Tea**

*\*Change of date!\**

The singles afternoon tea will be on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April (not 30<sup>th</sup> March), 3pm at The Rectory. If and for whatever reason, you are a single person attending our Church you are invited to an afternoon tea. Max would like your input on how we can better include those who find themselves alone. We want to be a Church that includes everyone and your input can help with that. Please let Deb in the Parish Office know if you are able to attend.

### **Easter Services**

We will have some joint services during the Easter period.

*Palm Sunday* (13<sup>th</sup> April)

Procession from St Thomas to St Nicholas at 10.00am

The service at St Nicholas will start at 10.30am

*Good Friday* (18<sup>th</sup> April), 2pm at St Thomas'

*Easter Day* (20<sup>th</sup> April), 9.15am Bubble Church at St Nicholas', 10.30am Celebration Service at St Thomas'.

### **Children's Society Boxes**

If you have a Children's Society collection box please let Ann Partridge or Deb know so they can update the records.

## **Next Week. Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

*First Sunday in Lent*

**St Thomas'**  
**9.00am Holy Communion**  
Psalm 63  
Luke 22.39-44

**St Nicholas'**  
**10.30am Morning Worship**  
Psalm 63  
Luke 22.39-44

*Our services are usually available online after 6pm*

### ***Vision - Identity - Purpose***

In Bedhampton Parish we seek to be with Jesus, become more like Jesus and do what Jesus did. We are people whose identity is in:

#### **Prayer**

- We seek to have a daily rhythm of prayer.
- We seek to have a daily habit of spending time in The Bible.
- We seek to worship God in song, thought, word, and action.

#### **Helping**

- We seek to serve one another.
- We seek to serve within God's church.
- We seek to serve our neighbour.

#### **Giving**

- We seek to give of ourselves, going the extra mile.
- We seek to give of our time in our community and God's Church.
- We seek to be generous with our resources and finances.

Read more about our Vision, Identity and Purpose at: [www.bton.uk/vip](http://www.bton.uk/vip)

### ***Contact Us***

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Deb Vears  
Usual Office Hours  
Monday-Friday 9.30-12.30  
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023 9248 3013

Church Leader  
Rev Max Cross  
Usual Rest Day  
Friday  
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Assistant Curate  
Rev Jo Lorimer  
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