

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

- the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- the appointment of an Ecumenical Advisor in our Diocese
- the Church of Bangladesh

**Please continue to pray for the sick and those in need:-**

Sarah Beaney; Jill Boyd; Jacqui Culmer; Jackie Edwards; Tarquin Gillespie; Beryl Guarnori; Margaret Paterson; Peggy Pope; Hannah West; Diana Young.

Please remember the recently departed, especially Emily Broomfield, Simon Edwards and Niel Hare, and all those who mourn them.

+ **For those in need, O Lord, we make our prayer:  
the sick in mind or in body;  
the blind, the deaf and the disabled;  
the isolated; the sorrowing, the anxious and the perplexed.  
Lord, give them courage, patience and peace of heart,  
and do for them whatever is for their good.  
We give thanks and pray for those who care for them.** +



**The organist really did pull out  
all the stops**

Parish Priest:  
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Office opening hours: Tuesdays,  
Wednesdays & Fridays: 2 - 5 pm  
Please make sure all items for the  
**Notice Bulletin** reach the office by  
**Wednesday midday**

To enquire about a baptism, wedding or funeral, please contact the Parish Administrator, Priest-in-Charge or one of the Churchwardens.



*To live the love of God,  
in the Way of Christ Jesus  
in our parish and community*

[www.stthomassouthborough.org.uk](http://www.stthomassouthborough.org.uk)

**21st January 2018**  
**Third Sunday of Epiphany**  
**Welcome to today's Services:**

8 am	Eucharist
10.30 am	Parish Eucharist <i>and Ark</i>
6 pm	Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (at Christ Church)

Monday 22nd	8 pm	Compline
Tuesday 23rd	9 am	Morning Prayer
	5.30 pm	Senior Guides
	7 pm	Guides
	7.45 pm	House Group (23 Bounds Oak Way)
Wednesday 24th	9 am	Morning Prayer
	9.45 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10 am	Parent and Toddler Group
	5 pm	Evening Prayer
Thursday 25th	9 am	Morning Prayer
	5 pm	Evening Prayer
	7 pm	Choir Practice
Friday 26th	9 am	Morning Prayer
	5 pm	Evening Prayer
	5.45 pm	Brownies
	7.45 pm	Guides
Saturday 27th	7.30 pm	Community Team meeting (6 Birchwood Ave)

**NEXT SUNDAY**  
**28th January 2017**  
**Presentation of Christ in the Temple**  
*Readings:- Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40*

8 am	Eucharist
10.30 am	Parish Eucharist <i>and Ark</i>
12.30 pm	Poverty Lunch



### ***Week of Prayer for Christian Unity***

A service to mark the week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be held **TODAY at Christ Church, Southborough at 6.30 pm**. It is also an occasion to give thanks for our work with the other Anglican Churches in Southborough. Rachel will be in attendance. Do please come along and join us at Christ Church if you can.



### ***Lent, Holy Week and Easter***

Easter falls early this year (Easter Sunday is on 1 April) and, consequently, Lent begins on 14th February. Details of our Lent Course will be published in the next few weeks. Do please let Rachel know as soon as possible if you would like to attend the Lent course, held weekly through Lent.

As last year, we anticipate showing a film on Wednesday of Holy Week, with a redemptive, contemplative theme and brief discussion afterwards. Last year, when we showed *12 Years a Slave* this was very well received. If you have any suggestions as to suitable films, do please contact Rachel. We'd like to get these events finalised as soon as possible so as to extend an invitation to as many people in Southborough as possible, so do consider this an invitation and speak to Rachel as soon as you can.

### ***EMILY BROOMFIELD***

It is with sadness that we announce the death of Emily Broomfield last Tuesday. Details of her funeral are yet to be decided. Please remember her family and all those who cared for her in your prayers.

### ***SIMON EDWARDS***

We have also learned of the death of Simon Edwards, the husband of Avril, one of our Brownie and Guide leaders, following a period of illness. Please remember Avril and the rest of her family in your prayers.

### ***NIEL HARE***

Please note that the Funeral Service for Niel Hare will take place here at St Thomas's on Tuesday 6th February at 2 pm. All are very welcome. There will be refreshments in the Parish Room after the service.



### ***POVERTY LUNCH***

Our next "Poverty Lunch" will be held in the Parish Room next **Sunday 28th January at 12.30 pm**. The lunch will be minimal - but you will not starve! Please sign on the list at the back of church if you would like to join us. Contributions will go to Christian Aid.

### ***MONDAY HOUSEGROUP***

The Monday House group will meet on 29th January and 5th February at 2 Chestnut Avenue. The topics covered will be Christian approaches to contemporary issues, beginning with robots and artificial intelligence. We would very much like to welcome new members. Speak to Roger Evernden for more information.

### ***TUESDAY HOUSEGROUP***

The Tuesday house group has two meetings before Lent - 23rd January and 6th February. We will be looking at some of our favourite psalms. Meetings are at 7.45 pm at Janet Norman's house - 23 Bounds Oak Way. New members are always welcome.

### ***SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW? SOMETHING BEEN BOTHERING YOU?***

Our sermons typically follow the course of the lectionary readings but Rachel is conscious that there may be particular topics of interest or moment that you might like to hear preached on. Topics might include any number of things, for we always hope that our faith can be put to work in the real "stuff of life". If there is anything that you would like to hear preached on, either by Rachel, or another guest speaker if that is their area of particular interest or expertise, then do please let Rachel know.



### ***Inspired to Follow***

Starting in February there will be monthly sessions on a Monday evening and a Friday lunchtime giving people the opportunity to reflect on and discuss pieces of art with a religious theme. More details to follow ....

***REMEMBER*** you can sponsor any Sunday order of service or flowers in memory of a loved one or an event, with a donation to parish funds. Please contact Andrea in the office (01892 617398 or [sainthomas1860@btinternet.com](mailto:sainthomas1860@btinternet.com))