

HYMNS:71, 266,
106, 394

St. Thomas the Apostle & Martyr, Ipswich

23rd January 2022—3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Collect:

God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A reading from Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians (12.12-31a)

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the

church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

This is the word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (4.14-21)

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

This is the gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, O Christ.*

Post-Communion Prayer:

Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Notices:

Funding Appeal: It's not too late to respond to our appeal to eliminate our predicted financial deficit for 2021. Donations can be accepted up to the end of January. For ways to do this please refer to the letter we sent in December or contact Lucy Drake (details on this page).

Alpha Course: Alpha starts on 9th February, every Wednesday for 8 weeks. Please come and invite your friends.

Bible Basics: an informal bible study group which meets on zoom. This term we are looking at the book of Acts. Everyone is welcome - you don't have to come to each session but can dip in and out, and no prior knowledge necessary! Meets every other Thursday at 4pm the next one is this Thursday 27th January.

Also, Pop-up Bible Study looking at the book of Acts on Monday evenings starting on 21st February for five weeks.

Coming Up This Week:

Sunday 23rd January (Epiphany 3)

10am: Eucharist with baptism and Facebook livestream

Monday 24th January

11.30-1.30: Church open for prayer

4.15pm: STPC Evening Prayer—contact Malcolm for more details

Tuesday 25th January

7.30pm: Zoom Meditation Group. Contact Lucy for details: lucydrake22@gmail.com

Wednesday 26th January

10am: Eucharist

Thursday 27th January

11.30-1.30: Church open for prayer

4pm: Bible Basics (on Zoom)

Sunday 30th January (Candlemas)

8.15am: BCP Eucharist

10am: All-Age Eucharist with Facebook livestream

Birthdays This Week:

★ *None this week!*

Please Pray For:

Rosemary, Eric, Jenny, Kathy, Andrew, Peggy, Margaret, Natacha, Samantha, Theresa, Gloria, Angela, Helen, Pat, Daniel, Ezra, Eddie, Naomi, Andrew C., Betty, Muriel M.

Those who have recently died, and their families mourning their loss: Bartha Moyes



Church Website:

<https://stthomasipswich.org.uk/>

Sunday Worship & other Worship resources on the Church Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/stthomasipswich/>

Contacts:

Priest in Charge: Revd Rachel Revely

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Rachel's days off: Fridays and Saturdays

Assistant Curate: Revd Cat Connolly

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Cat's day off: Mondays

Assistant Curate, SSM: Revd John Irwin

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John's Parish days (normally): Weds/Thurs

Lay Evangelist: Malcolm Gibbs **m:** 07906 663530

Director of Music: Simon Clark BA FLCM FRCO

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Treasurer: Lucy Drake

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Church wardens: Roger Elmer **m:** 07810 274586

Stephen Marginson 01473 258791

If you would like to chat, you could also ring:

Mary Bullass 625135

Gloria Elmer 745590

Rev Jackie 07962 172639

Rev Pat 464748

Rev Canon Chris 462109