

St Thomas – what do we know?

We know that St Thomas was one of Jesus' closest friends. Although we don't know how he came to join the group, we hear his pithy questions to Jesus when he doesn't quite follow what is going on. The symbol for St Thomas is a set-square, to show that he may have been a builder. I can imagine him sucking his teeth and saying: 'Well, I don't know about that!'

He was not afraid of taking a stand against his friends when they made no sense. Jesus had been killed in horrific circumstances; of course he hadn't been raised from the dead: that was impossible! Thomas demanded evidence and refused to believe.

Many of us in church today will have our own story of how we came to Christian faith; believing like Thomas that Jesus is our Lord and our God. Some of us can recall particular moments of revelation. For some there were small almost unnoticeable steps towards greater certainty. Sometimes we too long for evidence to hold on to.

Yet I'm not sure that it was just seeing Jesus' wounds which changed Thomas' mind. It may have been the act of meeting Jesus and realising that he was fully understood, accepted and loved. As we also turn to Jesus in prayer and worship, we know that we will encounter his love.

Rev'd Sarah



©flaticon

Codes for Zoom No further Zoom services planned at the moment.

Meeting ID:
Passcode:

Telephone numbers: 0203 481 5237,
0203 481 5240, 0131 460 1196

NEXT SUNDAY 10.07.2022 Trinity 4

SERVICES: 10.30am in Church

READINGS: OT Deuteronomy 30: 9-4
NT Colossians 1: 1-14
GOSPEL Luke 10: 25-37



CONTACT US

Fr David Nixon 01392 667192. Day off: Mondays
rev.dave@virgin.net

Rev'd Sarah Cumming Curate 07543604115
rev.sarahcumming@gmail.com

Rev'd Alison Whiting Associate Priest
rev.alisonwhiting@gmail.com

Phil Baker, Reader 07970 216740
lionelbaker@outlook.com

Rev'd Terry Litherland 07594633195
tlitherland36@gmail.com

Ian Totterdell Church Warden 01392 848674
07961621001 ian.totterdell@cantab.net

Email: parishoffice@stthomaschurhexeter.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/sttexeter

Website: www.stthomaschurhexeter.co.uk

Twitter: @sttexeter

Office Tel: 01392 437486 Messages at any time.



St Thomas, Exeter

3rd July 2022

St Thomas

10.30am in Church

Today

10.30am Sung Eucharist and Baptism of
Abi Wall

Tuesday 5th July

7.30pm House Group. See Ian for details.

Wednesday 6th July

10am Holy Communion (BCP)

Thursday 7th July

9.30-11am St Thomas Tots with Breast-
Feeding support.

10.30am Knit & Natter in St Thomas Park

Friday 8th July

9.30am Morning Prayer

10am Staff Meeting

Saturday 9th July

9am Men's Breakfast in the Sawyers



Collect

Almighty and eternal God who, for the firmer foundation of our faith, allowed your holy apostle Thomas to doubt the resurrection of your Son till word and sight convinced him: grant to us, who have not seen, that we also may believe and so confess Christ as our Lord and our God; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Habakkuk 2: 1-4

I will stand at my watch-post, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.

Psalms 31: 1-6

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness. Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me. Be my strong rock, a fortress to save me, for you are my rock and my stronghold; guide me, and lead me for your name's sake. Take me out of the net that they have laid secretly for me, for you are my strength. Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth. I hate those who cling to worthless idols I put my trust in the Lord.

Ephesians 2: 19-22

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also mem-

bers of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

John 20: 24-29

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.' A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Post Communion

Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel: by the power of the same Spirit strengthen us to witness to your truth and to draw everyone to the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

NOTICES

For our services in Church, **mask wearing** is not now compulsory but we would still advise it while infection numbers remain high. If you are coming to coffee, we also recommend wearing a mask until you are seated in the Hall.

Knit and Natter Summer 2022 In June, July and August we will meet in St Thomas Pleasure Ground or at 19 Maple Road according to the weather, every Thursday from 10.30am to midday. Details from Jenny on 01392 498725.

Community Larder is receiving donations on Tuesdays from 10am-12noon.

St Andrew's, Exwick. Please note that Fr David and Rev Sarah are covering some of the Sunday morning services at Exwick after the retirement of Jerry Bird.

St Stephen's Church From 2 June onwards there will be a display in St Stephen's showing changes in our city centre churches with some good old photos and more recent events.

As many of you already know, Fr David is taking **sabbatical leave** over the summer, starting in the middle of July and ending in the middle of October. He is also away for the first part of July on a course at Windsor (postponed from 2019), and his last Sunday before the sabbatical is 17 July. Do please ask him his plans if you are interested!

Theatre Alibi Festival of St Thomas Stories Friday 8th to Sunday 10th July. Many events including some in the Church and Churchyard. See Theatre Alibi leaflet for details.

Monday 4th July between 11.15 -11.30am The Commonwealth Games Baton Relay will be taking place at Piazza Terracina by the Canal Basin in St Thomas Parish.

12th July 1pm. Funeral Service for John White in Church. Please continue to pray for John, and for Iris and his whole family.

