

St Thomas Wells, with the Horringtons

A MONTH OF CARE...

Sunday October 29th 2023

Caring for Our Church

**Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days,
let them flow in endless praise.**

**Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.**

**Take my voice and let me sing,
always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee.**

**Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
every pow'r as thou shalt choose.**

**Take my will and make it thine,
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own,
it shall be thy royal throne.**

**Take my love, my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.**

Prayer of the Day (A prayer by Thomas Merton)

Almighty God, we thank you for all the gifts you have given us: our lives, our loved ones, all that we have and all that we are. Most of all, we thank You for Jesus, your Son and our Redeemer, who came among us to show us the way to eternal life.

Jesus was the perfect steward of your gifts, showing that complete trust in You is necessary, and that giving of self is a most important part of following him. May the offerings of our time, our talents, and our material resources be made in the same spirit of sacrifice that Jesus taught us by His life and death for us. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: 1 Chronicles 29:1-14

King David said to the whole assembly, 'My son Solomon, whom alone God has chosen, is young and inexperienced, and the work is great; for the temple will not be for mortals but for the Lord God. So I have provided for the house of my God, so far as I was able, the gold for the things of gold, the silver for the things of silver, and the bronze for the things of bronze, the iron for the things of iron, and wood for the things of wood, besides great quantities of onyx and stones for setting, antimony, coloured stones, all sorts of precious stones, and marble in abundance. Moreover, in addition to all that I have provided for the

holy house, I have a treasure of my own of gold and silver, and because of my devotion to the house of my God I give it to the house of my God: three thousand talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and seven thousand talents of refined silver, for overlaying the walls of the house, and for all the work to be done by artisans, gold for the things of gold and silver for the things of silver. Who then will offer willingly, consecrating themselves today to the Lord?’

Then the leaders of ancestral houses made their freewill-offerings, as did also the leaders of the tribes, the commanders of the thousands and of the hundreds, and the officers over the king’s work. They gave for the service of the house of God five thousand talents and ten thousand darics of gold, ten thousand talents of silver, eighteen thousand talents of bronze, and one hundred thousand talents of iron. Whoever had precious stones gave them to the treasury of the house of the Lord, into the care of Jehiel the Gershonite. Then the people rejoiced because these had given willingly, for with single mind they had offered freely to the Lord; King David also rejoiced greatly.

Then David blessed the Lord in the presence of all the assembly; David said: ‘Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our ancestor Israel, for ever and ever. Yours, O Lord, are the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heavens and on the earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Riches and honour come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might; and it is in your hand to make great and to give strength to all. And now, our God, we give thanks to you and praise your glorious name.

‘But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to make this freewill-offering? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

New Testament Reading:

2 Corinthians 9:1-8

Now it is not necessary for me to write to you about the ministry to the saints, for I know your eagerness, which is the subject of my boasting about you to the people of Macedonia, saying that Achaia has been ready since last year; and your zeal has stirred up most of them. But I am sending the brothers in order that our boasting about you may not prove to have been empty in this case, so that you may be ready, as I said you would be; otherwise, if some Macedonians come with me and find that you are not ready, we would be humiliated—to say nothing of you—in this undertaking. So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead to you, and arrange in advance for this bountiful gift that you have promised, so that it may be ready as a voluntary gift and not as an extortion.

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

**The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
he makes me lie in pastures green,
he leads me by the still, still waters,
his goodness restores my soul.**

***And I will trust in you alone,
and I will trust in you alone,
for your endless mercy follows me,
your goodness will lead me home.***

**He guides my ways in righteousness,
and he anoints my head with oil,
and my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on his pure delights.**

**And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
for you are with me, and your rod and staff
are the comfort I need to know.**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 25:14-30

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord

‘For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, “Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things,

I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.” And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, “Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two

more talents.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.” Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, “Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.” But his master replied, “You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

**Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew,
come to make all things new,
bear his people’s burden,
freely love and pardon.**

***Ring bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, when he comes,
who will make him welcome?***

God in time, God in man,
this is God's timeless plan:
He will come, as a man,
born himself of woman,
God divinely human. *Ring bells....*

Mary, hail! Though afraid,
she believed, she obeyed.
In her womb, God is laid
til' the time expected,
nurtured and protected. *Ring bells....*

Journey ends! Where afar
Bethlem shines, like a star,
Stable door stands ajar.
Unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry!

Ring bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing choirs, sing, sing, sing!
Jesus comes, Jesus comes,
We will make him welcome!

Post-Communion Prayer

**Disturb us, Lord, when we are too well pleased with ourselves;
when our dreams have come true because we have dreamed too
little;
when we arrive safely because we have sailed too close to shore.
Disturb us, Lord, when with the abundance of the things we possess,
we have lost our thirst for the water of life.**

**Stir us, Lord, to dare more boldly, to venture on wider seas,
where storms will show your mastery;
where losing sight of land, we shall find the stars.
We ask you to push back the horizons of our hopes and
to push us into the future in strength, courage, hope and love.
Amen.**

**Glory to God, the source of all our mission;
Jesus be praised, the Saviour, Lord and Son!
Praise to the Spirit who confirms the vision;
in all the world the will of God be done!**

**Proud in our wealth, or destitute and broken,
we cannot live by earthly bread alone;
but by the word that God himself has spoken
we are set free to make our Master known.**

**Eastward or westward, northward, southward moving,
finding new fields, new patterns and new role,
Christ's fellow-workers, all his goodness proving,
see how our God is making people whole!**

**Linked by the cross at which we are forgiven,
joined by the love that came to find and save,
one in the hope of God's new earth and heaven,
we love and give since he first loved and gave.**

**Send us, Lord Christ, to serve at your direction,
dying and living, yours in loss and gain,
true to the gospel of your resurrection,
working and praying till you come to reign.**

For our prayers

Prayers for the Parish:

North Lodge Court; Gilbert Scott Mews; The Courtyard;
West Villa Lodge; Beeches; Westfield House; Firbank; Mendip House;
The Gatehouse; Frome Road Cottages (South Horrington)

Prayers for our link churches in Zambia

Please pray for St Augustine's Church & St Monica's Church,
Livingstone East and their priest Rev Ackson Kampala

Prayers for those who are ill:

Simon Brook; David and Audrey Parkes; Jean; Robert: Helen;
Eva & family; Jenny & Geoff; Julie & Ivor Parry; Alethea;
Jenny Boocock; Isaac; Peter Bowers

R.I.P. Ann Thomas; Julian Rendell

Those whose year's mind occurs at this time:

Edna Pryor	(30-10-2017)	Mary Macdonald	(31-10-1982)
Marjorie Davies	(30-10-2019)	Gladys Skinner	(31-10-2014)
Peter Goodwright	(02-11-2020)		

Thursdays at 11am - Pause to Pray for our legacy and for the redevelopment project

Thank you to everyone for their prayers and support for Julian and I over the last weeks. They were a great comfort and help to us as a family. We have organised the funeral for Tuesday 31st October at 1.30pm at Mendip Crematorium. *Lynn*

A Memorial Service for Ann Thomas will be held in St Thomas Church at 2pm on Friday 3rd November. All welcome

Please pray for those who will be confirmed at the Confirmation Service at 2pm in Wells Cathedral on Saturday 4th November. Please pray especially for Katie Steadman who will be confirmed and Berit Lindholm who is being admitted into the Church of England. Bishop Ruth will be presiding over the service. All are welcome.

This week:

31 st Tues	10am-12 2 – 4pm	Coffee Stop <i>Choir rehearsals</i>
	5-6.30pm	Light Party in the church hall
1 st Wed	9.30-11am 11am	ABC2 parents/carers & tots in the church hall Eucharist – a quiet said communion service
2 nd Thurs	10-11am	Keep Fit in the church hall
3 rd Fri	2pm	Memorial Service for Ann Thomas
4 th Sat	10.30am	Church and Churchyard tidy-up
5 th Sun	10am 6.30pm	Parish Eucharist for All Saints' 'A Time to Remember' service for All Souls'
6 th Mon	11am	Trio Paradis Café Concert (<i>refreshments from 10.30am</i>)

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**A LIGHT PARTY** on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October

Light bites/nibbles inc. plates of sandwiches, welcomed from members of the congregation.

*Please sign up on the list at the back of church.*

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Trio Paradis Café Concert in church 11am Mon 6th November
November's music is inspired by the Sun and moon, and includes Romantic Nocturnes, jazz standards and songs from the shows (I Got the Sun in the Morning, The Sun & I)... and a few stars may make an appearance.

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**YOU CAN BOOK NOW!** The Vaccination Clinic have gained permission to use St Thomas church hall and will offer Covid/Flu jabs every Friday from 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov

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Saturday 4th November 10am-12.30pm **Repair Café** in the hall
Sunday 5th **'Freecycle'** from 1pm in the Good Earth Car Park

DON'T FORGET.....

Clean Up Day next Saturday 4th November 10.30am – 12noon
Please come along to help tidy the church and churchyard



Also: we will continue working on our Bug Hotel – please bring along more stuffing at any time. For example – pinecones, teasels, hollow bamboo canes, old roof tiles/guttering, pebbles, bricks (especially with holes), straw, terracotta pots, wood, bark etc.

Cake & Coffee will be provided. Everyone is welcome
Churchwardens



A Time to Remember 6.30pm on Sunday 5th November

A service of prayers and readings to remember and give thanks for the lives of loved ones

We will light a candle for each person we remember by name.



To have someone remembered by name (even if you're unable to come to the service) please put their name/s in the box at the back of church. Or you may contact

The Parish Office on 672335 or office@stthomaswells.co.uk

The Revd. Claire Towns on 939467 or vicar@stthomaswells.co.uk



3pm Sunday 5th Nov - All Souls' Service at Mendip Hospital Cemetery
Prayers and readings to remember those from the Mendip Hospital



The Children's Society - a few of us have collection boxes at home for The Children's Society. If you feel you would like one too please let me know or contact the Church Office. Your loose change all adds up and helps young people through this charity. The boxes are collected after Christmas and the money sent to The Children's Society. Thank you. Celia Kennett, 01749 704128.

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## **WE'RE MOVING**

After over forty years, we have moved out of the Old Vicarage. We will eventually be moving to 10, Lewmond Avenue (still in the parish, of course) but while building work is being done we'll be staying with our daughter, Frances, in Frome. We hoped to be back some time in the new year but we now think the builders won't be finished until early March, so we're looking for somewhere to rent after Christmas. ***If anyone has, or knows anyone who has, anywhere we could rent for Jan and Feb, please let us know.***

Emails unchanged: [alanbuttphilip@googlemail.com](mailto:alanbuttphilip@googlemail.com)  
[baron.christina@googlemail.com](mailto:baron.christina@googlemail.com)

*Alan and Christina*

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Light Party - an alternative Halloween party

For families with toddlers and primary aged children
Tuesday 31st October 5 -6.30pm in the church hall

Come dressed as a superhero!

Prizes for the best costumes

We'd love to see you