



22nd February 2026

The First Sunday of Lent

Parish Mass

“One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

(Deuteronomy 8:3 | Matthew 4:4)

Welcome to St Thomas the Apostle Church, Hanwell for our Parish Mass.



We hope you enjoy your time with us. Do join us for refreshments in the Church Hall afterwards.

The hymns are in the Green New English Hymnal Books. The Mass Setting for this Service is the John Merbecke Service.

Please do take this Service Booklet away with you for your own prayers & reflections this coming week.

Front Cover Image: 'The Temptation of Christ' – Ary Scheffer (c. 1854)

*The Choir and Altar Party process up the central aisle with the child(ren) to light the Lenten candle(s).
During this, the First Hymn is sung.*

First Hymn: 67 Forty days and forty nights.

The Gathering & Welcome

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

The Liturgy of Penitence

God spoke these words and said:

All: I am the Lord your God; you shall have no other gods but me.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

You shall not bow down to them or worship them.

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain

Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy.

Honour your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbour.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these your laws in our hearts.

Invitation to Confession

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. Let us confess our sins remembering before God the times when we have fallen from temptation into sin.

After a period of silence for personal reflection, the Kyrie Eleison is sung as the act of Confession.

We Sing together the Kyrie Eleison.

All: Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Collect

Let us pray:

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Reading: Genesis 2.15-17, 3.1-7. *(Reading is read by Kirsten Allen)*

¹⁵. 'The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.
¹⁶. And the Lord God commanded the man, You may freely eat of every tree of the garden;
¹⁷. but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die. ^{3.1} Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, Did God say, You shall not eat from any tree in the garden? ². The woman said to the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³. but God said, You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die. ⁴. But the serpent said to the woman, You will not die; ⁵. for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil. ⁶. So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please **Stand** as we **Say** together the **The Lent Prose.**

*Cantor: Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
for we have sinn'd against thee.*



^{1.} *To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory: lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings : listen, O Jesu, to our supplications.*

All: Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinn'd against thee.

^{2.} *O thou chief Corner-stone, Right Hand of the Father : Way of Salvation, Gate of Life Celestial : cleanse thou our sinful souls from all defilement.*

All: Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinn'd against thee.

^{3.} *God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated : bow down and hearken to thy weeping children : pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses.*

All: Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinn'd against thee.

^{4.} *Sins oft committed now we lay before thee : with true contrition, now no more we veil them : grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution.*

All: Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinn'd against thee.

^{5.} *Innocent, captive, taken unresisting : falsely accused, and for us sinners sentenced, save us, we pray thee, Jesu our Redeemer.*

All: Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinn'd against thee.

The Second Reading: Romans 5.12-19. *(Reading is read by Sue Cunningham)*

^{12.} Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned- ^{13.} sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ^{14.} Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. ^{15.} But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one mans trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ^{16.} And the free gift is not like the effect of the one mans sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ^{17.} If, because of the one mans trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. ^{18.} Therefore just as one mans trespass led to condemnation for all, so one mans act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all.

¹⁹. For just as by the one mans disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one mans obedience the many will be made righteous.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: 385 Jesu, the very thought of thee.

The Gospel

All: Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Cantor: "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

All: Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

✠✠✠Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. (4.1-11)

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹. Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

². He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³. The tempter came and said to him, If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread. ⁴. But he answered, It is written, One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. ⁵. Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶. saying to him, If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, He will command his angels concerning you, and On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone

⁷. Jesus said to him, Again it is written, Do not put the Lord your God to the test. ⁸. Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; ⁹. and he said to him, All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me. ¹⁰. Jesus said to him, Away with you, Satan! for it is written, Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him. ¹¹. Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon or Homily is given.

The Motet is sung.

"Drop, drop, slow tears."

Composer: Orlando Gibbons (1583–1625) | Words: Pheneas Fletcher (1582–1650)

Arranged: Anthony Greening

¹. Drop, drop, slow tears,
and bathe those beauteous feet,
which brought from heaven
the news and Prince of Peace.

². Cease not, wet eyes,
his mercies to entreat;
to cry for vengeance
sin doth never cease.

³. In your deep floods
drown all my faults and fears;
nor let his eye see sin,
but through my tears.

All: We believe in one God
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Please Kneel or Sit for the Prayers of Intercession. (Led by Stephen Brooks)

Lord, in your mercy.

All: Hear our prayer.

Merciful Father,

All: Accept these prayers for the sake of your
Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of Peace.

Offertory Hymn: 74 O for a heart to praise my God.

Preparation of the Table

God of wisdom, may the light of your eternal Word, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, lead us in holiness and guide us to glory; we ask this in his name.

All: Amen.

God of mercy and compassion, your Word calls us home to faith and love. accept all we offer you this day; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

All: Amen.

God of our journey, as we walk with you on your path of obedience, sustain us on our way and lead us to your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

All: His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son.

For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again.

Through fasting, prayer and acts of service you bring us back to your generous heart. Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world and free our hands to welcome others into the radiant splendour of your love.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds we bless you for your mercy and join with saints and for ever praising you and singing:

**All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.
Glory be to Thee, O Lord most high.
✠ Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Congregation Kneel or Sit.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. ✠

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. ✠

Great is the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of Mary, the Virgin Mother of God, St Thomas the Apostle and our Patron, and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

All: ✠ Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup.

All: We proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come again in glory.

The Lamb of God (Agnus Dei) *is sung.*

All: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world.
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world.
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
Grant us Thy peace.

The Prayer of Humble Access

All: We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him,
and he in us.
Amen.

Invitation to Communion

✠ Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

The Priest, Altar Party, Choir and the People all receive communion.

If you are baptised and receive communion in your own church, you are welcome to receive communion here.

You are welcome to receive a blessing instead of communion. If you wish to receive a blessing, please keep your head bowed.

Communion Hymn: 307 Sweet Sacrament divine.

Prayers after Communion

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

All: God of our pilgrimage,
you have fed us with the bread of heaven.
Refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Parish Notices *are given.*

A Junior Church Presentation *may be given.*

Final Hymn: 467 Through all the changing scenes of life.

The Blessing

The Lord be with you.

All: and also with you.

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: In the name of Christ. Amen.

Organ Voluntaries before the Service will include, amongst others:

Verse in A minor – T. Tomkins (1572–1656), *Fantasia in four parts* – O. Gibbons (1583–1625)

Fugue in G minor – G. Frescobaldi (1583–1643)

Organ Voluntaries during Communion will include, amongst others:

Agnus Dei – J. Redford (d. 1547)

Organ Postlude

A Fancy for Two to Play (duet for two organists) – T. Tomkins (1572–1656)

6:30pm: Book of Common Prayer Service of Evening Prayer | Led by: Stephen Brooks
Psalm(s): 50. 1-15, Epistle: Deuteronomy 6.4-9, 16-end, Gospel: Luke 15.1-10.

Throughout the week, The Daily Offices of **Morning & Evening Prayer**
are observed in Church at 9am and 5pm.

Monday & Wednesday (MP - Live-Streamed on Facebook) | Tuesday & Thursday (In Person - Lady Chapel)
Friday Morning Prayer is at 8.30am (MP - Live-Streamed on Facebook)

Tuesday 24th February 2026 - 12(Noon) MASS in the Lady Chapel

Sunday 1st March 2026: Parish Mass for the Second Sunday in Lent

Reader(s): Anne Ross & Chris Michell | Intercessor(s): Colin Lomas
Preacher: Leslie Pringle | Chalice: Fade Solanke-Mitterer & Stephen Brooks

WHATS ON AT ST THOMAS'

Monday 23 February

18.00: Stations of the Cross

Tuesday 24 February

12.00: Mass, Lady Chapel

Wednesday 25 February

14.00 | 19.00: Lent Course: Compass

Sunday 1 March

10.00: Parish Mass, Second Sunday of Lent

16.30: Youth Film Night (Sister Act)

Monday 2 March

18.00: Stations of the Cross

Tuesday 3 March

12.00: Mass, Lady Chapel

Wednesday 4 March

12.30: Over 50's Fellowship Lunch

14.30 | 19.00: Lent Course: Nourishment

Sunday 8 March

10.00: Parish Mass, Third Sunday of Lent

(Last day for Easter Egg orders)

Monday 9 March

18.00: Stations of the Cross

Tuesday 10 March

12.00: Mass, Lady Chapel

Wednesday 11 March

14.00 | 19.00: Lent Course: Light

Saturday 14 March

10.00–14.00: Church Back Garden Clear-Up

Sunday 15 March

10.00: Parish Family Mass, Mothering Sunday

Monday 16 March

18.00: Stations of the Cross

Tuesday 17th March

12.00: Mass, Lady Chapel

Wednesday 18 March

14.00 | 19.00: Lent Course: Shelter

Saturday 21 March

10.00–12.00: St Thomas' Table Sale

Sunday 22 March

10.00: Parish Mass, Passion Sunday

Monday 23 March

18.00: Stations of the Cross

Tuesday 24 March

12.00: Mass, Lady Chapel

Wednesday 25 March

14.00 | 19.00: Lent Course: Water

Sunday 29 March

10.00: Parish Mass, Palm Sunday

19.00: "A Passiontide Devotional"

Thursday 2 April

19.00: Maundy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday 3 April

15.00: Good Friday - Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

Sunday 5 April

10.00: Parish Mass, Easter Day

Wednesday 8 April

12.30: Over 50's Fellowship Lunch



Parish Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, and let us thank almighty God for his goodness.

The Church: *We pray for the Church throughout the world, and for our partners in mission and friendship: for ✠ Bishop George Dawson-Ahmoah and the Churches of Nkoranza; for ✠ Pfr. Jens Oehme and the people of the Lütcherkirche in Chemnitz; and for ✠ Revd Canon Clement Francis and the people of Christ the King, Carriacou. May our fellowship in the Gospel bear witness to Christ's love.*

We pray for the Church of England and the Anglican Communion: *For ✠ Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury; ✠ Emma, Acting Bishop of London; ✠ Lisa, Bishop of Willesden; and ✠ Catherine, Archdeacon of Northolt; and for ✠ St Paul's Cathedral, our Diocesan Mother church.*

Our Parish and Community: *We give thanks for this Parish of St Thomas the Apostle: for ✠ Julia our Priest, for our Churchwardens and PCC; and for all who are called to serve in the life and ministry of the Church. We give thanks for Rowland, our Pastoral Assistant and Youth Intern, and for Nilesch Patel, preparing for Ordination and joining us as Curate. Strengthen our fellowship, deepen our faith, and guide us in love, service, and truth.*

We pray for our community in Hanwell: *For our schools - Ealing Fields, Elthorne, Oaklands, St Mark's, and New Level Academy - for all who teach and learn within them; for all who live and work in our Parish, and for the communities and friendships formed within our Parish Hall. May Christ dwell in our homes and hearts and be known among us.*

The World: *We pray for the nations of the world, especially those torn by conflict and fear: the Holy Land, Gaza and Palestine, the Middle East, Iran, India and Pakistan, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Syria, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ukraine. Grant justice to those in authority, and peace to all peoples.*

The Sick and Those in Need: *We pray for the sick, the housebound, all who are in hospital or in care, and all who are in need of healing. We remember especially: Andrea Arthurs, Roy Arthurs, John Ball, Paul Ball, Caroline Baxter, John Brake & Family, Nigel & Davina Brooks, Ivan Carter, Noel Chardon, Jenny Cornwell, Baljit & Sarah Dhandra, Patrick Dennerly, Daphne Dorival, Leo & Estriana Douglas, Merfyn Edwards, Geraldine, Celia Griffith, Darren Hancock, Ian King, Jaxon Prentice, Nick Lunn, Arda & Joe Metcalf, Dermot Molloy, Stuart Minty, Leslie Pringle, Nicholas Robinson, Sarah, Gill Shaw, Keith & Sara Spillet, Colin Spooner, Leslie Stanton, John Tozer, Lynne Wilson, and Anthony Wilson. Comfort all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, and give them hope and healing.*

The Departed: *We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Christopher Hugh Mortimer and Richard Pope, and Those whose year's mind falls at this time: Mark Smithers, Zoe Lucy Oxford, Lauren Clarke, Azniv Avakian, Katherine Mynors, and Norman Everard. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace, and rise in glory.*

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE BOSTON ROAD, HANWELL, W7 2AD

🌐 : StThomasHanwell.com 📘 : Facebook.com/StThomasHanwell 📷 : Instagram.com/StThomasHanwell

Reverend Julia Palmer (MA, MSc)

Rowland Linder

Stephen Brooks

Vicar

Youth Outreach | Pastoral Assistant

Parish & Liturgical Administrator
Hall Bookings Manager

St Thomas' Vicarage,
182 Boston Road,
Hanwell, London, W7 2AD

St Thomas' Parish Office,
The Vestry, St Thomas the Apostle Church,
Hanwell, London, W7 2AD

☎ : 07939 043 959

☎ : 07907 280 705

☎ : 07933 895 761

✉ : revjuliap@msn.com

✉ : RowlandLinder@gmail.com

✉ : stthomashanwell@gmail.com

The Parish Office is open Tuesday to Thursday, 11.00am–4.00pm, and is closed on Mondays and Fridays.