



ST MARTIN'S & ST THOMAS'S
CHURCHES

NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

Free to the homes in our Parish

Christ is Risen!
Hallelujah!
He is Risen Indeed!



Happy Easter!

ST MARTIN'S & ST THOMAS'S CHURCHES

SERVICE TIMES: *

*St Martin's Church,
Suez Road*

Sundays: 9.45am

with activities for children

Evening service: 6.30pm



*St Thomas's Hall,
Ancaster Way*

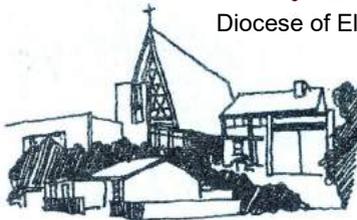
Sundays: 11.15am

*** For up-to-date times
check QR code or**

<http://stm.org.uk/services>



Diocese of Ely



CONTACT DETAILS:

St Martin's Website: stm.org.uk

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St Thomas's Church,

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Ancaster Way, Cambridge CB1 3TT

Vicar:

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Easter

“He is not here; he has risen!” This is the joyful message of Easter Day. This is the message on which the whole Christian faith rests.

Jesus who died on the cross, whose body was put into a tomb, is no longer there. He is risen! That Sunday morning was to transform all the Sundays to come, for on that first day of the week, God used those whose message counted for nothing to announce that Jesus was alive. He wants to give all of us new life and set us free from the fear of death to live our lives to the full.

Unlikely witnesses

The story of Easter starts with the witness of a group of women, women whose testimony did not count much in those days. Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James had been following Jesus all the way from the mountainous region of Galilee in northern Israel to Jerusalem, alongside the twelve apostles and the other disciples.

That Friday before Easter they saw Jesus being executed by the Romans. They had to watch from a distance as his body was taken down from the cross and placed in a tomb. A heavy stone was rolled before it to seal its entrance. Roman soldiers were placed in front of it to make sure no one would be able to disturb the body.

He is not here; he has risen!

Early on Sunday morning, the first day of the week, the women hurriedly made last minute preparations to embalm Jesus' body, carrying with them the necessary spices. When they arrived at the tomb, the stone was rolled away, the tomb empty, the soldiers gone.

The question asked by two men in glowing garments challenged them as to why they were there: “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!” They were then reminded of Jesus' words that he would be raised back to life on the third day. Having heard the good news that Jesus was alive, they could not help but race back to tell the apostles, the men at Jesus' side. The story well might have ended here,

for the apostles did not believe the women's testimony, except Peter who raced to the empty tomb to establish whether the news he had heard was for real.

Hope

The message of Good Friday and Easter is that God became human in Jesus. That on the cross he, who was faultless, experienced our pain and the consequences of our failures, which the Bible calls sin, so we can live new lives and have a new start. Jesus' mission was to set us free from the things that oppress our lives, to make us whole and to give us a new start, wherever we may have failed in life.

Whilst we live in a world where we all have to die, the message of Easter gives us the real Christian hope, that God in Jesus has overcome the curse of death. For as we commit our lives to him, Jesus' resurrection is the token of our own resurrection one day, not as a shapeless roaming spirit, but with a glorious transfigured new body in the presence of God, when Jesus comes again for all to recognise him for who he is.

Seek out the truth

We should remember that it was lowly shepherds who had the privilege to witness the birth of Jesus and recognise him as king. God's choice of women as the first witnesses of Jesus' resurrection reminds us that we all do well to challenge the voices we pay attention to. In a society where the strongest often dictate the terms, we are reminded that Jesus has come to seek out those who have little or nothing to give, who are struggling with life. This means taking seriously the voices of those who count little in our society. At a time when we realise increasingly that not all we read represents the truth, we have the responsibility to not simply listen to the loudest voices, but to seek out the truth for ourselves and in turn to make that truth known to others. The women at the empty tomb, confronted with the news of the risen Jesus, were not afraid to make themselves look like fools, and to challenge others to seek out the truth for themselves.

Speak up!

As we face the greatest humanitarian crisis in a generation, we are called to listen to those who have no voice, to seek out the truth and to speak out for those who are oppressed, even if we fear our voice will not be heard. As borders are closed and walls erected, our generation will be held accountable for how we responded to the cry of those in peril, to those, who may have no other voice but ours.

Johannes Roth, vicar

PULL OUT LEAFLET

Our Community

About St Martin's

We are a Church of England parish situated just across the railway line, here in Cambridge, with Mill Road to the north and Cherry Hinton Road to the south.

We warmly welcome anyone who wishes to join us in our desire to explore together the depths and challenges of God's love for us. This love is made visible in the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, and spelled out for us in the Bible. It challenges us to love others unreservedly as he loved us.




Revd Johannes Roth.

Whether you are nearly new or almost old, there should be something for you here at St Martin's. We are a local community of Christian believers welcoming members from all over the world.

Church Groups:

Sunday Groups for Children and Teenagers:

Children's Sunday Groups One for children 3-6 years old, and one for 7-10s during St Martin's Sunday morning service in term-time.

Rachel Hunt

01223 576639

Teenagers Group For young people 11-14 years old at St Martin's Church, Suez Road, during the morning service in term-time.

Colin Thorpe

01223 246736

Weekdays (continued over page):

Morning Prayer – 30 minutes.

9:15 am in the Quiet Room at St Martin's Church, Suez Road.

Johannes Roth

01223 665848

Church Activities - Weekdays (continued):

Monday Evening Group:

Smart & Janet Mathole's **01223 214606**

Wednesday Groups:

Dennis & Jenny Burch's (Morning) **01223 211993**

Barbara Dring & **01223 243631**

Susan Matthews' (Afternoon) **01223 247556**

Colin & Brenda Thorpe's (Evening) **01223 246736**

Brian & Margaret Anker's (Evening) **01223 248363**

Simon & Mary Hall's. (Evening) **01223 247074**

Thursday mornings. Mary & Martha. Based near the church.

This is a group for women.

Elizabeth Baker **01223 244091**

Other Supported Groups meeting at St Martin's

Monday & Thursday **Art Group** organised by the Day Centre but open to a few extra amateur artists. This group meets at 1:45pm.

Andy Drury **01223 508080**

Carpet Bowls Open to the community. Meets 10am – 12 noon on Tuesdays.

Geoff Ford **01223 212993**

Causeway. Worship and fellowship for those with learning disabilities, alternate Wednesdays, 7:30pm in St Martin's lounge.

Part of *Causeway Prospects*.

Chrissy Cole **01223 410824**

One Two Eight and 130 Suez Road.

These residential homes, established by St Martin's over 30 years ago, and managed by *Metropolitan Housing* cater for people with learning disabilities, many of whom are valued Church members.

Tracy Brett

01223 572158

Brownies For girls aged 7 to 11 meets at St Martin's on Tuesday evenings at 6pm. It is very popular.

Vicky Williams

Vickywilliams22@msn.com

Gateway A *Mencap* inspired social evening fortnightly on Mondays at St Martin's at 7.30pm. For people with learning disabilities.

Adrian Holmes

07767 640394

Torch Group meets monthly for worship, tea and fellowship tailored to the needs of those with visual impairment. On Saturday afternoon at St Thomas's Hall.

Stan Weighill

01223 214143

Vista For international women living in Cambridge, meets Fridays in term time at 9:45-11:15am at St Martin's.

Margy Lewis

01223 874029

A Knitting Group For creativity and friendship meets on Thursday afternoons at 3:30pm near St Thomas's.

Sharon Simpkins

07717 311 044

Other supported groups meeting at St Martin's (continued).

Women's Breakfast Meets the 1st Saturday of each month for fellowship, learning and prayer, with a speaker and a lovely breakfast at 8:30am at St Martin's. Plus special events.

Margaret Anker **01223 248363**

Men's Breakfast Meets at 7.30 am on the 2nd Saturday of each month at St Thomas's Hall. All men are warmly invited to join us for a relaxed breakfast followed by a short talk. There are also various special events.

Dave Baker **01223 244091**

Alpha Course An excellent introduction to the Christian faith, run jointly with St Philip's, our partner church, each autumn term. A meal, a short talk, and a discussion.

Stewart Taylor **01223 414775**

Good Companions A fortnightly gathering for senior citizens at St Thomas's Hall on Thursdays at 2pm.

The Well for families to share a meal together, play games and explore faith. 2nd Saturday of each month at St Martin's from 4-6pm.

Matthew Gunton **01223 247519**

St Martin's Day Centre. A well respected day care provision for referred senior citizens. Mondays to Fridays. Plus special trips.

Andy Drury **01223 508080**

Sunday Lunches. A family friendly bring & share lunch at 12 noon at **St Martin's**, on the 1st Sunday of the month if enough people sign up.

ACTIVITIES TAKING PLACE AT

St Martins Church, Suez Road, Cambridge, CB1 3QD

St Thomas 's Church, Ancaster Way, Cambridge, CB1 3TT

CHIKA NDUKU SHARES

My story is echoed by a Bible passage in the New Testament, written to a man called Timothy. 'I thank him who has given me strength for this, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful by appointing me to his service, though I formerly blasphemed and persecuted and insulted him; but I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief' (1 Timothy 1:12-13).



Doing all the “right things”

I was born and brought up in a Christian family in Eastern Nigeria. My Dad, an Archdeacon in the Anglican Communion, insisted that we attended church services for as long as we lived in the vicarage, which was our home. This meant 5am prayers, Sunday schools, morning and evening church services and various activities in the church.

Discouragement

Because of my father, I started developing an interest in serving God and the public, but was discouraged by church politics and the great expectations that both Church and community had of “the Vicar’s children”.

Trying to serve God

During my secondary school days and later in further education, the school authorities appointed me to religious and spiritual leadership but I took on these things as a way to please them but never wanted to give all to God. Maybe I was busy simply trying to be mature.

I say “No”

When people started to tell me of the vision and revelation of God’s call on my life, I stopped attending church services. In 2005, I also stopped attending St John’s Church, Stratford, London, when the Vicar told me to come forward for God’s call.

But God still calls

The penny dropped in January, 2011 when God brought me to a full stop, by sending me to hospital with an undefined cause. I was in the hospital for four weeks and was assured by the medics that my discharge date was unknown. In my heart I heard God's voice, beckoning me on to accept His call.

I say "yes" at last

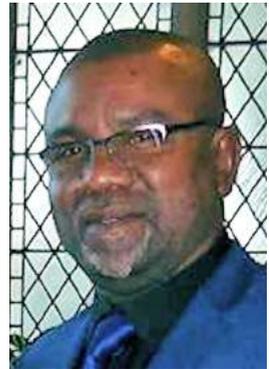
Even my Vicar visited me with the same message from God. This led to my final decision to answer the call of God. As soon as I responded with a "yes" to His call, I was discharged—the same day.

No regrets

Leaving my job and the home my family and I loved, I came with my family to Cambridge for my studies at Ridley Hall. It has been very difficult and challenging, but I am glad we made that decision as a family.

Training to serve God

To go through the training and studies is quite difficult but I know there will be rewards in my ministry. I do not regret answering the call of God and I am always happy to be in His presence.



CHIKA NDUKU

COMMUNITY HUB AT ST MARTIN'S AND ST THOMAS'S

There are lots of activities and groups taking place at both St Martin's and St Thomas's.

There may be something to interest you,
and you will always find a welcome -
see the centre pages.

FOCUSING ON ACTIVITIES AT ST THOMAS'S



Cambridge Torch Fellowship Group meets at our own St Thomas's Hall each month on the second Saturday. It is a real encouragement for all those who are blind and with severe sight-loss, with a varied programme of

Christian worship, testimony and fellowship. We provide transport, and a meal is enjoyed by all. We come from many different churches and also feel part of the national network of 110 groups, and internationally the Torch movement sends suitable literature to over 100 countries. Torch was originally set up over 50 years ago. For more details please **contact** Stan Weighill on 01223 214143.

St Martin's and St Thomas's Men 's

Breakfast Group, meets from 7:30am to 9:00am on the second Saturday of the month at St Thomas's Hall. Visitors are always welcome.

In addition to the Saturday breakfast with a

speaker, various activities and trips are organised, such as the annual weekend away. This year we are going to Wales. **Contact** our organiser Dave Baker on 01223 244091 for details, or check our website www.martinsmen.org.uk.



Good Companions A fortnightly club for seniors – activity, tea and cake. Alternate Thursdays 2:00 – 3:30 pm at St. Thomas 's. **Contact** Jenny Burch on 01223 211993.

**SHARE EASTER WITH US AT
ST MARTIN'S AND ST THOMAS'S CHURCHES**

ST MARTIN'S

PALM SUNDAY

9th April at 9.45am - Celebrate Jesus Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem

GOOD FRIDAY

14th April - 10.30am - **Walk of Witness** from St Martin's to St Thomas's where there will be a service at 11am

EASTER SUNDAY

16th April - Joint service of **Holy Communion** at 9.45am

ASCENSION DAY

25th May - Open Air Joint **Holy Communion** Service at 7.30pm

ST THOMAS'S

MAUNDY THURSDAY

13th April - 7.30pm - **Holy Communion and a Meal**

GOOD FRIDAY

Walk of Witness from St Martin's (10.30am) to St Thomas's - Service at 11am

EASTER SUNDAY

Joint service at St Martin's

ST THOMAS'S

37th ANNIVERSARY

Sunday 21st May followed by lunch together

