

claiming (or reclaiming) that which they believe belongs to them in faith. We need to reclaim our church grounds for a new purpose ...  
Historically the land surrounding our church has been given over as a place of rest for the departed. Our prayer is that part of our land may be released to give peace, rest and a place for the living to grow in faith!

## PROGRAMME

Friday, 10th October

7.30pm - Evening prayer & worship  
8.30pm—All together around the campfire  
(*weather permitting*)

Saturday, 11th October

12.00noon—mid-day Eucharist  
7.00pm—Evening celebration

**Sign-up** for a 15 minute slot of prayer as we create a wave of prayer throughout the day & night.

**EXTRA** for the brave-hearted!

Let your presence be a prayer! We're inviting people to camp (or caravan) out over night in the church grounds (perhaps on the ground cleared the previous week) as a way of symbolically laying-hold of the land for a new purpose.

Camping out could be a really exciting way to incorporate children and young people in our prayer as we invite people of **ALL-AGES** to take up the challenge of prayer.

## Commitment Sunday

Sunday, 12th October

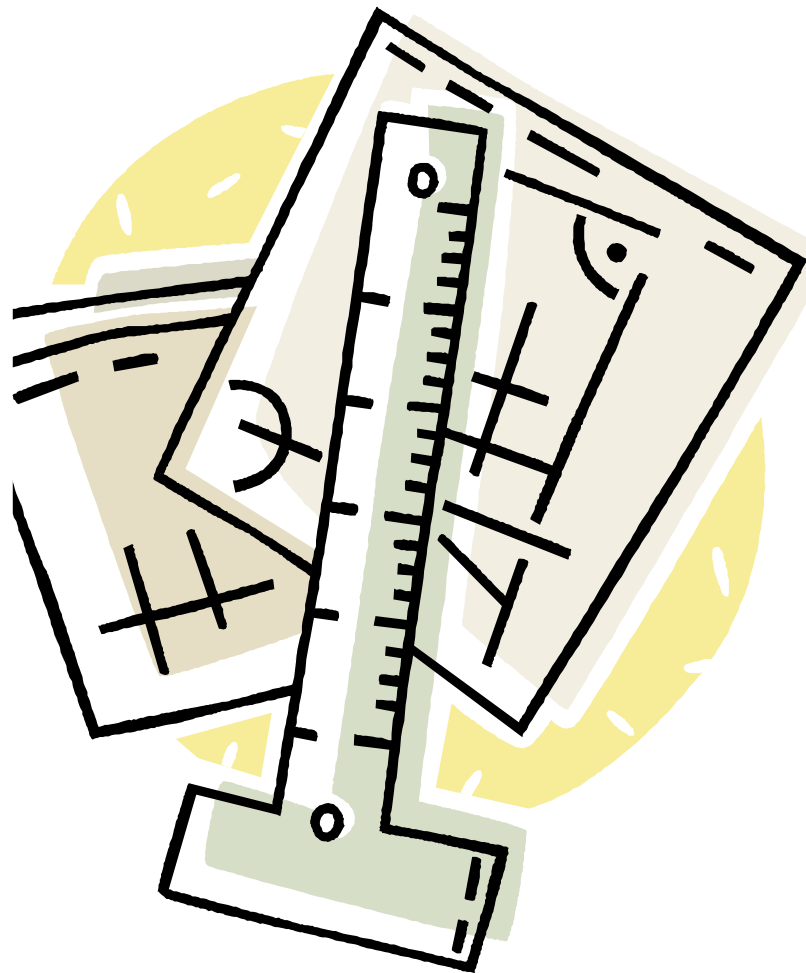
10.30am

A united service of prayer and celebration as we gather in our financial commitments to this project.

*\* Work undertaken at participants own risk, St Thomas' accepts no liability for accident, loss or injury caused.*

# St Thomas' Brampton

Parish centre  
building  
development



Invitation to  
prayer

*Dear Friends,*

Let us be under no illusion—we are praying for a miracle. As you know I've spent the first 100 days as Rector listening—some things have taken time to hear and discern, others have been written large in ten-metre high neon letters. The need to quickly develop the parish centre is one of those, to do this we need to overcome many hurdles, not least the need to release a significant amount of money.

I believe our ability to develop this facility will be the single most significant factor in shaping our future. If we are unable to build, and soon, our ability to function as an effective church will quickly be eroded. Our children's ministry will be the first to suffer but it certainly won't be the last—every area of our church's life depends on having new space to grow and flourish.

One thing I know for sure is that the Kingdom of God is never extended through charity but only by the blood, sweat and tears of God's people faithfully and sacrificially giving. This giving begins in 'giving ourselves' to pray like we have never prayed as a church before! I don't doubt for a moment that many prayers have already been said but we need to pray, pray and then pray some more.

And so here we are, a few weeks away from our call to financially commit to this project. I don't know how God plans to provide the funds we need, but I do know that if we don't fervently give ourselves to prayer we have no hope of achieving that which we so desperately need to do.

We must begin and end our giving in prayer. Prayer must saturate all that we do. Our plans must be soaked in prayer. Prayer quite simply is the key. In this build-up to our commitment Sunday (12th Oct) I invite you to join with me in a season of prayer that will take us forward in this extraordinary journey of faith that God has invited us to be a part of for as we pray miracles happen.

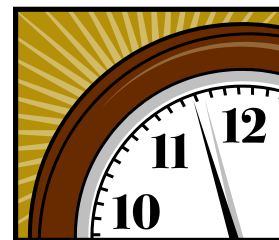
Yours in Christ,

*Rev'd Matthew Barnes*

Rector

## Daily Prayer

Please commit to use the accompanying prayer card and pray for 10 minutes per day for the parish centre project.



There will be a prayer wall in Church where God's words spoken to us as we pray can be displayed for the Church's encouragement.

## Preparing the ground

**Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> October – 10.00—2.00pm**

**Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> October—2.00—4.00pm**

or at another time suitable to yourself  
*please let the office know when you propose to work on site*

Come and physically 'prepare the ground'\* as we begin to clear the proposed development site of overgrowth. This symbolic act will help us practically and spiritually 'see' the centre emerge. Once your work is done there will be opportunity to 'stake your prayer' into the ground by hammering in a personalised peg.

You are invited to come at a time suitable to yourself and clear an area of ground (*you chose what you're capable of*). Short litany cards will be available to begin your ground clearance, thus making every spade a prayer! If you're unable to dig you are still very welcome to come and spend some time in prayer—the Church and 'make your own refreshments' will be available all day.



## Claiming the ground

**Friday/Saturday 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> October**

**7.30pm – 7.30pm**

24-hours of intense prayer incorporating prayer & worship services, around the clock prayer cover and opportunity to inhabit the land!

The bible is full of examples of God's people