

St Thomas' CofE Academy



Dear Parents,

It has been a busy and rewarding couple of weeks across the school, with pupils continuing to demonstrate enthusiasm, resilience, and a real love of learning.

We have seen some wonderful examples of teamwork and creativity, both inside and outside the classroom. From engaging lessons to extracurricular activities, it is always a pleasure to witness the confidence and curiosity our children bring to each day.

As we move further into the term, we look forward to a number of exciting events and opportunities for pupils to showcase their achievements. Please take a moment to read through this newsletter to stay up to date with key information and upcoming dates.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Pierpoint

Friday 24th April 2026

‘Learning for life with Jesus’

Dates for your diary:

Mon 13 th April	School opens for staff and children - Summer term
Mon 13 th April	Year 6 MHST workshops begin
Thurs 16 th April	Fire Service visiting Year 1 and 2
Tues 21 st April	Year 2 trip to Hoo Zoo and Dinosaur World
Mon 27 th April	Year 4 trip to Chester Zoo
Mon 11 th May	Year 6 SATs begin today
Thurs 14 th May	Last day of Year 6 SATs
Fri 15 th May	Year 6 coffee morning & SATs celebration
Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May Half term	
Mon 1 st June	Year 4 multiplication check begins this week
Tues 2 nd June	Eco Council visit to Harper Adams University Farm
Wed 3 rd June	Year 6 trip to Alton Towers
Friday 5 th June	PSA Summer Fair
Mon 8 th June	Year 1 Phonics screening check begins this week
Mon 8 th June	Year 1 trip to Manchester Airport
Wed 10 th June - Fri 12 th June	Year 5 residential trip to Dove Dale
Mon 15 th June	Year 6 class individual leavers photos
Thurs 18 th June	Year 4 music concert at the Victoria Hall
Thurs 18 th June	Year 4 Night under the stars camp out
Fri 19 th June	Father's Day breakfast
Mon 22 nd June	Class photographs (Not <u>inc</u> Year 6)
Thurs 25 th June	Sports day
Wed 1 st July	New Reception Teddy Bear's picnic (2026/2027 cohort)
Mon 29 th June - Thurs 2 nd July	The Kings transition days (Year 6)
Tues 30 th June	New to Early Years Parent information evening 6pm
Tues 7 th July	KS2 SATS results
Wed 8 th July	Year 6 show 1:30pm and 6pm
Wednesday 8 th July	End of year reports to go home
Thurs 9 th July	Year 6 show 6pm
Wed 15 th July	Year 6 Prom 6:30-8pm
Wednesday 15 th July	End of year drop in for reports discussions - to be prebooked if needed.
Thurs 16 th July	Whole school end of year celebration assembly (Not Y6) - Parents welcome
Fri 17 th July	Year 6 Leaver's assembly 1:30pm - Parents welcome

SHINE workshops

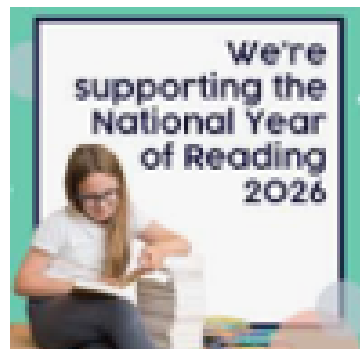
We would warmly like to invite parents and carers into school to learn alongside your child. Following the success of our SHINES we would like to launch our summer term SHINE workshops - all of our ~~Summer~~ terms events will have a 'Year of reading' theme.

Please come into school for a fun filled and creative afternoon, where you can work alongside your child and learn new skills.

All of these sessions will start at 2:00pm and finish at 3:15pm. All sessions will be held in school.

Dates:

Monday 20 th April	Year 5
Wednesday 29 th April	Year 4
Monday 18 th May	Year 1
Monday 1 st June	Year 3
Monday 8 th June	Nursery
Monday 15 th June	Reception
Monday 29 th June	Year 2
Monday 6 th July	Year 6

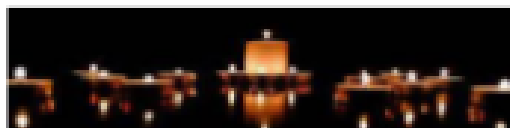


Inspire sessions at St Thomas' Church.

2:00pm - 3:00pm at St Thomas' Church

Dates:

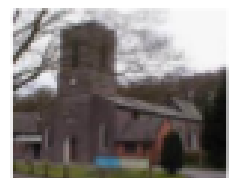
Tuesday 4 th November	Year 3
Tuesday 25 th November	Year 5
Tuesday 27 th January	Year 6
Tuesday 3 rd March	Year 4
Tuesday 28 th April	Year 2
Tuesday 23 rd June	Year 1
Tuesday 7 th July	Nursery & Reception together in school



We are really delighted to be continuing to work alongside Reverend Baker from St Thomas' church. We want to support children in their spiritual development and continue 'Learning for Life with Jesus.'

Following the great success of our Inspire workshops last year, each class will be spending an afternoon at St Thomas' to deepen their spiritual understanding and engage in fun craft-based activities around scripture lead by Reverend Baker and their class teacher.

We would love parents/ carers/ grandparents to join us for our Inspire workshop. Please come and work alongside us as we follow Jesus' path.



‘Learning for life with Jesus’

Friday worship & coffee



morning



Every Friday morning at 9am we have a worship in school led by Reverend Iain or Tom from St Thomas' Church. We warmly invite all parents/grandparents/ carers/ parish members to join us every week.

Each week a different class or school group will also be joining the coffee morning to show you some of their learning and share things they are proud of.

Everyone is welcome to every worship and coffee morning - we hope to see everyone soon.

Dates: Summer 1

Friday 17 th April	School council/RRSA
Friday 24 th April	Year 3
Friday 1 st May	Nursery
Friday 8 th May	Reception
Friday 15 th May	Year 6 Post SATS
Friday 22 nd May	SEND/MHST

Dates: Summer 2

Friday 5 th June	Year 2
Friday 12 th June	Year 4
Friday 19 th June	Father's Day breakfast
Friday 26 th June	Year 5
Friday 3 rd July	Eco Council
Friday 10 th July	Meet our Governors and Y1 coffee morning
Friday 17 th July	Year 6 leaver's worship afternoon

Term dates 2025/2026

Autumn Term 2025

INSET DAYS	<i>Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd September 2025</i>
Autumn Term One	Wednesday 3 rd September – Friday 24 th October 2025
Half Term	Monday 27th October 2025– Friday 31st October 2025
Autumn Term Two	Monday 4 th November 2025 – Friday 19 th December 2025
INSET DAY	<i>Friday 14th November 2025</i>
Holiday	Monday 22nd December 2025 – Friday 2nd January 2026

Spring Term 2026

Spring Term One	Monday 5 th January 2026 – Friday 13 th February 2026
Half Term	Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February 2026
INSET	Monday 23rd February 2026
Spring Term Two	Monday 23 rd February 2026 – Friday 27 th March 2026
INSET	<i>Friday 20th March 2026</i>
Holiday	Monday 30th March 2026 – Friday 10th April 2026

Term dates 2025/2026

Summer Term 2026

Summer term one Monday 13th April 2026 – Friday 22nd May 2026

May Day **Monday 4th May 2026**

Half Term **Monday 25th May 2026 – Friday 29th May 2026**

Summer term two Monday 1st June 2026 – Friday 17th July 2026

INSET DAY ***Monday 20th July 2026 (Twilights)***

Summer Holiday **Tuesday 21st July 2026 – Monday 31st August 2026**

(2026/2027 academic year commences on Tuesday 1st September 2026)

Term dates 2026/2027

Autumn Term 2026

INSET DAYS	<i>Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September 2026</i>
Autumn Term One	Thursday 3 rd September 2026 – Friday 23 rd October 2026
INSET DAY	<i>Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd October 2026</i>
Half Term	Monday 26th October 2026– Friday 30th October 2026
Autumn Term Two	Monday 2 nd November 2026 – Friday 18 th December 2026
Holiday	Monday 21st December 2026 – Friday 1st January 2027

Spring Term 2027

Spring Term One	Monday 4 th January 2027 – Friday 12 th February 2027
Half Term	Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February 2027
INSET	Monday 22nd February 2027
Spring Term Two	Monday 22 nd February 2027 – Thursday 25 th March 2027
Holiday	Friday 26th March 2027 – Friday 9th April 2027

Summer Term 2027

Summer term one	Monday 12 th April 2027 – Friday 28 th May 2026
May Day	Monday 3rd May 2027
Half Term	Monday 31st May 2027 – Friday 4th June 2027
Summer term two	Monday 7 th June 2027 – Wednesday 21 st July 2027
INSET DAY	<i>Wednesday 21st July 2027</i>
Summer Holiday	Commences Thursday 22nd July 2027

Sip and support drop ins

St Thomas' now offer drop in sessions in school where parents and carers can speak to our Education Mental Health Practitioner about any concerns or questions they have. This may include questions around behaviour, diet, sleep, routines, mental health and support services available.

When:

Fri 17th April 9:30am

Fri 15th May 9:30am

Fri 12th June 9:30am

Fri 10th July 9:30am

Hannah will be available in the Haven for a chat during the coffee morning on the above dates. Everyone welcome!



SPORTS DAY

THURSDAY 25TH JUNE 2026

Event Details:

EYFS:

9:15am - 10:15am

Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and Year 2):

10:30-11:30

Key Stage 2 (Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6):

13:30-15:00

ST THOMAS'

STARS!

A huge well done to Elsie and Marco in Year 1, who took it upon themselves to make a difference in our local community. Noticing that rubbish was building up, they showed incredible initiative and kindness by starting their own litter picking! We are so proud of you both!



ST THOMAS' PARKRUN TAKE OVER!!



 26th April 2026

 Clough Hall Park, ST7 1DJ

 9:00am start – please arrive by 8:40am

  2K course

 Free to take part

 Usually all finished by 9:30am

We're excited to be part of a new parkrun initiative helping children get active, feel good, and connect with their local community.

We'd love to see as many families as possible joining us on the day.

(Parents and teachers don't have to run – totally optional!)

SAFETY REMINDERS

Please remember not to park on the driveway leading up to school when dropping off or collecting children.

Dogs are not permitted on the school playground, unless carried.

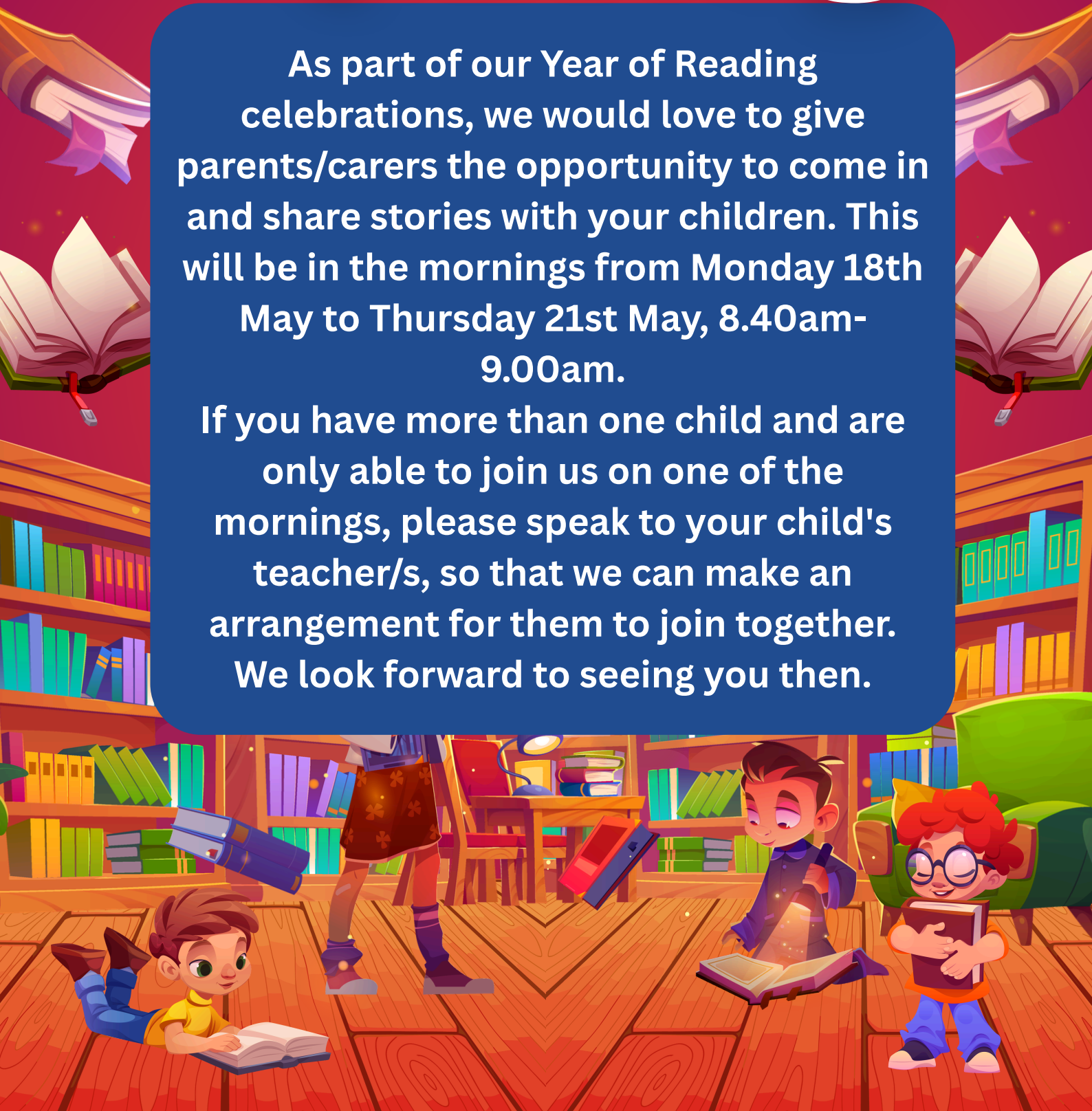
Thank you for your support in keeping our children safe around school



Celebrate the Joy of **Reading**

As part of our Year of Reading celebrations, we would love to give parents/carers the opportunity to come in and share stories with your children. This will be in the mornings from Monday 18th May to Thursday 21st May, 8.40am-9.00am.

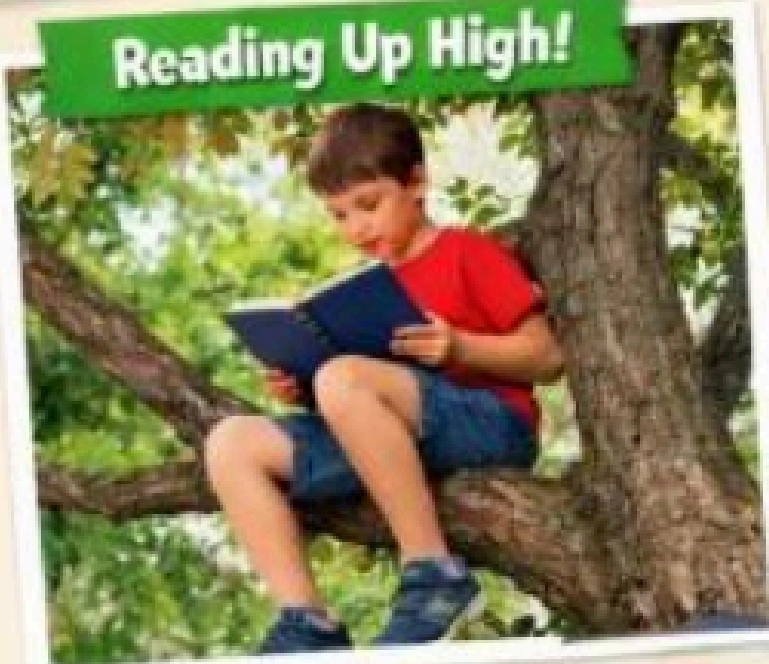
If you have more than one child and are only able to join us on one of the mornings, please speak to your child's teacher/s, so that we can make an arrangement for them to join together. We look forward to seeing you then.



EXTREME READING COMPETITION!

Get ready for some EXTREME READING FUN!

Reading Up High!



In a Paddling Pool!



Dressed as a Character!



Upside Down Reading!



Send in your EXTREME READING PHOTOS
by 5th June 2026!

Save the Date



Father's day breakfast

Friday 19th June

More details about how
to book to follow.



A WARM WELCOME

Following National Offers day last week, we are thrilled to welcome our new families who will be joining Reception in September 2026.

We are really looking forward to you joining us in September and we will be sending welcome packs and information out about transition events soon.





Sir David Attenborough turns 100!

To mark this momentous occasion we will be taking part in a special day dedicated to Sir David Attenborough on 8th May. The day will include lots of opportunities to learn outdoors!

(Year 6 will take part in their own special day on Monday 18th May)

There will also be a special picnic lunch option on 8th May and we hope to have a whole school picnic (Weather permitting)

Children will bring a letter home today with further information.



SUMMER FAIR

Friday 5th June from 3:30pm

Please come along and support our PSA
summer fair!

More information will follow shortly.

We are always looking for help on the PSA. Could you spare some time to help organise and host amazing events for our school?

Your Children Will Be Proud Of It.

Get Involved. Be In The Know.

The Children Will Benefit From It.

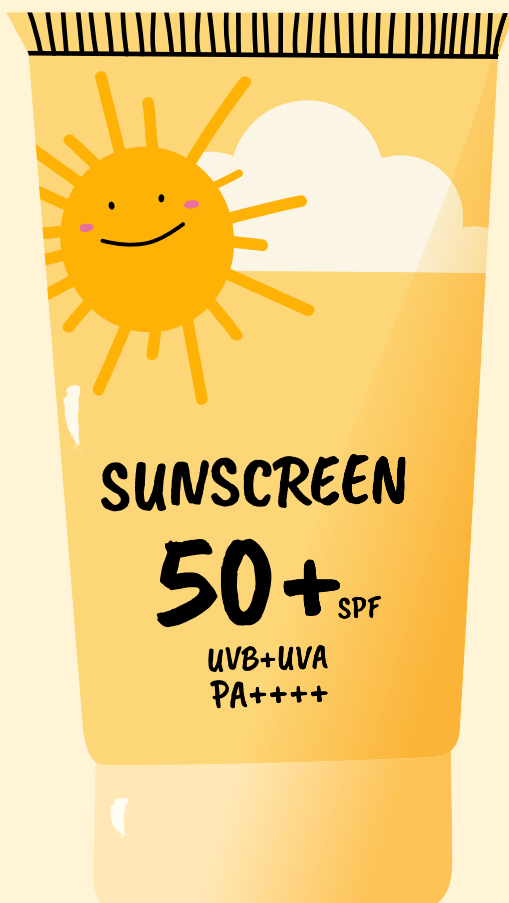
Many Hands Make Light Work.

Meet New Friends!!

You'll Feel Good About It.

Now the weather is improving
please can we ensure that every
child:

- ✔ Brings a water bottle to school every day
- ✔ Has a sun hat to wear outside
- ✔ Has sunscreen applied in the morning
before school



Linked in



Please feel free to follow us!



**DID YOU
KNOW WE
ARE ON
LINKEDIN?**

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/st-thomas%E2%80%99-cofe-primary-academy/>



ST THOMAS' FOODBANK

If you are in need, please help yourself to any items from our foodbank in the reception area of school.

We would also be grateful for any donations of non-perishable items to our foodbank. Please drop them into the office. Thank you



FREE SCHOOL MEALS ELIGIBILITY

Your child may be eligible for FREE SCHOOL MEALS if you receive any of the following:

- Income support
- Jobseeker's Allowance
- Child tax credit
- Working tax credit run-on
- ESA
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Universal Credit

If you believe that you are eligible, please tell the school!

DID YOU KNOW? The school receives additional funding for children who are in receipt of free school meals.



Three
Spires
TRUST

"Life in all its fullness"

If you think you might be eligible, please apply via the link below or speak to the office and we can happily help.

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/financial-support-school/free-school-meals/applying-free-school-meals>



Earth Day takes place every year on 22nd April to show support for the protection of the environment and our planet.

Since 1970, Earth Day has brought together people, governments and companies from around the world, supporting them to do something positive for the environment.

It promotes the fact that 'change starts with action' and we can all take action and encourage others to take action that positively impacts on the world around us.





God of hosts,
who so kindled the flame of love
in the heart of your servant George
that he bore witness to the risen Lord
by his life and by his death:
give us the same faith and power of love
that we who rejoice in his triumphs
may come to share with him the fullness of
the resurrection;
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.
Amen.

