



Our vision is to be an open Christian community where people feel loved, respected, and free to be fully themselves.



11th February 2024

Sunday next before Lent

**Welcome
to you all**



Large
Print



St James



St James



St James



Our Services this week

St James:

Sunday 11th

8:30am Holy Communion

10:00am Holy Communion

Wednesday 14th

7:30pm Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday 15th

9:30am Holy Communion

Our Lady & St Nicholas:

Sunday 11th

6pm BCP Evensong

Wednesday 14th

9:30am Ash Wednesday Service

What else is happening this week

Sunday 11th

4:15pm Pancake Service Hallam Fields Hall

Monday 12th

2:30pm Monday Group St James

Tuesday 13th

2:30-4:30pm Welcome Space St James

3:30pm Old Nick's Pancake Party Wanlip Hall

Wednesday 14th

12:30-4:30pm Welcome Space St James

3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer
Our Lady & St Nicholas

Thursday 15th

3:30-4:30pm Visiting Bell Ringers St James

Saturday 17th

10am-Noon Open Church St James

What's happening next week

Sunday 18th

8:30am Holy Communion St James

10am Holy Communion St James

6pm BCP Evensong Our Lady & St Nicholas

Monday 19th

10am Mothers Union St James

Tuesday 20th

12:30-4:30pm Welcome Space St James

Wednesday 21st

12:30-4:30pm Welcome Space St James

3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer Our Lady & St Nicholas

Thursday 22nd

9:30am Holy Communion St James

10:30am Bible Chat Group St James

Saturday 24th

10am-Noon Open Church St James

Notices

Please feel free to contact Amanda or one of the Churchwardens at any time

Rev Amanda Digman
(Day off usually Friday)

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Debbie Shephard

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Pancake Service - 11th February

You are invited to a Pancake Service on Sunday 11th February at 4:15pm in Hallam Fields Hall. A family friendly informal service... and pancakes.

Old Nick's Pancake Party - 13th February

Old Nick's coffee shop are having a Pancake Party on Tuesday 13th February in Wanlip Hall at 3:30pm There is a sign up sheet for ingredients needed at the back of church – we don't know who's coming, so please put your name next to something you could bring but are happy to take home to use if not needed! *Amanda*

What are you thankful for?

Please can you email me with things you are thankful for. We are thinking about things in general and not something personal. *Sheryl & Josephine*

Sales of Marmalade & Jam

Marmalade (£2:50) and a new supply of Jam (£2) are now available at the back of St James, the cost goes to Church funds. *Janet 07962949942*

Lourdes Cake Sale - 25th February

Hi my name is Kim, I am Theresa's Granddaughter. I am selling some cakes on Sunday 25th February after the service to help towards the costs of my pilgrimage to Lourdes.

First Aiders

We still need people to train as first aiders, so we have one or two in each service. Training costs will be covered by the PCC. Please let Sheryl know if you are interested.

Stop Press: Stop bringing drug blister packs to the church until further notice

Superdrug has now stopped it's recycling scheme and we need to find an alternative. The box has been removed to stop any piling up. Bottle Tops: we are continuing to collect these and have put the box in between pens & toothpaste to ensure these aren't mixed up with other products. *Rose*

Bible Chat Group - 22nd February

The next Bible Chat Group will be on 22nd February at 10:30am on 1 Peter.

Trench Candles

So far, over 180kg of candles have been delivered from St Mary's in Arnold, which is where they are taken from Birstall and Wanlip, on the way to the Ukrainian Centre in Nottingham – enough for well over 1500 candles. *Josephine*

Monthly tip for a less-plastic life - February

Carry wet flannels in a box instead of wet wipes for babies and toddlers

Prayer Chain

If you have an urgent prayer request please contact Doreen Wilson (2674680) or Gill Pope (2675086) it will be passed round the prayer chain as quickly as possible in strictest confidence.

A Collect for the Sunday next before Lent

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

A Post Communion Prayer for the Sunday next before Lent

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

BCP Collect for the Sunday next before Lent

O Lord, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth: Send thy Holy Ghost, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whosoever liveth is counted dead before thee. Grant this for thine only Son Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen**

World Day of Prayer - 1st March

This years Day Of Prayer has been prepared by the Christian ladies of Palestine and will be held at St. James the Great on Friday 1st March. There will be a light lunch at 12 midday, free but contributions to costs welcome, followed by a short slide presentation about Palestine at 1pm. The service will start at 2pm and a collection for the work of the World day Of Prayer will be taken during the service. We hope that you will come and support us in this global wave of prayer. Jackie Bryan

APCM reports

If you write a report for the APCM (Annual meeting) now is the time, please? Remember it's For the whole of 2023. Even though the meeting is in April, the report is for January to December. It helps us to get the ASAP so we can get the report book ready. Thank you so much. Please send to Sheryl.

Knitters and crocheters – Help please

We have received this message from Karen Gutteridge who works at the 3 Birstall Primary schools as a family support with 4- to 11-year-olds. *'I was given some medium size blankets last year. They were made from knitted or crocheted squares. I passed them onto displaced families of mine for their children's beds, who were unfortunately put into temporary accommodation. These were amazing as often the bedrooms won't have heating. They were medium sized to use as a wraparound downstairs too. Anything small and cuddly toy wise. These are used for our counselled children or for well-being when needing extra support which could be for bereavement or separation etc... We would be very grateful for anything that could be provided, with no time frame. Any donations will be accepted with appreciation.'* I have put a box in the old church to receive your donations which we will deliver to the schools. Thanks. Janet 07962949942

Forgetful women!

- 1) Who lent Doreen a book called 'Jesus'? She wants to return it, having enjoyed it!
- 2) Who offered Amanda a 7' Christmas tree for church? Yes, please!

Notices for the information sheets & when I'm in the Church Office

I will be in the office on Tuesdays & Thursdays between 9am and 1pm.

If you have a notice you would like putting in the Information sheet, can you please email it to either stjames.birstall@btconnect.com, or sheryljupp@hotmail.co.uk, or contact Amanda or a Churchwarden. I will need to have received it **before 11am** on the Thursday to get your items included in that week's news sheet. Thanks. Sheryl

Readings for this week

Sun 11th

Sunday before Lent

Reading 1:

Psalm 91:1-6

Reading 2:

Galatians 1:11-24

Gospel:

Luke 5:12-16

Evangelical Readings

Reading 1:

1 Kings 19:1-16

Reading 2:

Matthew 14:13-14, 22-33

Psalm:

99

Theme:

John 7:37-44

Mon 12th

Psalm:

30

Reading 1:

Genesis 31:1-11

Reading 2:

Galatians 1

Theme:

Luke 5:12-16

Tue 13th

Psalm:

36

Reading 1:

Genesis 37:12-end

Reading 2:

Galatians 2:1-10

Theme:

Matthew 4:1-11

Wed 14th

Ash Wednesday

Psalm:

38

Reading 1:

Daniel 9:3-6, 17-19

Reading 2:

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Holy Communion Readings

Reading 1:

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Reading 2:

2 Corinthians 5:20b - 6:10

Gospel:

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Theme:

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

Thu 15th

Psalm:

77

Reading 1:

Genesis 39

Reading 2:

Galatians 2:11-end

Holy Communion Readings

Reading 1:

Deuteronomy 30:15-end

Gospel:

Luke 9:22-25

Theme:

Luke 22:39-46

Fri 16th

Psalm:

3

Reading 1:

Genesis 40

Reading 2:

Galatians 3:1-14

Theme:

Galatians 1:11-24

Sat 17th

Psalm:

71

Reading 1:

Genesis 41:1-24

Reading 2:

Galatians 3:15-22

Theme:

Luke 17:20-21

Sun 18th

1st Sunday of Lent

Reading 1:

Genesis 9:8-17

Reading 2:

1 Peter 3:18-end

Gospel:

Mark 1:9-15

Psalm:

25:1-9

Theme:

Psalm 37:1-7

For our Prayers

Theme for the week - Solitude

This week ask God to help you see the value of withdrawing unto him. Aloneness can be blessed when he is in it. It was the pattern of the Master to withdraw for rest. And we need to enter into his rest.

For the persecuted church - Iraq

Dear God, we pray for our brothers & sisters in Iraq. They risk so much & experience so much discrimination & pressure all because they follow You. We ask that Your healing Spirit remain in the midst of Your people, particularly as they continue to heal from the trauma inflicted by so-called Islamic State. Please God, bring refreshment & hope to our family in Iraq rebuild Christians' churches, lives and communities. Amen.

For our Churches, this week especially for:

Our work with Children

Our Children: Gwenodina

What are we thankful for this week:

The early signs of Spring, the lovely snowdrops in both Wanlip and Birstall Churchyards

For our Community, this week especially for:

Playgroups, Nurseries & Childminders

For those in need or unwell:

Nicky Hardy, David Bark, Dorothy Barsby, John Walton, Michael Webb, Tricia Emmett, Ray Folland & all who care for them.

For those who have Holy Communion at home:

Sheila Skidmore, Monica Lucas, Freda Sowards, Margery Orton & Pat Wilby

For those who have recently died:

For 1st anniversary of death this week:

Velma Marriott

Every day - 9pm (or another time!)

Praying for peace in Ukraine

And a different area each day

Sun: For an end to the Cabinda War in Angola ongoing since 1975.

Mon: For an end to internal conflict in Peru ongoing since 1980.

Tues: For an end to the Casamance conflict in Senegal ongoing since 1982.

Wed: For an end to the Lord's Resistance Army insurgency in Democratic Republic of Congo and Central African Republic ongoing since 1987.

Thurs: For an end to internal conflict in Bangladesh.

Fri: For an end to conflict in the Niger Delta in Nigeria and Cameroon ongoing since 2003.

Sat: For an end to the South Thailand insurgency ongoing since 2004.