



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



**14<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**

**Welcome  
to you all**



Large  
Print



St James



St James



St James



## Our Services this week

### St James:

#### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>

8:30am Holy Communion

10:00am Holy communion

#### Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>

9:30am Holy Communion

### Our Lady & St Nicholas:

#### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>

6pm BCP Evensong

## What else is happening this week

#### Monday 15<sup>th</sup>

10am Mothers Union Communion service & AGM St James

#### Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>

10am-12 noon Old Nick's Coffee Shop Wanlip Hall

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

#### Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>

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

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

#### Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>

7pm Week of Christian Unity - Opening Service St Theresa's

#### Friday 19<sup>th</sup>

7pm Quiz night St Theresa's

#### Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>

10am-Noon Open Church St James

## What's happening next week

#### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>

8:30am Holy Communion St James

10am Holy Communion - Pulpit Swap St James

6pm BCP Evensong Our Lady & St Nicholas

#### Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>

12 Noon Frugal Lunch St Theresa's

#### Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>

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

#### Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>

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

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

7:30pm PCC Meeting St James

#### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup>

9:30am Holy Communion St James

10:30am Bible Book Club St James

#### Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>

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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## Themes for the year

For this year, we are mainly going to focus our preaching on discipleship, based on a book called Disciples for the Inner Life by Bob Benson Sr. and Michael W Benson. In the notice sheet, under each set of lectionary readings, there will be an additional reading, to help you reflect on the theme introduced on the Sunday.

There will also be a short explanation of each theme in the notice sheet under "Theme for the Week" If there is a particular festival, that week, it will take precedence. *Amanda*

## Monthly tip for a less-plastic life - January

Leave your reusable shopping bags at the front door so you don't forget them on the way out.

## 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.

## Sales of Marmalade, Jam and Chutney

Thanks to you all for purchasing my home-made organic preserves. We have raised £200 for church funds since September. I still have some jam left and will be making marmalade as soon as the Seville oranges arrive from Spain next month! Janet 07962949942

## Old Nick's Coffee Shop - 16<sup>th</sup> January

The 1<sup>st</sup> Old Nicks Coffee Shop of 2024 will be on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 10am - 12 noon, in Wanlip Hall.

## Mothers Union - 15<sup>th</sup> January

The Mothers Union will be having a Holy Communion service followed by their AGM on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 10am at St James

## Recycling Boxes

Thank you to those who are using our recycling station (under a table in the community area at St James) where you can dispose of your used pens, blister packs, toothpaste & brushes, printer ink cartridges, Babybel left overs (you can put the wax outers in; the outer wrappers; and the net bags) Please note: Only Babybel net bags can be put in the Babybel recycling box." Also some types of beauty products packets, (please only put in things you can't recycle elsewhere - in particular, shampoo, bottles etc - they can go in your green bin, so please put them there instead. There is a picture on the side of the box to help you. We do raise funds from the ink cartridges but the others do not gain us money - they do, however, help us to protect God's beautiful creation! You can also recycle phones & stamps for Mothers Union funds. Thank you so much.

## Bible Book Club - 25<sup>th</sup> January

The next Bible Book Club will be on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January starting about 10:30am. The book we are studying this month will be 'Habakkuk'

## **A Collect for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; 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**

## **A Post Communion Prayer for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## **BCP Collect for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**

Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and grant us thy peace all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## **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.

## **Week of prayer for Christian Unity - 18<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> January:**

- **Opening Service - 18<sup>th</sup> Jan at 7pm at St Theresa's**
- **Pulpit Swap - 21<sup>st</sup> December**
- **Frugal lunch - 22nd January - at 12 noon at St Theresa's**

This years Week of prayer for Christian Unity will be Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January - Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January inc. Churches Together will be marking the Week of Prayer for Christian unit with an opening service on the Thursday evening at St. Theresa's at 7pm followed by a Pulpit Swap on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>, Manda, Fr Jenson and Revd Paula Hunt will be preaching in each others churches. These are wonderful opportunities for us to worship together with other Christians so please support the events if you possibly can. We will also be having a 'Frugal' Lunch on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> at St. Theresa's at midday. There will be a guest speaker from Christian Aid, there will be a collection for Christian Aid at the end of the meal. There is now a 'sign up' sheet at the back of both churches. Again I would urge you to join us for the lunch, they are always good fun and interesting. *Debbie*

## **Flowers for special occasions**

We are fortunate to have two hugely experienced and professional flower arranging teams at Birstall & Wanlip who are willing to receive requests for flower arrangements to be placed in Church to mark your special occasion. Donations for the cost of the flowers are always welcome, but not always necessary. If you would like the teams to arrange a flower display with your special occasion in mind, please contact Sylvia Simes on 2674206 or email: [sylviasimes66@gmail.com](mailto:sylviasimes66@gmail.com) (Birstall) and Marjorie Bonshor on 2207964 (Wanlip)

## **St Theresa's Quiz night - 19<sup>th</sup> January**

St Theresa's is holding a quiz night on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm entrance £3.

## **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](mailto:stjames.birstall@btconnect.com), or [sheryljupp@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sheryljupp@hotmail.co.uk), or contact Amanda or a Churchwarden. I will need to have received it **before I am** on the Thursday to get your items included in that week's news sheet. Thanks. *Sheryl*

## Readings for this week

**Sun 14<sup>th</sup>**      **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**

Reading 1: 1 Samuel 3:1-10  
Reading 2: Revelation 5:1-10  
Gospel: John 1:43-end  
Psalm: 139:1-5, 12-18

**Theme:**      **Job 42:1-6**

**Mon 15<sup>th</sup>**

Psalm: 146  
Reading 1: Genesis 6:11 - 7:10  
Reading 2: Matthew 24:1-14

**Theme:**      **Isaiah 55**

**Tue 16<sup>th</sup>**

Psalm: 132  
Reading 1: Genesis 7:11-end  
Reading 2: Matthew 24:15-28

**Theme:**      **John 3:1-8**

**Wed 17<sup>th</sup>**

Psalm: 81  
Reading 1: Genesis 8:1-14  
Reading 2: Matthew 24:29-end

**Theme:**      **2 Corinthians 4:7-18**

**Thu 18<sup>th</sup>**

Psalm: 76  
Reading 1: Genesis 8:15 - 9:7  
Reading 2: Matthew 25:1-13

Holy Communion Readings

Reading 1: 1 Samuel 18:6-9, 19:1-7  
Gospel: Mark 3:7-12

**Theme:**      **Matthew 15:1-17**

**Fri 19<sup>th</sup>**

Psalm: 27  
Reading 1: Genesis 9:8-19  
Reading 2: Matthew 25:14-30

**Theme:**      **John 15:1-17**

**Sat 20<sup>th</sup>**

Psalm: 122  
Reading 1: Genesis 11:1-9  
Reading 2: Matthew 25:31-end

**Theme:**      **Ephesians 3:1-21**

**Sun 21<sup>st</sup>**      **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**

Reading 1: Genesis 14:17-20  
Reading 2: Revelation 19:6-10  
Gospel: John 2:1-11  
Psalm: 128  
**Theme:**      **Matthew 11:25-30**

## For our Prayers

**Theme for the week - "Going Inward"**

Your prayers this week should be to recognise the reality and depth of your inner being and to ask God to meet you there. For Him to come to abide in this realm of your hopes, values, joys, hurts and loneliness.

**For the persecuted church - Syria**

Father God, pour out Your compassion on people in Syria. Restore this land to a place of peace & stability. Draw near to Your children, who suffer threats, intimidation & persecution for their faith in You. Comfort them in their distress & heal the wounds that ongoing war has inflicted. Give hope to people who have lost so much & help them to find supportive communities. Intervene in the hearts of militant groups & bring an end to the violence. **Amen.**

**For our Churches, this week especially for:**

Our Area Dean, Archdeacons & Bishops  
God, Me & Art  
Our Children:

**For our Community, this week especially for:**

The Food Hub  
City of Sanctuary

**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

**For those who have recently died:**

Ellen Cleaver

**For 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of death this week:**

**Every day - 9pm (or another time!) wherever you are**

Praying for peace in Ukraine

And a different area each day

**Sun:** And for an end to the Sudan conflict

**Mon:** And for an end to the Kurdish separatism in Iran

**Tues:** And for an end to Insurgency in Kashmir (India & Pakistan)

**Wed:** And for an end to Israeli-Palestinian Conflict (Israel, Palestine)

**Thurs:** And for an end to insurgency in Balochistan (Pakistan, Iran)

**Fri:** And for an end to Insurgency in Northeast India

**Sat:** For an end to the Naxalite-Maoist insurgency in India