

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



24th March 2024

Palm Sunday

Welcome to you all



Large Print









Our Services this week

St James:

Palm Sunday (24th)

8:30am Holy Communion Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday (28th)

9:30am Holy Communion7:30pm Holy Communion

Good Friday (29th)

2pm Holy Communion

Our Lady & St Nicholas:

Palm Sunday (24th)

Saturday 6th

6pm Holy Communion

10am-Noon

What else is happening this week

Tuesday 26th

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

Wednesday 27th

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

3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer

Our Lady & St Nicholas

Friday 29th

10am Good Friday Walk of Witness

Starts outside Tesco's

St James

Saturday 30th

10am-Noon Open Church St James

What's happening next week

Sunday 31 th	6:30am	Vigil & Holy Communion	Our Lady & St Nicholas
		Followed by Breakfast	Wanlip Hall
	10am	Holy Communion	St James
	12 Noon	Bring & Share Lunch	Birstall Village Hall
	6pm	Easter 5 th Sunday Special	Our Lady & St Nicholas
Tuesday 2 nd	12:30-4:30pm	Welcome Space	St James
Wednesday 3 rd	12:30-4:30pm	Welcome Space	St James
•	3-4pm	Open Church & Private Prayer	Our Lady & St Nicholas
Thursday 4th	9:30am	Holy Communion	St lames

Open Church

Notices

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

Rev Amanda Digman	251 Birstall Road	07803 625049
(Day off usually Friday)	revama	andadigman@me.com
Debbie Shephard	41 Roman Road	2673262
Corinne Aldis	15 The Oaks, Acorn Close	3482984
Julie Ward	28 Walker Road	2677600
Matthew Harvey	56 Lambourne Road	07957 170920

Walk of Witness - Good Friday 29th March

This years Good Friday Walk of Witness will start at 10am outside Tesco's and will finish at St Theresa's for Hot Cross Buns. Debbie

WhatsApp & Text Messages to Amanda

Please could you keep WhatsApp and text messages etc to between 9am and 9pm and not on her day off (usually Friday) A 12 hour working day should be enough. The reason is that then she doesn't have to have her phone on silent overnight. She really wants to be available if needed in the night. You can email her outside these times, though - her phone doesn't ping for emails.

Conversations with Amanda after services

If you need to speak to me about something after services, please could you also email me a little reminder of the conversation or stick a bit of paper in my hand with a keyword and your name on please?! (eg Sylvia spoke to me about the garden, so she could just send an email or give me a note that says "Sylvia - garden".) I won't take offence at it being short!! Amanda

Easter Morning Breakfast at Our Lady and St. Nicholas Wanlip

Bacon / sausage or both, cobs and drinks will be available after the vigil / communion service . To help with catering would you please add your name to the list at the back of one of the churches. Looking forward to seeing you all again on this joyous occasion. *Julie*

Bring & Share Lunch - 31st March

Bring and share lunch in the village hall is next week. Please come if you can and invite any family or friends you'd like and something to share!

Easter Egg Hunt - 31st March

There will be an Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday 31st March at 11:30am at St James following our 10am service.

Easter Flowers at St James

Our grateful thanks to Teresa who has donated the Easter flowers in memory of her husband Paul and son Andrew.

Minister Community meeting - 23rd April

For the next stage of the Minster Community plan in the Diocese, we need 2 reps to attend the first meeting, on the 23rd April at 7pm at St Martin's House, as well as Amanda.

Whoever goes to this meeting does not commit themselves to future meetings, but they will need to feed back to the PCC. It's fine to have different people each time. Amanda will explain more about this in the services today. We will also be giving out "storyboard sheets" for everyone to put their opinions down - this is about the church not yourself! So one question says "Where have you come from?" which means "Where has the church come from?" for example. We will collate everyone's answers to feedback to the Minster Community meetings and everyone's opinions are important. Please return these by I 4th April. Does anyone feel like they could do the collating job, please? So 2 reps and a collator are required, please!

A Collect for Palm Sunday

Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his 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**

A Post Communion Prayer for Palm Sunday

Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation: give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Summer Fair

Is anyone willing to organise this years Summer Fair please? Please let Amanda or a wardenknow.

Church garden

Sylvia and her husband have kindly offered to tidy up the garden to the right of the main entrance to St James' door as you go in. However, Amanda thinks someone else may have offered! Was it you - if so, please remind Amanda and let her know if you want to do it or are happy for Sylvia to do it! Thank you.

Church Diary

If you write an event in the church diary, or send me an email, please could you also put a finish time and which part of the church you will be using, for heating reasons. Thanks. Sheryl

Keep in Touch

Anne is stepping down from editing our Keep in Touch magazine. If you would like to volunteer to take over from her or would like more information, can you please let Amanda or one of the church wardens know.

Monthly tip for a less-plastic life - March

Buy loose fruit and veg.

Beer and Hymns Night – 22nd April

Amanda will be leading a Beer and Hymns Night on Monday 22nd April from 7-8pm at the White Horse. There will be live music, provided by St Theresa's, and classic hymns to sing along to. St George food specials available.

Information Sheets for the week beginning 21st April

If you require any notices to be included in the 21st April information sheets can you please let me have them before 11am on Thursday 11th April. I will be out of the office from then until Tuesday 23rd April. Thanks Sheryl

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.

Bible Book Club - 25th April

The next Bible Book club will be on the 25th April from about 10:30am after the Communion Service, and we'll be looking at Zephaniah.

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.

Lectionary Readings

Sun 24th **Palm Sunday** Birstall - Liturgy of the Palms

Reading I: Mark II:I-II
Psalm: II8:I-2, I9-end

Wanlip - Liturgy of the Passion Reading 1: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm: 31:9-16

Gospel: Mark 14:1 - end of 15

Mon 25th

Psalm: 41

Reading I: Lamentations 1:1-12a

Reading 2: Luke 22:1-23

Tue 26th

Psalm: 27

Reading I: Lamentations 3:1-18

Reading 2: Luke 22:39:53

Wed 27th

Psalm: 102

Reading 1: Jeremiah 11:18-20 Reading 2: Luke 22:54-end

Thu 28th Maundy Thursday

Psalm: 42

Reading I: Leviticus 16:2-24

Reading 2: Luke 23:1-25

Holy Communion Readings
Reading 1: Exodus 12:1-4 11-14

Reading 2: I Corinthians II:23-26
Gospel: John I3:I-17, 31b-35

Fri 29th Good Friday

Psalm: 69

Reading 1: Genesis 22:1-18
Reading 2: Hebrews 10:1-10

Holy Communion Readings

Reading 1: Isaiah 52:13 - end of 53 Reading 2: Hebrews 10:16-25

Gospel: John 18:1 - end of 19

Sat 30th

Psalm: 142

Reading 1: Hosea 6:1-6 Reading 2: John 2:18-22

Sun 31st Easter Sunday Reading 1: Acts 10:34-43

Reading 2 | Corinthians 15:1-11

Gospel: John 20:1-18 Psalm: 118:1-2, 14-24

For our Prayers

For the persecuted church - Cuba

Dear God, we ask You to be with our sisters & brothers in Cuba. We pray especially for those who speak out against the injustice they see in their country – thank You for giving them boldness & Your heart for justice. We ask You to protect them & help them to know You love them. We also pray for those who lead churches, that you would help them

navigate the tension of daily life & ministry. Amen.

For our Churches, this week especially for:

Our PCC Treasurer and Secretary
Our Children: Christopher, Lucy & Bea

What are we thankful for this week:

Our freedom to criticise politicians

For our Community, this week especially for: Watermead Wardens

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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 Sewards, Margery Orton & Pat Wilby

For those who have recently died:

For Ist anniversary of death this week:

Every day - 9pm (or another time!)

Praying for peace in Ukraine & Israel / Palestine. And a different area each day.

Sun: For an end to Sinai insurgency in Egypt ongoing since 2011.

Mon: For an end to the Central African Republic Civil War ongoing since 2012.

Tues: For an end to the insurgency in Northern Chad ongoing since 2021.

Wed: For an end to the Philippine Drug War ongoing since 2016.

Thurs: For an end to Insurgency in Cabo Delgado (Mozambique and Tanzania) ongoing since 2017.

Fri: For an end to the Anglophone Crisis in Cameroon ongoing since 2017.

Sat: For an end to the Bangladesh drug war ongoing since 2018, 800+ deaths to date.