



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



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

**Candlemas**

**Welcome  
to you all**



Large  
Print



St James



St James



St James



## Our Services this week

### St James:

#### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>

8:30am Holy Communion

10:00am Holy communion

#### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>

9:30am Holy Communion

### Our Lady & St Nicholas:

#### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>

6pm BCP Evensong

## What else is happening this week

#### Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup>

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

#### Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup>

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

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

#### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>

1-3pm Pamper Party St James

#### Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup>

10am-Noon Open Church St James

## What's happening next week

#### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>

8:30am Holy Communion St James

10am All Together Service St James

6pm Holy Communion Our Lady & St Nicholas

#### Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>

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

3pm Messy Church meeting The Methodist Church

#### Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>

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

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

#### Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>

9:30am Holy Communion St James

#### Saturday 10<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)

251 Birstall Road

07803 625049

revamandadigman@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

## **Pamper Party - 1<sup>st</sup> February**

You are invited to a pamper party on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February at St James, between 1-3pm. Treatments available include mini facials (free), manicure & Gel nail nails (£10 instead of £18), cleanse, tone & moisturise face & neck including hand massage (£5) and products to try and buy. There will also be cake!

## **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.

## **What are you thankful for?**

We would like to have a 'What are we thankful for?' item in the Information sheets every week. Please can you email me with things you are thankful for. We are thinking about things in general and not something personal. For example: When having a shower, I am thankful to God for hot water and think of people in Ukraine. If we get enough, I will make a list and put one in a week anonymously. *Sheryl & Josephine*

## **Sale of Marmalade**

The oranges have now arrived. Marmalade available for £2:50 for church funds. *Janet*  
07962949942

## **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.

## **Pancake Service - 11<sup>th</sup> February**

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

## **Recycling Tablet Packets**

Please can you check that you do not include: (a) iCal-D3 chewable tablets (b) Easyhaler Salbutamol Sulfate; Neither of these can be recycled.

Also clean Aluminium foil. These can be recycled with drinks cans and foil pie tart containers in the HELIPADS container in the CO-OP Car Park. Also please ensure the white lining bag isn't pushed to the bottom, so we can empty the box easily. Thank you. *Rose*

### **A Collect for Candlemas**

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ 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 Candlemas**

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah: may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

### **BCP Collect for Candlemas**

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly beseech thy Majesty, that, as thy only begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in substance of our flesh, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts, by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **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*

### **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.

### **Messy Church Meeting - 6<sup>th</sup> February**

There will be a meeting for messy church, (which will run on Monday afternoons) at the Methodist Church on 6<sup>th</sup> February at 3pm. All those who are interested, you are welcome to attend.

### **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.

### **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 11am** on the Thursday to get your items included in that week's news sheet. Thanks. *Sheryl*

## Readings for this week

### **Sun 28<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Candlemass**

Reading 1: Malachi 3:1-5  
Reading 2: Hebrews 2:14-end  
Gospel: Luke 2:22-40  
Psalm: 24:7-end

#### Evensong Readings

Reading 1: Haggai 2:1-9  
Reading 2: John 2:18-22  
Psalm: 132

**Theme:** **Luke 18:9-14**

### **Mon 29<sup>th</sup>**

Psalm: 126  
Reading 1: Genesis 18:1-5  
Reading 2: Matthew 27:11-26

**Theme:** **John 3:25-36**

### **Tue 30<sup>th</sup>**

Psalm: 132  
Reading 1: Genesis 18:16-end  
Reading 2: Matthew 27:27-44

**Theme:** **Luke 12:35-48**

### **Wed 31<sup>st</sup>**

Psalm: 119:153-end  
Reading 1: Genesis 19:1-3, 12-29  
Reading 2: Matthew 27:45-56

**Theme:** **Matthew 25:14-30**

### **Thu 1<sup>st</sup>**

Psalm: 143  
Reading 1: Genesis 21:1-21  
Reading 2: Matthew 27:57-end

#### Holy Communion Readings

Reading 1: 1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12  
Gospel: Mark 6:7-13

**Theme:** **Romans 12:1-2**

### **Fri 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Psalm: 144  
Reading 1: Genesis 22:1-19  
Reading 2: Matthew 28:1-15

**Theme:** **Luke 2:41-49**

### **Sat 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Psalm: 147  
Reading 1: Genesis 23  
Reading 2: Matthew 28:16-end

**Theme:** **Deuteronomy 27:1-8**

### **Sun 4<sup>th</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent**

Reading 1: Proverbs 8:1, 22-31  
Reading 2: Colossians 1:15-20  
Gospel: John 1:1-14

Psalm: 104:26-end  
**Theme:** **1 Thessalonians 4:1-12**

## For our Prayers

### **Theme for the week - Discipline**

May your prayer this week lead you past bent knees and reverent spirit into the determining choices of your daily living. Let it bring your will to bear on all the things that lead you away from serving God.

### **For the persecuted church - Mali**

Dear Father, we pray for an end to the Islamic insurgency in Mali. Thwart the evil plans of militant groups, bring division in their ranks, & dispel their influence. Reveal Yourself to leaders through dreams & visions, so that they turn & follow You. Protect our brothers and sisters in Mali, & encourage them with the truth that Your Spirit is at work within them. Be especially near to those who are hurting, & may the comfort they receive from You overflow to those around them (2 Corinthians 1:4). Build Your church in Mali, we pray. **Amen.**

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

Baptisms, Confirmations & Marriages  
Those at home & those who care for them  
Our Children: Freya & Harry

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

Our local M.P.  
Asian, Caribbean & other communities

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

Eileen Lewis

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

Praying for peace in Ukraine

And a different area each day

**Mon:** For an end to the Central African Republic Civil War

**Tues:** For an end to the insurgency in Northern Chad

**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