



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



3rd March 2024

3rd Sunday of Lent

**Welcome
to you all**



**Large
Print**



St James



St James



St James



Our Services this week

St James:

Sunday 3rd

8:30am Holy Communion
10:00am All Together Service

Thursday 7th

9:30am Holy Communion

Our Lady & St Nicholas:

Sunday 3rd

6pm Holy Communion

What else is happening this week

Tuesday 5th

12:30-4:30pm Welcome Space St James
2pm Lent Course St Theresa's

Wednesday 6th

12:30-4:30pm Welcome Space St James
3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer Our Lady & St Nicholas
4:30-6pm Capital Arts Choir practice St James
7pm Lent Course St James

Thursday 7th

10:30am Bible Book Club St James

Saturday 9th

10am-Noon Open Church St James

What's happening next week

Sunday 10th

8:30am Holy Communion St James
10am Holy Communion St James
6pm BCP Communion Our Lady & St Nicholas

Monday 11th

2:30pm Monday Group AGM followed by quiz St James

Tuesday 12th

9am-Noon Riverside School - Experience Easter St James
12:30-4:30pm Welcome Space St James
2pm Lent Course St Theresa's

Wednesday 13th

12:30-4:30pm Welcome Space St James
3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer Our Lady & St Nicholas
4:30-6pm Capital Arts Choir practice St James
7pm Lent Course St James

Thursday 14th

9:30am Holy Communion St James

Saturday 16th

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

A couple of gentle reminders, please...

- Please could you leave any conversations with Amanda until after the service. She really needs the time beforehand to do any setting up and to prepare herself spiritually and mentally to lead well.
- 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 know she is busy, but please don't let that stop you from contacting Amanda if you need her for urgent prayers, spiritual help, hospital visits, end of life prayers, confession, etc. She will make time. We also have a wonderful team of pastoral visitors for regular calls to those who can't get out.

Mothering Sunday Service – 10th March

you are invited to a Mothering Sunday Service on Sunday 10th March at 4pm at Hallam Fields Hall. A family friendly informal service – please come along, all are welcome.

Church Diary

If you write an event in the church diary, or send me an email, please could you put a finish time too, for heating reasons. Thanks. *Sheryl*

Bible book club – 7th March

The next bible Book Club will be on Thursday 7th March from about 10:30am after the 9:30 Communion Service. We will be looking at the book 2 Peter.

Hand Rollators

I have two second hand rollators to give away. to people who need one but can't afford it. All I ask is a donation that they can afford to the church. My email address is: michaelwebb.oc@pm.me
Michael

Update on the sales of Marmalade & Jam

Thank you to everyone who has bought Marmalade and Jam. We have raised over £100 for Church funds since Christmas. Keep buying! There are plenty of jars (Marmalade £2.50 Jam £2)
Janet 07962949942

Birstall Post

For many years now I have written the 'News from the Churches' column for the Birstall Post. (Taking over from Beryl McHugh). However, the time has come for me to hand on the baton to someone younger who will reflect the new demographic of our Churches. The next deadline to be met will be about the middle of March, for the April edition. Let me know if you would like to take on this task or Amanda or a Churchwarden. *Leigh Reid*

Bring & Share Lunch – 31st March

Please sign up at the back of church if you are coming to the next bring and share lunch on 31st March.

A Collect for the 3rd Sunday of Lent

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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 3rd Sunday of Lent

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Monday Group - 11th March

Monday Group's AGM followed by a quiz will be on Monday 11th March, starting at 2:30pm

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.

Can you help

Two Fridays ago after falling over & not being able to get up until my brother could get out of work to help me. Although I have some neighbours numbers, but it happened while they were working. I would be grateful if there were some church members who could help me onto my knees if I am outside. So long as I am near enough to something to pull myself up with.

Otherwise hold me while I do most of the lifting work. My email address is:

michaelwebb.oc@pm.me Michael

Lost Property

Please can you look in the Lost Property basket near the Bell Tower to see if anything belongs to you. Anything left at Easter will be donated to a Charity Shops.

Monthly tip for a less-plastic life - March

Buy loose fruit and veg.

Fundraising for Save the Children

The next lunch is at the White Horse on Wednesday 24th April. Further information, including the menu, is at the back of the church. Your choice of menu needs to be chosen by 10th April and sent to me. Strawberry Teas will be held, hopefully, on Saturdays 8th June and 27th July.

Josephine Burgess

New recycling Box

There is a new recycling box under the table for used bras. Thank you 🤗

Easter is a coming

Knitted Chicks and Rabbits are nursing their chocolate eggs. These will be on sale on Sunday 3rd March at £1.50 each. Proceeds to 'Birstall Bags.' Thanks to Cynthia for help with knitting beaks and eyes. *Brenda & Joan*

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*

Lectionary & Theme Readings

Sun 3rd **3rd Sunday of Lent**
Reading 1: Exodus 20:1-17
Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25
Gospel: John 2:13-22
Psalm: 19
Theme: **Habakkuk 2:20**

Mon 4th
Psalm: 5
Reading 1: Genesis 47:1-27
Reading 2: Hebrews 4:14 - 5:10
Theme: **Deuteronomy 6:4-25**

Tue 5th
Psalm: 9
Reading 1: Genesis 47:28 - end of 48
Reading 2: Hebrews 5:11 - 6:12
Theme: **Isaiah 43:1-13**

Wed 6th
Psalm: 38
Reading 1: Genesis 49:1-32
Reading 2: Hebrews 6:13-end
Theme: **Genesis 1:1-31, 2:1-3**

Thu 7th
Psalm: 56
Reading 1: Genesis 49:33 - end of 50
Reading 2: Hebrews 7:1-10

Holy Communion Readings

Reading 1: Jeremiah 7:23-28
Gospel: Luke 11:14-23
Theme: **1 Peter 1:3-9**

Fri 8th
Psalm: 22
Reading 1: Exodus 1:1-14
Reading 2: Hebrews 7:11-end
Theme: **Job 38:1-33, 42:1-6**

Sat 9th
Psalm: 31
Reading 1: Exodus 1:22 - 2:10
Reading 2: Hebrews 8
Theme: **Revelation 21:1-7**

Sun 10th **Mothering Sunday**
Reading 1: Exodus 2:1-10
Reading 2: 2 Corinthians 1:3-7
Gospel: Luke 2:33-35
Psalm: 34:11-20
Theme: **Luke 1:46-55**

For our Prayers

Theme for the week - Adoration

Try to make the first petitions of your prayer this week to be those of praise & adoration. Do not let yourself begin with your needs or from within the context of your life. Instead, begin your prayer against the backdrop of the greatness & majesty of God.

For the persecuted church - China

Father God, we ask that You would be with & bless Your people in China. As the pressure grows, we ask that You would give them a sense of rest & peace; that they would know You are with them. Please help young believers find a way to learn more about You, & for their parents to know how to wisely train their children & share the gospel. We lift up church leaders who are targeted, that they will have courage & wisdom as they care for their congregations. We pray also for believers who have converted from the faith of their family or ethnic group – please help them know they aren't alone. Amen.

For our Churches, this week especially for:

Our relationships with the Scouts, Guides, Brownies, Cubs, ATC & Sea Cadets
Our Children: Nieve, Ellie & Susan

What are we thankful for this week:

Snowdrops

For our Community, this week especially for:

Finance & Legal workers

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:

Every day - 9pm (or another time!)

Praying for peace in Ukraine. And a different area each day
Sun: For an end to the Kivu conflict (DR Congo, Rwanda, Burundi) ongoing since 2004.

Mon: For an end to the Mexican Drug War ongoing since 2006.

Tues: And for an end to the Sudanese nomadic conflicts ongoing since 2008.

Wed: For an end to Boko Haram Insurgency in Nigeria, Cameroon, Niger, Chad, ongoing since 2009.

Thurs: For an end to the Syrian Civil War ongoing since 2011.

Fri: For an end to the Nigerian Bandit Conflict ongoing since 2011.

Sat: And for an end to the Mali War ongoing since 2012.