



St James the Great • Birstall Our Lady and St Nicholas • Wanlip



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

18th May 2025

5th Sunday of Easter

**Welcome
to you all**



Large
Print



St James



St James



St James



Our Services this week

Service type is subject to change due to illness or other unforeseen circumstances

St James:

Sunday 18th

10.00am Holy Communion

Thursday 22nd

9:30am Holy Communion

Our Lady & St Nicholas:

Sunday 18th

6pm BCP Evensong

What else is happening this week

Monday 19th

10-12noon Mothers Union St James

Tuesday 20th

10-12noon St Nick's Coffee Shop Wanlip Hall
2:30-4:30pm Welcome Space St James

Wednesday 21st

2-4:30pm Welcome Space St James
3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer
Our Lady & St Nicholas

Thursday 22nd

10:30am Bible Book Club St James

Saturday 24th

10am PLF Synod discussions St James

What's happening next week

Sunday 25th

8:30am Holy Communion St James
10am Holy Communion St James
2-4pm Visiting Bell Ringers St James
6pm BCP Evensong Our Lady & St Nicholas

Tuesday 27th

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

Wednesday 28th

2-4:30pm Welcome Space St James
3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer Our Lady & St Nicholas

Thursday 29th

9:30am Holy Communion St James

Friday 30th

7:30-8:30pm Visiting Bell Ringers 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
Rev Rachael Brind-Surch (Day off usually Friday)		07538034729 rachael@brind-surch.co.uk
Debbie Shephard	41 Roman Road	2673262
Ladi Akinla	14 Palmer Square	07718 738154
Julie Ward	28 Walker Road	2677600
Matthew Harvey	56 Lambourne Road	07957 170920

Bible Book Club - 22nd May

The next Bible Book Club will be on Thursday 22nd May starting at about 10:30am following the Holy Communion Service. The book we will be studying is James. All welcome.

What are we thankful for

Bearing in mind all that is going on in the world I am sure we all have much to be thankful for so please would you add some thoughts for the list which each week appears on the news sheet and send some suggestions to Sheryl at sheryljupp@hotmail.co.uk or the church email stjames.birstall@btconnect.com or leave them in the Church Office. Please remember these are not related to personal events but general thanks. If you aren't sure have a look at the ideas of the past few weeks. *Josephine*

Stained glass museum visit to St James the Great

Earlier this year we were delighted to be selected as one of the Leicestershire churches as part of the three-day study tour that the stained-glass museum based at Ely cathedral organises each year. So, we welcomed 47 visitors and their guides to Our Welcome Space on Wednesday afternoon.

They were generous in their praise of the genuine loving hospitality they received, commenting on the busyness of our church and of course the beautiful range of stained-glass windows. They donated £100, plus money via the card machine and the museum will also donate. A big thankyou to our wonderful bakers/hostesses for the mouthwatering array of cakes and serving up a continuous flow of tea and coffee throughout the hour-long visit.

Thanks also to the Parish Council for parking the coach and contributing to the funding of our warm space. Thanks to Sheryl for producing leaflets about the church and the windows. There a few left at the back of church by the card machine if you are interested in knowing more about our heritage. Why not come and visit us on a Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon? *Janet & all the warm space volunteers*

Save the Children

The lunch at the White Horse was a great success and thanks to their generosity and people coming from far and wide so I was able to bank £475. *Josephine*

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 (Birstall) and Marjorie Bonshor on 2207964 (Wanlip)

The Collect for the 5th Sunday of Easter

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Post Communion Prayer for the 5th Sunday of Easter

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

BCP Evensong Collect for the 5th Sunday of Easter

O Almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men; Grant unto thy people, that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Monthly tip for a less-plastic life - May

Use paper tape, reused bubble wrap and cardboard boxes for packaging.

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.

Trench Candles for Ukraine

Over the last 3 years there has been an appeal for the collection of candles so that Trench Candles could be made and sent to the soldiers on Ukraine's front line. They are used for low level lighting and to keep their hands warm in the bitter winter there. Also thank you to all those who have responded with several loads of candles over this 3rd year, which have been taken to St Mary's Church in Arnold near Nottingham. We shall be delivering a further 25kg of wax to the Ukrainian Centre in Nottingham, making a total of well over 4,000 Trench Candles made so far. Volunteers create the candles by rolling corrugated cardboard into old baked bean tins, placing a splint into the middle, and melting the candle wax to fill the tin. Every few weeks, hundreds of candles are being sent by lorry to Ukraine, they are so very much appreciated by the Ukrainians. We all pray that this most unusual way to spread the Light of Christ to those in need of His love and care will not have to continue for too much longer. The collections are now suspended over the summer months and hopefully, the situation in Ukraine will be resolved soon.

Andy Kind

Date for your diaries: we have booked comedian Andy Kind to come again on 12th September. Now you know he's good, please invite more people! Funds raised will go to upgrading the sound system where needed and to fund other events.

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 leave a message on the office answer machine (0116 2671797) or contact Amanda or a Churchwarden. I will need to have received it **before I I am** on the Thursday to get your items included in that week's news sheet. Thanks. *Sheryl*

Lectionary Readings

Sun 18th 5th Sunday of Easter

Reading 1: Acts 11:1-18
Reading 2: Revelation 21:1-6
Gospel: John 13:31-35

Wanlip Readings

Reading 1: Acts 11:1-18
Reading 2: John 13:31-35
Psalms: 148

Mon 19th

Psalm: 145
Reading 1: Deuteronomy 16:1-20
Reading 2: 1 Peter 1:1-12

Tue 20th

Psalm: 19
Reading 1: Deuteronomy 17:8-end
Reading 2: 1 Peter 1:13-end

Wed 21st

Psalm: 30
Reading 1: Deuteronomy 18:19-end
Reading 2: 1 Peter 2:1-10

Thu 22nd

Psalm: 57
Reading 1: Deuteronomy 19
Reading 2: 1 Peter 2:11-end

Holy Communion Readings

Reading 1: Acts 15:7-21
Gospel: John 15:9-11

Fri 23rd

Psalm: 138
Reading 1: Deuteronomy 21:22 - 22:8
Reading 2: 1 Peter 3:1-12

Sat 24th

Psalm: 146
Reading 1: Deuteronomy 24:5-end
Reading 2: 1 Peter 3:13-end

Sun 25th 6th Sunday of Easter

Reading 1: Acts 16:9-15
Reading 2: Revelation 21:10, 22 - 22:5
Gospel: John 14:23-29

Wanlip Readings

Reading 1: Acts 16:9-15
Reading 2: John 14:23-29
Psalms: 67

For our Prayers

For the persecuted church - Syria

Lord, we pray for Christians in Syria who have been forced from their communities. Bring them hope and comfort. We remember those who love You but face strong opposition and danger: give them courage and let them know Your care. After so many years of turmoil, we pray that Syria will finally have a fair, stable government, peace and justice. In Jesus' name, Amen.

For our Churches, this week especially for:

Our relationships with uniformed groups: Scouts, Guides, Brownies, Cubs, A.T.C., Sea Cadets
Our children: Kemzi, Kelan and Kome

What are we thankful for this week:

A comfortable sofa to sit on at the end of a busy day.

For our Community, this week especially for:

Recreational Clubs and Areas

For those in need or unwell:

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

For those who have Holy Communion at home:

Sheila Skidmore, Monica Lucas, Freda Sowards, Margery Orton, Margery Orton, Gillian Hinton, John Harrison, John Walters, Michael Webb & Dorothy Barsby

For those who have recently died

For 1st 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 the Armed conflict in Rio de Janeiro ongoing since 1990

Mon: For an end to the Internal Conflict in Bangladesh ongoing since 1999

Tues: For an end to the Iraqi Conflict ongoing since 2003

Wed: For an end to the Conflict in the Niger Delta ongoing since 2003

Thurs: For an end to the Libyan Crisis ongoing since 2011

Fri: For an end to the Central African Republic Civil war ongoing since 2012

Sat: For an end to the Insurgency in Cabo Delgado ongoing since 2017