

Readings for this week

Sun 15th **2nd Sunday of Epiphany**
 Reading 1: Isaiah 49:1-7
 Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9
 Gospel: John 1:29-42
 Psalm: 40:1-12

Mon 16th
 Psalm: 146
 Reading 1: Amos 6
 Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 6:1-11

Tue 17th
 Psalm: 132
 Reading 1: Amos 7
 Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 6:12-end

Wed 18th
 Psalm: 81
 Reading 1: Amos 8
 Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 7:1-24

Thu 19th
 Psalm: 76
 Reading 1: Amos 9
 Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 7:25-end

Holy Communion Readings
 Reading 1: Hebrews 7:25 - 8:6
 Gospel: Mark 3:7-12

Fri 20th
 Psalm: 27
 Reading 1: Hosea 1:1 - 2:1
 Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 8

Sat 21st
 Psalm: 122
 Reading 1: Hosea 2:2-17
 Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 9:1-14

Sun 22nd **3rd Sunday of Epiphany**
 Reading 1: Isaiah 9:1-4
 Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18
 Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23
 Psalm: 27:1, 4-12

For our Prayers

For the persecuted church - Iran

Father God, we are astonished that, despite the extreme persecution facing our family in Iran, the church continues to see strong growth. May Christians continue to grow in number & maturity. Please help believers who are suffering for You to stand strong in Your love & power – and may this love & power extend to those who oppose them. Protect Christians from harm, & keep prying eyes from house churches. May these gatherings be places where believers are transformed into Your likeness & equipped for everyday service to You. **Amen.**

For our Churches, this week especially for:

Our Church Gardeners
 Our Healing, Visiting & Pastoral Teams

For our Community, this week especially for:

Playgroups, Nurseries & Childminders
 Pupils, Teachers & Governors

For those in need or unwell:

Nicky Hardy, David Bark, Dorothy Barsby, John Walton, Michael Webb, Vi Rawlings, Tricia Emmett, Gwen Johnson & all who care for them.

For those who have Holy Communion at home:

For those who have recently died:

Barbara Rhodes, Phillip Hardy & Catherine Parrott

For 1st anniversary of death this week:

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

Praying for peace in Ukraine 40,000-54,000+ deaths since 2014; 29,800 - 156,182+ this year so far.

And a different area each day:

Sun: For an end to Allied Democratic Forces insurgency in Africa (DR Congo & Uganda) ongoing since 1996. 5,898+ deaths to date; 2,653 this year.

Mon: For an end to the communal conflicts in Nigeria ongoing since 1998. 17,156+ deaths to date; 1,730 this year.

Tues: For an end to Ituri Conflict in DR Congo ongoing since 1999. 64,000+ deaths to date; 1,430 this year

Wed: For an end to insurgency in the Maghreb (Algeria, Burkina Faso, Chad, Libya, Mali, Niger, Tunisia, Togo, Benin, Ivory Coast) ongoing since 2002. 29,000+ deaths to date; 8,000 this year.

Thurs: For an end to Islamic State conflict in Iraq ongoing since 2003. Estimates range from 328,000 - over 1.215 million deaths. 3,642 deaths this year, so far.

Fri: For an end to Dafur war in Sudan ongoing since 2003. 301,000 deaths to date; 1,140 deaths this year.

Sat: For an end to the Kivu conflict (DR Congo, Rwanda, Burundi) ongoing since 2004. 23,000+ deaths to date; 1,617 this year.



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



15th January 2023

2nd Sunday of Epiphany

Welcome to you all



Large Print



St James

St James

St James

Our Services this week

St James:

Sunday 15th

8:30am Holy Communion
 10:00am Holy Communion

Thursday 19th

9:30am Holy Communion

Our Lady & St Nicholas:

Sunday 15th

6pm BCP Evensong

What else is happening this week

Tuesday 17th

10am Old Nick's Coffee Shop Wanlip Hall
 2pm God, Me & Art 6 Sibson Road
 7pm Ecumenical service for Christian Unity St Theresa's

Wednesday 18th

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins
 3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer
 Our Lady & St Nicholas

Thursday 19th

7:30pm Hand Bell Ringers Practice St James

Saturday 21st

10am-Noon Open Church St James

What's happening next week

Sunday 22nd

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

Tuesday 24th

12noon Frugal Lunch St Theresa's

Wednesday 25th

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ends
 3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer Our Lady & St Nicholas

Thursday 26th

9:30am Holy Communion St James
 10:30am Bible chat group - looking at Titus St James

Saturday 28th

10am-Noon Open Church St James

Check out our Church Website: www.Birstall.org

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)		revamandadigman@me.com
Debbie Shephard	41 Roman Road	2673262
John Borrajo	8 Hallam Avenue	2209289
Corinne Aldis	15 The Oaks, Acorn Close	3482984
Doreen Wilson	13 Poplar Avenue	2674680

Warm Spaces

Monday to Wednesday, 12:30-6:30pm (we'll close at 5:30pm if no one is there). Please pop in for a coffee and chat and spread the word! New volunteers always welcome - you can help at random times!

Church Computer

If you use the Computer in the office can you let me know please. We may change the password, so need to know who we need to give it to. Thanks. Sheryl

Keep in Touch form

If you would like to keep receiving our Keep in Touch magazine and haven't already done so, can you fill the form to say how you would like to receive it, there are spare copies at the back of church, and put on the desk in the office or give to Amanda or a Warden, Thank you.

Barbara Rhodes

Barbara's funeral will be on Wednesday 1st February at 10:30am at St James.

Keep in Touch - Spring 2023 - copy date 1st February

The Spring issue is due out on 1st March. Articles & photos for the magazine are needed by 1st February please. Ideas! What are we doing as a benefice in Lent 2023? Are we having a Lent Course this year & what is its topic? What does Lent mean anyway? And what about Easter 2023. Any plans as yet? What about the World Day of Prayer 2023 & Thy Kingdom Come 2023? Do we still have Home Groups? Topics for God, Me and Art? Has the concept of 'Warm Space' been taken up? What do our churchyards look like in Spring? Photos? What about 'Helping our Community'? Recipes from the Coffee Shop? Birds & animals spotted above & in our churchyards? Is anything happening ecumenically, possibly in Lent? Aspects of Spirituality. Has anyone made, kept or broken any New Year Resolutions. Our magazine is a good way of promoting the church in our village communities. Please write something for the Spring issue & let me have by 1st February. Many thanks. Canon Anne

Old Nick's Coffee Shop - 17th January

The next Old Nicks Coffee Shop will be on Tuesday 17th January at 10am - 12 noon, in Wanlip Hall.

Books

There are still some books at the back of Birstall Church left over from the Summer Fair! Please could a magic book angel/s take them to a charity shop?

Pancake party - 21st February

There will be a Pancake party on Tuesday 21st February on Wanlip Hall starting at 1pm. Everyone welcome.

Blankets & Cushions

If anyone has spare blankets or cushions at home, please could you put them in a pew at St James' for anyone who gets cold while sitting? Please leave cushions and blankets in the pews instead of returning them to the back pew. Thank you!

A Collect for the 2nd 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 2nd 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 2nd 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**

APCM reports

If you usually write a report for the APCM, please could you start writing these? They are for the whole of 2022 and none of 2023, so please let Sheryl have these as soon as you can! Thank you.

God, Me & Art - 17th January

The next meeting of God, Me & Art will be on Tuesday 17th January at 2.00pm at 76 Sibson Rd. The theme will be 'Music'. Don't feel you have to bring a contribution; you are welcome to just turn up and find out what we do.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - 18th - 25th January

The theme this year is "be-longing": praying for unity amidst injustice. Ecumenical Service - We will be marking the week of prayer for Christian Unity with an ecumenical service at eve of the start of the week at St Theresa's on Tuesday 17th January at 7pm. Frugal Lunch - We will conclude the week on Tuesday 24th with a frugal lunch at St. Theresa's at 12 noon. There will be a collection for Christian Aid and Vic Allsop is the guest speaker. Its free, but so we know how many to cater for, can you use the **sign up sheets** at the back of both churches. Thanks. Debbie

Order of service

If anyone would like the order of service for the screen in advance so they can read it on their phones / tablets, please email Amanda and she will add you to the mailing list. revamandadigman@me.com

Bible Chat Group - 26th January

Our next Bible chat group is looking at Titus on Thursday 26th January at about 10:30am (after communion). Please come, even if you haven't been before!

Recycling

There is now an additional box for recycling - this one is for the empties from your bathroom that can't be recycled in your home recycling bin. There's a picture on the box with examples. Things like tubs for face creams etc; deodorant empties; empty wet-wipes / make-up remover packets; empty make-up. Please remember you can recycle all soft plastics at Co-Op (bread bags; crisp packets; chocolate and biscuit wrappers etc) The bin is by the front tills, near the window. If you have any Ferrero Rocher or Babybel leftovers, please give these to Amanda (in separate bags, please!)

Loros Quiz

The latest Loros Quiz is now available at back of church. £1 each