

Readings for St James

Sun 4th Harvest
Reading 1: Deuteronomy 8:7-18
Reading 2: 2 Corinthians 9:6-end
Gospel: Luke 12:16-30

Mon 5th
Psalm: 71
Reading 1: 1 Kings 21
Reading 2: Acts 21:37 - 22:21

Tue 6th
Psalm: 73
Reading 1: 1 Kings 22:1-28
Reading 2: Acts 22:22 - 23:11

Wed 7th
Psalm: 77
Reading 1: 1 Kings 22:29-45
Reading 2: Acts 23:12-end

Thu 8th
Morning Prayer Readings
Psalm: 78:1-39
Reading 1: 2 Kings 1:2-17
Reading 2: Acts 24:1-23
Holy Communion Readings
Reading 1: Galatians 3:1-5
Gospel: Luke 11:5-13

Fri 9th
Psalm: 55
Reading 1: 2 Kings 2:1-18
Reading 2: Acts 24:24 - 25:12

Sat 10th
Psalm: 76
Reading 1: 2 Kings 4:1-37
Reading 2: Acts 25:13-end

Sun 11th Thanksgiving Sunday
Reading 1: Isaiah 25:1-9
Reading 2: Philippians 4:1-9
Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

Readings for Our Lady & St Nicholas

Sun 4th Harvest Evensong
Reading 1: Deuteronomy 8:7-18
Reading 2: 2 Corinthians 9:6-end
Psalm: 65

Sun 11th Thanksgiving Sunday
Reading 1: Proverbs 3:1-18
Reading 2: 1 John 3:1-15
Psalm: 139:1-18

For our prayers this week
Our Gardeners
Churches Together in Birstall & Wanlip

For those in need or unwell
Evelyn Watson, Nicky Hardy, Phoebe Thomas, Diane Stant, David Bark, Alan Coles, John Aldis, John Walton, Norma Bass, Charlotte Stephenson, Betty Howard, Madge Nutting, Elaine Towlson

For those not able to join us in church yet and for those who have been on our list for some time who are not forgotten:
Kathleen Allen, Maureen Hardy, Ruth Wright, Joan Barnett, Lynn Mason, Gwen Johnson, Madge Nutting

For those who have recently died
Patricia Charles

For 1st anniversary of death this week

Prayer for Interregnum
Heavenly Father we ask that you help us to share responsibility, grow in faith, love one another, care for those in need, reach out to others, and welcome newcomers. Lord Jesus guard and grow this church as we serve you together in this period without a Rector. Guide those who are seeking the right minister for us, and those who are seeking the right church for their ministry. That together we may discover your way for the future and see your kingdom grow. **Amen**



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



Sunday 4th October 2020

Harvest

Welcome to you all



St James



St James



St James



Following the lifting of the local lockdown for Birstall & Wanlip, Sunday services will be resumed at both churches;

9.30am at Birstall, and 6.00pm at Wanlip.

Both churches will no longer be open for private prayer on Wednesdays as well as Sundays

The Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of England have urged everyone to follow the instructions given by the Prime Minister to stay alert and keep to the social distancing rules and the wearing of facemasks in a national effort to limit the transmission of the coronavirus (COVID-19).

A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus

**God of compassion,
be close to those who are ill,
afraid or in isolation.
In their loneliness, be their consolation;
In their anxiety, be their hope;
In their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone
on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen**

Check out our Church Website: www.Birstall.org

While our parish is in interregnum, please ring 07570 198810 to contact a churchwarden.

Notices

We will ensure that a simple information sheet, updated weekly, will be on the website (www.birstall.org) and, if we have an email address for you a copy of the information sheet will be sent to you electronically. For those who do not have access to modern technology we are endeavouring to keep in contact via the telephone. Please feel free to contact any of the Churchwardens at any time.

Tony Bloxam	17 Sandgate Avenue	2675381
John Borrajo	8 Hallam Avenue	2209289
John Ward	28 Walker Road	2677600
Debbie Shephard	41 Roman Road	2672630

Churchwardens Ramblings from John Ward

So here we are in a pandemic which is playing havoc with all our carefully laid plans. We are at the mercy of microbes that we cannot see. We mighty, powerful humans can destroy everything, yet we cannot protect ourselves from these insidious germs. With all our knowledge and power, we are at their mercy! How terrifying it must have been for our forefathers as they fort their way through hideous plagues that they could not understand.

Perhaps the Psalmist can give us guidance. A life of faith teaches us to relate more deeply to God, other people, and ourselves. It is possible that Psalm 13 was written by the Psalmist on his sick bed focused on himself. The opening question 'How long...?' tells of his anguish. He calls on God to lighten his life. Something happened between verses 4 and 5 (we do not know what) but the tone changes from one of impatience to one of trust and the ability to sing to the Lord. We can only pray that the same will apply to us.

The last line declares the love that exists between God and all creation.

Link missionaries, Audrey & Colin Gibson, Lebanon

Audrey and Colin's have been working with the Church Mission Society in Lebanon since early 2016. They have been working with the Lebanese Society for Education and Social Development (LSESD) but are now changing roles. Colin is to become National Director and Audrey will be the Education and Church liaison for A Rocha in Lebanon. A Rocha is a Christian based environmental organisation working in 21 countries across the globe, "helping communities to reconcile the need to protect biodiversity with hopes for sustainable development".

Colin and Audrey also report that, "nearly seven weeks after the explosion there are still many signs of it devastating effect" - the main shopping mall is still closed and there is still no new government. They ask for prayer for those affected by the blast and for a breakthrough in efforts to form a government that can resolve the deeper issues affecting Lebanon. *Pete Chester*

APM & APCM

21st October

This years APM and APCM will be held on 21st October at St James the Great starting at 7:20pm. Please read the separate important notice from the Churchwardens.

Jam & Chutney

A great big thank you to all of you who bought my home made jam and chutney from the boot of my car after church over the last two Sundays!- we raised £100 which I have sent off to Rainbows.

I am continuing to produce more and also some marmalade over the next couple of months. The money raised will go to the Monday group's charity DUK – Admiral Nurses for Leicestershire Fund raising group. This group of which I am a member has already funded two part time admiral nurses in Charnwood for one year, one of whom is attached to the GP Watermead practices which includes Birstall so we are making progress! Thanks again. *Janet Waters (01509416921)*

Monday Group

At our AGM in March (was it really that long ago?!), we voted for Dementia UK, Admiral Nurse/Leicestershire as our Charity for the year. As we are unable to meet, we would like to suggest that members (and anyone else so minded) collect small denomination coins towards the nominated charity. Plus Sheila Harrison has offered to make Christmas cakes & Rita Richards will be making Christmas wreaths, therefore orders gratefully received. (Just in case you need reminding it is only 13 weeks to go!!!)

Shoe box appeal

We desperately need reading glasses, combs, small colouring books, flannels and scissors. Donations towards the postage would also be very welcome. Many thanks. *Doreen and Sylvia.*

Prayer Chain

If you have an urgent prayer request for the Prayer Chain please contact Doreen Wilson on 2674680 or Gill Pope on 2675086. This will be passed round the prayer chain as quickly as possible in strictest confidence.

Notices for the information sheets

If you have a notice to go in the information sheet, can you please email it to stjames.birstall@btconnect.com or directly to me sheryljupp@hotmail.co.uk or contact a churchwarden. Their telephone numbers are on the opposite page. Thanks. *Sheryl*