



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.

2nd March 2025 **Sunday next before Lent**

Welcome to you all



Large Print



St James



Crèche

St James



St James



Our Services this week
 Service type is subject to change due to illness or other unforeseen circumstances

St James:
Sunday 2nd
 10.00am All Together Service
Wednesday 5th
 7pm Ash Wednesday Service
Thursday 6th
 9:30am Morning Prayer

Our Lady & St Nicholas:
Sunday 2nd
 6pm Holy Communion
Wednesday 5th
 9:30am Ash Wednesday Service

What else is happening this week

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

Wednesday 5th
 2-4:30pm Welcome Space St James
 3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer
 Our Lady & St Nicholas

Friday 7th
 12noon World Day of Prayer St Theresa's
 (Lunch 12noon, Presentation 1pm, Service 2pm)

Saturday 8th
 10am-12noon Visiting Bell Ringers St James

What's happening next week

Sunday 9th
 8:30am Morning Prayer St James
 10am Holy Communion St James
 4pm Pancake Party Hallam Fields Hall
 6pm BCP Evensong Our Lady & St Nicholas

Monday 10th
 2:30-4:30pm Monday Group St James
 7:30pm F & S Meeting Rectory

Tuesday 11th
 12:30-4:30pm Welcome Space St James

Wednesday 12th
 2-4:30pm Welcome Space St James
 3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer Our Lady & St Nicholas

Thursday 13th
 9:30am Holy Communion St James

Saturday 15th
 10am-12noon 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
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

Palm Crosses

Please return any palm crosses to be made into ash for Ash Wednesday to Amanda, Rachael or Debbie by Sunday (2nd March).

Reporting an accident in church

If you have had an accident in church in the past year, or do in the future, or are with someone who does, please ensure you fill in a report in the accident book in the kitchen at St James' or the clergy vestry at Wanlip.

World Day of Prayer - 7th March

The World Day of Prayer is a global wave of prayer with the service prepared this year by Christian women from the Cook Islands.

This years service is being held at St. Theresa's on Friday 7th March. There will be a light lunch served in the social area at 12 midday, free of charge but donations towards cost welcomed. A presentation and slide show about the Cook Islands will be at 1pm.

The service will start at 2pm in the main church with a collection being taken for the work of the World Day Of Prayer.

Please join us in this global wave of prayer not only for the people of the Cook Islands but for all affected by natural or man made disasters and conflicts.

For more information about the World Day Of Prayer organisation go to wwdp.org.uk

Gill Pope & Jackie Bryan

Pancake Party - 9th March

We are having a Pancake Party on Sunday 9th March at Hallam Fields Hall starting at 4pm. Fun, games and pancakes, suitable for all ages to play and learn about Shrove Tuesday. All welcome.

Birstall Health & Wellbeing Event - 19th March

Birstall Health & Wellbeing Event will be held at St James on Wednesday 19th March between 2pm - 5pm. Are you looking for support for yourself or someone you care about? Is so, come along to the and meet some of your local support services. Everyone welcome! *Janet Waters*

Save the Children

Dates for your diary:

- Lunch at the White Horse on Wednesday 30th April information at the back of the church.
- The Strawberry teas will take place all being well on Saturday 21st June and Saturday 19th July
- The Autumn lunch at the White Horse will be on Wednesday 5th November.

Further details for the Strawberry teas and Autumn Lunch nearer the time. Numbers are limited for all events. *Josephine*

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.

The Collect for the Sunday next before Lent

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; 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 Sunday next before Lent.

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his Table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Collect for Ash Wednesday

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; 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**

Post Communion Prayer for Ash Wednesday

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life: give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive these his inestimable gifts, and also daily endeavour to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

APCM Reports

Please can you let us have your reports for the APCM by the end of February for 2024 (ie January to December 2024). We still need reports from the Churchwardens and the following groups: Monday Group, Mothers' Union, Deanery Synod (Rose), WC4 (Debbie), Churches Together (Andrzej), Home Groups (Ladi). Thanks.

Christmas Presents

Thank you for some lovely presents at Christmas - very kind. Most of you have had a thank you from me (if not, it's in my bag!). I also received a bottle of wine with no label - thank you to that person too - if you let me know who you are, you will also be the blessed recipient of a thank you note from me!! *Amanda*.

Monthly tip for a less-plastic life - March

Buy loose fruit and veg.

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)

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

Lectionary Readings

Sun 2nd Sunday next before Lent

Reading 1: Exodus 34:29-end
Reading 2: 2 Corinthians 3:12 - 4:2
Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

Mon 3rd

Psalm: 80
Reading 1: Jeremiah 1
Reading 2: John 3:1-21

Tue 4th

Psalm: 89
Reading 1: Jeremiah 2:1-13
Reading 2: John 3:22-end

Wed 5th Ash Wednesday

Psalm: 38
Reading 1: Daniel 9:3-6, 17-19
Reading 2: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Holy Communion Readings

Reading 1: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
Reading 2: 2 Corinthians 5:20b - 6:10
Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Thu 6th

Psalm: 77
Reading 1: Jeremiah 2:14-32
Reading 2: John 4:1-26

Holy Communion Readings

Reading 1: Deuteronomy 30:15-end
Gospel: Luke 9:22-25

Fri 7th

Psalm: 3
Reading 1: Jeremiah 3:6-22
Reading 2: John 4:27-42

Sat 8th

Psalm: 71
Reading 1: Jeremiah 4:1-18
Reading 2: John 4:43-end

Sun 9th 1st Sunday of Lent

Reading 1: Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Reading 2: Romans 10:8b-13
Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

Evensong Readings

Reading 1: Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Reading 2: Luke 4:1-13
Psalm: 91:1-11

For our Prayers

For the persecuted church - Nigeria

Heavenly Father, we cry out to You for our persecuted sisters and brothers in Nigeria. Comfort and heal all who have been attacked, traumatised or bereaved and fill them with hope. We pray especially for women and girls who have been abducted and assaulted – set them free and restore them to their families. Help the new president to work together with the authorities to bring an end to terrorism in the country. Build Your good kingdom in Nigeria through Your church and give believers courage to keep proclaiming the good news of Jesus. Amen.

For our Churches, this week especially for:

Our Area Dean, Arch Deacon and Bishops
Our Children: Nieve, Ellie and Susan

What are we thankful for this week:

Good manners

For our Community, this week especially for:

Our Doctors

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

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 Casamance Conflict ongoing since 1982

Mon: For an end to the Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict ongoing since 1988

Tues: For an end to the South Thailand Insurgency ongoing since 2004

Wed: For an end to the Insurgency in Paraguay ongoing since 2005

Thurs: For an end to the Insurgency in Northern Chad ongoing since 2016

Fri: For an end to the Ecuadorian Drug War ongoing since 2018

Sat: For an end to the Salvadoran Gang Crackdown ongoing since 2022