

## Readings for this week

<b>Sun 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Epiphany</b>
Reading 1:	Isaiah 60:1-6
Reading 2:	Ephesians 3:1-12
Gospel:	Matthew 2:1-12
Psalm:	72:10-15
<b>Mon 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Baptism of Christ</i>
Psalm:	89:19-29
Reading 1:	Exodus 14:15-22
Reading 2:	1 John 5:6-9
<b>Tue 10<sup>th</sup></b>	
Psalm:	9
Reading 1:	Amos 2
Reading 2:	1 Corinthians 1:18-end
<b>Wed 11<sup>th</sup></b>	
Psalm:	20
Reading 1:	Amos 3
Reading 2:	1 Corinthians 2
<b>Thu 12<sup>th</sup></b>	
Psalm:	21
Reading 1:	Amos 4
Reading 2:	1 Corinthians 3
<u>Holy Communion Readings</u>	
Reading 1:	Hebrews 3:7-14
Gospel:	Mark 1:40-end
<b>Fri 13<sup>th</sup></b>	
Psalm:	67
Reading 1:	Amos 5:1-17
Reading 2:	1 Corinthians 4
<b>Sat 14<sup>th</sup></b>	
Psalm:	33
Reading 1:	Amos 5:1-18-end
Reading 2:	1 Corinthians 5
<b>Sun 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b>
Reading 1:	Isaiah 49:1-7
Reading 2:	1 Corinthians 1:1-9
Gospel:	John 1:29-42
Psalm:	40:1-12

## For our Prayers

### For the persecuted church - Pakistan

Father God, may our brothers & sisters in Pakistan know that they are loved & valued by You today - that You see them as treasured & precious. Please restore & heal the many girls & women who have been abducted, & comfort believers who are currently imprisoned. Help the church in Pakistan to shine as a light in the darkness. **Amen.**

### For our Churches, this week especially for:

Our Keep in Touch Editor, team & Deliverers  
Our Church Cleaners

### For our Community, this week especially for:

Riverside, Highcliffe & Hallam Fields Schools  
The Cedars Academy

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of death this week:

Derek Cockrell

### 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:** And for an end to the Afghanistan conflict (IS - Taliban) ongoing since 1978. 1.45-2.08 million + deaths to date; 3,549 this year.

**Mon:** And for an end to the Mexican Drug War ongoing since 2006. 62,000 deaths to date, 6,489 this year.

**Tues:** And for an end to the Yemeni Civil War (Yemen, Saudi Arabia) ongoing since 2011. 377,000 deaths to date; 6,068 this year.

**Wed:** And for an end to the Ethiopian Civil Conflict (Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sudan) ongoing since 2018. 385,000-800,000 deaths to date; 100,000 this year.

**Thurs:** And for an end to Colombian Conflict in Colombia & Venezuela ongoing since 1964. 221,000+ deaths to date; 2,035 this year.

**Fri:** And for an end to Oromo Conflict in Ethiopia ongoing since 1973. 3,000-8,900+ deaths to date; 3,750 this year.

**Sat:** And for an end to the Somali Civil War (with Kenya) ongoing since 1991. 506,000+ deaths to date; 5,026 this year.



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



8<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Epiphany

Welcome to you all



Large Print



St James



Crèche

St James



St James



### Our Services this week

#### St James:

#### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>

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

#### Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>

9:30am Holy Communion

#### Our Lady & St Nicholas:

#### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>

9am BCP Evensong

### What else is happening this week

#### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>

2:30-4:45pm 663 Ensemble Practice St James

#### Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>

3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer  
Our Lady & St Nicholas  
7:30pm F & S Meeting 251 Birstall Road

#### Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>

7pm The History & Faith of the Roman Catholic Church St Theresa's

#### Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>

10am-Noon Open Church St James  
10:45am 663 Ensemble & friends Coffee St James  
Concert St James  
3pm Visiting Bell Ringers St James

### What's happening next week

#### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>

08:30 Holy Communion St James  
10am Holy Communion St James  
6pm BCP Evensong Our Lady & St Nicholas

#### Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>

10am Old Nick's Coffee Shop Wanlip Hall  
2pm God, Me & Art 76 Sibson Road  
7pm Ecumenical service for Christian Unity St Theresa's

#### Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>

3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer Our Lady & St Nicholas

#### Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>

9:30am Holy Communion St James  
7:30pm Hand Bell Practice St James

Check out our Church Website: [www.Birstall.org](http://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 Space:

The warm space continues to run on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons - please keep inviting people and pop in yourself for a chat sometime!

### Barbara Rhodes

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

### Keep in Touch form

Please fill in the attached / enclosed form and put on the desk in the office or give to Amanda or a Warden, if you would like to keep receiving Keeping in Touch. Thank you.

### Keep in Touch - Spring 2023

The Spring issue is due out on 1<sup>st</sup> March. Articles and photos for the magazine are needed by 1<sup>st</sup> February please. Ideas! What are we doing as a benefice in Lent 2023? Are we having a Lent Course this year and 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 and 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 and animals spotted above and 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 and let me have by 1st February. Many thanks. *Canon Anne*

### Old Nick's Coffee Shop - 17<sup>th</sup> January

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

### Coffee Morning - 14<sup>th</sup> January

Please support a coffee morning at St James on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January at 10:45am with music by 663 Ensemble & friends. Donations for the Roof Fund will be gratefully received. *Cynthia Colman*

### 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!)

### Recycle4charity

Last year the church received £56.45 from recycling printer cartridges. Thank you to all who contributed. There is a box at the back of church for used cartridges. Please use, so we can increase the amount this year.

### A Collect for Epiphany

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; 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 Epiphany

Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### BCP Collect for Epiphany

O God, who by the leading of a star didst manifest thy only-begotten Son to the Gentiles: Mercifully grant, that we, which know thee now by faith, may after this life have the fruition of thy glorious Godhead; 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.

### Monday Group

Monday Group had a busy time fundraising in the lead up to Christmas. As a result, between knitting, baking, Coffee morning and wreath making, members have raised £658 towards St James roof repairs fund. A big Thank you to everyone who made this possible. *Rita Richards*

### God, Me & Art - 17<sup>th</sup> January

The next meeting of God, Me & Art will be on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

### The History and Faith of the Roman Catholic Church - 12<sup>th</sup> January

Fr. Ted resumes his showing of the DVDs of the history and faith of the Roman Catholic church on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January at 7 p.m. at St. Theresa's. Each one lasts for one hour and are extremely interesting. All are welcome. Please contact me if you would like further information. *Debbie*

### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: 18<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> January

The theme this year is "be-longing": praying for unity amidst injustice. This year we are marking the week of prayer for Christian Unity with an ecumenical service at St Theresa's on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm. This is the eve of the start of the week and we will conclude the week on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> with a frugal lunch at St. Theresa's at 12:00. Vic Allsop, from Churches Together in Leicestershire, will join us for the lunch and will be our guest speaker. There will be a collection at the end of the meal for Christian Aid. All are welcome but even with a frugal lunch we like to know how many we're catering for! If you would like to attend please let me know either by phone 07860 951116 or email: [debbie.shephard54@gmail.com](mailto:debbie.shephard54@gmail.com). You can find more information on the week on [ctbi.org.uk](http://ctbi.org.uk).

### 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](mailto:stjames.birstall@btconnect.com), or [sheryljupp@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sheryljupp@hotmail.co.uk), or contact Amanda or a Churchwarden. I will need to have received it **before I am** on the Thursday to get your items included in that week's news sheet. Thanks. *Sheryl*