

Readings for this week

Sun 21st 3rd Sunday of Epiphany
 Reading 1: Genesis 14:17-20
 Reading 2: Revelation 19:6-10
 Gospel: John 2:1-11
 Psalm: 128
Theme: Matthew 11:25-30

Mon 22nd
 Psalm: 108
 Reading 1: Genesis 11:27—12:9
 Reading 2: Matthew 26:1-16
Theme: Luke 10:25-28

Tue 23rd
 Psalm: 36
 Reading 1: Genesis 13:2-end
 Reading 2: Matthew 26:17-35
Theme: Matthew 6:1-4

Wed 24th
 Psalm: 46
 Reading 1: Genesis 14
 Reading 2: Matthew 26:36-46
Theme: Exodus 20:1-17

Thu 25th Conversion of Paul
 Psalm: 66
 Reading 1: Ezekiel 3:22-end
 Reading 2: Philippians 3:1-14
Holy Communion Readings
 Reading 1: Acts 9:1-22
 Gospel: Matthew 19:27-end
Theme: John 1:1-18

Fri 26th
 Psalm: 65
 Reading 1: Genesis 16
 Reading 2: Matthew 26:57-end
Theme: Proverbs 5:1-11

Sat 27th
 Psalm: 68
 Reading 1: Genesis 17:1-22
 Reading 2: Matthew 27:1-10
Theme: Romans 5:1-11

Sun 28th Candlemass
 Reading 1: Malachi 3:1-5
 Reading 2: Hebrews 2:14-end
 Gospel: Luke 2:22-40
 Psalm: 24:7-end
Evensong Readings
 Reading 1: Haggai 2:1-9
 Reading 2: John 2:18-22
 Psalm: 132
Theme: Luke 18:9-14

For our Prayers

Theme for the week - Addressing God

Let at least the beginning of your prayer time this week be spent in remembering the wonder of god into whose presence you are coming.

For the persecuted church - Saudi Arabia

Heavenly Father, thank You that the church is growing in Saudi Arabia, despite pressure & persecution. Continue to give Your children boldness as they look for ways to express & even share their faith, & lead them to people who are particularly searching for truth. Heal our brothers & sisters who carry the pain of rejection, & provide for those whose lives have been upended after their faith was discovered. Give Christian communities discernment as they seek to welcome new believers amid concerns about people spying on their activities. May every believer find fellowship with other Christians so they know they are not alone. **Amen.**

For our Churches, this week especially for:

Our Monday Group
 Old Nick's Coffee Shop
 Our Children: Kim & Hanife

For our Community, this week especially for:

Commuters in and out of the village
 Our Library

For those in need or unwell:

Nicky Hardy, David Bark, Dorothy Barsby, John Walton, Michael Webb, Tricia Emmett, Ray Folland & 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!) wherever you are

Praying for peace in Ukraine

And a different area each day

Sun: For an end to the Moro Conflict in The Philippines

Mon: For an end to the New People's Army rebellion in the Philippines

Tues: For an end to Kurdish-Turkish Conflict in Turkey, Iraq and Syria

Wed: For an end to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict in Artsakh, Azerbaijan and Armenia

Thurs: For an end to insurgency in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in Pakistan

Fri: For an end to The Libyan Crisis

Sat: And for an end to Sinai insurgency in Egypt



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



21st January 2024

3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Welcome to you all



Large Print



St James



St James



St James



Our Services this week

St James:

Sunday 21st

8:30am Holy Communion

10:00am Holy communion

Thursday 25th

9:30am Holy Communion

Our Lady & St Nicholas:

Sunday 21st

6pm BCP Evensong

What else is happening this week

Monday 22nd

12 Noon Frugal Lunch St Theresa's

Tuesday 23rd

2:30-4:30pm Welcome Space St James

Wednesday 24th

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

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

7:30pm PCC Meeting St James

Thursday 25th

10:30am Bible Book Club St James

Saturday 27th

10am-Noon Open Church St James

What's happening next week

Sunday 28th

8:30am Holy Communion St James

10am Holy Communion St James

6pm BCP Evensong Our Lady & St Nicholas

Tuesday 30th

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

Wednesday 31st

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

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

Thursday 1st

9:30am Holy Communion St James

Saturday 3rd

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
Corinne Aldis	15 The Oaks, Acorn Close	3482984
Julie Ward	28 Walker Road	2677600
Matthew Harvey	56 Lambourne Road	07957 170920

Frugal Lunch

If anyone else would like to attend the Frugal Lunch on Monday (22nd) at St Theresa's who hasn't already signed up, please let Debbie Shephard know **TODAY** on 07860 951116 or debbie.shephard54@gmail.com There will be a guest speaker from Christian Aid.

Themes for the year

For this year, we are mainly going to focus our preaching on discipleship, based on a book called Disciples for the Inner Life by Bob Benson Sr. and Michael W Benson. In the notice sheet, under each set of lectionary readings, there will be an additional reading, to help you reflect on the theme introduced on the Sunday.

There will also be a short explanation of each theme in the notice sheet under "Theme for the Week" If there is a particular festival, that week, it will take precedence. *Amanda*

APCM reports

If you write a report for the APCM (Annual meeting) now is the time, please! Remember it's for the whole of 2023. Even though the meeting is in April, the report is for January to December. It helps us to get the ASAP so we can get the report book ready. Thank you so much. Please send to Sheryl.

Recycling Tablet Packets

Please can you check that you do not include: (a) iCal-D3 chewable tablets (b) Easyhaler Salbutamol Sulfate; Neither of these can be recycled.

Also clean Aluminium foil. These can be recycled with drinks cans and foil pie tart containers in the HELIPADS container in the CO-OP Car Park. Also please ensure the white lining bag isn't pushed to the bottom, so we can empty the box easily. Thank you. *Rose*

Bible Book Club - 25th January

The next Bible Book Club will be on Thursday 25th January starting about 10:30am. The book we are studying this month will be 'Habakkuk'

Monthly tip for a less-plastic life - January

Leave your reusable shopping bags at the front door so you don't forget them on the way out.

A Collect for the 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, sustain us by your mighty power; 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 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

BCP Collect for the 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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

Some candles from Birstall and Wanlip have started on a journey to support the troops in Ukraine. The Trench Candles are made by rolling corrugated cardboard into old tins, placing a splint into the middle of the tin and melting the candle wax to fill them so if you have any old candle bits please place them in the box by the votive candle stand in St James and they will be sent to the Ukraine every month.

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 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*