



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



10th December 2023

2nd Sunday of Advent

**Welcome
to you all**



Large
Print



St James

St James

St James

Our Services this week

St James:

Sunday 10th

8:30am Holy Communion
10:00am Healing Eucharist
6pm A Light in the Darkness

Thursday 14th

9:30am Holy Communion

Our Lady & St Nicholas:

Sunday 10th

4pm A Light in the Darkness
6pm BCP Evensong

What else is happening this week

Monday 11th

1pm Funeral for Thomas Ward
Our Lady & St Nicholas
2:30-4:30pm Monday Group St James

Tuesday 12th

9am-12 noon Riverside School Visit St James
12:30-4:30pm A Welcome Space Anniversary Party
St James

Wednesday 13th

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

Thursday 14th

10:30am Bible Book Club St James

Saturday 16th

10am-Noon Open Church St James

What's happening next week

Sunday 17th

8:30am Holy Communion St James
10am Holy Communion & Crib Service St James
4:15pm Family Christmas Carols Hallam Fields Hall
6pm Lessons & Carols Our Lady & St Nicholas

Monday 18th

10am-noon Mothers Union Wanlip
2:30-4:30pm Monday Group St James

Tuesday 19th

10am-noon Old Nick's Christmas Coffee Shop Wanlip Hall
12:30-4:30pm A Welcome Space St James

Wednesday 20th

11am Highcliffe School concert practice St James
1:30pm Highcliffe School Christmas Concert St James
3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer Our Lady & St Nicholas
7:30pm Carols for All St James

Thursday 21st

9:30am Holy Communion St James

Saturday 23rd

10am-Noon 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
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

Christmas at St James

10 th December at 6pm	A Light in the Darkness
17 th December at 10am	Crib Service
20 th December at 7:30pm	Carols for All
24 th December at 4:30pm	Christingle
24 th December at 11:30pm	Midnight Mass
25 th December at 10am	Christmas Communion

Christmas at Our Lady & St Nicholas

10 th December at 4pm	A Light in the Darkness
17 th December at 6pm	Lessons & Carols
19 th December at 10am	Old Nick's Christmas Coffee Shop
24 th December at 6pm	Christingle & Communion
25 th December at 9am	Christmas Communion

Beryl McHugh chat - 11th December

Friends of Beryl McHugh are welcome to call to see her for a chat (and a mince pie) at 663 Loughborough Road (next door to the solicitors in by road) on Monday, 11th December between 11am & midday, or 2pm to 3pm. *Cynthia Colman*

Monday Group - 11th December

The Monday Group will be having their Christmas Meeting at St James on Monday 11th December at 2:30pm.

Ukraine Appeal for Donations - Update

The Ukraine Centre at 2A Fosse Road South, LE3 0QD are appealing for the following items.

If you are able to kindly help in this, items may be delivered to the "Ukraine donations box" at the back of the church, or if possible these can be delivered to the Ukraine Centre directly (they only open on Friday evenings 7-9pm).

Items they are in need of are:-

Medical - medicines, medical aids and equipment, first aid kits, dressings, catheters, glasses, incontinence pads, crutches, walking aids etc.

Food - pasta, rice, noodles, cup-a-soups, tinned foods - meat, fish, vegetables, soup etc.

Sweets, chocolate, biscuits, tea, coffee, hot chocolate, drinks, baby food and milk, cereals, non-perishable goods etc.

Toiletries - toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, shower gel, deodorant, baby wipes, sanitary products, nappies etc.

Other - sleeping bags, tents, blankets, duvets, bedding, towels, torches, batteries, clothing, hats, gloves, footwear, toys etc.

Winter clothes

I hope you will be able to assist in this appeal, thank you for your help. *Lynn*

A Collect for the 2nd Sunday in Advent

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen**

A Post Communion Prayer for the 2nd Sunday in Advent

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Evensong Collect for the 2nd Sunday of Advent

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Bible Book Club - 14th December

The next Bible Book Club will be on Thursday 14th December at St James starting at 10:30am. This time we will be looking at Nahum. All welcome. *Amanda*

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.

Family Christmas Carols - 17th December

Come and join us for Christmas Carols on Sunday 17th December at 4:15pm in Hallam Fields Hall. Free refreshments and goodie bag for children. Everyone welcome.

Monthly tip for a less-plastic life - December

Find old wrapping paper to use for this year's presents.

The Diminishing Cleaning Rota

The cleaning rota is losing one of its long serving members at the end of the year. Ideally 2 volunteers work as a team and at present we are 2 teams light so the loss of another volunteer means one volunteer will be on their own. The current rota with the uncovered weeks is 7 weeks long. The duties: dusting, no steps involved, vacuuming carpets and tidying up as required takes between 60 and 90 minutes on a Friday. If you can help please speak to the church wardens or Tony Luxton

Velcro

Does anyone know what happened to one of the reels of Velcro that was in the office? There were 2 a few weeks ago, but now there is only one. *Sheryl*

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

Readings for this week

Sun 10th 2nd Sunday of Advent

Reading 1: Isaiah 40:1-11
Reading 2: 2 Peter 3:8-15a
Gospel: Mark 1:1-8
Psalm: 85:1-2, 8-end

Evensong Readings

Reading 1: 1 Kings 22:1-28
Reading 2: Romans 15:4-13
Psalm: 40

Mon 11th

Psalm: 44
Reading 1: Isaiah 30:1-18
Reading 2: Matthew 14:1-12

Tue 12th

Psalm: 56
Reading 1: Isaiah 30:19-end
Reading 2: Matthew 14:13-end

Wed 13th

Psalm: 62
Reading 1: Isaiah 31
Reading 2: Matthew 15:1-20

Thu 14th

Psalm: 54
Reading 1: Isaiah 32
Reading 2: Matthew 15:21-28

Holy Communion Readings

Reading 1: Isaiah 41:13-20
Gospel: Matthew 11:11-15

Fri 15th

Psalm: 86
Reading 1: Isaiah 33:1-22
Reading 2: Matthew 15:29-end

Sat 16th

Psalm: 145
Reading 1: Isaiah 35
Reading 2: Matthew 16:1-12

Sun 17th 3rd Sunday of Advent

Reading 1: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-end
Reading 2: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28
Psalm: 126

For our Prayers

For the persecuted church - Pakistan

Heavenly Father, look with mercy on Your children who suffer oppression & injustice in Pakistan & draw them into closer relationship with You. Protect our brothers & sisters who live under the daily threat of violence or hostility. Encourage women who despair in unloving or abusive relationships. Give them Your peace, & a loving community outside the home. Comfort believers who have been falsely imprisoned & intervene to secure their freedom. Help Your church in Pakistan to be salt & light to their communities. **Amen.**

For our Churches, this week especially for:

Our Prayer Chain
Our Mothers Union

For our Community, this week especially for:

Opticians
Carers: Sick, Dying, LOROS

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:

Ray Merry, Thomas Ward & Paula Kazaz

For 1st anniversary of death this week:

Catherine Parrott & Philip Hardy

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

Praying for peace in Ukraine 100,00-350,000+ deaths since 2014. And a different area each day

Sun: And for an end to the Las Anod conflict in Somaliland ongoing since 2023. 300 deaths to date.

Mon: And for an end to the Jamaican Political Conflict ongoing since 1943, over 1081+ deaths to date.

Tues: And for an end to the Korean Conflict ongoing since 1950. 3,000,000 deaths to date.

Wed: And for an end to the Papua Conflict in Indonesia ongoing since 1962. 100,000-500,000 deaths to date.

Thurs: And for an end to Katanga insurgency in DR Congo ongoing since 1963. 3,400+ deaths to date.

Fri: And for an end to the Western Sahara conflict in Morocco and the Saharawi Republic ongoing since 1973. 14 -21,000+ deaths to date.

Sat: And for an end to the Cabinda War in Angola ongoing since 1975. 30,000 deaths to date.