



**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.*

**12<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**Baptism of Christ**

**Welcome  
to you all**



Large  
Print



St James



St James



St James



**Our Services this week**

Service type is subject to change due to illness or other unforeseen circumstances

**St James:**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>**

8:30am Morning Prayer  
 10.00am Holy Communion

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>**

9:30am Morning Prayer

**Our Lady & St Nicholas:**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>**

6pm BCP Evensong

**What else is happening this week**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>**

4pm Baptism Party Hallam Fields Hall

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>**

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

7:30pm F & S Meeting 251 Birstall Road

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>**

10am-12noon Open Church St James

**What's happening next week**

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>**  
 8:30am Morning Prayer St James  
 10am Holy Communion St James  
 6pm BCP Evensong Our Lady & St Nicholas

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup>** 10am M U Annual Service & AGM St James

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>**  
 10-12noon Old Nicks Coffee Shop Wanlip Hall  
 12noon Frugal Lunch in aid of Christian Aid St Theresa's  
 12:30-4:30pm Welcome Space St James

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
 2-4:30pm Welcome Space St James  
 3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer Our Lady & St Nicholas

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>** 9:30am Morning Prayer St James

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup>** 7pm Comedy Night with Andy Kind 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

**Amanda is off Friday & Saturday this week**

## **Baptism Party - Today (12<sup>th</sup> January)**

You are invited to a party to celebrate your baptism! Whether it was in the last year, or decades ago, come and enjoy party games for all ages, and a short service to remember the day you joined the church! We are meeting at 4pm at Hallam Fields hall on the 12<sup>th</sup> January. If you still have your baptism candle or another candle you would like to use, please bring it to light in the service. Candles are available to buy for £3.50 on the day. See you there. *Rachael*

## **Notices for Information Sheets 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> February**

If you require any notices to be included in the information sheets for the above dates, can you please let me have them before I am on **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January** as I will be out of the office from then until Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February. Thanks. *Sheryl*

## **Comedy Night with Andy Kind – 24<sup>th</sup> January**

There will be a comedy night with Andy Kind at St James on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January, starting at 7pm. Tickets £8 per person or £15 for 2 tickets. There is a basket at the back of church for any raffle prizes you would like to donate. Tickets available from Rose.

## **Emmaus Course**

Many thanks for your prayers and encouragement regarding the planned Emmaus Course. Unfortunately, the course won't be going ahead as we haven't had sufficient interest to make it viable. However, we are confident that this will change. Please keep praying for God's guidance and spread the word among people you meet. If you hear of anyone who might be interested, please pass their details to Amanda or me. *Clive*

## **Organ at St James**

We need to keep a record of the Humidity and Temperature of the church near the organ and would like your help. When you come into the church (other than for the 10am service, can you please record the readings on the Temperature/Humidity Gauge on the form provided. Both the Gauge and the form are in the pulpit. It doesn't matter if there is already one written for that day. We would sooner have 3 or 4 readings a day at different times to get a clearer picture of what is happening. *Matthew*

## **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 need reports from the Churchwardens and the following groups: Monday Group, Mothers' Union, Sunday School, Coffee Shop, Deanery Synod (Rose), Welcome Space (Janet), WC4 (Debbie), Churches Together (Andrzej), Home Groups (Ladi, Christine Suffolk, Helen Tarry), Cedar Mews & Healing Team (Kerry). Thanks.

## **The Collect for the Baptism of Christ**

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; 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**

## **The Post Communion Prayer for the Baptism of Christ**

Lord of all time and eternity, you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son: by the power of your Spirit complete the heavenly work of our rebirth through the waters of the new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## **Recycling Ink Cartridges**

During 2024 £52.20 was raised for church funds. £394.80 has been received in total. Thanks to all you have donated. Please continue to bring your used and unused ink cartridges, box at back of church. *Gill Pope*

## **Candles for Ukraine**

A reminder that remains of candles can be left in church so they can be reused and sent to the Ukraine. Thank you for your contributions in the past and hopefully for some more. *Josephine*

## **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.

## **Messy Church**

More helpers needed for Messy Monday at The Methodist Church, please. This is a Churches Together Project from 2:30-4:30pm (including setting up and packing away). You would need to have done our Safeguarding (Safe Recruiting process). You can be on a rota so you don't have to be there every week. Please speak to Rachael if interested.

## **Mothers Union - 20<sup>th</sup> January**

The Mothers Union Annual Service & AGM will be on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January at 10am St James. A reminder that annual subscription is due. There is still time to forward nominations for Committee members, including new Leader. *Rita*

## **12 Days of Christmas booklets**

If you received a (or some) 12 Days of Christmas booklets from Amanda, please do let her have the money, if you haven't already. She told you they were £1 each, but forgot about p&p, which she will pay or you can give a further donation (15p will cover it!). If she receives more than she paid out, any extra will go into the church collection!

## **Week of Christian Unity Frugal Lunch - 21<sup>st</sup> January**

During the Week of Christian Unity there will be a Frugal Lunch, in aid of Christian Aid, on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January at 12noon at St Theresa's. If you would like to come, there is a signup sheet at the back of both churches. *Rose*

## **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 leave a message on the office answer machine (0116 2671797) 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*

## Lectionary & Theme Readings

**Sun 12<sup>th</sup>**      **Baptism of Christ**

**Readings used:**

**Reading 1:**    **Deuteronomy 4:32-40**

**Reading 2:**    **Philippians 3:1-14**

**Gospel:**        **Matthew 7:21-28**

*Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 43:1-7, Acts 8:14-17,  
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22*

**Evensong Readings**

**Reading 1:**    **Isaiah 55:1-11**

**Reading 2:**    **Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

**Psalm:**        **46**

**Mon 13<sup>th</sup>**      **Theme: Deut. 4:32-40**

**Psalm:**        **2**

**Reading 1:**    **Amos 1**

**Reading 2:**    **1 Corinthians 1:1-17**

**Tue 14<sup>th</sup>**      **Theme: Philippians 3:1-14**

**Psalm:**        **9**

**Reading 1:**    **Amos 2**

**Reading 2:**    **1 Corinthians 1:18-end**

**Wed 15<sup>th</sup>**     **Theme: Matthew 6:19-24**

**Psalm:**        **20**

**Reading 1:**    **Amos 3**

**Reading 2:**    **1 Corinthians 2**

**Thu 16<sup>th</sup>**      **Theme: Luke 17:1-10**

**Psalm:**        **21**

**Reading 1:**    **Amos 4**

**Reading 2:**    **1 Corinthians 3**

**Holy Communion Readings**

**Reading 1:**    **Hebrews 3:7-14**

**Gospel:**        **Mark 1:40-end**

**Fri 17<sup>th</sup>**      **Theme: John 21:15-25**

**Psalm:**        **67**

**Reading 1:**    **Amos 5:1-17**

**Reading 2:**    **1 Corinthians 4**

**Sat 18<sup>th</sup>**      **Theme: Matthew 7:17-28**

**Psalm:**        **33**

**Reading 1:**    **Amos 5:18-end**

**Reading 2:**    **1 Corinthians 5**

**Sun 19<sup>th</sup>**      **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**

**Reading 1:**    **Isaiah 62:1-5**

**Reading 2:**    **1 Corinthians 12:1-11**

**Gospel:**        **John 2:1-11**

**Evensong Readings**

**Reading 1:**    **Isaiah 62:1-5 or 1 Cor. 12:1-11**

**Reading 2:**    **John 2:1-11**

**Psalm:**        **36:5-10**

**Theme: Matthew 13:44-46**

## For our Prayers

**Theme for the week - Priority**

In a life where one has just so much time and energy it is important that we are doing the first things first. Ask him this week to show you the real priorities of your life. Examine your life in prayer.

**For the persecuted church - Qatar**

Dear God, thank You for the visible presence of churches in Qatar, & we ask that the number allowed will increase. We also pray that the authorities will give Qataris greater religious freedom. Protect secret believers who are vulnerable to persecution. May they remain encouraged & steadfast in their faith, & find opportunities to gather with other Christians & even share their faith with others. Help church leaders as they navigate shepherding their congregations while under the close scrutiny of the authorities. Build Your church in Qatar, we pray. Amen.

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

Those who clean our churches.

Our Children: Arthur

**What are we thankful for this week:**

The smell of fresh baked bread

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

Addicts: their families & carers

**For those in need or unwell:**

Nicky Hardy, David Bark, Dorothy Barsby, John Walton, Michael Webb, Tricia Emmett, Ray Folland, Sheila Alcock, 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**

Elaine Towlson

**For 1<sup>st</sup> 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 insurgency in Northern Chad ongoing since 2021.

**Mon:** For an end to the Philippine Drug War ongoing since 2016.

**Tues:** For an end to Insurgency in Cabo Delgado (Mozambique and Tanzania) ongoing since 2017.

**Wed:** For an end to the Anglophone Crisis in Cameroon ongoing since 2017.

**Thurs:** For an end to the Bangladesh drug war ongoing since 2018.

**Fri:** For an end to the FRG9 insurgency in Haiti ongoing since 2020.

**Sat:** For an end to the Salvadoran gang crackdown ongoing since 2022.