



**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.*

**15<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

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

8:30am Holy Communion  
 10.00am Holy Communion  
 4pm Light in the Darkness

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>**

7pm Carols for All

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>**

9:30am Holy Communion

**Our Lady & St Nicholas:**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>**

6pm BCP Evensong

**What else is happening this week**

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup>**

10-12noon Mothers Union Meeting Wanlip Hall  
 2:30pm Carols for Christmas  
 Watermead Court  
 7pm Carols in the Pub The White Horse

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>**

10-12noon Old Nick's Coffee Shop Wanlip Hall  
 12:30-4:30pm Welcome Space St James  
 4:30-5:30pm Advent Book Club St James

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>**

2.00-4:30pm Welcome Space St James  
 3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer  
 Our Lady & St Nicholas

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>**

10am-12noon Open Church St James

**What's happening next week**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>**

8:30am Morning Prayer St James  
 10am Nativity Service with Holy Communion St James  
 6pm Carols by Candlelight Our Lady & St Nicholas

**Christmas Eve**

4:30pm Christingle St James  
 11:30pm Midnight Mass St James

**Christmas Day**

9:30am Joint Christmas Morning Service Our Lady & St Nicholas

**Boxing Day**

*There will not be a service today*

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>**

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

## **Carols at Watermead Court - 16<sup>th</sup> December**

Please join us as we lead a short Carol Service on 16<sup>th</sup> December at 2:30pm with the residents of Watermead Court. *Gill Pope*

## **12 Days of Christmas Meditations**

The Church of England have produced a booklet for post Christmas reflections for the 12 days of Christmas. They cost £1 each with a small profit to the church if we buy in bulk. If you would like one can you let Amanda know.

## **Boxing Day**

There will not be a Thursday morning service on Boxing Day.

## **Items for Information Sheets 29<sup>th</sup> December**

If you require any notices to be included in the information sheets for the above date, can you please let me have them before 11am on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December as I will be out of the office from then until Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January. Thanks. *Sheryl*

## **Bible Book Club - 9<sup>th</sup> January**

The next Bible Book Club will be on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January starting at about 10:30am following the Holy Communion Service. The book we will be studying is Colossians. All are welcome.

## **Open Church**

Effective from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025, Saturday Open Church will only be on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of the month. *Ladi*

## **Emmaus Course - Starts 13<sup>th</sup> January**

Please keep praying that people wanting to do the course will come forward. Posters are now displayed around the village. There are also some fliers at the back of church, so if you know of any people who might be interested, please take some and hand them out. *Clive Garner*

## **Christingle Making – 21<sup>st</sup> December**

We will be making up the Christingles on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 10-1pm. All help will be appreciated.

## **Nativity**

If anyone knows where the Nativity is kept, and is willing to set it up, can you let Amanda know please.

## **Volunteer vacancies!**

We have removed the list of volunteer vacancies but had no volunteers, so please do keep considering what you could help with. *Amanda*

## **Rev Robin Martin**

We didn't get round to thanking Robin for his years of ministry with us. If you'd like to contribute to a thank you gift for him, please give it to Amanda or one of the wardens by Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you. *Manda*

### **The Collect for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### **The Post Communion Prayer for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen**

### **BCP Collect for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

O Lord Jesu Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee: Grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen. **Amen**

### **Warm Welcome Space Update and Invitation - 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> December**

We have now been in continuous operation for just over two years and are planning to celebrate! Please drop in and join us on December 17<sup>th</sup> open 12.30 until 16.30 or Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> open 14.00 until 16.30. There will be food to share and some musical entertainment on Tuesday. We will then be closed for two weeks over Christmas and New Year but open for business as usual on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of January. *Janet*

### **Money!**

Sorry we have to mention this, but a reminder that the most helpful way for you to give is regularly through the Parish Giving scheme. This scheme is run by the National Church and means we don't have to claim gift - they sort that for us and we receive it monthly, which is less work for the treasurer; no one in the church knows how much you give (currently the treasurer and helper do); it's secure and you can cancel at anytime. We can set up a standing order but this causes a bit more work for the treasurer. You can of course, also give on the plate on Sundays or even use the machine (though this costs us money and we can't claim any gift aid on gifts over £30). You can also use the QR code on the pews and we don't pay for this. (But we can't claim gift aid on this.) *manda*

### **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.

### **Monthly tip for a less-plastic life - December**

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

### **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 15<sup>th</sup>** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

### Readings used

**Reading 1:** Psalm 146

**Reading 2:** Philippians 4:4-7

**Gospel:** Luke 3:7-18

*Lectionary Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-end,  
Philippians 4:4-7, Luke 3:7-18, Psalm 146:4-end*

### Readings used at Wanlip

**Reading 1:** Philippians 4:4-7

**Reading 2:** Luke 3:7-18

**Psalm:** Psalm 146

**Mon 16<sup>th</sup>** Theme: Philippians 3:12-21

**Psalm:** 40

**Reading 1:** Isaiah 49:14-25

**Reading 2:** 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

**Tue 17<sup>th</sup>** Theme: 1 John 2:3-17

**Psalm:** 70

**Reading 1:** Isaiah 50

**Reading 2:** 1 Thessalonians 5:12-end

**Wed 18<sup>th</sup>** Theme: Ephesians 4:1-16

**Psalm:** 75

**Reading 1:** Isaiah 51:1-8

**Reading 2:** 2 Thessalonians 1

**Thu 19<sup>th</sup>** Theme: Luke 6:43-45

**Psalm:** 146

**Reading 1:** Isaiah 51:9-16

**Reading 2:** 2 Thessalonians 2

### Holy Communion Readings

**Reading 1:** Judges 13:2-7, 24-end

**Gospel:** Luke 1:5-25

**Fri 20<sup>th</sup>** Theme: Philippians 1:1-11

**Psalm:** 46

**Reading 1:** Isaiah 51:17-end

**Reading 2:** 2 Thessalonians 3

**Sat 21<sup>st</sup>** Theme: 2 Peter 1:3-11

**Psalm:** 121

**Reading 1:** Isaiah 52:1-12

**Reading 2:** Jude

**Sun 22<sup>nd</sup>** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

### Readings used

**Reading 1:** Nativity

**Reading 2:**

**Gospel:**

*Lectionary Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-end,  
Philippians 4:4-7, Luke 3:7-18, Psalm 146:4-end*

### Readings used at Wanlip

**Reading 1:** Carols by Candlelight

**Reading 2:**

**Psalm:** Theme: Luke 19:11-29

## For our Prayers

### Theme for the week - Growth

God's desire to move us on to spiritual maturity is a stronger desire than we believe. If you will seek his face, then he will fashion you into the image of himself.

### For the persecuted church - Bhutan

Heavenly Father, we pray for our brothers & sisters in Bhutan. We ask You to bless them, to give them courage & strength, & to be able to worship freely. We ask that You will soften the hearts of the authorities & society in Bhutan, that people who come to know You would be free to walk with You. We pray for churches & church leaders who are at risk because they cannot register; we ask that You would give them peace & hope, and that You would be glorified in their worship. Amen.

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

Our Intercessors and Readers:

Our Children: Harriet

### What are we thankful for this week:

For waking up each morning

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

Our Vets

### For those in need or unwell:

Nicky Hardy, David Bark, Dorothy Barsby, John Walton, Michael Webb, Tricia Emmett, Ray Folland, Sheila Alcock, Lesley Walton, Tim & Abby Hall & all who care for them.

### For those who have Holy Communion at home:

Sheila Skidmore, Monica Lucas, Freda Swards, Margery Orton

### For those who have recently died

Colin Holgate

### 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 Sudanese nomadic conflicts ongoing since 2008.

**Mon:** For an end to Boko Haram Insurgency in Nigeria, Cameroon, Niger, Chad, ongoing since 2009.

**Tues:** For an end to the Syrian Civil War ongoing since 2011.

**Wed:** For an end to the Nigerian Bandit Conflict ongoing since 2011.

**Thurs:** And for an end to the Mali War ongoing since 2012.

**Fri:** or an end to the Yemeni Civil War (Yemen, Saudi Arabia) ongoing since 2014.

**Sat:** For an end to the Sudan conflict ongoing since 2023.