

Lectionary Readings

Sun 18th 20th Sunday after Trinity

Birstall readings

Reading 1: Isaiah 45:1-7
 Reading 2: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
 Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

Wanlip Readings: BCP Evensong

Reading 1: Proverbs 4:1-18
 Reading 2: 1 John 3:16 – 4:6
 Psalm: 142

Mon 19th Luke the Evangelist

Psalm: 145
 Reading 1: Isaiah 55
 Reading 2: Luke 1:1-4

Tue 20th

Psalm: 132
 Reading 1: 2 Kings 22:1 – 23:3
 Reading 2: 1 Timothy 1:18 – end of 2

Wed 21st

Psalm: 119:153-end
 Reading 1: 2 Kings 23:4-25
 Reading 2: 1 Timothy 3

Thu 22nd

Psalm: 143
 Reading 1: 2 Kings 23:36 – 24:17
 Reading 2: 1 Timothy 4

Fri 23rd

Psalm: 144
 Reading 1: 2 Kings 24:18 – 25:12
 Reading 2: 1 Timothy 5:1-16

Sat 24th

Psalm: 147
 Reading 1: 2 Kings 25:22-end
 Reading 2: 1 Timothy 5:17-end

Sun 25th Last Sunday after Trinity

Birstall readings

Reading 1: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18
 Reading 2: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
 Gospel: Matthew 22:34-end

Wanlip Readings: BCP Evensong

Reading 1: Ecclesiastes 11, 12
 Reading 2: Matthew 5:13-16
 Psalm: 119:89-104

18th October 2026

20th Sunday after Trinity

Collect

God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life; 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**

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father, whose Son, the light unfailing, has come from heaven to deliver the world from the darkness of ignorance: let these holy mysteries open the eyes of our understanding that we may know the way of life, and walk in it without stumbling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

BCP Collect

O Almighty and most merciful God, of thy bountiful goodness keep us, we beseech thee, from all things that may hurt us; that we, being ready both in body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things that thou wouldest have done; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

This week we are grateful for....

Sunrises and Sunsets

Additional Notices for the Week

A notice from Kerry

Amanda is on sick leave and then on holiday until 1st November. The main cause of sick leave among the clergy is stress – and that is what Amanda is suffering from. A four week break from duty in such cases is normal – and we very much hope Amanda will be back on 1st November. Stress among the clergy has become more common in recent years. Demands on us for Safeguarding, Health and Safety and other issues haven't helped. We commend Amanda (and Paul) to your prayers – and ask you NOT to contact her during her time off. That will help her recovery. While she is off, please direct any pastoral queries or questions about services to Kerry; admin queries to Sheryl and buildings to the PCC via Lynn. Thank you. Kerry

Changes to Thursday 9:30am Services in October

The type of Thursday services for the remainder of October has been changed around due to Amanda's sick leave and a funeral. They are now:

22nd October: Holy Communion

29th October: Morning prayer at Canon Anne's home - 8b Copeland Road. (No service in church)

Funeral – 29th October

There will be a funeral service at St James on Thursday 29th October at 11am for Jovo Maric.

Harvest Food Donations

On behalf of Birstall Food Hub, thank you to all at St James and Our Lady and St Nicholas for the food collection of Harvest Thanksgiving donated to The Food Hub. It is much appreciated. Thank-you. Kind regards, *Pete Molesdale*

Please note

We are trying to get a handle on spending in the church. All purchases must be approved by Amanda (or if she's on holiday, Kerry). If not approved, the church will consider the purchase as a gift. We will purchase "fair trade" wherever possible. Janet will buy cleaning products, food and drink, Sunday School and First Aid supplies. Sheryl will order office supplies. Amanda will order worship supplies (bread, wine, candles etc). Some items have been purchased recently that we do not need and we often have duplicates too!

Flowers for special occasions (updated notice)

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. 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 Rita Richards on 07754826976 (Wanlip)

November's Diary Sheet

Reminder: Please can you let me have diary dates for November's diary by the end of Monday 19th October. Thanks. *Sheryl*

Advent Windows

Churches Together in Birstall and Wanlip are planning something new for this advent (don't all groan at once, it'll be Christmas before we know it!!) There is information about it at the back of each church and a sign up sheet if you would like to be involved. It sounds like a lot of fun so I hope you join in. *Debbie Shephard*