



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.

23rd March 2025 **3rd Sunday of Lent**

Welcome to you all



Large Print



St James



Crèche

St James



St James



Our Services this week
 Service type is subject to change due to illness or other unforeseen circumstances

St James:

Sunday 23rd

8:30am Holy Communion
 10.00am Holy Communion

Thursday 27th

9:30am Holy Communion

Our Lady & St Nicholas:

Sunday 23rd

6pm BCP Evensong

What else is happening this week

Sunday 23rd

12:30pm Bring & Share Lunch
Birstall Village Hall
 2-4pm Visiting Bell Ringers St James

Monday 24th

7pm PCC Meeting St James

Tuesday 25th

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

Wednesday 26th

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

What's happening next week

Sunday 30th	10am	Holy Communion	St James
	6pm	5 th Sunday Special	Our Lady & St Nicholas
Tuesday 1st	12:30-4:30pm	Welcome Space	St James
Wednesday 2nd	2-4:30pm	Welcome Space	St James
	3-4pm	Open Church & Private Prayer	Our Lady & St Nicholas
Thursday 3rd	9:30am	Morning Prayer	St James
Saturday 5th	10am-12noon	Open Church	St James
	10:30am	Same Sex Marriage debate	St James
	2:30-3:15pm	Visiting Bell Ringers	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

Bring and Share Lunch - Today (23rd March)

Bring and share lunch in the village hall is today. Please come if you can. Even if you didn't realise, and have no food to bring, please come anyway!

There will also be bring and share lunches on Sunday 29th June and Sunday 30th November. Please put these dates in your diary. Thank you. *Joan Folland*

Easter Breakfast at Wanlip

The usual bacon butties along with drinks will be served after the early morning service on Easter Sunday in the Hall. We would love to see you all there but to help with catering could you please put your name on the sheet at the back of either of the churches. *Julie ward*

Wanlip Church and Community Centre May Fair

This will be held on Saturday 17th May 2 - 4 pm in the Hall, doesn't time fly!!

We would be grateful for any donations for the stalls, especially plants or cuttings you may have spare, raffle prizes, tombola items, cakes for both refreshments and the cake stall etc but please no bric a brac. Any offers please see Julie ward. Proceeds divided between Wanlip Church and the Hall. We look forward to seeing you on the day. *Julie*

Same Sex Marriage debate - 5th/10th April

As requested, we have sourced someone, Elaine Sutherland, to speak on the other side of the debate about same sex marriage. The options will be Saturday 5th April, 10:30am or Thursday 10th April at 7pm. Thanks, Manda

Andy Kind

Date for your diaries: we have booked comedian Andy Kind to come again on 12th September. Now you know he's good, please invite more people! Funds raised will go to upgrading the sound system where needed and to fund other events.

Monthly tip for a less-plastic life - March

Buy loose fruit and veg.

RBL Quiz night

Several of us enjoy going to the quiz at the RBL on Wednesday evenings at 8:15pm. Please join us whenever you can. It's £1.50 per quizzier +£1 for non members. Text Amanda if you're coming just to double check we're going that evening. We can meet you outside if a bit nervous walking in alone - and who wouldn't be!)

Candles for Ukraine

We have been asked to start collecting candles for Ukraine again so please add them to the box in the Old Church by the candle stand. Thank you for your contributions in the past and hopefully for some more. *Josephine*

The Collect for the 3rd Sunday of Lent

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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 3rd Sunday of Lent

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

BCP Evensong Collect for the 3rd Sunday of Lent

We beseech thee, Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of thy humble servants, and stretch forth the right hand of thy Majesty, to be our defence against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Calendar

I've put a little calendar up in the entrance to St James' of anything I know is happening. Feel free to add other church events and edit changes, please! *Manda*

Save the Children Lunch 30th April

The next Save the Children's Lunch will be at the White Horse on Wednesday 30th April, eating at 1pm. Information at the back of the church. Numbers are limited. *Josephine*

New Electoral Roll 2025

This year ALL members of St James the Great, Birstall and Our Lady & St Nicholas, Wanlip need to re-apply to be on the church's New Electoral Roll. Enrolment forms will be available from 22nd March - 26th April. *Christine Suffolk*

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.

Recycling Boxes

Thank you to those who are using our recycling station (under a table in the community area at St James) where you can dispose of your used pens, blister packs, toothpaste & brushes, printer ink cartridges, Babybel left overs (you can put the wax outers in; the outer wrappers; and the net bags) Please note: Only Babybel net bags can be put in the Babybel recycling box." Also some types of beauty products packets, (please only put in things you can't recycle elsewhere - in particular, shampoo, bottles etc - they can go in your green bin, so please put them there instead. There is a picture on the side of the box to help you. We do raise funds from the ink cartridges but the others do not gain us money - they do, however, help us to protect God's beautiful creation! You can also recycle phones & stamps for Mothers Union funds. Thank you so much.

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

Lectionary Readings

Sun 23rd **3rd Sunday of Lent**
Reading 1: Isaiah 55:1-9
Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Gospel : Luke 13:1-9

Evangelist Readings

Reading 1: Genesis 28:10-19a
Reading 2: John 1:35-end
Psalm: 12

Mon 24th

Psalm: 5
Reading 1: Jeremiah 11:1-17
Reading 2: John 7:37-52

Tue 25th *Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Psalm: 111
Reading 1: 1 Samuel 2:1-10
Reading 2: Romans 5:12-end

Wed 26th

Psalm: 38
Reading 1: Jeremiah 13:1-11
Reading 2: John 8:12-30

Thu 27th

Psalm: 56
Reading 1: Jeremiah 14
Reading 2: John 8:31-47

Holy Communion Readings

Reading 1: Jeremiah 7:23-28
Gospel: Luke 11:14-23

Fri 28th

Psalm: 22
Reading 1: Jeremiah 15:10-end
Reading 2: John 8:48-end

Sat 29th

Psalm: 31
Reading 1: Jeremiah 16:10 - 17:4
Reading 2: John 9:1-17

Sun 30th **Mothering**

Reading 1: Exodus 2:1-10
Reading 2: 2 Corinthians 1:3-7
Gospel : Luke 2:33-35

Wanlip

5th Sunday Special

For our Prayers

For the persecuted church -Afghanistan

Heavenly Father, Afghanistan is one of those places where it seems like nothing ever gets better. We grieve & mourn with our family there & ask You to bring them comfort. We also ask You will bring about miraculous hope & growth – that people will find You, that underground believers will remain supernaturally hidden, that the gospel would spread. We know You can do this & ask You to do so. In Jesus's name,

For our Churches, this week especially for:

Visitors to our Churches

Our Children: Christopher, Lucy & Bea

What are we thankful for this week:

Being able to get to church

For our Community, this week especially for:

Our Opticians

For those in need or unwell:

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

For those who have Holy Communion at home:

Sheila Skidmore, Monica Lucas, Freda Sowards, and Margery Orton

For those who have recently died

For 1st anniversary of death this week:

Lent Prayers

Over Lent, the Bishop has suggested the following daily pattern of prayers for the Church of England, so we have replaced the list of countries we are praying for, on the back of the notice sheet with these, just during Lent. We hope you might join in!

Mon: Pray for all victims & survivors of abuse, and for all those who work to make our churches safe for children & vulnerable adults.

Tues: Pray for all who are anxious or lonely, particular those who feel they can no longer be part of the Church of England.

Wed: Pray for the appointment of a new archbishop, & for all those dioceses seeking to appoint a new bishop, & for all bishops, priests, deacons & lay ministers that we may persevere in our calling.

Thurs: Pray for parish & diocesan finances, that God would supply all our needs & make us generous in giving to others.

Fri: Pray for the Living in Love & Faith process that we may learn to live well together in our differences.

Sat: Pray for all those exploring their vocation to ministry in the church – and for many more people to come forward in response to God's call.

Sun: Thanksgiving for all God's good gifts, particularly the gift of God's Son Jesus Christ – may we be formed in the character of Jesus Christ. Prayer for the Bishops' Lent Appeal for the Leprosy Mission.