



**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.*

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

**Epiphany**

**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 5<sup>th</sup>**

8:30am Morning Prayer  
 10.00am All Together Service

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>**

9:30am Holy Communion

**Our Lady & St Nicholas:**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>**

6pm Holy Communion

**What else is happening this week**

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>**

10:30am Bible Book Club St James

**What's happening next week**

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

8:30am Morning Prayer St James  
 10am Holy Communion St James  
 6pm BCP Evensong Our Lady & St Nicholas

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup>**

7:30pm Emmaus Course session I St James

**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 25 I Birstall Road

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

9:30am Holy Morning Prayer St James

**Saturday 18<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

## **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**

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

## **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.

## **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*

## **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*

## **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*

## **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*

## **The Collect for Epiphany**

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; 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 Epiphany**

Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, 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*

## **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.

## **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.

## **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?!

## **Flowers for special occasions**

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, but not always necessary. 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](mailto:sylviasimes66@gmail.com) (Birstall) and Marjorie Bonshor on 2207964 (Wanlip)

## **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*

## **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 5<sup>th</sup>**      **Epiphany**  
Reading 1:    Isaiah 60:1-6  
Reading 2:    Ephesians 3:1-12  
Gospel :        Matthew 2:1-12

**Mon 6<sup>th</sup>**      **Theme: Mark 10:17-31**  
Psalm:         132  
Reading 1:     Jeremiah 31:7-14  
Reading 2:     John 1:29-34

**Tue 7<sup>th</sup>**      **Theme: John 12:20-33**  
Psalm:         99  
Reading 1:     Isaiah 63:7-end  
Reading 2:     1 John 3

**Wed 8<sup>th</sup>**      **Theme: Psalm 31:1-5**  
Psalm:         46  
Reading 1:     Isaiah 64  
Reading 2:     1 John 4:7-end

**Thu 9<sup>th</sup>**      **Theme: 2 Timothy 1:3-12**  
Psalm:         148  
Reading 1:     Isaiah 65:1-16  
Reading 2:     1 John 5:1-12

Holy Communion Readings  
Reading 1:     1 John 4:19 - 5:4  
Gospel:         Luke 4:14-22

**Fri 10<sup>th</sup>**      **Theme: Joshua 24:1-24**  
Psalm:         149  
Reading 1:     Isaiah 65:17-end  
Reading 2:     1 John 5:13-end

**Sat 11<sup>th</sup>**      **Theme: John 6:41-67**  
Psalm:         150  
Reading 1:     Isaiah 66:1-11  
Reading 2:     2 John

**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

Evengsong Readings  
**Reading 1: Isaiah 55:1-11**  
**Reading 2: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**  
**Psalm; 46**

**Theme: 1 Kings 8:54-61**

## For our Prayers

### Theme for the week - Commitment

One of the results of a deeper prayer life should be a greater commitment to the one who was and is so deeply committed to you. But sometimes we get cross-purposed and continue to be committed to our own interests. Make it a point to ask God to show you how he feels your commitment level to be.

### For the persecuted church - Mozambique

Lord Jesus, we remember our brothers & sisters in Mozambique who have suffered attacks by Islamic extremists. Surround them with Your comfort & breathe fresh hope into their hearts. Protect Your people in this land & frustrate the plans of militant groups. We pray for greater security & stronger governance in the country, leading to increased protection & freedom for all people, including our persecuted family. Equip Your people with the boldness, wisdom & strength to withstand opposition & be salt & light in their communities. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on Your people in Mozambique. Amen.

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

Our Mothers Union      Our Children:

### What are we thankful for this week:

Health & strength & daily food

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

Music and Drama Groups

### 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

### 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 New People's Army rebellion in the Philippines, ongoing since 1969.

**Mon:** For an end to Kurdish-Turkish Conflict in Turkey, Iraq and Syria ongoing since 1984.

**Tues:** For an end to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict in Artsakh, Azerbaijan and Armenia ongoing since 1988.

**Wed:** For an end to insurgency in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in Pakistan ongoing since 2004.

**Thurs:** For an end to The Libyan Crisis ongoing since 2011.

**Fri:** For an end to Sinai insurgency in Egypt ongoing since 2011.

**Sat:** For an end to the Central African Republic Civil War ongoing since 2012.