



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.

6th April 2025

5th 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 6th

10.00am All Together Service

Thursday 10th

9:30am Holy Communion

Our Lady & St Nicholas:

Sunday 6th

6pm Holy Communion

What else is happening this week

Tuesday 8th

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

Wednesday 9th

2-4:30pm Welcome Space St James

3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer
Our Lady & St Nicholas

Thursday 10th

10:30am Bible Book Club St James

7pm Same Sex Marriage debate
St James

Saturday 12th

10-12noon Visiting Bell Ringers St James

What's happening next week

Sunday 13th

8:30am Morning Prayer St James

10am Holy Communion St James

4pm Easter Egg Hunt & Crafts Hallam Fields Community Centre

6pm BCP Evensong Our Lady & St Nicholas

Monday 14th

2:30-4:30pm Monday Group St James

Tuesday 15th

10-12noon Old Nick's Coffee Shop Wanlip Hall

2:30-4:30pm Welcome Space St James

Wednesday 16th

10-12noon Save the Children Coffee Morning IA Hallam Ave

2-4:30pm Welcome Space St James

3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer Our Lady & St Nicholas

Thursday 17th

9:30am Holy Communion St James

7pm Maundy Thursday Service St James

Friday 18th

10am Churches Together Walk of Witness Outside Tesco

2pm Good Friday Service St James

Saturday 19th

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

Personal Information

If you are storing personal information of others on behalf of the church (eg a member's list of a group you are part of; names and addresses of church contacts etc), please could you let our General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) officer, Kev Burrows know.

We just need a list of who in the Church holds people's personal data on behalf of the Church, in what context (why) and in what format hard copy or electronic. It needs please to include any other personal details you keep. We only need the titles of the data you keep not lists of names and addresses. This is for Data Protection purposes and to ensure we are only keeping personal data in accordance with the law. Thank you.

Bible Book Club - 10th April

The next Bible Book Club will be on Thursday 10th April starting at about 10:30am following the Holy Communion Service. The book we will be studying is Ruth. All welcome.

Same Sex Marriage debate - 10th April

As requested, we have sourced someone, Elaine Sutherland, to speak on the other side of the debate about same sex marriage, on Thursday 10th April at 7pm. *Manda*

Monday Group - 14th April

Monday Group will meet on 14th April at 2:30pm in the community area of St James for a Church service and Talk by Rosie Houldsworth on Birstall Bags. Visitors welcome. *Joan Folland*

Save the Children Coffee Morning 16th April

Come to 1A Hallam Avenue for a cup of coffee on Wednesday 16th April 10am-12:30pm. Donations will be in aid of the appeal for Save the Children's work in Myanmar. *Josephine*

Maundy Thursday service - 17th April

On Maundy Thursday (17th April) we will be washing feet as is the tradition. So please come with suitable foot based attire (not in tights!!) Foot washing is also one of our '99 things to do between here and heaven' so do please come along to share in this wonderful reminder of our call to serve each other. *Rachael*

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*

Easter is a'coming!

The Knitted chicks have their tummies filled with a chocolate cream egg. £1.50 each. Proceeds to M.U. projects. *Brenda & Joan*

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.

The Collect for the 5th Sunday of Lent

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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 5th Sunday of Lent

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen**

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*

APM & APCM

This year's APM & APCM will be on Monday 12th May at 7pm.

Security

We urgently need to improve the accuracy of our St James key register. This is mandated by our building insurance provider, and will greatly improve church security.

I - Everyone who holds any church key and no longer needs it should please submit it to Ladi.

II - Everyone who holds any church key and still needs it should please let Ladi know. *Ladi*

Be Aware of Fraudulent Letters

The Charity Commission has issued a warning about fraudsters targeting charities with fake letters. These letters may request actions such as removing trustees or executives, releasing funds, or providing personal documents like passports or utility bills. They may appear to come from the Commission, its chief executive, or its directors. If in doubt, charities are encouraged to contact the Charity Commission to check any correspondence they have received. While it is not known if only registered charities are at risk, it is important for all PCCs, as charities, to remain vigilant. Likewise, nearly half of PCCs are registered with the Charity Commission, and many parishes and volunteers are connected to other charities. *Amanda*

Helpers

We are looking for volunteers to assist our churchwardens with opening St James church and getting it ready for the 10am Sunday service. There will be a rota, and each person will be on duty no more than once a month. If interested, please contact Ladi or Amanda for further details.

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*

Monthly tip for a less-plastic life - April

Reuse small soft-fruit punnets as seed trays or use cardboard loo roll.

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 and/or sheryljupp@hotmail.co.uk before 11am on Thursday. Thanks. *Sheryl*

Lectionary Readings

Sun 6th 5th Sunday of Lent

Reading 1: Isaiah 43:16-21
Reading 2: Philippians 3:4b-14
Gospel: John 12:1-8

Mon 7th

Psalm: 73
Reading 1: Jeremiah 21:1-10
Reading 2: John 11:28-44

Tue 8th

Psalm: 35
Reading 1: Jeremiah 22:1-5, 13-19
Reading 2: John 11:45-end

Wed 9th

Psalm: 55
Reading 1: Jeremiah 22:20 - 23:8
Reading 2: John 12:1-11

Thu 10th

Psalm: 40
Reading 1: Jeremiah 23:9-32
Reading 2: John 12:12-19

Holy Communion Readings

Reading 1: Genesis 17:3-9
Gospel: John 8:51-end

Fri 11th

Psalm: 22
Reading 1: Jeremiah 24
Reading 2: John 12:20-36a

Sat 12th

Psalm: 23
Reading 1: Jeremiah 25:1-14
Reading 2: John 12:36b-end

Sun 13th Palm Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms

Reading 1: Luke 19:28-40
Reading 2: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-end

Evangelist Readings

Reading 1: Isaiah 5:1-7
Reading 2: Luke 20:9-19
Psalm: 118:19-end.

For our Prayers

For the persecuted church - Saudi Arabia

Heavenly Father, give strength to our brothers & sisters who are following you but living at risk in Saudi Arabia. We pray that instead of being at risk from their families, their families will become soft-hearted & ready to meet you as well. Protect those who are bravely sharing the gospel online & on TV. May your message reach many more Saudis who are searching for you. Protect & bring justice for the most vulnerable, especially Christian women. Amen.

For our Churches, this week especially for:

Welcome Space & our children: Josh Marshall

What are we thankful for this week:

The sunshine

For our Community, this week especially for:

St Theresa's and the Birstall Methodist Church

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, Margery Orton, Margery Orton, Gillian Hinton, John Harrison, John Walters, Michael Webb & Dorothy Barsby

For those who have recently died

For 1st anniversary of death this week:

Sheila Ward

Lent Prayers

Over Lent, the Bishop has suggested the following daily pattern of prayers for the C of E, so we have replaced the list of countries we are praying for, with these. 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 C of E.

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.