



Our vision is to be an open Christian community where people feel loved, respected, and free to be fully themselves.



**8<sup>th</sup> December 2024** **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**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 8<sup>th</sup>**  
 8:30am Morning Prayer  
 10.00am Holy Communion with Healing

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>**  
 9:30am Morning Prayer

**Our Lady & St Nicholas:**  
**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>**  
 6pm St Nicholas Patronal

**What else is happening this week**

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>**  
 2:4pm Visiting Bell ringers St James  
 4pm Christingle Service Hallam Fields Hall

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup>**  
 12noon Monday Group meeting St James

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>**  
 12:30-4:30pm Welcome Space St James  
 4:30-5:30pm Advent Book Club St James

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>**  
 2.00-4:30pm Welcome Space St James  
 3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer  
 Our Lady & St Nicholas

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>**  
 11:30-3pm Highcliffe school Nativity St James

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>**  
 10am-12noon Open Church St James  
 10-11am Carol Singing Outside the Co-op  
 2-4pm Children's Advent Party Wanlip Hall

**What's happening next week**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>**  
 8:30am Holy Communion St James  
 10am Holy Communion St James  
 4pm Light in the Darkness Service St James  
 6pm BCP Evensong Our Lady & St Nicholas

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup>**  
 10-12noon Mothers Union Meeting Wanlip Hall  
 TBC Carols in the Pub TBC

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>**  
 10-12noon Old Nick's Coffee Shop Wanlip Hall  
 12:30-4:30pm Welcome Space Celebration St James

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>**  
 4:30-5:30pm Advent Book Club St James  
 2-4:30pm Welcome Space Celebration St James  
 3-4pm Open Church & Private Prayer Our Lady & St Nicholas

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>**  
 7pm Carols for All St James

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup>**  
 9:30am Holy Communion St James

**Saturday 21<sup>st</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

## **This weeks information sheet**

This weeks information sheet was produced on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, if you have sent any notices since then, they will not appear until next week. *Sheryl*

## **Christmas Leaflets**

We have printed these this year, due to the Birstall Post not printing this information. Please take a street or more, if you are able. Please note that the Carols for All day is wrong on some (it should say Wednesday, not Sunday), please correct if some of your leaflets have this! *Manda*

## **Monday Group - 9<sup>th</sup> December**

Monday Group's Christmas meeting will be on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December. Please note earlier start time of 12 noon, with bring and share lunch. Games. Don't forget your £4.00 wrapped present for Santa's sack.

## **Churches Together - Christmas Carol Singing – 14<sup>th</sup> December**

Churches Together in Birstall & Wanlip will be Christmas Carol Singing on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2024, 10-11am outside the co-op. Please come and join in.

## **Welcomers, Sidespeople & Readers needed for Christmas services**

Welcomers, Sidespeople and readers are needed to cover the following services:

Sunday	15/12/24	4pm	Birstall	Light in the Darkness
Wednesday	18/12/24	7pm	Birstall	Carols for All
Tuesday	24/12/24 (Christmas Eve)	4.30pm	Birstall	Christingle.

If you can help please let Amanda, Rachael or a churchwarden know.

## **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.

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

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

## **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*

### **The Collect for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen**

### **The Post Communion Prayer for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **The Collect for St Nicholas**

Almighty Father, lover of souls, who chose your servant Nicholas to be a bishop in the Church, that he might give freely out of the treasures of your grace: make us mindful of the needs of Others and, as we have received, so teach us also to give; 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 St Nicholas**

God, shepherd of your people, whose servant Nicholas revealed the loving service of Christ in his ministry as a pastor of your people: by this Eucharist in which we share awaken within us the love of Christ and keep us faithful to our Christian calling; through him who laid down his life for us, but is alive and reigns with you, now and for ever. **Amen**

### **Warm Welcome Space Update and Invitation**

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.

### **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*

## Lectionary & Theme Readings

**Sun 8<sup>th</sup>** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent/Wanlip  
Patronal for St Nicholas

### Readings used

**Reading 1:** Psalm 15

**Reading 2:** 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31

**Gospel:** Matthew 5: 13-16

*Lectionary readings: Malachi 3:1-4, Philippians 1:3-11, Luke 3:1-6.*

### Readings used at Wanlip

**Reading 1:** Isaiah 61:1-3

**Reading 2:** 1 Peter 4:7-11

**Gospel:** Mark 10:35-45

**Mon 9<sup>th</sup>** Theme: Luke 10:1-16

Psalm: 44

Reading 1: Isaiah 45:14-end

Reading 2: 1 Thessalonians 1

**Tue 10<sup>th</sup>** Theme: Matthew 5:13-16

Psalm: 56

Reading 1: Isaiah 46

Reading 2: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

**Wed 11<sup>th</sup>** Theme: 1 Cor. 12:12-31

Psalm: 62

Reading 1: Isaiah 47

Reading 2: 1 Thessalonians 2:13-end

**Thu 12<sup>th</sup>** Theme: Luke 22:24-32

Psalm: 54

Reading 1: Isaiah 48:1-11

Reading 2: 1 Thessalonians 3

### Holy Communion Readings

Reading 1: Isaiah 41:13-20

Gospel: Matthew 11:11-15

**Fri 13<sup>th</sup>** Theme: Matthew 6:1-4

Psalm: 86

Reading 1: Isaiah 48:12-end

Reading 2: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

**Sat 14<sup>th</sup>** Theme: 1 Cor. 2:1-5

Psalm: 145

Reading 1: Isaiah 49:1-13

Reading 2: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-end

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

### Readings used

**Reading 1:** TBC

**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:** TBC

**Reading 2:**

**Psalm:** Theme: Luke 1:76-80

## For our Prayers

### Theme for the week - Service

Ask God to help you this week to see the tasks of your life not as opportunities for advancement or as stepping-stones to some future work. Rather may you see them as places where you have been called to serve and may you do them gladly.

### For the persecuted church - Vietnam

Father God, thank You for our family in Vietnam, & for the ways in which You are moving in & through them. Keep them strong in their faith & help them as they face different challenges; may they hold onto You & not lose heart. We pray that You'd also meet all their needs & heal all their hurt. Soften the hearts of local authorities who see Christians as a threat to their communities, & give them personal encounters with believers that shift their perspective & behaviour. Encourage our Vietnamese sisters & brothers today, & refresh their spirits. Amen.

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

Our Flower Arrangers      Our Children:

### What are we thankful for this week:

Meals out with family/friends

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

Our Cafes, Restaurants & Pubs.

### 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

Colin Holgate

### For 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of death this week:

Paula Kazaz & Ellen Cleaver

### Every day - 9pm (or another time!)

Praying for peace in Ukraine & Israel / Palestine. And a different area each day.

**Sun:** For an end to Allied Democratic Forces insurgency in Africa (DR Congo and Uganda) ongoing since 1996.

**Mon:** For an end to the communal conflicts in Nigeria ongoing since 1998.

**Tues:** For an end to Ituri Conflict in DR Congo ongoing since 1999.

**Wed:** For an end to insurgency in the Maghreb (Algeria, Burkina Faso, Chad, Libya, Mali, Niger, Tunisia, Togo, Benin, Ivory Coast) ongoing since 2002.

**Thurs:** For an end to Islamic State conflict in Iraq ongoing since 2003.

**Fri:** For an end to the Kivu conflict (DR Congo, Rwanda, Burundi) ongoing since 2004.

**Sat:** For an end to the Mexican Drug War ongoing since 2006.