

Website: www.stjameswesthead.org.uk

Email: admin@stjameswesthead.org.uk

Activities at St James, during the coming week:

No 10.30am Service
today.

4.00pm

Carol Service with Haydock Brass Band, followed by Refreshments
Leading and Preaching: Rev John Sephton

This Service will be live streamed, the Recording will be available from 8.00pm

Collect for Today

“God our Redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the Mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our Saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.” Amen.

Tuesday

7.00pm-7.25 pm

No Evening Prayer on Zoom (This will be resumed on Tuesday 21 January)

ID: 401 570 3435

Passcode: 24 24 24

Tuesday

7.30 pm-8.45 pm

No LIFE Group meeting (This will be resumed on Tuesday 21 January)

ID: 401 570 3435

Passcode: 24 24 24

Tuesday 24 December

2.30pm

Christmas Eve: Christingle and Crib Service

9.00pm

Holy Communion Service

Wednesday 25

December 9.30am

Christmas Day: Holy Communion Service

Saturday 28 December

10.00 to 12.00

No Coffee and Chat. This will re-open on Saturday 4 January

Sunday 29 December

10.30 am

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS – Book Service

Morning Prayer

**All of the above Services: Our aim will be to live stream, and the recording to be available on YouTube two hours after the Service has ended.
[@stjameswesthead](#)**

There will be no Bulletin for Sunday 29 December

Back to normal on Sunday 5 January 2025

KNOWING JESUS

Daily Bread Readings for w/c 22 December 2024

Sun	22	Psalm 18: 1-29	Thurs	26	Isaiah 9: 8-17
Mon	23	Isaiah 8: 1-10	Fri	27	Isaiah 9: 18-10: 4
Tue	24	Isaiah 8: 11-18	Sat	28	Isaiah 10: 20-27
Wed	25	Isaiah 9: 1-7			

Prayer Requests

People who are not well:

Mo Fletcher, Sharon Goth, Russell Tague, Heather Lyon, Laura Duran-Smith, Simon Horsfall, Kath Torres, Bill Evans, Bella Preston, Lucy Marie Knight, Dave Johnston, Sharon Cusick, Margaret Williams, Ray Quinn, Grantham Fidler, Alan Bell, Ali Buckley, Jean Dutton, Brenda Taylor, Derek Williams, Terry Beesley, Peter Thorn, John Fisher, Karen (Bob's Daughter), Martin Duerden, Marion Langton, also Marion's Grand-Daughter Olivia, Tish Davis, Zoe Simpkin, Dave Gee, Lucy Holleran and Jade Carter.

Please also pray for the bereaved families of: **Doris Riley, Ron Moorcroft, Muriel Doyle** (Heather's Mum), and **David Blair** (Dawn's Brother)

Prayers for the Parish and beyond:

- To give thanks for Christ's Forgiving Love
- For the Power of God's Spirit in our lives
- Praise God the Father
- For Spiritual Growth in our Church families
- For people in our Parish to know Christ in their lives – please pray for people living in Castle Lane and Halton Chase
- Coffee and Chat, CAMEO, JAFFA, Church in the Hall, LIFE, Community Praise, Westhead Village Hall and our Music Group
- For the children, their families and their spiritual development
- For the Church's link with the School and Collective Worship
- For outreach and growth in numbers
- For the Under 18s leadership team, Street Pastors and School Pastors
- Special prayers for our Children and Family Saturday Fun, Food and Fellowship
- Please remember all the Students and Staff at Edge Hill University. All are welcome to worship with us.
- Please continue to pray for the NHS who are under pressure in how they manage the backlog of many medical issues
- We pray for refugees from Yemen, Palestine, Syria, Gaza, Ukraine, Russia and those arriving across the English Channel.
- Please pray that these wars will come to a negotiated conclusion.
- Prayer Board:** This will be available each week for your prayers in the Outer Porch Area of Church. These will be prayed for in Church the following Sunday. Urgent prayers that cannot wait please speak to Rev John or a Warden.
- Please would you continue to pray that people's hearts would focus on God and not be persuaded into the evil that we so often see displayed in life today
- Please commit to our Father the issues within the C of E, all current appointments, that the residents within the UK would look to God for His intervention to current wickedness.
- Bible Society Prayer - December:** Please pray that people who do not usually attend Christmas Services will want to come to one of our services this year, and will be touched by the greatest story ever told – the story of Jesus.

MAKING HIM KNOWN

- 1. Christmas Cards – internal delivery:** if you would like your cards to be collected by other Church members there will be a place for you to leave and collect your own cards in the Fellowship Area.
- 2. One card for the Church Family:** If you decide to give one card to Church members, there will be an appropriate place for you to leave the card and maybe you would like to give a donation in lieu of buying cards
- 3. Confirmation 2025: St James' Westhead on the 16 February 2025 with Bishop John at 10.30am. Preparation will be in Church on the 19 Jan at 12.30pm, 2 and 9 February.** Anyone else who would like to discuss Confirmation or Baptism, please speak to Rev John.
- 4. Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary:** Pam feels that the time is right to step down from the role of Treasurer, and Derek who has not been well, feels the same, regarding Gift Aid Secretary. If you or someone that you know, would like to be considered for either of these roles, please speak to our Wardens or Rev John. Full handover and support will be offered.
- 5. ORMSKIRK PRAYER ANCHORHOLD:** All are welcome to join in person as we pray "Thy Will Be Done" for all the local Churches, for our Town and local life and for our University. **Anchorhold Prayer will be held every weekday Monday to Friday 8am to 9am in Ormskirk Parish Church. The group are not meeting on the Bank Holidays. On 3 January 2025, it is 12 months since they started. Come along and enjoy Bacon sandwiches.** You are welcome to come and stay for as long as you are able. If you prefer you could pray along with us at home. A list of suggested topics to pray for each day, are available in the Fellowship Area in Church.
- 6. Home Communion:** Should anyone, or you may know of someone, who would like Communion at home, please contact Rev John.
- 7. A Prayer focussing on our Vision Statement:** Lord Jesus, we ask that you help, enable and equip us in sharing the Good News of Jesus amongst those who are close to us in our Church family, and beyond, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen.
- 8. St James' Website:** The link is: www.stjameswesthead.org.uk

Contacts:

For all Pastoral Matters:

Rev John Sephton

minister@stjameswesthead.org.uk

(Friday is Rev John's rest day)

Matters concerning the Church Building or Graveyard

Jayne Illingworth or Barbara Westhead

churchwarden@stjameswesthead.org.uk

Church Telephone: 01695 580725

NOTICES

- 1. Church Cleaning:** We are very grateful to Catherine and her team of loyal helpers who faithfully keep our Church looking so beautiful. Thank you all very much. We are **2-4 people short**. Would anyone be able to offer to go on the cleaning rota? If you would, or would like to find out what is actually involved, please speak to our **Cleaning Co-Ordinator Catherine Spencer**.
- 2. Ormskirk Debt Advice:** are looking for more Advisors, ideally Ladies, but Men would also be welcome, training is free and provided. You do not need to be an Accountant. If you feel this is something that you can do, and would like to know more, please speak to Rev John.
- 3. FLOWER ROTA:** A calendar for the year is available in the Fellowship Area for those who would like to put flowers on the Communion Table. Alternatively, we can arrange to have the flowers arranged for you. The flower fund is open to financial contributions. For further details please speak to Jayne Illingworth.
- 4. 'Our Daily Bread' Bible reading notes:** There is a sample copy of these notes available in the Fellowship Area, as a way of introducing you to ODB. If when you have had a look at these notes you would like to have a copy on a regular basis, please have a word with Janette. The ODB Bible reading notes are free of charge. The readings/stories set for each day are very helpful and relevant to today's situations.
- 5. Birthdays or Anniversaries and loved ones not here.** For those who have a birthday or anniversary this week, we send our congratulations and our prayers.
- 6. A Memory Kept.** This is a new business. Ian will maintain individual graves. An advert is attached to this Bulletin. Anyone interested in the services being offered, please contact Ian on the phone number or email address provided.
- 7. Bulletin Notices:** to Janette or John Sephton by Monday evening, please email:
minister@stjameswesthead.org.uk
- 8. Weekly Bulletin:** is only available by email. Please let Heather have your email address:
heather.doyle@btinternet.com if you would like to be added to our current distribution list.

NOTICES: Future Dates and Activities.

1. **Alms House, Lathom:** One is available. If this is of interest, speak to Rev John.
2. **Network of Kindness:** This is a Diocesan/Deanery initiative. We are looking for 2-3 volunteers to be part of a Deanery working Party of four sessions. The first meeting has been arranged for Tuesday **21 January 10.00am. Venue to be confirmed.** This is about encouraging how we as a Church connect and support other people (Social Justice). If you would like to find out what this is about, please speak to Rev John.
3. **Relating to the Above:** We have been asked to complete a **Questionnaire.** We would be grateful for your help in this, copies available in Church
4. **22 December 4.00pm** Traditional Carols and Readings with Haydock Brass Band
5. **24 December 2.30pm** Christingle and Crib Service
6. **24 December 9.00pm** Holy Communion
7. **25 December 9.30am** Holy Communion

CLUSTER ACTIVITIES

1. Men's and Women's Breakfasts

In the Cluster, Men's and Women's Breakfasts will alternate bi-monthly on **Saturday mornings at 9.30am**. The Women's Breakfast, 'Marian's Morning's' will meet at St Mark's Scarisbrick Church Hall and the Men's Breakfasts will meet at St Michael's Church Hall. Following each breakfast there will be a speaker. If you would like to help with either then please get in touch. To help with catering, please speak to Rev John.

(a) Marian's Mornings at St Mark's

22 February, 26 April, 28 June.

(b) Men's Breakfast's at St Michael's

25 January, 29 March, 31 May, 26 July.

If you would like to go, please let Rev John know so dietary requirements and numbers can be forwarded. Thank you.

- 2. Local Cycling Club:** Should you be interested in joining, please contact Graham from St Michael's, on luke14.23cyclingclub@gmail.com
- 3. Rugby Six Nations Match: Saturday 1 February 4.45pm**, St Michael's Church Hall, Aughton. England v Ireland.
- 4. Rugby Six Nations Match: Saturday 22 February 4.45pm**, St Michael's Church Hall, Aughton. England v Scotland.
- 5. Rugby Six Nations Match: Saturday 15 March 4.45pm**, St Michael's Church Hall, Aughton. England v Wales.
- 6. Pentecost 2025: Sunday 8 June 11.00am**; Open Air Pentecost Service at Bickerstaffe with Bishop John.