

SUNDAY 15 MARCH 2026 – THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Website: www.stjameswesthead.org.uk

Email: admin@stjameswesthead.org.uk

Activities at St James, during the coming week:

10.30am

Community Praise – MOTHERING SUNDAY

Leading: Rev John Sephton

Preaching: Rev Viv Mitchell

Reading: Luke 2:33-35

1.00 pm to 4.00 pm

Painting for Pleasure Exhibition in Church

Collect for Today

“Merciful Lord, absolve your people from their offences, that through your bountiful goodness we may all be delivered from the chains of those sins which by our frailty we have committed: grant this, heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ’s sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.” Amen.

Monday 16 March

7.00pm-9.00pm

PCC on Zoom

ID: 401 570 3435

Passcode: 242424

Monday and Tuesday

2.00pm to 4.00pm

Painting for Pleasure Exhibition in Church

Tuesday 17 March

7.00pm – 7.25pm

Prayer in the Evening on Zoom

ID: 401 570 3435

Passcode: 242424

Tuesday 17 March

7.30pm – 8.45pm

LIFE Group on Zoom. Studying the Gospel of Luke – Chap. 16 v 1-31

ID: 401 570 3435

Passcode: 242424

Thursday and Friday

2.00pm to 4.00pm

Painting for Pleasure Exhibition in Church

Thursday 19 March

5.45pm to 7.00pm

ESOL for beginners

Saturday 21 March

10.00am to 12 Noon

Coffee and Chat. We look forward to seeing you.

Saturday 21 March

10.00am to 4.00pm

Painting for Pleasure Exhibition in Church

Sunday 22 March

10.30 am

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Morning Prayer

Also JAFFA

2.30pm – 4.00pm

Afternoon Tea

7.30pm

‘Centurion’ Performed by Artless Theatre Company at Christ Church Ministry Centre. Please see note 4 under Future Dates and Activities.

The 10.30 am Service will be live-streamed and recorded. If you do not want to be recorded please inform the Wardens. Viewing via YouTube will be available from 2.00pm on the Service day at: @stjameswesthead

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KNOWING JESUS

DAILY BREAD READINGS FOR W/C 15 MARCH 2026

Sun	15	Psalm 79	Thurs	19	1 Kings 8: 22-30, 54-66
Mon	16	1 Kings 5	Fri	20	1 Kings 9:1-9
Tues	17	1 Kings 6: 1-13	Sat	21	1 Kings 10: 1-13, 23-25
Wed	18	1 Kings 8: 1-21			

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, Ray Quinn, Grantham Fidler, Alan Bell, Ali Buckley, Jean Dutton, Brenda Taylor, Derek Williams, Terry Beesley, Marion Langton's granddaughter Olivia, Dave Gee, Shannon Gee-Fulham, Denise Shortell, Ray and Barbara Burke, Mark Houlton, Gordon Fielding, Joan Fielding, Irene Case, Hazel Davies, Robert Carmichael, Siobhan Carmichael, Jane Duxsbury, Tracy Webb, Ian Fisher, Francine Causer, Maria Keating Dumbell, Zoe Simpkin, Ian Cleverdon, Dave Savage, Sue Oliver, Liselore Woltering (the late Tish Davis' daughter), Richard Kitt, Vi Clough and Harry Blackburn.

Please also pray for the bereaved families of: Stan Dutton, and Brian Prescott.

Prayers for the Parish and beyond:

1. Priests; Ormskirk, Skelmersdale, Newburgh, Westhead
2. To give thanks for Christ's forgiving love
3. For the Power of God's Spirit in our lives
4. For Spiritual Growth in our Church families
5. For people in our Parish to know Christ in their lives – please pray for people living in Wigan Road and Crosshall Brow.
6. Coffee and Chat, CAMEO, JAFFA, Church in the Hall, LIFE, Community Praise, the Village Hall, Music Group & Leader
7. For the children, their families and their spiritual development.
8. For the Church's link with the School and Collective Worship
9. For outreach and growth in numbers
10. For the Under 18s leadership team, Street Pastors and School Pastors
11. Special prayers for our Children and Family Fun, Food and Fellowship
12. Please remember all the Students and Staff at Edge Hill University. All are welcome to worship with us.
13. Please continue to pray for the NHS who are under pressure in how they manage the backlog of many medical issues
14. We pray for all refugees, especially from Yemen, Palestine, Syria, Gaza, Ukraine
15. Please pray that these wars will cease and peace will be achieved
16. 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.
17. 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.

MAKING HIM KNOWN

- 1. Easter Cards; Parish Distribution:** We would be grateful if all bundles could be taken today and distributed before Palm Sunday 29 March. Any questions or clarification please speak to either the Wardens or Rev John.
- 2. Phoebe Gibbons' sponsor info:** I am swimming 175 lengths to celebrate 175 years of St James Church. The money I raise will go towards the 175th Anniversary Fund. Please sponsor me if you can. Further details next week.
- 3. Talent Time Again:** During Lent and going to the end of June, we are again offering you £10.00 to help get you started so you can develop your entrepreneurial skills. All proceeds will be given to the Church Mission Society (CMS). For further information, please speak to either John or Janette.
- 4. Marmalade:** This is available for sale, Seville Oranges, no unwanted additions or trace elements, hand cut rind, **£3.50 per 1lb Jar** this is part of talents above. To order or enquire please speak to either Janette or John.
- 5. Winter Sunday Afternoon Tea:** The next Afternoon Tea will be on the conclusion of the Painting Exhibition, 22 March 2.30pm, sign in forms are available in Church, Please see Sue. Thank you Sue for all of your organising.
- 6. St James Synod Reps:** We have three places allotted to us to be elected at the next APCM. If you would like to offer or find out more please speak to either, Barbara, Jayne, or Rev John.
- 7. 'Youthscape Essentials Course', St John's Church, Burscough, the next session is on Tuesday 5 May 2026 7.00pm – 9.00pm:** This course is for established and potential new leaders who would be interested in working with young people at St James. The course is once a month, over a time line of 9 months, and has a weekend away. There is no charge. This looks an exciting course. We are aware how busy you all are, but should your interest be in helping, teaching, supporting our young people and you would like to know more, please speak to Rev John, or sign up directly using the following link: Register/Youthscape with the course code 1859261. There will be an attachment with this Bulletin, explaining more.
- 8. Hymns / Songs to sing in Church:** There is a box at the back of Church for you to tell us what you would like us to sing on a Sunday. Do let us know.
- 9. Prayer for individuals after Sunday Service:** We are looking for **2 people** who would be willing to pray with others for specific needs, on a rotational basis. It is thought that this would take place in the Upper Room for 15 minutes? after Morning Worship. If you would like to be involved please speak to either of our Wardens or Rev John.
- 10. 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 New Church House.** 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.

MAKING HIM KNOWN CONTINUED:

- 11. Home Communions:** Should anyone, or you may know of someone, who would like Communion at home, or in the pew at church, please contact Rev John Sephton or the Wardens.
- 12. 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 still short of **4 people**. 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**.
- 13. 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.

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

St James' Website: The link is: www.stjameswesthead.org.uk

NOTICES

- 1. Reliable and kind assistant seeking part-time work:** I am a woman from Ukraine looking for additional work. I am punctual, honest and hardworking, I can help with: Elderly Care: Light Housekeeping, Grocery Shopping, and Meal Preparation. Childcare: I have extensive experience with children of all ages. Currently, I work at a school-based kindergarten, so your little ones will be in safe hands. I am responsible and treat every task with great care. If you or your family need a helping hand, please send me a message! (Natalie) Contact through a Church Officer.
- 2. Midstream Fridays in the Village Hall from 10.00am-11.45am:** The weekly Coffee Mornings are run by Midstream staff and students, do come along and support them. All welcome, the cakes are delicious!
- 3. 'Our Daily Bread' and 'UCB' Bible reading notes:** Are available for you to take and read. Copies of these notes are available in the Fellowship Area. There is no charge. 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 readings/stories set for each day are very helpful and relevant to today's situations.
- 4. 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.
- 5. Bulletin Notices:** to Janette or John Sephton by Monday evening, please email: minister@stjameswesthead.org.uk
- 6. 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. **St James is 175 years old in 2026:** Please keep an eye open for different activities throughout the year to celebrate this momentous event. The first of these is the Painting Exhibition and Afternoon Tea.
2. **Painting for Pleasure Exhibition in Church: 14 – 22 March:** Sat 14: 2.00pm-4.00pm. Sun 15: 1.00pm-4.00pm. Mon and Tues: 2.00pm- 4.00pm. Thurs and Fri: 2.00pm-4.00pm. Sat: 10.00am-4.00pm
3. **Sunday Afternoon Tea, in Church: 22 March**
4. **'Centurion' Performed by Artless Theatre Company on Sunday 22 March 7.30pm at Christ Church Ministry Centre. Sign in Eventbrite:** <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/centurion-the-passion-through-the-eyes-of-the-romans-tickets-1980894150729?aff=oddtcreator>
5. **Church in the Hall, Monday 23 March, 3.30pm to 4.30 pm.** Games, Activities, Stories, Music and Refreshments. All free. Very Informal. Mums, Dads, Carers and children, invite your friends and neighbours.
6. **School/Music Club in Church Tuesday 24 March 9.35am- 10.15am:** All are invited to this event, the whole School will be here as well as Parents/Carers.
7. **Ladies Breakfast Mornings, St Mark's Church, Parish Hall, Scarisbrick. TBC.**
8. **St Michael's Church, Aughton.** Please sign up in Church, further details from Rev John.
9. **Weekend at Keswick 2026. Friday 10 April to Monday 13 April 2026.** There is a notice on the Board in the Fellowship Area.