

St James Church Fordhouses

Monthly Calendar for September 2025



Vicar: Rev Taiwo Olumuyiwa

Parish Office: 01902 782226

Our Self Worth

A sense of self worth is a wonderful gift and despite all the advances of modern society it is something that seems to be more and more in short supply. There are many things that promote our sense of self worth including our achievements, which may well include a fulfilling job and also when we are thought well of and are loved by others. These of course are valid, but I want to share with you two others.

First, as the Psalmist has it (Psalm 139) we are '**fearfully and wonderfully made**'. How are bodies work is miraculous in their huge complexity and beauty and any problems we experience beyond those that are self-inflicted are related to our ancestors, Adam and Eve becoming estranged from our loving heavenly Father which resulted in death and its companion of ill health to be the lot of the human race. So don't let anyone including yourself say anything different.... You are fearfully and wonderfully made!

Second, though our bodies are amazing and to be celebrated the scripture describes them as '**jars of clay**' in comparison to the treasure that can dwell within which is described as an '**all-surpassing power**' which '**is from God and not from us.**' ("Corinthians 4: 7). This treasure of course is the very presence of Jesus that dwells in the believer by His Spirit.

May we all grow in our appreciation of how amazing our bodies are and how incredible it is that an initial taste of the presence of the living God dwells in our beings by His Spirit. And just in case we are tempted to become a little too pleased with ourselves let us remember that '**not to us, Lord, not to us, but to Your Name be the glory**' (Psalm 115:1).

Diary Dates

For this month....

Parish Life Groups

Life Groups restart in September. If you would like to join one, please speak to Rev Taiwo.

Thursday 4th September

9:30am Thursday Prayer time in the Prayer Chapel
11:00am Coffee Morning at St James Church
7:30pm DCC Meeting at St James Church

Saturday 6th September – Parish Day of Prayer and Fasting

8:00am – 9:00am The Good Shepherd
1:00pm – 2:00pm St James Church
6:00pm – 7:00pm St Mary's Church

Also on 6th September

10:00am Ladies Breakfast at The Church of the Good Shepherd. Join us for a continental style breakfast, free of charge, although donations are welcome.
For details or to book a place please leave your name with the parish office 01902 782226.

Sunday 7th September: 9:45am Service of the Word

Reading 1: Jeremiah 18: 1 - 11
Reading 2: Luke 15: 1 - 10
9:45am Sunday School for 8-12 year-olds.
Parents with younger children can use the lounge where resources will be provided to use

Monday 8th September

2:00pm The 3 C's Group at St James Church

Thursday 11th September

9:30am Thursday Prayer time in the Prayer Chapel
11:00am Coffee Morning at St James Church

Friday 12th September

7:15pm Parish Youth Group (11-14 year olds) in the Parish Hall, Bushbury

Sunday 14th September: 9:45am Holy Communion

Reading 1: Luke 14: 25 - 33

Reading 2: Psalm 139: 1 - 18 and 23 - 24

9:45am Sunday School for younger children in the lounge

6:00pm Deanery service and Food at St Giles Church,
Walsall Street, Willenhall WV13 2ER – open to all.

Monday 15th September

2:00pm CAMEO Group with a game of Bingo

Tuesday 16th September

7:00pm Alpha Course in the Parish Hall, Bushbury

Thursday 18th September

9:30am Thursday Prayer time in the Prayer Chapel

11:00am Coffee Morning at St James Church

7:00pm City Wide Prayer at St James Church

Friday 19th September

7:15pm Parish Youth Group (11-14 year olds)
in the Parish Hall, Bushbury

Saturday 20th September

10:00am – 12:00pm St James's Church Special Prayer
Event. This is a time for the church to come together to
seek God's face and direction.

10:00am Men's Breakfast at the Parish Hall, Bushbury
The topic will be Joseph's Technicolour Coat Part III

Future Events to put in your Diary.....**Saturday 4th October**

10:00am – 12:00pm St James congregational meeting to discuss and agree our future Strategy

2:00pm – 5:00pm Deanery Prayer at Emmanuel Church, 73 Queen Elizabeth Ave, Walsall WS2 0BD

Sunday 5th October

9:45am Harvest Festival Service. If possible, please bring suitable food gifts for the Foodbank.

Sunday 12th October

5:00pm Confirmation service at St Stephen's Church, Willenhall. If you would like to consider being confirmed,
then please speak to Rev Taiwo.

**Prayer Support Requests**

If you would like specific prayers for someone either add them to our prayer board in the entrance, speak directly to Taiwo or Ian Newman our Warden, or join us at the Thursday morning Prayer Time at 9:30am.

Please keep in your prayers the family of Margaret Riddle who recently passed away.

Sunday 21st September: 9:45am Service of the Word

Reading 1: Luke 16: 1 - 13

Reading 2: 1 Timothy 1: 12 - 17

9:45am Sunday School for younger children in the lounge

Monday 22nd September

2:00pm The 3 C's Group at St James Church

Thursday 25th September

9:30am Thursday Prayer time in the Prayer Chapel

11:00am Coffee Morning at St James Church

Friday 26th September

7:15pm Parish Youth Group (11-14 year olds)

Games Night at St James Church, Fordhouses

Sunday 28th September: 9:45am Holy Communion

Reading 1: Luke 16: 19 - 31

Reading 2: 1 Timothy 6: 6 - 19

9:45am Sunday School for younger children in the lounge

Monday 29th September

2:00pm The 3 C's Group at St James Church