

Notices for week commencing 21 September 2025

Contact Details:

The Church Office is the initial enquiry point for baptisms, thanksgivings, weddings and church events.

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Vicar: Jonathan Cain

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This week at St James':

Saturday 20 September

10.00 – Heritage Open Day between
10.00 and 16.00

Sunday 21 September

09.00 – Holy Communion*

10.30 – Morning Worship

12.00 – Interment of ashes, Gill Smith

16.00 – Messy Church

Monday 22 September

08.45 – Morning Prayer, in church

* Remember you can get the text of the reflection each week on our website [here](#).

21 September 2025, Matthew Apostle and Evangelist

Readings: Proverbs 3:13-18; Matthew 9:9-13

Collect:

O Almighty God,
whose blessed Son called Matthew the tax collector
to be an apostle and evangelist:
give us grace to forsake the selfish pursuit
of gain and the possessive love of riches
that we may follow in the way of your Son
Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Heritage Open Day: Saturday 20 September

The church will be open for visitors from 10am to 4pm. Refreshments will be available.

Messy Church, Sunday 21 September @ 16.00

We follow the Heritage Day with a St James' themed Messy Church. Please do bring your children/ grandchildren along for crafts, fun and food. **And, if you're available to help with a craft table or in the kitchen, we need you.** Please speak to Christine Lazenby if you would like to get involved in this wonderful part of the life of St James'.

Experience the Bible as ONE BIG STORY on Sunday 26 October

On Sunday 26 October, which is Bible Sunday, we are hosting a special event! Starting at 10.00 and concluding at 16.00, there will be an interactive exploration of the story to help you find **your** place in the story. The exploration will conclude with a service of Holy Communion at 15.30, which is open to all. **It is going to be great, so do put the date in your diary.**

Morning Prayer will be offered at 09.00 as usual.

Bethlehem Groups: Autumn Term

During October and November, Bethlehem groups will be meeting to read and reflect on the second half of Acts. We will have groups running on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, for six sessions. If you are already in a group check with your group leader about dates. If you haven't tried a group yet and would like to, please speak to Jonathan, Jo Bailey or Becky Woodward, or email Jonathan and we can pass on more details. All are welcome!

Harvest Collection for Horsforth Community Pantry

This year, we and other Horsforth churches are collecting Harvest donations for the Pantry. Please bring your contributions to church or the Parish Centre on Monday-Thursday mornings. Many thanks.

- Pasta (shapes not spaghetti)
- Rice/Noodles
- Tinned fruit (cocktail, pineapple, peaches)
- UHT milk
- UHT fruit juice
- Tinned meat/fish products (Fray Bentos pies are very popular)
- Tinned sweetcorn, carrots, peas
- Pasta/Curry sauces
- Tinned tomatoes/pulses
- Tinned soup
- Baked beans
- Tinned pasta
- Cooking oil
- Coffee/tea/hot chocolate/cordial
- Custard/rice pudding
- Crisps/ Biscuits
- Jam
- Toiletries
- Cleaning Products



Volunteering at Horsforth Community Pantry

The pantry currently opens on a Tuesday morning with the pantry shop open 9.30-11.30am and a cafe for customers 9-11.30am in the Parish Centre. The shop is well staffed, but we would be glad of a couple more volunteers to help set up tables, serve teas and coffees and chat to the customers whilst they await their turn to shop.

The food for the pantry comes from Fareshare who deliver to us on a Monday morning sometime between 9-12. If anyone can help with this, we would be very grateful. It involves being on site to accept the delivery and putting food away in the fridge/freezer or shelves ready for the next morning's customers.

Please chat to me about any of these roles if you would like to know more.

Ruth Dent ruthddent@gmail.com

First Aid

PCC has discussed the issue of First Aiders for the church. We would like to ensure that we have trained first aiders available for all our events, activities and during times of worship. Please speak to Alison if you have a relevant qualification which you would be prepared to use, or would like to do the appropriate training. Many thanks.

Vacancies

The Diocese of Leeds is seeking to appoint a Lay Training Officer, full details of the role can be found on the Church of England Pathways job site via the following link:

<https://pathways.churchofengland.org/en/jobs/lay-training-officer-28-hours-per-week-possibility-of-full-time-for-the-right-candidate/2863>

The closing date for applications is 26 October.

Upcoming Events

- **Come and Sing Choruses from Brahms' Requiem: Saturday 20 September – 10.00am**
Come and sing with Leeds Festival Chorus (LFC) as part of 2025's Heritage Open Days. Simon Wright will train the choir and then conduct members of LFC and others in an informal performance from 16.00 at St George's Church, Great George Street LS1 3BR. The event is free to join in, but please book by emailing James Moxon (jamesmox457@gmail.com). More information is available [here](#).
- **Horsforth Green Festival: Sunday 21 September – 11.30am to 3.30pm** in Horsforth Hall Park. Plenty of activities to enjoy: produce show, cycle-powered sound system, local bands, choirs and performance artists, stalls Horsforth Repair Café, Bike Fix and more.
- **Grand Ballroom Re-opening: Tuesday 23 September – 10.00 to 13.00**, Horsforth Community Hub and Library. The organisers of this event are hoping to display photographs of people dancing in the ballroom. If you have any tucked away, please speak to Carol Shaw.

Sharing God's Blessing

Goal 3: Nurturing lay discipleship

All members of the St James' community are maturing in their calling as Christians. People understand the part that they play in God's mission to the world ('The Five Marks of Mission'), and our worship and our common life equip people to express their faith confidently in family, work and social settings.

Teaching is a priority. An enquirer's course and a programme of nurture courses run each year; small group participation is the norm.

All is intentionally underpinned by prayer.

Fellowship Prayer Focus

Please pray for those people in our fellowship who are ill or struggling: Pamela Adams, Jose Ashbee, Chris Cox (Annella's son), Sue Firth (friend of John Evans), Tracey and Daniel Greig, Adrienne Hoggard, Elaine Savage, Robert Savage (Elaine's son), Carol Shaw and Catriona Sreenan.

Please pray for those who are housebound and those mourning the loss of loved ones. Pray for Jo Glenwright at Menston, and Jon Swales in his work at Lighthouse. Pray also for George Otieno and family and our other sisters and brothers in Tanzania dealing with the impact of climate change with few resources.

If you would like the church as a whole to pray for you, please email Alison at the church office and the request will be forwarded on as soon as possible. For confidential prayer matters please continue to contact John Pickford to be put on the Prayer Chain.

