

The Benefice Bulletin

23rd November 2025 – Christ the King

The Vicarage, Church Lane, Barton under Needwood DE13 8HU



Please take this bulletin home with you

Here for the first time? Relax. Please make yourself at home and please sit where you feel comfortable. Those who greeted you, our wardens, or the clergy will answer any practical questions that you may have. Posture notes on the service sheet and verbal instructions are intended for those who can comfortably follow them. We hope you enjoy worshipping with us.

Services this week

Sunday 23rd November

09:00 Holy Communion

St Michael's, Tatenhill

10:30 Sung Eucharist

St James', Barton

13:00 Baptism of Elodie

St James', Barton

Monday 24th November

11:00 Funeral of Evan Bloxham

St James', Barton

Wednesday 26th November

09:15 WoW Wednesday

including Informal Worship at 10:00

St James', Barton

Thursday 27th November

09:15 WoW Thursday

including Informal Worship at 10:00

Tatenhill Village Hall

Readings and Prayers for Christ the King Sunday

Readings

Psalm 48

Old Testament Jeremiah 23.1-6

New Testament Colossians 1.11-20

Gospel Luke 23.33-43

The Collect

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for He reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory.

Post Communion Prayer

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Clergy	Revd Andy Simpson ☎01283 712359	✉ vicar.bundtbenefice@outlook.com
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Coordinator &	Beth Flashman ☎07464 835189	✉ coordinator.bundtbenefice@outlook.com
Lay Minister		
Churchwardens:		
St James'	Ray Holder ☎01283 327814	✉ rayholder2006@gmail.com
St Mary's	Angela Moffat ☎01283 713735	✉ rangelamoffat@icloud.com
St Michael's	Phil & Emma Coleman ☎01283 538983	✉ stmtatenhill@gmail.com

Jeremiah 23.1-6 ²³ Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. ² Therefore, thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. ³ Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord. ⁵ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

Colossians 1.11-20 ¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Luke 23.33-43

³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [³⁴ Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.'] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷ and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.' ³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?' ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' ⁴² Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' ⁴³ He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

For your prayers

The World: We pray for His Majesty King Charles and Queen Camilla, and the wider Royal Family. We pray for all areas of the world where there are conflicts, poverty, drought, disaster, terrorism, and humanitarian crisis.

The Anglican Communion: The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand & Polynesia

Our Diocese: We pray for Bishops Michael and Matthew and Archdeacon Megan

Our Deanery: Along with our Deanery, we pray for our Emergency Services and their Chaplains

Our Benefice: We pray for those who live and work on Beech Road, Willow Road and Holly Road in Barton, Dunstall Hill in Dunstall and Coppice Road and Rookery Avenue in Tatenhill. May God be with all those who live and work in these places as they go about their daily lives this week.

Those who are not well: Mike S, Heather S, Lesley S-D, Doreen, Chris, Enid, Shirley, Phillipa, Tim S, Stephen, Sara, John G, Peter, Celia M.

Those who have died: Brenda Backhouse, Brian Hall, Evan Bloxham, Jean Mosedale, Ray George, Chris Craddock-Forrett, Maryte "Rita" Jagiello, Ken Riddle. We pray for all those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

In Benefice News...

- The next **Tatenhill Quiz** will take place on **Saturday 22nd November**, 19:00 for a 19:30 start. Tickets are £5 in advance or £8 on the door and can be purchased from The Horseshoe Pub or candykirkland123@gmail.com.
- The **Bible Study** group will be holding a social coffee and cake from 10:00 on Friday 28th November. Pop along to 16 Hardy Close where a warm welcome awaits.
- **Tea and Carols** will take place on Monday 1st December from 13:30 in the Church Hall. If you have any spare bottles for raffle prizes, please do drop them to Anita in Church. All are welcome to start the Christmas season with us.
- St James' **Church Family Christmas Lunch** will be held on Sunday 14th December, following the service. Please sign up at the back of church if you wish to join us for Christmas Lunch.
- The **Benefice Christingle Service** will be held on Sunday 7th December at St James' Church, starting at 5pm. All are welcome to join us at this lovely service.
- **Volunteers** are needed to help decorate the St James' Christmas Tree and to make Christingles on Saturday 6th December at 10:00am. Please let Ray, Beth or Jill know if you can help or just turn up!

If you would like a home visit from the Ministry or Pastoral Visiting Team, please contact the Benefice Office on 01283 712359 to arrange a time.

Diary Dates for the Week Ahead

Monday 24th November

11:00 Funeral of Evan Bloxham
St James', Barton

Tuesday 25th November

Wednesday 26th November

09:15 WoW Wednesday
St James', Barton

Thursday 27th November

09:15 WoW Thursday
Tatenhill Village Hall

Friday 28th November

10:00 Bible Study Coffee Morning
16 Hardy Close, Barton

Saturday 29th November

17:30 Barton Light Switch On
Main Street, Barton

Sunday 30th November

10:00 Benefice Holy Communion
St Mary's, Dunstall

Future Dates

Monday 1st December

13:30 Tea and Carols
St James' Church Hall
13:30 Funeral of Ray George
Fradley Crematorium

18:00 Advent Time and Space
St James', Barton

19:00 Home Group
The Vicarage, Barton

Thursday 4th December

14:00 Funeral of
Chris Craddock-Forrett
St James', Barton

Friday 5th December

18:00 Tatenhill Light Switch On
Tatenhill Village

20:00 Beer and Carols
The Bowler

Saturday 6th December

10:00 Christingle Building Party
and Tree Decorating
St James', Barton

16:00 St Giles Light up a Life Service
St James', Barton

20:00 Beer and Carols
Barton Turns

Sunday 7th December

17:00 Christingle
St James', Barton

Hello All,

Today is the Feast of Christ the King or perhaps you know it better as Stir up Sunday, deriving from the words in today's BCP collect reflected in our post communion prayer, which has reminded people for centuries that it's time to start thinking about getting those Christmas puddings made! In today's Gospel reading we see the Kingship of Jesus derided by many but affirmed by the most unlikely! Something was stirred up in the thief on the cross which assured him of the Majesty of this person being crucified next to him. What would stir you up to talk to others about the Kingship of Jesus in your life; His love for you, His sacrifice, His teaching, the liberation, joy and peace he brings? All of that stirs me up for sure !!!



Yours in Christ, Rev Andy +