

Notices for week commencing 22 February 2026

Contact Details:

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

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Vicar: Jonathan Cain

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This week at St James':

Saturday 21 February

11.00 -Horsforth Climate Action Seed Swap & Nature Corridor Launch, Parish Centre (see below)

Sunday 22 February

09.00 – Morning Prayer *

10.30 – Holy Communion*

Monday 23 February

08.45 – Morning Prayer, in church

Tuesday 24 February

08.45 – Morning Prayer, in church

19.30 – PCC Finance Committee

Wednesday 25 February

19.00 – Licensing of the Revd Chris Clayton as Interim Priest in Charge of the Abbeylands Team, at St Margaret's Church Horsforth

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

A new priest at St Margaret's

On Wednesday of this week the Revd Chris Clayton will be licensed at St Margaret's. Please do pray for Chris and his family as they begin this new season of ministry. And do come along to his licensing service if you are able to welcome him to Horsforth.

Try Praying

Copies of the booklets remain in church. So, if you haven't **used it** yet, why not give it a go? And if you have used it, I wonder if you've managed to **lose it** yet...

Please continue to pray that this gentle introduction to experience the kindness of God will encourage people to explore Christian faith, encounter Jesus and grow God's Church.

22 February 2026, 1st Sunday of Lent

Readings:

Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

Collect: Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



The Start Course: God, Jesus and the journey of life in six sessions

Some people have taken the invitation to **trypraying** and, in recent weeks others have taken the risk to **trychurch** at St James'. Be encouraged.

We haven't yet seen anyone taking the opportunity to **tryStart** and so we are going to postpone the course until later in the year. Please do continue to make invitations and we'll publish some new dates soon.

Bethlehem groups: the gospel of Matthew: part 1 in February/ March

Bethlehem Groups are up and running on Wednesday evenings, Thursday afternoons and Thursday evenings and we are delighted that some new folks have joined these fellowships.

If you are interested in joining a group, please speak to Becky Woodward, Jonathan Cain or Jo Bailey if you'd like to know more. Or email Alison in the church office, and she'll pass on your contact. Office@stjameswoodside.org.

Horsforth Community Pantry

Donation List for the Pantry

UHT milk

Porridge

Tinned rice pudding

Tinned meat/casserole/pies

Tinned custard

Cooking oil

Mayonnaise/ketchup

Help needed at the Pantry:

Are you able to help out on Monday mornings once a month? We need someone to join the team who receive the Fareshare delivery on a Monday between 9am-12pm. The food needs to be put away in fridge/freezers and on shelving but full training will be provided.

Please speak to Ruth or Jonathan if you are able to help. ruthddent@gmail.com

Mary's Meals – collection ending!

Mary's Meals currently works in 16 of the world's poorest countries, feeding over 3 million young children one good meal every day in their place of education. They are asking you to donate any left-over foreign currency or obsolete UK currency that you may have lying around. Just bring any foreign or old coins/notes to church **by next weekend** and we will pass them on. The money raised from this initiative will help Mary's Meals bring hope to more desperately hungry children across the globe. *Every 10p is enough to provide a hungry child with a nutritious meal in school. Mary's Meals would like to thank you for your continuous support & prayers.* Thank you.

Leeds Lent Prayer Diary

The Leeds Lent Prayer Diary is a **free city-wide prayer resource** produced by Leeds Christian Community Trust. The diary is designed to help Christians pray intentionally through the season of Lent- for our communities, the vulnerable in our city and for those serving to bring God's love to those on the margins. The diary features prayer points from over **40 Leeds-based charities and projects**, (including the Horsforth

Shed and Horsforth Chaplaincy Project), plus reflections for **Good Friday** and **Easter Sunday**, and key **statistics about Leeds** to inform prayer.

The prayer diary is now available and can be accessed as a **PDF, or printed copies**. It is a **free resource**, with the option to make a donation if desired.



To order the diary, click here: <https://bit.ly/LeedsLentPrayerDiary26>, or scan the QR code.

Lent Talks in Horsforth

Date and Time	Subject and Speaker	Venue
Thurs 5th March 7.30pm	FROM THE SHEPPARD-WORLOCK STORY TO THE CATHOLIC SOCIAL TRADITION – Christian Witness in an Age of Unravelling <i>with Jenny Sinclair, Founder & Director of Together for the Common Good</i>	Lister Hill Baptist, Brownberrie Ave LS18 5PW
Tues 10th March 7.30pm	JOHN WESLEY'S METHODISM – a movement for the 21 st Century <i>with Rev Leslie Newton, Chair of Yorkshire North and East District of the Methodist Church</i>	St Mary's School Hall, Broadgate Lane, LS18 5AB
Tues 17th March 7.30pm	A TRIO OF VICTORIAN PHILANTHROPISTS: Barnardo, Carpenter and Stephenson. <i>with Andy Lloyd</i>	Central Methodist Church, Town St, LS18 4AH
Thurs 26th March 7.30pm	THE INTERFAITH MOVEMENT – 'A South African Christian and a Bangladeshi Muslim reflect on each other's faiths and values, after a decade of community work and partnership in Inner City Leeds' <i>with Rev Heston Groenewald, vicar of All Hallows Church, and Abdul Hannan, Councillor for Headingley & Hyde Park</i>	St Margaret's Church, Church Lane, LS18 5LA

Children's Society - Annual Box Collection

My thanks to all who contributed to the Box Collection. As a result of your efforts I have been able to send the sum of £657.08 to the Society. The Box Collection is a vital source of income for the Society's work with needy children and their families and last year raised £900,000. These donations have enabled the Society to open up new services and more children who feel isolated, neglected or without hope are now receiving the support and care they desperately need. Thank you for your compassion.

John Pickford

Upcoming Events

Seed Swap & Nature Corridor Launch – Saturday 21 February, 11.00-14.00 in the Parish Centre

Horsforth Climate Action is launching their Seed Swap and Nature Corridor at St James' Parish Centre on Sat 21 Feb, from 11am-2pm. There will be kids' crafts and activities, a meadow preparation demonstration and flower and vegetable seeds available. Come and find out what it's all about. All are welcome.



Sharing God's Blessing

Goal 2 – Reimagining ministry

In the context of a shared understanding of what it is to be the Church of England in this diocese, we have explored and tested lay leadership. St James' ministry is faithfully yet imaginatively Anglican, flourishing and financially sustainable. Ordained and lay ministers are working confidently in fruitful partnerships.

We have repaired the internal decoration of the church building and explored ways in which development of the building might better enable our worship, and better serve the local community as a spiritual resource.

The Horsforth Shed is a vibrant part of the ministry of St James', creating opportunities and building relationships to share the love of God.

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), Chris and Helen Davis (following the loss of his mother), Sue Firth (friend of John Evans), Tracey and Daniel Greig, the family of Adrienne Hoggard, Elaine Savage, Robert Savage (Elaine's son), Carol Shaw (and her mother, Mary Groom) 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.

