

Lectionary Readings

Sun 1st 2nd Sunday of Lent

Reading 1: Numbers 21:4-9

Reading 2: Luke 14:27-33

Wanlip Readings

Reading 1: Genesis 12:1-4a

Reading 2: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Gospel: John 3:1-17

Mon 2nd

Psalm: 32

Reading 1: Genesis 43:16-end

Reading 2: Hebrews 1

Tue 3rd

Psalm: 50

Reading 1: Genesis 44:1-17

Reading 2: Hebrews 2:1-9

Wed 4th

Psalm: 35

Reading 1: Genesis 44:18-end

Reading 2: Hebrews 2:10-end

Thu 5th

Psalm: 34

Reading 1: Genesis 45:1-15

Reading 2: Hebrews 3:1-6

Holy Communion Readings

Reading 1: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Gospel: Luke 16:19-end

Fri 6th

Psalm: 41

Reading 1: Genesis 45:16-end

Reading 2: Hebrews 3:7-end

Sat 7th

Psalm: 25

Reading 1: Genesis 46:1-7, 28-end

Reading 2: Hebrews 4:1-13

Sun 8th 3rd Sunday of Lent

Reading 1: Exodus 17:1-7

Reading 2: Romans 5:1-11

Gospel: John 4:5-42

Wanlip Readings

Reading 1: Joshua 1:1-9

Reading 2: Ephesians 6:10-20

Psalm: 119:73-88

1st March 2026

Collect for the 2nd Sunday of Lent

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer for the 2nd Sunday of Lent

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

This week we are grateful for....

Some dry weather

Additional Notices for the Week

Lent Course

Our Lent Course days & times are below. You are welcome to swap and change which one you attend. Each session lasts approx. one hour and will on every week until Palm Sunday.

- Tuesdays 2pm at Birstall Methodist; Wednesdays 7pm at St James; & Fridays 2pm at St Theresa's.

World Day of Prayer - 6th March

This year's service has been prepared by the Christian women of Nigeria with the theme I will give you rest, come (Matthew 11:28-30). It will be held at Birstall Methodist Church starting with a light lunch in the coffee shop at 12 midday. This is free of charge but any donations towards the cost are welcome. A slide presentation about Nigeria will commence at 1pm and the service will be held in the main church starting at 2pm. A collection will be taken during the service for the work of the World Day of Prayer. Everyone is welcome to join us for all or part of the day. Please come and join us for this global wave of prayer starting in Samoa and ending, 146 countries later, in American Samoa. *Jackie Bryan*

Jacqueline Garlick

Jacqueline's funeral will take place on Friday 13th March at Lough. Crem starting at 10:15am.

Annual Meeting (APCM) in May

Could all groups, gatherings and committees who are connected in any way with the church kindly email their annual report for 2025 to me (lynnvanrstell@hotmail.com) by the end of February please. This includes Home Groups, Monday Group, Mothers' Union, Old Nick's Coffee Shop, Churches Together, Cedar Mews, Welcome Space, Sunday School, etc. If you have any queries, please ask either Amanda or myself. Thank you. *Lynn*

Cantamici Choir Concert - 1st April

The Cantamici Choir returns to St James to perform John Stainer's 'Crucifixion' on 1st April starting at 7:30pm. The soloists are John Thawley and Simon Lumby with Simon Ainge on the organ. There will be hymns for the audience to join in. The whole event will last just over the hour with refreshments available afterwards. All are welcome to attend as part of your preparations for Easter. Admission is £7. Tickets available on the door or in advance from Rose 07811 662235. *Rose*

Shoebox appeal 2025

Many thanks to all those who contributed, over 25,000 shoeboxes were sent, including a good number to Ukraine. Pictures and information are on the notice at the back of the church. Please remember to save your shoeboxes for us for 2026. *Sylvia and Doreen*

Thank you from the Ukraine Centre

Last month we shipped our last 24 pallets of donations to Ukraine. A massive THANK YOU to everybody involved over the last 3 years 9 months, inc: our volunteers, generous donators, regular village collectors, our community, packers, palletisers, transport providers, logistics experts, box suppliers. For more information see the news sheet at the back of church. *Lynn*

Leaflets

The PCC has discussed leaflets that have been found in church. We have agreed that we cannot advertise for businesses as if something went wrong, we may be liable for advertising them. This does not apply to charities, mental health etc advertised by the NHS. If in doubt, please check with Amanda.