

St James Church Fordhouses Monthly Calendar for May 2026



Rector: Rev Dr Ian Poole

Parish Office: 01902 782226

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

As we say goodbye to Rev Taiwo we are very grateful for his ministry amongst us and his wonderful example of love and a deep prayerful life, that always seemed to push obstacles aside with a smile and often a phrase such as, 'we give thanks'! We remember too that Taiwo, like all clergy and lay leaders, is and was to us, an 'under shepherd' to the Good Shepherd, who is of course Jesus.

So let us pray for Taiwo, Christianah and family as they settle into their new home in Wednesbury. Praying that Taiwo would know the Lord's strength, wisdom and vision for this new challenge and most especially that the people of Wednesbury would be touched by St Bartholomew's and St Luke's ministries and so come to know the Good Shepherd who 'charms our fears' and 'bids our sorrows cease'.

Let us pray for ourselves, in Bushbury, in St James', The Good Shepherd and St Mary's, that the 'under shepherds', lay and clergy alike, would know the Lord's comfort, direction and wisdom. Above all, though, let us all be like those sheep in John Chapter 10, who 'follow him (their shepherd and Shepherd), because they know his (His) voice.' (V4). Let us recognise that the Shepherd's voice is sometimes heard through our leaders and fellow sheep and to ignore their voice may mean we are ignoring His gentle and often persistent instruction to us.

Diary Dates **For this month**

Sunday 3rd May: 9.45am Service of the Word

Reading 1: Acts 7: 55-60

Reading 2: 1 Peter 2: 2-10

Parents with younger children can use the lounge where resources will be provided to use

Monday 4th May

St Mary's Oasis Ladies Group 1-30-3pm at the Church Hall. Free of charge although a small donation would be gratefully received

Thursday 7th May

St James Church will be in use for local elections Deanery Zoom Prayer 10.30-11am. You can see the full program and the zoom details of where to join in at [Diocesan Day of Prayer - Diocese of Lichfield](#)

Friday 8th May

7.15pm Parish Youth Group (11-14 year olds) in the Parish Hall, Bushbury

Saturday 9th May

Curate's House Garden Work Party 2-4pm. Help to get the garden and the outside of the house ready for when our curate, Joanne, and her husband, Lee, join us. Sign up sheet in Church



Christian Aid Week 10-16th May

Sunday 10th May 9.45am Holy Communion

Reading 1: Acts 17: 22-31

Reading 2: 1 Peter 3: 13-22

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

Revival Prayer 3.30pm-6pm St John's Church, Shenstone WS14 0JB. This is a Diocesan prayer meeting for the episcopal area and will be a wonderful opportunity to seek the Lord's favour that the Holy Spirit would work more powerfully in our day. If a few from each church could travel to Shenstone that would be great. It takes approx. 35 mins by car

Monday 11th May



The funeral service for Charlie Gandy is at Bushbury Crematorium West Chapel at 2pm. Afterwards at Fordhouses Cricket Club, Wobaston Road and everyone is warmly invited

Thursday 14th May

9.30am Thursday Prayer time in the Prayer Chapel
11:00am Coffee Morning at St James Church
Parish Ascension Day Service at St James Church 6.30pm. This will be followed by the PCC meeting

website: <https://bushburyteamministry.co.uk/st-james-church-fordhouses>

A Church Near You: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4198/>

Facebook page - St. James Church Fordhouses

Friday 15th May

7.15pm Parish Youth Group (11-14 year olds) in the Parish Hall, Bushbury

Saturday 16th May

10.00am Men's Breakfast at the Parish Hall, Bushbury.
Joseph is still alive....Just

Curate's House Garden Work Party 2-4pm. Help to get the garden and the outside of the house ready for when our curate, Joanne, and her husband, Lee, join us. Sign up sheet in Church

Sunday 17th May 9.45am Service of the Word

Reading 1: Acts 1: 6-14

Reading 2: 1 Peter 4: 12-14 & 5: 6-11

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

Monday 18th May

St Mary's Oasis Ladies Group 1-30-3pm at the Church Hall. Free of charge although a small donation would be gratefully received

Thursday 21st May

9.30am Thursday Prayer time in the Prayer Chapel
11:00am Coffee Morning at St James Church
City Wide Prayer 7-8pm Potter's House Church, Clarence Street, Wolverhampton WV1 4JL

Friday 22nd May

7.15pm Parish Youth Group (11-14 year olds)
Games Night at St James Church, Fordhouses

Sunday 24th May 9.45am Service of the Word and Baptism

Reading 1: John 7: 37-39

Reading 2: Acts 2: 1-21

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

Thursday 28th May

9.30am Thursday Prayer time in the Prayer Chapel
11:00am Coffee Morning at St James Church

Sunday 31st May 9.45am Service of the Word

Reading 1: 2 Corinthians 13: 11-14

Reading 2: Matthew 28: 16-20

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



Future dates to put in your Diary

Monday 1st June

St Mary's Oasis Ladies Group 1-30-3pm at the Church Hall. Free of charge although a small donation would be gratefully received.

Saturday 6th June

10:00am Ladies' Breakfast at the Church of the Good Shepherd. Free of charge, although donations welcome. For details or to book a place please leave your name with the parish office 01902 782226

Saturday 13th June

Outreach BBQ at St Mary's Church Hall 5-7pm. *What does good health look like?* With guest speaker. Please invite your friends

Saturday 20th June

10.00am Men's breakfast at the Parish Hall
Alpha Day Away

Saturday 27th June

Joanne's Ordination at Lichfield Cathedral 4pm



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

Please keep in your prayers all those named on our Prayer Boards and their families

For contact about Notices n_gardner2@sky.com phone, text, WhatsApp Nick Gardner 07488 389033 – 01902 784713 or Val on 07528 586067 - email: alanredmond@hotmail.com