St James Church Fordhouses
Monthly Calendar for November 2026

Rector: Rev Dr Ian Poole

Parish Office: 01902 782226

Where is your Treasure?!

It is very sobering to remind ourselves that many Christians around the world today have very little earthly treasure and worse, they don't even know whether they can hold on to their own lives or the lives of their loved ones. This is often not due to their lack of hard work or natural gifting, but rather because they are persecuted by those around them and the society in which they live. In this they have a strong identity with the early Christians. For example, in the beautiful and wealthy city of Smyrna, the Christians of 2000 years ago are described by Jesus as living in ***'poverty'*** (Revelation 2: 9). They weren't just getting by, because this word poverty in the original means they were fighting to survive. Even worse than that: was, if they refused to burn incense in honour of the Emperor Domitian; if they refused to call him Lord, then they would either be imprisoned or executed. And yet Jesus declares to them ***'yet you are rich!'*** In the words of Paul to Timothy, they had found a way to invest in the bank of heaven, laying up for themselves ***'treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age.'*** And they achieved this by valuing their obedience and love for Jesus above everything else. Jesus said, ***'where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.'*** So where is your treasure? If you had to flee your home or this life suddenly what one thing would you want to take with you? The answer my friend is blowing in the wind and it must be; your relationship with Jesus!



For this month

Sunday 1st November: 9.45am Service of the Word
Reading 1: Matthew 5: 1-12
Reading 2: 1 John 3: 1-3
9:45am Sunday School for younger children in the lounge

Monday 2nd November
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 5th November
9.30am Thursday Prayer time in the Prayer Chapel
11:00am Coffee Morning at St James Church

Friday 6th November
7.15pm Parish Youth Group (11-14 year olds) in the Parish Hall, Bushbury

Saturday 7th November
Ladies Breakfast 10am at 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
St James Church meeting for teaching, fellowship, prayer and worship between 10am and 12noon when Rev Ian will be continuing our teaching on the person and work of the Holy Spirit. As before we will start with light refreshments. Please seriously consider being there as we grow together as church.

Sunday 8th November: 9.45am Holy Communion Remembrance Sunday



Reading 1: 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18
Reading 2: Matthew 25: 1-13
9:45am Sunday School for younger children in the lounge

Operation Christmas Child

National collection week is 9th-16th November. Should you need an empty shoebox to either wrap yourself or would like a pre-wrapped one they are available in the foyer. Or, you may consider donating a shoebox online at https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/shoebox-online

Finally, once your box is dropped off or your donation made, please remember to pray for the recipient so that your box is gifted to the right child. You may consider watching this video which supports this year's campaign https://youtu.be/KOKtonyYIFs

Thursday 12th November
9.30am Thursday Prayer time in the Prayer Chapel
11:00am Coffee Morning at St James Church

Friday 13th November
7.15pm Parish Youth Group (11-14 year olds) in the Parish Hall, Bushbury

Sunday 15th November: 9.45am Service of the Word
Reading 1: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11
Reading 2: Matthew 25: 14-30
9:45am Sunday School for younger children in the lounge

Monday 16th November
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 19th November
9.30am Thursday Prayer time in the Prayer Chapel
11:00am Coffee Morning at St James Church
City Wide Prayer 7-8pm St Mary's Church

Friday 20th November
7.15pm Parish Youth Group (11-14 year olds) in the Parish Hall, Bushbury

Saturday 21st November
10.00am Men's Breakfast at the Parish Hall, Bushbury - The Book of Revelation

Sunday 22nd November: 9.45am Holy Communion
Reading 1: Ephesians 1: 15-23
Reading 2: Matthew 25: 31-46
9:45am Sunday School for younger children in the lounge
Praying for Gold at St Peter's Hednesford, Church Hill WS12 1BD 3.30pm-6pm. We will be gathering across the episcopal area to worship and pray together

Thursday 26th November
9.30am Thursday Prayer time in the Prayer Chapel
11:00am Coffee Morning at St James Church

Friday 27th November
7.15pm Parish Youth Group (11-14 year olds) Games Night at St James Church, Fordhouses

Saturday 28th November
Decorating the Church for Christmas from 9.30am. Everyone welcome to help with the decorations

Sunday 29th November: 9.45am: Service of the Word
Reading 1: Isaiah 64: 1-9
Reading 2: Mark 13: 24-37
9:45am Sunday School for younger children in the lounge.
Donations of mince pies for our Christingle service on 6th December would be gratefully received. Please bring them Sunday 29th November or at the Coffee Morning on Thursday 3rd December

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

December

Monday 14th December
St Mary's Oasis Ladies Group 1-30-3pm at the Church Hall. Free of charge although a small donation would be gratefully received



Rev Joanne is setting up a cross-parish group who are interested in work with Children and Families. If anyone from St James is interested in being part of this, could they please let Nick know, or speak directly to Joanne.

Thank you

The MacMillan Coffee afternoon at St Mary's Ladies Oasis Group raised £385.25.

The Well Foodbank thank you for the generous harvest donation of 45kg of food/toiletries and £105 in money donations. There is a thank you letter on the noticeboard

Parish Weekend

There is a parish weekend away planned for 14-16 May 2027, a leaflet with all of the details is at the back of church/enclosed. Please ask Jane Gardner if you would like more details





Christmas Services and Events

Saturday 5th December
Parish Christmas Celebration Buffet 6pm at St Mary's Church Hall. £6 adults and £2 children under 13. Sign-up sheet available soon

Christmas Eve Midnight Service 11.30pm at St Mary's Church

For St James:
Saturday 5th December
Making the Christingles at St James Church from 9.30am. Tea coffee and mince pies!

Sunday 6th December
4:00pm Christingle Service, with content from Families and Tots.

Sunday 20th December
9:45am Carol Service

Christmas Day Friday 25th December
9:45am short Service of the Word

Sunday 27th December
10:00am Joint Parish Service at St Mary's, no service at St James.

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

DIOCESE OF LICHFIELD

Cherishing The Balance

Discipleship Group
for those with a life limiting diagnosis



Thursday 5th Nov 2026
2.00pm – 3.00pm Via Zoom

After a great first meeting, we are once again offering a safe and supportive space for honest conversation, prayer, reflection, encouragement and companionship with others across the Lichfield Diocese on a similar journey.

Whether you are newly diagnosed, living with advanced illness, receiving palliative care, or simply looking for others to journey with in this season of life, you are warmly invited.

Facilitated by Bev Dyer, Reader in Bushbury
Hosted by Helen Emery, Whole Life Discipleship Officer

If just turning up online feels like a big first step, email helen.emery@lichfield.anglican.org and arrange a no pressure chat to find out more.



To be the body of Christ as a parish.

To increase our vision and unity as we worship and learn together.

Learning to "do life together".

Sharing our faith in friendship and love with those who will join us.

- Activities for all ages (children, youth & adults)
- Worship, teaching and time to reflect
- Relax and unwind

VARIABLE ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

A range of accommodation options are available to suit different needs and group sizes.

PLEASE SPEAK TO GLYNIS.A AND HARLAN.P AT ST MARY'S, JANE.G AT ST JAMES AND BEV.D AT GOOD SHEPHERD FOR MORE INFORMATION.

www.cefnlea.co.uk

St James Church
Taunton Avenue
Wolverhampton
WV10 6PN

09 October 2026

Dear Friends of The Well
Re: Harvest Festival Donations 2026

Thank you so much for your generous support during this year's Harvest Festival season. The weight of food/toiletries donated by your church totalled 45Kg plus a generous financial donation of £105.00.
Your support at Harvest time is vital in replenishing our shelves in preparation for the high demand on our service during the winter months.
This comment by a parcel recipient to one of our drivers shows the impact of your donations:
"You don't know how much this food parcel means to me, I have no food in the house and the more I think about that the hungrier I become. This will feed my body and my mind – thank you so much!"

This year we are celebrating 20 years of The Well operating. We are in awe at what God has done in growing and sustaining this ministry during both easy and challenging times.
When The Well started, none of us knew what was to come, how the need would increase, or how many wonderful people would come alongside The Well to share in the work of supporting people in physical need. But God knew! We are so thankful for that, and for your part in our story.
May you know Christ's rich blessing in your life, family and community.
Do stay connected with us via our website, where you can sign up to our newsletter and find links to our Social Media pages: www.thewellwolverhampton.co.uk

God Bless You
Gary and Caroline Price
Project Leaders

