
ST JAMES PARISH CHURCH, SILSDEN WEEKLY NEWSHEET

SATURDAY 21 DECEMBER 2024

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Readings for Sunday 22 December

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah Chapter 5 verses 2-5

Magnificat (Luke 1, verses 46-55)

Hebrews Chapter 10 verses 5-10

Gospel of Luke Chapter 1 verses 39-45

Sunday 22 December 2024

9.30am Parish Communion – led by Rev Denis Tate

(10.20am Tea and Coffee in the St James Church Community Hall)

There is no 11am service on Sunday 22 December

7pm Carols by Candlelight

Readings for Tuesday 24 December

Christmas Eve

2 Samuel Chapter 7 verses 1-5 and 8-11 and 16

Psalm 89 verses 2 and 19-27

Acts Chapter 13 verses 16-26

Gospel of Luke Chapter 1 verses 67-79

Tuesday 24 December 2024

Services on Christmas Eve

3.30pm Christingle

5pm Christingle - repeated



Christmas Eve Service at Kildwick

There is no midnight service at St James or Silsden Methodist Church this Christmas.

If you would like to go to a midnight service we are invited to attend St Andrews Kildwick at 9.30pm on Christmas Eve for their midnight (Bethlehem time - midnight in Bethlehem is 10pm here) Holy Communion service for Christmas.

Readings for Wednesday 25 December

Christmas Day

Isaiah Chapter 9 verses 2-7

Psalm 96

Titus Chapter 2 verses 11-14

Gospel of Luke Chapter 2 verses 1-14

(additional readings for Christmas Day are below)

Wednesday 25 December 2024

10am Holy Communion for Christmas Day – led by Rev Bob Evans

Additional readings sets for Christmas Day

Isaiah Chapter 62 verses 6-12	Isaiah Chapter 52 verses 7-10
Psalm 97	Psalm 98
Titus Chapter 3 verses 4-7	Hebrews Chapter 1 verses 1-4
Gospel of Luke Chapter 2 verses 8-20	Gospel of John Chapter 1 verses 1-14

Readings for Sunday 29 December

The first Sunday of Christmas

1 Samuel Chapter 2 verses 18-20 and 26

Psalm 148 verses 7-14

Colossians Chapter 3 verses 12-17

Gospel of Luke Chapter 2 verses 41-52

Sunday 29 December 2023

9.30am Holy Communion (said) – led by Rev Pat Smith

Services coming up

Sunday 5 January	Gathering Breakfast in the Hall from 9.15am 10am - Sunday Gathering in the Hall – led by the music group, so lots of singing! – ‘It’s Still Christmas’ 11am - Holy Communion (said) – in the Meeting Room, off the Hall – led by Revd Bob Evans 11.30am – taking down the decorations in the Hall
Sunday 12 January	9.30am Parish Communion (also on YouTube) – led by Rev Denis Tate 11am Together @ 11

Work Day – Saturday 21 December

We will be concentrating on tidying up outside the church including around the sand bags holding up the wall. There will also be inside jobs for those who prefer to work inside.

Christingles – 24 December



We will be holding two Christingle services on Christmas Eve – one at 3.30pm and one at 5pm.

We will be assembling the Christingles on Monday 23 December at 3pm in the Hall. Please come and help, if you can.

Saturday 4 January and Sunday 5 January 2024

On Saturday 4 January we will set up for the Gathering at 9.45am and then take down the Christmas decorations in the church.

Before that, at 9am on Saturday 4 January there will be the usual monthly prayers in the Meeting Room so why not come to pray with others before the setting up starts?

We will then be taking down the Christmas decorations in the Hall after our Gathering service on Sunday 5 January

Saturday Social

Our next Saturday Social will be on Saturday 4 January starting at 2pm. All welcome.

Expanding Sunday Prayer Ministry at St James Silsden

In 2024 we started offering prayer ministry (individual prayer) between the services, on the second Sunday each month. In 2025 we are expanding this so that this ministry will be available on the second and fourth Sundays each month. The pray-ers on duty each week will be wearing green lanyards. Thank you to them.

Worship in the Homes

The next visit is to Summerfield is on Wednesday 8 January at 2pm.

Then on Wednesday 15 January we will visit The Gables, again with a 2pm start.

Please join us if you can

Thanks for all your support.

Worship in the Homes Consultation

The Raikes are very keen for us to begin to provide monthly services and the new activities organiser at Spring Bank has said he will be in touch soon. Is it possible for us to resource 3 or even 4 services a month? Initial consultations with the team suggest that to do this we would need to split into two teams but there are not enough of us.

Question: if we committed to new worship services at 2:00 on a Monday, once or twice a month, would anyone else be able to join us? (In either a Monday team, or a Wednesday team?) Your main task would be to sing.

Please have a word with Bob if you might be able to help.

Thanks

Bob Evans

Praying for Silsden

In 2024 we have prayed for many streets in Silsden and we will continue these prayers for other areas of the Parish in the new year.

At this Christmas time let us pray for the whole of our Parish – lifting this community to God and praying for peace for all, and that they will encounter God at this season – and beyond.

Thank yous

Thank you to everyone who has helped at the carol services at the Homes.

Thank you to everyone helping prepare for and give our Christmas services this year.

Thank to everyone for all you do at St James week by week and Sunday by Sunday.

Thursday Zoom prayers

The next Zoom prayers on a Thursday will be on Thursday 2 January 2024 – 7.15pm

Children's Society Boxes

As we approach Christmas it is the time of year to start collecting the Children's Society boxes again. Could I ask that anyone who has a box bring it to church in the next few weeks and I will organise a count in early January in between or after Sunday service. Can I also take this opportunity to thank everyone who continues to support this worthy cause and if anyone would like to have a box let me know.

Thank you
Louise

Silsden Primary School

It was great to be able to welcome Year 5 from Silsden Primary School (and their parents and their teachers) as the school held a Victorian Carol Service in our church last Monday. Thanks to everyone who came to help school with the tech.

Mothers' Union

FUTURE MEETINGS:

10th January 4.00pm Wave of Prayer

16th January 7.30pm M.U. A.G.M.

15th February Valentine Coffee Morning

17th February 3.45pm Afternoon Meeting

We wish all our members a Joyful and Peaceful Christmas.

Rev. Pat and your M.U. Committee

Stamps

I am still collecting used stamps for charity. Please do save the stamps from your Christmas cards and let me have them.

Thanks, Deborah

Special Period of Prayer for Pizza Praise - 4 January to 19 January 2025

The PCC asks that January be a special period of prayer for our Pizza Praise project. Pizza Praise resumes on 19 January and we are asked to put special time aside during this period to pray for Pizza Praise –

perhaps praying as part of your personal prayer or perhaps with others in existing prayer groups (or even possibly as part of a special group meeting for this purpose).

For those who can make it we will be gathering in the Hall at 4.00pm on Mondays 8 and 15 January to pray together for Pizza Praise. Also, the meeting room in the Hall will be available between 9am and 9.20am on Sundays during January for those who wish to pray together for Pizza Praise before our Sunday morning services (on 5 January before the Gathering and then, for the other Sundays in January, before the 9.30am service).

Please pray that families will come along, for discernment about the future of this project and for all those leading and organizing Pizza Praise. Pizza Praise needs prayer! Thank you

A message from your Churchwardens

Dear everyone

The post of interim vicar at St James Silsden will be re-advertised in a few days time. Please pray for the process and for all those considering applying.

Thank you for all the support you have given to the church, and to ourselves, in 2024. We are now 15 months into our vacancy and we very much appreciate that support and we are so grateful to everyone. It is wonderful to see the Holy Spirit at work as St James Church worships every Sunday, prays together, studies in Home Groups, goes out to the Homes, is adventurous, enjoys fellowship together, welcomes everyone and – most of all – proclaims Jesus as Lord. We give thanks to God for His work here and for the many people involved in making that happen here at St James. Thank you.

It is always so amazing, but particularly at this time of year, to realise that God came to Earth as a tiny baby, born in the humblest of circumstances, and how that baby, Jesus, grew up to live amongst us revealing what God is like.

A Christmas prayer from the Corrymeela Community explores this:

*God of silent nights, God of heavenly peace:
your light shines in the darkness
so that even our darkness becomes a place to find hope.
Still our hearts and minds,
Quiet our concerns, and ease our anxieties
so that in this moment we might hear the initial cry of new life born to us
in a place of glorious humility;
with the strength of human and divine vulnerability.
Amen.*

We wish you a very happy peaceful and joyful Christmas.

Jayne and Neil

Bank Details

St James' bank account details for direct payments (for Share/general church funds) are:-

Barclays Bank
 Silsden Parish Church PCC
 Sort Code 20-45-14
 Acc No 90871176

Regular church events

Thursday Zoom prayers	Every Thursday 15 minutes of prayer time together online at 7.15pm (Zoom) - please come along! Meeting ID: 952 0002 8284 Passcode: 201804	Next one – Thursday 2 January
CAMEO (Come and Meet Each Other)	The first Tuesday of each month at 1.30pm	On hold until the café re-opens
Thursday Group	The fourth Thursday of each month at 2pm	Next one Thursday 23 January at Sheila's house There is not a Thursday Group in December
Friday at the King Pub Social	First and Third Fridays of the month – 7pm to around 9pm at the Kings Arms	Next one Friday 20 December
Saturday Social	First Saturday of the month – 2pm until 4pm	Next one Saturday 4 January
PCC Meetings	Second Tuesday in the month at 7.45pm	Next one Tuesday 14 January
Prayer ministry Between our Sunday morning services	Usually the second Sunday and fourth Sunday of each month	Next one after the 9.30am service on 12 January
Work Days	Third Saturday of the month – 10am to noon	Next one Saturday 21 December
Saturday Morning Prayers	The day before the Gathering (so always a Saturday!) – 9am	Next one Saturday 4 January

Diary for the week ahead

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT			
Sun	22 Dec	9.30am 7.00pm	Parish Communion Carols by Candlelight

Mon	23 Dec	3.00pm	Assembly of Christingles in the hall CHRISTMAS EVE
Tues	24 Dec	3.30pm 5.00pm	Christingle service Christingle service (repeat) CHRISTMAS DAY
Wed	25 Dec	10.00am	Holy Communion for Christmas Day
Thurs	26 Dec		No Zoom Prayers
Fri	27 Dec		
Sat	28 Dec		
			FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
Sun	29 Dec	9.30am	Parish Communion
Mon	30 Dec		
Tues	31 Dec		
Wed	1 Jan		
Thurs	2 Jan	7.15pm	Zoom Prayers
Fri	3 Jan		
Sat	4 Jan	9.00am 9,30am 9.45am 2.00pm	Saturday morning prayers in the Meeting Room Music Group practice in the hall Gathering set up and take down decorations in church Saturday Social
			SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
Sun	5 Jan	9.15am 10.00am 11.00am 11.30am	Gathering breakfast Sunday Gathering Said Holy Communion in the Meeting Room Take down hall decorations

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – 18 January to 24 January 2025

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas) – 2 February 2025

Ash Wednesday – 5 March 2025

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!