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# ST JAMES PARISH CHURCH, SILSDEN


## WEEKLY NEWSHEET

SATURDAY 13 DECEMBER 2025

OUR VISION: TO BE JESUS-SHAPED

[www.stjamesilsden.org.uk](http://www.stjamesilsden.org.uk)

telephone 07990 112756

 @stjamesilsden

**Readings for 14December2025**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

**Isaiah Chap 35 verses 1-10**

**Magnificat**

**James Chap 5 verses 7-10**

**Gospel of Matthew Chap 11 verses 2-11**

**Services on Sunday 14 December 2025**

**9.30am Parish Communion (also on YouTube) – led by Rev Simon Phipps**

**10.30am Tea/coffee in the hall**

**10.30am Between service prayer**

**11am Together @ 11– led by Rev Bob Evans**

## Services Coming Up

Sunday 21 December	9.30am Parish Communion (also on YouTube) – led by Rev Simon Phipps and Jen Read  10.30am Tea/coffee in the hall  <b>No Together@11</b>
Monday 22 December	7.00pm Carols by Candlelight
Wednesday 24 December	3.30pm Christingle  5.00pm Christingle
Thursday 25 December	10.00am Family Parish Communion
Sunday 28 December	9.30am Parish Communion (also on YouTube)  10.30am Tea/coffee in the hall  <b>No Together@11</b>

## Rev Simon's contact details

Here are two good ways of getting in touch with Rev Simon:

Email: [simon.phipps@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:simon.phipps@leeds.anglican.org)

Telephone: 07867 375965

## Church Christmas Card

There is a Christmas Card at the back of church to sign – as a way of sending each other Christmas greetings so congregation members can choose not to send separate cards if they so wish.

## Thank you

Thank you to everyone who decorated the church for Christmas last Saturday. It is much appreciated. The church looks wonderful.

## **St James Advent Calendar**

The Advent calendar started on Monday 1st December - go to [stjamesillsden.org.uk](http://stjamesillsden.org.uk) to listen to the meditations created by church members. It does not follow the normal timeline for Advent but is an A-Z of topics relating to the Christmas story.

Don't worry if you've missed any so far – you can still visit an earlier date to listen to that day's reflection.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this project – and to Val for pulling it all together.

## **Decorating the Hall – 13<sup>th</sup> December**

We will be decorating the hall on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December from 11am. Please do come along to help out if you are able.

## **Church Christmas Party – 13<sup>th</sup> December**

 Come and join us for a  
Fun Night of Festive Cheer   
St James' Christmas Party  
Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December  
6.30pm - 9pm  
Tickets -£5

Please bring your own drinks.

Mulled wine and cooked meat to be provided. Please sign up to bring salads and puddings.

**ALSO** this would not be a party with fun and games. There will be an 'open mic' session so please come prepared to share a song or a poem or a reading or a joke or any other talent.

Tickets available from Deborah Thorley and Jo Towers

## **Repair Cafe**

The next Silsden Repair Cafe is this Saturday, 13 December, at Silsden Methodist Church - between 9.30am and noon.

Climate Action Silsden hold a refill shop at the Repair Café. They stock Miniml (now based in Silsden!) household and personal care products, (all products are Vegan, Cruelty Free and Paraben-Free and contain no synthetic dyes or perfumes).

The liquids available are: washing up liquid, laundry detergent, fabric conditioner, multi-surface cleaner, toilet cleaner, floor cleaner, hand soap, bubble bath / shower gel, shampoo and hair conditioner. Please take your empty containers and the refill shop will fill them for you. They are a profit-free organisation and so sell at cost price, just with a small round-up to cover costs of any spills.

## **Worship at the Homes**

The timetable for the next few services is:-

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00pm Carol Service at The Gables

Wed 7<sup>th</sup> January 2.00pm at Summerfield

Wed 21<sup>st</sup> January 2.00pm at The Gables.

If you can support any of these please come along as our numbers seem to have dwindled.

Thanks

Bob

## **Work Day – Saturday 20 December**

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

## **A prayer for Mission at St James**

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the Cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace:

So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you;  
for the honour of your Name.

Amen.

## **Funeral of Mrs Sheila Abercromby**

Sheila - Helen's mum- was known to many of us at St James. Her funeral will take place at the Salvation Army Citadel, Hove on Monday 15 December at 9.30am.

Please pray for all the family.

There will be a Facebook livestream of the service (you will need to first join the Hove Salvation Army live Facebook page).

## **Food Bank**

We will be taking the final pre-Christmas food bank donations to the Salvation Army on Tuesday the 16th December. So please bring in anything you are wanting to give by Sunday the 14th December.

Thank you

Michael and Susan

### **Children's Society**

Many of you will have had your latest news sheet from CS. I plan to ask those people with boxes to bring them in during December and plan to count them in early January. I will give you all notice in the next few weeks.

Thanks  
Louise

### **Sudan Link calendars**

We have some Sudan Link calendars available at church in return, please, for a donation to the Sudan Link. Thank you to Andrew Clayton-Stead for obtaining these.

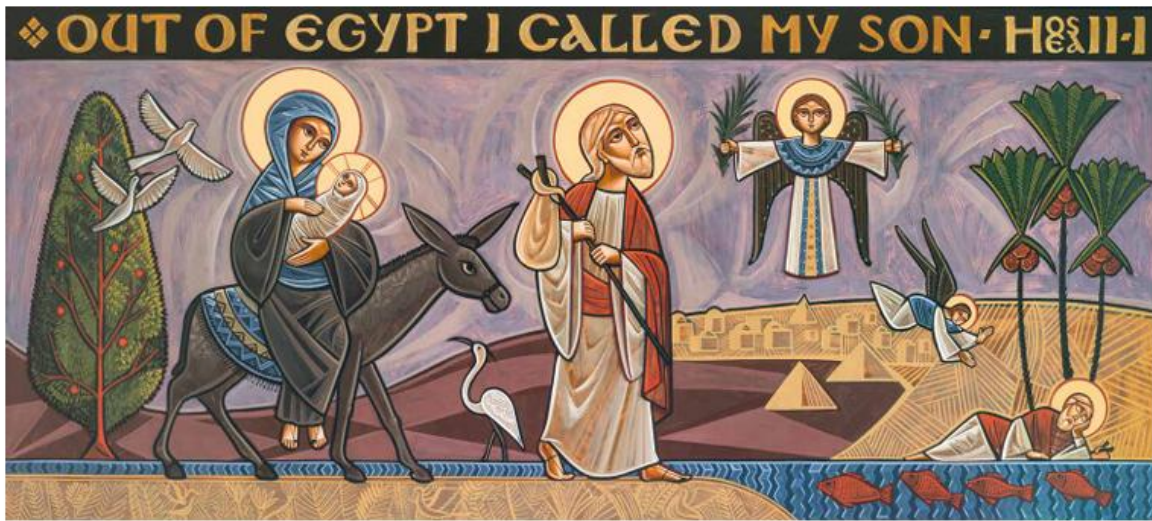
### **Mothers' Union**

We would like to support Homeless not Hopeless again and will have a box at the back of church for donations of the following:

£5 Gregg's voucher  
Small torch with spare batteries  
Selection boxes  
New underwear (small and medium, male and female)  
Thick unisex socks  
Combs and hairbrush  
Biodegradable wipes  
Packets of tissues  
Plain hats  
Reusable cups with lids  
Pens and notepads  
Roll on deodorant

Next month we will be having our Christmas party on Thurs 18th Dec at 7.30. It is a bring and share buffet with music.

There is a list on the board in the hall for members to put what they can bring.



*Wishing you a Happy Christmas  
and a Peaceful New Year*

– The Diocese of Leeds –

+ Tony

The Acting Bishop of Leeds  
and The Bishop of Bradford

+ Malcolm

The Bishop of Wakefield

+ Anne

The Bishop of Ripon

+ John

The Bishop of Kirkstall

+ Smitha

The Bishop of Huddersfield

*Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt.*

Matthew 2:14  
New Revised Standard Version

### Regular church events

Friday Pub Social	First and Third Fridays of the month – 7pm to around 9pm	Next one Friday 19 December at the Kings Arms
Saturday Social	First Saturday of the month – 2pm until 4pm	Next one Saturday 3 January
Thursday Group	Fourth Thursday of the month 2pm at Sheila's house	Next one Thursday 18 December (Note date – not fourth Thursday)
PCC Meetings	Third Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm	Next one Wednesday 21 January
Prayer ministry Between our Sunday morning services	Usually the second Sunday and fourth Sunday of each month	Next one Sunday 14 December
Work Days	Third Saturday of the month – 2pm to 4pm	Next one Saturday 20 December

Saturday Morning Prayers	The day before the Gathering (so always a Saturday!) – 9am	Our next Saturday morning prayers are on Saturday 3 January 2026
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### **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

### **Saturday 3 January and Sunday 4 January 2026**

On Saturday 3 January we will set up for the Gathering at 9.45am and then we will take down the Christmas decorations in the church.

Before that, at 9am on Saturday 3 January, there will be the usual monthly prayers in the Hall so why not come to pray with others before the setting up starts?

We will be taking down the Christmas decorations in the Hall after our Gathering service on Sunday 4 January.



### **Alpha Course – starts Tuesday 13 January 2026**

We are running the Alpha Course at St James – on Tuesday evenings starting on 13 January. If you would like to get involved in leading the course - attending each week (into March) – then please let Neil know.

We are also now asking for volunteers who would be prepared to prepare a meal for the Alpha participants one Tuesday during the course. Again, if you are willing to cater a meal for our Alpha course please let Neil know. Thank you.

### **Keighley Musical Theatre Company Pantomime – 25<sup>th</sup> January**

I have tickets for sale for the Robin Hood pantomime at Victoria Hall, Keighley on Sunday 25th January at 2.15pm.

Prices are FULL £11.70 CONCESSION £9.90

Please add your name and number needed to the list in the Hall.  
Thank you – Sandra

### **Service of Hope and Remembrance Sunday 25 January 2026, 2pm**

We will hold a special Service of Hope and Remembrance in church at 2pm on Sunday 25 January. All welcome –as we come together to remember loved ones, of any age, who have passed away.

### **Date for the Diary – 31<sup>st</sup> January**

On 31st January, we're delighted to welcome the Children and Youth Team from the Leeds Diocese for a special session at St. James, running from 9:30am–12:45pm. This inspiring morning is open to everyone and aims to enthuse and equip us for our children's and youth ministry. Whether you're already involved in this work or simply have a heart for supporting young people in our church, we'd love you to join us!

### **Diary for the week ahead**

Sat	13 Dec	11.00am 6.30pm	Decorate Church Hall Church Christmas Party <b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
Sun	14 Dec	9.30am 10.30am 10.30am 11.00am	Parish Communion Between service prayer Tea/coffee in the hall Together@11
Mon	15 Dec		
Tues	16 Dec		
Wed	17 Dec	2.00pm	Christmas worship at The Gables
Thurs	18 Dec	2.00pm 7.30pm	Thursday Group Mothers' Union Party
Fri	19 Dec		
Sat	20 Dec	2.00pm	Church Work Day <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
Sun	21 Dec	9.30am 10.30am	Parish Communion Tea/coffee in the hall







## Christmas at St James

Sunday 21 December

*9.30am Parish Communion (no Together @ 11 service)*

Sunday 28 December

*9.30am Parish Communion (no Together @ 11 service)*





## **Christmas at St James Silsden**

**Monday 22 December 7pm**

**Carols by Candlelight**

**Christmas Eve - Wednesday 24 December**

**3.30pm Christingle**

**5pm Christingle (repeated)**

**Christmas Day - Thursday 25 December**

**10am Family Parish Communion**

