
ST JAMES PARISH CHURCH, SILSDEN

WEEKLY NEWSSHEET

SATURDAY 31 JANUARY



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Readings for Sunday 1 February

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

1 Kings Chapter 17 verses 8-16

Psalm 36 verses 5-10

1 Corinthians Chapter 1 verses 18-31

Gospel of John Chapter 2 verses 1-11

Sunday 1 February 2026

9.15am – Breakfast together in the Hall

10am – Gathering Service in the Hall - led by Jen Read

11am – Holy Communion in the meeting room – led by Revd Simon

1.00pm – Baptism of Matilda

Please come and support Matilda and her family at Matilda's baptism in the church.

We also need some welcomers to help at the baptism.

Please pray as well.

Thank you

Services coming up

Sunday 8 February	9.30am Parish Communion – led by Revd Simon 10.30am Tea and Coffee in the St James Church Community Hall 10.30am Between service prayer 11.00am Together @ 11 – led by Michael and Susan 4.00pm Pizza Praise
Sunday 15 February	9.30am Parish Communion – led by Revd Pat 10.30am Tea and Coffee in the St James Church Community Hall 11.00am Together @ 11 – led by Revd Simon

Saturday morning prayers

As the Hall is being set up for the Children and Youth Ministry session on Saturday morning then at 9am on Saturday morning we will meet outside, in the midst of our community as we pray for our community for 30 minutes.

So please meet at the bandstand at 9am. If it's raining, we'll stay in the bandstand! If it's not raining, we will prayer walk nearby.

We will do the same on 28 February because the hall will be busy on that Saturday morning too.

Children's work Training Session

On Saturday 31 January 2026 from 9.30am to 12.45pm there will be a children's work training session in the Hall led by the diocesan children and youth team. Anyone who is interested in helping with our children's work is welcome to come along.

Children's Society Boxes

This week I was able to bank £784.04 from the box collection and £331.11 from the Christingle service collection. Thank you to everyone who continues to support this worthy cause. I will order some new boxes and if anyone would like to start contributing I can let you have a new supporter form.

Well done St James

Louise

Churches Together Coffee Morning last Saturday - thank you

Thank you to everyone who helped organize last week's coffee morning to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. And thank you to everyone who came along.

A Thank You to Everyone

As we look back over the past year, we want to pause and say a heartfelt **thank you** to everyone who has so generously given their time, finances, skills, prayers, and resources. Every act of service — whether seen or unseen — has helped make our church a place of welcome, care, and hope. From those who volunteer faithfully, to those who give financially, to those who support quietly behind the scenes, your generosity has enabled St. James to grow and reach others in meaningful ways. We are deeply grateful for all that you do, and we praise God for each of you and the spirit of love and commitment you bring to our church family.

Love Simon



• We had a great third session of the Alpha Course last Tuesday, despite the problem with the hall lights. Thank you for all your prayers!

Alpha works on the basis that St James Church hosts the course and we invite guests to attend. We then provide them with hospitality before we watch a video together and then discuss it.

Guests are encouraged to present their viewpoint in the discussion and they will be listened to. The way Alpha works is that everyone's point of view matters, and is heard. No-one has to say anything at all (but we hope they will). The point is that Alpha is a place where people can put their own point of view (whatever that is) in an honest, friendly and open environment – where they are listened to. This is why the reassurance that there is “no pressure, no follow up and no charge” is important. Anyone is free to leave the course at any time. So they have nothing to lose – and everything to gain!

Our Tuesday-night Alpha course session works like this:

7pm – guests arrive and enjoy some food

7.45pm – we watch this week's Alpha video together

8.15pm – discussion in small groups

8.45pm – guests depart

Can you provide practical help on a Tuesday evening at Alpha?

A big thank you to everyone who has said they will provide catering at the Alpha course. This element is such an important part of a successful Alpha.

With the number of guests we have we could do with some more volunteers to provide catering; and we could also do with some help with tidying up and washing up after the meal together.

Might you be able to assist with any of that please? If so, please speak with Simon or Jen or Neil or Jayne. Thank you

Praying for Alpha

Alpha needs prayer! Please pray individually or in groups

- beforehand that people will come, that those who are thinking of coming but are worried, or not sure, will decide to come. Please pray for the hosts from our church as they prepare;
- on a Tuesday night as the course is happening that those on the course will participate and respond to what they learn about Jesus

Thank you

Praying for Silsden

We are resuming praying, as a church, for the residents and businesses within the Parish street-by-street and week-by-week.

This week's streets are:

Spring Garden Cottages
Strawberry Street
Hawthorne Street

Please also pray for these streets in your own prayers. Thank you.

Prayers for Silsden Primary School

Please pray for the children, staff and helpers who will be visiting our church on 12 February.

Praying for The World

In your prayers, please pray:-

- For the ongoing unrest and violence in Iran amidst protests and political fragmentation. Pray for the protection of believers and for justice to be brought about in the nation.
- That churches across the world will realise the impact that they can have on their communities. Ask God to give church leaders wisdom and strength and to bless them as they reach out to others.

You could use this prayer -

- Father God, we pray for our world today. We pray for peace and hope to abound. Many are affected by natural disasters: floods, droughts and forest fires. Many are struggling with conflict, poverty and the global food crisis. O Lord, we pray for your provision, peace and protection. In Jesus' name, Amen.

62 Bus next week

Yorkshire Water are planning to close Elliott Street next week and whilst it's closed the 62 bus will be running along Kirkgate and completely missing out Elliott Street, Woodside Road, Skipton Road and Bridge Street

Mothers' Union

2026 subs for Mothers' Union are now due. For 2026 the cost is £35. Please see Deborah.

We will be having our Valentines coffee morning on Sat 14th Feb. Any members that can help on the morning/bake cakes etc please, let one of the committee know.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Thanks

Louise

Worship in the Homes

The timetable for the services is:-

4th February at Summerfield at 2 o'clock

18th February at The Gables also at 2 o'clock

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

Thanks

Bob

Eco Church – January

With Christmas out of the way and a New Year ahead, you may be thinking about having a bit of a tidy up and getting rid of some of your old things. As good stewards of our planet, we should be trying to reuse and recycle our stuff as much as possible. Instead of taking items to the tip, why not sell them? Or even offer them for free on a Facebook site like [Silsden Reuse and Recycle](#)? If your items are broken, they may be fixable at the Silsden repair café, or the parts can be recycled. Let's do all we can to combat our throwaway culture which leads to further pollution of our planet. Here are some handy guides for this:

- [You and your stuff](#)
- [Sustainable fashion](#)

St James Church Big Read for Lent 2026

We are proposing to read a book together over Lent and we will announce the book in question shortly.

The idea is that we can read the book individually or in the Life Groups (formerly called House Groups!) or in whatever other groups people choose.

We will have a special get together of all participants on Saturday 28 March to discuss our thoughts on what the book has to say, what we have learned etc.

More information will follow next week.

Weekend away with the Scargill Community – 6 to 8 March 2026

Can you come along too?

Last Call

For various reasons we find ourselves needing to urgently fill places for our weekend at Scargill House. Can you come along please? The cost is £174.50 Full Board - from Friday evening meal to Sunday lunch. Please have a think and a pray about this (we will need your confirmation plus full payment very soon please).

If you now want to join us at Scargill, we need to know this Sunday (1 February). Please let Neil or Deborah know.

Thank you

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

Ash Wednesday - 18 February 2026.

We will be having a service of Holy Communion in church at 7pm on Ash Wednesday, 18 February 2026

Regular church events

Thursday Group	The fourth Thursday of each month at 2pm	Next one Thursday 26 February at Sheila's house
Friday at the King Pub Social	First and Third Fridays of the month – 7pm to around 9pm at the Kings Arms	Next one Friday 6 February
Saturday Social	First Saturday of the month – 2pm until 4pm	Next one Saturday 7 February
PCC Meetings		Next one Wednesday 18 March at 7.30pm
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 8 February
Work Days	Third Saturday of the month – 2pm to 4pm	Next one Saturday 21 February
Saturday Morning Prayers	The day before the Gathering (so always a Saturday!) – 9am	Next one Saturday 31 January

Diary for the Week Ahead

Sat	31 Jan	9.00am	Saturday Morning Prayers – meet at the Band Stand
		9.30am	Children's Work Training Session
			FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY
Sun	1 Feb	9.15am	Breakfast
		10.00am	Sunday Gathering
		11.00am	Said Holy Communion

Mon	2 Feb	1.00pm	Baptism
Tues	3 Feb		
Wed	4 Feb	2.00pm	Worship at Summerfield
Thurs	5 Feb		
Fri	6 Feb	7.00pm	Friday at the King
Sat	7 Feb	2.00pm	Saturday social
			SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT
Sun	8 Feb	9.30am	Parish Communion
		10.30am	Tea and coffee in the hall
		10.30am	Between service prayer
		11.00am	Together @ 11
		4.00pm	Pizza Praise

Looking ahead

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas) – Monday 2 February 2026

Tuesday 17 February – Pop in for Pancakes – 11am until 1pm

Ash Wednesday – 18 February 2026