
ST JAMES PARISH CHURCH, SILSDEN WEEKLY NEWS SHEET

SATURDAY 21 FEBRUARY



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Readings for Sunday 22 February

First Sunday of Lent

Genesis Chapter 2 verses 15 -17 and chapter 3 verses 1-7

Psalm 32

Romans Chapter 5 verses 12-19

Gospel of Matthew Chapter 4 verses 1-11

Sunday 22 February 2026

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 Alison and Paul

Services coming up

Sunday 1 March	9.15am Breakfast 10.00am Sunday Gathering – led by Susan and Michael 11.00am Said Holy Communion – led by Revd Simon
Sunday 8 March	9.30am Parish Communion – led by Revd Pat Smith 10.30am Tea and Coffee in the St James Church Community Hall 10.30am Between service prayer 11.00am Together @ 11 – led by Monday Life Group 4.00pm Pizza Praise

Parish Share - Thank you

Last year, St James Silsden contributed £49500 in Parish Share. This sum is 89% of what we were asked for and is a wonderful amount. Thank you to you all for this and for everything you do for the church.

Work Day

There is a church work day on Saturday (21st) starting at 2pm. There are jobs for everyone. Please do come and support these sessions as this helps to keep our church and churchyard looking fantastic and also keeps down running costs.



Alpha – more catering required please!

Our current Alpha course is going really well and we are so grateful to everyone who has provided the evening meal with which we start Alpha each Tuesday. Thank you to them (and thank you also to those on the washing up rota).

This coming Tuesday is week 7 and this is the last session which we have catering arranged for. If you can provide a meal for the course participants on Tuesday 3 March or Tuesday 17 March that would be

fantastic please– thank you! Please let Simon or Neil know and they will be able to provide more details of how it works

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:

Waterloo Mill
New Close Mill Fold
St John's Street
New Close Avenue

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

Mothers' Union

Many thanks to everyone who helped with and came to the coffee morning last week. We made £452.65.

WhatsApp

Do you use WhatsApp?

- If yes - make sure you join our St James WhatsApp community to be able to see our general church community announcements of events, news etc, and then have option (if you wish) to request to join any of our 10 (so far) individual WhatsApp groups - e.g the prayer group, social mission, music group, walks and strolls, Sunday Home group, Friday@The Kings -

for further details / to join speak to Ali or Helen or message Ali on 07719332972

Sunday Life Group

The Sunday Life Group next meets on Sunday 1 March at 7pm when we are starting a course called 'Confident Faith: apologetics for Everyone'

This course explores the reasons behind Christian belief and how to articulate them clearly and persuasively.

It will help us to engage confidently with the tough questions people have about God, Jesus, and the Bible

Worship in the Homes

The timetable for the services is:-

4th March at Summerfield at 2.00pm

18th March at The Gables at 2.00pm

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

Thanks

Bob

Repair Cafe

The next Silsden Repair Cafe is on Saturday 21 February 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.

Saturday Morning Prayers - Saturday 28 February

Our next Saturday morning prayers will be on Saturday 28 February between 9am and 9.30am.

As the hall is being used by the Diocese that 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.

World Day of Prayer Friday 6 March 2026

Our sisters in Nigeria invite us to join them for the [World Day of Prayer](#) on Friday 6 March 2026 at 2.00pm at Steeton Methodist church. The service they have prepared reflects on the theme, "*I will give you rest*".

The World Day of Prayer is an international, women-led, ecumenical movement that shares the hopes, concerns, and prayers of women from around the globe. Each year, women from a different country craft a service, sharing their unique spiritual journey and culture. For 2026, the women of Nigeria have created a service that speaks to our need for peace and solace. They are drawing on their Christian faith and experiences in a world filled with struggles and anxieties.

The preparation for this day is extensive. The writing country and theme are chosen years in advance. The service then travels to the international committee in New York for translation and dissemination to national committees in over 120 participating countries. From there it is adapted and shared locally, culminating in gatherings at hundreds of churches every March.

This day is a powerful demonstration of global solidarity. It begins in Samoa and moves across the world in a continuous wave of prayer. It finishes 38 hours later in American Samoa. This is truly a worldwide day of prayer! Beginning and ending in the Pacific islands.

For further information please visit the World Day of Prayer website wwdp.org

Eco Church – February

Did you know that many of our major high street banks invest our money in fossil fuels and other companies whose actions harm the planet? If you were thinking of changing your bank account then here's some links which can help you choose an ethical, green bank which won't invest your money in ways that harm the planet:

- [Friends of the Earth guide to green finance](#)

Lent Book 2026 – 'The Familiar Stranger' by Tyler Staton

If you are looking for a book to read over Lent together with other members of our church family then we invite you to join in reading our chosen book for Lent 2026 – *The Familiar Stranger* by Tyler Staton.

In *The Familiar Stranger*, Tyler Staton reintroduces this oft-neglected Person of the Trinity, tracing the story of the Holy Spirit as it unfolds throughout the Bible, and inviting believers to close the gap between what Scripture reveals about the Holy Spirit and their lived experience.

The idea is that we read it over Lent, perhaps discussing it with the people we know at church as we go. We will all then assemble in the Hall on the morning of Saturday 28 March to share our thoughts on, and our responses to, the book.

The book can be purchased on line through different outlets and is available in different forms – audio book, Kindle version, hard cover and paperback.

We recognize that books are becoming more and more expensive so if it is difficult for you to find the money needed to buy the book please have a word with Rev Simon.

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 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 20 February
Saturday Social	First Saturday of the month – 2pm until 4pm	Next one Saturday 7 March
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 22 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 28 February

Diary for the Week Ahead

Sat	21 Feb	2.00pm	Church work day
			FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
Sun	22 Feb	9.30am	Parish Communion
		10.30am	Between service prayer
		10.30am	Tea/coffee in the hall
		11.00am	Together @ 11
Mon	23 Feb		
Tues	24 Feb		
Wed	25 Feb		
Thurs	26 Feb	2.00pm	Thursday Group
Fri	27 Feb		

Sat	28 Feb	9.00am	Saturday morning prayers
		2.30pm	Visiting bellringers
			SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
Sun	1 Mar	9.15am	Breakfast
		10.00am	Sunday Gathering
		11.00am	Said Communion
		7.00pm	Sunday Life Group
