
ST JAMES PARISH CHURCH, SILSDEN WEEKLY NEWS SHEET

SATURDAY 28 FEBRUARY



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Readings for Sunday 1 March

Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis Chapter 12 verses 1-4a

Psalm 121

Romans Chapter 4 verses 1-5 and 13-17

Gospel of John Chapter 3 verses 1-17

Sunday 1 March 2026

9.15am Breakfast

10.00am Sunday Gathering – led by Susan and Michael

11.00am Said Holy Communion – led by Revd Simon

Services coming up

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
Sunday 15 March Mothering Sunday	9.30am Parish Communion – led by Revd Simon Phipps 10.30am Tea and Coffee in the St James Church Community Hall 11.00am Together @ 11 – led by Sunday 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.

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.



Alpha

The Alpha course continues (week 8!) this Tuesday at 7pm. Please pray for everyone. Thank you to everyone for the catering and other help. It is much appreciated.

Funeral of Margaret Lightowler

The funeral of Margaret Lightowler, who died on 13 February, will take place at St James Church on Wednesday 11 March at 11am.

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:

Banklands
Cragg View
Bolton Terrace
Oak View

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

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

Sunday Life Group next meets on Sunday 15 March at 7pm, in the church hall.

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

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 March 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 March
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 8 March
Work Days	Third Saturday of the month – 2pm to 4pm	Next one Saturday 21 March
Saturday Morning Prayers	The day before the Gathering (so always a Saturday!) – 9am	Next one Saturday 28 February

Diary for the Week Ahead

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
Mon	2 Mar		
Tues	3 Mar	7.00pm	Alpha course
Wed	4 Mar	2.00pm	Worship at Summerfield
Thus	5 Mar		
Fri	6 Mar	2.00pm	World Day of Prayer service at Steeton Methodist church
Sat	7 Mar		
			THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
Sun	8 Mar	9.30am	Parish Communion
		10.30am	Between service prayer
		10.30am	Tea and Coffee in the hall
		11.00am	Together @ 11
		4.00pm	Pizza Praise

Dates for the Diary

Mothering Sunday – 15 March

Palm Sunday – 29 March