
ST JAMES PARISH CHURCH, SILSDEN WEEKLY NEWS SHEET

SATURDAY 7 MARCH



www.stjamesilsden.org.uk

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 @stjamesilsden

Readings for Sunday 8 March

Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus Chapter 17 verses 1-7

Psalm 95

Romans Chapter 5 verses 1-11

Gospel of John Chapter 4 verses 5-42

Sunday 8 March 2026

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

Services coming up

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
Sunday 22 March	9.30am Parish Communion – led by Revd Tony Walker and Jen Read 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 4.00pm Pizza Praise

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.

Please pray, and please do come if you can, as we say goodbye to a long-time member of the St James church family

Funeral of Arthur Lampkin

The funeral of Arthur Lampkin will be held at St James Silsden on Friday 13 March at 11.30am. Please pray.

Scargill weekend

We have a group of 21 people at Scargill House this weekend.

Please pray for them as they enjoy the peaceful surroundings, the wonderful hospitality and the conversation. Please pray that they will be refreshed by their visit and their time together.

This is a lovely line from the Scargill Community's website –“We hope that when you spend time with us, you will fully understand that the God who breathed life into the Universe delights in you.”

Saturday Social – 7 March

It's the Saturday Social again on Saturday – 7 March. Please invite anyone you know who will enjoy this social time together – and why not bring them along? Thank you to everyone who works to put this on.

A vertical poster with a blue-to-purple gradient background. At the top, there are three white icons: a puzzle piece, a ball of yarn with knitting needles, and two dice. The main title 'SATURDAY SOCIAL' is written in large, white, hand-drawn letters. Below the title, the location 'St James Community Hall Silsden' is written in white. To the left of the location is an illustration of two people sitting at a table. To the right is an illustration of a hand of playing cards. Below the location, the text '1st Saturday Every Month' is written in bold black letters. Underneath that, the time '2.00 - 4.00 pm' is written in bold black letters. A paragraph of text in a cursive font follows: 'Would you like some company on a Saturday afternoon? Drop in during the times above for chat and refreshments. Games and activities will be available, or bring a book, a magazine, your knitting/crochet etc'. At the bottom, there are four icons: a cupcake, a teapot, a coffee cup, and a slice of cake, followed by the text 'ALL WELCOME' in bold black letters.



Alpha

The Alpha course is having this Tuesday off – before spending some time together on Saturday 14 March to consider the Who is the Holy Spirit?

Are you thinking about being confirmed?

If you are considering being confirmed please see Rev Simon.

Bishop Toby will be taking a confirmation service at St Andrew's Kildwick on Sunday 21 June.

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:

Hawber Cote Lane
Banklands Lane
Dale View
Fletcher Avenue

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

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:-

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

Eco Church

The Big Plastic Count - 9th-15th March

Is your recycling actually being recycled? Sadly, the truth might surprise you...

In previous years, The Big Plastic Count revealed a hard truth: most of our plastic isn't recycled. It's either burned or sent to landfills in the UK or overseas. Burning plastic isn't just a waste – it accelerates the climate crisis, pollutes the air, and damages health. Even worse, it often impacts people who are already hit hardest by poverty.

Since 2019, Tearfund has been campaigning against the impact of plastic pollution on the lives and livelihoods of people living in poverty, especially during the ongoing UN global plastics treaty negotiations. But, plastic production is set to triple by 2060.

We can't recycle our way out of a crisis this big: we need to produce less.

God cares deeply for his creation, from the rivers clogged with plastic to the people breathing in fumes from burning waste. And he calls us to help restore it. That's where you come in...

What is The Big Plastic Count?

The Big Plastic Count is the UK's biggest people-powered investigation into household plastic waste. To get involved, you simply count every piece of plastic packaging you throw away or add to your recycle bin from 9 to 15 March and submit your count online. By taking part, you'll help gather important evidence to show the true scale of the plastics crisis. The Big Plastic Count will then use these findings to urge the UK Government to be more ambitious in their domestic policy to reduce plastic production and prioritise reusable packaging. Will you join more than 30,000 people this March? Let's count our way to a cleaner future!

[Sign up for The Big Plastic Count](#)

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

Easter Day service

Easter Sunday this year is on 5 April which, being the first Sunday of the month, would normally be a Gathering in the hall. However, as it is Easter we will be having a special service of Parish Communion for Easter Sunday in the church – at 10am.

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 4 April

Diary for the Week Ahead

Sat	7 Mar	2.00pm	Saturday Social
			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
Mon	9 Mar		
Tues	10 Mar		
Wed	11 Mar	11.00am	Funeral of Margaret Lightowler
Thurs	12 Mar		
Fri	13 Mar	11.30am	Funeral of Arthur Lampkin
Sat	14 Mar		Alpha Course
			FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – MOTHERING SUNDAY
Sun	15 Mar	9.30am	Parish Communion
		10.30am	Tea and Coffee in the hall
		11.00am	Together @ 11
		4.00pm	Pizza Praise
		7.00pm	Sunday Life Group

Dates for the Diary

Mothering Sunday – 15 March

Palm Sunday – 29 March

Easter Activity Morning – 1 April

Good Friday - 3 April

Easter Sunday - 5 April