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# ST JAMES PARISH CHURCH, SILSDEN WEEKLY NEWS SHEET

SATURDAY 23 MAY 2026

Our Vision: Confident Christians, Growing in Christ and Making Him Known

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

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 @stjamesilsden

## Sunday 24 May - Pentecost

Readings for Pentecost 2026

Acts of the Apostles Chap 2 verses 1-21

Psalm 104 verses 26-end

1 Corinthians Chap 12 verses 3b - 13

Gospel of John Chap 20 verses 19-23 (or verses 37-39)

Sunday 24 May 2026

9.30am Parish Communion – led by Rev Pat

10.30am Tea and Coffee in the hall

11.00 am Together @11 – Pentecost: led by the Monday Life Group

### Services coming up

Sunday 31 May – Trinity Sunday	9.30am Parish Communion – led by Rev Simon  10.30am Tea and Coffee in the hall  11.00 am Together @11 – Our Stories episode 14 (Val and Brian), led by Michael
7 June	9.15am – Breakfast together in the Hall  10am – Gathering Service in the Hall: Environment Sunday  11am Holy Communion in the church  11am to 12 noon – into the Graveyard to carry out a survey for Churches Count on Nature

### Funerals at St James

On Friday 22 May the funeral of Gillian Egan was held at St James.

The funeral of Irene Sessford will be held at St James at 11am on Thursday 28 May.

Please consider the families in your prayers.

### New Chairs

The PCC has made the decision that we need to replace the ancient plastic chairs which we currently use in the hall. Can you fund a chair, or part of a chair? The price of one new chair is just under £34 and there is a sheet at the back of church where you can sign up to be a chair sponsor if you are in a position to, please.

Thank you to everyone who has signed up so far.

## **May Madness – Fun for the Whole Community!**

**27 May**

Join us on Wednesday 27 May, 9.30am – 12 noon in the hall at St James Church for May Madness — a relaxed and welcoming community event filled with coffee, cake, crafts, games, children’s activities, and plenty of opportunities to chat and connect.

Whether you pop in for a quick brew or stay for the whole morning, there’ll be something for all ages. Everyone is very welcome — come and join the madness!

Please see more information below.

### **Eco-Church**

Support pollinators. Nothing says Spring like the buzz of a bee! But these precious pollinators are declining due to habitat loss, climate change and agricultural intensification. Why not look around to see how you can improve habitats for bees and other pollinators? Read more about bees, butterflies and habitats that support them in our Target 25 resources at [arocha.org.uk/what-we-do/target-25](http://arocha.org.uk/what-we-do/target-25). Sow a pollinator friendly seed mix, make or buy a bee hotel, let some wild flowers grow in your garden, and don’t use pesticides. Pray that our pollinator populations will increase.

*For more practical ways to enjoy, nurture and defend nature, sign up to A Rocha UK’s Wild Christian email: [arocha.org.uk/wild-christian](mailto:arocha.org.uk/wild-christian)*

### **Churches Count on Nature**

Calling all plant, bug and bird watchers! Join us in the churchyard after the Gathering service on the 7th June to take part in the Churches Count on Nature. Last year we spotted over 40 different species of plants, animals, bugs and lichen in the churchyard. Let's see what we can discover this year!

### **Archdeacon’s Visitation Service**

Jayne and Neil will formally re-commit to the role of churchwarden for another 12 months at the visitation service at All Saints Ilkley at 7pm on Wednesday 17 June 2026. It would be lovely if members of the congregation could join Jayne Neil and Simon at this special service please.

### **Worship at the Homes**

These are the next series of dates and times for worship at the Homes.

June 2<sup>nd</sup> 10:30 at Springbank  
June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2:00 at Summerfield  
June 17<sup>th</sup> 2:00 at The Gables  
July 1<sup>st</sup> 2:00 at Summerfield  
July 7<sup>th</sup> July 10:30 at Summerfield  
July 15<sup>th</sup> 2:00 at The Gables

Please come along to support if you can

## **Confirmation Service at St Andrew's Kildwick**

Bishop Toby will be taking a confirmation service at St Andrew's Kildwick on Sunday 21 June at 2.30pm. We have members of the St James congregation who will be confirmed there. Please come and support them.

## **Sunday Life Group**

Sunday Life Group meets on Sunday at 7pm in the Hall as they finish the Confident Faith: Apologetics for Everyone course.

## **Prays for the week ahead**

As well as praying for the areas of Silsden set out below, please also pray for:

- May Madness event
- The confirmation course (3-2-1)
- Children and Youth work at St James
- Iraq – here's a prayer for Iraq
  - Almighty God, our family in Iraq continue to suffer so much. Strengthen the weary, encourage the fainthearted, and heal the hurting. As people navigate dangers and restrictions, wondering even whether it's safe to remain, direct their steps and reassure them of Your love and the good things You have for them. Protect our sisters and brothers, and may Christ in them, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:27), empower their faith and witness. Have Your way in Iraq, we pray. Amen.

## **Praying for Silsden**

We are continuing to pray, as a church, for the residents and businesses within the Parish, street-by-street and week-by-week.

This week's streets are:

Brunthwaite Lane  
Hawber Lane  
Swartha Lane

Please also pray for these streets in your own prayers. 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

## Silsden Supporting Families in Liberia – a thank you

A very big thank you to everyone who attended our coffee morning last Saturday, for further donations on Sunday and those who have donated in any way. It is greatly appreciated.

WE RAISED AN AMAZING GRAND TOTAL OF £417.50 which will be used for providing resources for the continuation and development of their training programmes.

EMMANUEL, HELEN, THOMAS AND THE TEAM of GKHI LIBERIA WISH TO EXTEND THEIR HEARTFELT THANKS TO YOU ALL

As do our team here

Joanna, Peter, Derek, Laura and Evangeline

## Our New Vision for St James Church

Our new vision for St James Silsden is **“Confident Christians, Growing in Christ, and Making Him Known”**.

What exactly does this mean?

**Confident Christians:** **Confident** in who God is, and **confident** in who we are. God is the bedrock, the foundation of all reality, and the one on whom we build our lives. Our Christian journey is to learn to trust in Him and lean on Him in greater dependency. Our identity in Christ flows from out of who God is. The more we know who God is, the more we know who we are, the more **confident** we become.

**Growing in Christ:** **Jesus** used arable metaphors in abundance. As Christians we are planted in the good soil of the gospel, and our primary work is to **grow** and bear good fruit. This is often called “sanctification”, the work of becoming **more like Christ**. As a church we must ask ourselves how, whatever we are doing, helps us to **grow** in **Christ’s likeness**.

**Making Him Known:** In the Great Commission Christ calls us to **make disciples** of all nations. Each of us is called to this great work of **being a labourer** in the harvest; **witnessing for Christ** in the specific places and contexts He has called us. As a church we should be urging one another on in this endeavour, and equipping each other to be **bold in witness, sharing the love of Christ** wherever we find ourselves.

### Regular church events

Thursday Group	The fourth Thursday of each month at 2pm	Next one Thursday 28 May 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 5 June
Saturday Social	First Saturday of the month – 2pm until 4pm	Next one Saturday 6 June
PCC Meetings	Fourth Tuesday of the month – at 7.30pm	Next one Tuesday 23 June
Mothers' Union	Third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm	Next one 18 June
Work Days	Third Saturday of the month – 2pm to 4pm	Next one Saturday 20 June
Saturday Morning Prayers	The day before the Gathering (so always a Saturday!) – 9am	Next one Saturday 6 June

### Diary for the week ahead

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Sat	23 May		
			<b>PENTECOST</b>
Sun	24 May	9.30am	Parish Communion
		10.30am	Tea and coffee in the hall
		11.00am	Together @ 11
		7pm	Sunday Life Group (meets in the Hall)
Mon	25 May		
Tues	26 May		
Weds	27 May		
Thurs	28 May	2pm	Thursday Group
Fri	29 May		
Sat	30 May		
			<b>TRINITY SUNDAY</b>
Sun	31 May	9.30am	Parish Communion
		10.30am	Tea and coffee in the hall
		11.00am	Together @ 11
			<b>June</b>
Mon	1 June		
Tues	2 June	10.30am	Worship at Springbank
Weds	3 June	2pm	Worship at Summerfield

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# MAY MADNESS

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Join us for a fun-filled morning of refreshments, conversation, and community



 **ST JAMES** Silsden :: **Weds 27th May** :: **9.30 AM - 12 NOON**

## FAMILY CRAFTS, GAMES & ACTIVITIES!



REFRESHMENTS FOR EVERYONE



CRAFTS & COLOURING



GAMES & ACTIVITIES



SPACE TO CHAT AND CONNECT

Everyone welcome | Free entry & refreshments  
Hosted by St James Church



# Tea & Tablets



Free weekly  
beginner's group for  
senior citizens on  
how to use computer  
tablets and phones.

## Silsden Town Hall

Tuesday 19 May – Tuesday 7 July

10:00 – 12:00

in a relaxed setting with  
tea and biscuits!

For more information, or to **book your place**, visit Silsden Library or call them during hours on 01535 654 131

