

you, family or friends can help with management of our websites (namely St James'), the physical practicalities of moving tables/chairs etc and help with any potential new projects for mission and outreach, please have a chat with Kevin.

Next of Kin Forms: Forms are at the back of church if you wish to complete one. The form will only be accessed Kevin and your Parish Safeguarding Officer in the event of an emergency.

Lent Course and Optional Lenten Meal: Our first session will be on Monday March 10th at 6.00pm to watch the film 'The Shack.' Why not come an hour earlier with your own food and join us as we gather and enjoy our own simple meal. Teas and coffees will be provided.

Sabbatical: Kevin will be taking a 3-month sabbatical starting at the beginning of May 2025 and will return at the end of July. In practical terms it means he will not be in the benefice for that time, services will be covered by clergy and this will mean a temporary change to service times and locations - keep checking the notice sheets.

Emergency Evacuation in Church: One Sunday in the near future we will be testing our Fire Evacuation plan to ensure that its robust enough to ensure your safety. A quick question for you, **where is the nearest first aid box to where you are sitting?**

St James' Light Lunch is Back: A date for your diary, Thursday March 27th starting 12noon – 2.00pm. All are welcome to come along and enjoy a 3-course meal and great company for only £8.00, no need to book.

Pastoral Comment: As we prepare for the start of Lent, don't forget to attend our Ash Wednesday Service and if possible, our Lent course. If you find yourself struggling to eat all your chocolate, biscuits and crisps (only Seabrook) in the larder Kevin has humbly agreed to eat them on your behalf.

Confirmation Candidates: Have you been baptised (Christened) but as a young person or adult haven't been Confirmed. The Confirmation Service is very similar to a baptism (without the holy water) in as much as you confirm the vows that were made on your behalf by your parents and godparents. The Confirmation Course will be at St James' and led by Kevin later in the year. If you are wanting to take the next step in your relationship with God, please have a chat with Kevin.

The United Benefice of Chapelthorpe and Woolley with West Bretton

Sunday before Lent

2nd March 2025

First Reading: Exodus 34: 29-end

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterwards all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 99

- 1 **The Lord is king: let the peoples tremble; ♦
he is enthroned above the cherubim: let the earth shake.**
- 2 **The Lord is great in Zion ♦
and high above all peoples.**
- 3 **Let them praise your name, which is great and awesome; ♦
the Lord our God is holy.**
- 4 **Mighty king, who loves justice,
you have established equity; ♦
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**
- 5 **Exalt the Lord our God; ♦
bow down before his footstool, for he is holy.**
- 6 **Moses and Aaron among his priests
and Samuel among those who call upon his name; ♦
they called upon the Lord and he answered them.**
- 7 **He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; ♦
they kept his testimonies and the law that he gave them.**
- 8 **You answered them, O Lord our God; ♦
you were a God who forgave them**

and pardoned them for their offences.

9 Exalt the Lord our God

**and worship him upon his holy hill, ♦
for the Lord our God is holy.**

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 3.12-4.2

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The Gospel: Luke 9.28-43a

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah' not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen. On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, 'Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It throws him into convulsions until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.' Jesus

answered, 'You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here.' While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God. While everyone was amazed at all that he was doing, he said to his disciples.

Services

Week Commencing March 2nd – Sunday next before Lent

Wednesday St James' 10.30am: Combined Ash Wednesday Service. Which is the beginning of Lent. Please note there are no other services or Bible study today. You are encouraged to continue the first day of Lent in prayer and silent reflection at home.

Thursday St James' 10.00am: Funeral of the late Rita smith.

Week Commencing March 9th – First Sunday in Lent

Sunday St Peter's 9.15am – Eucharist

St James' 11.00am – Eucharist

**Wednesday St James 10.30am – Eucharist with healing oils
11.20am Bible Study**

For Your Prayers

For the recently sick: Nicola Davies, Janice Haigh, Anne Boulton, Marjorie Crossley.

For the long-term sick: Lilly Mitchell, Trevor Greig, John Seacome, Graham Beynon-Fisher, John Garthwaite, Barbara Cressey, Charlotte Docster.

Recently departed: Rita Smith.

In Memory, whose anniversaries fall at this time.

St James':

St Peter's: Margaret Hoyland.

Notices

Used ink cartridges can be recycled in aid of the Parkinson's Society. Please pass yours to Nick Clews at St James.

Volunteers are Needed: We have a small band of dedicated volunteers within the benefice who give their time and skills to ensure that roles are covered on the PCC, mission and outreach activities happen and that your churches are ready to open for services. As a benefice we cannot keep asking more and more of these volunteers. If