

situation, so that guidance can be given to the PCC on what options we may need to consider.

**Messy Church Planning Meeting:** St James' 29th Jan at 6.30pm, for those who have already volunteered as we plan for our Easter session (end of March).

**Men Behaving Godly:** A new men's group that will meet monthly in an environment that may be more comfortable for some i.e. the pub! We will chew the cud and talk about God, the world and anything else. Our first informal meeting is at The Bay Horse on Stoney Lane - Tuesday 30th January at 7.00pm. Who knows the vicar might even get you a drink – just be ready to catch the moths from his wallet!

**St James' God's Caf:** Volunteers are needed for a new expression of Mission and Outreach in the benefice. It is especially for individuals who normally do not come to church as they think it maybe too formal, they are worried what to say and do, when to sit or stand and don't forget the big elephant in the room "you expect me to sing in public." Well they are not alone as the Vicar sometimes thinks some of them himself. God's Caf will be an informal service which starts with a free choice of sandwiches with various soups and a hot brew and a friendly chat. Individuals will be asked if they want anyone praying for, informal prayers will be then offered to God. Two alternative songs from Christian Worship will be listened to. If you would be interested in volunteering please come to the Volunteers Meeting on Thurs 22nd Feb at 6pm in church to find out more.

**Holy Week Mon** 25th March – Good Friday: Advanced notice that there are to be no social activities this week in any of our churches. As we journey through The Passion there should be no distractions as we look towards the Cross.

**St James' Messy Church Easter:** Will now be on Wednesday 27th March at 5pm, cost per child will be £3. Bookings are now being taken, please email [kevin.greaves@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:kevin.greaves@leeds.anglican.org)

**Light Lunch:** The next luncheon will be in March.

#### **Do follow our social media accounts**

Websites: [www.stjameschapelthorpe.org.uk](http://www.stjameschapelthorpe.org.uk) and [www.woolleychurch.org.uk](http://www.woolleychurch.org.uk)  
Facebook: St Peter's Facebook page: 'Woolley church - St Peter's'  
St James' Facebook page: 'St James Parish of Chapelthorpe'

## **The United Benefice of Chapelthorpe and Woolley with West Bretton**

**Candlemass**

**28th January 2024**

### **First Reading: Malachi 3: 1-5**

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like washers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord, as in the days of old and as in former years. Then I will draw near to you for judgment; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

### **Psalm: 24: 7-end**

**Refrain: The Lord of hosts: he is the King of glory.**

7 Lift up your heads, O gates;  
be lifted up, you everlasting doors; ♦  
and the King of glory shall come in.

8 'Who is the King of glory?' ♦

'The Lord, strong and mighty,  
the Lord who is mighty in battle.'

9 Lift up your heads, O gates;  
be lifted up, you everlasting doors; ♦  
and the King of glory shall come in.

10 'Who is this King of glory?' ♦

'The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.'

**Refrain: The Lord of hosts: he is the King of glory.**

O Lord of hosts, purify our hearts that the King of glory may come in, your Son, Jesus our redeemer. **Amen**

### **Second Reading: Hebrews 2: 14-end**

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in

slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

### **The Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed and a sword will pierce your own soul too." There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

### **Services**

**Week Commencing 28th January – Candlemass**

**The Church in West Bretton:** Eucharist at 9.15am

**St James':** Eucharist at 11am

**Wednesday St James':** Midweek Said Eucharist and followed by Bible Study.

**Week Commencing 4th February – 2nd before Lent**

**St Peter's:** Eucharist at 9.15am

**St James':** Eucharist at 11am

**Wednesday St James':** Midweek Said Eucharist and followed by Bible Study.  
**Cancelled**

### **Advanced Notice**

**St Peter's:** Ash Wednesday (with Eucharist) at 6pm combined service. Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent when all Christians are called to attend Church Services. It marks the start of our journey in the wilderness and within the service we are reminded of our own frailty and the redeeming love of God.

During Lent there will be some changes to existing services and some additional ones. Please ensure that you take these sheets home with you, so you are aware of any changes

### **For Your Prayers**

**For the recently sick:** Janette Collins

**For the long-term sick:** Annalease Aspden, The Reverend Canon Roger Cressey, Barbara Cressey, Graham Beynon-Fisher, Mary-Rose Lacoux,

**Recently departed:** Beryl Wright

**In Memory, whose anniversaries fall at this time.**

**St James':**

**St Peter's:** Jesse Davis

### **Notices**

**St James' Parochial Church Council (PCC) Appeal:** Members of this meeting are Trustees of the church and represent you as a congregation to ensure your voice is heard and that feedback is timely given back to yourselves. Some of the trustees hold mandatory roles so the church can function. These are required by The Church of England and The Charities Commission. We have two vacancies one for PCC Secretary and the other of Church Treasurer. If you know anyone who might be interested or you want more information please contact in the first instance The Revd. Kevin Greaves who is chair.

Regrettably at this time no one has volunteered for either post, shortly therefore Kevin will need to make Bishop Tony and Church House Leeds aware of the situation, so that guidance can be given to the PCC on what options we may need to consider.