

*St Thomas's Osbaldwick and St James's Murton*  
*Churches with a heart - at the heart of our communities*

*An Inclusive Church*

**Pew Sheet for Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024**

**SUNDAY 21<sup>st</sup> APRIL 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**

10am Family Holy Communion

*Readings Acts 4: 5—12. John 10: 11—18.*

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April**

09.30 Playgroup (Baby and Toddlers Group)

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April** 10am Coffee Drop-in

**SUNDAY 28<sup>th</sup> APRIL 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**

10am Holy Communion at St Thomas's

*Readings Acts 8: 26—40. John 15: 1—8.*

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April**

2pm Parish Fellowship

**Sunday Reflection** Every week the York Diocese offers a new reflective prayer video for your personal use. This week the Ven. Andy Broom, Archdeacon of the East Riding, reflects on John 10.11—18 for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, 21st April. For the reflection please go to:

[vimeo.com/dioceseforyork](https://vimeo.com/dioceseforyork).



The Parish of St Thomas Osbaldwick with St James Murton has recently applied to join the Inclusive Church Network.

We believe in **inclusive church** – a church which **celebrates and affirms every person** and does not discriminate against people on grounds of **disability, economic power, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality.**

We believe in a Church which **welcomes and serves all people** in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ.”

**Prayers for the Week Ahead**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**

As I come to you today, may I centre myself on you again, O God.

Help me to turn aside from the busy-ness and business of the day, to meet with you again in this space.

Come here, Holy and remarkable God, By your Spirit I pray.

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**

Look at your hands, perhaps hold them open before you for a moment.

How have you used your hands today? Has it been to make the world a better place, or not?

How could you use your hands for the rest of this day, and this week, to plant seeds of hope – literal or metaphorical?

Pray for the courage to be involved in life-giving wherever you can.

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April**



**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April**

Gracious God, today I pray for all those who work in medicine and medical care.

For ambulance drivers, doctors, nurses, other hospital staff, for people working on research and in labs, for administrators and medics everywhere. As they seek to heal, to mend, to care for, and relieve suffering, May they know something of your grace in their lives.

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April**

Seek stillness today. As often as you can, and for as long as you can, try to hold moments of silent prayer. Do not try to say any words, or hear anything in particular.

Just hold the stillness. If it helps you to focus on your breathing, or a particular mantra, do that, otherwise, just still your mind and be present.

Be still and know that I am God.

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April**

God of all grace and wisdom,

Show me what is mine to do this day - help me to see clearly where it is my place to step forward, and where it is appropriate for me to step back.

Teach me to follow in your footsteps as a Good Shepherd in my family, community and world. Amen.

## Collect and Readings for 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

### Collect and Prayer for the week

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ  
is the resurrection and the life:  
raise us, who trust in him,  
from the death of sin  
to the life of righteousness,  
that we may seek  
those things which are above,  
where he reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*All readings are from Bible Gateway NRSV*

### Acts 4: 5—12

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.

This Jesus is  
"the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;

it has become the cornerstone."

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### John 10: 11—18

Jesus said, 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

This is the Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to Christ our Lord.**

### Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Father,  
you gave your Son Jesus Christ  
to be the good shepherd,  
and in his love for us  
to lay down his life and rise again:  
keep us always under his protection,  
and give us grace to follow in his steps;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### Before you leave church— after the service:

May I know the Christ at work in my life – may I come to see the Spirit flowing through me. May I feel the transformative love at work in my life.

And may the grace and peace of God go before me, within me, around me and through me,

An Easter person! May I go in peace. **Amen.**

