

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

*An Inclusive Church — All are Welcome*

**Pew Sheet for Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March - First Sunday of Lent**

10am Holy Communion at St Thomas's

4pm Evening Worship at James's

*Readings: Romans 10: 8b—13. Luke 4: 1—13.*

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

10am Church and Churchyard Cleaning

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March**

09.30am Playgroup - St Thomas's

12.30 Soup and Jacket Potato Lunch at St James's.

7pm Murton Parish Council at St James's

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March**

10.00am Coffee Drop-in - St Thomas's

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March**

10.30am Chairobics - St Thomas's

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March - Second Sunday of Lent**

10am Family Communion at St Thomas's

*Reading: Jesus tells a story - The Prodigal Son*

**Looking ahead....**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March** Nominations open for Church Wardens and PCC Members. Nominations close on 30<sup>th</sup> March.

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** Buffet Lunch at St Thomas's (after morning service). Please see the noticeboard for further details.

**6.30pm** The Gospel of Mark. A dramatic presentation of the complete gospel, at Christ Church, Stockton Lane. See poster on notice board.

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March** 7pm Annual Parochial Church Council meeting.

**Archbishop of York calls for prayer and solidarity with Ukraine.**

The Archbishop of York has assured the people and churches of Ukraine of the prayers and solidarity of the Church of England this Lent.

Calling for a just and lasting peace that protects the sovereignty, security and freedom of Ukraine and its people, the Archbishop affirmed the role of Ukraine's churches in striving for peace. The Archbishop also called for prayer for the Church of

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England [Diocese in Europe](#), which includes Ukraine and Russia.

Read the Archbishop's statement in full:

"As we enter the season of Lent, I want to assure the people and churches of Ukraine of the ongoing prayers and solidarity of the Church of England. At this time of great political uncertainty and change, we stand with them in their call for a just and lasting peace that provides for the sovereignty, security and freedom of Ukraine and its people.

"Even in times of war, it is the role of the Church to be a peacemaker. We understand that peace is not the mere absence of war, but the presence of justice and the conditions for human flourishing. Europe's painful and bloody history has shown that for a peace to be just, it needs to address the reasons leading to war rather than sowing the seeds of the next conflict. It must be negotiated with all relevant countries. For a peace to be lasting it needs to be cultivated and maintained, with the ongoing commitment of all parties.

"The churches of Ukraine have a vital role to play in working for justice and peace, even as they continue to suffer under the full-scale Russian invasion, and they remain in our prayers each day. Meanwhile churches in the UK and across Europe continue to provide support and hospitality to thousands of Ukrainian refugees. Please pray too for the Church of England Diocese in Europe, which includes Ukraine and Russia, and its ministry of caring for Ukrainian refugees and all those affected by this devastating war.

"We also continue to pray for world leaders as they try to bring this war in Ukraine to an end and negotiate a pathway to peace. Help them, O Lord, to affirm our common humanity by recommitting to the rules laid down in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. May their efforts contribute to a fairer, more just and more peaceful Europe and world."

**A Prayer for Ukraine**

God of peace and justice,  
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.  
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.  
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,  
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.  
We pray for those with power over war or peace,  
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide  
their decisions.  
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk  
and in fear,  
that you would hold and protect them.  
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.  
**Amen**

## ***Collect and Readings for First Sunday of Lent***

### **Collect and Prayer for the week**

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in  
the wilderness,  
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:  
give us grace to discipline ourselves in  
obedience to your Spirit;  
and, as you know our weakness,  
so may we know your power to save;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*All readings are from Bible Gateway - NRSV .*

### **Romans 10:8b-13**

“The word is near you,  
on your lips and in your heart”  
(that is, the word of faith that we  
proclaim); because if you confess with your  
lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your  
heart that God raised him from the dead,  
you will be saved. For one believes with the  
heart and so is justified, and one confesses  
with the mouth and so is saved. The  
scripture says, “No one who believes in him  
will be put to shame.” For there is no  
distinction between Jew and Greek; the  
same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to  
all who call on him. For, “Everyone who  
calls on the name of the Lord shall be  
saved.”

For the word of the Lord:  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **Luke 4:1-13**

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from  
the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the  
wilderness, where for forty days he was  
tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all  
during those days, and when they were  
over, he was famished. The devil said to  
him, “If you are the Son of God, command  
this stone to become a loaf of bread.” Jesus  
answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not  
live by bread alone.’”

Then the devil led him up and showed him  
in an instant all the kingdoms of the

world. And the devil said to him, “To you I will give  
their glory and all this authority; for it has been  
given over to me, and I give it to anyone I  
please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be  
yours.” Jesus answered him, “It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.’”

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed  
him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him,  
“If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down  
from here, for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,  
to protect you,’ and ‘On their hands they will  
bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot  
against a stone.’”

Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the  
Lord your God to the test.’” When the devil had  
finished every test, he departed from him until an  
opportune time.

This is the Gospel of Christ  
**Praise to Christ our Lord**

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Lord God,  
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;  
by it you nourish our faith,  
increase our hope,  
and strengthen our love:  
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living  
bread,  
and enable us to live by every word  
that proceeds from out of your mouth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **Sunday Reflection**

Every week, the Diocese of York offers a new reflection and  
prayer resource on video, for personal use. Find the video  
at: [vimeo.com/dioceseofyork](https://vimeo.com/dioceseofyork).

**Diocesan Prayer diary**—This week join in prayer with  
the church throughout our diocese for:

**Church of England:** Diocese of Chelmsford, Bishop Guli  
Francis-Dehqani, Bishop Roger Morris, Bishop Lynne  
Cullens, Bishop Adam Atkinson.

**Church of Sweden:** Diocese of Karlstad, Bishop Sören  
Dalev.

**South Africa Link:** Provincial Synod of South Africa  
Find reflections and daily prayers:

[dioceseofyork.org.uk/diocesan-prayer-diary](https://dioceseofyork.org.uk/diocesan-prayer-diary)