

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 16th March 2025

Sunday 16th March - Second Sunday of Lent

10am Family Communion at St Thomas's

Reading: Jesus tells a story - The Prodigal Son

Wednesday 19th March

09.30am Playgroup - St Thomas's

Thursday 20th March

10.00am Coffee Drop-in - St Thomas's

Friday 21st March

10.30am Chairbics - St Thomas's

Sunday 23rd March - Second Sunday of Lent

10am Morning Service at St Thomas's

Followed by Buffet Lunch. Please see the noticeboard for further details.

Reading: Isaiah 55: 1—9. Luke:13: 1—9

Looking ahead....

Sunday 23rd March

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

Tuesday 25th March

Parish Fellowship 2pm at St Thomas's. Speaker Ian Hutchings will talk about St Thomas.



Monday 31st March 7pm Annual Parochial Church Council meeting at St Thomas's.

Opening Prayer

God of all grace, let me be still, And bring myself into this space of worship and stillness. *[Quiet]*.

God is everywhere, in this space and all spaces. In this time and all times. God is waiting to meet you and is ready to welcome you just as it has been for all eternity. So be still. *[Quiet]*.

Get ready to notice the spirit working through words on the page. Through sounds around you Through familiar and unfamiliar smells. Through all that you see when you look up from what you are reading. Through the touch of your hands as you hold them together to pray. So be still. *[Quiet]*.

God of all time and space I notice you here. I am ready. **Amen**

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.**

Closing Prayer

May I go out in peace, and see the world made anew. May I meet with a community, a family, a society crying out for some love, looking to encounter the living God. May I go out to discover God's spirit is at work throughout our world, and be transformed by your encounter with that same Spirit. May I go, by the grace of God. **Amen.**



Collect and Reading

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.

The Parable of the Prodigal Son from St Luke's Gospel

¹¹ And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."' ²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ "Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him

back safe and sound.' ²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹ but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' ³¹ And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all adversities
which may happen to the body,
and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul;
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. This week Archbishop Stephen reflects on Luke 13: 31—35 for the Second Sunday of Lent.

Find the video at: vimeo.com/dioceseforyork.

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

Church of England: Diocese of Lichfield, Bishop Michael Ipgrave, Bishop Timothy Wambunya, Bishop Sarah Bullock, Bishop Matthew Parker, Bishop Paul Thomas.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Latvia: Archbishop Jānis Vanags, Bishop Einārs Alpe, Bishop Hanss Martins Jensons, Bishop Rinalds Grants, Bishop Uldis Gailitis

Church in Wales: Diocese of St David's, Bishop Dorrien Davies

South Africa Link: Archdeaconry of Paarl; Diocese of Saldanha Bay.

Find reflections and daily prayers:

dioceseforyork.org.uk/diocesan-prayer-diary