## 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 27th April 2025

## Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April - Second Sunday of Easter

10am Easter Praise at St Thomas's.

#### Wednesday 30th April

9.30am Playgroup —at St Thomas's.

#### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May

10.00am Coffee Drop-in - St Thomas's

#### Sunday 4th May - Third Sunday of Easter - If you have chance today, head outside and look at the

8am Holy Communion at St Thomas's

10am Morning Prayer at St Thomas's.

Readings: Acts 9: 1-6. John 21: 1-19

#### **Advanced Notices**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May** Please note that because this is a Bank Holiday — Church Cleaning and the PCC meeting will take place the following Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May.

#### **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.

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

**Church of Sweden:** Diocese of Gothenburg, Bishop Susanne Rappmann

Scottish Episcopal Church: Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway, Bishop-elect Revd Canon Dr John Nicholas Bundock.

**South Africa Link**: Bishop of Table Bay, The Rt Revd Joshua Louw

Find reflections and daily prayers:

dioceseofyork.org.uk/diocesan-prayer-diary



#### **Prayers and Prayer Pointers**

#### Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April

- Today, why not take up the mantra: 'Here I am, send me.'
- Your prayer activity for today is to try to say those 5 words aloud or in your head as many times as you can during the day. Say them as a prayer. Say them as an invitation. Say them as a way of stilling your busy brain to focus on God's still, small voice.
- Here I am. Send me.

#### Tuesday 29th April

- If you have chance today, head outside and look at the sky (ideally not when it's pouring with rain!). Take note of the clouds, of the speed they are moving, of the light the sun is casting, perhaps you can see the moon or some stars if it is after sunset.
- Under the vastness of the open sky, reflect on how far away the clouds are, and how much further the sun and the stars are...
- As you look at the huge expanse of the horizon, think about how much bigger our Creator is, how the God we worship knows each one of us and yet is also holding the whole universe together.

#### Wednesday 30th April

- God is everywhere, if only you could be still enough to notice. Today, your challenge is to notice.
- Look for God in the sunrise, the birdsong, the taste of pizza, the comfort of your sofa, the embrace of a loved one, a text message that makes you smile...whatever it is.
- Notice.

#### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May

- Step out from your time of quiet prayer and reflection into the light and life of God, at the start of this new month.
- May God's life be in your heart, may God's light be in your eyes and may life and light go from you to others. Amen.

#### Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

- Holy God, you have called me here, in this moment, this day, this Friday.

Lord of life, I see you at work in the world around me.

Open my eyes, and open my heart, that I may be ready to receive your Spirit into my life. Amen.

#### Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

- Take a moment to look at your hands. Reflect on the things you have used them for already this week: to do housework, to write emails, to make phone calls, perhaps some digging in the garden or some manual labour tasks.
- Thank you God, for these hands. Help me to use them as your hands in the world to use my body, my mind, my whole life, for the building of your Kingdom here on earth. Amen.

### The Second Sunday of Easter

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

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

#### A prayer for Pope Francis

A prayer following the death of His Holiness Pope Francis, giving thanks for his life of ministry.



Father in heaven, we praise your name for all who have finished this life loving and trusting you, for the example of their lives, the life and grace you gave them and the peace in which they rest.

We praise you today for your servant Francis and for all that you did through him.

Meet us in our sadness and fill our hearts with praise and thanksgiving, for the sake of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

Into your hands, O merciful Saviour, we commend your servant Francis.
Acknowledge, we pray, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming.
Enfold him in the arms of your mercy, in the blessed rest of everlasting peace and in the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen.

Taken from the Church of England website.