

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

An Inclusive Church — All are Welcome

Pew Sheet for Sunday 3rd August 2025

Sunday 3rd August - Trinity 7

8am Holy Communion at St Thomas's

10am Café Church at St Thomas's

Readings: Ecclesiastes 1: 2, 12—14, 18—23. Luke 12: 13—21.

Monday 4th August 10am Church and Churchyard cleaning at St Thomas's

Wednesday 6th August

9.30am Playgroup

Thursday 7th August

10am Coffee Drop-in — at St Thomas's

Sunday 10th August - Trinity 8

10am Holy Communion at St Thomas's

4pm Evening Prayer at St James's

Readings: Isaiah 1: 1, 10—20. Luke 12: 32—40

Advance notices

Saturday 23rd August 2.30pm Afternoon Tea at St James's in aid of the Church Restoration Fund

Emergency First Aid Training. The one day first aid course will take place on Saturday 4th October in St Thomas's Church. We currently have 5 places remaining. If you would like to fill one of these places please pass your name to David Jackson.

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

Church of England: Diocese of Bristol, Bishop Vivienne Faull, Bishop Neil Warwick

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland: Diocese of Helsinki, Bishop Teemu Laajasalo

South Africa Link: Anglican Church of Southern Africa (ACSA) St Mary Magdalene Guild Executive. Named in honour of St. Mary Magdalene, the guild focuses on empowering women and fostering a strong sense of community

Find reflections and daily prayers:

dioceseofyork.org.uk/diocesan-prayer-diary

Hymn to be used at Café Church

Let my spirit always sing,
though my heart be wintering,
though the season of despair
gave no sign that you are there,
God to whom my days belong,
let there always be a song.

Though my body be confined,
let your word engage my mind,
let the inner eye discern
how much more there is to learn,
see a world becoming whole
through the window of the soul.

Let your wisdom grace my years,
choose my words and chase my fears,
give me wit to welcome change,
to accept, and not estrange,
let my joy be full and deep
in the knowledge that I keep.

Let my spirit always sing,
to your Spirit answering,
through the silence, through the pain
know my hope is not in vain,
like a feather on your breath
trust your love, through life and death.

Words by Shirley Erena Murray

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Responding in prayer

Loving and gracious God, as I pray today, I do so in the name of Jesus, the Lord of love, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, trusting that your steadfast love endures forever.

I pray for all situations of war and conflict, remembering especially today all those affected by the conflict in Ukraine, and all working to bring peace. For the people of Gaza and the West Bank. For those living in fear of escalating conflict across the Middle East and around the world. For the people of Yemen, and South Sudan. Comfort those who are suffering and give strength to all who seek to offer love, peace and healing. Come close to those in need and make me, and the society we live in generous to respond from whatever resources we have.

Loving and gracious God, I offer these prayers to you today in the name of Jesus, the Lord of love, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, trusting that your steadfast love endures forever.

Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

Collect and Readings 7th Sunday of Trinity

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Collect and Prayer for the week

Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
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 the NRSV

Ecclesiastes 1: 2, 12–14; 2: 18–23

² Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18} I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me ¹⁹—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labours under the sun, ²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

For the word of the Lord:
Thanks be to God

Luke 12: 13–21

¹³Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, ‘Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.’ ¹⁴But he said to him, ‘Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?’ ¹⁵And he said to them, ‘Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.’ ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: ‘The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, “What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?” ¹⁸Then he said, “I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.” ²⁰But God said to him, “You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?” ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.’

This is the Gospel of Christ:

Praise to Christ our Lord.

Post Communion

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life,
ever giving himself that the world may live:
may we so receive within ourselves
the power of his death and passion
that, in his saving cup,
we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen

Closing Prayer

God of this special time, I rise from this moment,
Knowing that worship does not cease here, in fact it is only just getting started.
So, as I go from this place,
May I remember that the Spirit of God goes before me,
inviting me to play my part in the unfolding story of love.
Help me to notice you, O God,
Amen.