

*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 14<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September - Holy Cross Day**

10am Holy Communion at St Thomas's

4pm Evening Worship at St James's

*Readings: Numbers 21: 4—9. John 3: 13—17*

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September Derwent Deanery Quiet Day** (see notice board in St Thomas's)

7.15pm Osbaldwick Parish Council at St Thomas's

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August**

09.30am Playgroup at St Thomas's

7pm Murton Parish Council at St James's

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September**

10am Coffee Drop-in — at St Thomas's

1pm Funeral

2pm Choir Practice

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September**

10am Chairiobics at St Thomas's

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September at St Thomas's TABLE TOP SALE OF CHILDRENS TOYS AND CLOTHES.** This event is organised by the Playgroup and in aid of Church funds.

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist**

10am Family Communion at St Thomas's

*Reading: St Matthew and his money.*

6.30pm Deanery Contemporary Worship at Holy Trinity Elvington

**Prayers for the coming week**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September**

In many island and coastal communities, there are strong traditions of drawing comparisons between the presence of the divine, and the vastness of the sea. If you've ever spent time on, or near, the ocean, it is easy to see why!

Spend some time today looking at a picture of the sea, or find a video of waves rolling against the shoreline (or just use your imagination!) – what do you think these visuals can teach you about God? Pray about your reflections.

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September**

Lord of all faithfulness,

Today I take a moment to look back at my story, To notice your hand at work in my life at various points.

Carry me, this day, I pray. Amen.

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September**

Use one of the monotonous tasks of today as a prayer – it might be that you are washing up, or ironing, or sweeping up leaves in the garden. Let your brain be still, and listen for God's calm voice in the midst of the ongoing monotony of the task.

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September**

Today, let our prayers be for all those working in tackling cancer in all its forms – supporting those affected by the disease, researching cures and treatments, and providing for families and carers. Thank you, Lord, for their patience and service.

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September**

At the end of this week, I give you thanks, O God, for the little glimpses of glory across the last few days. Amongst all that has happened, I take a few moments to notice my own gratitude and to give you the praise and the glory. Thank you Lord, Amen.

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September**

Today, let your prayers be for all involved in providing humanitarian aid – particularly where they are putting their own lives at risk to help those in need after an emergency or war. Perhaps there are some particular organisations or people you know involved in this work, hold them in prayer today.

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

**Funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund**



Celebration Event for the Oral History Project and the unveiling of the Parish Map at St Thomas's. 2pm to 4pm.

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

**Church of England:** Diocese of Bath and Wells, Bishop Michael Beasley

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark:** Diocese of Ribe, Bishop Elob Westergaard

**South Africa Link:** The Church Men's Society Anglican Church of Southern Africa (ACSA). Find reflections and daily prayers:

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



## ***Collect and Readings for Holy Cross Day***

**Almighty God, you search us and know us: may we rely on you in strength and rest on you in weakness, now and in all our days; through Jesus Christ**

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

Almighty God,  
who in the passion of your blessed Son  
made an instrument of painful death  
to be for us the means of life and peace:  
grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ  
that we may gladly suffer for his sake;  
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*

### **Numbers 21.4–9**

<sup>4</sup> From Mount Hor, Moses and the people of Israel set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.' <sup>6</sup>Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the Lord said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.' <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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

### **Holy Cross Day**

The cross on which our Lord was crucified has become the universal symbol for Christianity, replacing the fish symbol of the early church, though the latter has been revived in recent times. After the end of the persecution era, early in the fourth century, pilgrims began to travel to Jerusalem to visit and pray at the places associated with the life of Jesus. Helena, the mother of the emperor, was a Christian and, whilst overseeing excavations in the city, is said to have uncovered a cross, which many believed to be the Cross of Christ. A basilica was built on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and dedicated in the year 335.

### **John 3: 13–17**

<sup>13</sup> Jesus said to Nicodemus, 'No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.' <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup> 'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

This is the Gospel of Christ:

**Praise to Christ our Lord.**

### **Post Communion**

Faithful God,  
whose Son bore our sins in his body on the tree  
and gave us this sacrament to show forth his  
death until he comes:  
give us grace to glory in the cross of our Lord  
Jesus Christ,  
for he is our salvation, our life and our hope,  
who reigns as Lord, now and for ever. **Amen**

### **At the end of the service you may like to pray:**

May I go out from here, and follow in the way of  
God's grace and peace and love.

By the Spirit of God who goes with, before and  
beyond me.

May I join in with the big divine story of love, today  
and everyday. **Amen.**

