

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 23rd March 2025

Sunday 23rd March - Third 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

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.

Wednesday 26th March

09.30am Playgroup - St Thomas's

12.30pm Soup and Jacket Potato at St James's

Thursday 27th March

10.00am Coffee Drop-in - St Thomas's

Friday 28th March

10.30am Chairbics - St Thomas's

Sunday 30th March - Fourth Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday

10am Holy Communion with Prayers for Healing at St Thomas's.

Flowers and Cards will be distributed during the service with an opportunity to light a candle in memory of loved ones.

Reading: Exodus 2: 1—10. John:19: 25—27

Looking ahead....

25th April - Deanery Quiet Time at St Helen's Church, Wheldrake —10.00-1.00pm with Revd Sybille Batten, Chaplain of Holy Rood House.

Prayers and Pointers

Monday 24th March

- Open your Bible at the Psalms and read one as a prayer to God. What resonates with you? Consider in what ways these old words feel new to you and offer them to God.

Tuesday 25th March

- Go outdoors and find something natural: a stone, leaf, flower, or something else.

Consider the ways God has made this thing and then reflect on how you too are wonderfully made by God. What does this mean to you?

Wednesday 26th March

- Look up a hymn or worship song on YouTube or in a hymn book and sit and listen or read the words aloud: don't do anything else while you listen. Let your mind, body and soul tune into God through the music in prayer.

Thursday 27th March

- Light a candle. Jesus is the light of the world. Pray about the places you experience darkness in your life, that Jesus light might shine there.

Friday 28th March

- Go litter picking. Each bit of litter you pick up is working to bring God's Kingdom in that place. As you pick up the litter, pray about what it might mean for God's will for this place to be done.

Saturday 29th March

- Think about how God is at work in the lives of everyone. You can see God shining out from all people. Remember this with the next person you speak to, and give thanks for the glimpses of God you see in them.



Sammi Tooze Discipleship and Strategy Adviser for the Diocese of York writes:

As part of Archbishop Stephen's Lord's Prayer Tour with Faith in the North, we have arranged an online Evening Prayer for people in the Diocese of York on Friday 28th March at 5.15pm. Ahead of speaking in Hull Minster later that evening, this online act of worship is open to all people across the Diocese of York, in particular for those who live in the wider areas of our diocesan family. As part of Evening

Prayer, Archbishop Stephen will give a short address on the Lord's Prayer, and how it shapes the way we live. The Common Worship Evening Prayer will be on Zoom, and people can get the Zoom link by registering through Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/evening-prayer-with-archbishop-stephen-tickets-1292914515119?aff=oddtcreator>

Collect and Reading for 3rd Sunday of Lent

Collect and Prayer for the week

Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up to joy but
first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he was
crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way
of the cross,
may find it none other than the way of life
and peace;
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

Isaiah 55:1 - 9

“Come, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
Why do you spend your money for that which is
not bread,
and your labor for that which does not
satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to
you,
because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of
Israel,
for he has glorified you.
Seek the Lord while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the Lord, that he may have
mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

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

Luke 13:1-9

Some people told Jesus about the Galileans
whose blood Pilate had mingled with their
sacrifices. He asked them, “Do you think that
because these Galileans suffered in this way they
were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I
tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish
as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed
when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you
think that they were worse offenders than all the
others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but
unless you repent, you will all perish just as they
did.”

Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree
planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for
fruit on it and found none. So he said to the
gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come
looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none.
Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ He
replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I
dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit
next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it
down.’”

This is the Gospel of Christ:
Praise to Christ our Lord.

Sunday Reflection

Every week, the Diocese of York offers a new reflection and prayer resource on video, for personal use. This week Archdeacon Sam's final reflection, the Third 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 Ely, Acting Bishop of Ely, Bishop Dagmar Winter during this vacancy.

Church of Sweden: Diocese of Lund, Bishop Johan Tyrberg.

Church of Ireland: Diocese of Cashel, Ossory and Ferns, Bishop Adrian Wilkinson.

South Africa Link: Archbishop Thabo Makgoba; Archbishop of Cape Town and Primate of Southern Africa.

Find reflections and daily prayers:

dioceseforyork.org.uk/diocesan-prayer-diary