



THE PEOPLE  
WALKING IN  
DARKNESS HAVE  
SEEN A GREAT  
LIGHT; ON THOSE  
LIVING IN THE  
LAND OF DEEP  
DARKNESS A LIGHT  
HAS DAWNED

ISAIAH 9:2

# Sunday 7th December 2025

10am - Holy Communion

## This week

### Monday 8th December

9:15am Morning prayer

### Tuesday 9th December

11am Addington Cafe

2pm Homegroup

5pm Rainbows

6pm Brownies

7:30pm Guides

### Wednesday 10th December

10am Daytime Homegroup

10am Midweek Communion

1pm Toddlers

5:30pm Puppets

6pm Brownies

7:30pm Guides and Rangers

### Thursday 11th December

11am—1:30pm Café

11am Hong Kong Group

4:30pm Rainbows

5:45pm Brownies

7pm Guides

### Friday 12th December

10am Friday Friends

8pm Music Practice

### Sunday 14th December

10am Morning Worship

4pm Messy Church

### Pre-School

Pre-School is open from 8:45am to

3:45pm Mondays, Tuesdays,

Thursdays and Fridays and Wednesdays

from 8:45am –12pm in term time

### Administrator - Becki Whitlock

[office@stjameswoodley.org](mailto:office@stjameswoodley.org)

0118 966 2568

### Children and

**Families worker** -Linda Galpin

[linda.galpin@stjameswoodley.org](mailto:linda.galpin@stjameswoodley.org)

07552193742

(day off Thursday)

### StJames' Church Centre

Kingfisher Drive, Woodley,

RG5 3LH

Tel: 0118 966 2568

[www.stjameswoodley.org](http://www.stjameswoodley.org)

### Vicar Rev Laurence Smith

(day off Friday)

[laurence.smith@stjameswoodley.org](mailto:laurence.smith@stjameswoodley.org)

07421 233951

### Office opening hours:

Mon - Fri 9:30—1:00pm

Find us on Facebook and X



## Notices

### **Double your money - the Big Give**

As Christmas approaches and we are buying presents for family and friends, perhaps you would consider giving to LAMB's palliative care work in Bangladesh. which is explained in this short video: [Big Give palliative care](#) The work helps those who are too poor to pay for pain relief or other sorts of support. Donate to the Big Give/LAMB Health and your donation will be doubled if you donate between 2-9th Dec [The Big Give donation page](#) Thankyou on behalf of those who will be helped. Judith Hansford

### **Church Eco Community Christmas Card**

The church's eco community Christmas card will be available to sign and share your greetings with the church. It will be in church from Sunday 30th November- the start of advent. Save time and the environment sign your wishes on our collective card and make a donation to charity. Thanks the Eco Church Team

### **Yeldall Manor**

Please pray for the Yeldall Christmas celebration on Friday 7th December, 7.30pm at the Manor. Pray for the Christmas festivities on 25-26th - that residents will hear afresh the Christmas message and enjoy the celebrations with no alcohol or forbidden substances in sight! Pray for ex-residents, trying to stay clean but with many temptations with families & friends over Christmas.

### **Eco Prayer and tip**

**Eco tip** – Christmas cards: buy cards which can be recycled eg without glitter; sign the church Christmas card and donate to Water Aid.

**Prayer:** Please Lord, as we share the good news of your coming as a baby, help us to be careful in the way we use the resources of this wonderful world you created.



## Notices

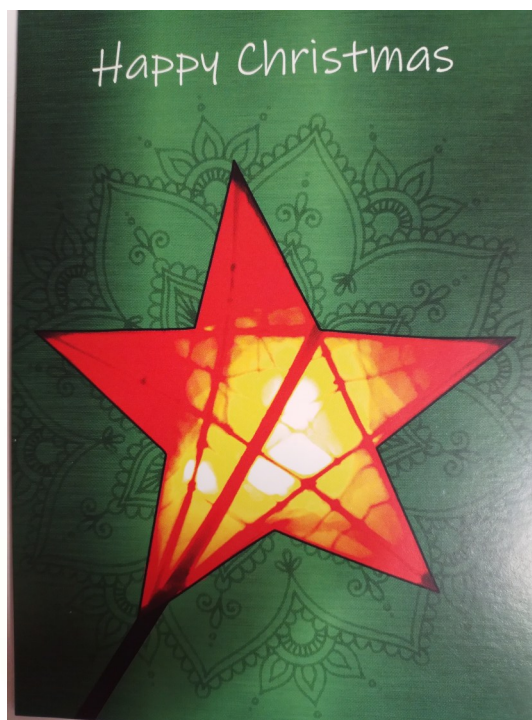
### **Mission Partner Christmas Cards**

The Christmas Cards for our Mission Partners are on the table.

Please sign them so we can send them out for Christmas. Many thanks, Jane

### **Lamb Christmas Cards**

Christmas cards in support of LAMB Bangladesh are available again with this great design. The cost is £2.50 for 5 cards and all the money goes to the poor fund which subsidizes medical treatment for the very poor. Judith Hansford will have them after Church on Sunday mornings.



## Notices








### Christmas Nativity Funday – Saturday, December 6th



We're getting ready for our **Christmas Nativity Funday**, and we'd love your help to make it a wonderful day for everyone!

#### How you can help:

-  Volunteer for the **morning** or **afternoon** session
-  **Bake a cake** (no nuts, please, and include a list of ingredients)
-  Donate a **jam jar** (washed and with the label removed)
-  **Pray** for the families attending and the team serving on the day
-  **Pray** for all the preparations leading up to the event

Thank you: Lindax



# FREE Christmas Nativity FUNDAY

Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025

Emmanuel Church Centre



10.30-12.30 or 2-4pm

crafts, puppets, story, messy  
play, minecraft, selfie station,  
bouncy castle, treasure hunt,  
free refreshments

Emmanuel and St James  
Churches invite you to join us for  
a Christmas Nativity Funday for  
all the family.





## Notices

### Pre-School Christmas Fayre

We are going to be having our own Christmas Fayre on **Saturday 13th of December here at St James Church, 12-2pm.**

We will be looking for donations for our tombola, children's lucky dip, general small prizes for games, sweets and Christmas gifts.

If anyone has any companies or knows of any family run businesses that would like to have a stall, please get in touch with me asap. Please contact **Elaine at [jamespreschool@outlook.com](mailto:jamespreschool@outlook.com) 07305399689**





## Notices

### Christmas Services

Please see below details of our Christmas services this year. There are some flyers on the table in the lounge. Please take some and invite your friends and neighbours.

## Christmas Services at St James

**Sunday 14th December**  
**4pm Christmas**  
**Messy Church**

**Sunday 21st December**  
**10am Children and**  
**Youth Christmas**  
**Celebration**

**6:30pm Carols by**  
**Candlelight**

**Christmas Eve**  
**3:30pm Christingle Service**  
**5pm Christingle Service**  
**11:30pm Midnight**  
**Communion**

**Christmas Day**  
**10am Christmas Day**  
**Celebration**





## REinspired-Woodley Lessons Autumn 2 2025

Date	School	Year	Question
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Southlake	Yr 6	Do Christmas celebrations and traditions help Christians understand who Jesus was and why He was born?
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Highwood	Yr 6	Do Christmas celebrations and traditions help Christians understand who Jesus was and why He was born?
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Highwood	Yr 5	Is the Christmas story true?
Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Southlake	Yr 5	Is the Christmas story true?
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Southlake	Yr 3	Has Christmas lost its true meaning?
Tues 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Highwood	Yr 3	Has Christmas lost its true meaning?
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	WCofE	LKS2	What it is like for Christians to follow God?
Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	WCofE	LKS2	What it is like for Christians to follow God?
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	WCofE	EYFS	Christmas story
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Southlake	Nursery Am Nursery PM	What is the most significant part of the Nativity story for Christians today?
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Highwood	Yr 4	What is the most significant part of the Nativity story for Christians today?

### Prayer points:

- Give thanks for the positive response to our lessons in Sept/Oct. We had some amazing questions from Yr 1 including 'Who made God?' in our creation lesson!!
- This is our busiest part of the term. Pray for energy and enthusiasm for the team, and enough team for each lesson
- Pray that the message of Christmas will come across in our lessons.

# ST JAMES' CHURCH

## 2025 PRIORITIES

FRIENDSHIP - FAITH - FELLOWSHIP

### 1. IMPROVE OUR COMMUNICATION

Update the ways in which we connect with each other and share information, helping people to develop a sense of belonging.

### 2. DEEPEN OUR DISCIPLESHIP

Learn more about being Jesus' Disciples, so that people of all ages and stages of faith can be with him, become like him, and do as he did.

### 3. EXPLORE OUR GIFTS

Provide opportunities for everyone to pray, discover their God-given gifts, and participate in the life of St James'.

**stjames**  
CHURCH CENTRE



## Homegroups

Please see below details of some of the homegroups that meet during the week and contact details for each:

**Monday** 7:45pm at 104 Wheble Drive, contact - Alison Mullens - 07904039363.

**Tuesday** 2pm Daytime homegroup at St James, contact David Bagwell - davidgbagwell@gmail.com

**Wednesday** 9:45am Daytime homegroup at St James, contact Judith Hansford.

**Wednesday** 7:30 pm various homes, contact Pete and Chris Clarke - 07742953071  
peteandchris@talktalk.net

**Wednesday** 8pm on Zoom , contact - Jane Fulford - 0776 494 7495  
jfulford49@gmail.com

**Wednesday** 8pm weekly at 97 Reading Road. Contact Laurence or Hannah - laurence.smith@stjameswoodley.org

**Thursday** 8pm at 17 Harris Close, Woodley. Kelly Robinson and Jeremy Galpin are joint leaders and would love some new members.

**Sunday** 12:30pm Cantonese group meeting fortnightly.  
Contact Eric or Phylis - 07394 139548