



Trust in the Lord with all
your heart and lean not on
you own understanding; in
all your ways acknowledge
him and he will make your
paths straight

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

Sunday 22nd March 2026

10am – Oasis

This week

Monday 23rd March

9:15am Morning prayer
7:30pm Lent course

Tuesday 24th March

11am Addington School Cafe
1:30pm Lent course
5pm Rainbows
6pm Brownies
7:30pm Guides

Wednesday 25th March

10am Daytime Homegroup
10am Midweek Communion
1pm Toddlers
5:30pm Puppets
5:45pm Brownies
7:30pm Guides and Rangers

Thursday 26th March

11am—1:30pm Café
11am Hong Kong Support Group
4:30pm Rainbows
5:45pm Brownies
7pm Guides

Friday 27th March

10am Friday Friends
8pm Music Practice

Sunday 29th March

10am Palm Sunday

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

StJames' Church Centre

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Vicar Rev Laurence Smith

(day off Friday)
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Notices

Church cleaning morning

On Saturday March 21st from 10.30am until 1pm we would like to get together a team of folk to carry out some essential cleaning tasks in church. Specifically, we would like to clean carpets, remove cobwebs or dust and clean our windows. If you could help with this, please sign up on the sheet on the table in the lounge. Thank you.

Confirmation Service

St John's will be hosting a service of Confirmation with Bishop Mary on Sunday 24th May at 4pm. This is open to anyone from other churches, include St James', who is interested in getting Confirmed as a next step on their journey of faith. If you would like to know more about Confirmation, please get in touch with Laurence or Linda!

St James Mowers and Strimmers!

You may have noticed that the church grass has been cut! The combination of plentiful rain, slightly increasing temperatures and a few days of sun caused lush new growth, so the mowers were in action earlier than usual! A new rota, to include both "mowers" and "strimmers", is being finalised this week, so still time to volunteer! From April to October, we cut the grass once every fortnight, using a petrol mower stored at a house nearby. The church has also acquired a battery-powered strimmer for trimming along the fence and around the edges of the lawns. If we get another dry summer, cutting may not be needed every 2 weeks. If you are interested in joining the rota, for mowing or strimming (or both!!), please have a word with Bob Hansford or email on hansford_robert@hotmail.com. Many thanks.

Easter Eggs and Coffee

'Easter Eggs and Coffee will be back this year! For those of you who were not around when this was run before (or have forgotten) this is how it works. Before Easter on Sundays 22nd or 29th March you donate a small Easter egg with an invitation for someone to join you for tea/coffee at a cafe/coffee shop. On Easter Sunday or the week after, you take an Easter egg that someone else donated and find out who has invited you out. It might be the person you know best at St James or someone you don't really know at all. (But they will be the same gender as you) So be brave and consider taking part, you will end up with two surprise encounters and hopefully enjoy getting to know each other better. Don't worry if all this sounds confusing, we will be explaining it in church soon...with pictures!

Notices

WOW (women on walks)

Will be going on a country walk on Tuesday 24th March followed by a pub lunch. Please meet in the church car park at 9:30am

Men's walking group

Will be going on a country walk on Tuesday 24th March followed by a pub lunch. Please meet in the church car park at 9:30am

Eco Prayer and tip

To drive or not to drive?

In the UK, transport is the largest emitter of carbon dioxide - 29% of the total, and private cars and taxis account for over half (54%) of this. Choosing alternative modes of transport is one of the best ways to cut our carbon output, and maybe at the same time improve our physical and mental health. Walking, cycling, or catching a bus or train may help us to appreciate God's creation more and to interact with others.

This week's challenge...

Could we fast from driving, give our cars a break and do only the essential trips? - but recognising that for some, car is the only viable option.

Are you already car-free? Brilliant! Make this week's challenge an invitation to encourage others to drive less, and pray for carbon-free transport innovation.



Prayer for Woodley Schools

Give thanks for the 4 lessons this past half term. For discussions and questions raised by pupils.

Pray for all the prep for the lessons booked in for next half term.

Pray for enough volunteers to deliver all the lessons that have been booked

Pray that the passion for our faith will shine through all we do and say to both staff and pupils

Lessons Spring 2

Mon 23 Feb	Highwood Yr 4	Is forgiveness always possible for Christians?
Tues 24 Feb	Highwood Yr 2	How important is it to Christians that Jesus came back to life after his crucifixion?
Mon 2 March	Southlake Yr 1	What did Jesus teach his followers (The lost son + Easter)
Tues 3 March	Southlake Yr 4	Is forgiveness always possible for Christians?
9&10 March	Woodley CofE KSI	What do Christians believe God is like?
16&17 March	Woodley CofE UKS2	What difference does the resurrection make for Christians?
Mon 23 March	Southlake EYFS	Visit to Christ church linked with the story of Easter.
Mon 23 March	Woodley CofE EYFS	Easter story
Tues 24 March	Southlake Nursery	Easter Story





JOIN US FOR

ECO TEAM SPRING LITTER PICK

Saturday 25th April

Meet in the church car park at **10 am**

Bags, pick and holders are provided.

Please bring your own gloves

Refreshments and biscuits served in the church from

11am -12 Noon.

Our 2026 FOCUS



THE HOLY SPIRIT

Continuing our journey
of discipleship together

Growing in confidence as we
explore new areas of faith

Discovering our own God-given
gifts, and how to use them

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 prcjc1@outlook.com

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