



**PALM**

**SUNDAY**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the  
Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven

## Sunday 29th March 2026

10am – Morning Worship - Palm Sunday

This week

### Monday 30th March

9:15am Morning prayer

### Thursday 2nd April

7:30pm Tenebrae Service

### Friday 3rd April

10am Friday Friends

11am Meet for Walk of Witness to  
the precinct

2pm Hour at the Cross

### Sunday 5th April

6:30am Sunrise walk and breakfast

10am Easter Sunday Celebration

### 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

*All other usual weekly activities will  
resume after Easter*

### 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

### 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)

Find us on Facebook and X



## Notices

### **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](mailto: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

### **Eco Prayer and tip Eco-Church in Lent.**

Fasting from un-necessary energy use

Every time we leave our phone charger plugged in (phone-less), run the tumble dryer instead of hanging washing outside, or keep devices on standby overnight, we are consuming energy. In the UK, home energy accounts for one-fifth of our national carbon footprint<sup>1</sup> - and much of it is avoidable.

This week, could we challenge ourselves to fast from energy waste - the unnecessary use that drains our wallets, strains our grid and contributes to global warming?

#### **A few tips.....**

Don't leave devices on stand-by over-night - they still use energy.

Delete old emails & minimise use of AI - they use energy at data-centres.

When the sun shines, hang washing outside, not tumble dry!

Take shorter showers, and boil by kettle only the water we need.

As temperatures creep up (we hope!) turn down the heating, switch off lights.

#### **PRAY**

Thank God for electricity & clean water; pray for those who lack these things.

Pray for communities who suffer the weather extremes caused by climate change.

Pray we may be good stewards in our use of energy.



## 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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