This Week’s Collect

Sixth Sunday of Easter

God of mercy, as we rejoice in the resurrection of your Son, the Bread of Life, feed us with your plenty and increase in us compassion for the hungry; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

There are 2 ways in which you can enjoy our Sunday services; either attending St James’ or via the telephone.

WORSHIP AT ST. JAMES’

Our preacher for this Sunday will be Revd. John Lansley.

BY PHONE

If you want to listen in to the Service on Sunday, dial the above number, then PIN and listen in. You can chat up to 10.30, but when the service starts everyone will be “muted” to avoid feedback/noise.

This Sunday our preacher will be Revd. Peter Hughes

To join us for a short (15-20 minutes) Act of Worship: Between 2.20pm and 2.30pm on Sunday:
From your normal “landline” telephone: Dial: 0333-006-7775
On being asked, enter the following number, or “Pin”: 08 39 09 01
You will be able to chat with everyone else who joins until the service starts.
This Sunday’s Act of Worship, or short service, will comprise:

COST: - The above number costs the same to dial as ordinary UK numbers – if you have “free minutes” from your telephone supplier then there will be no cost.

The Host for this service is Pam Bellis

Order of Worship:

- Welcome and notices: (Host)
- Opening prayer (Kate Cook: John 14: 23 - 29)
- Lord’s Prayer (Host)
- Talk or “mini-sermon” (Rev Peter Hughes)
- Prayers (Jayne McLaren)
- Grace and dismissal. (Host)
Minister's Message

I hope everyone has had a good week. Thanks to all who shared in our Annual Church Meeting last Sunday. We had a good time together, sharing ideas and electing Steward Elders and people to other important roles in our Church. Thank you to all who shared reports with us, reflecting the life of our Church. The Survey regarding Worship at St James’ resulted in overwhelmingly positive results, with many people struggling to find things they were unhappy about and emphasising instead how much they value the worship life of our Church. This is good news! We will take on board some of the good ideas and suggestions and we need to respond to the comments about the fact that people still struggle with the sound in Church.

God Bless, Peter

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

*Christian Aid week is the 15th-22nd May.*

We have a stall with St Peters’ at the farmers market on 14th May and they are organising a quiz night on 20th May.

Click on the link below to help support St. Peter’s Quiz. [https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/stpetersquiz](https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/stpetersquiz)

This is also in aid of Christian Aid.

Exciting news **Star for a night**...not to be missed Saturday 21st May 7-9.15pm

Live performances from our own talented individuals, refreshments, raffles, glow sticks and stars for our younger guests. A night of fun and entertainment.

All proceeds are for Christian Aid. £5 adult, £3 children and £15 family.

Tickets are available from Jane and Tony Laverty 07963961951 janelaverty5@gmail.com and Jayne McLaren jayniemac@hotmail.co.uk

**ROYAL JUBILEE CELEBRATION ANNOUNCEMENT** from the Mission Action Group: We are planning to create a 70-year timeline highlighting events across the Queen’s reign. We are particularly keen to collect any personal connections or memories of that period you may have, e.g., personal stories, memorabilia, photographs etc.

Please contact Lynne Barker or Kate Cook **as soon as possible** to let them know what you may be able to contribute. Precious items and photographs will be safely collected nearer the time.

**Thursday Morning Coffee Mornings** are now in full swing!

We are open from 9.30 until 11.30. Time for chat, sharing of news and meeting new people or just getting to know folk better is a great lift to the spirits. Please come along, think about inviting a friend or neighbour. A warm and sunny welcome awaits.

**BUT PLEASE NOTE – WE WILL NOT BE OPEN ON Thursday 2nd June.**

We hope to re start our cup of tea or coffee after worship on Sunday mornings in June. Watch this space for the first date. We will gather in the hall and welcome you all to join us for a short period of togetherness over a cuppa.
Monetary Offerings

Your monetary donations are vital to the running and future of St. James Church. Please contact Margaret Dee if you would like to change your giving to a Standing Order or join the Weekly Envelope scheme (out now). Also, if you are a UK Taxpayer, please consider Gift Aid, as the Church is able to claim 25% from the Government at no addition cost to you (for example, for every £10 the Church would receive £2.50).

We thank you for your continued support. Contact Margaret Dee (428 3356).

Church Flowers

We have recently resumed our beautiful flower displays in Church each week. If you would like to donate money for flowers on a particular Sunday - perhaps in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a happy event - please speak to Jonquil Dickson who can add you to the calendar for the months ahead. Also, if you would simply like to donate for flowers so that we can make sure all Sundays are covered, please speak to Jonquil. At present, we have many dates available. We will then deliver those flowers to people after the Service. If you know someone who you feel would be blessed by receiving flowers from Church, please speak to Jonquil or a steward. We will also need some more volunteers to take flowers out to people.

BIRTHDAYS

For those who are celebrating a birthday this week, wishing you a wonderful time ahead. Happy, happy birthday,
That's my birthday wish for you,
I hope your day brings you joy,
Whatever you plan to do.
Live each moment to the fullest,
Every single moment is dear,
This is the time to remember,
You only get one birthday a year.

Happy birthday to Graham Martin, whose special day is on Sunday 15th May.

St James’ Show in A Week is back...

We are excited to announce that Show in a Week this year we will be rehearsing & performing Madagascar JR. After two years, we are hopefully able to celebrate our tenth year of Show In A Week and look forward to welcoming back returning families and welcoming new families too. Please share the information and news with any families who you think may be interested in joining us.

Dates for this year are Monday 8th to Sunday 14th August with the pre-show workshop and auditions being held on Sunday 26th June.

Please note all children must be able to attend all dates to be involved.

Please email Amy for a form or more information. amybates93@aol.co.uk

Important notice from Girls’ Brigade.

Everyone at St. James’ is invited to our Girls Brigade jubilee party on Thursday 26th May 6.30-7.30pm.

Please pre book your seat and join us for refreshments and cake.

Contact Jayne 01514940719/07859062692
PRAYERS NEEDED

Dear Lord, it is my will to surrender to you everything that I am and everything that I’m striving to be. I open the deepest recesses of my heart and invite Your Holy Spirit to dwell inside of me. I offer you my life, heart, mind, body, soul, and spirit. I surrender to you my past, present, and future problems. I ask You to take hold over every aspect of my life. I surrender to You all my hurt, pain, worry, doubt, fear, and anxiety, and I ask You to wash me clean. I release everything into Your compassionate care. Please speak to me clearly, Lord. Open my ears to hear Your voice. Open my heart to commune with You more deeply. I want to feel Your loving embrace. Open the doors that need to be opened and close the doors that need to be closed. Please set my feet upon the straight and narrow road that leads to everlasting life.

Amen.

Please remember those at St. James who need our prayers this week, we pray for those close to our hearts, for those known to us and for those only you know of. For those due to undergo surgery and for those recovering.

We continue to pray for Ken Kitchen, John and Sylvia Pagan, Ian Taylor, Arthur Evans, Pat Fagan, Pam Draper, Alex and Doreen Banks, Ron Swindells, John Jeffers, Mike Hughes and Wendy Doig on the sad passing of her sister-in-law.

Benevolent Fund

The Benevolent Fund collection at the holy communion service next Sunday (29th May) is for The Brain Charity. Their mission is to enable all those affected by neurological conditions to live longer, healthier, happier lives. ‘We will fight together for an inclusive and just society: a world where stigma, hardship and isolation are replaced by compassion and understanding.’

There are more than 600 different conditions affecting the brain, spine or nervous system. Many are well-known, such as stroke, brain injury, dementia, cluster headaches and ADHD. There are also hundreds of conditions that only affect an unlucky few, such as trigeminal neuralgia, Alice in Wonderland Syndrome and Huntington’s disease. The Brain Charity is the only charity in the UK to be here for every single one of them.

Each year, they provide practical help, emotional support, and social activities to thousands of people from all over the UK. They support anyone based in the UK who has a neurological condition, and their family, friends, and carers too.
Springwatch with Mike Hughes

New life in the park.

Mum, dad and the kids on a day out.

Spring colours in the park.

Programmes You May Enjoy – Sunday 22nd May

6:00 – 10:00 a.m. Radio Merseyside: Daybreak
Helen Jones brings you the Sunday magazine reflecting Merseyside’s worlds of faith.

8.10 a.m. Radio 4: Sunday Worship – "My delight to learn or to teach or to write..."
Commemorating the greatest of all Anglo-Saxon scholars, the Venerable Bede.

13.15 BBC 1 Songs of Praise: Northumberland’s Christianity, Past and Present
Celebrating 1,900 years since the building of Hadrian’s Wall, the Rev Kate Bottley digs for evidence of early Christianity at the nearby Roman settlement of Vindolanda.

Newsletter Notices Next Week

If you would like to share anything with your Church family in this newsletter including any birthdays, celebrations, or anyone to include in our prayers, please let me know.

Please send any messages to Jayne McLaren at
jayniemac@hotmail.co.uk