

Welcome to our weekly newsletter. We hope you enjoy your time at St James' and we look forward to seeing you again next week.

Thank you for your offerings last week of £1,454, Mass attendance 784.

26th January (Saturday Vigil)	Third Sunday 6pm Victor Clark RIP (June Clark)
Sunday 27th January	9.15am People of the Parish 11am James Mulroy RIP (L O'Sullivan)
Monday 28th January	Saint Thomas Aquinas 9.30am For World Leaders (CWL)
Tuesday 29th January	Feria 9.30am Relatives & Friends of Marie Porter
Wednesday 30th January	Feria 9.30am Seamus & Josephine McMorro 10.45am Eucharist Adoration
Thursday 31st January	Saint John Bosco 9.30am Peter & Ann Ruggiro
Friday 1st February	Feria 9.30am Robert Northwood RIP (Northwood Family) Teresa Adams RIP (Howell Family) 7.30pm Eucharist Adoration
2nd February (Saturday Vigil)	Fourth Sunday 6pm Maureen Clark RIP (June Clark)
Sunday 3rd February	9.15am People of the Parish 11am Noah Mark Rothern RIP (Rothern Family)

Confessions are heard on Saturday, 5.00-5.45pm, or by appointment.

Morning Prayer takes place Monday – Friday at 9.10am. All are welcome to attend.

Pondering the Word (*Lectio Divina*) - A quiet reflective look at the following Sunday's Gospel. Mondays 11am-12 noon, except for Bank Holidays, here in the Church. All are welcome.

Rosary – Every day after Mass there is rosary. All are welcome.

Fr Barry

Let's keep Fr Barry in our thoughts and prayers. He has been feeling unwell however has turned a corner and recovering at home.

Fr David writes...

Last week, on the 15th January, the world remembered the birth of Dr Martin Luther King Jr. His life and work are a fascinating part of an important stage of 20th century history. His ideas extend far beyond his own time and the society in which he lived. Discrimination and conflicts because of skin colour or ethnicity manifest themselves in a variety of contexts in our own world even today. However most of all we remember Dr King because of a memorable speech that he did as an activist called "I have a dream". Martin Luther delivered this speech in 1963 on August 28th, before more than 200,000 people in front of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington. The speech was part of the March on Washington for Jobs and freedom. The speech not only helped to galvanise the already growing civil rights movement across the country at the time, it also became one of the most influential and inspirational pieces of rhetoric in American History and beyond. Remarkably mid-way through the delivery of the speech, Dr King suspended his pre-scripted text and began to improvise. What resulted was the speech's most recognizable section in which the words "I have a dream" are passionately repeated. His skill as a Baptist Preacher helped him to establish a rapport with his audience so that he could consistently communicate on a meaningful level, a skill that was demonstrated on the March that day. That day he articulated to his audience who he was, what he believed in and what his mission was. Because Dr King's vision and mission in life was so clear, he became a threat to those whose agenda was contrary to his. Like Jesus, he was put away. Dr King was assassinated.

Leadership demands clarity of identity and purpose. Once an individual, a group or an institution articulates the vision and the mission for themselves first and then delivers it to others – miracles can happen. Leaders are made out of women and men who have a clear vision and mission in their lives. The articulation of the vision gives one an identity, a uniqueness, a distinct personality. That is why groups and work places spend so much energy and money on formation days where they facilitate workshops in which the employees would grapple together to come to a common vision and mission of their agency. The articulation helps them to own and feel a sense of belonging to the bigger group. Once the employees are imbued by the firm's or group's vision and mission, there is a greater potential for focussing their energy and so combined with a good strategy they can achieve their aims and goals.

In today's gospel, Jesus returns to Nazareth where he has been brought up, the place which gives him the identity of Jesus of Nazareth. We know that Jesus left home to go and see John the Baptist, and we know that his whole lifestyle changed after his time with John. Jesus did not stay in the wilderness to live a hermit's life with John. He received a prophetic anointing in his baptism to announce the new age of the kingdom of God. So he became a travelling preacher. By the time he returns to his home town his reputation has arrived before him. When he goes to the synagogue on the Sabbath to preach, he chooses a passage from Isaiah which gives a beautiful summary of the programme of his new mission. Jesus on that day shared with his audience who he was and what he was on about. Jesus expressed his mission saying that he came to announce the good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and new sight to the blind. To free the oppressed and to proclaim a year of favour. Jesus on that day points to himself as the fulfilment of ancient prophecy.

Today the text becomes true in the hearing of his own people. At first their reaction was one of approval of his words, but then they reminded themselves of his identity and said, "This is Joseph's son, surely?" The neighbours don't allow Jesus' wisdom to interfere with their memories of him. When he presents himself to them for the first time as the prophetic preacher, they remind themselves of where he came from. They did not allow Jesus to grow up, so they locked him into the past and into a former identity. It's much easier having a carpenter around the house than a prophet. The neighbours want to keep Jesus under their control. It is safer like that. Jesus reminds them that no prophet is accepted in his own homeland. The local crowd became enraged and they try to throw him off the cliff. But Jesus escaped and he never returns home. Jesus had to leave home in order to become the person that God wanted him to be. Sometimes unfortunately even ourselves need to leave home in order to pursue God's dream for us. I would like to bring to God today all those who are struggling with who they are and grappling with their mission in life. May you find people around you whom you can trust in order to discern rightly your Vision and Mission. I also wish to pray that God may provide us with real Leaders in our world, especially at this time both politically and religiously. We certainly need Leaders who have a clarity of Vision and Mission for the welfare of all.

“Drop-In” Evening Surgeries – The next drop in surgery with Fr David will be on **Tuesday 29th January 2019 between 5pm-7pm**. No appointment needed.

Second Collection – This week’s second collection is the 4-in1 collection for – Racial Justice/Communications/ Day for Life/ Apostleship of the sea.

Wi-Fi in the Community Centre

Due to a fault on the broadband hub, a new one was installed by BT on 23 January. I have set the details to those we had before, i.e. network name StJames and the password TheGreat, but anyone using it from that date will have to reset the connection on their device. The sequence for your Wi-Fi set-up will be something like (a) forget this device, (b) select StJames network, (c) re-enter the password. Please email me if you have a problem or are uncertain about the procedure. [Roger Wright](#).

Safeguarding at St James’

We invite all groups to attend a safeguarding session which is being held in the Community Centre on 3rd April, 7.15-10.00pm, led by Helen Sheppard, the Diocesan safeguarding Co-ordinator.

Evangelisation Pillar

Readers Meeting – Please note change of date

On **Tuesday 5th February** at 8pm in the church there will be a meeting for all existing Readers and anyone interested in becoming a Reader.

Eucharistic Ministers

On Monday 4th March at 8pm in the church there will be a meeting for all existing Eucharistic Ministers, and anyone interested in becoming a Eucharistic minister.

Confirmation 2019

The fifth preparation session is on Monday 4th February from 7.00pm-8.30pm.

First Holy Communion 2019

The fourth preparation session is on Saturday 2nd February from 4.30pm to 5.45pm

Eucharistic Adoration – Be Still in the Presence of the Lord. Your time set aside in your hectic life – wasting time in silence with God. Takes place for an hour **each Wednesday** shortly after the Morning Mass and the Wednesday Café starting at 10.45am and finishing with Benediction at 11.45am.

First Friday of the Month. A time of silent meditation in an evocative atmosphere created by soft background music and candles. From 7.30pm till 9.00pm. The **next will be this Friday 1st February.** **All are welcome for all or part of this time of Adoration ending with Benediction.**

Pilgrimage/Cultural tour to Oberammergau & Salzburg – 25th May to 30th May 2020

We are organising a pilgrimage/ culture tour to Oberammergau for May 2020. This is the famous Passion play that is performed every 10 years. We need to establish the level of interest and potential numbers so please contact the parish office if you are interested.

Week of Accompanied Prayer

Sunday 10th March to Saturday 16th March 2019

The taster Session is next Sunday, 3rd February 3 - 4 pm at Christ Church URC, 25 Tudor Way, Petts Wood, BR5 1LH. Come and find out more about this mini retreat in Daily Life when some of the Prayer Companions will lead us in different ways to pray. During the week itself the Prayer Companions will

gently encourage each participant to focus on growing in closer relationship to God through personal prayer. Have you taken the flyer which provides additional information?

Social Pillar

Parent and Toddler Group

The St James' parent and toddler group has reopened on Friday afternoons between 1.30pm-3.00pm. £2.50 per family.

Invitation to all Ladies in our Parish of St James'

The Petts Wood Catholic Women's League would be delighted if you came along to our New Year Party on Monday 28th January at 8pm in St James' Community Centre.

Please do come along and meet not only members from the CWL from St James', but also from other Bromley parishes and members from other churches in Petts Wood who are in the Churches Together group.

It is a relaxed friendly evening with delicious food, a chance to make new friends and to learn the names of the people who you see in St James' and around Petts Wood. There will be a fun quiz and entertainment.

We look forward to meeting you on 28th January at 8pm. If you would like to know more or tell us you are coming please phone – 020 8467 3697. Otherwise please just turn up on the evening.

Film Club

Thank you to everyone who came to our Film Night last Saturday. Your generous donations raised a very impressive £115 which will enable us to purchase a good-sized microwave for the kitchen in the Community Centre.

Our next film will be shown on Saturday, 9 February in the Community Centre. This will be the highly acclaimed *Shadowlands*, a 1993 British biographical drama. It focuses on the relationship between C.S. Lewis & American poet, Joy Davidman, her death from cancer, & how this challenged Lewis's Christian faith. It stars Anthony Hopkins & Debra Winger & won a BAFTA Award for Best British Film & another for Best Actor in a Leading Role.

The film runs for 2 hours, 11 minutes & will start promptly at 7.30pm. The bar will be open beforehand & as always a warm welcome awaits. We do hope you can make it!

Liturgy Pillar

Children's Liturgy

Please note that when there is a Church Parade Mass (10th February, 10th March and 14th April) there will not be Children's Liturgy.

CYM Careers Fair – 9th February 2019

Following the success of our first CYM Careers Fair in April this year, we are planning to hold a second careers event on **Saturday 9th February 2019 from 11.30-2.30pm** here in the Community centre.

Come and take part in 'mock interviews', receive one-to-one careers advice from industry professionals, find out about the range of opportunities relating to modern day apprenticeships, peer ministry and GAP year opportunities and receive practical tips to help craft the perfect CV. **Register now for tickets:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cym-careers-fair-for-young-people-tickets-53537929388>

Justice & Peace

Foodbank requests

The Foodbank requirements are as follows: **UHT milk and fruit juices (in very short supply)**, vegetarian food tinned or dried (macaroni cheese, ratatouille, vegetable curry, etc.), tinned potatoes, cooking

sausages, small bags of rice, custard, jam, rice pudding, sweets, children's toothbrushes, shaving foam/gel, nappies size 6, and washing-up liquid. Thank you. Justice & Peace Group.

Unfortunately, the **CAFOD Lent Fast Day briefing** planned for this Saturday in the community centre has had to be cancelled. If anyone is interested in learning more about CAFOD's international development work please send Nick Babb from the J&P Group an email (nick.babb@stjamespettswood.org)

Pastoral Pillar

St James The Great 'Memory Café'

Here at St James' we run a Dementia Café on the first two Tuesdays of each month from 2pm to 3.30pm in the Community Centre. This is a time for guests with dementia and their carers to come for refreshments and a chat in a comfortable and safe environment and if they wish, join in with activities such as quizzes, games and music. If you would like to know more, please contact:

pastoral.care@stjamespettswood.org

or telephone the Parish Office: 01689 827100. **We look forward to welcoming you.**

Helplines and Counselling Services.

A list of helplines and counselling services is available on our website, and in the church porch, for anyone who might need this.

Young Church Pillar

Youth Group

The next youth group will be on Saturday 2nd February 12pm to 2.30pm.

Flame 3 – 2nd March 2019: Don't miss out, book your tickets now!!

We're excited to announce that the biggest Catholic youth event in the UK is returning to London's Wembley Arena, as CYMFED organise Flame 2019. Many exciting speakers have already been announced and the day is expected to be a fantastic opportunity to celebrate our shared faith on a grand scale. The theme for this event is '#Significance' and you can find out all about the programme for this event by visiting CYMFED's website: <https://cymfed.org.uk/flame2019/>. CYM Bromley Deanery will be taking a group to Flame this year and we will be travelling by coach. We still have some tickets left at the discounted price of £20, so if you are aged 14 – 29yrs and would like an amazing day, bring some friends and come along – tickets are selling fast so don't miss out! To reserve your tickets and to find out more, email: susan.longhurst@bromleydeanery.org or contact your parish office.

Finance Pillar

Fundraising by shopping online

Several parishioners over the last few years have helped the parish by raising donations through **easyfundraising.org.uk**. Recently we reached the milestone of £3,000, for which we thank everyone who has made purchases that way. Over 3,400 retailers including Amazon, eBay, M&S, John Lewis, Argos, Booking.com, tour operators, now make donations on every purchase (from 0.5% to 5% of cost). The top supporter parishioner has raised £388 (all transactions are completely anonymous), so why not embrace the idea and help St James'? To get started, follow the item on the left menu bar of the parish website. Once you've registered, you have the option to install an automatic donation reminder in your browser to make sure no purchase misses its reward.

Any questions, please contact roger.wright@stjamespettswood.org. Thank you.

Pilgrimages within the Diocese

Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Visiting Lourdes, Lisieux, Paris, Nevers, Rocamadour and Montligeon by luxury coach from 25th May to 2nd June for £789 including all excursions.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

From 3rd September to 11th September for £1,259 including all excursions.

Pilgrimage to Poland

From 10th October to 17th October including all excursions for £897.

For further information call Mrs Mozzi on 020 8472 0843 or 07859 027301

Polite Reminders

Parking

- The Parish disabled parking spaces are for Blue Badge holders only.
- Please be aware of our neighbours in the surrounding roads, please do not block driveways or double-park your car.

In Church

Please refrain from eating and drinking while you are in church.

Seeing a Chaplain if You Are Admitted to Hospital

- **Protecting personal information** (data protection) is really important when you become an inpatient in hospital.
- **So please specifically ask hospital staff to pass on your details** to the hospital's Roman Catholic chaplain as soon as you are admitted if you would like a Chaplain to visit you.
- **Fr David would always be very happy** to visit you too, so please ask a relative or friend to let him know about your admission. You, or they, can email Fr David on: father.david@stjamespettswood.org, or phone the parish office on 01689 827100.

Rotas for this week: *Thank you for helping*

Weekend 2nd February

Cleaning the Church

P Driscoll, J Rogerson, M Mitrovic (Tuesday team – 29 January)

**Wednesday Coffee
6th February**

Sheila Barradell, Madeleine Howell

3rd February 2019

Mass

Saturday 6pm (Vigil)

Sunday 9.15am

Sunday 11am

Welcomers

K Moon

M Howell
L Thomas

M Cooper
K Edwards

Readers

C Kiely
J Johnson

S Cotta
B Cotta

Y Wright
Z Bajorek

**Ministers of Holy
Communion**

P Crosland
T Babb
B Babb
R Wright
P Cantopher

K Chan
A Delamain
D Hairs
B Cotta
W David

R Del Guercio
Z Bajorek
T Troy
A Bunnage
P Murray

Bar

P Troy
M Wright

Coffee

G Brookes
D Brookes

S Ingle
A Huntingon

Altar Servers

Zacari
Francis
Mario
Jude

Lydia

Paulina

Tellers

F Simon, J Cosgrave