

choose which egg you would like. To place an order please speak to Caroline Mcleish, don't delay the deadline is the **5th of March**.

**The Sacrament of Confession:** also known as Reconciliation. The parish of Chapelthorpe (2016) and the parish of Woolley (2019) have offered confessionals to those who feel a specific need to confess individually before God through the intercession of the priest. It is a beautiful opportunity that allows all of us to renounce the sins we have committed and seek absolution. In His endless mercy and love, God absolves us of our sins and forgives our mistakes, through an act of repentance, allowing us to be reconciled with the Church and God. As we journey through Lent and truly examine our hearts and souls and see ourselves as God sees us, you may wish to attend a confessional as part of your Lenten discipline. It goes without saying the Holy Seal of Confession cannot be broken. If you wish to receive this sacrament please contact Kevin on 01924 256031 to make arrangements.

**Love Thy Neighbour Lent Course:** at St James' **Monday 26th February at 3pm**  
Through reflecting on readings and prayer we explore how we can love in truth, love the vulnerable and the suffering, embrace difference, care for our world, and love ourselves as God loves us. All are welcome, don't forget your bibles.

**Holy Week Mon** 25th March to Good Friday: Advanced notice that there are to be no social activities this week in any of our churches. As we journey through The Passion there should be no distractions as we look towards the Cross.

**St James' Messy Church Easter:** Will now be on Wednesday 27th March at 5pm, cost per child will be £3. Bookings are now being taken, don't. To book please email [kevin.greaves@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:kevin.greaves@leeds.anglican.org)

**The Elysian Singers with Many Voices Choir:** St James' on Saturday 16th March at 7.00pm. Tickets are now on sale from Richard and Norma York or pay at the door. Tickers are £7 for adults and under 14's £3, light refreshments are included in the cost of a ticket. Donations of raffle prizes for the Elysian Singer's concert would be greatly appreciated. Please see Richard or Norma.

#### **Do follow our social media accounts**

Websites: [www.stjameschapelthorpe.org.uk](http://www.stjameschapelthorpe.org.uk) and [www.woolleychurch.org.uk](http://www.woolleychurch.org.uk)

Facebook: St Peter's Facebook page: 'Woolley church - St Peter's'

St James' Facebook page: 'St James Parish of Chapelthorpe'

## **The United Benefice of Chapelthorpe and Woolley with West Bretton**

**Sunday: Lent 2**

**25th February 2024**

### **First Reading: Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16**

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

### **Psalm: 22: 23-end**

**Refrain: Be not far from me, O Lord.**

23 Praise the Lord, you that fear him; ♦

O seed of Jacob, glorify him;

stand in awe of him, O seed of Israel.

24 For he has not despised nor abhorred the suffering of the poor;

neither has he hidden his face from them; ♦

but when they cried to him he heard them.

25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation; ♦

I will perform my vows

in the presence of those that fear you.

26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied; ♦

those who seek the Lord shall praise him;

their hearts shall live for ever. [R]

27 All the ends of the earth

shall remember and turn to the Lord, ♦

and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

28 For the kingdom is the Lord's ♦

and he rules over the nations.

29 How can those who sleep in the earth

bow down in worship, ♦

or those who go down to the dust kneel before him ♦

30 He has saved my life for himself;

my descendants shall serve him; ♦

this shall be told of the Lord for generations to come.

31 They shall come and make known his salvation,  
to a people yet unborn, ♦  
declaring that he, the Lord, has done it.

**Refrain: Be not far from me, O Lord.**

Restless with grief and fear, the abandoned turn to you: in every hour of trial,  
good Lord, deliver us, O God most holy, God most strong, whose wisdom is  
the cross of Christ. **Amen**

### **Second Reading: Romans 4: 13-end**

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression. For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham who is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations", in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead for he was about a hundred years old, and the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore "it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

### **The Gospel: Mark 8: 31-end**

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

## Services

### **Week Commencing 25th February – Lent 2**

**The Church in West Bretton:** Eucharist at 9.15

**St James':** Eucharist at 11.00

**Wednesday St James':** Midweek Said Eucharist at 10.30 followed by Bible Study

### **Week Commencing 3rd March – Lent 3**

**St Peter's:** Eucharist at 9.15

**St James':** Eucharist at 11.00

**Wednesday St James':** Midweek Said Eucharist at 10.30 followed by Bible Study

## For Your Prayers

**For the recently sick:** Tracey Fozzard, Margaret Fozzard, Leonard Bartle ,  
Douglas Seth-Smith

**For the long-term sick:** Annalease Aspden, The Reverend Canon Roger Cressey,  
Barbara Cressey, Graham Beynon-Fisher, Mary-Rose Lacoux,

### **Recently departed:**

### **In Memory, whose anniversaries fall at this time.**

**St James':**

**St Peter's:** Williams Simms, Keith Armitage, Carolyn Bates

## Notices

**Men Behaving Godly:** Our next meeting will be at The Bay Horse Pub, 30 Stoney Lane, Chapelthorpe ,Tuesday 27th February 7.00- 9.00pm. We will be discussing the area of Sin, and the Churches understanding of sin in a modern world. This is a men's only group.

**St James' Social Committee:** Do you have any ideas that you can give to the committee. Something that can be held in church that will be well supported by the congregation and the wider community. Sadly, the last few events haven't been well attended by the congregation or wider community, which is disappointing to the committee as a lot of time and effort goes on behind the scenes. Please speak to either Margaret or Bev with any of your ideas.

**The Real Easter Egg at St James':** The Real Easter Eggs are the only ones which have an Easter story book in the box and tells the true story of Easter. They are made of Fairtrade chocolate and supports a number charitable projects. If you would like to place an order please see the poster in the refreshment area and