



ST JAMES THE GREAT
Catholic Church in Petts Wood

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



St James – A shining light in Petts Wood

IN THIS EDITION | **May 2024**

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 pettswood@rcaos.org.uk

 <https://stjamespettswood.weebly.com>



Pastoral Care Pillar

Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love" Mother Teresa

As members of the Pastoral Care Team we are always pleased to hear of your joys, achievements and celebrations but also to support you in the losses and impact of death of those whom you love.

We endeavour to compliment your relationship with Fr David and feel privileged to be with you in any bereavement ceremony or funeral by preparing the Church and welcoming your families and friends, so they feel at home and valued in whatever way is appropriate.

Team News

Last month a new member joined our team, we are absolutely delighted to welcome Jane.



Hello. My name is Jane Blake. I joined the parish just after covid having followed Mass online during lockdown. My husband (Stephen) and I have two adult sons, Anthony and Ed. As a family we have experienced such a warm welcome from Father David and so many other parishioners. Even Ed, who is on the autistic spectrum and has learning difficulties enjoys a friendly reception whenever he feels able to attend Mass.

My background is as a research scientist but in recent years I have worked for a local charity which supports young people with special educational needs whilst also caring for my family.

The PCT at St James the Great supports so many people in the parish and I am honoured to be part of the team. I look forward to being involved and getting to support the parish in a meaningful way.

Jane Blake

Our door is always open to new members! If you are interested to learn more, with no commitment whatsoever, please have a word with any member of our Team or contact us via email to pastoral.team@stjamespettswood.org or the Parish Office pettswood@rcaos.org.uk

Autism Awareness Mass

We would like to thank everyone who came along to our Autism Awareness mass on Sunday 7th April, it was a very uplifting service. We feel it gave us all a special insight into the world of our Autistic parishioners and their families.

Special thanks go to the musicians and the choir for selecting and singing such beautiful hymns.

A big thank you also to Anthony Blake for reading such a beautiful verse and delivering it so movingly.

Last but certainly not least our grateful thanks to Fr David for supporting us in this very special mass, we couldn't do it without you, quite literally!

Mass for Bereaved Parents

If you have lost a family member or friend this year and you would like to remember them at either the Mass for Bereaved Parents their Families & their Friends or the November Memorial Service please contact the Parish Office. It is not necessary to contact us if the funeral took place at St James.

Forthcoming Themed Masses

Sunday 12th May 11am - Dementia Awareness Week Mass

Sunday 7th July 3pm - Mass for Bereaved Parents their Families & their Friends

Sunday 15th September 11am - World Suicide Prevention Day Mass

Monday 30th September 7pm - Healing Mass

Sunday 10th November 3pm - November Memorial Service



Finance Pillar



Congratulations to the April Winners

£100 - Richwood Lim Number 91

£50 - Sisie Mataj Number 175

£25 - Jonathon Baker Number 138

£25 - Fin Robinson Number 73

200 Club Subscriptions

Annual subscriptions were due by **31st March**. Can members please forward a cheque payable to St James Church 200 Club to the Parish Office as soon as possible. Alternatively if you wish to pay on line please send a payment of £60 to:

Natwest Orpington

Sort Code 60 16 03

Account Number 77878736

Account Name St JamesChurch 200 Club.

For members paying by Standing Order no action is required.

Thank you all for your continued support

Ken Evans

The 200 Club continues to flourish and at present there are five vacancies available. Subscriptions are £5 per month payable on the first day of each month. Alternatively subscriptions can be paid annually online or by cheque for £60 payable to St James the Great 200 Club. Details are as follows:

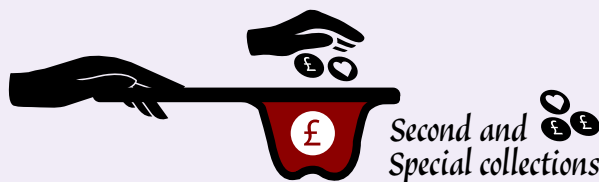
Natwest Orpington

Sort Code 60 16 03

Account Number 77878736

Account Name St JamesChurch 200 Club.

Anyone wishing to join please contact Ken Evans telephone 01689 851793 or the Parish Office 01689 827100.



Second collections in May

26th May - Maintenance/Building Fund

If payments to these second collections are being made by Bankers Order, please show the following payment references:

Maintenance/Building Fund - Build/Gift Aid Number/
Surname

Envelopes for the next financial year

Boxes of envelopes for the next financial year are now available for collection at the back of the church.

The boxes include 12 envelopes for the monthly Maintenance/Buildings Fund collections but if you do not have your envelope with you when you come to Mass there are spare envelopes available. If you no longer need the envelopes which have been ordered for you, please let the parish office know or put the envelopes into the box for unused envelopes.

The diocese has also provided multi-purpose envelopes, which can be used for Mass Intentions and any special collections, including the Christmas and Easter offerings. These envelopes are available from the welcomers at Mass. If you are a Gift Aider you do not need to write your name and address every time, provided that you show your Gift Aid number and tick the fund to which you are donating.

The Maintenance/Church Building fund is very important to the finances of the parish, partly because we have several projects due to be completed but also because donations to this fund do not attract the 30% levy which is used for the central expenses of the diocese. If you would like to make regular donations to this fund through a standing order, please contact the parish office or email gift.aid@stjamespettswood.org.

Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.





Evangelisation Pillar

SAVE THE DATE!

25th – 27th October for a Parish Weekend Retreat – More details to follow.

Eucharist Adoration – Be Still in the Presence of the Lord

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 11.15am and on the first Friday of the month from 5pm till 7pm. The next will be on Friday **5th April**. All are welcome for all or part of this time of Adoration ending with Benediction.

Pondering the Word (Lectio Divina)

A quiet reflective look at the following Sunday's Gospel. Mondays 11am-12 noon, except for Bank Holidays, meetings are via zoom. Please contact the parish office who will arrange the zoom link to be sent to you. All are welcome

House Mass

House Mass is an initiative at St. James to help develop Fr. David's vision of St. James becoming a "Sanctuary in Suburbia".

The idea of House Mass goes back to early Christians who, in small groups, gather in houses to celebrate the Lord's Supper. It typically has a more intimate atmosphere (than a Sunday Mass), and everybody feels more involved in the celebration. The setting also allows time to develop friendships and community.

Provisional Timing for House Mass

8pm Arrive (before 8pm if possible) and settle

8:05pm Start Mass

8:50pm Mass finish and social to follow.

Dates for 2024

Tuesday 14th May - Allocated

Tuesday 25th June - Allocated

Tuesday 23rd July

Tuesday 24th September

Tuesday 22nd October

Tuesday 19th November

Tuesday 10th December - Allocated

If you think you would like to host a House Mass, please contact Suzanne and Caroline via email pettswood@rcaos.org.uk to agree mutually convenient date.

Mass in Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage July 13th, at St George's Cathedral

If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, please let us know as soon as possible, and no later than May 31, providing the following details: your names in the format John and Mary Smith, your home address, the anniversary you are celebrating, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited. Email us at mflse@rcaos.org.uk As the title of your email, please write your parish location e.g. Clapham, Beckenham.

Day of Prayer – Petts Wood Churches Together

Following an uplifting and peaceful Day of Prayer with Petts Wood Churches Together last year, we've decided to have another one.

This one will take place in the Community Centre on **Saturday 4th May** from about 9.30am until about 4pm.

There will be more information and invitations for participants soon.

Meantime we would like to invite volunteers to sign up as welcomers, and to coordinate hospitality and refreshments, including hot drinks all day, a sandwich lunch with fruit midday, and perhaps tea and cakes in the mid-afternoon. (Any bakers out there?....)

Would you like to be a part of this hospitality team? If you would, please contact the Parish Office, to join the helpers list for the Day of Prayer, on 01689 827100, or by email to: pettswood@rcaos.org.uk. See you there and thank you!

Prayer Meetings on Thursdays

Charism Thursdays exists to establish a weekly spiritual hour of rest and worship, open to anyone who is interested in deepening their connection with the transforming power of the Holy Spirit.

During charismatic worship songs, each member is encouraged to participate and share their spiritual gifts from a place of liberty and freedom. Rest and contemplation in the Agape love of God is primary, contributions in scripture reading, words of encouragement, pictures and prayer etc is secondary.

Along with the main focus of group singing, we focus on practices of meditation and circling.

These types of practices help to facilitate transformative experiences through the work of the Holy Spirit.

We have already enjoyed our first few meetings with a good response.

Everyone is welcome to participate in the **weekly event, starting at 7pm** in the church.



Evangelisation Pillar

Petts Wood Repair Cafe

SPRING CLEANING AND FOUND SOMETHING THAT NEEDS TO BE REPAIRED?

Don't bin it - bring it to the Petts Wood Repair Café and get one broken item repaired by experts at the Repair Café.

For a donation of either cash or card bring one item such as an electrical or electronic item, clock, bicycle, toy, or clothing for repair. The Repair Café can also sharpen knives and tools. Enjoy coffee and cake while you wait but please bear with them if you have a wait as demand can be high.

The next dates are: **Saturday 25 May, Saturday 29 June and Saturday 27 July.** Timings are: 2.00 – 5.00pm in the Church Hall next to St Francis of Assisi Church, Greencourt Road, Petts Wood BR5 1QW. Contact: pettswoodrepaircafe@gmail.com

No Mow May

Say 'No to the Mow' Campaign this May (or all summer)

Leave some or all of your lawn uncut during May and join the "No Mow May" so that flowers are allowed to develop provide food for pollinators.

- Long grass:
- Provides food and shelter for many butterflies & moths
- Invertebrates and seeds flourish in long grass which provides food for the birds
- Undisturbed grassland is good for carbon capture and storage
- Wild lawns provide foraging opportunities and shelter for hedgehogs, toads, and frogs but check for hedgehogs before strimming or mowing
- Grassland insects which fly at night are food for bats!

If you have a garden let part of your lawn grow long all this summer or set the lawn mower cutting height to a high setting.

For more information: <https://www.plantlife.org.uk/uk/discover-wildplants-nature/nomowmay>

Heartfelt Thanks To Our Parish From Bromley Borough Foodbank

During lent our Parish including uniformed groups helped with collections and donation to the Foodbank. Below is a letter to Roger Wright – JPIC Lead for Foodbank support from the Foodbank team.

Dear Roger,

I hope this email finds you well and filled with the same warmth and compassion you extended to us during Lent.

I am writing to express our deepest gratitude for St James' (et al.) generous contributions to our Foodbank during the giving season. Your support has made an immense difference in the

lives of Bromley residents who are currently struggling to cover the cost of essentials.

Thanks to the collective efforts of 29 churches, including yours, we were able to gather a remarkable 1,816KG worth of food donations. This abundance of provisions enabled us to assemble 7-day food parcels, which were distributed to over 90 individuals facing food insecurity in our local community.

Your kindness and dedication to serving those in need is truly commendable. Your donations have not only provided essential support, but also brought hope and reassurance to many during these challenging times. Please share our sincere gratitude with all who contributed!

In addition to our heartfelt thanks, I am excited to share some news with you! We will be welcoming a new Church Engagement Volunteer to our team in mid-May. Their role will be to strengthen our relationship with the religious community and explore ways to provide a more comprehensive exchange between the Foodbank and Churches. They will be reaching out to you soon to hear your thoughts and ideas on how we can enhance our collaboration to better support the people we serve.

Once again, thank you for your unwavering support and commitment to making a positive impact in the lives of others. We are deeply grateful for your partnership and look forward to continuing our journey together as we work to create a more compassionate and supportive community for all.

With gratitude,

Ray (& the BBF Team)

Thank You to Our Parish, Girl Guides and Scouts for your help and generosity towards the Foodbank. Together we were able to contribute 1000Kg+ of the 1816kg food donations and also financial / voucher support, during Lent.



Evangelisation Pillar



The current needs are for:

- Tinned Cold Meat
- Cooking Sauces
- Tinned Fruit
- UHT Milk
- Jam
- Multi-surface wipes / sprays

There are two baskets available for your donations: both are in the main church entrance



The Foodbank warehouse **cannot accept**: baby formula, fresh, out of date, chilled or frozen food.

Financial donations are still very much appreciated and there are several ways you can donate:

- Post cash, cheques or supermarket vouchers through the Parish Office letterbox. Cheques should be payable to "Bromley Borough Foodbank".

- By direct transfer to the Foodbank's bank account

Bank NatWest

Sort code 60-16-03

Account name Bromley Borough Foodbank

Account number 77879007

Reference STJAMESPW

- £5 gift vouchers for Tesco and Sainsbury's are very useful to the Foodbank

Like most volunteer run charities, our Foodbank needs monetary donations. If possible you might consider setting up a standing order to help this vital work. Bank details above.

Thank you from the Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation Group.



Communication Pillar

Supervision of children in hall toilets

It has come to our notice that there have been incidents of the toilets in the hall being misused. Items have been dropped in the toilet bowls and the liquid soap containers emptied onto the floor. We seek your assistance in ensuring there are no further incidents of this kind. Please be reminded you are responsible for your children at all times.

Supervision of children in the church around the candle stands

Please ensure that all children are assisted by an adult in the lady chapel area when lighting candles.

Volunteering Opportunities at St James

Would you like to get more involved in parish life? We need help on the following rotas.

Please email Rosa, rosa.delquercio@stjamespettswood.org if you can help with any of the following jobs:

Sunday Coffees after the 9.15am and 11am Masses

Ushers Saturday 6pm Mass, **Sundays** 9.15am and 11am

Readers Saturday 6pm Mass, **Sundays** 9.15am and 11am

Readers for weekdays Mon to Thur 10 am.

Cleaners Saturday 9.30am

Memory Cafe helpers (first and second Tuesdays of the month - 1pm to 4pm). If you are able to help with the cafe please contact Suzanne in the parish office.

We are looking for a couple of additional young people to become **Altar Servers** and join the 11am team to help support Dejan and James. Please drop us an email if interested on altar.servers@stjamespettswood.org.

Appeal for more helpers

Many hands really do make light work, we know. In the coming months, we want to fill the **role of the Social Pillar Lead** and strengthen the Events Committee. This warm appeal goes out to any of you who don't currently help out in any way at all, because the support of a great many more volunteers is needed to facilitate the planning and running of each event as we celebrate 85 Years of Parish Life.

If you like the sound of, or enjoyed attending the Parish Awards Ceremony, Summer Garden Party, Christmas Fair or NYE Party, please consider signing up to micro-volunteer an hour or two of your time at future parish events. No half hour is too little and every effort to sell tickets, help with set-up of gazebos, tables and chairs, and decorations, cooking a dish or two, wrapping gifts and prizes, will make a huge difference. Please text 'YES to Help' to Lolly today (07541 759163) if you feel you have a little time to give towards the many events to be rolled out this year. Team work really does make the dream work!

Thank you.

St James Repository

The Repository in church is open after Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses throughout the year. There is a good selection of Religious articles always available, including Bibles, Prayer Books, Sunday Missals, Children's Books, Rosaries, Statues, Mass cards and cards for most other occasions.

Appeal From The Knights of St Columba

Please continue to bring in your used postage stamps. If they are on postcards, it is fine to donate the postcard as well. Money raised will go to Knights good causes. Please leave stamps in the wooden box in the church porchway.

Advertisement

Do you have any issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Parish? Do you have any good news stories that you would like to share with the Parish? If you do then why not use the Newsletter as a medium to share your thoughts with us and one to make a positive difference to the life of our Parish. If you do have anything that you would like to bring to the attention of the Parish then please send the information to Paul Cosgrave at the following email address: communication@stjamespettswood.org



Communication Pillar

A message from Jamie Allen - Paul and Anita Rowland's Grandson.

I am running the London Marathon in memory of my wonderful Nanna, Anita Rowland, who we sadly lost in May last year. Nanna was an incredible lady who lived a wonderful life and set the perfect example for our growing family, whom she cherished. She taught us how to be kind of heart, to love deeply, to care truly and be the best version of ourselves that we can be. She was loved by everyone that she crossed paths with. She was my Nanna, but was also a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother, and we all miss her more as each day passes.

Nanna had an underlying heart condition that contributed to her sudden and unexpected passing. In her honour, I am raising money for the British Heart Foundation, an incredible charity that is already close to my heart, having lost a beloved colleague to a sudden heart attack in 2021.

The British Heart Foundation's vision is a world without heart and circulatory diseases. A world without heartbreak. 76p of every £1 raised is spent on life saving research, translating to spending over £100 million on research projects each year into all heart and circulatory diseases and the things that cause them.

In order to donate, please follow the below link to my JustGiving page. <https://www.justgiving.com/page/jamie-allen-1706474775399>



Just an update to say that I completed the London marathon on Sunday! What an incredible experience, one that I will never forget, running in memory of my Nanna. I finished with a time of 3hrs42mins.



Thank You

We would like to thank 'The Companions Club' and Frank for the generous donation of £150 towards two kettles for the Community centre kitchen and the remainder towards future flowers for the sanchury and church. We would also like to thank 'The Saturday Film Club' and Gaynor for their generous donation of £95.00 for the Pillar candles around the church. Hopefully you all saw them alight during the Easter period.

"READING GENESIS" by Alan Pavelin

The American writer Marilynne Robinson is best-known for her "Gilead" novels, four books centred around two elderly ministers and their families in 1950s Iowa. Published between 2004 and 2020, these novels (Gilead, Home, Lila, and Jack) can be read in any order, the same events being seen from different perspectives, namely the central character of each book.

Robinson, who is a lay preacher in her Congregational church, is immensely knowledgable about Christian history and theology, as is evidenced in several books of essays she has produced. The one I have, The Givenness of Things, consists of 17 essays with titles like Grace, Servanthood, and Awakening.

Her latest book, which came out in March, is Reading Genesis, an extended meditation on the first book of the Old Testament. She is clearly bringing a novelist's eye to the material, and brings to life the famous stories in it, particularly those around Abraham and Joseph and their families. Her impressive knowledge of ancient Babylonian texts, with their story of a Great Flood, enables her to compare it with the Genesis version and conclude that, while the Babylonian deities acted to benefit themselves, our Abrahamic God acts for the benefit of His creation.

For anyone wanting a real insight into the Book of Genesis, and perhaps to read it in a new way, I thoroughly recommend Marilynne Robinson's book.



Communication Pillar

Girlguiding - St James Girlguiding Units



We open up a **world of possibilities** to girls from 4-18-years-old, one where they **can do anything**.

It's totally flexible, you can help as much or as little as you want.

Join us for nonstop fun, learning and adventures.

Your local Girlguiding group needs:
New leaders to help run three units -
2nd Petts Wood Brownies,
3rd Petts Wood Guides
Petts Wood Rangers.
For more information please email -
Suzanne Horner
pettswood@rcaos.org.uk



Register today



girlguiding.org.uk/volunteer

Registered charity number: Excepted from registration

3rd Petts Wood Scouts Group



Dad and Me

What is it?

A group of dads that meet monthly, with their kids – to chill out, chat with other dads, while their kids play!

Some details:

- For dads with kids aged 1-8
- Toys galore, incl. arts & crafts for the older kids
- “Bacon butties” all round, plus tea, coffee & biscuits (juice for the kids, vegan options available)
- Also an online network of dads – for sharing contacts, knowledge e.g. of tradesmen, schools. Over 70 strong currently, including dads from over 7 years ago!

What are the benefits?

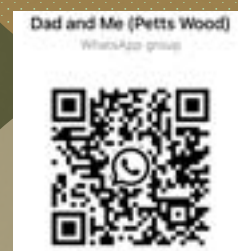
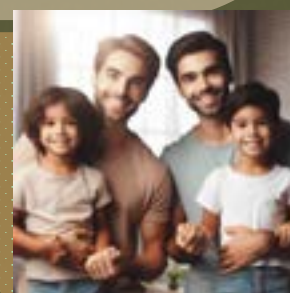
“Me time”, kids time and your partner get 2 hours free per month also!...WIN-WIN-WIN!

When and where?

10:15-12 Saturday mornings, once a month, at the Community Hall (next door)

How do I join?

Just join the Whatsapp group and get the latest on when the next ones are. David will kindly oblige.



Use this QR code and you're in!
(text me any issues...cheers, Jay)
07931 513598



Social Pillar

Wednesday Lunches

Our next Wednesday lunch will be on **Wednesday, 22nd May**. We will be serving a light lunch from 11.30am in the Community Centre. All Welcome.

Note for your Diaries - please see the Wednesday lunches dates for 2024

19th June

17th July

18th September

16th October

20th November

11th December

The Companions Afternoon Club

Who are we? What do we do?

We meet in the Church Community Centre every week. We play scrabble, Triominos, indoor curling, table tennis and we hope to start Line-dancing. Maybe you have ideas as to what you may like to do? So do come and join us in the Community Centre at 1.30pm to 4.30pm on the first two Wednesdays and the second two Tuesdays of the month. Here is a chance to get to know some really lovely people!

Mays dates for The Companions Afternoon Club:

Wednesdays 8th and 15th May

Tuesdays 21st and 28th May

Doors open 1.30pm. All welcome.

Book Club

Book Group continues to meet once a month at 7.30pm in the Community Centre. We welcome anyone who wishes to join us - even if its just for one session....the more the merrier.

Our chosen books for the summer are:

1st May - Midnight Library by Matt Haig

12th June - No one saw a thing by Andrea Mara

10th July - Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby van Pelt

We will have a rest in August but will start back in September with some new, exciting reads!

Petts Wood CWL

Petts Wood Catholic Women's League will be holding their May meeting on Monday, 20th May at 7.30 in the Community Centre.

On Wednesday 22nd May, 2.30 - 4.30, we will be holding our annual afternoon tea and we invite ladies from the other Bromley CWL sections and local Petts Wood churches.

Ladies from our Parish are warmly invited to attend and

learn a little more about the CWL which is a National Catholic Women's organisation with links to international Catholic Women's Groups.

Annual Plant Sale

The CWL Plant Sale will be held after the **6pm Mass on Saturday 25th May** and on **Sunday 26th May after the 9.15 and 11am Masses.**

Please bring along any plants for sale to the Church Garden on Saturday 25th May.

Do come along to buy plants on the 25th and/or 26th. All money raised will go to charities supported by CWL.

We will share more information later in the year about PACT - our project to provide backpacks with essential items for prisoners as they leave prison.

Film Nights in May & June.

Thank you to everyone who joined us on 13 April to watch "A United Kingdom" & for your generous donations of £95 which will be used to buy something specific for the Church - details to follow.

Our film on Saturday, **11 May** will be "**Jackie**", which provides an intimate portrait of First Lady, Jackie Kennedy, during the days following her husband's assassination. Nathalie Portman received an Academy Award for her "performance of a lifetime" in the starring role. The running time is 95 minutes.

On Saturday, **15 June** we will be showing "**Hidden Figures**". The film focuses on a team of three female African-American mathematicians working for NASA during the early years of the U.S. space program. Based on actual events, the women filled a vital role in calculating the launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit, & ensuring his safe return. The running time is 127 minutes.

As usual, our films will start at 7.30pm with the Community Centre & the Bar opening beforehand at 7pm.

We look forward to welcoming you!

A date for your diary!

St James The Great 'Anniversary' Flower Festival

to Celebrate 85 Years in Petts Wood

Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th July 2024

It will be Parishioner Participation (not a competition!)

More information to follow





Social Pillar

Parish Golf Day Invitation

You are cordially invited to join us for the St James the Great Parish Golf Day at Langley Park Golf Club on 5th July 2024, to celebrate the 85th anniversary of our Parish. This will be a great opportunity to enjoy a friendly and fun game of golf, as well as to support our parish community and mission.

The format will be an 18 hole Stableford competition, with tea/coffee, bacon roll on arrival and a late lunch at the end of the rounds. There will also be prizes for the longest drive, nearest the pin, and individual winner.

Tee times will be advised in due course once numbers are confirmed.

The cost of the event will be £80 per person, which includes green fees, Tea/Coffee and Bacon roll on arrival, lunch and a donation to the parish.

To book your place, please fill in the form below and return it by email to myself or Ken Evans by the 10th May 2024, along with your payment by Bank Transfer as shown on the application form.

Places are limited, so book early to avoid disappointment.

We look forward to seeing you at the St James the Great Parish Golf Day and celebrating our parish anniversary with you!

Paul & Ken

**St James the Great
85th Anniversary Golf Day**

**Friday 5th July 2024
at Langley Park Golf Course**

Cost: £80

**Breakfast Roll and Coffee on arrival
and a One Course Meal**

**Prizes for:
Winner
Longest Drive
Nearest the Pin**

**To book contact:
Paul Cosgrave
paulatpalace@hotmail.com
or
Ken Evans
kenevans224@gmail.com**



**St James the Great
85th Anniversary Golf Day**

**Friday 5th July 2024
at Langley Park Golf Course**

Cost: £80



Name:	
Tel:	Handicap:
Address:	
Email Address:	
Please reserve the following Golf Day places:	@£80
Special Dietary Needs:	

Electronic Payment @ £80 each
Payable to: St James the Great Catholic Church
Account No: 13204297 Sort Code: 600814
Reference: surname/golf day

Requests for places must be recieved no later than: 5th June 2024

Please respond as soon as possible as places are limited and ensure forms are returned to: Paul Cosgrave - paulatpalace@hotmail.com or Ken Evans - kenevans224@gmail.com



Youth Matters



Happy Eastertide from youth pillar!

Thank you to all our much valued parish volunteers who make it possible for the various sacramental preparation programmes, uniformed groups, youth group and youth events to be rolled out regularly and in most cases, each week. This year, in addition to First Holy Communion and Confirmation Prep, we have Faith in Action (FIA) running in the community centre for 25 children aged 10-14. This is an established deanery programme with its second hub in Beckenham, catering for 50 young people, in all, aged 10-17.

Help Needed

Anticipating bigger numbers next year, we are looking for new volunteers to join the Time-Share Helpers Group (register here: <https://tinyurl.com/3ws338ea>), as well as four extra adults to join the core FIA team which, aside from the four reflective sessions and one awards ceremony. No experience in youth work is necessary but an interest in supporting young people to grow and develop their faith is essential. The parish office will process your DBS if you don't already hold one. Please email LollyBell@rcaos.org.uk to express your interest, thank you.

Easter At St James

Fantastic turn outs for Shrove Tuesday Pancake Night, Good Friday Stations of The Cross and Easter Sunday Egg Hunt Quiz - again, all powered by parish volunteers and FIA candidates! Thank you for your support - all proceeds, after costs are for the Deanery Youth Fund bringing fun and

engaging events to all.

Sacramental Preparation

Confirmation has attracted 22 young people, who are now nearing the end of their preparation. In March, the Confirmands successfully planned and hosted a packed Quiz Evening & Ploughman's Dinner fundraiser, raising £546 for Make A Wish Foundation UK and BLG Mind. It's fantastic to see young people getting involved and we want to thank all their parents and catechists for their marvellous support and encouragement. At the start of May, they'll be attending a Retreat Weekend at Aylesford Priory before celebrating their Confirmation Mass, at the very start of Pentecost, on 21st May.

First Holy Communion

Our wonderful First Holy Communion children also look forward to receiving Jesus for the very first time next month. Please keep all our young people who are completing their sacramental preparations, and their catechists, in your prayers.

Music Ministry and Fellowship

Looking ahead, young musicians and singers are warmly invited to join the new St James' Youth Choir every 3rd Saturday in the month, 6pm Mass with fellowship and fun in the community centre, afterwards. A f you play an instrument and/or sing and you're interested in being a part of something new, please email pettswood@rcaos.org.uk with your name and contact details. More info, next month!

Heads Up! St James Got Talent!

This year's Parish Garden Party (Sunday 14th July) will be an extra special celebration of our 85th Parish Anniversary and 60th Anniversary of St James' Church. We want to make this extra special, celebrating with an afternoon talent show, so if you're into song and dance, playing an instrument, performing magic, poetry or prose and fancy delighting the audience, please start practicing and look out next month, for the early July rehearsal date.

Walkers & Runners

Our Annual Fun Run (or Walk) will also take place on Sunday 14th July after the 11am Mass at Jubilee Park. Father David is mentally in training, working on achieving a personal best...how about you? Why not make work up to it, starting your training and rallying the support of friends and relatives, to get sponsored, now? Let us know how you get on!

A happy month of May to everyone - the Month of Mary. And good luck to all our young people in assessments and exam season at school. We will be praying for you!

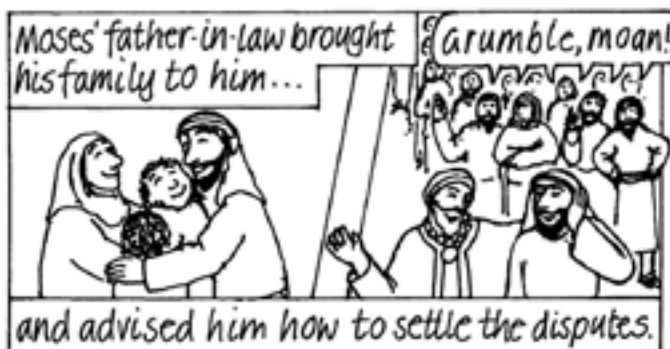
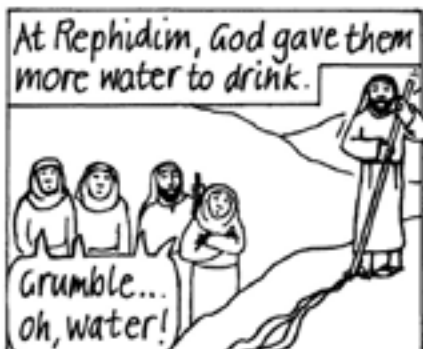
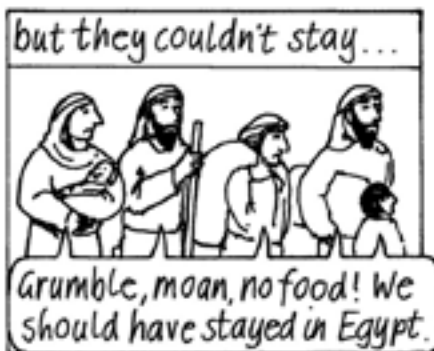


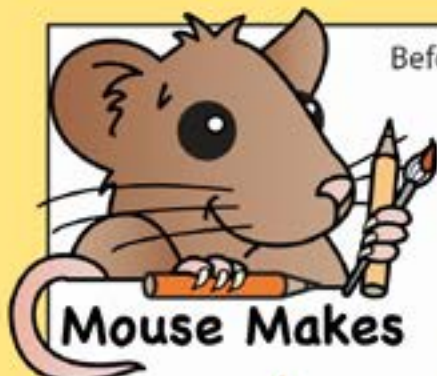
Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Exodus chapters 15:22 to 19:2

God had rescued the Hebrews from Egypt, and was leading them to their new land. But after 3 days....





Before Jesus ascended to heaven he told his disciples
"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit
has come upon you, and you will be my
witness in Jerusalem and in all Judea
and Samaria, and to the end of the earth"...
...When the day of Pentecost arrived,
they were all together in one place,
and they were all filled
with the Holy Spirit."



READ the story
of Pentecost
in Acts 1-2
Look up the Bible
verses to find
the answers to the
crossword clues.

How many
words can you
make from
the letters of:
DAY OF
PENTECOST



- 1 After Jesus ascended into heaven, which city did the Apostles return to? Acts 1:12
5a What did the Apostles devote themselves to? Acts 1:14
6 Who was chosen to replace Judas? Acts 1:26
5d Which special day was it? Acts 2:1

- 8 What rushing sound came from heaven? Acts 2:2
2 What appeared? Tongues of ...? Acts 2:3
4 What were the disciples filled with? Acts 2:4
9 What did they start speaking in? Acts 2:4
3 Who spoke to the crowd? Acts 2:14
7 Who had prophesied this? Acts 2:16

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9					3	8		
				4				3
	6		2					
	5						4	
					9		7	
6				2				
		3	9					1
8		1	5				9	

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ST JAMES THE GREAT
Catholic Church in Petts Wood

May Calendar 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 7pm Book Club	2 Polling Station	3 5pm to 9.30pm Scouting meetings	4 Day Of Prayer	5
6	7 2pm Memory cafe 7pm - 7.45pm Firm Believers 8pm Table Tennis	8 1.30pm Companion Club	9 4.30pm to 9pm Girlguiding Meetings	10 5pm to 9.30pm Scouting meetings	11 9am - 1pm Faith In Action 4pm - 6pm First Holy Communion 7pm Film Night	12
13 6.30pm to 8.30pm Confirmation	14 2pm Memory cafe 7pm - 7.45pm Firm Believers 8pm Table Tennis	15 1.30pm Companion Club 8pm Catenians	16 4.30pm to 9pm Girlguiding Meetings	17 5pm to 9.30pm Scouting meetings	18 10am - 1pm Journey In Faith 4pm - 6pm First Holy Communion	19
20 7.30pm to 9.30pm CWL Meeting 6.30pm to 8.30pm Confirmation	21 1.30pm Companion Club 8.30pm Confirmation Celebration	22 11.45am Wednesday Lunches 2.30-4.30pm CWL Afternoon Tea Party 7.45pm JPIC Meeting	23	24 5pm to 9.30pm Scouting meetings	25 9.45am Dad and Me After Mass CWL Plant Stall	26 After Mass CWL Plant Stall
27 7.30pm to 10pm Knights Meeting	28 1.30pm Companion Club 7pm - 7.45pm Film Believers 8pm Table Tennis	29	30	31 5pm to 9.30pm Scouting meetings		