MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
September 2023

Welcome to our September newsletter.
Email Helen Miller: st.james.notices@gmail.com with anything you wish to include or have any suggestions for future editions.

MINISTER’S MESSAGE September 2023

Hello Everyone,
I hope you have had a good summer, hopefully for some of you including the opportunity to get away on holiday.

Depending on who you believe (the astronomers or the meteorologists) it may still be summer until 21st September, so let’s hope we get some sunny days before the autumn chill!

Many of our Church groups and activities go on all year round, which is a positive thing, some will be resuming in September, hopefully with the opportunity to share and reflect on what God has been saying to us over the summer months.

I was privileged to attend the Keswick Convention as part of my further training and personal spiritual development. It was great to be fed spiritually through an event which has been taking place for the last 148 years. What came over to me most was the fact that God loves us and Jesus will not let us down – perhaps a simple and obvious truth, but one which we all need to hear.

Hearing talks on the First Letter of John in the New Testament connected with what we heard from Revelation earlier in the summer. (It is thought that Revelation was written by the same John who wrote the First Letter of John).

May we all grow in the love of God during this time of Autumn.

God Bless
Peter
In case of a medical emergency, St James’ Church has a defibrillator situated in the church hall.

### St James’ Organ Playing Day
Saturday 30th September 10am - 4pm

Our Organ will be played for a whole day by: Melanie Phillips, Peter Bounds & Peter Hughes.

Please pop in during the day to listen and support us as we make music and raise funds (donations requested) for St James Church projects.

Refreshments will be available throughout the day.

We will give a rough programme of who is playing what and when nearer the time.

Our programme will include: Music written for organ from Bach and his contemporaries to the present day. Music from other sources, e.g., Orchestral and choral works, popular songs. Hymn tunes, well known and less well known, including a 'name that tune' competition! Melodies of stage and screen.

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**A Request to anyone with a Garden:** *Do you have spare plants, cuttings or seedlings to help fill up a new open space in the church garden?*

**NB: this is not (necessarily) a request for your time or money!!**

You may have noticed that the trees in the church garden by the rear gate have been trimmed over the Summer, and the large Leylandii by the vestry door have been removed completely. This whole area is so much lighter now, but it also means that there is quite a lot of bare, empty space.

Obviously, it will take time to establish the new areas, but the aim is to create low maintenance herbaceous borders. As we approach the end of summer (such as it has been) you may be sorting out your own gardens and have spare plants, cuttings or seedlings that you could contribute to a new Church Family Garden.

Please let me know as soon as you can – or through the rest of the autumn - what you might have available, so I can begin to plan what might go where. Love and thanks, Margaret Dee (Tel 0151 428 3356)

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**Grassendale Flower Arranging Society**

You are warmly invited to attend our sessions at 7.30 pm at All Hallows Church Centre, 1 Greenhill Road, Allerton. A floral arrangement is made and then raffled off at the end of the evening. Visitors £7.00

*14 Sept ‘Happy Days’*
A prayer for those starting new schools, colleges or university.

Dear God,

Bless the child, teenager or young adult as they walk into their classroom this month. Father, my hope and prayer is that they might not feel lost in a sea of faces. Be their guide and bless them with thy holy spirit to know that you are with them. Help them to feel confident and joyous as they embark on this new academic adventure. Give them strength to take chances, courage to make friends, and wisdom to make good decisions. Guide their teachers and administrators in how they can best lead them, and may your love remain at the centre of their learning experience.

In Jesus’ name,
Amen.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
Future Services this month at St James’:

Sunday 3rd September 10.30am – Revd. Alison Hall
Sunday 10th September 10.30am - Stephen Mitchell
Sunday 17th September 10.30am - Revd. John Lansley
Sunday 24th September 10.30am – Revd. Peter Hughes, Holy Communion *(Jayne & Andrew McLaren)

Other events during August 2023:

Tuesday 5th September 7.00pm – Mission Action Group (open to all)
Thursday 7th September 9.30am – 11.30am – Coffee Morning
Saturday 9th September – Staff food hygiene training (No coffee morning)
Monday 11th September 7.30pm – Steward/ Elders meeting
Thursday 14th & 21st September 9.30am – 11.30am – Coffee Morning
Thursday 21st September 7.30pm – Finance and Property meeting
Wednesday 27th September 7.45pm – Wednesday Fellowship Group
Thursday 28th September 9.30am – 11.30am – Coffee Morning
Happy birthday to Ben Miller who will be celebrating his 21st birthday on 9th September.

Canal Walk in Gargrave

Stocks Reservoir
Jayne and Andrew’s holiday pics from Krakow

St. Kinga Chapel: The world’s biggest church built underground is located at the depth of 101 meters in the Wieliczka Salt Mine. Made exclusively of rock salt, it is dedicated to St. Kinga, a patron saint of salt mine workers.
Mariacki Church also in St Mary's Church in Rynek Glowny, Town Square in Krakow

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this monthly newsletter.