

January 2026 SJPMagazine

Our aim as a church is...

...To know Jesus and make Him Known

Sundays at SJChurch

4th January

10:00am All Age Worship @ St. James Hill Top
6:30pm Holy Communion @ St. Paul's Golds Hill

11th January

10:00am Holy Communion @ St James
6:00pm Youth Church @ St James
6:30pm Evening Prayer @ St. Paul's Golds Hill

18th January

10:00am Morning Worship @ St. James Hill Top
6:30pm Holy Communion @ St. Paul's Golds Hill

25th January

10:00am Holy Communion @ St. James Hill Top
6:30pm Remembering loved ones @ St. Paul's Golds Hill

1st February

10:00am All Age Worship @ St. James Hill Top
6:30pm Holy Communion @ St. Paul's Golds Hill

This month at St James and St Paul's



St James



St Pauls



Church Hall

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

1st

2nd

3rd

4th

5th

6th

7th

8th

9th

10th

- 10:00 All Age Worship
- 18:30 Holy Communion

- 9:30 Morning Prayer
- 17:00 Squirrels
- 18:30 Cubs

- 14:00 Oakley Gardens Communion
- 18:00 Beavers
- 19:30 Evening Prayer

- 9:15 Little Fish
- 18:00 Youth Group

- 9:30 Morning Prayer
- 19:15 Scouts

- Hill Top Lodge service
- 19:00 Create and Cake

11th

12th

13th

14th

15th

16th

17th

- 10:00 Holy Communion
- 18:30 Evening Prayer

- 9:30 Morning Prayer
- 17:00 Squirrels
- 18:30 Cubs

- 18:00 Beavers
- 19:30 Evening Prayer

- 9:15 Little Fish
- 18:00 Youth Group

- 9:30 Morning Prayer
- 19:15 Scouts

18th

19th

20th

21st

22nd

23rd

24th

- 10:00 Morning Worship
- 18:30 Holy Communion

- 9:30 Morning Prayer
- 17:00 Squirrels
- 18:30 Cubs

- 14:00 Oakley Gardens Communion
- 18:00 Beavers
- 19:30 Evening Prayer

- 9:15 Little Fish
- 18:00 Youth Group

- 9:30 Morning Prayer
- 19:15 Scouts

25th

26th

27th

28th

29th

30th

31st

- 10:00 Holy Communion
- 18:30 Evening Prayer

- 9:30 Morning Prayer
- 17:00 Squirrels
- 18:30 Cubs

- 18:00 Beavers
- 19:30 Evening Prayer

- 9:15 Little Fish
- 18:00 Youth Group

- 9:30 Morning Prayer
- 19:15 Scouts

One more step..



✓ to Grow in Christ



✓ to Pray for a friend



✓ to Invite a friend

As we begin a new year, we are reminded that spiritual growth rarely happens all at once. More often, it happens through faithful obedience—as we take one step at a time.

This year, we are invited to continue with our church motto to take, One More Step in our walk with Christ.



One More Step to Grow in Christ

Spiritual maturity does not come by accident. It comes when God's people commit to knowing Him more deeply through Scripture, prayer, worship, and fellowship.

As the Apostle Paul reminds us, “*Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ*” (2 Peter 3:18). Whether that step is daily Bible reading, coming to morning or evening prayer, or renewing time in prayer, let us intentionally pursue Christ together.

One More Step to Pray for a Friend

Every one of us knows someone who needs the hope of the Gospel. This year, we ask you to choose one friend, family member, or neighbour and commit to praying for them faithfully.

Pray that their hearts would be softened, their eyes opened, and that God would draw them to Himself. Prayer is powerful, and God delights in using His people to intercede for others.

One More Step to Invite a Friend

God often uses a simple invitation to change a life. Inviting someone to church may feel small—but in God's hands, it can have eternal impact. The Bible reminds us, “*How will they hear unless someone tells them?*” (Romans 10:14). This year, let us step out in faith and trust God with the results.

As we move forward, we do so with confidence—not in our own strength, but in the faithfulness of the Lord. Let us be a people who do not stand still, but who continue moving forward in obedience, love, and truth.

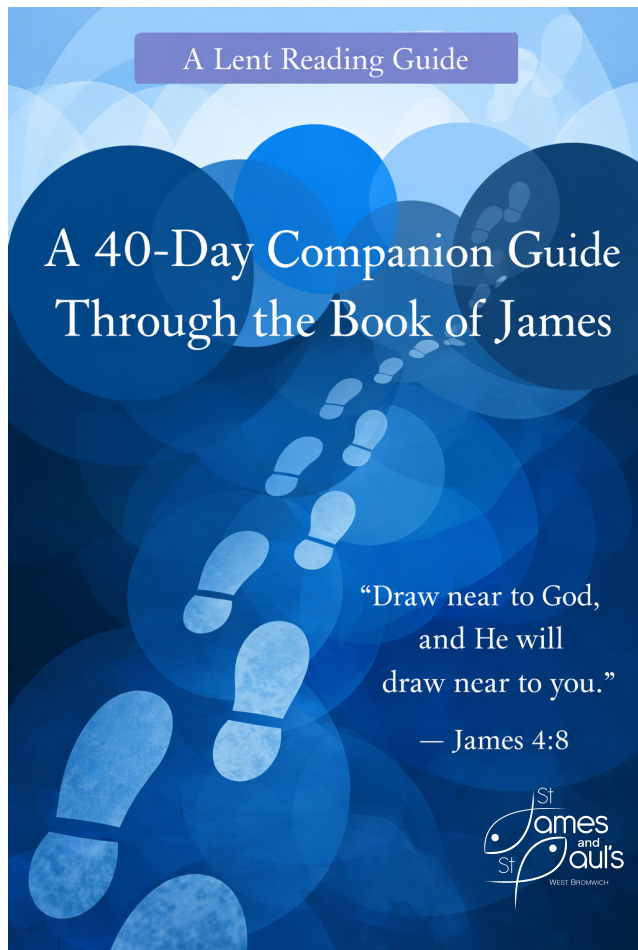
May this year be marked by spiritual growth, faithful prayer, and lives changed through the power of the Gospel—one more step at a time.
Yours in Christ,

Mark



Lent readings

In a short while we will be in lent, and in preparation for our sermon series later in the year, I would like to invite you with me to read though James over the 40 days of lent.



As we do this we will see the themes of James and we will read it I want to encourage us to use our *One More Step..* motto as we try to reflect on the themes that comes up though out James, but also to spend time praying for a friend and inviting them to church, perhaps for Easter Sunday.

Lent is that time of Repentance and renews, of intentional growth, and our readings will invite us to take one more step each day, not to perfection, but to faithful obedience to the Lord almighty.

So please do join me as we Journey through lent with the apostle James.

d	r	u	n	k	o	k	o	e	f	j	w
n	g	i	y	o	s	d	a	w	u	c	s
h	t	u	p	e	n	i	n	n	a	h	a
a	s	p	v	l	a	e	n	s	s	i	m
n	j	i	r	k	u	r	q	i	p	l	u
n	w	t	r	a	v	e	l	l	e	d	e
a	f	r	t	n	y	e	n	e	c	r	l
h	g	s	t	a	y	e	d	n	i	e	o
w	o	r	s	h	i	p	r	t	a	n	v
e	d	i	a	n	s	w	e	r	l	h	e
e	y	c	w	f	e	a	s	t	f	m	d
p	s	h	w	s	h	i	l	o	h	x	h

Israel

prayer

children

Elkanah

wives

year

Eli

rich

none

weep

God

travelled

Peninnah

Shiloh

stayed

Hannah

worship

loved

silent

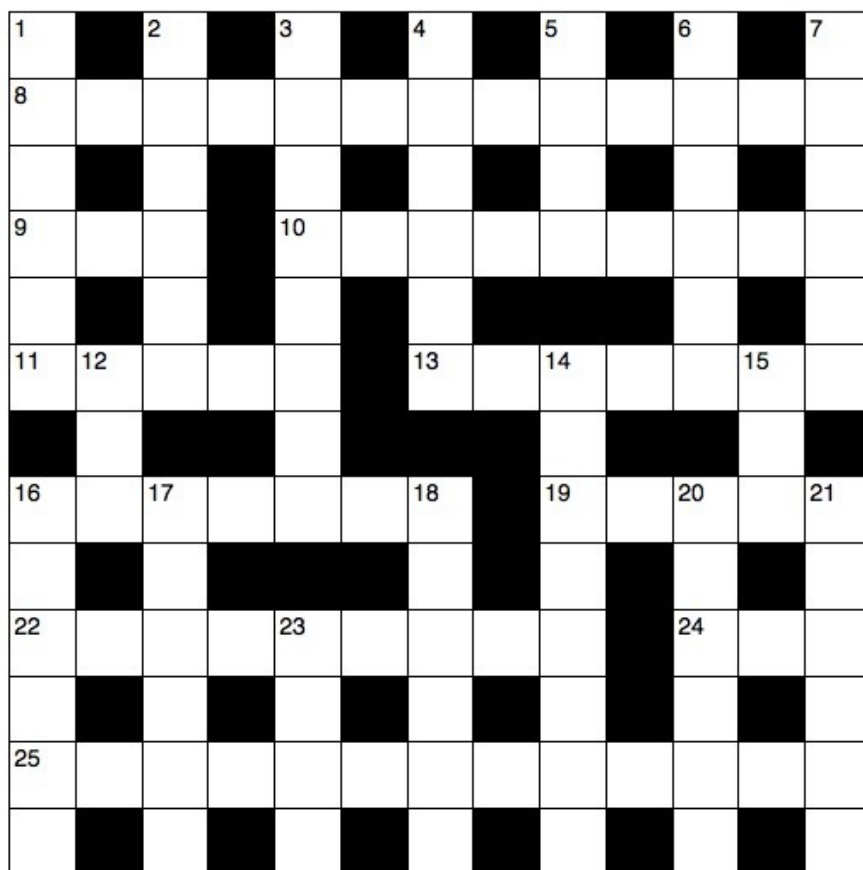
answer

Samuel

feast

special

drunk

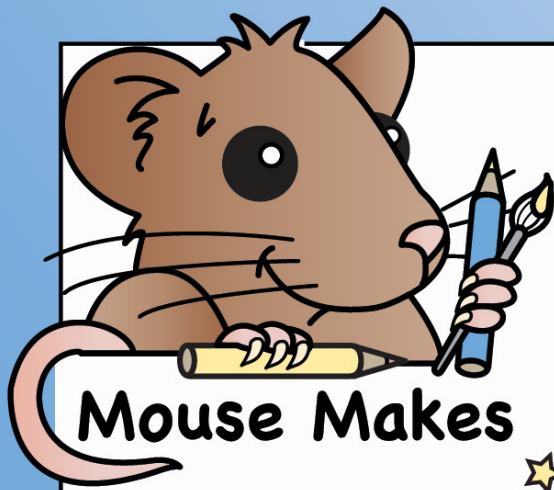


Across

- 8 How the Abyss (NIV) is described in the Authorized Version (Revelation 9:1) (10,3)
 9 Frozen water (Ezekiel 1:22) (3)
 10 The Ten Commandments (9)
 11 In Roman Catholic theology, neither heaven nor hell (5)
 13 Des cons (anag.) (7)
 16 'Though [your sins] are red as — , they shall be like wool' (Isaiah 1:18) (7)
 19 Keen (Romans 1:15) (5)
 22 Repugnant, loathsome (Jeremiah 24:9) (9)
 24 Drink like an animal (Judges 7:5) (3)
 25 First and last (Revelation 22:13) (5,3,5)

Down

- 1 Father of Ahi, a Gadite (1 Chronicles 5:15) (6)
 2 Where David found the stone with which he killed Goliath (1 Samuel 17:40) (6)
 3 'Hour by hour fresh lips are making thy — doings heard on high' (8)
 4 'And there were shepherds living out in the fields near by, keeping watch over their — at night' (Luke 2:8) (6)
 5 United Society for Christian Literature (1,1,1,1)
 6 'If he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would — — or a tax collector' (Matthew 18:17) (1,5)
 7 Where Paul was taken when things became difficult for him in Berea (Acts 17:15) (6)
 12 Istituto per le Opere di Religione (Vatican Bank) (1,1,1)
 14 'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new — ; the old has gone, the new has come!' (2 Corinthians 5:17) (8)
 15 Used to colour ram skins red for use in the tabernacle (Exodus 25:5) (3)
 16 Vat car (anag.) (6)
 17 'Be joyful — — , patient in affliction, faithful in prayer' (Romans 12:12) (6)
 18 'The parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts — — special treatment' (1 Corinthians 12:23) (4,2)
 20 Ancient rowing boat (Isaiah 33:21) (6)
 21 Say again (2 Corinthians 11:16) (6)
 23 What Jesus did in the synagogue in Nazareth after he stood up (Luke 4:16) (4)



Mouse Makes

DID YOU KNOW ?

Stars shine different colours, the colour we see depends on the temperature of the star. The hottest stars shine **blueish-white**, then **yellowish-white**, **yellow**, **orange** and the coolest stars shine **red**.

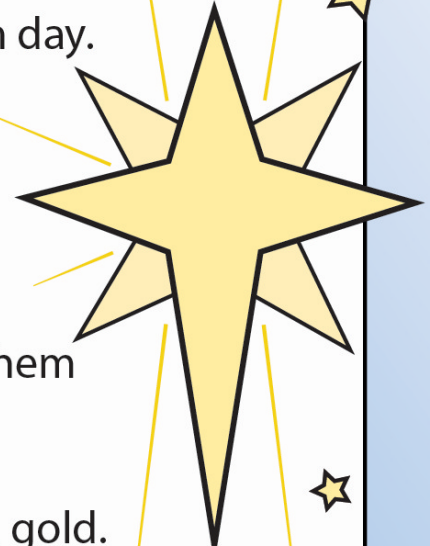
WISE MEN FROM THE EAST

The Wise Men came from a land far away, they had seen a star that shone brighter than day.

The star was a sign of the birth of a king, so they followed that star to pay homage to him.

They found him in Bethlehem as the prophets fortold, they gave him three gifts: myrrh, frankincense and gold.

The star led to Jesus our saviour and king, let us join with the Wise Men and go worship Him!



Read the story of the Wise Men in **Matthew 2:1-12**

S B E T H L E H E M J O I Y
T K J E S U S K I N O W W C
A G O E P I P H A N Y O I V
R I U M E S S I A H G R S I
K F R A N K I N C E N S E S
I T N G O L D M Y R R H M I
N S E I J V S I G N B I E T
G O Y A C H R I S T C P N M

Can you find these words in the word search?

WISE MEN • MAGI
STAR • SIGN
JOURNEY • BETHLEHEM
VISIT • JESUS • MESSIAH
CHRIST • KING
GIFTS • GOLD • MYRRH
FRANKINCENSE
WORSHIP • JOY
EPIPHANY





"The vicar's hoping providing a really strong mobile signal will attract more young folk to the church."

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

Prayers for Sick and Bereaved

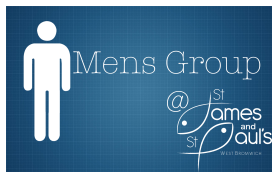
Please Pray for those in need.

Especially.....

Bill Nock
Bridget Williams
Sybil Dilworth
Cara Dilworth
Daniel Jenkins
Kim McCulloch
Kayliegh Winstanley

The Family and Friends of ...

Denzel Smith
Anne Rodgers
Philip David Kemp known as David



The next Men's Breakfast will be on the
21st February 2025 at the Queen Inn in
West Bromwich.

We will meet at 9:00am for about an hour
to an hour and half.

Why not come along.

Price last time was £10.99

For more Details, speak to Mark or Andy



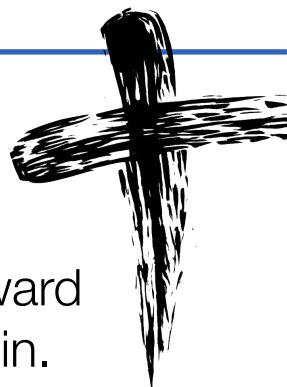
Don't forget that our Create and Bake
group meets on the first Friday of every
month, 7pm at St James.

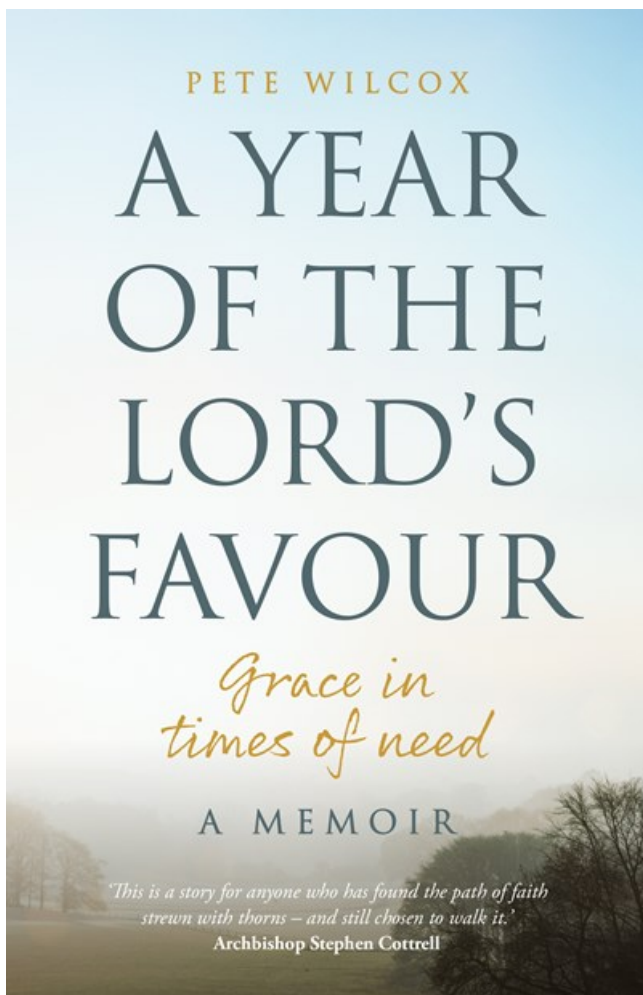
Costs £2 which includes crafts, cake, tea,
coffee and great conversations!
For more details, speak to Rebecca Wilson

Ash Wednesday Service

Our Ash Wednesday Service will be on Wednesday the
18th of February at 6:30pm.

Please come as we begin our journey in faith looking forward
to the hope of Easter as we seek the forgiveness of our sin.





A Year of the Lord's Favour - Grace in times of need

By Pete Wilcox, CHP, £12.99

Pete Wilcox reflects on the time when, in the space of one year, he was made a diocesan bishop – in the wake of the withdrawal of the preferred candidate – and was diagnosed with and received radical surgery for cancer of the colon that left him with a permanent colostomy. Drawing heavily on daily prayer journal entries kept at the time, he offers encouragement and support for anyone attempting to maintain life as normal while dealing with personal challenges that might be overwhelming. This is a story of both trust and resilience which will inspire and encourage anyone whose hopes and dreams have been overtaken by events. It will enable them to find God's faithfulness in the midst of turmoil.

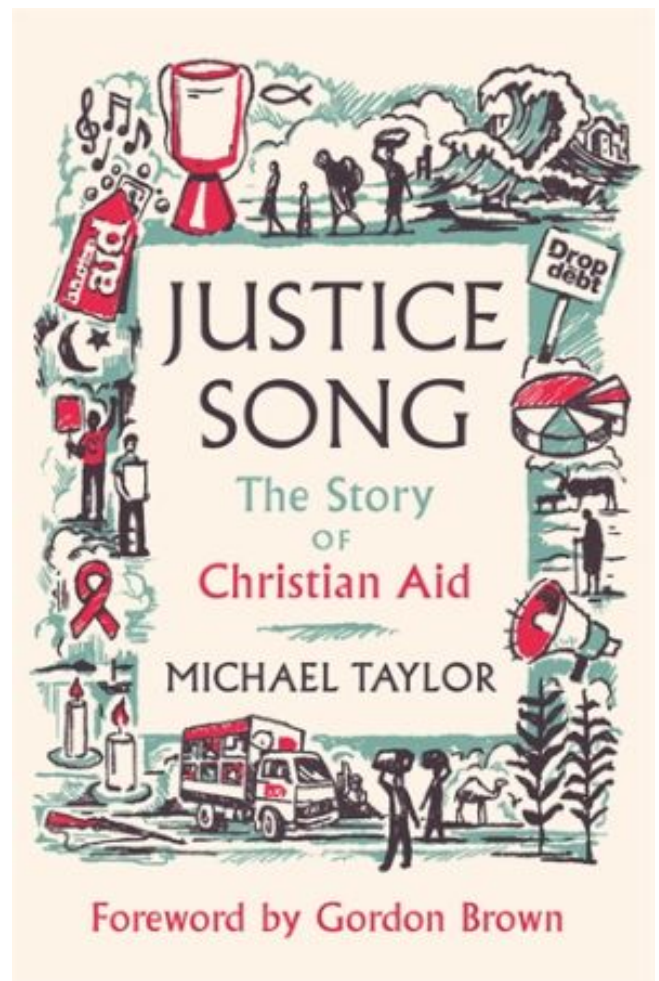
The Jesus Storybook Bible Advent Activity Book – 24 Guided Crafts, plus Games, Songs, Recipes, and More

Justice Song - the Story of Christian Aid: (with a Foreword by Gordon Brown)

By Michael Taylor, SPCK, £14.39

In honour of its 80th anniversary, *Justice Song* tells the story of Christian Aid's journey from its post-World War II origins to its emergence as a leading force in the fight against poverty and injustice.

Justice Song tells the story through a series of vivid, thematic chapters that trace its evolution from post-war beginnings to present-day campaigns. Founded in 1945 by British and Irish churches to support refugees after World War II, Christian Aid has expanded its humanitarian mission across the globe. Always rooted in a vision of justice, it has provided emergency relief, backed long-term development, and championed the rights of the marginalised. From challenging the World Bank and International Monetary Fund to helping found the Voluntary Service Overseas, Disasters Emergency Committee, and Fairtrade Foundation, Christian Aid has consistently pushed beyond the boundaries of traditional charity.



Cross Word Answers

ACROSS:

8, Bottomless pit. 9, Ice. 10, Decalogue. 11, Limbo. 13, Seconds. 16, Crimson. 19, Eager. 22, Abhorrent. 24, Lap. 25, Alpha and Omega.

DOWN:

1, Abdiel. 2, Stream. 3, Wondrous. 4, Flocks. 5, USCL. 6, A pagan. 7, Athens. 12, IOR. 14, Creation. 15, Dye. 16, Cravat. 17, In hope. 18, Need no. 20, Galley. 21, Repeat. 23, Read.

Word search Answers

d	r	u	n	k	o	k	e	f	j	w
n	g	i	y	o	s	d	a	w	u	c
h	t	u	p	e	n	i	n	n	a	h
a	s	p	v	l	a	e	n	s	s	i
n	j	i	r	k	u	r	q	i	p	l
n	w	t	r	a	v	e	l	e	d	e
a	f	r	t	n	y	e	n	e	c	r
h	g	s	t	a	y	e	d	n	i	e
w	o	r	s	h	i	p	r	t	a	n
e	d	i	a	n	s	w	e	r	l	h
e	y	c	w	f	e	a	s	t	f	m
p	s	h	w	s	h	i	l	o	h	x

Sudoku Answers

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

Contact information

Vicar

Rev. Mark Wilson
 90 Hall Green Road
 West Bromwich
 B71 3LB
 0121 532 2865
vicar@sjpchurch.co.uk

Children's and Youth Minister

Emily Taylor
 St James Church
 Hill Top
 West Bromwich
 B70 0SB
 0121 502 0879
childrenstjameswithstpaul@gmail.com

Church Wardens

Clive Bradley
 Kerry Gorton

Safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact our Parish Safeguarding officer via our website.

www.sjpchurch.co.uk/safeguarding

Accessibility

There is an accessible toilet at the back of Church.

We have large print hymn books if you need them.

For the hearing loop please switch your hearing aid to 'T'.

