

Welcome to St Oswald's Church, Sowerby

Today's Readings: Ephesians 1:15-23, Matthew 25:31-46

Today	8:30am 10:30am	Early Worship Family communion*
Monday 27th	10:00am	Little Wonders (Hall)
Tuesday 28th	9:15am 7:30pm	CandY prayers (kitchen) Bell ringing
Wednesday 29th	9:30am	Holy Communion
Thursday 30th	9:45am 2:00pm 7:30pm	Bell ringing Mothers' Union House Groups
Friday 1 st Dec	12:00 noon	Warm Welcome Lunch (Hall)
Saturday 2nd	10:00am	Repair Café (Library)
Next Sunday 3rd Dec Advent 1	8:30am 10:30am 10:30am	Holy Communion Morning Praise Godly Play

Children's groups: All at 10.30am. 1st & 2nd Sundays is Godly Play in the Annexe. 3rd Sunday we're all in church for Worship for All. 4th Sunday: we're in church for the start of the service then we go out to Kids Club and return to church for Family Communion.

*These services will be available on Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/2607227907>

**For more details about our Youth activities please contact
rev.david@stoswaldsowerby.org.uk

NOTICES:

House Groups meet this week then see below for Advent. Orchid House group meets on Thursday at 7:20pm for a 7:30pm start: speak to David Brooke for more details. Bagby group also meets on Thursday at 7.10pm for a 7:30pm start: 4 Moor Lane, Bagby, YO7 4PN. For more info speak to David Bacon.

Advent book and groups! : Under dark skies in Jerusalem, an old man called Simeon is waiting. He lives in a land of shadow, but he longs for Isaiah's age-old prophecies to be fulfilled: promises of hope, of salvation, of a suffering servant, and ultimately of God himself come to dwell with his people. Then, one day, he holds a baby in his arms, and knows he may depart in peace. In Jesus, all these promises are being fulfilled. This advent we are journeying through Isaiah 40-55, with daily devotions from this year's Advent book, Comfort and Joy. 25 short devotions will take you through Isaiah 40-55, with a reading, a short reflection, questions for meditation, and suggestions for prayer.

Advent groups are meeting every Thursday (**7th, 14th and 21st**) in Advent 7:30-9pm in St Oswald's, as we get ready for Christmas together. Everyone is welcome. Copies of the advent book will be available for £2.00 a copy from St Oswald's.

Posada Rota:

The Posada rota is up at the back of church, if people would like to sign up for hosting the figures of Mary, Joseph and the Donkey for an evening during December.

Churches Christmas Card Delivery: We really need *more* volunteers to help deliver the ecumenical Christmas Card around Sowerby. If you able to take on a route please speak to David Tucker.

Soup Lunch Rota The soup rota for December is on the notice board at the back of church. We need 3 volunteers each week, **please** sign up!



Scams again! If you get strange emails seeming to be from a church leader asking you to do something or buy something — STOP as it's probably a scam. If in doubt ring the person concerned and DELETE the email! We will NOT ask you to buy something with your own money!

Pew Bibles: We have brand **new** pew Bibles. (The old ones will go to new homes!) Please do take good care of them!

Food Bank contributions: - Please keep these coming in as the needs continue. Box is at the back of church.

Screens: Now that we making increased use of projection in church, we are intending to install several fixed screens (similar to the one by the choir). The PCC have approved this measure and a faculty has been sought from the diocese to allow this to happen. A copy of the faculty notice and plans are up on the notice board if any one wishes to read it.

Arrival of Refugee Family: We started nearly 2 years ago as a small group from Churches Together aiming to bring and support a family from abroad. To succeed we needed the wider community to support, and we have been constantly humbled by your generosity both financially and in prayer. We recently asked for items for the home and again we were astounded by your continued generosity, kindness, and overwhelming desire to make the family feel welcomed.

We have met so many wonderfully warm people here in Thirsk and the surrounding areas, and we thank our Heavenly Father for showing us that we belong to a beautiful, caring community. Thank you for your contribution, from our joyful hearts.

We are pleased to say that the family have now spent the first week on a journey to begin a new life. And what a week it has been. I would firstly say that the family is very happy and have settled remarkably quickly. A school place has been confirmed for the 15-year-old boy and the parents will be registering for their first English lessons next week. We have already been thrilled with the reception of the family in Thirsk as they have



walked around and met members of our congregations who have smiled and welcomed them warmly.

Collect for Christ the King

God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory.

Amen

Contacts	
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Love God.
Build Community.
Serve Sowerby.

