

ST OSWALD'S SOWERBY



Sunday 2nd February
2025

Welcome to St Oswald's Church, Sowerby
Readings: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a, Luke 4:14-21

Sunday 2nd	8:30am 10:30am	Holy Communion Morning Praise and baptism of Ella Hogan*
Monday 3rd	10:00am	Little Wonders baby and toddler group (Hall)
Tuesday 4th	9:30am	Prayer meeting
Wednesday 5th	9:30am	Holy Communion
Thursday 6th	7:30pm	House Group (Orchid House)
Friday 7th	12:00pm 12:00pm	Warm Welcome Lunch (Hall) Funeral of Bertram John Lazenby
Saturday 8th	9:00am	Marriage Preparation Day
Sunday 9th	8:30am 10:30am	Early Worship Holy Communion*

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 are available on Zoom using the link: <https://zoom.us/j/2607227907>

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

www.stoswaldsowerby.org.uk | www.facebook.com/stoswaldsowerby

NOTICES

Parish Passes – Parish Passes are kindly sent by the Diocesan office on behalf of the Minster in December of each year. These are issued to the PCC secretary or Church warden to allow members of the Christian community across the Diocese to visit their Mother church free of charge. If you would like to borrow a parish pass please speak to one of the wardens or email admin@stoswaldsowerby.org.uk

***** Tea and coffee rota ***** - thanks to those who are already on the rota, however we are still in need of a couple more volunteers to fill the last spaces. Please speak to Liz Harrison if you are able to help.

Pastoral Volunteers – Caring for those in our community is an important part of what we do. We are seeing an increasing need for pastoral home visiting for those unable to come to church at the moment. If this is something you feel you would be able to offer, or something that you already do but could formalise as part of our team, please speak to Rev David Biggs or Cecily Rands.

Jigsaw Boxes - As a church we will be supporting Jigsaw's Resources for Life Campaign. At the back of the church is a box ready to take donations of hygiene and health resources, craft and education materials, and good quality sewing materials. These resources will help bring healing, health development and empowerment to children and adults living at risk and in poverty in the Philippines. The resources needed are listed and displayed with the box.

House Group – House group takes place on Thursdays at 7:30pm at Orchid House. Please speak to David Brooke or David or Lorraine Bacon for further details.

Men's Group - Despite the poor weather of recent weeks, a number of us have been able to get out for some clay pigeon shooting at Thimbleby Shooting Ground which has been great fun. The clays had the upper hand, no surprises there, but good fun was had by all and it was nice to spend time getting to know each other a little more in a different setting.

As we've met, ideas have been put forward for the coming year and I'm currently drawing together a draft programme which includes the following ideas:

- Walks - our first walk was a gentle 6 miles to the north of Thirsk, the next may be a slightly more taxing circular walk that includes a coffee



& bacon buttie stop at the Carpenters Arms, Felixkirk on the Saturday 22nd February.

- Do you have a favourite walk that you'd like to share, there are plenty heading off from Thirsk, but with a little organisation we could easily meet further afield and it would be great to get others engaged. We'll be planning some more walks in the coming months.
- Vintage Motor Cycle collection & testimony: One of our members has a unique, private motorcycle collection and we're hoping to arrange a visit in the spring/early summer. I'm hoping we will be joined by Rev David Hill, our old pastor, a great evangelistic speaker and motorcycle nut! This will be a real opportunity to invite male friends and petrol heads to hear Gods word in a unique environment.
- Bowls evening - Gayle has asked if we'd like to enjoy a relaxed evening at Thirsk Bowls Club in the summer. The last time I played was when I was a teenager, playing in Clitheroe Castle grounds on Lancashire crown greens, these flat Yorkshire greens should be a doddle!
- Summer evening clay shoot & pizza - last year we just missed these events, but our aiming will be better this year!
- In the autumn I've approached Holy Rood House for a men's day, including breakfast & lunch to set some time apart to focus on Christ in us and our role as Christian Men in today's world.

If you have a hobby, interest or contact that offers something a bit different for a visit then please touch base with me. I'm putting dates in the plan over the next few weeks and it would be great to engage with all the men at St Oswald's and to provide opportunities to invite friends along too. We will need to commit to Holy Rood later in the year so please do look out for that one in the coming months.

Many thanks, Andrew

Eyewitness stories from Palestine.

What is daily life under military occupation really like?

2.30pm Sunday 2 March 2025 in St Oswald's Church, Sowerby

Come and hear first-hand from Neil Irving, recently returned from three months as a human right monitor in the West Bank.

Neil served with the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI). The programme was established following an appeal from church leaders in the Holy Land to create an international presence in the country, accompanying local people and



communities, offering protective presence and witnessing their daily struggles and hopes.

Neil was based in the Jordan Valley and visited many families and communities over the three months. During this time he witnessed, heard about and reported many violations of human rights and international humanitarian law. He also wrote two blogs whilst there:

- <https://www.eyewitnessblogs.com/i-am-frightened-and-have-to-treat-the-flags-like-i-treat-my-own-children/>
- <https://www.eyewitnessblogs.com/education-under-attack/>

Collect – Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

God of heaven,
you send the gospel to the ends of the earth
and your messengers to every nation:
send your Holy Spirit to transform us
by the good news of everlasting life
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Contacts	
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Love God.
Build Community.
Serve Sowerby.

