

WEEKLY BULLETIN

ENCOUNTERING, GROWING, PARTICIPATING

OUR SERVICE THIS SUNDAY

Sunday 14th December

Advent: Joy Renews the Weary

Isaiah 55
John 4: 1-14

Preach Mike Gillingham
Lead Fabian Wuyts

NEXT TWO WEEKS

Sunday 21st December

Advent: Joy Transforms the World

Isaiah 52. 7-10

Preach Fabian Wuyts
Lead Sara Bright

All Age Christingle Service

Sunday 28th December

Emmanuel – God With Us

Isaiah 7:10-14
Matthew 1:18-22

Preach Fabian Wuyts
Lead James Haddell

All Age Service

Christmas 2025 services/events

Sunday 14th December
2:30 pm: Carols and Tea

Sunday 21st December
10:30 am: Christingle
6:00 pm Carol Service

JOY



Wednesday 24th December
(Christmas Eve)

3:00 pm: Crib Service
11:30 pm: Midnight Service

Thursday 25th December
(Christmas Day)

10:00 am: Christmas Day Service

Book Now!!

St James Church TAUNTON

St James Players present
A pantomime by Ben Crocker

Sleeping Beauty

A Family/Community Pantomime
Proceeds in aid of Taunton Food Bank
and TEAR Fund Ukraine Appeal

Friday 30th January 2026 7pm
Saturday 31st January 4.30 pm
Sunday 1st February 4.30 pm

St James Church, Taunton, TA1 1JS
(next to the County Cricket Ground)

Tickets: Adults £7/Children £3 (must be accompanied)
(includes interval drink, biscuit and programme)
Tickets available from Church Office
01823 272931 or 07796248369
bookable online through Ticket Source



Image courtesy of Dez Pain@rgrbstock.com

<p>★ Sun Dec 7th and 14th Children's Church in the hall 10.30am Celebrate Advent with crafts, carols and snacks!</p>	<p>★ Sun Dec 21st ★ Christingle All age service 10.30am Arrive from 10am to assemble Christingles in the hall</p>	<p>★ Mon Dec 22nd Christmas film and popcorn in church 3pm</p>
<p>★ Wed 24th Dec Crib service 3pm Costumes available</p>	<p>★ Christmas@ ★ St James Church TAUNTON ★ Children and Families</p>	<p>★ Christmas Day ★ All age service 10am</p>
<p>★ Sun 28th Dec All age service with crafts in church 10.30am</p>	<p>★ Sun Jan 4th Children's Church in the hall 10.30am Celebrate Epiphany with crafts, fun and snacks!</p>	<p>★ Sun Jan 11th Family Breakfast in the hall Arrival 9.30 - 10am Let a member of the team know if you're planning to come</p>

FLOWER DIARY



We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Friday morning 19 December. If you would like to help on the day or have some suitable greenery please come along. A small donation toward the cost of the flowers is always very much appreciated this time of year. Speak to any member of the Flower Team if you can help. Thank you

St James Church TAUNTON

Traditional Hymns & afternoon tea
2:30 – 4:00 pm



14th December Carols

Hymns & Tea
All welcome

what to expect


The course runs for an initial 6 weeks

Connect
You'll meet other people with questions just like yours.

Watch
We watch a 25 minute film together that's designed to inspire questions.

Discuss
There's an open discussion where you can share your thoughts in small groups.

Alpha
Scan the QR code to register your interest or send an email to info@stjamestaunton.co.uk



Looking forward to seeing you there!

St James Church TAUNTON

Alpha is a chance to explore the big questions of life in a non-pressurised environment.

Alpha

Wednesday evenings
7.30pm-9pm
14th January for six weeks
@ St James Church
www.stjamestaunton.org

SIMPLY PRAY
St James Church, Taunton TA1 1JS

We invite you to drop in and
Simply Pray

Offering a time of contemplative prayer through guided meditation and Reflection in the Chapel

Thursday 8 January 2026
7.00pm to 8.30pm

All welcome – come along and leave when its right for you
Please use Hall entrance

Besom Christmas Hampers!

We will be making up our Christmas hampers again soon and delivering them to individuals and families we have helped over the past year - those who will be particularly blessed by a little extra at Christmas.

If you would like to contribute, we would be pleased to receive:

- Christmas cakes and puddings
- sweets
- chocolate logs
- tins of biscuits
- savoury treats
- chocolate tree novelties
- hot chocolate
- crackers
- selection boxes etc

The deadline for donations is Sunday 7th December

Please contact Elaine on 07432 629435

Many thanks,
The Besom in Taunton!



Open Door Taunton
A SUPPORT CENTRE FOR ROUGH SLEEPERS IN TAUNTON

HELP US PROVIDE OUR CLIENTS WITH GIFTS THIS CHRISTMAS

NOVEMBER 10-DECEMBER 18
DONATIONS 9.30 - 1 MON TO FRI

1A MOUNT STREET TA13QB
INFO@TAUNTONOPENDOOR.ORG.UK

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wind Up Torches Handwarmers Thermos Flasks Sleeping Bags Roll Mats Hats & Gloves Wet Wipes Rucksacks Thermals/ Long Johns Bottled Water Small Juice Cartons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Packets Of Tissues Charging Leads Power Banks E45 Cream Waterproofs Breakfast Bars Chocolate Bars Sweets Small Men's Boxers XS Women's Pants Hoodies Jogging Bottoms
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Open Door Taunton
amazon voucher



Our Mission Focus for December



please keep them in your prayers

Our story

You may never have heard of Great Horton in Bradford. But for us, it's a really special place - it's where we were born. In 1998, when one local church in the neighbourhood realised that there were young people out of school in the daytime they knew they needed to do something.

That's when TLG's first education centre began. A small school for excluded young people, enabling them to feel part of somewhere safe and achieve vital qualifications to have a future brimming with potential.

But Great Horton was just the tip of the iceberg. Knowing that thousands of school exclusions take place each year, we looked further afield for more local churches sharing a similar vision to support struggling young people. For over twenty years, TLG's church-based Education Centres, brought hope and a future to excluded young people across England.

In 2010, we knew we had to do more. There was one question we just couldn't shake from our heads. Why wait for school exclusions to take place before we helped these children? We were convinced we needed to act sooner. That's why we launched TLG Early Intervention, enabling local churches to support struggling children through weekly one to one support in a mainstream school environment. Since the programme started, we've seen over 30,000 hours worth of one to one support for struggling children and 97% of children who have been coached say they are more hopeful about their future.

But it's not always obvious to spot a child that's finding it hard to cope. For over one million children, the struggle of holiday hunger takes place behind closed doors. In 2018, we joined forces with the charity Make Lunch to help local churches bring hope to children who would otherwise go hungry in the school holidays when free school meals stop. Make Lunch is now fully part of the TLG family and helps to transform even more lives through churches that refuse to let any child face holiday hunger in the UK today.

So that's us in a nutshell. But you're probably dying to hear more. Join 1000s of others who have read 'Out of the Ordinary: The TLG Story' - a book about the vision that a generation of struggling children should know love and acceptance through the most powerful means possible - the local church.

THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP
8TH JANUARY 2026

St James Church TAUNTON



*Holy Communion
with our Vicar
Fabian Wuyts*

TAUNTON CHORAL SOCIETY

Sat 13th December
St James' Church, Taunton
(next to the County Ground)
7:30pm

Handel's MESSIAH
with orchestra and trumpets!

Tickets £18
(all under 18s FREE)

Taunton Visitor Centre 01823 340470 or
www.tauntonchoralsociety.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 900173



SOMERSET YOUTH CONCERT BAND

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

ST JAMES CHURCH TAUNTON
TUESDAY 23RD DECEMBER 7PM

SCAN TO BOOK

ADULTS £11
CONCESSIONS/
STUDENTS £9

SOMERSETMUSIC.CO.UK/EVENTS/SYCB-CHRISTMAS25

Somerset Music Arts Council England Somerset Council OCTAGON

P

If you travel to Church by car on Sunday morning, please consider parking at the far end of the car park by the Medical Centre or further afield, so that spaces in front of the Church can be used by members of our congregation with mobility issues.

Thank you - the Churchwardens

We have the following items in our lost property:

- 3 pairs 'off the shelf' glasses**
- 1 pair of prescription glasses left at the concert on the 29th November**
- 1 pair men's brown trousers**
- 1 Spiderman children's jumper age 7-8**
- 1 pair of brand new pink/grey trainers size 29**
- 1 silver metal flask**
- 1 black plastic flask**
- 1 ty furry animal**
- 1 purple lace headband**
- 1 'Brave Soul' men's navy fleece**
- 1 red Per Una ladies jacket**

If you recognise any these items please contact the office by the 31st December, any items unclaimed by this date will be recycled

Thank you



13TH DECEMBER 2025

Jingle Bells



CHRISTMAS SING-ALONG PARTY

Vineyard and Friends @
Oakwood Church, O'bridge
Road, TA2 7PU, 6.30pm

A Collection will be taken for
actions for Children's trust-
acts-Uganda (no.1206746)

FREE ENTRY
SALE-TEA,
COFFEE, MULLED
WINE AND
MINCE-PIES

2024 RESET 2025 READY 2026 GO

10.01.26

A SOUTH WEST GATHERING FOR YOUNG ADULTS

G

A day at the start of the year to meet with
KING JESUS

GUESTS:
elle limebear > grace wheeler >
john mcginley > dave plowman >
jodie lintern > roscoe crawley >
sophie gilbert > sam burton >

VENUE:
Taunton

TICKETS:
worshipawaken.com

TIMINGS
10am-9pm

AWAKEN IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
PALAU [LIVER] [BIRMINGHAM] [CREATION FEST] [SKYTV] THE SEND

PRAYER



Zoom Morning Prayer

Topic: St James Morning Prayer
Time: 9.15am
Day: Monday and Thursday
Meeting ID: 891 6439 9113



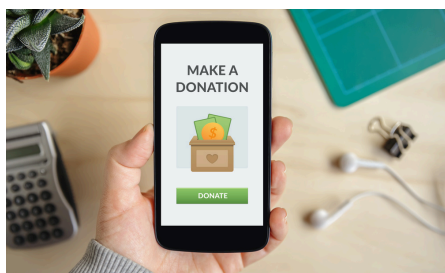
Prayer Space

A new day and time for Prayer
Space coming soon



Prayer for Taunton

St James Church Lounge - More
details from Andy on 01823 274656

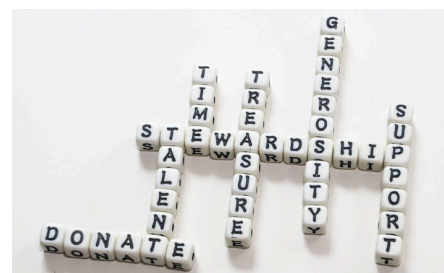


You can now donate electronically
at the door or by clicking the link
below

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/8565dd91-35b1-4bd2-8007-fe59feb9db3>



Cash can be placed in the wall safe
on the right hand side of the church
as you leave or in the collection
plate. You can gift aid donations by
using the yellow forms by the plate.



If you wish to set up regular
monthly giving, please contact
Chris Rickard to set up monthly
stewardship
christine.rickard@sky.com

Contacts

Vicar

Rev Fabian Wuyts
01823 333194
vicar@stjamestaunton.co.uk

Churchwardens

Nigel Bright 07817627326
Fiona Hope 07743917478

Administrator

Glenys Hanlon
01823 272931
info@stjamestaunton.co.uk

Caretakers

Sharon Giddings or Roger
Hunt contact via Church
Office 01823 272931

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Jenny Wakefield 07796248369

Discipleship Coordinator

(LifeGroups, Alpha)
Roger Fenton
07960 672321
email: rogerifenton@gmail.com

Children's Church Pastor

Rachel Haddell
Rachel@stjamestaunton.org



St James Church
St James Street
Taunton
TA1 1JS