



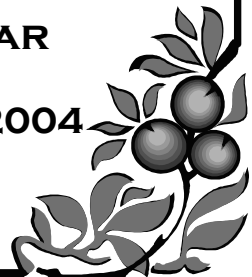
The Friends of  
St James the Great, Chorley  
Registered Charity No: 288678  
[www.friends.stjames.btinternet.co.uk](http://www.friends.stjames.btinternet.co.uk)

**FESTIVAL  
OF  
FLOWERS  
AND  
MUSIC**

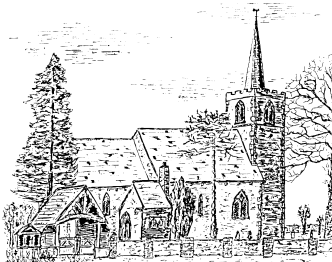
**THEME:  
THE CHURCH'S YEAR**

**28TH–30TH AUGUST 2004**

*PROGRAMME 50P*



# The Friends of St James the Great, Thorley



The Friends of St James assist the Rector and Parochial Church Council in maintaining and beautifying the Church and Churchyard. We seek to raise funds in support of our work by organising events such as the Festival of Flowers and Music held each year over the August Bank Holiday Weekend and through membership subscriptions.

The Church of St James the Great dates from Norman times and is the oldest building in Thorley. It consists of a Chancel, Nave, South Porch, Vestry and embattled Western Tower. The Tower is surmounted by an oak-shingled Hertfordshire Spike and contains six bells. The Church is built of flint rubble with clunch dressings and has a total length of 100 feet.

The Chancel and Nave were built in the 13<sup>th</sup> Century in the Early English style, but the Norman Font and Doorway suggest that the Church existed at least as early as the 12<sup>th</sup> Century. The Tower was added in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century. Outside the Western Door is a Holy Water Stoop and the Church contains three remarkable 14<sup>th</sup> Century stepped sedilia, or priests' seats.

In the Churchyard there is an ancient Yew Tree which has been dated as being at least 1000 years old.

Do you live in the parish of Thorley or the surrounding area and care about our Church? Do you have family connections with the Church? Do you care about our heritage and the preservation of ancient and beautiful buildings? If your answer to any of these questions is yes, why not join the Friends?

If you would like an application form or wish to make a donation in support of our work please ask the Stewards or write to the Treasurer, Adrian Phillips, 35 Abbots Way, Bishop's Stortford, Herts, CM23 4JE. Alternatively you can e-mail the Secretary, Philip Hargrave, at [friends.stjames@btinternet.com](mailto:friends.stjames@btinternet.com).

Proceeds from this year's Festival will be used to fund the redecoration of the exterior and interior of the Church.

## Music at St James

We hope you enjoy the musical activities throughout the Festival. We are blessed indeed in having so many people with musical skills amongst us. There are four groups dedicated to enhancing our worship by their musical leadership and combining together for special services and events.

In the early 1980s there was only the Church Choir, which sang at the main Sunday morning service, but the congregation was steadily outgrowing the capacity of the Church and the need for different forms of worship was becoming apparent. This resulted in the introduction, in the mid-eighties of the 9:15 a.m. service by the Revd. Alan Cole, Rector of Thorley at the time.

The Church Choir remained with the more traditional form of worship and now sings at the 11:15 a.m. service (except the first Sunday of the month), Choral Evensong (6 p.m. on the fourth Sunday of each month) and many of the weddings that take place at St James'. The Choir enjoys a wide range of hymns and anthems. Practices are held on Wednesday evenings starting at 7:30 p.m.

The Music Group formed in the early 1990s to provide leadership for the more informal service at 9:15 a.m. and is now under the guidance of Katharine Roper. This group also enjoys a wide range of songs and hymns. Practices are on Monday evenings.

St James' Orchestra, under the baton of Anna Smith, has gone from strength to strength since it was formed in the mid-90s. The Orchestra provides the music at 9:15 a.m. on the first Sunday of each month and normally practises the previous afternoon.

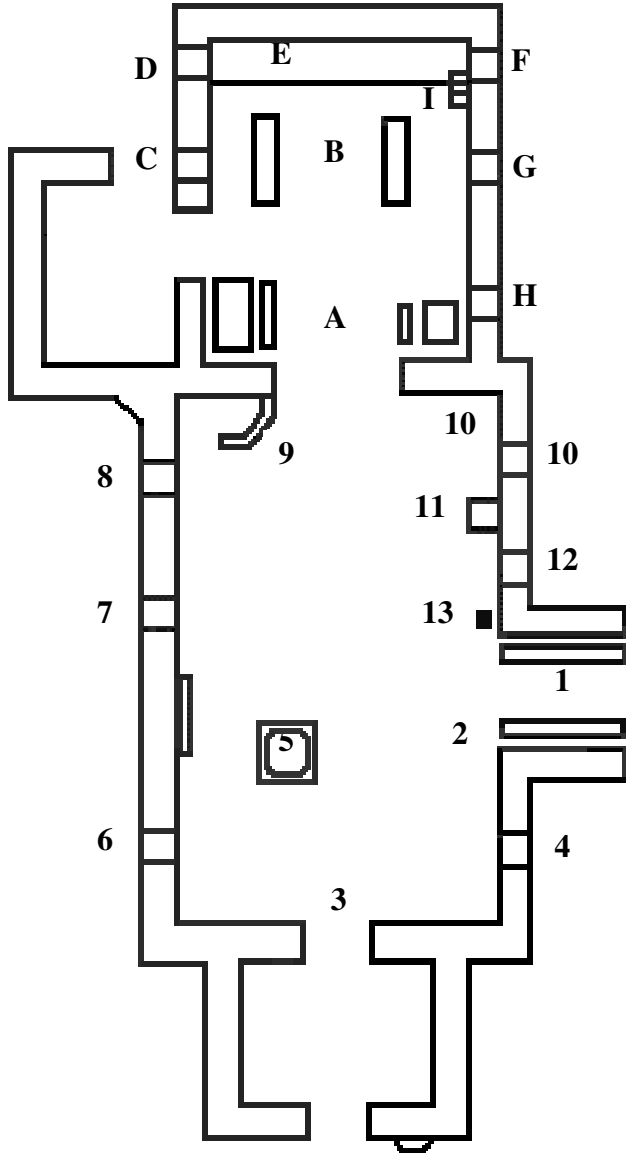
We introduced the latest addition to this musical family – Jubilate – in October 2001. This choir sings at the 11:15 a.m. service on the first Sunday of each month, leading the Common Worship Communion service held in the Church. It has been very exciting to see new people coming forward to complement the Church Choir. Practices are held twice each month, in the Church.

These groups welcome new members. If you are interested please contact:  
Church Choir - Simon Dellow, *Director of Music*, 01279 771333  
Music Group – Katharine Roper 01279 758677  
Orchestra – Anna Smith 01279 466275  
Jubilate - Simon Dellow, *Director of Music*, 01279 771333  
Maureen Hargrave 01279 657273



# Plan of Flower Arrangements

← J Lych Gate



## Description of Flower Arrangements

### NAVE

1	Advent
2	Christmas
3	Epiphany
4	Candlemas
5	John the Baptist
6	Lent
7	Palm Sunday
8	Maundy Thursday
9	Good Friday
10	Easter
11	Ascension
12	Pentecost
13	Trinity Sunday

### CHANCEL

A	All Souls
B	Harvest
C	The Transfiguration
D	Rogation
E	Thanks for the Church
F	Ember Days
G	St Barnabas
H	St James
I	The Annunciation
J	Thanks for the Seasons

## **A brief insight into the life of St James the Great**

St James the Great is the parish church for Thorley. The church building, which is a Grade 1 listed building, dates from the 13<sup>th</sup> century. It is thought to be built on the site of a more ancient place of worship and is described as 'a rare example of a single-cell church' - which means that it doesn't have any side aisles. The large yew tree in the churchyard is over 1000 years old. The written records of the church date from 1539.

Since the 1950's the population of the parish has grown substantially, especially with the recent developments of Thorley Park and St Michael's Mead. The size of the congregation has grown too, so now a number of buildings are used, including The Christian Centre, built in the 1980s, near the Thorley Park Shopping Centre.

The Church Room, on the north side of the churchyard and rebuilt in 1994, was the first 'new building'. Originally it was the first school in Thorley. It was therefore quite old by the time the church started to use it. This was after the 'new' school was built, at the end of Church Lane. Rebuilt in its original style and location it is now used for small meetings and by some of the children's groups. On Sunday afternoons in the summer The Friends of St James use it to serve teas to those who come to tend graves or enjoy the countryside that still surrounds the church.

In 1995-96 the large 16th century tithe barn that is now the St Barnabas Centre was purchased, and converted into its present form. Often referred to as 'The Barn', the building had been used for many years for stock rearing. It is now used for worship several times a week, for various church meetings and social activities by the church and also by community groups in and around the parish. It is a Grade II listed building.

In 2001 the increasing need for space for our children and teenagers resulted in the Emmaus Centre. Built on the site of an old Dutch Barn the centre provides modern facilities for several of the children's groups, as well as other Parish events. We expect this to be the last of our building projects, at least for the time being!

Worship is a key part of the life of St James, with services in the church at 8.00 am and 11.15 am every Sunday and at 6.00 pm on 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays, and a 9.15 am service, with children's groups, in The Barn, plus 7:30 p.m. on the 1st Sunday. When there are five Sundays in a month, the 9.15 and 11.15 services on the fifth Sunday are replaced by a combined service in The Barn at 10.30 am. Confidential prayer for any matter of concern is available through the Prayer Point letterboxes or [prayerpoint@stjamesthorley.org](mailto:prayerpoint@stjamesthorley.org), or during the 9.15 service. There is also a service at 10.00 am on Wednesdays, mainly for Mums and young children. In addition there are morning and evening house groups that meet around the town for bible study, prayer and discussion, as well as Mothers' Union, Gap - for teenagers on Sunday evening, and Men's and Women's Groups. These meet once a month for some sort of social activity. For those wanting to find out more about the Christian faith in an informal setting there are regular Alpha courses. Each Alpha meeting is preceded by a meal, so there is always an incentive to attend!

For more information about us please ask at the St James's stand. Alternatively, for those on-line, why not visit our website - [www.stjamesthorley.org](http://www.stjamesthorley.org), or phone the office, Mon - Fri 9.30 - 12.30, 01279 506753. Even better, come along one Sunday - its always good to see new faces and we always do our best to make people feel welcome.

We hope you enjoy your visit today.

*The Outreach Group*

## Flower Sponsors

The Friends gratefully acknowledge sponsorships:

*In memory of Betty and Doug Cage*

*In memory of our much loved mother, Carol Miller*

*In memory of my father, George Sampford*

*With thanks and praise for 25 years of married life, Gill and  
Keith*

*In memory of Graham*

*In memory of my much loved brother, John*

*In memory of Lily*

*In memory of Lizzy, a special child*

*In ever-loving memory of Reg and Dorothy Farthing, and John  
Mason*

*In memory of Roy and Edith Key, parents of Kirstine Baxter*

*In memory of my beloved husband, Stanley Collins, and for a  
much loved grand-daughter, Karen*

*In memory of a much loved husband*

*In loving memory of old and valued friends*

*In memory of our parents*

*and also those by the Holy Sew 'n' Sews and Musicians  
and others who wish to remain anonymous.*



**Acknowledge-**

**ments**

Bernard Chapman Florists for their valued help  
Hadley Nurseries at Roydon Hamlet for supplying plants  
David Tinney for the use of the farmyard for car parking  
Musicians and Flower Arrangers for the use of their talents

# Festival Programme

## Daily

12 noon—6 pm	Flower Arrangements	Church
	Plant Sale	St Barnabas Centre
	Refreshments	St Barnabas Centre
	Photographic Exhibition	St Barnabas Centre
	Churchyard Database	Church Room
Various times	Organ & Keyboard Recitals	Church
As required	Guided Tours of Church and	St Barnabas Centre

## Saturday, 28th August

2:30 - 3:15 pm	Music Group	Church
3:15 - 4:30 pm	Church Choir & Jubilate	Church

## Sunday, 29th August

12:30 - 5:30 pm	Craft Fair	St Barnabas Centre
2:00 - 3:00 pm	Musical Mélange	Church
3:00 - 4:00 pm	Bell Chiming	Church
4:30 - 5:30 pm	Combined Singers	Church

## Monday, 30th August

12 noon - 4 pm	Mini Fete	Emmaus Centre
12.30 - 5:30 pm	Craft Fair	St Barnabas Centre
12:45 - 1:30 pm	Jubilate	Church
1:30 - 2:30 pm	Music Group	Church
3:00 - 4:15 pm	Church Choir & Jubilate	Church
4:30 pm	Raffle to be drawn	St Barnabas Centre

## General Information

Wheel-chair for loan St Barnabas Centre

*There are opportunities for donations in both the Church and the St Barnabas Centre.*

Thank you for your support.

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