

We are all aware that our planet faces some serious challenges as a result of human activity leading to climate change. Sometimes these challenges seem overwhelming and that there is not a lot we can do as individuals. However, there is that African proverb which goes along the lines of 'if you think you're too small to make a difference, try spending a night in a room with a mosquito'!!

One thing we can do is look at how much carbon we produce. One website which is quite helpful is here: <https://www.climatestewards.org/offset/>
I am not suggesting you pay the cost of offsetting your footprint (although, of course, you could). Rather that we start being intentional about making decisions which reduce our footprint.

My notes

3rd March 2024

10.30am Communion Service

Welcome and notices

Opening words (*page 1*)

Hymn: All my hope on God is founded (19)

Confession (*pages 2-4*)

Collect (*page 5*)

Readings: Exodus 20:1-17

Hymn: Like a mighty river flowing (395)

Gospel reading: John 2:13-22

Sermon

Creed (*page 7*)

Prayers

The Peace

Hymn: How deep the Father's love for us

Communion Prayer H (*page 38*)

The Lord's Prayer (*page 12*)

Invitation to Communion (*page 14 b*)

Prayer of humble access (*page 15 a*)

Share Communion

Prayer after Communion (*page 16 a*)

Hymn: Let us build a house (383)

Blessing (*Page 17*)

Dismissal (*Page 17*)

Large print service books are available.

Collect for the week

Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he
suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the
cross,
may find it none other than the way of life and
peace;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever .**Amen.**

Contact details:

Vicar (Rev'd Ian Smith) 0208 301 5387

vicar@stjamesblendon.org.uk

37 Bladindon Drive, Bexley, DA5 3BS.

Day off Fridays

Church website: www.stjamesblendon.org.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stjamesblendon>

Milk Bottle Tops



Please could you wash and bring to church those milk bottle tops from plastic milk cartons. Beth G's Guide unit, along with others in the Burgess Hill area, are collecting them to raise funds for Chestnut Tree House Childrens Hospice. Thank you.

Pastoral Visiting

If anyone would like the opportunity for a slightly longer chat than time affords after a church service please feel free to contact me. Thank you. Rev. Ian



NOTICES

Dates for your diary

Sunday 3rd March:

10:30am - Communion Service
3:00pm - Messy Church

Monday 4th March:

10:30am Prayer meeting at Hawthorn Road

Tuesday 5th March:

1:15pm - Stay and Play
7:45pm - Lent group @ the vicarage

Wednesday 6th March:

1:00pm - Place of Welcome
Lent group

Sunday 10th March:

8:00am - Communion Service (BCP)
10:30am - Family Service

Dai B.

Jenny would like to thank everyone for their cards and kind messages. We can now announce that a service to remember and give thanks for the life of Dai will be held on 19th March 11.00am. The venue will be Kemnal Park Cemetery and Ceremonial Park. After the service everyone is invited to go to the Kings Head in Old Bexley for a gathering.

A Prayer for the Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion
to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious
children, at risk and in fear, that you
would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus,
the Prince of Peace.
Amen.



KEY MINISTRIES



Our next Messy takes place on **3rd March 2024 @ 3.00pm** and our theme will be **Mothering Sunday**. Please pray for those who plan and deliver this ministry as we look ahead for ideas for upcoming gatherings. Any offers to help with crafts, to cook, chatting to guests and tidying up would be **really helpful**. Please see Rev Ian or Jenny B for more information.

Stay & Play

Stay and Play runs every Tuesday in term time from 1:15pm. It is an opportunity for parents/carers and their children to meet and play. Please tell folk about it and, if you want a flyer or a card to help, or indeed would like to help support this ministry, please see Rev Ian.



A space which offers coffee, tea, biscuits, cakes and sandwiches along with conversation, board games, computer access, advice and so forth. Please come along or invite anyone who might find it of value.

Mission Partners



We pray for the work of Cribbs in Bexley Schools in their mission to support the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of young people and children in our schools in Bexley.

News from the Food Bank

The food bank has an urgent need for::

- ♦ Tinned fruit and veg
- ♦ Chocolate/snacks
- ♦ Tuna/hotdogs/meatballs
- ♦ Fruit juice
- ♦ Long life/evaporated milk
- ♦ Ready made custard
- ♦ Dried noodles, pasta & rice
- ♦ Pasta/curry sauces
- ♦ Stuffing/gravy
- ♦ Jam, honey, spreads
- ♦ Tins of baked beans, beans and sausages, macaroni chesse & chilli con carne
- ♦ Baby products
- ♦ Toothpaste, Shower gel, Deodorant
- ♦ Shampoo & Razors
- ♦ Housecleaning products
- ♦ Toilet and kitchen roll



Prayer Focus

Those who are either unwell or need special prayers:



Maureen B, Maureen (Sue M's mother), Kay T, Brenda M, Mavis M, Brenda P, Barry G, Mike S and Stephen R.

We pray for our church family and this week we pray for Lindsay and John W and Linda and Ian W.

We pray for Jenny B and her family as they mourn the death of Jenny's husband, Dai.

We pray for all those who live or work, travel along Shirley Avenue, Shorne Close The Avenue.