

## 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 chil-  
dren, at risk and in fear, that you would hold  
and protect them.  
We pray in the name of Jesus,  
the Prince of Peace.  
Amen.



## Present Aid 2024

Instead of sending individual Christmas cards  
to friends at church this year, why not do  
something different?

1. Write one card to all of us at St James and put it  
on the Christian Aid /Present Aid noticeboard at the  
back of church.
2. Leave a donation to represent the cost of the other  
cards you have not sent in the envelope on the  
noticeboard or see Jean H.

After Christmas, our gift will be sent to Christian Aid  
to support their work in our global community.

We have been running this scheme since 2008  
And have donated over £1800!

Why not join us this year?

Present Aid - Gifts today that last beyond tomorrow!

## Eltham Choral Society

You are invited to a carol concert on Saturday 14th  
December,. The concert will be at Holy Trinity  
Church, Southend Crescent, SE9 2SD, starting at  
7:30pm (so please arrive earlier!!)

The evening will include carols for choir and audi-  
ence, together with a performance of *St Nicolas*, by  
Benjamin Britten. The Chamber Choir from  
Deansfield Primary School will also be singing .

Tickets are £12 in advance or £15 on the door.  
Please see Timothy & Mary N. for further  
information.

Thank you.

## Collect

Almighty God,  
purify our hearts and minds,  
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as  
judge and saviour  
we may be ready to receive him,  
who is our Lord and our God.  
Amen.

## Pastoral Visiting

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

## Contact details:

**Vicar (Rev'd Ian Smith)** 0208 301 5387  
vicar@stjamesblendon.org.uk  
37 Bladindon Drive, Bexley, DA5 3BS.  
Rest day: Friday  
**Church website:** [www.stjamesblendon.org.uk](http://www.stjamesblendon.org.uk)  
**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/stjamesblendon>

**St James the Great**  
Blendon *seeking God and sharing his love*



## 8th December 2024

### 10.30am Family Service

Welcome and notices

Opening words

Light the Advent ring

Songs: Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord

We say sorry to God

We pray the collect

We hear God's word: Luke 3:1-6

Song: Make way, make way

We think about God

We say what we believe

Song: These are the days of Elijah

We talk to God

We pray the Lord's Prayer

Song: Indescribable

Blessing

We leave

*Coffee, tea and biscuits are served after the service.*

*A collection plate is available by the exit as we leave*

**Large print service books are available.**

## Giving at St James

If you wish to make a donation towards the ministry of  
St. James, or indeed need to pay for a specific ser-  
vice, please speak to Rev Ian or the Churchwardens.  
Alternatively, you can scan the QR code in this notice.  
Thank you..





# NOTICES

## Dates for your diary

### Sunday 8th December:

8:00am - Communion Service (BCP)  
10:30am - Family Service (Carol Service Choir rehearsal.)  
3:00pm - Messy Church

### Monday 9th December:

10:30am - Prayer meeting at Hawthorn Road cancelled.

### Tuesday 10th December:

1:15pm - Stay and Play

### Wednesday 11th December:

1:00pm - Place of Welcome

### Friday 13th December:

2:00pm - Sherwood Park Christmas Choir

### Sunday 15th December:

10:30am - Holy Communion  
Christmas Carol Service Choir rehearsal.

### Saturday 21st December:

6:00pm - Longest night reflective service

### Sunday 22nd December:

6:30pm - Carols by Candlelight

### Tuesday 24th December:

3:00pm - Crib Service



## Carols by Candlelight



Our Carols by Candlelight service will take place on Sunday, 22nd December 2024 at 6:30pm.

We have nine readings and it would be wonderful if folk would volunteer to help. Please contact Rev Ian and he can give you further details.

Thank you.



# KEY MINISTRIES



Our next Messy takes place on **8th December** and we will be thinking about **Advent and Christmas**. 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 CribS 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
- ◆ Tea/coffee/hot chocolate
- ◆ 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 - wet wipes, nappies size 4-6
- ◆ 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, Brenda M, Mavis M, Brenda P, Janet C, Mike S, Margaret M, Carol M, Barry G, Thelma H and Stephen R.

We pray for our church family and this week we pray for Kelly, Felicity and Jacob S, Marjorie S and Jo S.

We pray for all those who live or work, travel along Westwood Lane and Woodside Lane.