

## 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!

## My notes

### Collect

God for whom we watch and wait,  
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of  
your Son:  
give us courage to speak the truth,  
to hunger for justice,  
and to suffer for the cause of right,  
with Jesus Christ our Lord.  
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>



**15th December 2024**

**10.30am Communion Service**

Welcome and notices

Opening words (*page 1*)

Song: On Jordan's bank (*513*)

Confession (*pages 2-4*)

Collect

Readings: Isaiah 25:1-9

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Song: In the Lord I'll be ever thankful (*766*)

Gospel reading: Luke 3:7-18

Sermon

Apostles Creed (*page 44*)

Prayers

The Peace

Song: O come, o come, Emmanuel (*469*)

Communion Prayer D (*page 28*)

The Lord's Prayer (*page 12*)

Share Communion

Post Communion prayer (*page 16*)

Song: Lo, he comes (*399*)

Blessing and Dismissal (*page 17*)

**Large print service books are available.**

If you have a word, vision or story you want to share with us  
please speak to a Ian or one of the wardens before the  
service. If you need assistance with large-print books or the



# NOTICES

## Dates for your diary

### Sunday 15th December:

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

### Monday 16th December:

10:30am - Prayer meeting at Hawthorn Road

### Tuesday 17th December:

1:15pm - Stay and Play

### Wednesday 18th December:

1:00pm - Place of Welcome - cancelled

### Saturday 21st December:

6:00pm - Longest night reflective service

### Sunday 22nd December:

8:00am - Communion Service (BCP)  
10:30am - All Age Service  
Christmas Carol Service Choir rehearsal.  
6:30pm - Carols by Candlelight

### Tuesday 24th December:

3:00pm - Crib Service  
7:00pm - 'Midnight' Communion @ 7



## 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 **2nd February 2025** 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 **SLADE GREEN FOOD-BANK**. We pray for Mell and the support staff, with a particular focus that a long term solution to the problems associated with collecting food from the super-markets who support the project will be found. We give thanks for those volunteers who have stepped in to help in the meantime.

## 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 Michael S, and John and Lindsay W.

We pray for all those who live or work, travel along Albany Close and Albany Road.