

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 pre-
cious 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.



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 service,
please speak to Rev Ian or the Churchwardens.
Alternatively, you can scan
the QR code in this notice. Thank you.



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

The Collect

Lord God,
your Son left the riches of heaven
and became poor for our sake:
when we prosper save us from pride,
when we are needy save us from despair,
that we may trust in you alone;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Why Christians should take action over environmental concerns:

'To hurt the earth is a sin' (Patriarch Bartholomew). We must
'respond to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor' (Pope Francis).
'We should care for God's creation out of love' (Nicky Gumbel).
'All our decisions - personal, purchasing and political - have to be
greener for a healthier world. Let the Earth flourish' (Bishop James
Jones). The call is shared across denominations and traditions.

The dreadful state the planet is in can lead us to think we can do
nothing. But living in way that is respectful towards God's creation is
part of our calling as disciples and, by encouraging others, we can
make a difference.

Over the next few weeks we will share nine ways in which we could
live more gently. Why not think about how you can join in, pin the
ideas to your fridge, or wherever else you may trip over them, and
share them with others?

3) Practise gratitude and generosity:

◇ Take joy in simple pleasures rather than more possessions.

4) Be creative:

- ◇ Reuse second-hand goods from charity shops.
- ◇ Improvise - make things.
- ◇ The fashion industry eats the earth's resources - try swishing
(a system of swapping items with friends or acquaintances.
Parties willingly give an item to participate in the transaction,
and once they have given an item they are free to choose
something of interest from what others have offered.)

My notes



26th July 2026

10.30am Service of the Word



Welcome and notices

Opening words

Song: Seek ye first

Confession

Collect

Reading: Habakkuk 2:1-4

Song: My lighthouse

Gospel reading: Matthew 22:35-40

Sermon

Creed

Song: Father God I wonder

Prayers

Lord's Prayer

Song: The Spirit lives to set us free

Blessing and Dismissal

*If you have a word, a vision or a story to share, please
speak to Ian or one of the welcomers before the ser-
vice. An auditory loop is available.*

Large print service books are available.



NOTICES

Dates for your diary

Sunday 26th July:

8:00am - Communion Service
10:30am - Service of the Word

Monday 27th July:

10:00am - Prayer meeting @ Hawthorn Road - cancelled

Tuesday 28th July:

1:15pm - Stay and Play - cancelled

Wednesday 29th July:

1:00pm - Place of Welcome

Sunday 2nd August:

10:30am - Service of the Word

Monday 3rd August:

10:00am - Prayer meeting @ Hawthorn Road

Tuesday 4th August:

1:15pm - Stay and Play - cancelled

Wednesday 5th August:

1:00pm - Place of Welcome

Saturday 8th August:

8:30am - Parish Breakfast

Sunday 9th August:

8:00am - Communion service (BCP)
10:30am - Service of the Word

Contact details:

Vicar (Rev'd Ian Smith) 0203 874 6398

vicar@stjamesblendon.org.uk

37 Bladindon Drive, Bexley, DA5 3BS.

Rest day: Friday

Church website: www.stjamesblendon.org.uk

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

KEY MINISTRIES



Our next Messy takes place on **6th September** and we will be thinking about **new beginnings**. 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. This 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.

Pets are welcome! Please come along or invite anyone who might find it of value.



Mission Partners

We pray for the work of **TEARFUND** and their mission to see people freed from poverty, living transformed lives, and fulfilling their God-given potential. We pray for partnerships with Christians, local churches and organisations around the world, as they seek to equip people to lift themselves out of poverty and fulfil their God-given potential.

News from the Food Bank

Slade Green 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 cheese & chilli con carne
- ♦ Baby products - wet wipes, nappies size 4-6
- ♦ Toothpaste, Shower gel, Deodorant
- ♦ Shampoo & Razors
- ♦ Housecleaning products
- ♦ Toilet and kitchen roll



Community Tea and Shoebox Appeal

We will be having a community afternoon tea on 15th August at 3:00pm. If you would like to attend, or know family and friends who would, please sign the sheet in church.

The year we are supporting a different shoebox appeal charity and we will need shoeboxes (without hinged lids!) We will be collecting them in August/September along with donations for the boxes.

Prayer Focus



Those who are either unwell or need special prayers:

Brenda M and Pip, Janet C, Mike S and Mike's daughter -in-law Racheal, Barry G, Thelma H, Stephen R, Maureen (Sue M's mother), David and Sally S, and Harper.

We pray for our church family and this week we pray specifically for Michael S and Linda and Ian W.

We pray for all those who live, work or travel along Blackfen Road and Bladindon Drive.