

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.

APCM

This is an advance notice to say that following our recent pattern, our APCM will be held in the Family Service in May (12th May). The Electoral Roll is revised each year and there is a notice displayed giving details. If you are not on the Electoral Roll and would like to be please speak to Rev. Ian.

There will also be elections to the PCC - further details will be given in future weeks. The PCC is the key body which helps plan, with the vicar, the ministry and mission in the parish. If you want to have a voice in what happens this really is the place to be!

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.

My notes

Collect for the week

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one
flock,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen



21st April 2024

10.30am Service of the Word



Welcome and notices

Opening words

Song: A new commandment (34)

Confession

Collect

Reading: Acts 4:5-12

Song: When I was lost you came and rescued me

Gospel reading: Luke 24:13-35

Sermon

Creed

Song: The Lord's my shepherd (637)

Prayers

Lord's Prayer

Song: We have a gospel to proclaim (701)

Dismissal

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

Large print service books are available.

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>



NOTICES

Dates for your diary

Sunday 21st April:

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

Monday 22nd April:

10:30am Prayer meeting at Hawthorn Road

Tuesday 23rd April:

1:15pm - Stay and Play
7:45pm - Homegroup @ the Vicarage

Wednesday 24th April:

1:00pm - Place of Welcome

Sunday 28th April:

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

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.



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

KEY MINISTRIES



Our next Messy takes place **5th May @ 3.00pm** where
we will think about **St. James**. 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
supermarkets 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
- ◆ 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, Kay T, Brenda M, Mavis M, Brenda P, Barry
G, Janet C, Mike S and Stephen R.

We pray for our church family and this week we pray for
Penny D and Brenda F.

We pray for the family and friends of Kay T as they mourn
her death. We continue to 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 Blendon
Drive, Bowes Close and Burns Avenue.