

Welcome to

ST. JAMES THE GREAT BLENDON

Please join us for private prayer, meditation and worship on the Second Sunday of Christmas.

Jesus is the Light of the World, a light no darkness can ever put out.

Today's readings: Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:10-15 Eph.3:1-12 Matt. 2:1-12

Open Church: The church is open for private prayer on Wednesday afternoons from 2pm-4pm. Please bring a mask to wear if you have one, some will be provided. Please use the hand sanitizer at the entrance, and keep to the one way system. Please use the sanitizer near the exit door before leaving.

For the knitters: 1st size baby cardigans and Moses size blankets are needed by a charity with a branch in Bromley. Details at <https://baby-basics.org.uk/> If you need baby wool, Mandy has quite a lot of spare!



Good News of Andy and Rose Roberts.

Andy has been awarded an MBE—this is what he says:

“Wow... a happy surprise to the end of a difficult year. Truly honoured and humbled to have been awarded an MBE in HM The Queen's New Year's Honours today. Testament to all the team have achieved over the years - it's dedicated to them and the kids who have come through Revive - may they all find their forever families. May this highlight the important work that Revive and others do working amongst the vulnerable and marginalised in Brazil and the wider work that the Church Mission Society does throughout the world.

Huge thanks to Rose without whom none of this would have happened and also to all of you.

We're really honoured to have you supporting us in this story together over the years, we really do appreciate it.”

Prayer list: Linda, Mavis, Pam, John, Rupert H, Rebecca, Emma, Brenda M, Ann, Hugo, George & Marie B, Ian, Mandy. Stephen R, Mavis and Peter's son Colin has Covid 19.

From the Book of Remembrance: we give thanks for the lives of:

George Thomas, Stuart Martin, Norman Kent, Cyril Clark, Grace Hill, Bert Allen, Donald Perkins.

Please pray for our church members and their families: this week we remember:

Mike S, Kay T and all those who live and work in Rowley Avenue.

Mission Partner: This week we pray for the work of Open Doors across the world, and especially for North Korea and China.

Part of a prayer smuggled out by a North Korean secret believer:

Lord,

We give thanks that we have become the seed of the gospel; we are the hope in the dry land that is North Korea. Whether we live or die, we do it with our committed fellow workers who walk faithfully on the same road as us. Thank you for them and their very strong faith that is continuously refined by fire. Lord please use us. We want to be your witnesses and spread your blessings. Let me be your worker for the Glory. Hold my hands; let me be obedient wherever you lead me. Let me be your joy. We love you Lord! Thank you! I will follow you until I die.

Heavenly Father,

The magi came from the east to worship your Son:
grant to Christians everywhere, the spirit of adoration.
The infant Christ received gifts of gold, incense and myrrh:
Father, accept the offering of our hearts, our minds and our lives.
Lord of glory we praise you.

Heavenly Father,
Thank you for the New Year and all the hope it brings. Help us to be a light of hope to those in need, to be an example of your love and mercy, and to tell others of your great grace and glory.

Sovereign God, ruler of all creation, you sent Jesus to testify to the truth: that you alone are the Lord of life. Help us to listen always to his voice so that we may proclaim his kingdom of justice, peace, and endless love; through Christ, who reigns forever.

Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Saviour, you pour out your power for the powerless and your salvation for the lost. Remember us in your new creation, so that we may live in peace with you in the presence of the Holy One, to whom be all honour and glory, through you, in the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Father God,
We lift up all people around the world who are unable to work or who have lost jobs due to the pandemic. We pray that you will provide for them in their time of need. Thank you for various Charity partners and churches around the world who have been able to reach so many people with vital support. Please continue to guide them to those who are most in need.

Heavenly Father, I ask you to strengthen my mind, body and spirit today. When I'm weary, may I be refreshed. When I'm worn, may I be renewed. When I'm broken, may I be restored. When I'm fearful, may I become faithful. I pray that I walk in complete confidence today knowing that the Lord Almighty is with me.

Creator God, forgive our moments of ingratitude,
the spiritual blindness that prevents us from appreciating the wonder that is this world,
the endless cycle of nature, of life and death and rebirth.
Forgive us for taking without giving, reaping without sowing.
Open our eyes to see, our lips to praise, our hands to share.
May our feet tread lightly on the path we tread
and our footsteps be worthy of following
for they lead to you.

Creator God, this earth is miraculous and beautiful. Forgive our confusion and inaction as we confront the challenges of climate change. In the light of your truth, seen so clearly in the life and teaching of Jesus, help us to re-examine ourselves and our lifestyle choices and see clearly the implications of how we live, on all that sustains life on this earth. May we follow your lead in caring for every aspect of this precious world, which you made and love. We pray for world leaders to find new, just and radical agreements that will protect our fragile world for future generations.

Throughout history you have moved people to do amazing things for the sake of their neighbours. Inspire us now to work together, as your people, to change priorities in the way we live, so that we build a fair and safe world for all your creation; a world where your will is done as it is in heaven. We pray in Jesus' name.

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay;
give new courage to your people who trust in your love.
By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom
on earth as in heaven,

where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit,
one God for ever. Amen.

Heavenly Father, thank you for loving me; thank you for forgiving me. Thank you for showing me my worthiness and for pursuing me. I am in awe of you Lord! I submit my heart to you Lord. May your Holy Spirit transform me and make me like you. In Jesus' name.