

Welcome to

## ST. JAMES THE GREAT BLENDON

Please join us for private prayer, meditation and worship on the Fifth Sunday of Lent.

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

### Today's readings:

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalms 51:1-13

Hebrews 5:5-10

John 12:20-33

**Planned Giving** envelope for this week is number 17

**Ministry roles at St. James:** We have two areas of parish life which need urgent action.

1. After many years of service, Timothy is stepping down as treasurer. I am sure we are all hugely grateful for all his work in this vital area of parish life. However, **we do need a new treasurer!!** This can be a daunting role, but good management of parish finance is essential for all the other ministries we have, including our Sunday worship. Ian has no intention of trying to press-gang anyone into the role, it is one which people should feel called into. If we do not appoint we do have two options: have Ian undertake the role (which Andrea did for a period) but that could only ever be an interim solution and many on the PCC feel uncomfortable about that or we could buy in a book-keeping function, which will have obvious cost implications for the parish. Please prayerfully consider this and speak to Timothy or Ian if you want any further information.
2. We need a conversation about how we move forward with **children's work**. This impacts in two areas. Firstly, **Messy Church**. At the start of lockdown last year we were giving out 25 bags for Messy Church. Last month it was 50!! We would like to think about doing Messy Church once a month but, even if we were to stick with our previous model, we would still need additional help. If you want to talk about helping with Messy Church please see Mandy or Ian. Secondly, we need to think about children's ministry on a **Sunday morning**. Jo and Carol have both had to step down from their roles in PECS so we do need to think about future provision. Again, if you feel called to help or want to be part of that conversation please speak to Mandy or Ian.

**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!



### ReVive

Please keep praying for Maria Clara, a 10 year old girl from Revive.

There were some anxious days when things were very touch and go but we've now witnessed a mini-miracle in how Maria has responded to treatment. In fact, her response so surpassed the doctor's expectations that one of them, upon hearing from our staff member of how many people were praying for her, even admitted that it was a miracle! Maria's organs have now returned to a normal size and, all going well, is expected to be discharged from hospital shortly. Thanks so much to all of you who have prayed and sent messages of support... please do continue to do so. She is likely to be diagnosed with Lupus and she will need much care in the future.

Prayer list: Emma, Sheila, Ken, Thelma, Ann H, Ann C, Hugo, George & Marie B, Ian, Mandy, Stephen R.

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

Thomas Jarman, Andy Logan, John Jarman, Thomas Lascelles, Robin Tattam.

**Please pray for our church members and their families:** this week we remember:  
Ann C, Janet C, and all those who live and work in Wakeford Close

**Mission Partner:** This week we pray for the work of ReVive, and especially for Maria Clara (see above)

### **WHO Covid-19 solidarity response fund**

In Britain we are greatly blessed with scientists who have developed a vaccine against Covid, and also with the NHS which offers a free vaccination to everyone. Many of our brothers and sisters around the world are not so fortunate. As a gesture of thanksgiving for these blessings please consider giving to the World Health Organisation's Covid-19 response fund which seeks to help countries prevent, detect, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, especially where needs are greatest.

You can donate online via this link: [COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund](#)

or if you are a CAF account holder you can use this link: [CAF](#)

You can send a cheque to the [Red Cross](#) who are also supporting this appeal, but you must **specify** it is for the **Global Coronavirus Appeal**.

**Address: British Red Cross** 44 Moorfields, London EC2Y 9AL.

The contact number of **British Red Cross** is 0844 871 11 11.

Thank you for your generosity.

Incomparable God, you have made yourself available to us in all your power and all your love. Therefore, we go out to the adventure of living in good heart and with high hope, because you are going with us. Thank you Lord.

Grant us O Lord our God, always to find in you a very present help in trouble. When we are in the darkness of doubt or confusion, shed your light upon our way. When we are burdened with the affairs of our daily life, lift us to the calm of your presence. When we are battling with temptation and the flesh is weak, by the light of your Spirit make us strong to overcome. We ask these things through him in whom we are more than conquerors, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We ask you, Jesus, to forgive us for the times when our actions damaged your creation and its inhabitants, including indigenous communities. Give us greater awareness to understand the realities and struggles faced by indigenous peoples around the world. May our actions allow us to participate in your reconciling work.  
Amen.

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.

God of power and might, thank you for the gift of Love and for all the people whose love shines in my life. Continue to fill my heart with your love and let me share that love with the world today and always. Amen.

Lord, how can we ever thank you enough? You endured more pain, more shame, more sorrow, more grief than we can possibly fathom. Help us remember why you gave your life: because of love and because of mercy. Because we desperately need them both. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for each new day of life. 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.

Loving God you invite us to spend time with you personally and alone. During this 'extra' time we find we have, help us to draw closer to you, to sit at your feet not rushing away, spending time in your presence and sensing your wonderful peace. Whether time seems to have slowed down or quickened during lockdown, help us to put you first at the start of each day and rest in your presence at the end of each day. May the ticking of a clock be our constant reminder to bring all our worries and joys to you.