

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Sun	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Morning Worship Reading O Come Let Us Adore Him – Wondering – Luke 1: 18-25
	11.30am	Holy Communion
	5.15pm	Christmas Choir Practice at St John's
	7pm	Carol Service
Mon	9.30 – noon	Coffee Morning at SJ's
Tues – Fri		No regular activities

Sat 10am Christingle making in church

NEXT SUNDAY – 24th December – Christmas Eve

8.00am	} No usual morning services
10.00am	
3pm	Christingle Service
5pm	Christingle Service
11.15pm	Midnight Communion



THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

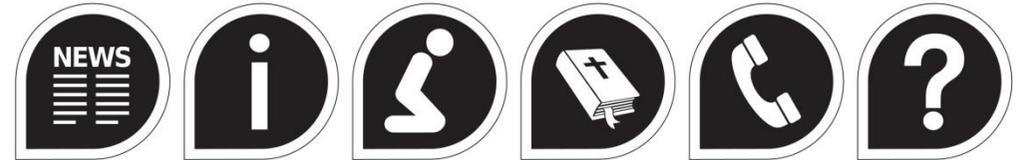
Naaman was the commander of the king of Syria's army but he was also a Leper. How did Elisha heal him?

Read 2 Kings 5: 9 – 15

MONDAY EVENING PRAYER MEETINGS

8-9PM @ SJ'S

In January the meetings will be on 8th & 15th. All welcome.



THE PAIN OF WAITING...

I wonder how the Advent season has been for you?

If you're like me, you might be a little disappointed that it hasn't been all that different to normal, save for a spike in things to do. Whilst some of us might have used the period to reflect more deeply on Jesus' arrival, my hunch is fewer of us will have dwelt on the other focal point of Advent – the 'end times'. I am acutely aware that plenty of you have been living in the tension of those two perspectives – often referred to as the 'now and not-yet' of God's rule. God's kingdom has broken out, but not completely. We have a vision of the world as God yearns it to be, but not the ability to bring it about in full. We see glimmers of God's glory in the world but have to wait for the time when that glory will suffuse the whole of creation.

That reality for some of you has meant living with the pain, fragility, and yes, disappointment of life, whilst trying to hold on to Christ's promises.

That's not easy, and my prayer for you all is that God's Spirit allows you to see the 'end', in a way which brings real hope and peace for your 'now'. God Bless.

WELCOME

If you're a visitor this morning and wish to find out more about what goes on then introduce yourself to one of our leadership team, or **fill in one of our Connect Cards**. Equally, help yourself to any of our packs, which explain a bit more of what's going on in our church family.



CHRISTMAS INFORMATION

CHRISTMAS CHOIR

Reminder: remaining practice – today at 5.15pm before the Carol Service.

CAROLS BY CANDLE LIGHT

17th December at 7pm

CHRISTINGLE MAKING

Saturday 23 December @ 10:00am in church, join the production line in preparation for our ever-popular Christingle services.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICES

24th December @ 3pm & 5pm

MIDNIGHT COMMUNION

24th December at 11.15pm

CHRISTMAS DAY

8am Holy Communion

10am Morning Worship

NB No morning services on 24th December.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS

This Christmas we will be taking collections across different services for the following organisations:

(i) The Children's Society (Christingle Services)

A national charity that runs local projects, helping children and young people when they are at their most vulnerable, and have nowhere left to turn.

(ii) Bromley Night Shelter (Carol Service / Christmas Day)

This is a project run by the 'Churches Together in Central Bromley' to help homeless people with a connection to Bromley Borough.

(iii) Missionary Aviation Fellowship (Carol Service / Christmas Day)

Working in partnership with hundreds of other relief organisations MAF reaches some of the most remote people on our planet who struggle with malnutrition and the effects of displacement, bringing practical help, physical healing, and spiritual hope.

You can find out more about their respective work by visiting their websites.



NEW YEAR'S EVE

Jane & Adrian Roberts are holding an 'Open House' on New Year's Eve. 8.30 pm til just

after midnight ...

Feel free to drop in any time for a drink/nibbles.

If you want to bring drinks or bites to eat that would be great, but no obligation!

If possible, it would be helpful to have an idea of numbers, so can you let Jane know if you ARE able to come. Email Jane on janerbrts@ntlworld.com



PRE-CHRISTMAS SERVICE

St Mary's Addington
8pm on Wed 20th Dec

This will be a meditative service for Christmas using music by Oliver Messiaen (piano and organ solos from La Nativité and the Vingt Regards) associated with some stunning art works by Sophie Hacker (<http://www.sophiehacker.com/>). All welcome.



THANK YOU

An enormous thank you to all those who helped with the Senior Citizen's lunch in so many ways, from providing lifts, laying the tables, making desserts, running the bar, serving, leading the singing to the washing up. It was a real team effort and our guests were most appreciative. THANK YOU!



SHINE & FRIENDS & HEROES

NB No meetings in January.



PRAYERS

Please pray for:

- Bromley Night Shelter & Missionary Aviation Fellowship, our mission focus this month;
- Our Carols by Candlelight Service this weekend, and for all those from our community who will attend;
- Penny Seabrook, Joan Norman, Tony Holloway, Alison Stockdale, Tina Cook, Harry Young, Barry & Sue Clements, and any others we know who continue to undergo and recover from treatment;
- Camille Crouchman and her family, following the death of her mum;
- Relationships in families, which can come under increasing strain at this time of year, as well as those without family, who feel isolated;
- The team working on the recruitment of the Young People & Families' Worker & the potential applicants;
- The Christmas preparations, and that all our activities will bear effective witness to the good news of Jesus;