

A message from the Rev. Canon Jean Kerr

Just a short message to all congregations for the tremendous support given to the trip into the jungles in Calais.

We distributed 500 bags containing socks, gloves, scarves, hats, candles, deodorants, mars bars and cards. A further 500 waterproof ponchos and 30 large tarpaulins were also given out.

In addition to this another 1,000 pairs of socks and another 1,000 mars bars were handed out.

I cannot adequately describe the conditions nor the sheer desperation of people. Now they number 6,000 and also include women and children but in much smaller numbers.

Please continue to pray for these people.

Advent Film Nights—Advent is a time to prepare for Christmas—a good time to think about the things that really matter in life. Why not take a break to ponder by watching a film in good company?

Members of the East Gravesend Churches will be gathering next Wednesday evening at St. Aidan's Church to watch a thought-provoking film, with an opportunity to chat about it afterwards.

Gather at 7—7.30 pm for hot drinks or mulled wine, film showing from 7.30 pm. Bring your own snacks or alternative refreshments.

16th December 'My Sister's Keeper'

Please sign the list at the back if you are interested in coming.

Foodbank—Christmas Wish List

- Christmas chocolates, luxury biscuits
- Christmas pudding
- Custard (brandy sauce)
- Long life milk
- Every day and luxury toiletries

- Coffee and drinking chocolate
- Stuffing mix/gravy mix
- Treats and sweets
- long life fruit juice
- (no mince pies, thank you)**

They have sufficient stocks of baked beans, pasta and soup.

Gluten free Communion wafers are available at every service—please have a word with the Churchwardens or Clergy if you would like to receive gluten free wafers at Communion.

Items for the news sheet should be sent to juliehill34@aol.com or left on the clip in the lobby

Items for the website should be sent to info@christchurchgravesend.org.uk

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 Registered Charity No 1130741



**13th December
Notes and News**

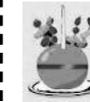


**Christ Church,
Milton-next-Gravesend**

A warm welcome to any visitors worshipping with us this morning. Please make yourself known to one of the clergy or the people who greeted you at the door

Looking Ahead

- 13th Dec
 - 8.00 am Holy Communion (said)
 - 10.00 am All Age Service
- 17th Dec
 - 7.30pm Pilgrim Course
- 18th Dec
 - 7.00 pm Come and Sing
- 19th Dec
 - 9.30 am Working party
- 20th Dec
 - 8.00 am Holy Communion (said)
 - 10.00 am Family Communion
 - 6.30 pm Lessons and Carols
- 23rd
 - 2.00 pm Decorate the church
- 24th Dec
 - 4.00 pm Crib Service
 - 11.30 pm Midnight Mass
- 25th Dec
 - 8.00 am Holy Communion (said)
 - 10.00 am Family Communion



MANY THANKS

To everyone who helped in any way to make this such a successful event.

The church was overflowing with happy families and after expenses we raised £407 for the Children's Society.

MANY THANKS

To the Semi-quavers for their wonderful concert on Tuesday evening.

Thanks also to Helen and Debbie and their helpers and to all who came and supported.

MANY THANKS

to all who sang carols in St. George's Centre to raise funds for Christian Aid.



Holy Communion 8am Monday, 7am Tuesday, 10am Wednesday, 7am Thursday, no service Friday, 8 am Saturday, 8am and 10 am Sunday

- Tuesdays Morning Prayer 8.00 am at St. Aidan's Church
- Wednesdays Evening Prayer 5.15 pm at Christ Church
- Thursdays Morning Prayer 8.30 am at Holy Family Church
- Fridays Evening Prayer 5.15 pm at Holy Family Church

Bible reading notes for January to April are in the pigeon-holes. Please take your copy, put your money in the envelope provided and place it in the collection plate.

PLEASE NOTE

The next church working party will be on Saturday 19th December starting at 9.30 am. Please come along and help get the Church ready for Christmas.

We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Wednesday 23rd December at 2.00 pm and would appreciate help with the decorations. We would also like any foliage you can spare, conifer, holly and ivy.

The evening **Pilgrim Course** is at 7.30 pm on the 17th December at Angela's, 60 Central Avenue.

The subject is 'for the kingdom, the power and the glory....'

Please come and take part—new people are always welcome.

Sanctuary—the new shelter for the homeless at the Methodist Church.

Sanctuary needs jumpers, coats, jackets, trousers, gloves, scarves, etc. that will help keep the guests warm, trainers, men's shoes sizes 7-11 and boxer shorts are also needed. Items are needed for both men and women.

Sunday 20th December

at
6.30 pm
in
Church

A Service of Lessons and Carols

The choir, music group and Semi-quavers are working very hard to make this a memorable occasion. Please come and join in.

The service is followed by mince pies and mulled wine in the hall.

**COME AND SING on
Friday, 18th December.**

Meet at the church at 7.00pm to go carol singing around the residential homes in the parish, finishing up at the Windmill Tavern.

Good fun!!

All welcome!!

Please come and join us!!



CHRISTMAS EVE

at
4.00 pm
Crib Service

A service especially for children. Come dressed as angels, shepherds, wise men or animals and bring an unwrapped gift for the Children at the women's refuge.

Midnight Mass
at
11.30 pm

CHRISTMAS DAY

at
8.00 am and 10.00 am
Holy Communion

Stewardship—

Following the recent presentation, we would be grateful if all church members would take a look at their giving to the church, both financial and by offering their gifts and talents.

If you missed the presentation, there are leaflets at the back of the church giving a summary of our financial situation and a 'response slip'. Please place your response slip in an envelope and put it in the box at the back of the church. Could you please respond before Christmas. Thank you

Gravesend Borough Band presents

**CHARITY CHRISTMAS
CAROL CONCERT**

on
Thursday 17th December
at
7.30 pm
In the Old Town Hall
High Street

Admission £5
Pay at the door

Free mince pies and mulled wine

Christmas Story Telling

on
Tuesday 15th December
at
10.00 am
in
Spotlites Brasserie

Perfect for pre-school children
Free entry.