



## LET THE BLESSING OVERFLOW

"... faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." (James 2:17)

There are a number of ways you can help others this Christmas. Here are two practical ways to overflow our blessing.

We are again supporting the **S.C.R.A.T.C.H. GIFT APPEAL**, seeking to provide toys and gifts to children and young people (age 0 - 17) to help make their Christmas Complete. Donations of toys and gifts for all ages, in particular items for teenagers, baby toys, books, colouring books, crayons, felt tip pens, sweets, games and puzzles.

Thank you to those who regularly bring food for **BASICS BANK**. We would ask everyone to bring in non-perishable food, particularly a few treats, that can help.

**(PLEASE NOTE: As part of this these appeals we want to provide some gifts for families with whom we have a church connection, with teenage boys and with young girls. We will use some of the items brought in, gifts & food, for their blessing.)**

**PLEASE BRING IN THESE ITEMS ON OR BEFORE NEXT SUNDAY (12th).  
IF YOU PREFER TO GIVE A MONETARY GIFT WE WILL BE TAKING  
A SECOND OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY**

## LOOKING AHEAD

\* **BIBLE COLLEGE STUDENT** From 3rd to 30th January we have a student on placement with us. James Richardson will be taking in part in the whole spectrum of church life, as part of his 3rd year course. Please pray that his time with us will be blessed and useful to him.

\* **L.I.F.E. FOCUS GROUPS** Due to the adverse weather conditions, some groups were unable to meet last week and so will not have finished their series of studies before we break for Christmas. To allow these studies to be completed the three groups will meet w/c 2/1 & 9/1. The new sets of studies will begin w/c 16/1; information about these will be given on Sunday 2nd.

## Ephesians 4:3-6

*Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*



# UPDATE

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## WELCOME TO CHURCH TODAY



**May you be blessed each day as you  
look forward to celebrating the coming of  
our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ**

## TODAY

### CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

\* There is a giant Christmas card on the notice board for you to put your greetings to others in the church, either by writing directly on the card or attaching your own smaller card.

### GETTING THE MESSAGE OUT

\* Please take copies of our Christmas handout for your own information and to invite others to our special services. \* Please also take a poster to put in a suitable window. \* We have a lot of handouts to be distributed to the homes around the church building this week, so we need your help. Please be willing to give an hour or two so that none are wasted. \* Street lists are on the table, for you to put your name against.

### BRING & SHARE FELLOWSHIP LUNCHESES(Sundays 12th Dec & 2nd January)

\* Please join us for some food & fun. \* Put your name and what you will be bringing on the list on the notice board. (Also, by 19th fill in the sheet for 2nd).



## WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> :	11.30a.m.-2p.m.	Oasis Monthly Meal & Christmas Programme
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> :	10.15-11.45a.m.	L.I.F.E Focus Prayer
	7.30p.m.	Women@Elim Advent Dinner Evening
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> :	10-11.45a.m.	Tots & Co.
	7.30p.m.	L.I.F.E. Focus Groups
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> :	6-7.30p.m.	Explorers (5 years +)
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> :	9-9.45a.m.	Prayer
	10.30a.m.	Morning Worship & Junior Church, with Communion Theme: 'Jesus: Hope For Humanity - Hope For Today!' Speaker: Irene Smith
	12.45-3p.m.	Bring & Share Fellowship Lunch
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> :	10.15-11.45a.m.	L.I.F.E Focus Prayer
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> :	10-11.45a.m.	Tots & Co.
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> :	6-7.30p.m.	Explorers (5 years +)

*Joy*  
TO THE WORLD

**Jesus has come!**  
**Celebrate With Us**  
**Sunday 19th December**  
10.30a.m. **All-Age Carol Service**  
with seasonal refreshments

5p.m. **Carol Singing Around The Streets**  
come and join in; followed by hot drinks & mince pies

**Christmas Day**  
10.30-11.30a.m. **Good Morning, Christmas!**

[Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> -Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> :	No Meetings]	
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup>	9-9.45a.m.	Prayer
	10.30a.m.	Morning Worship & Junior Church, with Communion Theme: 'Let's Get Started!'
	12.45-3p.m.	Bring & Share Fellowship Lunch

## OTHER CHRISTMAS EVENTS

**Friday 17th December,**  
**7:15 - 8:30p.m.**  
**St Mary's Stadium**

# Southampton Sings the Carols

Fill the stadium with 32,000 people and break the Guinness World Record for the largest crowd singing carols at one venue. What better way of celebrating Christmas than with enthusiastic carollers enjoying some of our favourite tunes and giving glory to Jesus.

(Eighties pop star Yazze has also been signed up to perform)

**Tickets:** Standard £4

Family £12 (2 adults + 2 children or 1 adult + 3 children)  
(Book by calling the ticket hotline - 0845 688 9288)

[www.southamptonsings.org.uk](http://www.southamptonsings.org.uk)

**CAROLS... & MORE!**  
**Saturday 18th, 11-11.30a.m.**  
**Shirley Precinct**  
**(Churches Together In Shirley)**

**Gary Gibbs, Elim's National Evangelism Director, writes:** 'The Nativity', is a major production to be shown in four episodes on BBC1 (Mon 20th - Thurs 23rd at 7p.m.). I've heard through the grapevine that it is a very moving and honouring portrayal of the Christmas story. One prominent Anglican evangelist reckons it will provoke people to attend services on Christmas Eve and Christmas morning. For more information go to <http://www.nativitydrama.info>

