

150 years



MARKtime

St. Mark's Church, Gillingham
with St. Mary's Island Church

To please God. Teach his word.
Serve others and connect people
with Jesus

Mission Focus May: **Lucy Haslam**

St. Mark's Group for May:
Elderly Care: Charing House & St. Mark's House

1st May 2016

The sixth Sunday after Easter



We as a church say goodbye to Richard, Kathryn, Emily & Joannah England, as they prepare to move to Crofton Parish, Stubbington (near Fareham, Hampshire).

10.30am: All Age Worship – followed by tea and cake in church

Theme: King Solomon, King Jesus
Reading: Psalm 72

6.30pm: Holy Communion – We welcome Thomas Collett-White as our guest speaker this evening. Thomas was curate at St Mark's 1962-1966, then Vicar from 1979 – 1990.

Other Services: 11.00am **Holy Communion** St. Mary's Island

Prayer Ministry: If you would like someone to pray with you or to share concerns with, then members of the prayer team are available in the small chapel at the front of church.

Monday-Friday during term time 9.15am-12.15pm, St. Mark's Pre-school, Vicarage Hall – Children need to be registered first

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK?

Weds 4th May: 9.00am **Holy Communion** in Church

9.30am **Ladies Group**, Old Vicarage

1.15pm **Parents & Toddlers**, Vicarage Hall

Thurs 5th May: 1.00pm-3.00pm **Foodbank** in Church

Fri 6th May: 6.15pm **Kidz Klub**, ages 7-11, Old Vicarage/Hall

8.00pm **Table-Tennis Club** - All St Mark's over - 18's welcome, Vicarage Hall

Sat 7th May: 9.00am **Small Group Leaders Meeting**, Vicarage Hall

10.00am-12.00noon **Foodbank** in Church.

Small Groups meet in various locations at different times throughout the week – please speak to Gary or Chris Atkins if you would like to be in a mid-week group.

Next Sunday 8th May 2016: Please note: No SOS or Pathfinders this morning.

10.30am Holy Communion, all-age friendly service

6.30pm Service of the Word

Other Services: 11.00am **Morning Worship**, St. Mary's Island.

3.00pm Charing House

5.00pm St. Mark's House

Our guest speakers for next week (8th May) are: 10.30am **Jim Findlay** and 6.30pm **Paul Perkin**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 9th – Fri 13th May: **Listening Week**, put this in your diaries, details to follow.

Sat 14th May: 10.30am-12noon **Faith & Light Juniors**, Vicarage Hall

Sat 14th May: 11.00am-3.00pm **Open Garden for Christian Aid @ Bishops Court, 24 St. Margaret's Street, Rochester ME1 1TS.** Entry £2.00. Please come and support this important charity while relaxing in this lovely garden. Children and dogs are very welcome. Enquiries to Bridget Langstaff on 07816 828439 thank you.

Thurs 26th May: 7.30pm **Men's Curry Night** @ the Shipa Tandoori Restaurant, Canterbury Street, Gillingham, ME7 5TS – other bi-monthly dates are: 21st July, 29th Sept & 24th Nov.

Fri 27th May: 10.00am-12.00noon **Lydia Prayer Meeting**, Old Vicarage

Sun 3rd July: 4.00pm-6.00pm **Over-60s Afternoon Tea**, Old Vicarage Garden/Hall. Please put this date in your diary; invitations to follow! Saju.

FAMILY NEWS

150th Anniversary

The 150th Anniversary Brochure and St Mark's Story PowerPoint can be downloaded from the website: www.stmarkschurchgillingham.co.uk. If you would like a hard copy of the Anniversary Brochure, please speak with Neville Piper.



... to everyone who helped to make last week-end's 150th celebrations be such a success. It was wonderful to see so many visitors catch up with us and each other. Without our St Mark's Church Family working together in so many different ways, it would not have happened!

... to all those who cooked, served and cleared away for the Alpha Course. The meal is such an important part of the course and enables strangers to become friends.

... from Faith and Light for all the money donated to help them meet the cost of the coach hire for their Bristol Conference in August.



Did you know that you can view MARKtime on the Church website:

<http://www.stmarkschurchgillingham.co.uk/>
featuring the current and the previous week?

Churches together in Medway are holding a three-part gathering called "#celebrateMedway" consisting of: 'A Call for God's Mercy' on Mon 20th June; 'A Cry for God's Favour' on Sat 2nd July, which will be Prayer Boat trips on the river & two prayer walks. Also 'A Celebration of God's Goodness' which will be a relaxed time of fellowship. Full details nearer the time.



POINTS FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

"Then I will purify the lips of the peoples, that all of them may call on the name of the LORD and serve Him shoulder to shoulder." Zephaniah 3:9
(New International Version UK)

Please Lord help each one of us to be clean, open and honest before You and each other, so that we can hear Your voice, feel Your wonderful Holy Spirit and do Your will for Your glory's sake Amen.

Praise the Lord for His loving grace to each one of us. Call to Him to, "Teach me to do Your will for You are my God. May Your gracious Spirit lead me forward on a firm footing." (Psalm 143:10 NTL Bible)... **Continue to ask the Lord** for His insight to where He wants us to be now and in the future...

Pray for His blessing on the **Mission Action Plan (MAP) Group** as they and each one of us try to discern the way forward... Please prayerfully consider the following questions:

1. "If you could picture St. Mark's in 3/5 years' time, what might it look like?"
2. "Where and how would Jesus be ministering if he was here in Gillingham now?"
3. "If we let God do what He wants with St. Mark's, in what ways might it look different in 3/5 years' time?"

Continue to pray for Syria and for the many people who risk their lives in the fight against oppression and injustice... **Ask the Lord** to "let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!" (Amos 5:24)... **Pray** for wisdom concerning the possible use of the Garden House to temporarily house a Syrian refugee family.

Praise for the worship last Sunday morning... for the St. Mark's 150th Anniversary Celebration events... for all the people who helped make it a success especially for all our visitors.

Pray for **Richard, Kathryn, Emily & Joannah England**... for all the preparations for their move to Crofton Parish, Stubbington (near Fareham, Hampshire)... for their future needs and that all the family quickly settles in to this new stage in their lives... **Praise** for the wonderful witness they have been to us and to the wider community.

Pray for the **Small Groups Meeting** on Sat 7th May... **Praise** for all the loving support that these groups provide for their members and for the wider church.

Pray for the future of our Youth, Children and families ministries and His wisdom on how to reach the wider community of Gillingham... **Ask the Lord** to be close to our family members who have chosen not to follow Him... **Praise** that the Lord is "the good shepherd" (John 10:14-16) and continues to seek His lost sheep.

Pray for our ministry to the elderly especially for the Charing House and St. Mark's House volunteers... **Ask** the Lord to provide extra volunteers to replenish and provide extra cover with the view to starting another group for Park View unit... **Praise the Lord** for that these elderly people have done for our society.

Pray for **Landmark** and for the teenagers who are returning from their Holy Spirit ALPHA weekend at Penhurst Retreat Centre... **Ask** the Lord to help and guide each one on their future path... **Praise** for all the answers to prayer and the many blessings for the teenagers and leaders.

Pray for the whole **Haslam family** as Mike's father has sadly died of liver cancer... *Wendy would like to thank us for our support and prayers during this difficult time...* **Remember in Prayer Lucy Haslam**, our Mission Partner who is currently studying at Oak Hill, London at this difficult time too.

Pray also for **Mags and Jim Findlay** following the unexpected death of Mags' father and his funeral on Friday. Mags and Jim will be with us next Sunday.

Pray for **Sheelagh Graves** as she has surgery this Wednesday... for **Richard Tolhurst, Mike Young, Bill Keast** and **Julie Hanning** who are all recovering from surgery... for **Mo Chen** ... for **Rose Miller** ... for **Peter Guinness** ... for **Glyn Allen**... for **Malcolm Marlow** and others known to us who are in need of God's comfort and healing touch.

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Pray for our Mission Partner for May: **Lucy Haslam** ...  
Please pray for our St. Mark Group's for May: **Elderly Care: Charing House & St. Mark's House**  
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Bible readings for May 2016

| Day | Psalm | 1 st Reading | 2 nd Reading |
|-----------------------|-------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mon 2 nd | 139 | Proverbs 4.10-18 | James 1.1-12 |
| Tues 3 rd | 126 | Numbers 16.36-end | Luke 6.39-end |
| Weds 4 th | 133 | Numbers 17.1-11 | Luke 7.1-10 |
| Thurs 5 th | 110 | Isaiah 52.7-end | Hebrews 7.[11-25] 26-end |
| Fri 6 th | 81 | Numbers 20.1-13 | Luke 7.11-17 |
| Sat 7 th | 47 | Numbers 21.4-9 | Luke 6.12-27.18-35 |