

**150 years**



**1866-2016**

# MARKtime

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

Living for Jesus; Loving Gillingham;  
Learning Together

Mission Focus January: **Medway Night Shelter**

St. Mark's Group/events for January:  
**Alpha**

**22<sup>nd</sup> January 2017**

## **Epiphany 3**

**10.30am: Holy Communion**

Theme: "False Teaching in Pergamum"

Reading: Revelation 2: 12-17



**6.30pm: Holy Communion**

**Christian Unity Week joint service**

**2017** with the theme of "Crossing Barriers" here at St. Mark's Church.  
Please see poster for more details.

**Other Services & events:** 11.00am

**Morning Worship**, 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:**

**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan:** 7.30pm **Landmark**, Old Vicarage

**Weds 25<sup>th</sup> Jan:** 9.00am **Holy Communion** in church

10.00am **Ladies Group**, Old Vicarage

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

**Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> Jan:** 1.00pm-3.00pm **Foodbank**, Church

**Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Jan:** 6.15pm **Kidz Klub**, ages 7-11, Old Vicarage

**Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Jan:** 10.00am-12.00noon **Foodbank**

**Small/Home 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 29<sup>th</sup> January**

**10.30am Service of the Word – followed after the service by a Welcome Lunch for those who were new to St. Mark's in the last year or so – please speak to Lynne Martin or Pauline Jackson if you would like to come.**

**Join Me For Lunch**



**6.30pm: Holy Communion**

Theme: "Ethics in Thyatira"

Reading: Revelation 2: 18-29

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

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb:** 7.00pm-9.30pm **Alpha introduction with supper included.**

Do you want to find out more about what we believe? Do you want a personal relationship with Jesus? Explore the meaning of life through **ALPHA!** Each session of this ten-week course includes food, a short talk and good conversation. Think about who **YOU** could invite!

**Alpha** Speak to Keith Sheepwash, Richard or Jane Tolhurst for more details or fill out a registration form.

**Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb:** 10.00am **Lydia Prayer Meeting**, Old Vicarage

**Sat 11<sup>th</sup> Feb:** 10.30am-12.00noon **Faith & Light Juniors**, Vicarage Hall

**Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> March:** 7.00pm for 7.30pm start **Foodbank Prayer & Praise** meeting at the Salvation Army, Church Street, Chatham ME4 4BT

**Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Feb:** 7.45pm **PCC Meeting**, Old Vicarage.

**Sun 26<sup>th</sup> Feb:** 12.30pm **India 2018 Fundraising event** - Auction of Gifts and Talents, in church.

## **FAMILY NEWS**

The Salvation Army Church, Green Street, Gillingham is holding a new Marriage Course which started on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January between 6.45pm-9.15pm. The Marriage Course is a series of seven sessions designed to help couples invest in their relationship and build a strong marriage, whether married for one year or forty years! See information on the course on the Community Events notice board at the side of church, or to book, or for more information please contact Julie & Andy Millett on 01634 579004 or [adandjamillett@btinternet.com](mailto:adandjamillett@btinternet.com) thank you.

**Medway Winter Night Shelter** is collecting various food and cleaning items. Please see the list and collecting boxes at the back of church. The night shelter is currently full each night...

Can you help the new Alpha Course starting on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb @ 7.00pm by cooking a simple meal for 8-12 people, serve the meal and wash up? This can be anything from jacket potato with filling, Cottage Pie & veg, Sausage & mash, Lasagne etc. plus a sweet. Money can be reimbursed providing you have receipts. Please speak to Lynda Smith after the service..



**Alpha**



**India 2018 fundraising events** will be occurring each month throughout 2017. The first one is an 'Auction of Gifts and Talents' on Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2017 after the morning service, so please be prepared to stay take part! Come and support some of these fundraising events. See the full list of events on the **India 2018 notice board**.



### **POINTS FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER**

**"Religion that GOD our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."** James 1:27 (NIV Bible)

**Thank you LORD, that You are, "known by Your acts of justice", whereas "the wicked are ensnared by the work of their hands" (Psalm 9:16). Please help us to look to You and Your holy word and not follow the world's example. Amen.**

**Pray** for the **Mike Campbell Foundation** in Zimbabwe, a country blessed with one of the best climates in the world, yet far too many go hungry and are in great need due to the mismanagement and greed of the government... *Ben Freeth, Executive Director writes, "Let us all humbly pray for our beloved country and seek God's will, and turn away from wickedness in allowing evil to flourish unchecked. When we all do that we will see the miracle happen! I am excited that it will – but only with each one of us playing our part!"*... **Praise** for all that the LORD is doing in this fractured land through His people.

**Pray** for Syria, Yemen, The Gambia and any other country, situation or problem the LORD lays on your heart this week... **Praise** that the LORD hears, "*the desires of the afflicted... listens to their cry and encourages them.*" (Psalm 10:17)

**Continue to pray** for **Alpha** and for each person that the LORD wants to be on this course... **Praise** for all the wonderful ways that the LORD blesses, encourages and enlightens every life that this course touches.

**Pray for Lynne Martin** as she begins an interim role as Medway Campus Chaplaincy... pray for the interviews on Feb 15<sup>th</sup> concerning this post... **Ask the Lord** to be with Lynne's sister-in-law, **Sarah**, who has pneumonia and pleurisy.

**Praise** for what the LORD has been saying to Saju on retreat in Poland last week and for all the answered prayers for him and his family... **Pray** for the next chapter in the life of our community at St. Mark's, ask the LORD to help us to echo what Ben Freeth is saying for his beloved Zimbabwe here in Gillingham and the Medway Towns.

**Pray** for the work of **Medway Winter Night Shelter** and especially now that the weather has turned so cold for the rough sleepers in the Medway Towns... **Ask the Lord** for His wisdom in solving the many causes of this problem... **Praise** that our God is big enough and nothing is impossible for Him (Luke 18:27).

**Praise** for the community of **Faith & Light** and **Faith & Light Juniors** and all that they can teach us in living for God and enjoying His wonderful presence.

**Pray for India 2018** and for all the work involved in making this happen... **Ask the Lord** to be in every action & decision, so that all the glory goes to Him.

**Pray** for those recovering from surgery or other treatment: for **Michael Stacey**... for **Steve Burtrand**... for **Mo Chen**... **Pray** for all those affected especially their family and friends.

**Continue to pray** ... for **Anne Fordham**... for **Nev Piper**... for **Don Miller**... for **Richard & Jane Tolhurst**... for **Keith Sheepwash**... for **David Howlett**... for **Mike Young** and others known to us who are in need of God's comfort and healing touch.

**Pray** for our Mission focus January: **Medway Night Shelter**... **Please pray** for our St. Mark's Group/event for January: **Alpha**

### **Bible readings for January 2017**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b>
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup>	108	Hosea 2.18-end of 3	1 Corinthians 9.15-end
Tues 24 <sup>th</sup>	36	Hosea 4.1-16	1 Corinthians 10.1-13
Weds 25 <sup>th</sup>	66	Ezekiel 3.22-end	Philippians 3.1-14
Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup>	47	Hosea 5.8-6.6	1 Corinthians 11.2-16
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup>	65	Hosea 6.7-7.2	1 Corinthians 11.17-end
Sat 28 <sup>th</sup>	68	Hosea 8	1 Corinthians 12.1-11

Except for the first Sunday of the month **during term time**, groups for children and young teenagers meet at the Old Vicarage & the Carer's Centre respectively, each Sunday morning. All our youth & children's workers are DBS checked for your child's protection and safety. **If you have young children** please feel free to take your children to the Creche area at the back of church, near the sound desk (ask if you can't see it). Children are important to us at St. Mark's and we want them to be happy. Please feel free to let them play quietly in the Creche; **we just ask that you stay with them and leave the area tidy!**