

150 years



MARKtime

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

Living for Jesus; Loving Gillingham;
Learning Together

Mission Focus February: **India 2018**

St. Mark's Group/events for
February: **Prayer Ministry Teams**

5th February 2017

4th Sunday before Lent

10.30am: All Age Service

6.30: Holy Communion

Theme: "Dead in Sardis"

Reading: Revelation 3: 1-6

Other Services & events: 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.

The Church Office will be closed Monday, 13th - Friday, 17th February due to staff annual leave.

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK:

Mon 6th Feb: 7.30pm **Landmark**, Old Vicarage

Weds 8th Feb: 9.00am **Holy Communion** in Church

10.00am **Ladies Group**, Old Vicarage

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

Thurs 9th Feb: 1.00pm-3.00pm **Foodbank**, Church

Thurs 9th 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? Then Alpha is for you... **It's not too late to join!**

Speak to Keith Sheepwash, Richard or Jane Tolhurst for more details...

Please help **Alpha** by cooking a simple meal for 15+ people (**two dates left**) or set up tables & chairs prior to Alpha each week and/or clear up after the meal - if you can help please speak to Lynda Smith or Keith Sheepwash.

Fri 10th Feb: 6.15pm **Kidz Klub**, ages 7-11, Old Vicarage

Sat 11th Feb: 10.00am-12.00noon **Foodbank**
10.30am-12.00noon **Faith & Light Juniors**, Vicarage Hall

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 12th February:

10.30am Holy Communion

6.30pm: Service of the Word

Theme: "Missional in Philadelphia"

Reading: Revelation 3:7-13

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

3.00pm Charing House

5.00pm St Mark's House

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sun 19th Feb: 7.30pm-9.15pm **Landmark**, Old Vicarage - **Please note change from Monday to Sunday, as from today.**

Mon 20th Feb: 7.45pm **PCC Meeting**, Old Vicarage.

Sun 26th Feb: 12.30pm **India 2018 Fundraising 'Auction of Gifts, Talents and Services'** in Church. Soup and bread lunch. All welcome - come and get your bids in!

Weds 1st March: 9.00am-10.00am **Ash Wednesday Holy Communion** in Church
7.30pm-8.30pm **Ash Wednesday Meditation and Communion** in Church

Sat 4th March: 7.00pm for 7.30pm **Tearfund Concert** with Jonica in Church. Tickets £5 on the door.

Sun 5th March: Tearfund Sunday - includes cheese and bread lunch after the service, please bring some money to donate the amount you'd pay for lunch to help the people of our connected church!

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

FAMILY NEWS

*It is with great sadness we report that **David Smith**, Derick & Terry Thom's brother-in-law, died on Saturday 21st January at 11.00pm. He will be remembered by many in St. Mark's for his and his wife Jean's powerful service to the Lord and our community. They then went on to serve the Lord in St. Michael Le Belfry, York and blessed that church too.*

David's funeral will be on Wednesday 22nd February at 10.30am @ St. Michael Le Belfry, York and burial at Rufforth Cemetery for more details please speak to Derick & Terri Thom, thank you.

Congratulations

to Rachel Mann and Esgrid Sikahall on their engagement!



India 2018 fundraising events will be occurring each month throughout 2017. The first one is an 'Auction of Gifts, Talents and Services' on Sunday, 26th February after the morning service.

Please do come and support some of these fundraising events. See the full list of 'what's on' dates on the **India 2018 notice board**.



POINTS FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." Matthew 11:28-29 (NIV)

LORD JESUS please help us to remember just how "gentle and humble" You are, yet we are too often proud and boastful. You treat us with loving kindness, when we at times are mean and cruel. Oh LORD please, "Create in [us] a pure heart... and renew a steadfast spirit within [us]" (Psalm 51:10) for Your glory's sake Amen.

Bring to the LORD all those who are "weary and burdened" including you this week... **Praise** that, "You [LORD] make Your saving help [our] shield, and Your right hand sustains [us]; Your help makes [us] great." (Psalm 18:35)

Pray for every aspect of the **Alpha** course this week... **Praise the LORD** that He is the only place to find "rest for our souls" in a challenging, confusing and at times difficult world.

Pray for the Medway Campus Chaplain interviews on Feb 15th.

Praise for the **Welcome Lunch** last Sunday... **Pray** for all new people to our church community and that they will continue to find God's blessing, encouragement and grace.

Pray that the **Prayer Ministry Teams** this week will continue to keep close to the LORD and be

open to His wisdom and grace... **Praise** for all the many wonderful answers to prayer, week by week.

Praise for the **£205.00** raised for Tearfund from the Christmas card donations!

Praise for Aurora, Jack and Malachi's baptisms last Sunday... **Ask the LORD** to help them, their families and friends to know Him better and to be open to His loving message of hope.

Praise that **Katy Barnwell**, our Mission partner has made some progress on the revision of writing her textbook describing principles and procedures of Bible translation... **Continue to pray** for wisdom and skill in meeting her publisher's formatting requirements... She ends her email with, "Thank you for praying with me. 'We are all God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.'" (Ephesians 2:10) May the LORD bless you richly too in all that you have been chosen and called to do".

Praise for all the blessings the LORD has already given concerning **India 2018**... **Pray** for the first fundraising event on Sunday 26th February and that the LORD will continue to bring us altogether as His loving Christian community.

Pray for those recovering from surgery or other treatment: for **Sarah**, Lynne Martin's sister-in-law... for **Michael Stacey**... for **Steve Burtrand**... for **Mo Chen**... **Pray** for all those affected especially their family and friends.

Continue to pray for **Derick & Terri Thom & family**... 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 February: **India 2018**... **Please pray** for our St. Mark's Group for February: **Prayer Ministry Teams**...

Bible readings for February 2017

Day	Psalm	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading
Mon 6 th	30	Joel 1.1-14	John 15.1-11
Tues 7 th	36	Joel 1.15-end	John 15.12-17
Weds 8 th Feb	34	Joel 2.1-17	John 15.18-end
Thurs 9 th	37	Joel 2.18-27	John 16.1-15
Fri 10 th	31	Joel 2.28-end	John 16.16-22
Sat 11 th	42	Joel 3.1-3, 9-end	John 16.23-end

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!**