

150 years



MARKtime

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

Living for Jesus; Loving Gillingham;
Learning Together

Mission Focus March:
Tearfund

St. Mark's Group/events for
March : PCC

12th March 2017

2nd Sunday of Lent



10.30am: Holy Communion

Theme: Lent series (3)
"God's Word Re-discovered"
Reading: 2 Kings 22.1-23:3

6.30pm: Service of the Word

Theme: Lent series (4) "God's Powerful Word"
Reading: Isaiah 55:1-13 (Isaiah 40:6-8 & Hebrews 4:12-13)

Other Services & events: 11.00am **Morning Service**, St. Mary's Island
3.00pm Charing House
5.00pm St Mark's House
7.30pm-9.15pm **Landmark**, Old Vicarage

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.*

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

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

Tues 14th March: 7.30pm Licensing of the Rev Canon Antony Lane as the new vicar at St. Augustine's, Gillingham.

Weds 15th March: 9.00am **Holy Communion** in Church
10.00am **Ladies Group**, Old Vicarage
1.15pm **Parents & Toddlers**, Vicarage Hall
6.30pm-8.30pm **Faith and Light**, Vicarage Hall

Thurs 16th March: 1.00pm-3.00pm **Foodbank**, Church
7.00pm-9.30pm **Alpha** with supper included, Old Vicarage
7.00pm for 7.30pm start **Foodbank Prayer & Praise** meeting at the Salvation Army, Church Street, Chatham ME4 4BT. Everyone welcome.

Fri 17th March: 6.15pm **Kidz Klub**, ages 7-11, Old Vicarage
8.00pm **Table-Tennis Club** - All St Mark's over - 18's welcome, Vicarage Hall

Sat 18th March: 10.00am-12.00noon **Foodbank**

SUNDAY 19th March

3rd Sunday of Lent

10.30am: Service of the Word

Theme: Lent series (5) "God's Delightful Word"
Reading: Psalm 119

6.30pm: Holy Communion

Theme: Lent series (6) "God's Word Made Flesh"

Reading: John 1:1-18

Other Services/Events: 11.00am **Morning Service & AGM** St. Mary's Island.
7.30pm-9.15pm **Landmark**, Old Vicarage

Small Groups/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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sun 26th March: *The Clocks go forward 1 hour!*

10.30am **Mothering Sunday**, SOS & Pathfinders will join us in Church for Holy Communion.

6.30pm **India 2018 Film & Prayer Night** in Church, all welcome

Fri 31st March: 10.00am **Lydia Prayer Meeting**, Old Vicarage

Tues 11th & Weds 12th: 7.30pm-8.30pm **Holy Week Meditations** in Church

Thurs 13th April: 6.30pm **Passover Supper**. If you would like to be part of the team please speak to Lucy Day or Saju.

Fri 14th April: 10.30am-11.15am **Good Friday meditation** in Church
11.30am **Walk of Witness** from Gillingham Library to Smith Square

Sat 22nd April: **India 2018 Fundraising Games Event**. More details later.

FAMILY NEWS

Some of you may know that the charity **Compassion** has had to withdraw from India. There is another small Christian charity called **TREAD** who have permission to continue supporting vulnerable children in India. If you would like further information, please speak to Mike and Denise Young.

St. Mary's Island Church is looking for a part-time administrator to work 10 hours per week, based at St. Mark's Parish Office. Closing date tomorrow 13th March.

For more information &/or application pack please contact John Bloor or the Church Office

'Lent Bible Feast' - daily readings for Lent, available at the back of church.

'Baobab' is the new Christian Bookshop/Drop in Centre and café, open 10.00am-5.00pm, Mon-Sat, 2 Batchelor Street, Chatham, ME4 4BJ, 01634 840862. Please support this new venture!

Sun 23rd April: 10.30am **Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)** in Church as part of our worship.

We need to nominate and elect 3 Deanery Synod and 4 PCC members and choose 2 Churchwardens – please think and pray for wisdom as to who might fill these vacancies. Nomination forms will be available soon.

To vote at the APCM you need to be on our membership list, the 'Electoral Roll'. If you are already on it, there is no need to re-apply; however anyone else must fill in an application form. You need to be a) over 16 years old, b) have been baptised (as a child or adult in any Christian denomination) and c) either live in the parish **or** have attended St. Mark's for at least 6 months.

Application forms are available at the back of church or in the office. **The list will close on 26th March until after the APCM.**

Pray for **The Family Trust** as they bring God's holy word to life in various schools in Medway & Maidstone... **Ask the LORD** to protect, encourage and provide finance to meet their needs... **Praise** for all that the LORD is achieving through them.

Praise for the **Tearfund** Service last Sunday and for all the monies raised... **Pray** that the LORD will meet each recipient in a meaningful way and thus transform their lives... **Pray** that our connected church Sahaara, Mumbai, India will be encouraged, strengthened and blessed, which will pour out into their wider community.

Please cover Alpha Course in Prayer this week

Continue to pray for the new post of '**Head of Youth, Children & Families**' and for discernment for those involved in short-listing and interviewing at the end of March... for the **new part-time administrator** for St. Mary's Island... for **Amanda Maskell** and her family, as she joins us in autumn 2017 as our curate.

Continue to pray for **Word on the Street** staff who are being made redundant on 31st March... for the staff of Budgens in Gillingham High Street who have been made redundant too... **Ask the LORD** to bring new life into Gillingham High Street.

Pray for the **APCM** on Sunday 23rd April... for the LORD to direct who He wants as new Deanery Synod and PCC members and for the 2 new Church Wardens... **Praise** for all that the PCC does on our behalf.

Pray for **Samuel Wilkins**... for **Ian Recardo's father Harry**... for **Michael Stacey**... for **Steve Burtrand**... for **Mo Chen**... for **Derick & Terri Thom & family**... for **Michelle Saunders' dad**... for **Nev Piper**... for **Don Miller**... for **Keith Sheepwash**... for and others known to us who are in need of God's comfort and healing touch.

Pray for our Mission focus March: **Tearfund ... Please pray** for our St. Mark's Group for March: **PCC...**



POINTS FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

"And the words of the LORD are flawless like silver purified in a crucible, like gold refined seven times." Psalm 12:6 (NIV)

Thank you, LORD that You are as good as Your word, trustworthy, faithful and true. Please help us to remember that You state in Your Holy Word, "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts." (Isaiah 55:9)

Katie Barnwell, our Mission Partner asks for prayer for her meetings with the Mbembe Old Testament Translation Team & the Hohumono Project checking their translations of John's Gospel & Ephesians... *Katie writes, "Pray for safe travel, especially road travel in Nigeria, good health, and joyful road awareness of the LORD's presence all along the way."*... Remember all the other teams too who are bringing the LORD's Holy Word to the different peoples in their own language.

Bible readings for March 2017

Day	Psalm	1st Reading	2nd Reading
Mon 13 th	32	Jeremiah 7.21-end	John 6.41-51
Tues 14 th	50	Jeremiah 8.1-15	John 6.52-59
Weds 15 th	35	Jeremiah 8.18-9.11	John 6.60-end
Thurs 16 th	34	Jeremiah 9.12-24	John 7.1-13
Fri 17 th	41	Jeremiah 10.1-16	John 7.14-24
Sat 18 th	25	Jeremiah 10.17-24	John 7.25-36

Except for the first Sunday of the month **during term time**, groups for children and young teenagers meet at the Old Vicarage, 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!**