

150 years



866-2016

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 Event/Group January:
Our Community Unsung Heroes

7th January 2018

Epiphany 1

10.30am: **All Age Holy Communion** -
Introduction to 'Feeding the 5000' Luke 9:10-17
(including vision for India 2018)

6.30pm: **Prayer Stream:** 'A New Thing'

Other Services @ St. Mary's Island:

11.00am: **Holy Communion**

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

Mon 8th Jan: 9.15am-12.15pm **St. Mark's
Preschool** restarts in Vicarage Hall. (Mon & Tues
9.15am-3.15pm)

Weds 10th Jan: 9.00am **Holy Communion**,
church

9.30am **Ladies Group** restarts, Old Vicarage

1.15pm **Parent & Toddlers** restarts, Vicarage
Hall

6.30pm **Faith & Light** restarts, Vicarage Hall

Thurs 11th Dec: 1.00pm-3.00pm **Foodbank**,
Church

7.00pm **Carri McFarlane**, one of our long-
term Mission Partners, will be visiting to update
us on her work with the Nehemiah Network in
India. Please come and hear what Carri has to tell
us and enjoy some refreshments, Old Vicarage.

Fri 12th Jan: 6.15pm **Kidz Klub** restarts, ages 7-
11, Old Vicarage

Sat 13th Jan 2018: 10.00am-12.00noon
Foodbank, Church

10.30am-12.00noon **Faith & Light Juniors**,
Vicarage Hall

NEXT SUNDAY 14th January

Epiphany 2

All Children's groups restart today.

10.30am: **Service of the Word:** Dinner at
Simon's house, Luke 7:36-50 (including vision for
India 2018)

6.30pm: **Bible teaching stream:** Book of
Revelation followed by a discussion. Refreshments
are available throughout.

Other Services @ St. Mary's Island:

11.00am: **Morning Worship and baptism**

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

Small Groups/Home Groups meet in various
locations at different times throughout the week.
Please contact Pauline at church or in the Church
Office if you would like to know more about being
in a mid-week group.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 15th Jan: 7.45pm PCC, Old Vicarage

Sun 21st Jan: 10.30am **All Age Service** -
**Indian Engagement followed by lunch &
activities in Church.**

Mon 22nd Jan: 12noon - 2.00pm **Week of
Prayer for Christian Unity**, Methodist Church,
Third Avenue, Gillingham

Sun 4th Feb: 10.30am **Tearfund Sunday**

Sun 25th Feb: 10.30am **Ben Freeth** guest
preacher.

Thurs 22nd March: **Men's Curry Night**, details
to follow.

Sun 25th March: **APCM** following a short service
- NOTE the early date!

FAMILY NEWS

Wayne apologises for
having to cancel the annual
post-Christmas walk due to
the awful weather, but he
hopes to organise another
one later in the Spring!



Thank
You

so much to everyone who
helped in any way with
SPLAT! Christingle... without
YOU baking cakes, providing
jam jars, setting up, clearing
away, chatting to families,
serving refreshments, preparing and
helping with craft activities, making
music, sound and lights and face
painting, it would not have happened.



POINTS FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

"The LORD takes pleasure in His people; He
honours the humble with victory. Let God's
people rejoice in their triumph and sing
joyfully all night long." (Psalm 149:4-5 *Good
News Translation*)



**LORD thank you that You delight and take
pleasure in us even though we sin and mess
up. Please help us to realise just how much
You love, care and protect us as we walk
together through 2018. In You we can do all
things (Philippians 4:13) for Your glory.
Amen**

“May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us, that Your ways may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations. May the people praise You, O God; may all the peoples praise You. May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for You rule the peoples justly and guide the nations of the earth. May the peoples praise You, O God, may all the peoples praise You. Then the land will yield its harvest, and God, our God, will bless us. And all the ends of the earth will fear Him”. (Psalm 67 NIV)

In the face of Jesus Christ Your light and glory have blazed forth, O God of all the nations; with all Your people may we make known Your grace and walk in the ways of peace, for Your name’s sake.

Praise for all the Christmas services at St Mark’s and churches throughout Medway... **praise** for all the visitors who came and heard about the birth of Jesus, our Saviour, perhaps for the first time.

Praise for **Our Community Unsung Heroes** especially those who clean/wash up, decorate or repair our church buildings and for our various community groups... **pray** for all those who work behind the scenes quietly doing jobs that no-one realises need to be done!

Pray for all those involved in the **Medway Night Shelter** especially for wisdom, patience and love... **pray** for the team leaders, cooks, overnight volunteers, and launderers... **pray** the guests who stay in the Shelter at this time of the year, that they will build up trusting relationships with the volunteers.

Pray for Julie and her staff at **Pre-school** as they begin the new venture of two afternoon sessions per week this term... **pray** for

Praise for all the answers to prayer **Margaret Weston** from the **El Campello Christian Community** reports....**Pray** for Margaret and Laurie back in Medway for a few weeks.

Pray for the seafarers who risk their lives in difficult weather to transport the goods we need and the good we need to sell... **Praise the LORD** for the **Mission to Seafarers** who try to meet their needs when they are in port... for Ian Graves and his team in their ministry to the seamen.

Continue to pray for **Peter Marchand** that the medical team will make wise decisions in treating Peter’s cancer... that the LORD will bring comfort to Peter, Gill and their family at this difficult time.

Our Mission partner, Katy Barnwell thanks us for our prayers for John Afro, one of the translating team leaders, who is now doing very well but is still undergoing treatment with drugs in preparation for further surgery.

Francis and Diane Dognon, another of our Mission Partners, writes: *Thank you for your prayers and support. We have a trained leadership team to run the church in Lisieux as I (Francis) now run the network and the church in Rouen but we have not yet found a replacement local pastor. I preach once a month at La Source but the team is running the church. That leaves me enough time to work in the 'Reseau La Source' and develop the Network. Please **pray** for a new pastor to take over and for the leadership team who is running the church.*

Pray for **Eddie Donaldson** and family following **Mary-Jane’s funeral** last Friday... **pray** for the family as they adjust to life without her.

Praise for the new year of 2018... Remember that *‘I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me’,* Philippians 4:13.

Pray for those known to us who need God’s comfort and healing touch... for all those who have been ill over the Christmas period and who are finding recovery more prolonged than they would like.

Pray for: **Medway Night Shelter** and **Our Community Unsung Heroes**

Bible readings for January 2018

Day	Psalm	1st Reading	2nd Reading
Mon 8 th Jan	89.19-29	1 Samuel 16.1-3, 13	John 1.29-34
Tues 9 th	9	Genesis 1.20-2.3	Matthew 21.18-32
Weds 10 th	20	Genesis 2.4-end	Matthew 21.33-end
Thurs 11 th	21	Genesis 3	Matthew 22.1-14
Fri 12 th	67	Genesis 4.1-16, 25-26	Matthew 22.15-33
Sat 13 th	33	Genesis 6.1-10	Matthew 22.34-end

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!**