

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: TEARFUND

St. Mark's Event:
Peace & Hope

29th March 2020

SUNDAY 29th March:

5th Sunday of Lent

Please note that all Sunday morning services will be livestreamed on Facebook for the foreseeable future - thank you.



10.30am: **Service of the Word**

Theme: Called to take part in God's Mission/Nation changers

Reading: Matthew 28:16-20

6.30pm: **No Evening Service**

Other Services:

No St Mary's Island services until further notice

No Summit until further notice

Please be aware that as of the afternoon of Friday 20th March, St Mark's Pre-School will be closed until further notice.

WHAT'S ON DURING THIS WEEK:

Please note that due to the Coronavirus no groups or meetings other than Foodbank will be taking place until further notice.



Thurs 2nd April: 1.00pm-3.00pm: **Foodbank** in Church

Sat 4th April: 10.00am-noon: **Foodbank**, in church

FAMILY NEWS

Denise Young would like to make a list of people she can call on if someone walks into church and does not speak English. Please let her know if you are happy to be on the list and what language/s you speak. Many thanks.



Karen Turnbull, Community Pastor, is setting up a virtual prayer boiler room for Gillingham. There are 336 permanent 1/2hour slots to fill. Please email Karen if you are interested on karenturnbull@stmarksgillingham.org

Gillingham – The Good Neighbour Scheme from the Salvation Army. If you can help or more information please see the link below: <https://gillinghamcorps.info/GoodNeighbour/>

Harris writes, "I would like to make you aware of the Good Neighbour scheme which we've just launched as a response to this crisis. It is a scheme by which we aim to recruit volunteers and then match them with homes in isolation in order to help them with shopping and things like this."



URGENT REQUEST for volunteers on a Thursday & Saturday to help pack food bags, no experience necessary, must be between the age of 18 to 69 (work permits supplied) if we don't find volunteers we will be forced to close. Please email Paul Smith.

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We as a church believe in the power of prayer. Please give Kath Burtrand) your email address to receive St. Mark's Weekly Prayer & Praise email if you don't already receive it! Likewise, please email her or the Church Office with your prayer requests and praise items! Thank you.

Many of our church members are feeling very isolated, for some social distancing already causes problems for them. Please remember your home group members at this time, maybe you know of someone who isn't in a homegroup and may well appreciate an email or phonecall. Please check in with one another and support one another right now where possible.

SUNDAY 5th April:

Palm Sunday
10.30am: **All Age Service**

Theme: **Palm Sunday**

6.30pm: **No Evening Service**



Other Services:

No St Mary's Island services until further notice

No Summit until further notice

POINTS FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER



"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV UK)

LORD Jesus thank you that in You we are being rebuilt in Your image day by day even when we don't feel like it! We are Your holy temple and as such gifted with skills and abilities to create Your church and kingdom on earth. Please help us to trust You more each day as we walk in step with You for Your glory's sake, Amen.

Ask the LORD to remind you of His blessings this week and thank Him.

Pray for the many vulnerable people in refugee camps, the homeless and migrants around the world who are less able to deal with the Coronavirus ... **Ask the LORD** to help His holy Church to be creative in the many ways they can help those in need.

Pray for the staff of our pharmacies, supermarkets, shops etc. as they deal with stressed/worried customers... **Ask the LORD** to protect these workers from Coronavirus and abuse... to give words of wisdom to His people, so that they can defuse any difficult situations... **Praise** for the many kind people of various faiths or no faith at all who have volunteered to help the NHS with the vulnerable and those who are self-isolating with shopping etc.

Continue to pray for all those who are self-isolating due to the Coronavirus... **Ask the LORD** to be with everyone who is finding this tough... **Remember Amanda and Jeff Maskell** at this time, **Rob Byrne & Karen Turnbull**.

Pray for Saju who is in India with his parents with the country in lock-down due to the Coronavirus... for his wife Katy and the children here in Gillingham and the difficulties that this situation is causing the family... **Ask the LORD** to bless the whole family at this challenging time.

Pray for **TEARFUND's partner SAHAARA** in Mumbai, India... **Ask the LORD** to help as Mumbai

now has people who are suffering from Coronavirus... **Pray** for the challenges that this situation will be causing for the work of **SAHAARA**.

Continue to pray for the **Peace & Hope** team member Linda Nodder and community member Sally have both have had long term health issues... **Ask the LORD** to bless each member and give them His peace in this difficult time.

Pray for **Jane Bannar-Martin's** son **Tim** who is unwell and her daughter-in-law **Jenny** whose health condition has deteriorated and is being admitted to hospital... **Remember in prayer** Jenny's husband Ben and their children too.

Pray for **Rod & Jenny White and their son Stuart** after Stuart's wife **Beverley** sadly passed away last week in Guy's Hospital – just 6 weeks after initially being diagnosed with cancer... **Pray** for the whole White family with the funeral being held on Thursday 2nd April – but with limited number of mourners.

Pray for **Katie Jenkins' dad and step-mum Clare** in Surrey, Clare has underlining health issues and was diagnosed with cancer last week, she was rushed to hospital last night (Weds 25th) due to bleeding... **Pray** for comfort, safety and healing.

Continue to pray for St. Mary's Island and our St. Mark's community as we learn to do church differently for the time being.

Pray for **Richard & Jane Tolhurst** and their family, as Richard's mum passed away recently... for **Tricia Martin's family & friends...** for **Gay Gower...** for **Sathish at SMIC** into his 2nd of 2 months of targeted antibiotic treatment... for **Michael Stacey...** for **Paul Smith...** and **Keith Sheepwash...** for **Stan & Linda Brown ...** and for anyone you know who needs the LORD at this time for whatever reason.

Bring to the LORD any situation whether in our church family, locally, nationally or internationally that you care about... **Praise** "He (the LORD) will respond to the prayer of the destitute, He will not despise their plea." (Psalm 102:17)

Please pray for: TEARFUND; Peace & Hope

Bible readings for March/April 2020

Day	Psalm	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading
Mon 30 th	73	Exodus 8.1-19	Hebrews 11.17-31
Tues 31 st	35	Exodus 8.20-end	Hebrews 11.32-12.2
Weds 1 st April	55	Exodus 9.1-12	Hebrews 12.3-13
Thurs 2 nd	40	Exodus 9.13-end	Hebrews 12.14-end
Fri 3 rd	22	Exodus 10	Hebrews 13.1-16
Sat 4 th	23	Exodus 11	Hebrews 13.17-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 through the second door on the left, at the front of church (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!**

The Church Office is closed to visitors until further notice, but staff working hours are:

Mon 11.00am-3.00pm (staff team meeting takes place from 9.30am-11.00am), Tues & Weds 10.00am-2.00pm, Thurs 10.00am-3.00pm, Fri 9.15am-1.15pm