# **THIS SUNDAY -  26th February**

MORNING SERVICE, 10.30am  
[**In Church**](https://www.stmarksgillingham.org/Articles/607245/Church_Building_Open.aspx?redirected=1)**,** [**Facebook**](https://www.facebook.com/stmarksgillingham) **and** [**Youtube**](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1b5IAYzi3iBqXPBu0OnRrQ/videos?view=2&live_view=502)

**Title:** 1st Sunday of lent

**Speaker**: Catharina

**Readings:**

CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS

**GEMS & PEBBLES**

Children’s groups will be running as usual Sunday. Parents can drop their children off from 10.15am and pick them up at 12pm.

This week

Home Groups  
Throughout the week

Joining a **home group** is a brilliant chance to meet and pray with others, build relationships, support one another, exchange views and explore God's word together. [Take a look at the groups and sign up here](https://www.stmarksgillingham.org/Groups/268148/Small_Groups.aspx) or contact the office.

Ladies Group

Will be back on, on the 18th January at 10am to finish the last study about Joseph, the following week will be games morning with men invited.

Standing in the Gap (Prayer meeting)

**Saturdays | 7 - 8am | Online**

On Zoom, join us [online here](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2238511807?pwd=TU94WVN3cDlaSWxnejhHZTYxMTdvdz09).  
[Meeting ID: 223 851 1807 | Passcode: inthegap]

Open Church  
**Tuesday | 10am - 12pm | Church**

Come along for a chat, fellowship or private prayer. Refreshments will be served. Please be aware masks are advised.  
If you are interested in volunteering please contact Dammy via [admin@stmarksgillingham.org](mailto:admin@stmarksgillingham.org).

Dementia Cafe

8th and 22nd March|1pm to 3pm | Church

Parent & Toddlers

Wednesdays, 1.15-2.45pm, Vicarage Hall

Fun space for children to play and for parents/guardians to connect. No need to book, just drop up. Wednesdays in term time.

Peace and Hope

25th February, 10:30am vicarage hall

Gospel Night

Sunday 26th February, 6:30pm

### **NEWS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Office Closures

The office will be closed on Monday 27 February and Friday 3 March.

In case of an emergency please contact Rev’d Catharina: [catharina@stmarksgillingham.org](mailto:catharina@stmarksgillingham.org)

Tearfund Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal

If you would like to make a donation, please click the link underneath.

[**Please CLICK HERE to make a donation to the Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal**](https://gillingham.churchinsight.com/Articles/655600/Tearfund_Turkey_Syria.aspx)

Holy Communion

If you are unable to get to Church and would like to have communion brought to your home, please contact the Church office.  [admin@stmarksgillingham.org](mailto:admin@stmarksgillingham.org) 01634 570489.  You need to live in St Mark’s parish and be happy for your contact details to be passed to the home communion team.

Prayer Meetings for 2023

Meetings between 7 and 9pm

1st March, Old Vicarage, Vicarage Road, ME7 5JA.

5th April, St Mark’s, 1 Canterbury Street, ME7 5TP. 3rd May, St Mark’s. 7th June, St Mark’s. 5th July, St Mark’s. 9th August, St Mark’s. 6th September, St Mark’s. 4th October, St Mark’s. 1st November, St Mark’s.

6th December, Old Vicarage.

Any questions, please email, catharina@stmarksgillingham.org

Alpha Course

The Alpha course starts 23rd January 2023 for 10 weeks, on Mondays 6:30pm – 9:30pm. For more information, please follow the link to the Alpha Course website.

<https://alpha.org.uk/>

New Wine

As a church we are going to the New Wine summer conference this year - at the Kent Event Centre in Maidstone, previously called the Detling Campsite.

Sign up to join and camp from 1-5 August on the New Wine website <https://www.new-wine.org/events/united23/> by booking onto St Mark’s with St Mary’s Island Church. There is an early bird price until 31.1.

### United 23

##### Week A: Wednesday 26 July – Sunday 30 July 2023, Week B: Tuesday 1 August – Saturday 5 August 2023, Kent Event Centre, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 3JF

If you have any questions, please contact Catharina

Thanksgiving service

A Service of Thanksgiving will be held for The Reverend John Collins on Friday 19th May 2023 at 12 noon at Holy Trinity Brompton, Brompton Road, London SW7 1JA, followed by refreshments in Church House.

Please can you kindly send an email both to [reception@htb.org](mailto:reception@htb.org) and [chickpaget@gmail.com](mailto:chickpaget@gmail.com) if you wish to attend.  If you could possibly confirm your numbers, that would be very helpful.

For those who don’t know, Rev John Collins was part of the story of St Marks Gillingham.  it was during an all-night prayer vigil here, in the 1960s, that he and all those present, experienced a “visitation of the Holy Spirit”.  It is said that this experience and the three weeks that followed, transformed the church into a catalyst for what would become known as the “Charismatic Revival” in Britain.

#### PLEASE PRAY –

Worldwide –

* The family **of Nicola Bulley** in their distress and sorrow; and for all those dealing with tragedy, who have missing loved ones, or are grieving loss.
* For God’s Peace in **Ukraine, Nigeria**, and the many countries in **South America**, where dreadful violence prevails;
* for the areas on your hearts.
* For the local researchers, academics and Australian professor taken hostage in **Papua New Guinea** and
* for wisdom for Prime Minister James Marape and authorities in securing their release.
* From **TEAR FUND\*\* –***God of refuge, you are an ever-present help in time of need. Please be this to the people of Turkey, Syria, Iraq and Lebanon today. Provide people with safe shelter and the essentials they need. Be a comfort to those who are grieving and who are traumatised. Be people’s strength and rock as they work together to rescue people, treat the injured, care for those in need and rebuild after this tragedy.  In Jesus’ name, amen.*

The UK –

* For **God’s Church** and our brothers and sisters in Christ suffering under persecution, inequality and injustice:
* May each be open to receive the Lord’s strength in their weakness, that they be raised above the storms of life, to stand for Jesus;
* where there is injustice in the rule of law, may freedom come to the captives;
* for those who’ve strayed from the narrow path, that the Lord’s light guide them back.

God’s Church –

* for Government negotiators and counterparts, deliberating the Northern Ireland protocol
* for **King Charles**and the Queen Consort;
* for all in **leadership**across Government, Devolved Administrations and local government – may they serve diligently and wholeheartedly**.**

If you would like to be added to the ***Prayer & Praise*** email list to receive weekly praise reports and prayer requests from our church family please contact Kath Burtrand: [*kathyb.nana@yahoo.co.uk*](mailto:kathyb.nana@yahoo.co.uk)

Foodbank

If you would like to donate to foodbank here is the link to the shopping list of things that are needed for those who are in need.

[file:///C:/Users/Student.26327/AppData/Local/Packages/microsoft.windowscommunicationsapps\_8wekyb3d8bbwe/LocalState/Files/S0/5/Attachments/Shopping%20List%20July-August%2022\_large[1640].pdf](file:///C:/Users/Student.26327/AppData/Local/Packages/microsoft.windowscommunicationsapps_8wekyb3d8bbwe/LocalState/Files/S0/5/Attachments/Shopping%20List%20July-August%2022_large%5b1640%5d.pdf)

Medway Night Shelter

There are some gaps available for working and supporting this important work with the homeless, with a zoom training available too … ‘We are still on the lookout for volunteers to help with cooking 5.30-8.30pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday’. If you would like to be involved or donate, contact by email  [medwayshelter@gmail.com](mailto:medwayshelter@gmail.com)

The night shelter are looking for volunteers for cooking and laundry.  If you are interested, can they please email.  Medway Night Shelter [medwayshelter@gmail.com](mailto:medwayshelter@gmail.com)

WARM CLOTHING

Do you own any good quality warm clothing, coats, hats, scarves, gloves, blankets etc that you no longer need. Please donate these to Street Angles to help others.

Warm Spaces weekly in Gillingham

Monday, St Mary’s Gillingham Green, 9am to 12pm

Tuesday, St Mark’s Church, Gillingham High Street, 12pm to 2pm

Wednesday, St Augustine’s, Rock Avenue, 9am to 11am, St Barnabas, Nelson Road, 1:30pm to 4pm

Thursday, St Augustine’s, Rock Avenue, 13:30am to 4pm

Sunday, St Luke’s Church Hall, 12:30pm to 4pm

##### Upcoming Events

NEXT SUNDAY

**5th March, 10.30am, Church**

**Title:** All age

**Speaker**: All age team

**Readings:**

Thank you for the week

Thank you to the people who helped with the Ash Wednesday service.

St Mark’s Church **Canterbury Street, Gillingham, ME7 5TP  
Registered Charity 1141709**  
  
**Office**: The Old Vic, Vicarage Road, Gillingham, ME7 5JA  
01634 570 489 | [admin@stmarksgillingham.org](mailto:admin@stmarksgillingham.org)  
  
**Office hours:**  
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday | 10.00am - 2.00pm  
Fridays | 10:00am – 12 noon   
***Please contact the office if you need to make an  
appointment & do not drop by without prior arrangement.***