

MARKtime 09 December 2007

The Weekly News-sheet for St. Mark's Church, Gillingham
with St. Mary's Island Church (a Local Ecumenical Partnership)

A Mission Shaped Church

Connecting people with Jesus

PRAYER FOR TODAY

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power
and come among us, and with your great might help us.
That whereas, through our many sins and wickedness
we are grievously hindered in running the race
that is set before us, your bountiful goodness
and mercy may speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, Amen

Today's Services

Second Sunday in Advent

10.30 am: Holy Communion
Reflection: John Saunders
Readings: Isaiah 11: 1-9
Matthew 3: 1-12
Theme: 'Advent'

6.30 pm: Evening Worship
Reflection: Graham Davis
Readings: Ezekiel 18: 21-32
Revelation 20: 11-15
Theme: 'Judgement'

Other services today: **10.30 am** - Esmonde House Brompton and Mountevans House
11.00 am - Morning Service at St Mary's Island Church
4.30 pm - Christmas Service at St. Mark's House

WELCOME TO ST. MARK'S

If you are new to St. Mark's we hope that you enjoy your time of worship here with us today and that you will want to come back again next week. Please pick up a Welcome Leaflet from the back of the church which has information about all the regular activities.

*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 from 10.20 am. All children (except the under 5's) are escorted back down to Church at the end of the morning. Children in the Sramblers group (2 -5 years) will need to be collected. There is usually a crèche for babies in the Church Vestry during the morning service.*

What's on this week at St. Mark's

Monday 10th	10.00 am - 12.00 pm - Coffee Shop in Church 7.30 pm - 9.30pm - Landmark at the Old Vicarage 'Make and bake' 8.00 pm - MTG meeting at St. Mark's Vicarage
Tuesday 11th	12 noon - Carers Service in Church 8.00 pm - Home Groups
Wednesday 12th	9.00 am - Holy Communion 10.00 am - Ladies Group at the Old Vicarage 'Christmas Decorations' 1.15 pm - 2.45 pm - Parent and Toddler group Christmas party in Vicarage Hall 2.00 pm - Service of Thanksgiving in Church for Peter Townsend 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm - Faith and Light party in Vicarage Hall
Thursday 13th	8.00 pm - Choir Practise in Church
Friday 14th	6.15 - 7.30 pm - Kidz Club Christmas Party in the Vicarage Hall
Saturday 15th	7.00 pm - 9.00 pm - SNUG - Christmas Disco for Years 6 - 9, in the Vicarage Hall
Next Sunday 16th Dec	10.30 am - Service of Carols and Readings 6.30 pm - Café style service run by the Young People 'R U missing the point?'

Dates for your diary.....

Monday 17th December - Coffee Shop Christmas Service
Tuesday 18th December - Land mark Christmas Chill
Sunday 23rd December - Bethlehem Village and Christingle
Monday 24th December - Late Night Communion Service
Tuesday 25th December - Christmas Day Family Communion



Volunteers are needed to deliver leaflets to the people who live near you inviting them to join the Christmas celebrations here at St. Mark's.

If you are willing and able to deliver in your locality please speak to Keith or Pam . **THANKYOU**



BISHOP MICHAEL NAZIR-ALI

Special Christmas Dinner Speaker

at

The King Charles Hotel

on

Thursday 13th December 2007 at 7.45 pm

Reservations to Colin ASAP on 01634 377965 Cost £12.50

**Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International (UK & Ireland)
A worldwide Christian Business Men's Organisation**



**BETHLEHEM
VILLAGE**



Sunday 23rd December

3.30 pm—5.00 pm

To include a Christingle service



*all the family are
welcome*

Can you help?

We need food provided for
the inn and help on the day, to
chat, move chairs, welcome
and tidy up

**Please sign up on the lists at
the back of the church**

**The Christmas Walk will take place on
Thursday 27th December more to follow.....**



Camping and Caravanning Week 2008

May Bank Holiday 24th - 31st May

This year we are planning a week at St. Neots
Camping and Caravan Club site,
a superb site on the banks of the River Ouse.

Booking forms are available from Vince on
Medway 305587 or from the Church office.

Please complete and return to Vince by Christmas. Thank you



BIBLE READINGS for - December

<i>Day</i>	<i>Psalm</i>	<i>Old Testament</i>	<i>New Testament</i>
<i>Mon 10th</i>	<i>Ps. 44</i>	<i>Isa. 30: 1-18</i>	<i>Matt. 14: 1-12</i>
<i>Tue 11th</i>	<i>Ps. 56</i>	<i>Isa. 30: 19-end</i>	<i>Matt. 14: 13-end</i>
<i>Wed 12th</i>	<i>Ps. 62</i>	<i>Isa. 31: 1-end</i>	<i>Matt. 15: 1 -20</i>
<i>Thu 13th</i>	<i>Ps. 54</i>	<i>Isa. 32: 1-end</i>	<i>Matt. 15: 21-28</i>
<i>Fri 14th</i>	<i>Ps. 86</i>	<i>Isa. 33: 1-22</i>	<i>Matt. 15: 29-end</i>
<i>Sat 15th</i>	<i>Ps. 42</i>	<i>Isa. 35: 1-end</i>	<i>Matt. 16: 1-12</i>

Points for Praise and Prayer

- A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Peter Townsend, who passed away recently at the Wisdom Hospice, will be held in Church on Wednesday 12th December followed by the Committal at Medway Crem at 3.20pm. There will be a cup of tea and biscuits served in church afterwards. Please continue to pray for Annie, Angie and the rest of the family.
- Please continue to pray for the appointment of an Associate Vicar here at St. Mark's who will live in the Garden House and have responsibilities on the Island and at the School. Several people have demonstrated interest in the job.
- Two little girls Alana and Aimee were baptised here last week, please pray for them and their families over this Christmas Season also for Sandie and Stuart asking God's blessing on their marriage.
- We continue to remember in our prayers those who are not well namely, Des and Celia, Rose, Joyce Martin and others.
- Parking in and around the church is quite an issue at the moment, if you have any comments please speak to the vicar since we are awaiting a response from the Medway Council on the matter.
- The Church is gearing up for the Christmas season, please pray for the different groups and organisations using the buildings, the publicity and people power in the midst of everything else. Thank you.
- This month we remember in our prayers Carri MacFarlane studying at All Nations Bible College, Claire Coleman in New Zealand and Gillingham YFC. GYFC are still looking for a minute taker for their Exec. meetings, speak to Wendy H. if you can help.

Vicar:	Canon John Saunders	01634 851818
Youth & Children's Co-ordinator:	Sarah Ryan	07949 751730
Church Administrator:	Pam Alexander	Church office: 01634 570489
Playgroup Leader:	Julie Hanning	07807 577836
Pastoral Assistant:	Keith Sheepwash	01634 571841

If you would like a visit from one of the staff please phone to make an appointment

Email: admin@stmarkschurchgillingham.co.uk

Website: www.stmarkschurchgillingham.co.uk