

# MARKtime 16 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 Jesus Christ, who at your first coming  
Sent your messenger to prepare your before you:  
Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries  
May likewise so prepare and make ready your way  
By turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom  
Of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world  
We may be found an acceptable people in your sight;  
For you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

**Today's Services**

**Third Sunday in Advent**

**10.30 am:** Service of Carols & Readings

**Reflection:** Judith Saunders

**Readings:** James 5: 7-11

Matthew 12: 15-21

**Theme:** 'Expectancy?'

**6.30 pm:** Informal Service

**Readings:** Matthew 1: 18:25

**Theme:** 'R U Missing The Point?'

**Other services today: 11.00 am** - Carol Service at St. Mary's Island Church

## 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

<b>Monday 17th</b>	10.30 am - Coffee Shop Christmas Service in Church
<b>Tuesday 18th</b>	8.00 pm - Home Groups 7.30 pm - 9.30pm - Landmark Christmas Chill at the Old Vicarage
<b>Wednesday 19th</b>	9.00 am - Holy Communion
<b>Friday 21st</b>	10.00 am - Funeral Service at the crematorium for Sheila Wintle
<b>Next Sunday 23rd Dec</b>	10.30 am - Holy Communion 3.30 pm - Bethlehem Village

### Dates for your diary.....

**Sunday 23rd December** - Bethlehem Village and Christingle

**Monday 24th December** - Late Night Communion Service

**Tuesday 25th December** - Christmas Day Family Communion

**Friday 28th December** - Service of thanksgiving for Sheila Wintle  
at St. Mark's Church at 3.00 pm

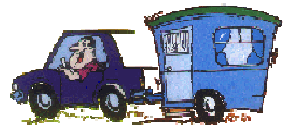
**Sunday 30th December** - Morning Worship



Would anyone like an **ACORN STAIRLIFT?** - 8 months old and hardly used.  
Will fit any typical straight staircase. Substantial savings on purchasing new!  
Price is **£1250 ono** which includes delivery and fitting by a trained Acorn engineer  
and - a full 3 month manufacturer's warranty. Telephone Janet Mann: **01634 304893**

### Camping and Caravanning Week May Bank Holiday 24th - 31st May 2008

Don't forget to book



Forms available from Vince: 01634 305587  
or from the Church office.  
Please complete and return to Vince by Christmas. Thank you

Please use the board at the back of the church for  
Christmas greetings cards



# BETHLEHEM VILLAGE



**Sunday 23rd December**

**3.30 pm - 5.00 pm**

**To include a Christingle service**



*all the family are  
welcome*

Come along and bring a friend. Please pick up an invitation for them at the back of the church



Could this be you? From January 2008 we need someone to clean our lovely church - it takes around 3 hrs per week

If interested please speak to Pam

## **The Post Christmas Walk - will take place on Thursday 27th December**

*Meet at 10.45 am at the Leather Bottle in Cobham*

*Start at 11.00 am*

*Walk for approximately 3 miles*

*Wear good strong boots*

*Not suitable for push chairs or buggies*

*Place orders prior to the walk if you would like lunch upon your return*

*Variety of meals and bar snacks*

*Fine wines and ales*

*The leather Bottle is a welcoming 16th Century inn.*



*For more details please contact  
Lance Hanning on Medway 377073*

# BIBLE READINGS for - December

<i>Day</i>	<i>Psalm</i>	<i>Old Testament</i>	<i>New Testament</i>
<i>Mon 17th</i>	<i>Ps. 40</i>	<i>Isa. 38: 1-8</i>	<i>Matt. 16 13-end</i>
<i>Tue 18h</i>	<i>Ps. 70</i>	<i>Isa. 38: 9-22</i>	<i>Matt. 17: 1-13</i>
<i>Wed 19th</i>	<i>Ps. 146</i>	<i>Isa. 39: 1-end</i>	<i>Matt. 17: 14 –21</i>
<i>Thus 20th</i>	<i>Ps. 46</i>	<i>Zeph. 1: 1-end</i>	<i>Matt. 17: 22-end</i>
<i>Fri 21st</i>	<i>Ps. 121</i>	<i>Zeph. 2: 1-end</i>	<i>Matt. 18: 1-20</i>
<i>Sat 22nd</i>	<i>Ps. 124</i>	<i>Zeph. 3: 1-end</i>	<i>Matt: 18: 21-end</i>

## Points for Praise and Prayer

- Folks will be sad to know that Sheila Wintle passed away early last Wednesday morning at the Medway Hospital. She, together with her husband Jim, were very faithful members of St. mark's for many years. A service is planned at the Crematorium for Friday 21st at 10:00 am and a thanksgiving Service in Church of Friday 28th at 3:00pm. (Sheila has asked for no flowers but donations to hospice etc.)
- Please do continue to pray for the appointment of an Associate Vicar here at St. Mark's. Several people have demonstrated interest in the job. The person appointed will have Responsibilities on the Island and at the School as well as here at St. Mark's.
- We continue to remember in our prayers those who are not well namely, Des and Celia, Rose, Joyce martin and others. Rachel is asking for prayer concerning her daughter Lucy's situation.
- We also remember those who have been bereaved recently especially Annie Townsend, Melanie and Graham, and their families.
- 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 will be writing to the Council next week about the issue.
- Please pray for the different groups and organisations using the church buildings this week, do pray for the publicity and 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. Please see the Mission Board for more details.

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

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