

## BIBLE READINGS for - November

Day	Psalm	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading
Mon. 24 <sup>th</sup>	96	Isaiah 40:1-11	Revelation 14:1-13
Tues. 25 <sup>th</sup>	97	Isaiah 40:12-26	Revelation 14:14-15:8
Wed. 26 <sup>th</sup>	112	Isaiah 40:27-41:7	Revelation 16:1-11
Thurs. 27 <sup>th</sup>	125	Isaiah 41:8-20	Revelation 16:12-end
Fri. 28 <sup>th</sup>	139	Isaiah 41:21-42:9	Revelation 17
Sat. 29 <sup>th</sup>	145	Isaiah 42:10-17	Revelation 18

### Points for Praise and Prayer

- Pray for Janet Aldington whose mother died recently. Though the death was not unexpected, there is always grief at losing a loved one, so let us remember Janet and her family as they make arrangements for the funeral which will take place in Cheshire.
- Remember TEARFUND Sunday which is being marked this year on the first Sunday of Advent, because of its proximity to World Aids Day (1<sup>st</sup> December). Pray for the services which will focus on the issue of HIV/Aids around the world. Remember those people who do not have access to life-saving anti-retroviral drugs, and who are stigmatised because of their HIV status.
- Pray for the general work of GYFC, especially the proposed development of a fourth drop-in-centre. Together with 'Word on the Street' and a good relationship with the Robert Napier Secondary School, the centre will be based on the site of Gillingham Methodist Church. It is hoped that the Royal Engineers will help with the construction.
- Continue to remember those of our number who are in need of the Lord's healing. Daphne Beck, John and Doreen Bodkin, Rose Clay, Des and Celia Dickinson, Chris Green, Bruce and Natasha McCready, Terry Whittaker and Joel Smith.
- Please pray for the government of Colombia, led by President Alvaro Uribe. There is an urgent need for a greater respect of human rights and the democratic process. Pray that courage, wisdom and protection will prevail for all the church leaders across the country who are living and working under the threat of death from different armed groups.
- Thank God that India's president held an audience with Christian leaders regarding the problem of religious persecution during the Orissa riots. Pray that the authorities will do more to protect Christians in India as a result.
- Please pray for the team hosting the Hope 08 Christmas Creche on Saturday.

<b>Associate Vicar:</b>	<b>Revd Glenn McWatt</b>	<b>01634 575280</b>
<b>Youth Worker/School Chaplain</b>	<b>Mike King</b>	<b>07790 178554</b>
<b>Children's Co-ordinator:</b>	<b>Sarah Ryan</b>	<b>07949 751730</b>
<b>Church Administrator:</b>	<b>Pam Alexander</b>	<b>Church office: 01634 570489</b>
<b>Playgroup Leader:</b>	<b>Julie Hanning</b>	<b>07807 577836</b>
<b>Pastoral Assistant:</b>	<b>Keith Sheepwash</b>	<b>01634 571841</b>

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

Email: [admin@stmarkschurchgillingham.co.uk](mailto:admin@stmarkschurchgillingham.co.uk)

Website: [www.stmarkschurchgillingham.co.uk](http://www.stmarkschurchgillingham.co.uk)

# MARKtime 23 November 2008

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

Eternal Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven  
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King;  
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit  
and in the bond of peace,  
and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen

#### Today's Services

#### The Sunday next before Advent

**10.30 am:** Holy Communion

**6.30 pm:** Prayer Evening

**Reflection:** Mike King

Led by Terry Whittaker

**Readings:** Romans 5: 1-5  
John 14: 15-20

**Theme:** 'God's present -  
God's presence for you'

**Other services today:** 11.00 am - Family 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 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. There is usually a crèche for babies in the Church Vestry during the morning service. All our Youth Workers and helpers are CRB checked through the diocese for your child's protection and safety.*

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

- Monday 24th** 10.00 am - 12.00 pm - Coffee Shop in Church  
7.30 - 9.15 pm - Landmark (14-18's) - Old Vicarage  
*With special guests, GYFC team, Malcolm and friends part 2*
- Tuesday 25th** 8.00 pm - Home Groups
- Wednesday 26th** 9.00 am - Holy Communion in Church  
10.00 am - Ladies Group - Old Vicarage  
*'A Covenant with God'*  
1.15 pm - 2.45 pm - Parent and Toddler Group - Vicarage Hall  
7.00 pm - 9.00 pm - Faith and Light - Vicarage Hall
- Friday 28th** 6.15 - 7.30 pm - Kidz Klub (7-11's) - Old Vicarage
- Saturday 29th** 1.45 - 4.45pm - Hope 08 Christmas Creche - Old Vicarage  
and Vicarage Hall  
7.30 - 9.30 pm - Pathfinders & **SNUG TOGETHER** - OV site  
*Social with chill time, refreshments and movie*
- Next Sunday - 30th November (Advent Sunday)** 10.30 am - Holy Communion  
*Followed by Tearfund lunch - see opposite*  
6.30 pm - Evening worship

**Monday - Friday** during term time - 9.30 am - 12.15 pm - Playgroup

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

- Tuesday 2nd December - Pastoral Leadership Team Meeting  
Friday 5th December - Prayer Evening  
Monday 8th December - Coffee Shop Service  
Saturday 13th December - Carol singing with the SA band 11.30 - 12 noon  
Sunday 14th December - Pathfinders & **SNUG TOGETHER** -  
*meet friends, chill, refreshments and chat about what Christmas means*  
Monday 15th December - Standing Committee meeting  
Sunday 21st December - a.m. - Service of Carols and Readings  
*p.m. - 'A Take-away Christmas'*  
Wednesday 24th December - Late Night Communion Service  
Thursday 25th December (Christmas Day) - Family Communion Service

**NB Pam will not be in the office 25 Nov, & 27 Nov - 4 Dec**

## TEARFUND LUNCH

St. Mark's Church, Gillingham

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2008**

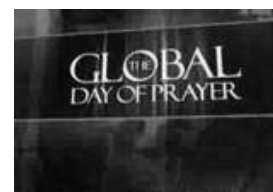
*Taking place after the service*



*Soup, roll & dessert*

*Free tickets are available from Lynda Smith.  
Generous donations towards the work of  
TEARFUND will be welcomed.*

**tearfund**



24 hour

## Prayer Watches

29th Nov - 6th Dec

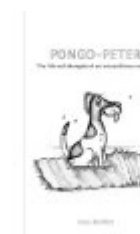
**Anyone is welcome to any venue at any time**

*For more information please pick up a leaflet at the back of church*

**Would you call yourself a pet lover? Do you enjoy a story?**

**'Pongo-Peter: The life and thoughts of an extraordinary mongrel', by Irene McWatt,** could be the book for you.

This is a heart-warming story about a mongrel born to the beagle of a Lord, that soon ends up in an unloved, unwanted and uncared-for environment. Pongo escapes and, whilst in a Dogs home, meets his guardian angel, learns about the master who calls him Peter and begins to hear of other dogs' stories. We meet Oscar, an ex-greyhound racer, whose owner neglected him when his leg went lame, amongst other things. The story doesn't end up with Pongo-Peter staying in the dogs' home, but I won't spoil this charming story for you if you want to find out what happens to Pongo-Peter. **This book is suitable for all ages and reading abilities, to be read alone or to read aloud.** At a cost of only £5 this heart warming story would make a good stocking filler this Christmas. If you would like to buy a copy please place an order with Irene McWatt, thanks.



*Claire Coleman (Reviewer)*