

BIBLE READINGS for - December

Day	Psalm	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading
Mon. 1 st	147	Ezekiel 47:1-12	John 12:20-32
Tues. 2 nd	80	Isaiah 43:1-13	Revelation 20
Wed. 3 rd	119:1-32	Isaiah 43:14-end	Revelation 21:1-8
Thurs. 4 th	42	Isaiah 44:1-8	Revelation 21:9-21
Fri. 5 th	25	Isaiah 44:9-23	Revelation 21:22-22:5
Sat. 6 th	23	Isaiah 44:24-45:13	Revelation 22:6-end

Points for Praise and Prayer

- Remember the work of TEARFUND. Give thanks for this organisation which for over 40 years has worked through and alongside local churches, to be the good news of Christ in communities that are trapped by poverty. Pray for their ministry which seeks to care for the whole person – soul as well as body. Remember their work with the people of Mozambique, where over 80 percent of those with HIV do not have access to life-saving anti-retroviral drugs.
- Do take the opportunity to visit one of the many venues which are open for Prayer during this week as part of the Medway 24/7 Prayer Watches. Please check the notice board at the back of church or make general enquiries by phone 300325 or on line at inncm@inn.org.uk
- 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, young Joel Smith and Terry Whittaker.
- Please continue to pray for Sudan's peace process. There are fears that Elections due to be held next July (the first democratic poll in more than 20 years) may have to be postponed due to 'logistical problems'. However, thank the Lord that north and south Sudan have reached a deal over the disputed oil-rich border area of Abyei.
- Pray that money raised through the recent Disasters Emergency Appeal for the DR of Congo, will be used effectively to meet the needs of those who are in urgent need. Remember the many thousands of displaced people living in sub-human conditions.
- Please continue to pray for mission partners Malcolm and Abby Smith, their family and for the general work and life 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.

Associate Vicar:	Revd Glenn McWatt	01634 575280
Youth Worker/School Chaplain	Mike King	07790 178554
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

MARKtime 30 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

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again with the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God now and forever. Amen

Today's Services

The First Sunday of Advent

10.30 am: Holy Communion
Reflection: Glenn McWatt
Readings: Romans 15:1-7 & v13
John 9:1-12
Theme: 'Overflowing Hope'

6.30 pm: Evening Worship
Reflection: Ernie Mann
Readings: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 24:36-51
Theme: 'He will return'

Other services today: 11.00 am - Morning Worship 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 1st** 10.00 am - 12.00 pm - Coffee Shop in Church
 7.30 - 9.15 pm - Landmark (14-18's) - Old Vicarage
Great big social - bring £1.50 if you want KFC chicken and chips!
 8.00 pm - Uganda meeting - Old Vicarage
- Tuesday 2nd** 8.00 pm - Home Groups (optional)
 8.00 pm - Pastoral Leadership Team Meeting
- Wednesday 3rd** 9.00 am - Holy Communion in Church
 10.00 am - Ladies Group - Old Vicarage
'Choosing where to live and work'
 1.15 pm - 2.45 pm - Parent and Toddler Group - Vicarage Hall
- Friday 5th** 6.15 - 7.30 pm - Kidz Klub (7-11's) - Old Vicarage
 8.00 pm - Monthly Prayer Meeting - Old Vicarage
- Next Sunday - 7th December** 10.30 am - All Age Family Worship
 6.30 pm - Holy Communion

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

Dates for your diary.....

- 29th November - 6th December - 24hour Prayer Watches - see opposite
- Monday 8th December - Coffee Shop Christmas Service
- Thursday 11th December - Extra-ordinary PCC meeting
- Saturday 13th December - Carol singing with the SA band 11.30 - 12 noon
 - see opposite
- 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
- 19 - 22 January - Diocesan Conference - Bognor

Thank you



To all those involved in the sponsored Walk and Ride on Saturday 13 Sept. Between us we raised £2063.10 of which approx. £840.00 will come to St Marks.

Nikki Bailey writes 'many thanks to all who sponsored me for the London Triathlon in August - I raised £579 for the Toybox Red Alert appeal'.



24 hour night and day

Prayer Watches

29th Nov - 6th Dec starting at 6 pm each day

Anyone is welcome to any venue at any time

See leaflet at back of church



Saturday at 6th December

Salem Church in Nelson Road

6.00 pm - 9.00 pm

Everyone welcome!

Come and join a merry throng!

Carol singing
 in the High Street,
 Gillingham



with the Salvation Army band

Saturday 13th December
 11.30 am - 12 noon