

BIBLE READINGS for - March

Day	Psalm	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading
Mon.	2 nd 80	Jeremiah 4:19-end	John 5:1-18
Tues.	3 rd 44	Jeremiah 5:1-19	John 5:19-29
Wed.	4 th 6	Jeremiah 5:20-end	John 5:30-end
Thurs.	5 th 42	Jeremiah 6:9-21	John 6:1-15
Fri.	6 th 22	Jeremiah 6:22-end	John 6:16-27
Sat.	7 th 63	Jeremiah 7:1-20	John 6:27-40

Points for Praise and Prayer

- As we enter this season of Lent, let us seek to heed the word of the Lord through the prophet Joel – *Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.*
- Give thanks for the fact that all children in this country have access to education. Let us pray for the many children and young people in our world whose schooling is hit and miss. Though education is a key tool in helping people out of poverty, only 62 percent of children in west and central Africa get even a primary school education.
- As God's love story remains hidden for many in our land, let us pray that the Scripture Union's vision for an active Christian witness in every community, giving every person in every generation the opportunity to hear and respond to the gospel, will be realized.
- Pray that Christians in India will be strengthened and supported in their faith despite some religious persecution by Hindu extremists. Give thanks for the glorious testimonies from believers, including the growth of the church in Orissa from 5,000 to 500,000 in ten years. Praise the Lord!
- Let us continue to remember those of our number who are in need of prayer and practical support. Daphne Beck, Des and Celia Dickinson and Bruce and Natasha McCready.
- Let us remember Richard and Caroline Davey, our Mission Partners of the month, serving with WEC, UK. As you may know, the funeral service for Olive, Richard's mother, took place here at St Mark's last Wednesday. Please see the Missions board for the latest information about WEC's ministries.

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
Evangelist:	Jane Wood	07800 504544

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

01 March 2009

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,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves
in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, Amen

Today's Services

First Sunday of Lent

10.30 am: All Age Family Worship
Reflection: Mike King
Readings: Luke 7: 1-10

6.30 pm: Holy Communion
Reflection: Glenn McWatt
Readings: Psalm 119: 17-32
Romans 5: 12-19
Luke 13: 31-35

Theme: 'Close up or long distance?
Keep praying!'

Theme: 'Courage and Tenderness'

Other services today: 11.00 am - Holy Communion 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 2nd	10.00 am - 12.00 pm - Coffee Shop in Church 7.30 pm - 9.15 pm - Landmark (14s-18's) <i>- big social at Jeri, Amy and Josh Easts</i>
Tuesday 3rd	8.00 pm - Home Groups (Optional) 8.00 pm - Pastoral Leadership Team Meeting - Old Vicarage
Wednesday 4th	9.00 am - Service of Holy Communion in Church 9.45 am - Brompton Westbrook School visit to church 10.00 am - Ladies Group - Old Vicarage <i>'Coffee, Prayer and Praise'</i> 1.15 - 2.45 pm - Parent and Toddler Group - Vicarage Hall 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm - Faith and Light - Vicarage Hall
Thursday 5th	7.45 - 9.15 pm - Narcotics Anonymous - Old Vicarage
Friday 6th	6.15 - 7.30 pm - Kidz Klub (7-11's) - Old Vicarage 8.00 pm - Monthly Prayer Meeting - Old Vicarage
Saturday 7th	9.30 am - 1.00 pm - St Mary's Island Church Council - Old Vicarage
Next Sunday - 8th March	10.30 am - Holy Communion 6.30 pm - Evening Worship

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

Dates for your diary.....

- Monday 9th March - MTG Meeting - Garden House*
- Wednesday 11th March - Baptism Preparation 1 - Old Vicarage*
- Monday 16th March - PCC Meeting - Old Vicarage*
- Wednesday 18th March - Baptism Preparation 2 - Old Vicarage*
- Sunday 22nd March - Mothering Sunday*
- Wednesday 25th March - Baptism Preparation 3 - Old Vicarage*
- Friday 27th March - Deadline for APCM reports*



to all those who helped to make the
Black Lion event such a success.

On Sunday 8th March

Pathfinders will be doing 'Something Funny for Money'
for

COMIC RELIEF

during the morning service,
they will be dressing up and washing cars!

If you would like your car 'washed' then please park it up
at the Old Vicarage site before the morning service

*Donations received will be shared 50-50 with Comic Relief
and Uganda Exodus*

Easter Sunday Celebration with Baptisms (by immersion) at St Mark's, April 12th 6:30pm

**Would you like to find out more about being baptised as part
of your decision to obey and follow Jesus?**

If so, then sign up and come along to some informative preparation
sessions with Mike King at the Old Vicarage, on 3 Wednesdays:
March 11th, 18th and 25th 7:30 - 8:30pm

Sign up at the back table or email Pam at the church office



Sunday 31st May 2009

11.00 am

Distance 5K
Capstone Farm Country Park
Capstone Road
Gillingham ME7 3JG

If you would like to be part of a team
please speak to
Annie Townsend on 08871 641 2282

*If anyone has a wheel chair they
could lend please let Annie know*