

BIBLE READINGS for - March

Day	Psalm	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading
Mon.	23 rd 77	Jeremiah 17:5-18	John 9:18-end
Tues.	24 th 79	Jeremiah 18:1-12	John 10:1-10
Wed.	25 th 111	1 Samuel 2:1-10	John Romans 5:12-end
Thurs.	26 th 86	Jeremiah 19:1-13	John 10:22-end
Fri.	27 th 102	Jeremiah 19:14-20:6	John 11:1-16
Sat.	28 th 32	Jeremiah 20:7-end	John 11:17-27

Points for Praise and Prayer

- Give thanks for mothers, particularly those who seek to teach and train their children in the ways of righteousness. Pray for mothers (and fathers) who are anxious about the schools their children will attend after leaving primary stage.
- Please pray for the young people of Sierra Leone who are volunteering within their own communities to repair roads and other structures. This is vital work, since it leads to them being treated with more respect in their communities, and diverts their attention from taking up arms.
- Praying for the 'Persecuted Church during Lent'. In the northern Nigerian state of Kano, a number of church buildings have recently been destroyed by violence, or have been demolished by the authorities to make room for construction projects. Pray that Christian places of worship will be safeguarded, and that the churches in the north will be free to worship God.
- Islamist radicals have been using the recent conflict in Gaza to stir up hatred against Christians in Indonesia. Pray for more religious tolerance in Indonesia.
- Let us continue to remember those of our number who are in need of prayer and practical support. Lesley Boast, Des and Celia Dickinson, Bruce and Natasha McCready, Keith Sheepwash, Helen Towers and Terry Whittaker. Lesley making a steady recovery, Celia after her recent knee surgery, Helen with severe back ache and Terry being treated for a stress fracture in his ankle.
- Let us remember Richard and Carolyn Davey, our Mission Partners of the month, serving with WEC, UK. Please see the Missions board for other 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

22 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

God of compassion,
 whose son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
 shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
 and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:
 strengthen us in our daily living
 that in joy and sorrow
 we may know the power of your presence
 to bind together and to heal;
 through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, Amen

Today's Services

Mothering Sunday

10.30 am: Morning Worship

6.30 pm: Prayer Service

Reflection: Canon Alan Vousden

Led by Keith Sheepwash

Readings: I Samuel 1: 21-28
Matthew 20: 20-28

Reading: Hebrews 4: 4-16

Theme: 'A Mother's Request'

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 23rd** 10.00 am - 12.00 pm - Coffee Shop in Church
7.30 pm - 9.15 pm - Landmark (14s-18's) -
Bowling at Lordswood - meet and pick up at Old Vicarage
- Tuesday 24th** 8.00 pm - Home Groups
- Wednesday 25th** 9.00 am - Service of Holy Communion in Church
10.00 am - Ladies Group - Old Vicarage
'Thanksgiving and Praise'
1.15 - 2.45 pm - Parent and Toddler Group - Vicarage Hall
7.30 - 8.30 pm - Baptism Preparation 3 - Old Vicarage
- Thursday 26th** 7.45 - 9.15 pm - Narcotics Anonymous - Old Vicarage
- Friday 27th** **Deadline for APCM reports**
6.15 - 7.30 pm - Kidz Klub (7-11's) - Old Vicarage
- Saturday 28th** **Clocks go forward one hour at bedtime**
- Next Sunday - 29th March** 10.30 am - Holy Communion - followed by 'Magical Mystery Tour' and picnic - see *opposite*
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

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

Dates for your diary.....

Friday 3rd April - Monthly Prayer meeting
Sunday 5th April - Palm Sunday - AAFW
Monday 6th April - Coffee Shop Easter Service
Monday 6th - Sunday 12th April - Holy Week - details of services to follow
Tuesday 7th April - Pastoral Leadership Team meeting
Tuesday 7th April - 'One Road to Reconciliation' - St. Matthew's, Wigmore - see notice at back
Sunday 26th April - APCM



Thank you to everyone that has been praying for me. I am improving slowly, getting better by the day. All of your prayers and support have meant such a lot to me and have greatly helped my recovery. I am seeing the neurologist and my G.P over the next few days. I am due another test in April. I value your continued prayers for this. Special thanks to Glenn, Margaret Green, Denise Young, Pauline Jackson, Sheelagh Graves and Terry Whittaker, who have been very supportive and have kept everyone else informed. Thanks for your love and care. *Lesley Boast*

Mother's Day Prayer

God our Creator, we pray:
for new mothers, coming to terms with new responsibility ;
for expectant mothers, wondering and waiting;
for those who are tired, stressed or depressed;
for those who struggle to balance the tasks of work and family;
for those who are unable to feed their children due to poverty;
for those whose children have physical, mental or emotional disabilities;
for those who have children they do not want;
for those who raise children on their own;
for those who have lost a child;
for those who care for the children of others;
for those whose children have left home;
and for those whose desire to be a mother has not been fulfilled.
Bless all mothers, that their love may be deep and tender,
and that they may lead their children to know and do what is good,
living not for themselves alone, but for God and for others. *Amen.*



The Simpson's Homegroup, in association with Keith Baker

would like to present a 'Magical Mystery Tour' and picnic

in aid of Claire Coleman's planned work with Operation Mobilisation

When:- Sunday 29th March after morning service

Where:- it's a mystery!

What do I need?:- a car and a picnic



Sign up today. Suggested donation of £5.00 per car

Please see Keith Baker or Claire for more details or to arrange lifts for people without the use of a car

APCM 26th April—Electoral Roll

The APCM is fast approaching
If you wish to be able to vote at the APCM you will need to be on the Electoral Roll.

Please see Derick Thom (Electoral Roll Officer) ASAP to see if you qualify. *Thank you*