

150 years



1866-2016

MARKtime

St. Mark's Church, Gillingham
with St. Mary's Island Church

Living for Jesus; Loving Gillingham;
Learning Together

Mission Focus: All Mission
Partners

St. Mark's Event:
All Christmas Services

22nd December 2019

SUNDAY 22nd December:

4th Sunday of Advent



10.30am Traditional
Carol Service

Theme: Wondering:
Luke 2:22-35

5.30pm: Carols in the Pub – King George V,
Brompton

Other Services:

11.00am: Family Service – Lessons and
Carols, St Mary's Island

Prayer Ministry: If you would like to pray or
share concerns with someone, prayer teams are
available in the small chapel at the front of
church.

**Monday-Friday during term time, St. Mark's
Preschool, Vicarage Hall** – children need to be
registered first. Open Mon, Tues, Thurs, 9.15am-
3.15pm Weds & Fri 9.15am-12.15pm.

WHAT'S ON DURING THIS WEEK:

Tues 24th Dec: 9.00am-noon: Church is open –
Please speak to Dammy for details.

11.00pm: Christmas Eve Midnight
Service, St Mary's Island

Weds 25th Dec: 10.30am
Christmas Day – All Age Holy
Communion Service

Thurs 26th Dec: 1.00pm-3.00pm: Foodbank, in
Church

Sat 28th Dec: 7.00am-8.00am: Standing in the
Gap – praying for families, youth & children's
ministries, Old Vicarage

10.00am-noon: Foodbank, in church

SUNDAY 29th December:

1st Sunday of Christmas

10.30am: Service of the Word –
Theme: Wayfaring – Matthew
2:13-15

6.30pm: No Evening Service

Other Services:

11.00am: Morning Worship, St Mary's Island



return on Mon 6th Jan. Please contact her
before this for anything you may need.

Tues 31st Dec: 11.00pm Watchnight Service –
Glorifying the LORD as we see in the New Year!

Weds 1st Jan 2020: 10.30am: Holy
Communion – Please note the change of time,
thank you.

SUNDAY 5th January 2020:

2nd Sunday of Christmas

10.30am: All Age Service
– Theme: New Year and full
immersion baptisms

6.30pm: Communion and
Prayer for Healing

Other Services:

11.00am: Communion, St. Mary's Island

Mon 6th Jan 2020: 9.15am St. Mark's
Preschool restarts after Christmas break,
Vicarage Hall

Weds 8th Jan 2020: 1.15pm: Parent &
Toddlers restarts after Christmas break,
Vicarage Hall

Fri 10th Jan 2020: 6.15pm-7.30pm: Kidz Klub
restarts after the Christmas break, Old Vicarage

SUNDAY 12th January 2020:

All Youth & Children's Groups restart today!

1st Sunday of Epiphany

10.30am: Holy Communion –
Theme – Vision casting for
Discipleship – why is it important?
– Acts 2:42-47

6.30pm: Bible Stream will have a

panel of teachers to discuss questions such as 'Is
the Bible completely inerrant?'. Please email
opsmanager@stmarksgillingham.org by 5th Jan if
you have a question.

Other Services:

11.00am: Morning Worship, St Mary's Island

3.00pm: Charing House

5.00pm: St Mark's House

Weds 15th Jan: 6.30pm-8.30pm: Peace &
Hope, Vicarage Hall



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The church office will
close from Friday 20th Dec
and re-open on Thurs 2nd
Jan. Katie will be away
from Weds 18th Dec and



FAMILY NEWS

Christmas Card Notice Board in aid
of Tearfund is now open for
service! Please place your card on
the board and the donation in an



envelope labled Tearfund and place this in the collection, thank you.

We raised £722.63 for the **tearfund** October Harvest, thank you to all those who donated.

Ceila Dickenson would like to thank St Mark's for all the Christmas messages and wishes you all a very Merry Christmas.

Please help Foodbank by donating food items as demand is outstripping supply! Find the items needed either on the Foodbank website or Twitter account. There will be a box at the back of the church with a sign saying 'Foodbank Collection Point'. Thank you.

POINTS FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER



"Praise the LORD. How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise Him! The LORD builds up Jerusalem; He gathers the exiles of Israel. He heals the broken hearted and binds up their wounds." Psalm 147:1-3 (NIV UK)

Thank you LORD, that You came to our world through Jesus Christ, gathered up the 'exiles' from Your Holy Word, the Bible, and saved us through Your loving grace. Please help us to let You 'bind our wounds' and build up Your holy church in us, so that the whole world will hear us praise Your Holy Name and seek Your salvation. Amen.

Continue to pray for all our church leaders especially remembering Saju's sabbatical, Amanda, Simon, Chris and our Churchwardens Helen & Raymond... **Ask the LORD** to grant wisdom, encouragement and His Godly discernment in meeting the needs of our congregation for His glory's sake.

Pray for wisdom for our new government and that it will remember to care for all not just the few... **Ask the LORD** to be with those who are losing or fearful of losing their jobs, benefits or health.

Pray for our **Mission Partner, Medway Night Shelter...** **Ask the LORD** to provide all the resources necessary to help those in need especially those who need a second chance...

Praise that "Great is our LORD and mighty in power; His understanding has no limit." (147:5)

Pray for **Gay Gower** whose results from MRI scans are "worrying". She praises the LORD in these difficulties and can see His planning, timing and presence in her life.

Ask the LORD to remind you of His many blessings that can be turned into praise.

Pray for all the Christmas Services taking place in St. Mark's, St. Mary's Island and in the wider churches of the Medway Towns... **Ask the LORD** to rescue His people from their chains, the wisdom to seek Him and His salvation, so that they come to know, "How sweet are Your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" (Psalm 119:103) and live!... **Praise** that we worship a God who hears, cares and loves us beyond measure.

Pray for everyone who came to the 'Empty Chair Service' last Sunday (Dec 15th) that they will begin to feel the LORD's gentle healing and their tears wiped away.

Pray for all those who are looking after family and friends with dementia... **Ask the LORD** to move hearts and minds in government, so that more finances can be released into the care system and help those in need.

Pray for those who were affected by the London Bridge Attack... **Ask the LORD** to bring His healing into the grief, shock and horror of everyone involved including the attacker's family.

Pray for **Derick Thom** who recently had hip replacement surgery... for **Michael Stacey**... for **Trish Martin**... for **Paul Smith**... for **Vera Adams** and **Keith Sheepwash**... and for anyone you know who needs the LORD at this time for whatever reason.

Bring to the LORD any situation whether in our church family, locally, nationally or internationally that you care about... **Praise** "Because the poor are plundered and the needy groan, I will now arise", says the LORD. "I will protect them from those who malign them." (Psalm 12:5)

Please pray for: All Mission Partners; All Christmas Services

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. All our youth & children's workers are DBS checked for your child's protection and safety. **If you have young children** please feel free to take your children to the Creche area through the second door on the left, at the front of church (ask if you can't see it). Children are important to us at St. Mark's and we want them to be happy. Please feel free to let them play quietly in the Creche; **we just ask that you stay with them and leave the area tidy!**

New Church Office Hours are:
Mon & Thurs 10.00am-3.00pm, Tues & Weds 10.00am-2.00pm, Fri 9.15am-1.15pm (by appointment only)