



MARKtime

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

Living for Jesus; Loving Gillingham;
Learning Together

Mission Focus November &
December: **Carri Macfarlane & All
Mission Partners**

St. Mark's Groups for November &
December: **Remembrance Day
Service & All Christmas Services**

27th November 2016



Advent Sunday

10.30am: Holy Communion

6.30pm: Big Questions Panel Night
hosted by Ruby Palfreyman and Rob Byles in Church.

Reading: Acts 11:19-30

Theme: Purpose & Values: Growing

Other Services: 11.00am **Morning Worship**, St. Mary's Island

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

Monday-Friday during term time 9.15am-12.15pm, St. Mark's Pre-school, Vicarage Hall - Children need to be registered first.

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK?

Mon 28th Nov: 7.30pm-9.15pm **Landmark**
Fruitfulness on the Frontlines 7, (POD) New Vicarage

Weds 30th Nov: 9.00am **Holy Communion**, Church

9.30am **Ladies Group**, Old Vicarage

1.15pm-2.45pm **Parents & Toddlers**, Vicarage Hall

Thurs 1st Dec: 1.00pm-3.00pm **Foodbank**, Church

Fri 2nd Dec: 6.15pm **Kidz Klub**, ages 7-11, Old Vicarage

Sat 3rd : 10.00am-12.00noon **Foodbank**, Church

Small Groups meet in various locations at different times throughout the week - please speak to Gary or Chris Atkins if you would like to be in a mid-week group.

NEXT SUNDAY 4th December

10.30am All Age Service

6.30pm-9.00pm Carols @ the Canterbury Tales Pub, 96 Canterbury Street, Gillingham ME7 5TS

Other Services: 11.00am **Holy Communion** St. Mary's Island.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Fri 9th Dec: 10.00am **Lydia Prayers**, Old Vicarage

Sun 11th Dec: 3.00pm-4.30pm **Faith & Light** and **Faith & Light Juniors Christmas Party**, Vicarage Hall

Sun 11th Dec: 6.30pm-9.00pm **Carols @ the Dog & Bone Pub**, 19 Jeffery Street, Gillingham ME7 1DE

Weds 14th Dec: 2.00pm-3.00pm **Carer's Christmas Carol Service** in church

Sat 17th Dec: 4.00pm **SPLAT! Christmas** with Christingles, fun, games and refreshments.

Sun 18th Dec: 3.00pm **"An Empty Chair for Christmas"** - *for anyone missing a loved one at Christmas*

6.30pm **Christmas Carol Service** - *with contemporary carols and candles*

Mon 19th Dec: 10.30am **Coffee Shop Christmas Service** - *an informal Christmas celebration with tea, coffee and cake, in Church*

Mon 9th Jan 2017: 8.00-9.00pm **India 2018 Meeting** in Church. This is an open meeting for anyone who wishes to explore further this opportunity to serve the Lord. More information to follow.... but speak to Saju if interested.

FAMILY NEWS

We need some volunteers to set/up/serve/clear way with tea/coffee/biscuits after the Carers Christmas Carol Service on Weds 14th Dec and the Empty Chair Service on Sun 18th Dec. Please speak to Pauline for more details if you can help thank you.



Please remember our Christmas card tradition at St Mark's. You can write one card to all your friends at St. Mark's and place it on the Tearfund noticeboard at the back of church. The money saved can then be donated to Tearfund. Thank you for Supporting Tearfund.
Monica and Mo.



Steve & Lynn Trebill and Margaret Green would like to say a big thank you to everyone who took part, helped in anyway before, during and after last Sunday's Remembrance Service.



We would also like to thank everyone who came to the service itself, as this is a meeting point between our St. Mark's church community and the wider community of the Medway Towns before our wonderful God. We received many positive comments. Everyone's presence makes this a very special service.

Sat 17th Dec: 4.00-5.30pm **SPLAT! Christingle.**



Volunteers needed to help with prepared craft activities, serving refreshments, making cakes & biscuits, and clearing up afterwards. **Please sign up** at the back of church; speak to Jo

Whittaker or Katy Muthalaly for more details.

POINTS FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER



"Then you will be able to live as the LORD wants and will always do what pleases Him. Your lives will produce all kinds of good deeds, and you will grow in your knowledge of GOD." Colossians 1:10 (Good News Translation Bible)

Thank you, Lord for all of Your blessings that You shower us with every day. Please help us to grow deeper in You and share our knowledge of Your amazing love with others. Amen.

Pray for the **Big Questions Panel Night** this evening (27th) in church and for everyone taking part... **Ask the LORD** to be close to any non-Christians or those who are hurting for whatever reason.

Continue to pray for our world which is full of fear and controlled by hate... **Ask the LORD** to give you a person, situation or country to bring before Him this week... **Praise** that we are God's people who, "live by faith, not by sight." (2 Corinthians 5:7)

Praise for **Medway Foodbank's 5th birthday celebration** last Wednesday (23rd) and ask the LORD to continue to shower His blessings through this organization.

Praise for all the answers to prayer concerning **Saju's talk on "Jesus and Mary from a Christian perspective"** at the Nasir Mosque, Richmond Road yesterday (26th)... **Pray** that GOD'S truth will be remembered and acted on... **Ask the LORD** to bless everyone who attended.

Pray for the presentation of our **new Purpose Statement** that is taking place this month.

Pray for for the upcoming **Carols in the Pub** events at the Canterbury Tales Pub (4th Dec) and the Dog and Bone Pub (11th Dec)... **Ask the LORD** to give you a Christmas service or event to pray for this week.

Pray for **David Wilkins** as he takes part in the Tall Ships race on the ship *Lord Nelson*.

Praise for the **Curry Night** with members of St. Mark's Church and the 18 Eritrean boys who hold their church services in our church... **Pray** for more ongoing relationship building opportunities.

Pray for everyone who attended the **Reflective Space at Brompton Academy** and ask the LORD to continue to reach out to this community with His amazing, nurturing love which gives hope to all believers.

Praise for the recent inspirational **Mike Campbell Foundation 5th Anniversary** event and for the many vulnerable people this organization helps in Zimbabwe... **Pray** that the petition to the British Government to use its influence with the UN for action on Zimbabwe due to its appalling treatment of its own citizens will result in action and not just words.

Pray for those undergoing surgery or other treatment: for **Michael Stacey** following emergency surgery at Medway Hospital... for **Steve Burtrand** following major heart surgery, currently in high dependency unit at St. Thomas' Hospital, London... for **Chris Painter** following a collapse at work with his heart condition... for **Mo Chen**... for **Keith Sheepwash**... for **Mike Young** ... for **David Howlett**... **Pray** for all those affected especially their family and friends.

Continue to pray ... for **Anne Fordham**... for **Nev Piper**... for **Don Miller**... for **Richard & Jane Tolhurst**, and others known to us who are in need of God's comfort and healing touch.

Pray for our Mission focus for November & December: **Carri Macfarlane** and **All Mission Partners**... **Please pray** for our St. Mark's Group's November: **Remembrance Day Services** and **All Christmas Services**

Bible readings for November/December 2016

Day	Psalm	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading
Mon 28 th	50	Isaiah 42.18-end	Revelation Ch.19
Tues 29 th	80	Isaiah 43.1-13	Revelation Ch.20
Weds 30 th	47	Ecclesiastes 14.20-end	John 12.20-32
Thurs 1 st Dec	42	Isaiah 44.1-8	Revelation 21.9-21
Fri 2 nd	25	Isaiah 44.9-23	Revelation 21.22-22.5
Sat 3 rd	9	Isaiah 44.24-45.13	Revelation 22.6-end

Except for the first Sunday of the month **during term time**, groups for children and young teenagers meet at the Old Vicarage & the Carer's Centre respectively, 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 at the back of church, near the sound desk (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!**