

150 years



MARKtime

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

Living for Jesus; Loving Gillingham;
Learning Together

Mission Focus January & February:
**Medway Night Shelter & India
2018**

St. Mark's Group/events for January &
February: **Alpha & Prayer Ministry
Teams**

29th January 2017

Epiphany 4 – Presentation of Christ in the temple



We welcome Aurora, Jack and Malachi, their families and friends as they are baptised this morning.

10.30am: Service of the Word – followed after today's service by a Welcome Lunch for those who are

new to St. Mark's in the last year or so.

6.30: Holy Communion

Theme: "Ethics in Thyatira"

Reading: Revelation 2: 18-29

Other Services & events: 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 30th Jan: 7.30pm **Landmark**, Old Vicarage

Weds 1st Feb: 9.00am **Holy Communion** in Church

10.00am **Ladies Group**, Old Vicarage

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

6.30pm–8.30pm **Faith and Light**, Vicarage Hall

Thurs 2nd Feb: 1.00pm–3.00pm **Foodbank**, Church

Thurs 2nd Feb: 7.00pm–9.30pm **Alpha introduction with supper included.**

Do you want to find out more about what we believe? Do you want a personal relationship with Jesus? Then Alpha is for you... or do you know somebody who **YOU** could invite!

Speak to Keith Sheepwash, Richard or Jane Tolhurst for more details or fill out a registration form.

If you can help **Alpha** by cooking a simple meal for 10-14 people please speak to Lynda Smith as soon as possible.

Help is also needed to set up tables & chairs prior to Alpha each week and clear up after the meal – could you help? If so, please speak to Keith Sheepwash.

Fri 3rd Feb: 10.00am **Lydia Prayer Meeting**, Old Vicarage

6.15pm **Kidz Klub**, ages 7-11, Old Vicarage

Sat 4th Feb: 10.00am–12.00noon **Foodbank**

Small/Home 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 5th February:

10.30am **All Age Service**

6.30pm: **Holy Communion**

Theme: "Dead in Sardis"

Reading: Revelation 3:1-6

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 11th Feb: 10.30am–12.00noon **Faith & Light Juniors**, Vicarage Hall

Mon 20th Feb: 7.45pm **PCC Meeting**, Old Vicarage.

Sun 26th Feb: 12.30pm **India 2018 Fundraising 'Auction of Gifts and Talents'** in Church. All welcome – come and get your bids in!

Thurs 16th March: 7.00pm for 7.30pm start **Foodbank Prayer & Praise** meeting at the Salvation Army, Church Street, Chatham ME4 4BT

FAMILY NEWS

It is with great sadness we report that David Smith, Derick & Terry Thom's brother-in-law, died on Saturday 21st January at 11.00pm. He will be remembered by many in St. Mark's for his and his wife Jean's powerful service to the Lord and our community.

They then went on to serve the Lord in St. Michael Le Belfry, York and blessed that church too.

Please pray for Jean who has dementia and remember Derick and Terry, the wider family and friends in your prayers at this sad time.



India 2018 fundraising events will be occurring each month throughout 2017. The first one is an 'Auction of Gifts and Talents' on Sunday, 26th February after the morning service.

Please do come and support some of these fundraising events.

See the full list of 'what's on' on the **India 2018 notice board.**



POINTS FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

"LORD who may dwell in your sacred tent? Who may live on your holy mountain? The one whose way of life is blameless, who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from their heart... who despises a vile person but honours those who fear the LORD; who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind;" Psalm 15:1-2 & 4 (NIV Bible)

LORD please help us to despise vile corruption, yet show Your love to the sinner... to keep our word and reflect Your holiness in a lost, confused and terrified world. Then we will be Your people who "does these things [and] will never be shaken" (Psalm 15:5b). Amen.

Pray for any country, situation or problem the LORD lays on your heart this week (there are so many to mention!)... **Praise** that, "You, God, see the trouble of the afflicted; You consider their grief and take it in hand." (Psalm 10:14a)

Ask the LORD to provide enough people willing to cook and wash up for the **Alpha** course and that new friendships will grow before, during and after the meal/course... **Praise the LORD** that He is reaching out to many around the world thus adding more brothers & sisters in Christ for His glory's sake.

Continue to pray for **Lynne Martin** as she begins an interim role as Medway Campus Chaplain... pray for the interviews on Feb 15th concerning this post... **Ask the Lord** to be with Lynne's sister-in-law, **Sarah**, who is recovering from pneumonia and pleurisy.

Praise for the **Inter-Church Service for Christian Unity Week** and all the wonderful blessings the LORD showered on everyone this week.

Continue to pray for the work of **Medway Winter Night Shelter** especially now that the

weather has turned so cold for the rough sleepers in the Medway Towns... **Ask the LORD** for His wisdom in solving the many causes of this problem... **Praise** that our God is big enough and nothing is impossible for Him (Luke 18:27).

Pray for the **Welcome Lunch** today and that everyone involved will continue to feel a part of our St. Mark's community and grow to be more and more like Jesus.

Praise for the **Prayer Ministry Teams** that the LORD uses week by week in many different ways... **Pray** for God's wisdom, protection and encouragement for each team member.

Pray for Aurora, Jack and Malachi, their parents, families & friends as they are baptised today... **Ask the LORD** to help them know Him better and to be open to His loving message of hope.

Pray for **India 2018** and for the first fundraising event on Sunday 26th February... **Ask the LORD** to bring the team together in the next few months, including the people going, the people supporting in prayer or financially and most important – the LORD God Himself... **Praise** that the LORD equips, encourages and transforms our lives.

Pray for those recovering from surgery or other treatment: for **Michael Stacey**... for **Steve Burtrand**... for **Mo Chen**... **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**... for **Keith Sheepwash**... for **David Howlett**... for **Mike Young** and others known to us who are in need of God's comfort and healing touch.

Pray for our Mission focus January & February: **Medway Night Shelter & India 2018**... **Please pray** for our St. Mark's Group/event for January & February: **Alpha & Prayer Ministry Teams**...

Bible readings for January/February 2017

Day	Psalm	1st Reading	2nd Reading
Mon 30 th	57	Hosea 9	1 Corinthians 12-12-end
Tues 31 st	93	Hosea 10	1 Corinthians 13
Weds 1 st Feb	95	Hosea 11.1-11	1 Corinthians 14.1-19
Thurs 2 nd	48	Exodus 13.1-16	Romans 12.1-5
Fri 3 rd	19	Hosea 13.1-14	1 Corinthians 16.1-9
Sat 4 th	23	Hosea 14	1 Corinthians 16.10-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!**