

150 years



MARKtime

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

Living for Jesus; Loving Gillingham;
Learning Together

Mission Focus March:
Tearfund

St. Mark's Group/events for
March : PCC

19th March 2017

3rd Sunday of Lent



10.30am: Service of the Word
Theme: Lent series (5) "God's
Delightful Word"

Reading: Psalm 119

6.30pm: Holy Communion
Theme: Lent series (6) "God's
Word Made Flesh"

Reading: John 1:1-18

Other Services & Events: 11.00am **Morning
Service & AGM** St. Mary's Island.

7.30pm-9.15pm **Landmark**, Old Vicarage

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.*

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

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

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

Weds 22nd March: 9.00am **Holy Communion** in
Church

10.00am **Ladies Group**, Old Vicarage

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

Thurs 23rd March: 1.00pm-3.00pm **Foodbank**,
Church

7.00pm-9.30pm **Alpha** with supper included, Old
Vicarage

Fri 24th March: 6.15pm **Kidz Klub**, ages 7-11,
Old Vicarage

8.00pm **Table-Tennis Club** - All St Mark's over -
18's welcome, Vicarage Hall

Sat 25th March: 10.00am-12.00noon **Foodbank**

SUNDAY 26th March

4th Sunday of Lent

The Clocks go forward 1 hour!



10.30am: Mothering Sunday,
SOS & Pathfinders will join us
in Church for Holy
Communion.

Theme: Lent series (7) "God's
Word Fulfilled"

Reading: Luke 4:14-30

6.30pm: India 2018 Film & Prayer Night in
Church, all welcome

Other Services/Events: 11.00am **Family
Service** St. Mary's Island.

7.30pm-9.15pm **Landmark**, Old Vicarage

*Small Groups/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.*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Fri 31st March: 10.00am **Lydia Prayer
Meeting**, Old Vicarage

Tues 11th: 7.30pm-8.30pm **Holy Week
Meditation** in Church

Thurs 13th April: 7.30pm-8.30pm **Maundy
Thursday Meditation & foot washing.**

Fri 14th April: 10.30am-11.15am **Good Friday
meditation** in Church

11.30am **Walk of Witness** from Gillingham
Library to Smith Square

Sun 16th April: 6.00am **Sunrise Service**, St.
Mary's Island

10.30am **Easter Sunday Communion** in St.
Mark's Church

11.00am **Easter Family Communion**, St. Mary's
Island

6.30pm **No Evening Service at St. Mark's
Church**

Sat 22nd April: **India 2018 Fundraising
Games Event** in the Vicarage Hall. More details
later.

Mon 15th May: 7.30pm 'Changing Our World -
One Prayer at a Time'. An inclusive prayer
event arranged by Simon Burton-Jones &
Rochester Diocese World Mission Forum, at St
Matthew's Church, Wigmore ME8 0NX; see poster.

FAMILY NEWS

Sun 23rd April: 10.30am **Annual Parochial
Church Meeting (APCM)** in Church as part of
our worship.

*We need to nominate and elect 3 Deanery Synod
and 4 PCC members and choose 2 Churchwardens
- please think and pray for wisdom as to who
might fill these vacancies. Nomination forms will
be available soon.*

To vote at the APCM you need to be on our
membership list, the 'Electoral Roll'. If you are
already on it, there is no need to re-apply;
however anyone else must fill in an application
form. You need to be a) over 16 years old, b)
have been baptised (as a child or adult in any
Christian denomination) and c) either live in the
parish **or** have attended St. Mark's for at least 6
months.

Application forms are available at the back of
church or in the office. **The list will close on
26th March until after the APCM.**

Some of you may know that the charity **Compassion** has had to withdraw from India. There is another small Christian charity called **TREAD** who have permission to continue supporting vulnerable children in India. If you would like further information, please speak to Mike and Denise Young.

'Lent Bible Feast' – daily readings for Lent, available at the back of church, you still have time to catch up!



POINTS FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

"My soul faints with longing for Your salvation, but I have put my hope in Your word." Psalm 119:81 (NIV)

LORD, thank you that in seeking Your will for our lives through Your holy Word, and resting in Your loving, grace and salvation we grow as, "tree[s] planted by streams of [life giving] water, which yields its fruit in season and [...] does not wither" (Psalm 1:3). Amen.

Extract from our Mission Partner, **Katie Barnwell's** Wycliffe Bible Translators Annual Report states, 'Recently a pastor in Nigeria, after receiving Luke's Gospel in his own language said, "This book is amazing. I have preached on this passage before using the Bible in the national language, but it's only now as I'm reading it in our language that I actually understand what it means!"'
Ruth Gracey, Personnel Services Director writes, "On behalf of Wycliffe, let me thank you (St. Mark's Church) for your ongoing support of Katy, and the part you play in fulfilling this vision (of everyone having a Bible in their own language)." Praise the LORD – please keeping praying!

Pray for wisdom and the LORD'S insight in translating His Word to the children and young people **The Family Trust** meet day to day in various schools in Medway & Maidstone... **Ask the LORD** to bless and reassure the staff and volunteers as they bring His words to life... **Praise**

the LORD that He watches over the way of the righteous. (Psalm 1:6)

Pray for NGOs like **Tearfund** who work in South Sudan, Northern Kenya, Somalia, Southern Ethiopia & Nigeria due to drought, famine, conflict and disease... **Ask** for protection, finance and good health to achieve a huge difference... **Praise** that, "The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in Spirit." (Psalm 34:18)

Pray for the interviews today for the post of 'Head of Youth, Children & Families'... for the new part-time administrator for St. Mary's Island... for **St. Mary's Island Church AGM** today... for the **India 2018 Film & Prayer Night** next Sunday (26th)... for the **ALPHA Course**.

Pray for all those who face stress, the fear of redundancy and all those who have lost their jobs especially **Word on the Street staff**... the **staff of Budgens** in **Gillingham High Street** and anyone else you know.

Praise for the **India 2018 fundraising Gig** last Saturday (4th) a total of £300 was raised for the Sahaara Project, Mumbai... for the **Foodbank Prayer & Praise evening** last Thursday... for the licensing of **Rev Canon Anthony Lane** (new vicar of St. Augustine's).

Pray for the **PCC Meeting** tomorrow... the **APCM** on Sunday 23rd April... for the LORD to direct who He wants as new Deanery Synod and PCC members and for the 2 new Church Wardens...

Praise for all that the PCC does on our behalf.

Pray for **Samuel Wilkins**... for **Ian Recardo's father Harry**... for **Michael Stacey**... for **Steve Burtrand**... for **Mo Chen**... for **Derick & Terri Thom & family**... for **Michelle Saunders' dad**... for **Nev Piper**... for **Don Miller**... for **Keith Sheepwash**... and for others known to us who are in need of God's comfort and healing touch.

Pray for our Mission focus March: **Tearfund ...**
Please pray for our St. Mark's Group for March: **PCC...**

Bible readings for March 2017

Day	Psalm	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading
Mon 20 th	147.1-12	Isaiah 11.1-10	Matthew 13.54-end
Tues 21 st	9	Jeremiah 11.18-12.6	John 7.53-8.11
Weds 22 nd	38	Jeremiah 13.1-11	John 8.12-30
Thurs 23 rd	56	Jeremiah 14	John 8.31-47
Fri 24 th	22	Jeremiah 15.10-end	John 8.48-end
Sat 25 th	111	1 Samuel 2.1-10	Romans 5.12-end

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 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!**