

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

1st December 2019

SUNDAY 1st December:

1st Sunday of Advent

10.30am All Age Service Holy
Communion

6.30pm: Prayer Stream -
Christmas Carol Reflections

Other Services:

11.00am: Holy Communion, St Mary's Island

7.00pm: Summit, Christmas Cakery, Old
Vicarage

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 3rd Dec: 9.00am-noon: Church is open -
Please speak to Dammy for details.

Weds 4th Dec: 9.00am Holy Communion in
church

9.45am: Ladies Group, Old Vicarage

1.15pm: Parent & Toddlers, Vicarage Hall

6.30pm-8.30pm: Peace & Hope, Vicarage Hall

Thurs 5th Dec: 1.00pm-3.00pm: Foodbank, in
Church

7.00pm: Hustings will be taking place at St
Mark's. Refreshments served at 7.00pm, the
event will then begin at 7.30pm to finish at
9.00pm.

Fri 6th Dec: 6.15pm-7.30pm: Kidz Klub, Old
Vicarage

Sat 7th Dec: 7.00am-8.00am: Standing in the
Gap - praying for families, youth & children's
ministries, Old Vicarage

10.00am-noon: Foodbank, in church

2.00pm-4.00pm: Cinema Club, in church

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Weds 11th Dec: 1.00pm-3.00pm Dementia
Café, Old Vicarage - 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the
month. Please see Paul Harris or Pauline Jackson
for more details.

Weds 11th Dec: 7.00pm-8.15pm The Music
Man Project CHRISTMAS CONCERT @ St.
Georges Centre, Pembroke Road, Chatham

Maritime ME4 4UH free parking, no entrance fee,
just a retiring collection.

Thurs 12th Dec: 1.30pm-3.00pm: Church office
will be closed during this time for staff
prayer

Mon 16th Dec: Office closed from 12.30pm

Christmas Services at St. Mark's Church

Sun 15th Dec: 3.00pm Empty Chair Service -
For those who have lost loved ones

Sat 21st Dec: 5.00pm
Beyond the Star - Our
huge annual Christmas
festival!

Sun 22nd Dec: 10.30am

Traditional Carol Service - A chance to sing
some seasonal hymns

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

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



SUNDAY 8th December:

2nd Sunday of Advent

10.30am: All Age Christingle Service
- A family friendly candlelit ceremony

6.30pm Bible Stream - Genesis

Other Services:

11.00am: Holy Communion, St Mary's Island

3.00pm: Charing House

5.00pm: St Mark's House

6.00pm: Christmas Connect 2019 Live
Concert - carols for all the family organised by
Churches Together in Medway. This includes WE
CAN Sing UK Chor, Live Gospel Choir & Primary
School Competition Finalists @ Prayer City,
Buckmore Park, ME5 9QG. Parking available

7.00pm: Summit, Christmas Party, Old Vicarage



FAMILY NEWS

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

Thank you to all those who filled
shoeboxes. It was a short deadline but we
received 22 plus an extra 13 thanks to a
donation from our mission link task group!

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



"Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before Him with thanksgiving and extol Him with music and song." Psalm 95:1-2 (NIV UK)

LORD thank you for the many blessings that You give us to which we can respond with joy, praise and thanksgiving. Please help us to constantly look to You in good times and bad, so that we may reflect Your love, beauty and grace on a hurting world which needs You. Amen.

Continue to pray for the general election on Thursday 12th December and the Hustings here at St Mark's on Thursday 5th December.

Pray for our **Mission Partner, Margaret Weston and her church plant of El Campello in Spain...** **Ask the LORD** to bring His healing, encouragement and joy to all who praise His holy name... **Praise** for the godly witness they are being even when they don't realise it!

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... Gay asks us to pray for Bethesda Medical Centre Doctors Surgery in Margate, which is, "a shining light as a Christian Surgery, but is heavily trodden on by the devil," and reports that people working there are struggling.

Continue to pray for all those who are carers for relatives and friends, especially those who give up paid work or employment opportunities due to this role... **Ask the LORD** to change attitudes in

regard of paid carer's leave etc. **Praise** for the many blessings these people are to our wider community.

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.

Pray for all those who find Christmas difficult for whatever reason... **Ask the LORD** to be with everyone at the 'Empty Chair Service' on Sunday 15th December @ 3pm and grant them His peace.

Praise for the **Gospel Night** that happened last Sunday (24th Nov) and for the chance to shout, sing and enjoy the LORD's presence.

Pray for **Vera Adams** as her sight deteriorates. Ask the LORD to bring His healing love and power to arrest this degeneration and give His wisdom to the specialist she is due to visit at Maidstone Eye Hospital in Maidstone near to Christmas.

Pray for the safety of elderly or vulnerable members of our community at this difficult time of year... **Ask the LORD** to bring His song of joy into their hearts and take away the pain, fear and sorrow.

Pray for **Derick Thom** who is having hip replacement surgery tomorrow (2nd Dec)... for **Michael Stacey...** for **Trish Martin...** for **Paul Smith** 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... *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God"* (Philippians 4:6)

< **Please pray for:** All Mission Partners; All <
< Christmas Services <
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Bible readings for December 2019

Day	Psalm	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading
Mon 2 nd	50	Isaiah 25.1-9	Matthew 12.1-21
Tues 3 rd	80	Isaiah 26.1-13	Matthew 12.22-37
Weds 4 th	7	Isaiah 28.1-13	Matthew 12.38-end
Thurs 5 th	42	Isaiah 28.14-end	Matthew 13.1-23
Fri 6 th	25	Isaiah 29.1-14	Matthew 13.24-43
Sat 7 th	9	Isaiah 29.15-end	Matthew 13.44-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 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)