

[Test] St Mark's Newsletter | Thurs 4th Nov

1 message

St Mark's Church Gillingham <digitallead@stmarksgillingham.org>
Reply-To: us2-921a18b9d6-b666513f6f@inbound.mailchimp.com
To: digitallead@stmarksgillingham.org

4 November 2021 at 09:16



THIS SUNDAY | 7th NOV

**ALL
AGE
SERVICE****MORNING SERVICE | 10.30am**
In Church & Online**All Age Service**
Speaker: Jess Gladwell
[The Lord's Prayer]**Tearfund Bake Sale**

7th Nov | After Church

Cake will be available to buy after the morning service to fundraise for Tearfund's Sahaara India project.

CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS

GEMS & PEBBLES | *No children's groups due to All Age Service*
SUMMIT | 7pm | Old Vicarage

COMING WEEK**Community Groups****Throughout the week**

Karen Turnbull, Community Pastor, runs a number of groups throughout the week.

Home Groups**Throughout the week**Joining a **home group** is a brilliant chance to meet and pray with others, build relationships, support one another, exchange views and explore God's word

together. Contact the office for more info.

Standing in the Gap (Prayer meeting)

Saturdays | 7-8am | Online

On Zoom, join us online:

[Meeting ID: 223 851 1807 | Passcode: inthegap]

Peace & Hope

Saturday | 10.30am - 12pm | Vicarage Hall

A church community for adults with learning difficulties and their families and carers that meets fortnightly.

Open Church

Tuesdays | 10am-12pm | Church

Come along for a chat, fellowship, private prayer or craft club!. Refreshments will be served outside. Please be aware masks are advised. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Dammy via admin@stmarksgillingham.org.

Parent & Toddlers

Wednesdays | 1.15-2.45pm | Vicarage Hall

No need to book, just drop up.

Wednesdays in term time.

Daily Reflections & Prayers

Wednesday 9am & Saturdays 8pm | Online

Watch on our Facebook Page

NEWS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- There are a number of slots we need to fill for **24/7 Prayer**. Please take a look at the list of slots available. Full details on our website: www.stmarksgillingham.org/24/7prayer or contact Lynne Martin: 07778567097, thursdayschild59@yahoo.co.uk

DAY	TIME	Volunteers Needed
Sun 21st	6-10pm	1
Mon 22nd	7-10am	2
	4-5pm	1
Tues 23rd	6-7am	1
	7-10am	2
	1-3pm	1
	3-5pm	2
Tues - Wed 24th	10pm-4am	2
Wed 24th	6-9am	2
Wed - Thurs 25th	10pm-6am	2
Thurs 25th	10am-12pm	2
Fri 26th	7-10am	2
	3-7pm	2
Sat 27th	8-9am	1
	3-6pm	2
Sun 28th	6-9am	2

- **Morning Reflections & Evening Prayers will now be once a week:**
 - Morning reflections, Wednesdays 9am
 - Evening prayer, Saturdays 8pm

In the last 19 months as we have been living with the many challenges of Covid-19. One of the areas of creativity we have seen in and through the churches worldwide, including our church, has been the gift and the ability to swiftly go online. Technology has been a God-given gift.

As we return to some level of “normality” we are going to make some changes to the way we operate. We will, of course, continue to broadcast our Sunday services. Broadcasting our Sunday services has been a tremendous blessing to people, for all kinds of reasons, who are unable to make it to the services just yet, not to mention people from around the world who can peek in. A necessary change is what happens during the week. Knowing how much work is involved in creating these videos and looking at the way life is now more ‘normal’ we have decided to cut down to twice a week.

I also want to take the opportunity to thank everybody who has worked hard to deliver these online reflections and evening prayers. We have a beautifully diverse and tremendously gifted bunch of communicators in the life of our church... and they have been diligent and creative, and they have blessed us. They will continue to serve, offering reflections and leading prayers in a manageable and sustainable way. Finally and importantly, may I encourage you to like and share these on your Facebook page, which makes a huge difference!

*Every blessing in Jesus Christ.
Saju*

If you would like to continue with your own daily reflections then we would recommend Lectio 365: www.24-7prayer.com/resource/lectio-365/

- Can you help us with the **Food Bank Reverse Advent Calendar** this November? See the calendar for the items that can be donated. Full details: <https://medway.foodbank.org.uk/2021/11/02/reverse-advent-calendar-with-twinkles/>
 - **ANNUAL LEAVE**
 - Vicki Watson is on annual leave 12-17 Nov and the office will be closed. Phone and email will be checked for emergencies only. Please contact Saju if there is an emergency: vicar@stmarksgillingham.org
 - Hannah Whittaker is on annual leave 15-20 Nov and so next week's newsletter will cover the following 2 weeks.
 - Do you have a heart for the homeless? The **Medway Night Shelter** is looking for volunteers - lead cooks, kitchen volunteers and session volunteers. It is due to run from Monday January 10th to Thursday March 31st March at a venue in the centre of Chatham. Email Belinda for details: medwayshelter@gmail.com
 - Want to get involved in the **Christmas Community Choir** for the Christmas Production on Sat 18th Dec? A chance to meet new people, sing in a group and share refreshments. Everyone is welcome. If you're interested get in touch with Mayowa: singgillinghamsing@gmail.com / 07951147352
 - Christian charity Blythwood Care are looking for a **volunteer driver** for a long transit van, to do collections of Christmas Boxes. It only needs to be for the odd days in November, to collect the donated Christmas boxes from churches around this area. If you would like to help in a way, other than driving, then assistance with the collections would also be welcome. If you are interested please speak to Graham Wilkins, graham@gwilkins.co.uk.
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PLEASE PRAY FOR

THE WORLD:

- **COP26** for positive responses to urgent need in our world, for honourable commitments beyond expectations and for more than words;
- **Sudan** where there has been a military coup and protests against the military;
- **Afghanistan** where the UN warns of desperate food crisis;
- For those injured in the recent **Salisbury railway derailment** and for the driver who has life-changing injuries.

THE CHURCH -

- **The 24/7 Prayer Encounter Nov 21st-28th** which Lynne Martin is coordinating ... and for good preparations, willing volunteers, generous offers of time, diligent prayer support throughout and eager participation. May Lord God enable our passion as we turn to honour Him and seek His face. Offer your contribution and check out the church website for help still needed, or contact Lynne on thursdayschild59@yahoo.co.uk
- For the **persecuted church** in so much of the world, for those on the battle line and for the war weary - *the battle belongs to the Lord* - for the wider church that we uphold one another and stand with those we know in need; for our prayer partners, Prayer Triplets and Small Groups; and for Christian charities and organisations, that they hold fast to their calling and Godly ways of working.

GILLINGHAM & MEDWAY

- For the **young people** being offered Covid-19 vaccines from this week, that they choose wisely, and for bravery for the anxious or fearful; for ladies pregnant at this time, for their good health & that they take up the vaccine to stay well.
- For the airspace above us where so many planes, helicopters and microlites fly with people within - may the Lord protect and cover our air spaces and bless them - *the Lord is high and lifted up*.

*If you would like to be added to the **Prayer & Praise** email list to receive weekly praise reports and prayer requests from our church family please contact Kath Burtrand: kathyb.nana@yahoo.co.uk*

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT SUNDAY

14th Nov | 10.30am | In Church & Online

Remembrance Sunday

Speaker: Saju

Music: Salvation Army Band

BIBLE STREAM

14th Nov | 6.30pm | Church & Online

THE BOOK OF ESTHER

Come and hear about this Old Testament tale of strong independent women who knew how to stand up to their men even in the most oppressive patriarchal system of the ancient near east. The evening is led by Martyn Saunders, vicar of St Philip and St James.

THANK YOU SERVICE

Sat 20th Nov | 3pm | St Augustine's Church

At request and instigation of Councillor Wendy Purdy St Augustine's will be holding a thank you service for local NHS staff and other organisations that went above and beyond during the lockdowns that we have had. Simon Tonbridge will be speaking.

24/7 PRAYER

21st - 28th Nov | Church

A whole week divided into hourly slots (168 hours!) with led sessions - morning reflections, worship, creativity and scripture reading, as well as free time for you to come and pray as the Lord leads, either on your own or with family/friends. There will be lots of resources for you to use, plus prayer stations to aid your prayers.

We're looking for people to help with practicalities (set up/ packing away/ tea & biscuit), manning the space or leading sessions.

For full details see our website: www.stmarksgillingham.org/24/7prayer or contact Lynne Martin: 07778 567097, thursdayschild59@yahoo.co.uk

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK

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01634 570 489 | admin@stmarksgillingham.org

Office hours:

Monday, Wednesday & Fridays | 9.30am - 2.30pm
Tuesday & Thursdays | Answerphone & email checked for emergencies.

Please contact the office if you need to make an appointment & do not drop by without prior arrangement.

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