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**[Test] St Mark's Newsletter | Thurs 11th Nov**

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**St Mark's Church Gillingham** <digitallead@stmarksgillingham.org>  
Reply-To: us2-921a18b9d6-85d4d684c5@inbound.mailchimp.com  
To: digitallead@stmarksgillingham.org

11 November 2021 at 13:11



*This week's newsletter covers 11th - 24th Nov, there will not be a newsletter next Thursday.*

**THIS SUNDAY | 14th NOV****MORNING SERVICE | 10.30am**In Church & Online**Remembrance Service****Speaker:** Saju**Music:** Salvation Army Band

*There will be a large number of guests attending the service and limited seating so **please arrive by 10.15am** to avoid disappointment.*

There will be a cash collection. Two thirds of the money raised will go to the Royal British Legion and one third will go to St Mark's.

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**CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS****GEMS & PEBBLES | 10.30am | Vicarage Hall**

Parents can drop their children off from 10.15am and pick them up at 12pm.

**SUMMIT | 7pm | Old Vicarage**

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**BIBLE STREAM**

14th Nov | 6.30pm | Church &amp; 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.

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## COMING WEEK

### Community Groups

#### Throughout the week

Karen Turnbull, Community Pastor, runs a number of groups throughout the week. Email Karen for details: [karenturnbull@stmarksgillingham.org](mailto:karenturnbull@stmarksgillingham.org)

### 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 details.

### Standing in the Gap (Prayer meeting)

#### Saturdays | 7-8am | Online

On Zoom, join us online:

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

### 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](mailto: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

#### Wed & Sat | 9am & 8pm | Facebook

**Morning Reflections:** Wednesdays 9am

**Evening Prayer:** Saturday 8pm

Watch on our Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/stmarksgillingham](https://www.facebook.com/stmarksgillingham)

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## NEWS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- OFFICE STAFF:
  - 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](mailto:vicar@stmarksgillingham.org)
  - Hannah Whittaker is on annual leave 15-20 Nov and so this week's newsletter will cover the following 2 weeks.

- The amount raised for **Tearfund** from the bake sale was **£335.23!**  
*A big massive thank you to Demi and Hannah for helping to create a video that got the word out. A huge thank you to all our creative bakers who donated their time and lovely bakes. To all those who donated and enjoyed the bakes, thank you for your generous donations. Congratulations Opi, the winner of the raffle cake. Thank you for allowing us to donate it to the Kings Church choir for their dedication. Great-fullness to God in whom all things are possible 🙏*  
 - Colette

- A new **film** about C.S. Lewis as a young man is opening at Chatham Odeon for one showing only this **Sunday 14th November at 4.20pm.**  
*"I really loved it - fantastic film. It was just so good." - Justin Brierley, Premier Radio*

- There are a number of slots we need manned in the church for **24/7 Prayer.** Please take a look at the list and see if you can help. Full details on our website:

[www.stmarksgillingham.org/24/7prayer](http://www.stmarksgillingham.org/24/7prayer) or contact Lynne Martin: 07778567097, [thursdayschild59@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:thursdayschild59@yahoo.co.uk)

DAY	TIME	Volunteers Needed
Mon 22nd.	7-10am.	2
	4-5pm	1
Tues 23rd	6-10am	2
	1-3pm	1
	3-4pm	2
Wed 24th	6-9am	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

- 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/>
- **Morning Reflections & Evening Prayers** will now be once a week:
  - Morning reflections, Wednesdays 9am
  - Evening prayer, Saturdays 8pm
 If you would like to continue with your own daily reflections then we would recommend [Lectio 365](#).

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#### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- **The 24/7 Prayer Encounter Nov 21st-28th** which Lynne Martin is coordinating ... 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. Check out the church newsletter or website for help still needed, or contact Lynne on [thursdayschild59@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:thursdayschild59@yahoo.co.uk)

## THE WORLD:

- **COP26** for selfless giving and the fulfilment of commitments made.
- **Ethiopia** and its peoples, particularly in matters of faith;.
- **Afghanistan** where there is already drought and the prospect of a harsh winter - the World Food Programme exec director says ‘... people are marching towards starvation...’ and the UN warns of desperate food crisis.
- **Sudan** where, following the military coup, pro-democracy demonstrators have been tear-gassed in Khartoum.
- Restoration of peace and justice in **Nigeria**, an end to kidnapping and for the release of kidnapped school children still being held for ransom.

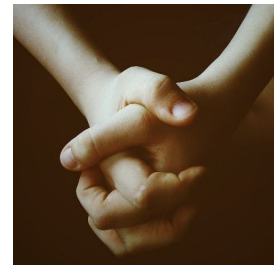
## THE UK:

- For Parliament to look to God’s Righteousness that He may come afresh into our UK Parliament & processes.

## GILLINGHAM & MEDWAY:

- A **WHSmith** spokesperson has said: "We can confirm that the W H Smith store in Gillingham will be closing in January 2022." It seems the store is deemed not viable and the lease is coming to an end. Let’s pray for the staff who are facing the closure so soon after Christmas and the many local people and community who will be disadvantaged by its closure.
- Pray for all those involved in sport provision and for the sports facilities, clubs, parks and open spaces available.

*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](mailto:kathyb.nana@yahoo.co.uk)*



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 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.

### SUNDAY SERVICE

21st Nov | 10.30am | Church

Spiritual Disciplines

Speaker: Rob Byrne

[1 Timothy 4:7-8]

### REVIVE - Pizza Party

21st Nov | 4pm | Church

A relaxed and interactive gathering for Christians and non-Christians alike, where no question about life or faith is off-limits. Revive will not be live streamed.

### 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. For full details see our website: [www.stmarksgillingham.org/24/7prayer](http://www.stmarksgillingham.org/24/7prayer) or contact Lynne Martin: 07778 567097, [thursdayschild59@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:thursdayschild59@yahoo.co.uk)

## SUNDAY SERVICE

28th Nov | 10.30am | Church

Wait For the Lord and Be Strong

Speaker: Saju

[Psalm 27]

## MESSY CHURCH

28th Nov | 2.30-4pm | Church

Messy Church is a way of being church for families and others. It is Christ-centred, for all ages, based on creativity, hospitality and celebration. Join us every fourth Sunday of the month for crafts, stories, games, food and songs.

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# HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK

St Mark's Church  
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Office: The Old Vic, Vicarage Road, Gillingham, ME7 5JA  
01634 570 489 | [admin@stmarksgillingham.org](mailto: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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