

St Mark's Gillingham Newsletter

THIS SUNDAY - 15th May

MORNING SERVICE | 10.30am

Communion Service

Speaker: Michael Maclaughlin

Reading: Acts 10: 1-18 and John 13: 31-35

CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS

GEMS & PEBBLES

This will not be happening this Sunday but should be up and running again next week. Parents can drop their children off from 10.15am and pick them up at 12pm.

SUMMIT | 7pm | Old Vicarage

This will be running as normal.

Messy Church

Sunday 15th 2:30pm - 4pm

Families welcome to join in, in the church building for some fun crafty and messy activities.

This 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. [Take a look at the groups and sign up here](#) or contact the office.

Standing in the Gap (Prayer meeting)

Saturdays | 7 - 8am | Online

On Zoom, join us [online here](#).

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

Men's Breakfast

Sat 14th May | 8.45am | Vicarage Hall

Home cooked breakfast with guest speaker Andy Millest. Time to mingle and learn from each other. Invite your friends and neighbours. Please RSVP to Dammy - 07984920038

Open Church

Tuesday | 10am - 12pm | Church

Come along for a chat, fellowship or private prayer. Refreshments will be served. 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

Fun space for children to play and for parents/guardians to connect. No need to book, just drop up. Wednesdays in term time.

NEWS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Distribution of bread and wine at Communion - In line with C of E guidelines, there will now be an option for communicants to receive only bread or both bread and wine from the common cup. This is an individual choice and no pressure will be placed on members of the congregation to receive the sacrament if they feel unable to do so. **More details about communion.**

The Oparaku Family, Ellie, Ify, Noah, Phebe and Adele have now moved to Sittingbourne:

"We have prayed and thought deeply about our next steps and calling. We have decided to move to a local church in Sittingbourne to integrate with the community and for the children to make Christian friends in Sittingbourne. We would like to thank everyone at Pebbles and Gems and our friends in the congregation for being such a loving church family for the last 5 years. Many Blessings" - The Oparaku's

Interested in singing in the **community choir** for Carnival and other summer events?

All ages welcome. Performance Dates: Sat 9th July, Thurs 14th July, Fri 29th July with more TBC...

Get in touch with Mayowa at singgillinghamsing@gmail.com or on 07951147352

If you have registered your interest with the government to host a Ukrainian family (<https://rb.gy/zy5ife>) but do not have links with anyone, then **Medway Help for Ukrainians** can help connect you with someone to host. They also offer advice, guidance and support once you begin hosting.

Facebook Group: <https://rb.gy/0efeth>

Email: info@medwayhelpforukranians.org.uk,

Phone: 01634 912 419

St Mark's Church Gillingham is seeking to appoint a part time **Administration Assistant/Digital Lead**. This role will undertake administrative duties including some financial record keeping to assist the Treasurer and also adopt and oversee the Digital

content for the church.

For full job description see the website: www.stmarksgillingham.org/jobvacancy

Closing date: 21 May 2022.

Chequer Tree Camp is a summer Christian camp largely attended by children connected to the work of The Family Trust across Maidstone, Medway and Swale. The camp is currently held at Boughton Monchelsea Primary School, just outside of Maidstone, during the first two weeks of the summer holidays. We welcome children aged 9-12 for a week of fun, games, the opportunity to make new friends and to learn about the Christian faith. See the website www.chequertree.org.uk for all the details you need, including dates, costs and booking details.

The Family Trust is looking to recruit a **new Schools' Worker**. They are looking for a dynamic, self-motivated individual who can join our excellent team. The mission at The Family Trust is to inspire the next generation to explore Christianity and this is an exciting opportunity to help children and young people understand more about Jesus Christ. More information can be found at <https://www.familytrust.org.uk/join-our-team>,

St Mark's Preschool is looking to appoint a **Healthy Eating Coordinator** to work 16 hours a week, term time only. Responsibilities include, but not limited to, preparing healthy snacks, teaching children about healthy eating and various kitchen duties. Rate of pay to be discussed. For more details please see the website: www.stmarksgillingham.org/healthyeatingcoordinator

On Sunday 24th July we will have a Baptism service at St Marks. There will be Baptism by full immersion and we will also use the font for Baptism of a child.

If you are not Baptised, would you like to be? If you are already Baptised, would you like to renew your Baptismal vows? Would you like your child to be Baptised?

If the answer is yes, or you would like more information, please contact Vicki in the office: 01634 570489, admin@stmarksgillingham.org

Medway Council are requesting those who go to church to do a survey about the parking and transport to the church. If you wish to take part in this survey the click the link.

<https://surveys.medway.gov.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=165053812489>

Gillingham Deanery Collaborative Service, Ascension Day and Day one, Thy Kingdom come. 26th May 7pm, at St Augustine's Church, Gillingham, ME7 5PW (Parking is limited so please car share or walk if possible.)

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Worldwide –

- **Sri Lanka:** for restraint against protesters and new opportunities to save the country's economy and social stability.
- **Cuba:** In the search for all those caught in the hotel explosion in Havana.
- The **South American countries** in the grip of drug cartels.
- **UK:** for the Devolved Governments; for those newly elected officials across the UK that they are enabled in integrity and commitment to serving.
- **Ukraine** – for miracles and hope in the tragedy of war, for resilience in faith, for strength and stamina in standing against oppression and for God's Truth and Righteousness to prevail.

Gillingham & Medway –

- Pray for **university students** in the middle of the exam period and pray also for **Lynne Martin** as she responds to a variety of pastoral needs.
- For **Gillingham Street Angels'** new Rochester store, that it will be blessing to many.
- Check out the Calendar of **Gillingham Town Council's** online information, for meetings and events to pray through. For all those needing to use Foodbank or Street Angels etc, the Lord bless them.

Church –

- **For the new incumbent** to St Mark's & SMIC and all involved in the appointment. **The PCC, Church Wardens and those in leadership** at St Marks and SMIC; and pray too for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting at 3pm, 22nd May

The Prayer / worship events happening during the 10 days from the Ascension - Pentecost Sunday are as follows:-

Thursday 26th May	St Augustine's 7 pm
Friday 27th May	St Barnabas – 7pm
Saturday 28th May	St Mary's - time to be advised
Sunday 29th May	Gospel service at St Mark's 6.30 pm
Monday 30th May	Gillingham United Reformed Church 6 pm
Tuesday 31st May	St Luke's 6 pm
Wednesday 1st June	Green Street Baptist Church 7 pm
Thursday 2nd June	King's Church, Skinner Street 7 pm
Friday 3rd June	Our Lady of Gillingham 6.45 pm
Sunday 5th June	Pentecost United Service, Salvation Army 6.30 pm

*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

22nd May | 10.30am | Church

Title Service of the word

Speaker: Lynne Martin

Readings: Acts 11:1-18 and John 13: 31-35

APCM 3pm After the normal service

Women's Breakfast

Sat 21st May | 9 - 11.30am | Gillingham Salvation Army

For women of all ages, with breakfast, conversation and inspiring words from women. Hosted by the Salvation Army in collaboration with St Mark's.

Guest Speaker Chris Curtis

Worship: Sherry Pablo and Sarah Salcedo

Craft Activity: Hannah Whittaker

Suggested donation: £5

[Click here for more info and to book your place.](#)

APCM

22nd May | 3pm | Church

The **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** will take place Sunday 22 May at 3.00pm. We will elect our Churchwardens Deanery Synod and PCC Representatives and review the past year.

For details and reports [CLICK HERE](#)

Gospel Night

29th May | 6.30pm | Church

A night of unhindered praise and worship. With guest speaker Councillor Gloria Opara and Guest Artiste Pastor Mark Anderton.

Doors open from 6pm, refreshments served.

Jubilee Celebrations

Sun 5th June | 10.30am | Church

There will be a Pentecost All Age Service followed by celebrations and a bring and share meal together to mark HRH Platinum Jubilee. There will also be activities for the children.

Let Loose

Fri 29th July | 1-4pm | Gillingham High St

A free outdoor community outdoor music concert put together to give hope to victims and survivors of abuse. Free refreshments will be served.

The Historic Dockyard in Chatham are holding an event to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on the 3rd June. Tickets are free to those who book online. To get the free tickets for this event visit <https://thedockyard.co.uk/whats-on/a-celebration-of-her-majesty-the-queens-platinum-jubilee/>

St Mark's Church

Canterbury Street, Gillingham, ME7 5TP

Registered Charity 1141709

Office: The Old Vic, Vicarage Road, Gillingham, ME7 5JA
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.