

ST MARK'S PARISH CHURCH REIGATE

Vicar: Reverend Martin Colton

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www.stmarksreigate.co.uk Reg. Charity No. 1134121

SUNDAY 8 DECEMBER (ADVENT 2)

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00am Parish Eucharist
6.00pm Taizé Prayer

MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY

8.30am Morning Prayer

WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER

2.00pm Brooklands School Christmas Service

THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER

9.15am Informal Prayer Meeting
12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona)

SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER (ADVENT 3)

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00am Sung Eucharist
4.00pm Messy Church
6.00pm Evening Prayer

COLLECT FOR TODAY

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

DIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK



CROYDON EPISCOPAL AREA

ARCHDEACONRY OF REIGATE

THE FIRST READING**Isaiah 11: 1 to 10**

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

THE GOSPEL READING**Matthew 3: 1 to 12**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.⁵ Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

INTERCESSIONS

Please pray for those in particular need:
Sharon Willans, Geraldine Wright,
Jean Hovey, Phyllis Lloyd

For those living in Priory Gate Mews

For St Andrew, Gatton

For anniversaries falling at this time:

Margaret Burt, Tom Harley,
Betty Longley, Joyce Molyneux,
Beryl Forster, Lorna Stratford,
Alice (Robbie) Robbins, Jack Budgen.

CHURCH CLEANING PARTY

On **Saturday 14 December** we have a Cleaning Party from 9.00am to dust and polish the church in readiness for Christmas. All are welcome.

SIDESMEN

We need additional sidesmen for the Holmesdale Christmas services on Wednesday 18 December, for the Carol Service on Sunday 22 December at 6.00pm, for the Christingle Service on 24 December at 4.00pm and for the Midnight Eucharist and Christmas morning services. Please sign up if you can help.

CRIB AND CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

On Christmas Eve we will be celebrating this Service at 4.00pm. The collection will raise vital funds for the work of the Children's Society. If you are unable to attend but would like to contribute there is a box at the back of church containing Christingle Collection Candles. When filled please let us have them on 24 December or on any Sunday beforehand. During the service children may wish to place toys around the crib (please label wrapped gifts either "Boy" or "Girl" and the age group). These presents are donated to the local Women's Refuge.

Dino & Debbie Pelekani

ALTAR FLOWER ROTA

Here at St Mark's we have a dedicated team of people who attend to the two flower vases behind the high altar. At the moment there are just eleven people for the entire year, so we are keen to attract a few more volunteers for our 2020 rota. We would love to hear from you and are happy to talk you through the job. Please speak to Valerie Jones (vjgingamum@hotmail.com) or Caryl Baughen (caryl@baughen.co.uk).

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

The flower arrangers will be meeting in the hall on Saturday 21 December from 10.00am to prepare the swags to hang in the church over the Christmas period and help is being sought. If you would like to help prepare the swags, no experience is necessary - guidance will be given. The other way that we need help is with providing holly, rose hips, box, fir, ruscus, skimmia or other greenery. Please email Caryl Baughen at caryl@baughen.co.uk if you can provide help in any way.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL FLOWERS

From 8 December until Christmas, there will be an opportunity for you to make a donation towards the cost of our Christmas flowers. If you wish to give in memory of a loved one, please add their name to the list of dedications. (Please print the name clearly!) At each service, a collecting box and the list will be found at the back of the church.

ST MARK'S MISSION SURVEY

We are undertaking a survey of both church members and those living and working in the parish as part of a revision of our Mission Action Plan. Please take a copy or complete the online survey via the website.

TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS AT ST MATTHEW'S FOODBANK

There is likely to be a huge demand for the services of the Foodbank over the winter months and to help us keep our stock level high, we would invite you to take part in our 'Twelve Days of Christmas' appeal. Just as the famous Christmas Carol of the same name encouraged the giving of a different gift each day, beginning with the unlikely donation of 'a partridge in a pear tree', so we would like to encourage everyone to bring along some of the twelve items we most urgently need to meet the needs of our clients. Although not as romantic as two turtle doves or as sparkly as five gold rings, donations of the following will help us greatly in the weeks ahead:

Sugar (small bags), Cream Crackers, Mash. Tomato Soup, Chicken Soup, Long-life Milk, Fruit Squash, Coffee (small jars) Noodles (small packets), Tinned Cold Meat, Cooking Oil, Tomato Ketchup.

COMFY CHAIR REQUIRED

We urgently need to borrow a comfy armchair for the Winter Night Shelter night shift. Please contact Nigel Perkins if you can help.



S · M · O · A · T
ST MARK'S OVERSEAS AID TRUST
REGISTERED CHARITY No. 280991

CHRISTMAS APPEAL

We have launched our Christmas Appeal which will support two projects: 1. EducAid, supporting the costs of a classroom/boarding space for girls and young women returning to education in Sierra Leone, a country where gender inequality is deeply engrained in tradition and cultural practices. 2. Simien Mountains Mobile Medical Services, buying devices to test blood samples of people living in extremely remote areas of Ethiopia, giving them a chance of earlier treatment where necessary. The people served by these devices will number approximately 350,000. For further information please contact Barbara Perkins at Barbara@barbaraperkins.co.uk. Your support of our Appeal is greatly appreciated.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

14 Dec 9.00am Church Cleaning Party
7.30pm Christmas Concert
17 Dec 10.00am St Mark's Buffers
21 Dec 10.00am Christmas Flowers
28 Dec 8.00pm Christmas Dance

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 22 December (Advent 4)

10.00am Junior Church Christmas Presentation
6.00pm Service of Lessons and Carols

Tuesday 24 December (Christmas Eve)

4.00pm Crib and Christingle Service
11.30pm Midnight Mass of the Nativity

Wednesday 25 December (Christmas Day)

8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Family Eucharist with Hymns