

ST MARK'S PARISH CHURCH REIGATE

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Req. Charity No. 1134121



SUNDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2025

(THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE - CANDLEMAS)

- 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) in Churchl
10.00am Sung Eucharist in Church and Online
with the licensing of Reverend Reginald Grant
as Associate Priest by the Archdeacon of
Reigate, the Venerable Moira Astin
4.00pm Family Service in Church

WEDNESDAY 5 FEBRUARY

- 3.25pm T-Time Tales

THURSDAY 6 FEBRUARY

- 12.45am Holy Communion (Iona)

SUNDAY 9 FEBRUARY (4 BEFORE LENT)

- 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) in Churchl
10.00am Sung Eucharist in Church and Online

THE COLLECT FOR TODAY

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

DIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK



CROYDON EPISCOPAL AREA

ARCHDEACONRY OF REIGATE

These are the readings appointed for today

THE FIRST READING

Malachi 3: 1 to 5

Thus says the Lord God: See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight – indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

THE GOSPEL READING

Luke 2: 22 to 40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

INTERCESSIONS

Please pray for those in particular need:
Michael Biggs, Yvonne Powell,
Jacqueline McCallough, George Hook,
Lennox Hartman, David Bretherton,
Rosemary Absalom, Jane-Ann Paul,
Sonia Pearson.

For those living in Brightlands Road

For St Pauls URC Shaws Corner Redhill

For anniversaries falling at this time:

Margaret Gilbert, Ron Collar,
Elizabeth (Betty) Mintey, Paul West,
Doris Butler, Gweneth Medwin,
Reginald Charles Grant.

FOODBANK

Saint Matthew's Foodbank is still desperately short of donations. More and more people are turning to the Foodbanks for the first time, and yet the amount of donations has fallen.

If you are able to give anything at all, please leave your donation at the Vicarage. Please remember that no fresh food can be accepted and all tins and packets must be in date. More information can be found at:

<https://www.redhillfoodbank.org.uk/shop/ping-list>

SMART

A short reminder that SMART meets in the church hall at **2.00pm on Thursday 6 February** for an afternoon of bring your own games and/or any craft that can be done either at a small table or in your lap (eg: Chess, draughts, cards, scrabble, backgammon etc or knitting, crochet, embroidery, colouring in during the 40 minutes before tea time while we catch up with one another in the New Year.

Or if you don't fancy doing much, just come for a good chat.

Sarah Cousins

GREEN SUNDAYS

The PCC has agreed to run the "Green Sundays" again on the First Sundays of the month from November until March. Services on these dates will be in the Hall as we use less energy, and therefore less carbon, to heat and light the Hall. The next date will be **2 March**

PRAYER BOARD

We are pleased that the Prayer Board has been so well used in the past year, and every person on it has been prayed for every week. However, some of the prayer requests are several months old and we have no way of knowing whether their situation has changed. So we are starting from scratch again, and if you are someone who had written a request, we would love you to put an update, either thanking God for a great improvement or requesting further prayer.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Lent will start on **Wednesday 5 March, Ash Wednesday**. On this Holy Day of Obligation when all should endeavour to attend worship, there will be celebrations of Holy Communion with Ashing at 11.00am and at 8.00pm to allow as many to attend as possible.

LENT COURSE

We will be using a new course on The Sacraments by Jane Williams. This will be on **Thursdays at 11.00am** during Lent, starting on **Thursday 13 March**. All welcome.

LENT LUNCHESES

If you would like to host a Lent Lunch this year, please contact the Parish Office to register your interest and possible dates you can offer. These are to raise funds for the Bishop's appeal for projects in this diocese and in our link dioceses in Zimbabwe and Jerusalem. A list of lunches will be published soon.



S · M · O · A · T
ST MARK'S OVERSEAS AID TRUST
REGISTERED CHARITY No. 28091

CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The SMOAT Christmas Appeal is still open. This year we are supporting Team Kenya who have asked us to support a sweet potato self-sustainability project in Kenya and a project from Doctors for Nepal, giving funding towards a health camp in one of the remotest and deprived areas of Nepal.

Both of these projects will help many hundreds of people by giving them a chance of a future. If you would like to make a donation, you can do so through our website <http://www.smoat.org.uk/>

SMOAT QUIZ – BACK ON – 1 MARCH

We are pleased to announce that the SMOAT Quiz, featuring the legendary quiz master, Helier Dreux, is now taking place on Saturday 1 March at 7.30pm. Tickets are £15.00 and include a sharing cheese and charcuterie board per table. We will NOT be running a bar so please bring your own drinks of choice. Teams can be up to eight people. Tickets are available to buy on TicketSource, which can be accessed through our website <http://www.smoat.org.uk/> or you can let me know by email at chair@SMOAT.org.uk. We will also be selling tickets in the foyer at St Mark's a little nearer the time. Please join us for what will be a fun and brain-teasing evening!

Barbara Perkins, Chairman.

WELCOMERS' ROTA

We have a loyal group of volunteers who welcome people into church every Sunday at the 10am service, but we could do with some more volunteers. You sign up for the Sundays that you can manage, and you will be put on a rota, and you may only be needed once every 6 or 8 weeks.

If you are interested, please contact me.

Susannah Dyde

Email: susannahshuck@hotmail.com

Text message: 07775 735384

REGULAR GIVING TO ST MARK'S

If you are able to, please consider making a regular donation to St Mark's through the Parish Giving Scheme. This is the most effective way to donate as we receive 100% of your donation and Gift Aid is automatically claimed. Please follow the link below to sign up.

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/reigate-st-mark-reigate/>

Please contact me if you need any more information. Many thanks.

Mel Crighton Treasurer,

treasurer@stmarksreigate.co.uk