ST MARK'S PARISH CHURCH REIGATE

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SUNDAY 16 FEBRUARY (3 BEFORE LENT)

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) in Churchl
10.00am	Sung Eucharist in Church and Online
4.00pm	Messy Church

THURSDAY 20 FEBRUARY

12.45am Holy Communion (Iona)

SUNDAY 23 FEBRUARY (2 BEFORE LENT)

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) in Churchl
10.00am	Sung Eucharist in Church and Online
4.00pm	Taizé Prayer in Church

T HE COLLECT FOR TODAY

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, 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

1 Corinthians 15: 12 to 20

If Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ – whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. OBut in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

THE GOSPEL READING Luke 6: 17 to 26

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. 'Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. 'Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. 'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. 'But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. 'Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. 'Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. 'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

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 Brokes Road

For All Saints South Merstham

For anniversaries falling at this time: Rita Garton, Peter Keith Thomas, Bill Gee, Alicia Spriggs, Kate Dunphy, John Orton, Campbell Gordon, Andrew Wincott, Graham Berry, Brian Rowbotham.

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

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.**

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 in Church 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 LUNCHES

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.

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



CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The SMOAT Christmas Appeal remains 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 guiz 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 website our http://www.smoat.org.uk/ or you can let know me 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.

CALLING ALL KNITTERS

Christ the King are hosting another Knita-Thon where blankets and baby clothes are knitted for distribution to charities across Africa. The meeting will take place on Saturday 1 March from 10.00am until 1.00pm at Christ the King Church, RH1 5DF (on the corner of the A23 and Honeycrock Lane). Refreshments will be available. This get together was most successful last time so do join in and support such a worthwhile event.

<u>"THE BRIDGE"</u>

The February edition of our diocesan newspaper is now available on-line at <u>http://southwark.anglican.org/thebridge</u> Paper copies will be at the back of the church when they arrive.

PARISH OFFICE

The office will be closed for one day on Wednesday 19 February.

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