ST MARK'S PARISH CHURCH REIGATE

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SUNDAY 16 MARCH 2025 (LENT 2)

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

WEDNESDAY 19 MARCH

9.00am	Prayer meeting in the Lady Chapel
3.25pm	T Time Tales

THURSDAY 20 MARCH

11.00am	Lent Course in Church
12.45am	Holy Communion (Iona)

SUNDAY 23 MARCH 2025 (LENT 3)

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

THE COLLECT FOR TODAY

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, 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 Philippians 3: 17 to 4.1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

THE GOSPEL READING Luke 13: 31 to 35

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord."

INTERCESSIONS

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

For those living in Conifer Close

For St Matthew Redhill

RIP: Roger Mintey, Christopher Willis

For anniversaries falling at this time: Eileen Scanlan, Leonard Edwards, Anneke Cooke, Royston Hanby, Redvers Garton, Clifford Stagg, Godfrey Wallace-Williams, Jay Rattenbury, Alison (Lally) Druett, Shun Wah Chan.

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

Please sign up for the Lent Lunches. Sheets are at the back of the Church for the lunch in Church on Thursday 10 April (following the 12.45pm Iona Communion Service). Donations for the simple lunch will be for the Bishop's Lent Call supporting projects in this diocese and in Zimbabwe.

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

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/

Barbara Perkins, Chairman.

PRAYER

Prayer enables us to present our petitions to God and to hear what He wants of us. If you are concerned about the state of the world, or you have particular people you want us to pray for, or you just want to hear from God, then try joining us in the Lady Chapel every Wednesday morning at 9.00am for just half an hour. It could be the one quiet half hour in your busy day. If this time does not suit you, then please continue to write your prayer requests on the Prayer Board in church. *Susannah Dvde*

EASTER CARD DISTRIBUTION --VOLUNTEERS NEEDED PLEASE

We are looking for volunteers to help with the delivery of our annual Easter Service cards. We have 60 streets (or part streets) to cover. Alexia, our Parish Administrator, has the master list so please phone or email the office if you wish to volunteer to deliver a batch of cards, letting her know which street(s) vou would like. Your allocation will then be confirmed. Cards are expected to be available for collection from the front of the church from Sunday 23 March. We would like them to be delivered by Tuesday 8 April so that people have the card before the first service listed. Your help with this will be much appreciated.

QUIET DAY

The Reigate Deanery is holding a Quiet Day on **Saturday 12 April from 9.30am to 3.00pm at Wychcroft Retreat House near Bletchingly.** This will be led by the Archdeacon of Croydon, Ven. Greg Pryor. The cost (including lunch) is a minimum of £25 per person. (The cost to the deanery is £43 per person so you may wish to make an additional donation.) To book your place, please contact the Parish Office BEFORE Monday 24 March and Alexia will give you the payment details.

EASTER EXPERIENCE: DRESS REHEARSAL

The open dress rehearsal for the Easter Experience will be **8.00pm** on **17 March** at **Reigate Park Church**.

Sparkfish are inviting members from local churches to see the presentation that will be performed for schools over the coming two weeks. Primary School Students from 13 local schools will be attending over the 5 performance days which begin on 19th March.

This is an opportunity to pray for the Sparkfish Team, and also aive an opportunity for friends and family of children attending to also see the performance which is around 45 minutes with some time for 'practice questions' at the end. The school students have the opportunity to take part in a workshop style question and answer session as part of the Easter Experience where they ask the actors questions in character after the drama. We expect the evening to finish around 9pm.

Notes for those coming to watch:

Please be aware that the performance is unseated as the school students sit on the floor so they can move around to view the different scenes which take place around the sides of the church. We will have some seats out for those who may find sitting on the floor uncomfortable, but please do let us know if you would like seats, or you are welcome to bring a folding chair with you if you would find it easier to move (it's more moving the chair around on the same 'spot' to see).

Entering the main church is part of the performance, so the audience will wait in the foyer as this is how it works for the schools, and then enter at 8pm. There will be a short introduction from one of the acting team around 7.55pm. Please note that we are videoing this performance for promotional purposes and also for the possibility of using it in wider settings.

THE BRIDGE

The March issue of our diocesan newspaper is now live <u>here</u>. Paper copies will be at the back of the church when they arrive.

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