ST MARK'S PARISH CHURCH REIGATE

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SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER (ADVENT SUNDAY - ST ANDREW)

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

WEDNESDAY 3 DECEMBER

9.00am Prayer Meeting in the Lady Chapel

3.25pm T-Time Tales

THURSDAY 4 DECEMBER

12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

SUNDAY 7 DECEMBER (ADVENT 2) – GREEN SUNDAY

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) in the Hall

10.00am Sung Eucharist in the Hall4.00pm Family Service in the Hall

THE COLLECT FOR TODAY

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him 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

These are the readings appointed for today

(The Common Worship Lectionary Year A begins)

THE FIRST READING Isaiah 2: 1 to 5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths. 'For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

THE GOSPEL READING Matthew 24: 36 to 44

Jesus spoke to his disciples: 'About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

<u>INTERCESSIONS</u>

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

For those living in Redwood Mount

For Redhill Baptist Church

RIP: Ann Moses

For anniversaries falling at this time: Jocelyn (Wendy) Pooley, Evelyn Sheldon, Bertie Hill, Hilary Hobbs, Roy Barnes, Anne Baker.

SMART

We meet from 2.00pm until 4.00pm on Thursday 4 December for Carols and Christmas tea in the hall. Please let Sarah know as soon as possible if you are coming and how many guests you are bringing. Thank you.

Sarah Cousins

WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

St Mark's is hosting Winter Night Shelter each Friday night from 12 December until 23 January. If you have attended a volunteer training session since the Shelter resumed in 2023, please sign up for shifts on Dutyman.

Nigel Perkins

CHRISTMAS CARD DISTRIBUTION

Thank you to everyone who has kindly volunteered to deliver our Christmas Service cards. They are now available to be collected from the front of the church. We ask that the cards are delivered **by Tuesday 9 December** so that people have them before the first service listed.

CHRISTMAS CHARITIES

As is our usual practice, the collections, both cash and card, at our Christmas Services will be donated to various charities. At the Christingle Service at 4pm on Christmas Eve, we will be supporting the **Children's Society**. At the other services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and at the Carol Service, we will be supporting **Renewed Hope**, who run the Winter Night Shelter, and **Sparkfish**, a local charity working in local schools. Online donations during this period will be shared with all three charities.

This Sunday at our services we will be focussing on the work of Sparkfish to give you a better understanding of their work.



CHRISTMAS APPEAL

We launched our Christmas Appeal, last Sunday 23 November. This year we are supporting one project in Tanzania with our partner Action in Africa. We are hoping to raise at least £6,300 to buy seven motorbikes to enable medical teams to get to far flung patients in the community of Nyaishozi, where the terrain makes it almost impossible to reach people. Watch the Appeal video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1eximWEEQs. Any donations would be very gratefully received.

BINGO – A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

We are holding a Bingo afternoon on Sunday 25 January 2026! To avoid disappointment, pop the date in your diary now. More details will follow but, rest assured, there will be lots of homemade cakes for everyone and a tombola for the children.

Barbara Perkins

GREEN SUNDAYS

On the 1st Sundays of the month from **December to March inclusive** all services will be in the Hall as we attempt to use less energy. Dates are:

Sunday 7 December

Sunday 4 January 2026

Sunday 1 February 2026

Sunday 1 March 2026

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

Please send any notices for the news sheet to Terrence Hancock **2** 01737 761178 or email terrence.hancock1976@gmail.com at the latest by 8.00am on a Thursday.