

ST MARK'S PARISH CHURCH REIGATE

Vicar: Reverend Martin Colton

☎ 01737 241161

Email: vicar@stmarksreigate.co.uk

Associate Priest: Reverend Reginald Grant

☎ 07385 832372

Email: curatestmarks@gmail.com

www.stmarksreigate.co.uk

Reg. Charity No. 1134121



SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER (ADVENT 4)

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|---------|-------------------------------------|
| 8.00am | Holy Communion (BCP) in Church |
| 10.00am | Sung Eucharist in Church and Online |
| 6.00pm | Carol Service in Church and Online |

WEDNESDAY 24 DECEMBER CHRISTMAS EVE

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| 9.00am | Prayer Meeting in the Lady Chapel |
| 4.00pm | Christingle and Crib Service - in Church |
| 9.00pm | First Communion of Christmas |



THURSDAY 25 DECEMBER (CHRISTMAS DAY)

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

FRIDAY 26 DECEMBER (ST STEPHEN)

SATURDAY 27 DECEMBER (ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST)

SUNDAY 28 DECEMBER (THE HOLY INNOCENTS)

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

THE COLLECT FOR TODAY

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

These are the readings appointed for today

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 7: 10 to 16

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 1: 18 to 25

The birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.'

INTERCESSIONS

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 St Michael+ & All Angels, Betchworth

For those living in Ridgeway Close

RIP: Ian Archer

For anniversaries falling at this time:

Kenneth Boag, Donald MacDonald,
Kenneth Hedgecock, Jeannete Kitteringham,

Margaret Dodson, Emily Cramp,
Barbara Fowles, Beryl Kent, Mary Jones,
Peter Leeming (Priest), Doris Richman,
Christopher Martin (Priest), Barbara Baker.

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 4 January 2026

Sunday 1 February 2026

Sunday 1 March 2026

On these Sundays the services will NOT be Livestreamed.

WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

St Mark's is hosting Winter Night Shelter each Friday night until 23 January. If you have attended a volunteer training session since the Shelter resumed in 2023, please sign up for shifts on Dutyman. There will be a further training session at 3.00pm on Sunday 11 January at Shrewsbury Chapel, Shrewsbury Road, Redhill RH1 6BH.

Nigel Perkins

PERSONAL CHRISTMAS CARDS

Please don't forget to look in the tower lobby and take any cards addressed to you. Remember – any cards still there after 31 December will be removed.

"THE BRIDGE"

The December/January edition of our diocesan newspaper is now available. You can read and download The Bridge here: southwark.anglican.org/thebridge

CHRISTMAS CHARITIES

The collections 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.



S · M · O · A · T

ST MARK'S OVERSEAS AID TRUST
REGISTERED CHARITY No. 28091

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

PARISH OFFICE

Please note the office will be closed this week and next week – re-opening on Monday 5 January 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



A very Happy and Peaceful Christmas

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