

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARK, REIGATE

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Reg. Charity No. 1134121



SUNDAY 5 DECEMBER (ADVENT 2)

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) in Church
10.00am Holy Communion in Church and on-line
4.00pm Family Service in the Hall

WEDNESDAY 8 DECEMBER

3.25pm T-Time Tales

THURSDAY 9 DECEMBER

12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

SUNDAY 12 DECEMBER (ADVENT 3)

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) in Church
10.00am Holy Communion in Church and on-line
4.00pm Messy Church (please book to come)

THE COLLECT FOR TODAY

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

DIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK



CROYDON EPISCOPAL AREA

ARCHDEACONRY OF REIGATE

The readings appointed for today

THE FIRST READING

Malachi 3: 1 to 4

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.

THE GOSPEL READING

Luke 3: 3 to 6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

INTERCESSIONS

Please pray for those in particular need:
Jean Hovey, Alison Stagg, Alec Parish,
Yvonne Powell, Jackie Whymms,
Ruston Biggs, Margaret Steward.

For those living in Wray Park Road

For Merstham Baptist Church

For anniversaries falling at this time:

Roy Barnes, Anne Baker, Margaret Burt,
Tom Harley, Betty Longley,
Joyce Molyneux.

FOOD BANK

There is still a huge demand on the Food Bank at St Matthew's Church in Redhill. Any donations you can make are very gratefully received. They can be left on the Vicarage doorstep at St Mark's, and these will be taken to the Food Bank. Thank you for your generous support of those in need in our community.

MESSY CHURCH

Please note that Messy Church will be **next** Sunday 12 December at 4.00pm. **Attendance only by booking with the Office in advance.**



S · M · O · A · T

ST MARK'S OVERSEAS AID TRUST
REGISTERED CHARITY No. 280991

CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Our Christmas Appeal this year is supporting two projects from organisations very familiar to us. The first is a Village Water project in three villages in the Manica Province, Mozambique. We will be supporting a Water, Sanitisation and Hygiene project, reaching approximately 1,200 people. They will receive WASH sessions and will also be provided with life-saving materials such as soap and disinfectant. Each village will have a functioning protected borehole from where they can obtain clean water.

The second project is from Advantage Africa and is aimed at improving incomes for disadvantaged families in rural Kenya by providing them with goats. Our aim is to help twelve families, who will receive training in goat rearing and also in the principles of local marketing and simple record keeping. After the training each family will receive two goats and a water storage tank for watering the livestock and family water storage.

The gift of giving this Christmas

This year, we are inviting you to make a donation to the SMOAT Christmas Appeal as a Christmas gift for your loved ones.

Please email Barbara, our chairman, on chair@smoat.org.uk to request a specially printed SMOAT gift card. You can send this to your friends and family and it will explain that this Christmas, you have chosen to donate to our Christmas Appeal projects in their name.

The minimum suggested donation for a card is £20 - please let us know how many cards you require by **today** so that we can get them to you in time to post before Christmas.

ALTAR FLOWERS

This is another appeal for help with our altar flowers. The job involves arranging flowers and foliage of your choice in the two vases behind the high altar and keeping an eye on them for a two-week period. This is normally done on a Friday or Saturday at your convenience. With enough volunteers, your name should only appear on our rota once in the year.

It's an easy job for anyone who is willing and we can talk you through the detail. Please consider this request seriously and either contact Valerie Jones at vjinghamum@hotmail.com or Caryl Baughen at caryl@baughen.co.uk

GREEN SUNDAYS

The PCC has agreed to trial holding some Sunday services in the Hall during January, February and March to reduce our carbon footprint. **This will be on the 1st Sunday of the month in January, February and March and will be the 8am, 10am and 4pm services.** The Church will be open as usual for private prayer, but the heating will not be on. The services in the Hall will follow the same format, etc, and will be live streamed. Later in 2022 the PCC will review this trial and decide whether to run it again next winter. The dates of the Green Sundays are: 2 January, 6 February and 6 March 2022.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

If you have a Children's Society box, please bring it into the Office or to any Service during December. These monies will be added to the Christingle money and sent off at Christmas. Thank you for your support. If anyone would like to help to coordinate our link with the Children's Society, please speak to Fr Martin

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

We will once again be supporting the Reigate Women's Refuge this year. If you would like to donate a present for a child, please bring it to the **Messy Church service** on **Sunday 12 December**. Please wrap and label gifts, indicating whether they are for a boy or girl including age. This will allow us to ensure the children receive their gifts on Christmas Day.

We will, however, continue to collect gifts up until Christmas Eve at the Christingle Service. You can bring your gifts to church or drop them off at the Parish Office.

Although any age-appropriate gift is greatly appreciated, the Refuge have asked for pyjamas, slippers, dressing gowns and socks for the children as many who live at the refuge often arrive with nothing.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Thank you to all who have volunteered to deliver the Parish Christmas Card – every street in the Parish has been allocated. We have some extra cards in the Church if you would like one.

Personal Christmas cards can be left in the Church for other Church members this year, but as not everyone is regularly attending church in person, it may be better for you to deliver cards direct to them. Any cards left uncollected after Christmas will be recycled and therefore will not be delivered.

COVID-19 UPDATE

With the recent increase in infections locally and the appearance of the Omicron variant, the Diocese has advised us that those attending worship should be requested to wear face coverings whilst in the building. All published services and activities will continue.