

During Refreshments in the Hall, after today's 10am Mass at St Mark, there will be a sale of 'unwanted Christmas gifts' – please support this worthy fundraising cause. Thank you.

+++++

From Bishop Christopher, 18th January 2023

As you know, the Church of England has been engaged in listening and praying respectfully, and with mutual love, in the area of sexuality. You may have seen the media coverage that emerged following the latest meeting of the College of Bishops about this process, **Living in Love and Faith**. Please see the Church of England's Press Release below:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/media-and-news/press-releases/draft-prayers-thanksgiving-dedication-and-gods-blessing-same-sex>

The proposals, which follow a six-year period of listening, learning and discernment, will offer the fullest pastoral provision without changing the Church's doctrine of Holy Matrimony. This includes a range of draft prayers known as *prayers of love and faith* which could be used voluntarily in churches for couples who have marked a significant stage of their relationship such as civil marriage or civil partnership.

The Bishops are commending these materials to General Synod for consideration. I am saying this as the Bishops are likely – I hope – to authorise them for use come what may.

In my *Presidential Address* at the Diocesan Synod in November last year, I spoke about **Living in Love and Faith** and my responsibility to ensure the highest possible degree of unity which is Christ's command to his Church. The Diocese of Southwark is, as I said then, a microcosm of the Anglican Communion. Let us rejoice and be glad that the Church of England and the Diocese of Southwark has space for each of us and I do hope the conversations we have had, and will continue to have in the Diocese, will enable us all to continue to speak well of each other.

Prayers from Jordan and every good wish,
The Rt. Revd. Christopher Chessun, Bishop of Southwark

+++++

After 8 years, our **Diocesan Secretary, Ruth Martin**, will be retiring from her post in the summer. The role includes being the CEO of the Diocesan Board of Finance, the Secretary to the governance of the Diocese through Diocesan Synod and also the COO of the Diocese. The advertisement and process for recruiting Ruth's successor will start shortly and there will be time for a handover. We will be using the same specialist recruitment consultants to fill this important post, as we successfully did previously. I have asked Sarah Thewlis, of Thewlis Graham, to undertake the Search for our new Diocesan Secretary and I will be making the appointment with the Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance in time for there to be a handover. Ruth had been signposted to the vacancy by her local priest. In the season of Epiphany, please do consider if anyone of you in our worshipping communities, who may have the skills and experience needed for this role, to please contact David Loft, Director of HR for further details david.loft@southwark.anglican.org

Welcome to the United Benefice of South Norwood Holy Innocents and St. Mark

Sharing God's grace and love in our community



22nd January 2023

Vicar: The Revd. Canon Roxanne F. Eversley
Asst. Priest: Mother Susan Wheeler-Kiley
Reader: Mrs. Cicely Hinds

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

8.00am BCP Mass (St. Mark)

10am Parish Mass (both Parishes)

Isaiah 9.1-4 * Psalm 27.1, 4-12 * 1 Corinthians 1.10-18 * Matthew 4.12-23

Access online worship via

www.youtube.com/c/StMarksSouthNorwood

CHURCH NOTICES

Helen Forrest's Funeral will be held at St. Mark's Church on Thursday, 2nd Feb at 12noon.

Pastoral Care: Mother Roxanne is available on Tel. 020 8916 1830 or 07723 038215 or mtroxanne@gmail.com She is not available on Mondays or Mother Susan (07890 780572) on Fridays.
+++++

We pray: for Archbishops Justin and Stephen; for our Bishops in this diocese - Christopher, Rosemarie, Karwei and Bishop Designate of Kingston, Martin Gainsborough.

For the Bishops, clergy and people in our link Dioceses in Zimbabwe.

For St. Margaret of Antioch, Lee Tim Goode (Rector); Daniel Walker (Asst. Curate); Jenny Standage (Reader) (PTO); Anne Smith (SPA).

For St Margaret's Lee CofE School.

For the Bishops, priests, deacons & people of The Church of North India (United).

For the sick – Richard, Jennifer & Reuben, Rose, Caroline, Susan, Pauline, Sigi, Marie-Gabrielle, Colin (Castle), Carmen, Rodney, Marina, Linda and Fred.

The bereaved – the Onyiaike, Irono, Maginley and Forrest families; the McKellar and Mullings families.

The recently departed – Fidelia Onyiaike, Elecia Maginley, Helen Forrest and Karen Mullings.

Years Mind.

+++++
If you were still able to provide items from the list below to Nightwatch, they can be dropped off any Sunday after 8.30pm to Friends Meeting House, 60 Park Lane, Croydon CR0 1JE:

Tinned meat soup (they have loads of veg); Jars of pasta sauce (they give out a lot of pasta in the grocery bags they distribute); Packets of pasta; Tinned meals (meatballs, pies, spaghetti bolognese); Pot noodles; Individual care packages typically including a few masks, hand gel, soap, deodorant; Pack of tissues; Drinks - water or cans; blankets and sleeping bags, coats, hats, scarves, gloves and new underwear.