



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

Sharing God's grace and love in our community



13th February 2022

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

**The Fourth Sunday before Lent
 8.00am and 10.00am**

President and Preacher, Mother Susan Wheeler-Kiley

Jeremiah 17.5-10 * Psalm 1 * 1 Cor. 15.12-20 * Luke 6.17-26

Access online worship via

www.youtube.com/c/StMarksSouthNorwood

CHURCH NOTICES

Until further notice, both Parishes will continue to meet for worship at Saint Mark for the 8am & 10am Sunday Masses; and at Holy Innocents for the weekday Mass on Thursdays at 10am.

Pastoral Care: Mother Roxanne is available (except on Mondays) on Tel. 020 8916 1830 or 07723 038215 or mtrroxanne@gmail.com Mother Susan (07890 780572 fs.kiley@btinternet.com not available on Fridays.

To hire the Church Halls, please call:
 Jan on 020 8653 0447 for St Mark; and
 Annette on 020 8771 5779 for Holy Innocents.

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We pray: for Archbishops Justin and Stephen; Bishops Christopher, Jonathan, Richard and Karowei in this Diocese; and the Bishops in our link Dioceses in Zimbabwe.

For CHARLTON (UNITED BENEFICE) St Luke w Holy Trinity, Charlton St Thomas, Old

Charlton Liz Newman (R); Adelaide Davies (AsstC); Joseph Lee (AsstP); Roberta Bassah (SPA); Miriam Kakembo (SPA); Sheila Kinsella (SPA); Robert Simson (SPA); Kathy Skinner (SPA); Peter Griffiths (SPA).

For the Bishops, priests & people of the Nippon Sei Ko Kai.

For the sick: Claude & Richard, Helen, Jennifer & Reuben, Marie-Gabrielle, Amanda, Rose, Caroline, Sigi, Anecka, Lynn, Ronald, Tommy, Ena, Adeline, Peggy, Rudolph, Stephanie, Pamela, Barry, Dennis, Linda, David, Oslene, Anthony, Adrian, Barbara, Jacqueline, Pauline, Anne, Kath, Mark.

For the bereaved: the Fodor, Naldrett and Shaw families. **For the recently departed:** Akos Fodor, Hilda Naldrett, Ben Shaw. **Years Mind.**

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POST VALENTINE LUNCH directly after Church on **Sunday, 20th February**. Cost per person £10. Do come and support this event and bring your family and friends. Please let Cicelyn or Marcia know if you need a concession. For those unable to attend, please feel free to make a donation - which will be most welcomed.

Thank you! Mtr Roxanne

Today is Racial Justice Sunday (RJS) - a time for all churches to reflect on the importance of racial justice; to give thanks for the gifts and beauty of human diversity; and to commit to end racism and acts of discrimination.

Racial Justice: What's it got to do with me?

This is very much a call for all Christians to engage in the righteous struggle for racial justice because racial justice is everyone's business.

It is an opportunity for all churches to focus on the **three Rs** of Remembering, Reflecting and Responding:

- **Remembering** the importance of racial justice.
- **Reflecting** on human diversity and thanking God for it.
- **Responding** by working to end injustice, racism and ignorance through prayer and action.

The central claim of Christianity is that Jesus offers full restoration of the image of God in humanity through his life, death and resurrection. To follow Christ, as the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:27) implies a commitment to this quest for wholeness in humanity at personal and collective levels.

Our worship of God draws together the personal and the collective. It is the place where, led by the Spirit, we are moved from lament to action, from repentance to healing and embrace, and where we gather around one table with all God's children.

RJS is an ecumenical observance which began in 1995 in Britain and Ireland. The catalyst being the murder of Stephen Lawrence, a Black teenager on 22 April 1993, in South London. In 2017, **RJS** moved from Sept. to February.

The gospel calls all Christians continually to confront the idolatry of racism and the evils in our world and to proclaim justice and mercy as we seek to walk with our God (Micah 6:8). Our worship unites us to Christ, transforms us in Word and Sacrament, and sends us out into the world to uphold the dignity of all in Christ.

Racism and racial discrimination are issues of justice because they deny basic human dignity to men and women made in God's image. Wherever and whenever we treat another as 'lesser or other' our theology fails to celebrate the dramatic nature of our transformation as people who find their primary identity in Christ.

A Collect for Racial Justice Sunday

Merciful God, you are righteous and love justice: stir the hearts of your people that, rejoicing in our diversity, we may repent of the wrongs of the past, and, by your grace, seek the peaceable kingdom of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

COLLECT

Almighty God,
 who alone can bring order
 to the unruly wills and passions of
 sinful humanity:
 give your people grace
 so to love what you command
 and to desire what you promise,
 that, among the many changes of
 this world,
 our hearts may surely there be fixed
 where true joys are to be found;
 through Jesus Christ your Son
 our Lord,
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Jeremiah 17:5-10

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse – who can understand it? I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

PSALM Psalm 1

R *Happy are they who walk in the law of the Lord*

Happy are they who have not walked
 in the counsel of the wicked,
 nor lingered in the way of sinners,
 nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
 Their delight is in the law of the
 Lord,

and they meditate on his law day
 and night. **R**

They are like trees planted by
 streams of water,
 bearing fruit in due season,
 with leaves that do not wither;
 everything they do shall prosper.
 It is not so with the wicked:
 they are like chaff which the wind
 blows away; **R**

Therefore the wicked shall not
 stand upright
 when judgement comes,
 nor the sinner in the council of the
 righteous.
 For the Lord knows the way of the
 righteous,
 but the way of the wicked is
 doomed. **R**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

If Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ – whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

GOSPEL Luke 6:17-26

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a

great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

POST COMMUNION

Merciful Father,
 who gave Jesus Christ to be for us
 the bread of life,
 that those who come to him should
 never hunger:
 draw us to the Lord in faith and
 love,
 that we may eat and drink with him
 at his table in the kingdom,
 where he is alive and reigns, now
 and for ever.