

The Diocesan Anti-Racism Charter

Following my communication to you of the above Charter plus Mother Susan's referral to it during her sermon on Racial Justice Sunday, I've left some more copies at the back of the church for you to take away and read all about it. **The key principles are:**

- an explicit theological understanding that God's kingdom is multi-ethnic, and that it is through our baptismal covenant that we recognise and respect the dignity of every human being and our unity in Christ.
- an intentional focus in our theological studies, liturgy, teaching, prayer, word and work to take strategic and practical actions to combat racism and inequality.
- a clear strategy for increasing and sustaining diversity in our governance structures at Diocesan and parish level so as to ensure representation and participation of people from diverse ethnic backgrounds at all levels of our organisation.

+++++

Calling all young people from Year 7 and upwards

to attend and participate in the Croydon North Deanery initiative – the **Public Spirit** Listening Dinner, at 5.30pm, on Saturday 19th March 2022 at St Stephen's Church Hall, Warwick Road, CR7 7NH.

The **Listening Dinner** is for secondary-aged young people (Year 7 upwards), youth leaders and clergy from Croydon North Deanery. Parents and Carers of the young people are also welcome to attend.

The aim is for young people to share their views and experiences in order to shape the priorities for the work of **Public Spirit**, eat and socialise together. We particularly want to encourage more young people from more churches to get involved and put their Christian faith into positive action.

An invitation letter for families will shortly be available and **Ann Squirrel**, has already been engaging our young people with some pressing questions before the Dinner.

+++++

Introducing Sharon Hunt who will be on placement with us from next Sunday 27th Feb., for 6 weeks as she discerns a vocation to ordained ministry.

Sharon lives with her son in Battersea and attends St. George's Church, where she was Church Warden for several years. Sharon has also helped to lead services, prayer activities and study courses.

Her career has mainly been in the public and charitable sector. She currently works for a Christian Social Justice Charity as the Food Projects Development Manager – leading on vision, strategy and alternative food provision, prior to this she was the Assistant Foodbank Manager for 5 years.

She is passionate about social action and social justice – and is a firm believer that everyone has something to contribute and with encouragement and nurture all can flourish.

She enjoys the open space, reading, reflective writing, going to the theatre and murder mysteries! ... in all these areas of creativity – she senses the creative presence of God.

She is thoroughly looking forward to being part of our community over the next few weeks, here in South Norwood where **A warm welcome awaits her!**

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

Sharing God's grace and love in our community



20th February 2022

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

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

President and Preacher, Mother Roxanne

Genesis 2.4-9, 15-25 * Psalm 65 * Revelation 4 * Luke 8.22-25

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.

+++++

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 Holy Trinity, Eltham Brett Ward (V); Daniel Wyman (AsstC); Angela Vamplew (Reader); Karen Wood (SPA) University of Greenwich (Avery Hill); Steve Cook (Chaplain) (P/T)

For the Bishops, priests & people of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East.

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, Shaw and Afare families; Justine, Bridgette and the Gibbs family.

For the recently departed: Akos Fodor, Hilda Naldrett, Ben Shaw, Stephen Afare, Maria Amelia Gibbs.

Years Mind /those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

+++++

POST VALENTINE LUNCH directly after Church **TODAY.** Cost per person £10. Look forward to seeing you in the Church Hall whether you're eating in, taking away or have ordered 'deliveroo.'

COLLECT

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and
the earth
and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all
your works
and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit
reigns supreme over all things,
now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Genesis 2:4b-9. 15-end

A reading from the book of Genesis.

In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field had yet sprung up – for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground – then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.” Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.” Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

PSALM Psalm 65

R *You visit the earth and water it,
[you make it very plenteous].*

You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be performed in
Jerusalem.
To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come,
because of their transgressions.
Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you will blot them out. **R**

Happy are they whom you choose
and draw to your courts to dwell there!
they will be satisfied by the beauty of
your house,
by the holiness of your temple.
Awesome things will you show us in your
righteousness,
O God of our salvation,
O Hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the seas that are far away. **R**

You make fast the mountains by your power;
they are girded about with might.
You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
and the clamour of the peoples.
Those who dwell at the ends of the earth
will tremble at your marvellous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk
to sing for joy. **R**

You visit the earth and water it
abundantly;
you make it very plenteous;
the river of God is full of water.
You prepare the grain,
for so you provide for the earth.
You drench the furrows and smooth out
the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground
and bless its increase. **R**

You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.
May the fields of the wilderness be rich
for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.
May the meadows cover themselves
with flocks
and the valleys cloak themselves
with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing. **R**

SECOND READING Revelation 4

A reading from the book of Revelation.

After this I looked, and there in heaven
a door stood open! And the first voice,
which I had heard speaking to me like a
trumpet, said, “Come up here, and I will
show you what must take place after this.”
At once I was in the spirit, and there in
heaven stood a throne, with one seated
on the throne! And the one seated there
looks like jasper and carnelian, and around
the throne is a rainbow that looks like an
emerald. Around the throne are twenty-
four thrones, and seated on the thrones
are twenty-four elders, dressed in white

robes, with golden crowns on their heads.
Coming from the throne are flashes of
lightning, and rumblings and peals of
thunder, and in front of the throne burn
seven flaming torches, which are the
seven spirits of God; and in front of the
throne there is something like a sea of
glass, like crystal. Around the throne, and
on each side of the throne, are four living
creatures, full of eyes in front and behind:
the first living creature like a lion, the
second living creature like an ox, the third
living creature with a face like a human
face, and the fourth living creature like a
flying eagle. And the four living creatures,
each of them with six wings, are full of
eyes all around and inside. Day and night
without ceasing they sing, “Holy, holy,
holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was
and is and is to come.” And whenever the
living creatures give glory and honour and
thanks to the one who is seated on the
throne, who lives for ever and ever, the
twenty-four elders fall before the one who
is seated on the throne and worship the
one who lives for ever and ever; they cast
their crowns before the throne, singing,
“You are worthy, our Lord and God, to
receive glory and honour and power, for
you created all things, and by your will
they existed and were created.”

GOSPEL Luke 8:22-25

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

One day Jesus got into a boat with his
disciples, and he said to them, “Let us go
across to the other side of the lake.” So
they put out, and while they were sailing
he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the
lake, and the boat was filling with water,
and they were in danger. They went to
him and woke him up, shouting, “Master,
Master, we are perishing!” And he woke
up and rebuked the wind and the raging
waves; they ceased, and there was a calm.
He said to them, “Where is your faith?”
They were afraid and amazed, and said
to one another, “Who then is this, that he
commands even the winds and the water,
and they obey him?”

POST COMMUNION

God our creator,
by your gift
the tree of life was set at the heart of the
earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of
your Church:
may we who have been nourished at your
table on earth
be transformed by the glory of the
Saviour's cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.