

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

In Luke's Gospel, today we find the disciples huddled together behind locked doors, terrified that the authorities will come after them, struggling to understand the events to which they have been witnesses. Then, from out of nowhere, Jesus stands among them bidding them peace. Jesus meets the disciples where they are. Then by inviting them to touch and see, and by eating some fish, he encourages them to move beyond where they are beyond their fear.

It is here that we are truly able to enter the story. Like the disciples then, we come with our doubts, confusion, fears and misunderstandings. We, through our worship encounter the risen Christ. In the reciting of the scriptures and the preached word we are offered explanation, proclaiming the good news of what God has done and is doing. We may eat with Christ, breaking the bread of the resurrection in the Eucharist. The Spirit brings enlightenment, opening our hearts and minds, setting our hearts on fire. Finally, the exit should be ours, for Christ has sent us out into the entire world to be witness to this amazing news.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

CYP Zoom drop-ins: Serious youth violence prevention with Operation Forgiveness

Tuesday 16 April, 1.30-2.30pm, Zoom, free. Join the CYP team and Jason O'Shea, Diocesan Delivery Officer for Serious Youth Violence Prevention, to find out more about Operation Forgiveness, an early intervention knife-crime initiative, delivered by local churches to local schools to help churches and students feel more positive about the change they can make. To book your place, go to bit.ly/42iGTnS

Meet 'Through the Roof' Tuesday 16 April, 7.30-8.30pm, Zoom, free. Through the Roof is a Christian disability charity that changes the lives of disabled people around the world and helps others to change lives too. Led by Jonathan Macy, Diocesan Disability Advisor, together with people from Through the Roof, this session will introduce the work of this important charity, followed by a chance to ask questions. To book email jonathan.macy@southwark.anglican.org

Invitation to London Citizens Mayoral Assembly 25th April. Time: 6pm, Westminster Croydon North Deanery is a member of Croydon Citizens/ London Citizens, and we have been working towards an assembly in advance of the London Mayoral Elections. Please join us and 2000 other Londoners to hold Sadiq Khan and Susan Hall to account, on the themes of: **safe and affordable housing, good work and wages, and justice for migrants.** You can get your ticket on Eventbrite. Please let Mother Joyce Forbes know who has signed up so we can keep track of our numbers.

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

Sharing God's grace and love in our community



14th April 2024

Vicar: Vacant

Priest (PTO): Revd. Mother Susan Wheeler-Kiley, TSSF, SCP

Reader (PTO): Mrs. Cicelyn Hinds,

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

8.00am BCP Mass (St. Mark)

10am Parish Mass (Both Parishes)

*Acts 3.12-19 * Psalm 4 * I John 3.1-7 * Luke 24.36b-48*

Today we welcome **Mother Barbara Gentilella** at Holy Innocents

Access online worship via

www.youtube.com/c/StMarksSouthNorwood

CHURCH NOTICES

Pastoral Care: for enquiries regarding baptism, confirmation, weddings, blessings, house blessings, renewal of marriage vows, thanksgiving for the birth of a child, to make your confession, or to request a home or hospital visit, please contact Mother Susan 07890 780572, fs.kiley@btinternet.com or Cicelyn Hinds 07484 677951. Please note that Mother Susan's day off is Friday.

The Benefice is now in vacancy. For Parish matters, please contact in the first instance, the respective church wardens, St Mark – Donald Ferguson (mr.dferguson@hotmail.com) Holy Innocents – Church.warden@holyinnocentschurch.co.uk

We pray: for Archbishops Justin and Stephen; for the Bishops in this diocese, Christopher, Rosemarie and Martin. **For** the Bishops, priests, deacons and people in our link Dioceses of Zimbabwe and *The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia*

St Stephen, South Lambeth Stephen Coulson (Priest in Church) and St Stephen's CofE (JM & I) School

For the sick – Joy, Abdul, Sharon, Marina, Richard, Alec, Malik, Simon, Caroline, Susan, Kay, Sacha, Mei, Abraham, Marlise and Amanda.

The recently departed and those whose Years Mind falls at this time

The April edition of **The Bridge**. Is at the back of both churches. Please pick up a copy.