

## Pastoral letter from Bishop Christopher:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

### Living in Love and Faith

The House of Bishops met and the national Church has now set out the next steps with regard to the Living in Love and Faith process.

- The prayers and readings in Prayers of Love and Faith for use with same-sex couples will be commended by the House of Bishops for use in public worship.
- Special standalone services set out in Prayers of Love and Faith should be brought to the General Synod to decide whether to authorise them under Canon B2, after consultation with dioceses.
- There is also further work under way to explore further forms of pastoral reassurance and formal structural pastoral provision to ensure the conscience of everyone is respected.

Be assured that, however you feel about the recommendations of the House of Bishops, whatever your theological perspectives or personal concerns, I am committed to each one of you, to respecting your conscience and honouring your convictions. In addition, I ask that we continue to speak well of each other as befits our incorporation into the Body of Christ.

Please also know that support is available, should you need someone to speak or pray with at this time. Bishop Rosemarie, Bishop Martin and I are all available to you, as are the Archdeacons.

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### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**5<sup>th</sup> November**, we celebrate **All Saints at 10am (in both Parishes)** and **All Souls at 6pm at St Mark**.

**12<sup>th</sup> November, Remembrance Sunday, Joint 10am Parish Mass at Holy Innocents** including the Act of Remembrance at the Memorial in the Garden - which honours members of St Mark's Boys Brigade who died in the Great War.

**19<sup>th</sup> November**, the deadline for submitting articles for the Winter edition of the St Mark Parish Magazine. Time to 'put pen to paper'.... we look forward to reading your beautiful stories.

**26<sup>th</sup> November, Christ the King** which brings us to the end of this Liturgical Year A.

**3<sup>rd</sup> December, Advent Sunday**, directly after the 10am Parish Mass at St Mark, the Christmas Fayre takes place in the Church Hall – please start to gather your donations towards this well-needed Fundraiser – please be reminded that we need help to set up beforehand and to pack away too.

**24<sup>th</sup> December**, we celebrate **Advent 4 at the 10am Mass** (both Parishes) and at **11pm it's Christmas Eve Joint Midnight Mass at St Mark**.

**31<sup>st</sup> December, 11pm, Watch Night Mass at Holy Innocents**, followed by drinks and nibbles in the Church – it will be Mother Roxanne's last day in the United Benefice – do come and have a Farewell drink.

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

Sharing God's grace and love in our community



**22<sup>nd</sup> October 2023**

**Vicar:** The Revd. Canon Roxanne F. Eversley  
**Priest (PTO):** Mother Susan Wheeler-Kiley  
**Reader (PTO):** Mrs. Cicelyn Hinds

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

**8.00am BCP Mass (St. Mark)**

**10.00am Parish Mass (Both Parishes)**

Isaiah 45.1-7 \* Psalm 96.1-9 \* 1Thessalonians 1.1-10 \* Matthew 22.15-22

Access online worship via

[www.youtube.com/c/StMarksSouthNorwood](http://www.youtube.com/c/StMarksSouthNorwood)

**Today, at Holy Innocents, we welcome Mother Barbara Gentilella as our President and Preacher.** *Mother Susan is at St Paul's Thornton Heath.*

### CHURCH NOTICES

**Pastoral Care:** Mother Roxanne is usually available on Tel. 020 8916 1830 or 07723 038215 or at [mtrroxanne@gmail.com](mailto:mtrroxanne@gmail.com) but N/A on Mondays. Mother Susan is contactable on 07890 780572; and she's not available on Fridays.

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**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 of The Anglican Church of Korea.

**For Holy Innocents and St Mark, South Norwood** Roxanne Eversley (Vicar); Susan Wheeler-Kiley (Permission To Officiate); Cicelyn Hinds (Reader) (Permission To Officiate); St Mark's School.

**For the sick** – Richard, Jennifer & Reuben, Rose, Caroline, Susan, Sigi, Marie-Gabrielle, Colin (Castle), Carmen, Marina, Linda, Fred, Peter, Kay, Simon, Alec, Naomi, Michael, Rudolph, Malik, Dionne (Gill).

**The bereaved** – the Appiah and Gaisey families, Mick and the Riches family, Kelvin and the Zebedee family, the Tulloch and Gregg families.

**The recently departed** – George Kojo Appiah, Pauline Riches, Cecil Tulloch and Dennis Gregg.

**Years Mind.**

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**Please be advised or reminded that next Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> October, at 2am, the clocks go back one hour. So, while you may want to enjoy the lie-in, not too much enjoyment – we look forward to seeing you at Church at the usual time of 10am.**