

Giving thanks for Bishop Karowei during Generosity Week when we reflected on how closely generosity sits to gratitude. Bishop Karowei's gratitude overflowed in generous words and actions. Counting our blessings seems to release a desire to share them. As King David prayed, with a kind of incredulous delight in God's grace, "Everything comes from you; all we're doing is giving back what we've been given from your generous hand!" (1 Chronicles 29.14, Message version). Echoing Bishop Karowei's example, can we invite you, just after you read this, to give yourself to a moment of thanksgiving?

Close your eyes to the glow of the screen, open your hands, and take a breath.

We give thanks for God's people, God's provision, and God's presence.

- Alongside Bishop Karowei, is there another person for whom you are especially grateful today?
- Is there one particular provision from God for which you are giving thanks this week?
- Wherever you are at this moment, God is present with you. Take a moment to enjoy God's company, as God enjoys yours.

"Trust in... the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy." (1 Timothy 6.17 (NKJV)) **Amen.**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

12th November, Remembrance Sunday, Joint 10am Parish Mass at Holy Innocents including the Act of Remembrance in the Garden at the Memorial, which honours members of St Mark's Church Lads Brigade who died during the Great War.

From 16th November and every Thursday until 21st December – First Communion Classes culminating in the Reception to Communion before Confirmation for candidates, on Advent 4, Sunday 24th December during the 10am Parish Mass.

19th 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.

26th November, Christ the King which brings us to the end of this Liturgical Year A.

3rd 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.

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

31st 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 celebrate with a Farewell drink.

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

Sharing God's grace and love in our community



29th October 2023

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

BIBLE SUNDAY and TRINITY 21

8.00am BCP Mass (St. Mark)

10.00am Parish Mass (Both Parishes)

*Nehemiah 8.1-12 * Psalm 119.9-16 * Colossians 3.12-17 * Matthew 24.30-35*

Access online worship via

www.youtube.com/c/StMarksSouthNorwood

Today, at Holy Innocents, we welcome as our Preacher, Father Reginald Grant (Self Supporting Priest at Reigate, St. Mark).

CHURCH NOTICES

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

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 of Melanesia.*

For the Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation Team Natalie Walters (Head of JPIC); Nelly Misenga (Together Southwark); Jonathan Macy (Diocesan Disability Adviser); Jack Edwards (Diocesan Environment Officer); Joanna Cox (Chair of SAGE); Chris Elliott (Modern Day Slavery Adviser); Jason O'Shea (Serious Youth Violence Engagement Officer); Magdalena Staron (Mission Support Administrator)

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 recently departed – George Kojo Appiah, Pauline Riches. **Years Mind.**

Once again, we'll be providing **sandwiches for Night Watch**, on **Friday nights from Nov 3rd to Dec 29th.** We need **3 people per week**, to provide sandwiches from **4 loaves of bread**, each so we get **12 loaves of sandwiches** – please contact Mother Roxanne if you're willing to help.