

Wind Chamber Concert next Sunday 23 February at 7.30pm

This concert, arranged by James Mainwaring, will offer an interesting and varied evening of wind chamber music performed by professional musicians who have played in the London Philharmonic, BBC Concert, BBC Welsh and BBC Philharmonic Orchestras and in the West End. Tickets, £10 (£8 concessions), are available in church from James or from Jane at jane@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk or on 434686.

Notice Sheet

Please send notices for inclusion in this weekly sheet by 7pm Wednesday to deirdre.parr@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk or ring Deirdre on 456184.

St Mark's extends a warm welcome to newcomers.
 If you are new here, please complete and detach this slip and give it to a warden or a sidesperson.

Name

Address

Tel.No.

Email address (if applicable)

How to contact us

While a few telephone numbers of church members may be included in this web version of the notice sheet, most contact details for events are published only in the hard copy, available in church. If you have no access to this, please contact Deirdre Parr, one of the churchwardens, on 01462 456184 or e-mail deirdre.parr@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk

St Mark's Church



A member of Churches Together in Hitchin

**16th February 2014
Education Sunday**

Readings for today

Deuteronomy 30:15-21

1 Corinthians 3:1-12

Matthew 5:13-20



: to be read in church

Services today

8.00am	Holy Communion (p29 in folder)
10.00am	Family Service
11.15am	Holy Communion (p29 in folder)

For Prayer

We pray for all who are beginning school holidays: teachers, children of all ages, parents, grandparents, friends and neighbours. We ask, Lord, that you keep them safe and relaxed so that they may return refreshed. Amen

PLEASE TAKE THESE NOTICES HOME WITH YOU

If you wish to receive this notice sheet via email in future, please send an email to deirdre.parr@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk

website: www.stmarks-hitchin.org.uk



Hymns for 10.00am

50 JP	Give me oil in my lamp
139 JP	Jesus' love is very wonderful
13 SF	Beauty for brokenness
6 SF	Lord for the years
24 SF	We are marching in the light of God

Diary for the week

Wed 19 Feb	9.15am	Morning Prayer
	7.00pm	Choir practice
Fri 21 Feb	9.30am	Little Lions

Next Sunday, 23 February – Second Sunday before Lent

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Holy Communion
12.30pm	Baptism Service
7.30pm	Wind Chamber Concert

Notices

Hitchin Foodbank

During the 3 month period of October to December the Hitchin foodbank provided 2709 meals. Clearly this is answering a real need in our town. (See notice board for full statistics.) We shall be making our monthly collection for the foodbank next Sunday, 23 February. If you wish to contribute, the following would be welcome: tins of meat/fish/fruit/tomatoes/rice or sponge pudding; instant mash; pasta; rice; biscuits/snack bars or, indeed, anything on the 'shopping list' on the noticeboard in church.

Thursday Group

Thank you to everyone who supported our evening talk on hedgehog preservation. We were able to donate £50 to support this important conservation programme.
Val Conetta.

Recycling toner cartridges and stamps

Thank you to everyone who has recycled toner cartridges and stamps for Garden House Hospice. This generates much-needed money for our local charity. Collection boxes can be found at the back of church.
Ann Wakefield

Confirmation

Confirmation is a point in a person's faith journey when they publicly declare, with others, that they wish to try to follow the Christian faith. The service itself is conducted by a bishop who, during the service, prays for the Holy Spirit to come upon each person being confirmed. If you are new to the Christian faith, or if you want to explore it further with the possible outcome being that you choose to be confirmed, then why not join one of our confirmation groups? We are running two groups across the Team in the lead-up to the Confirmation Service on 30 June. For adults, there is a group which will meet on Tuesday evenings, run by Jane Mainwaring and Ian Todd, meeting at Ian's Vicarage (The Vicarage, St Anne's Road, Hitchin). This group will start on 11 March. For young people, there will be a group meeting at St Mary's church on Friday evenings at 5.30pm, run by Michael Roden. This group will start on 21 March. If you would like any more details or would like to come along and join in, then please talk to Jane. By joining one of the groups you are not committing yourself to being confirmed. If you would like to explore confirmation but will be unable to make the groups then, please, still talk to Jane.

Churchwardens

At our Annual General Meeting on 23 March, we will need to elect people to various roles in our church life including, this year, that of churchwarden as Deirdre Parr is standing down from this role after 5 years. We cannot operate as a church without wardens, so please give some thought as to whether this is something you might consider taking on or, if there is someone who you think would be very good in the role, why not ask them to consider it? If you would like more details on what is involved, do chat to Jane, Deirdre or Sandra.

DIY Group – still room for more volunteers!

We have been delighted that 4 people so far have offered to join this group whose purpose is to help with small DIY jobs as and when the need arises. It would be lovely to have a few more people to add to the list. The group will not have meetings, its members simply being contacted via a group email sent out by the wardens when help is needed. If a person were able and willing to help on that occasion, they could respond and agree to carry out the repair etc. If you would be willing to be part of this DIY group, please let Deirdre know.

deirdre.parr@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk

Three dates for your diary in March:

St Mark's cake stall in the Market Place on Saturday, 22 March

We shall be having another bumper cake stall on 22 March from 8.30am until we sell out. We would welcome contributions of cakes or, if you're not a cake-maker, money to buy ingredients. More information to follow.
Judy Page 432514

Ash Wednesday lunch

The usual Churches Together in Hitchin Ash Wednesday lunch will be on 5 March, 12.30pm, and, for the first time, it will be at Wymondley Baptist Church in the centre of Little Wymondley in Stevenage Road, postcode SG4 7JA. A modest lunch, good fellowship and a Traidcraft stall - all are welcome. Please note that there is very limited car parking at the Church – a few spaces for Blue Badge holders – and visitors will need to park on Stevenage Road or nearby streets, all of which are fairly narrow. Alternatively, the 80 bus service from Hitchin to Stevenage goes through the village. See the church website for a map and further contact details - <http://www.wymondleybaptist.org.uk> or contact Helen Richardson on 01462 435595 to know more.

Women's World Day of Prayer is on Friday 7 March 1.45pm at St Mary's Church, Hitchin. This year the service has been written by women in Egypt and our speaker is from The Coptic Orthodox Church. This service is for men as well as women - ALL welcome! Refreshments follow.

Two retreat opportunities:

Parish Awayday at Edgware Abbey: Saturday 1 March

The day will be led by Revd Adrian Hinkman and will run from 10.30 to 3.30. The cost is £5 with a 'bring and share' lunch. Transport will be car-sharing.

Parish Retreat at Pleshey, Friday 14 - Sunday 16 November

The retreat, led by Canon Iain Lane, will start at 7pm on the Friday with supper and finish after lunch on the Sunday. The cost will be £150 per person with a £50 deposit required to secure a place. Cheques should be made payable to Hitchin PCC.

If you would like to go to either the awayday or the weekend retreat, please contact either Joan Worboys on 434179, joanworboys@tiscali.co.uk or Michael Taylor on 459611, michael.taylor860@talktalk.net by Sunday 23 February.

Stall Organisers and helpers needed for St Mark's Summer Fayre

This year, our Summer Fayre will be held in the Market Place on 19 July, 10am - 3pm. Although this seems a long way off, the planning needs to happen well in advance and Linda Sandy would love to hear from any individuals or groups willing to help organise and run a stall **by Sunday, 9 March**. Some suggested stalls: Chocolate and Cuddly Toy Tombola; Bottle and General Tombola; Good quality Bric-a-Brac and Toys; Plants; Gifts and Crafts; Games and Face Painting. Ideas for other stalls also welcome.