

### Save Hitchin, Save HTFC, Save the Green Belt

A protest march around the town to oppose plans to build a supermarket on Top Field and move Hitchin Town Football Club out of town to St Ippolyts will take place on Saturday 6 December starting at 12.30pm from Butts Close. There will also be free entry to HTFC's match that afternoon, kick off 3pm. Please support your town if you can by attending either or both events and show those responsible that we do not need another supermarket, which would adversely affect the town's existing shops and businesses well as HTFC and the green belt on which the new stadium is to be built. For further information, please see the notices on the church notice boards or contact Rupert Russell.

**Please send notices for inclusion in this weekly sheet by 7pm Wed to [deirdre.parr@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk](mailto: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 .....

# St Mark's Church



A member of Churches Together in Hitchin

23rd November 2014

## Christ the King Readings for today

Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 25:31-46

## Services today

8.00am	Holy Communion (p29 in folder)
10.00am	Holy Communion (p15 in folder)

**Please remember in your prayers those named in our Prayer Request book and on the Prayer Tree in church.**

### Churches Together in Hitchin Prayer Link:

PHASE ask for our prayers in support of Paul and the team as they begin the Year 6 workshops, 'Christmas Unwrapped', helping students understand the real message of Christmas.

### PLEASE TAKE THESE NOTICES HOME WITH YOU

If you would like to receive this notice sheet via email in future, please email [deirdre.parr@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk](mailto:deirdre.parr@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk)

website: [www.stmarks-hitchin.org.uk](http://www.stmarks-hitchin.org.uk)



### Hymns for 10.00am

147 AMNS	Crown him with many crowns
512 AMNS	The kingdom is upon you
651 MP	The kingdom of God is justice and joy
256 AMNS	Let all mortal flesh keep silence
388 AMNS	Lord Christ, who on thy heart didst bear

### Diary for the week

Mon 24	8.00pm	Fabric Committee meets at the Vicarage
Tues 25	8.00pm	Communications Group meets
Wed 26	9.15am 7.00pm	Morning Prayer Choir Practice
Thur 27	8.00pm	District Church Council meets
Fri 28	12.30pm	Church Lunch

### Next Sunday, 30 November – Advent Sunday

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Holy Communion

### Notices

#### Foodbank collection next Sunday

If you are planning to contribute to our monthly collection, the following items would be welcomed: milk (UHT or powdered); UHT fruit juice; tinned sponge puddings; toiletries for men and women. Thank you for your continued support.

#### Church cleaners needed

The wardens would be delighted to hear from anyone who feels they could join the cleaning team. Cleaners work in pairs doing a couple of hours cleaning just 3 times a year. For more information or to offer help, please speak to Louise or Sandra.

### Still lots of lists to sign!

At the back of church today there are several lists that need your attention. They are as follows:

#### Church Lunch – Friday, 28 November at 12.30pm

Please sign up if you'd like to join us.

#### Children and Young People's Nativity – 21 December at 10.00am

Please sign if your children or young people would like to take part.

#### Travelling Crib

If you would like to offer our travelling crib a home this Advent, please sign up next to a date that is convenient for you. Please remember that you will need to be available to receive on one date and pass onto the next household 2 days later. If you'd like to know more about what is involved, please speak to Jane.

#### St Mark's Church Directory

A draft version of the directory is available for final checking at the back of church today. If you haven't yet submitted your details and/or would like your photo added, today is your last chance to do both. To avoid waste, we shall only print copies of the directory for those who have requested one so, if you would like a copy, please sign up today in church, email [deirdre.parr@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk](mailto:deirdre.parr@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk) or ring Deirdre on 01462 456184.

#### 'Thank you'

Thank you to the team of people who braved the elements last Sunday afternoon to clear all the leaves and debris from the hoppers and drains around the church. As a group, we explored many manholes and areas of the roof and church surrounds, sometimes involving whole arms being surrounded by mucky water, and then the rain came to prove to us that all the drains were running freely! Thank you to everyone who, with such good humour, gave up some of their Sunday afternoon in answer to our emergency appeal.

*Jane*

### **Services at St Mark's in December and Christmas Services**

Instead of our usual Family Service on the third Sunday of the month (21 December), we shall be having a Family Communion and in place of the talk/sermon the Sunday School will be presenting their Nativity Play.

Please note there will be no Morning Prayer on 24 December.

#### **Sunday 21 December**

10.00am Family Communion and Sunday School Nativity Play  
6.30pm Candlelit Service of Lessons and Carols

#### **Christmas Eve**

4.00pm Family Crib Service  
11.30pm Candlelit Midnight Communion Service

#### **Christmas Day**

8.00am Holy Communion (said)  
10.00am Christmas Family Communion

### **Preparing for Christmas – *Connections for Life***

The St Albans Diocesan Advent Challenge, *Connections for Life*, begins next Sunday. It offers “a daily opportunity to think prayerfully about your relationship with the world, with other people and with God – and to allow that reflection to shape your life and actions.”

Sign up at [www.livethechallenge.co.uk](http://www.livethechallenge.co.uk) to receive a brief email: a bible verse, a short reflection, an image and a challenge for each day or get texts to your phone, or follow [@live\\_challenge](https://twitter.com/live_challenge)

If you do not have access to the internet but would like to take part in the challenge, please sign the list at the back of church today and a weekly sheet containing the verses and reflections can be downloaded and printed for you.

### **PHASE news**

#### **Prayer Guide for November/December**

To find out what PHASE (Hitchin Churches' Schools Worker Trust) is doing in the last 4 weeks of the school term and what they would particularly welcome your prayers for, do take a Prayer Guide from the mission table.

#### **Christmas cards**

This year, PHASE is producing its own Christmas cards using the artwork of students from the Priory School. The cards will be sold in packs of 6 at £2 per pack and will be on sale from 1 December. They can be pre-ordered now by signing the list at the back of church or contacting PHASE: [office@phase-hitchin.org](mailto:office@phase-hitchin.org) or 01462 422940

#### **Parish Awayday: Saturday, 31 January 2015, 10.00am to 4.00pm**

The awayday will take place at the Focolare Centre, Parkway, Welwyn Garden City and will be led by Canon Iain Lane. The cost for the day is £12, payable on booking. Please contact either Michael Taylor or Joan Worboys if you would like to attend.

#### **Help needed by Lister Hospital Chaplaincy**

The chaplaincy team at the Lister hospital is in need of volunteers to help get patients to the chapel on a Sunday morning. Volunteers would need to be able to offer their services once a month and the time commitment would be 9.00am-12noon. If this is something you feel able to help with, please contact Revd Melanie Crowley [melanie.crowley@btinternet.com](mailto:melanie.crowley@btinternet.com)