

## December and Christmas Services at St Mark's

### Sunday 21 December

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

### Christmas Eve

Please note there will be no service of Morning Prayer

4.00pm Family Crib Service  
11.30pm Candlelit Midnight Communion Service

### Christmas Day

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

### Sunday 28 December

Please note there will be no service at 8.00am

10.00am Holy Communion

### Notice sheet in December

If there are events you need to advertise early in the New Year, please bear in mind that there will be no notice sheet on 28 December. If you would like an item included in the news sheet for 14 or 21 December, please send your notice by 7pm on the preceding Wednesday 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, do introduce yourself to Jane, our Vicar, who will be at the back of the church at the end of the service.

# St Mark's Church



A member of Churches Together in Hitchin

7<sup>th</sup> December 2014

Second Sunday of Advent

### Services and events today

8.00am	Holy Communion (p75 in folder)
10.00am	Holy Communion (p75 in folder)
6.00pm	North Herts All Girls Choir Concert
8pm onwards	Sunday Social at The Angels

### For prayer:

At this Advent time we pray: O Lord Christ, come again to reign over your people and enlighten all nations. Have mercy on all who look to you and hasten that day when your justice and love will be revealed for the good of all creation.

### Churches Together in Hitchin Prayer Link:

We pray with Our Lady's Roman Catholic Church for all those sharing in their time of Healing and Wholeness this weekend and with Christchurch who will be holding another Prayer Station next Saturday; we ask that passers-by may be drawn to this ministry.

### 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)



### Readings for today

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28

### Hymns for 10.00am

142 AMNS	Hail to the Lord's Anointed
431 AMNS	We have a gospel to proclaim
99 AMNS	O God, our help in ages past
28 AMNS	Lo, he comes with clouds descending
484 AMNS	Long ago, prophets knew

### Diary for the week beginning Monday 8 December

Mon 8	7.30pm	Fellowship Group meets at 16 Whitehurst Ave
Tues 9	9.45am 10.35am 1.30pm 2.15pm	York Road Nursery visiting the church at these times
Wed 10	9.15am 10.00am 7.00pm	Morning Prayer York Road Nursery visiting the church Choir Practice
Thur 11	2.30pm 6.30pm 7.45pm	Carol service at Westmill Lawns Group with No Name 2 Confused

### Next Sunday, 14 December – Third Sunday of Advent

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Holy Communion
1.30pm	Baptism Service
4.00pm	Carols in the Market Place

### St Mark's Church Directory

If you have ordered a copy of the directory, please pick up your named copy from the back of church today.

### PHASE Christmas cards

Please see Andrew or Deirdre after the service today to collect (and pay for!) your pre-ordered cards. If you haven't ordered cards but would like some, there are a few packs (£2 for a pack of 6) available to buy in church today.

### Fellowship Group on Mon, 8 December: see 'Diary for the week'

New people are always welcome at any of the groups. If you would like more information about the group meeting this week, contact Helen Richardson (435595 or [helenwrich@btinternet.com](mailto:helenwrich@btinternet.com)).

### Recycling printer cartridges and stamps for Garden House Hospice

Thank you everyone who has already recycled cartridges and stamps. This generates much-needed funds for our local hospice. Please carry on recycling! Boxes for both stamps and cartridges can be found at the back of church.

*Ann Wakefield*

### Final run-through of Nativity Play, readings and prayers for Sunday, 21 December

All members of our children's and young people's groups who are taking part in the Nativity Play, or are reading or leading prayers in the service on 21<sup>st</sup> are asked to come to a final rehearsal in church, followed by drinks and biscuits, on **Friday, 19 December at 2.30pm**.

### Welcomers needed for Christmas Services

As we open our doors wide to our community during our Christmas celebrations we need people to help with welcoming all who come. The following services need welcomers: Carol Service at 6.30pm on 21 December, Crib Service at 4pm on Christmas Eve, Midnight Service at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve, Family Communion at 10am on Christmas Day. If you are able to help with welcoming at any of these services, please sign up on the sheet at the back of church. Many thanks.

*Jane*

## **Two Christmas Appeals:**

### **1 Christmas hampers for the North Herts Sanctuary**

Donations of Christmas goodies would be gratefully received, particularly: tins of fruit, mince pies, Christmas cakes, sweets, chocolates, fancy biscuits, Christmas puddings, crackers, crisps, peanuts, nibbles and fizzy drinks such as Coke or Pepsi but, **please no alcohol of any description!**

### **2 Christchurch's 'Somewhere to go' initiative**

Gifts for the homeless people (mainly men) who will be visiting *Somewhere to go* at Christchurch. Donations of toiletry items such as flannels, disposable razors, deodorants, shampoo, shower cream, toothbrushes and toothpaste would be welcome. **Please, no food, sweets or drink.** Please wrap your gifts and label them, adding: 'A gift from your friends at St Mark's Church.'

Please place your donations to these appeals in the appropriate box at the back of church. Many thanks. ***The Pastoral Group***