

### St Mark's Lent Appeal 2015 – GADRA (see Mission notice board)

This year, our Lent Appeal is in aid of the Grahamstown Area Distress Relief Association (GADRA) which carries out community and educational work in this city in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. For over 50 years, GADRA has served the poor in the community. It continues to do so in practical ways - empowering people with disabilities, ensuring food security, supporting small businesses - and now includes the provision of scholarships for education that can break the cycle of poverty. Full details are on the GADRA websites:

<http://www.gadra.co.za/> and <http://www.gadraeducation.co.za/> and also from Finn McQuaid, a member of our congregation (thanks to Jeni, our curate!) who was born and educated in Grahamstown and whose parents still live there. Gift envelopes are available and you are invited to use these to make contributions - cash and cheques (payable to St Mark's Parish Church) are welcome and the envelopes can be placed in the offertory bags or given to Jane, a churchwarden or Helen and John Richardson. If you are able to gift aid your contribution, that would be great. Thanks as ever for your generous support.

***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 456184***

#### **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 on 01462 456184 or e-mail [deirdre.parr@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk](mailto:deirdre.parr@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk)*

# St Mark's Church



**A member of Churches Together in Hitchin**

**29 March 2015**

**Palm Sunday**

#### **Services and events today**

8.00am	Holy Communion (p59 in folder)
9.40am	Palm Sunday procession
10.00am	Holy Communion (p59 in folder)

#### **Readings for today**

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Philippians 2: 5-11
Mark 11:1-11

#### **St Mark's extends a warm welcome to newcomers**

If you are new here, do introduce yourself to Jane, our Vicar, or Jeni, our Curate, who will be at the back of the church at the end of the service.

#### **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

AMNS 60	All glory, laud, and honour
AMNS 22	This is the day the Lord hath made
AMNS 63	My song is love unknown
SF 26	Lord, I lift your name on high
AMNS 263	Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour

### Diary for the week beginning Monday 30 March

Mon 30	2.30pm 8.00pm	Prayer Group meets at 231 Bedford Road Compline
Tue 31	8.00pm	Compline
Wed 1 April	9.15am 7.00pm 8.00pm	Morning Prayer Choir Practice Compline
Thur 2 Maundy Thursday	10.00am 8.00pm	Communion at Westmill Lawns Iona-style Communion
Fri 3 Good Friday	9.30am 10.00am 10.30am 2.30pm	Service of Prayer and Reflection Leave from St Mark's to join CTH Walk of Witness Gather in Bancroft Gardens for Walk of Witness followed by service in the Market Place Good Friday Family Workshop (see notice sheet for details)
Sat 4	9.00pm	Joint Easter Vigil with St Faith's at St Mark's

### Next Sunday, 5 April – Easter Sunday

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Holy Communion

### Suggestions for prayer

#### From our Cycle of Prayer:

Anglican mission agencies: *CMS* (Church Mission Society) and *Us*  
Children and vulnerable adults who suffer from abuse  
Lancaster Avenue, St Mark's Close

#### From Churches Together in Hitchin Prayer Link:

We pray for the Churches Together in Hitchin Good Friday Walk of  
Witness and United Service in the Market Place and ask that we may  
share the Gospel of salvation through Christ with our town.

### Notices

#### Good Friday Workshop 3 April, 2.30-4.30pm

This is an afternoon aimed at helping all the family encounter the  
Easter Story. We begin with an hour of craft activities linked to the  
events of Holy Week and Easter and follow this by a short and very  
informal service, finishing with hot cross buns and drinks. It is an  
event where the whole family can join in and everyone is welcome.  
We simply ask for a £2 donation per child to help cover the cost of  
the craft activities.

#### Resources needed for the Good Friday Workshop

We are in need of big-eyed needles (ideally plastic), small jam jars,  
yogurt pots, and the cardboard tube from toilet rolls or kitchen  
towels. Items can be left at the back of church or given to Jane.

#### Funeral of Norma Cashin

Norma's funeral will take place in St Mark's on Thursday, 9 April at  
2.30pm. Her family would be delighted to see as many of our  
congregation there as possible to give thanks for her life and to  
support all those who miss her. After the church service, while the  
family go to the crematorium for a brief committal service, all her  
friends are invited to move into the hall for tea/coffee and a bite to  
eat as the family's guests. If you can also be ready to welcome those  
unfamiliar to St Mark's this would be much appreciated.

### **Keeping St Mark's clean, tidy and shipshape!**

A big 'thank you' to everyone who mucks in and helps clean, garden, mend and tidy things in St Mark's. Keeping us in good order needs to be a joint effort as we have no paid caretaker, cleaner, gardener or maintenance person. So thank you for all that goes on and if you see things that need doing e.g. children's corner tidying after a Sunday morning, table clearing away, bin emptying etc, please don't be shy of mucking in! **If you are being helpful by disposing of the used paper towels from the toilets, please make sure these go in the purple bin in the Vicarage drive** as, unfortunately, they can no longer be recycled in the brown bin or the blue box. Thank you.

### **St Mark's Away Morning: Saturday 25 April 9.30am-12noon**

If you haven't already signed up for our away-morning at Walsworth Road Baptist Church, don't forget to do so! Crèche facilities and lifts are available. If you'd like to join us for lunch at The Angels afterwards, you'll find menus and food prices at [www.mcmullens.co.uk/angels](http://www.mcmullens.co.uk/angels) **Please let us know by next Sunday, 5 April if you intend to come, particularly if you plan to join us for lunch.** There is a list at the back of church to sign or email Jane at [jane@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk](mailto:jane@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk)

### **Electoral Roll**

The Electoral Roll is our church membership list. We encourage everybody who considers themselves a member of our church family to be on the electoral roll. Being on the roll doesn't commit you to anything; it is just a way of saying that you are part of our church family. If you would like to be on the electoral roll, please pick up a form from the back of church or talk to Jane. **Please return your form by next Sunday, 5 April.**

### **5<sup>th</sup> Hitchin Scout Group Needs You!**

Do you have a few hours a week and could you help manage the running of St Mark's Scout Group? If so, we'd love to have a chat! Our Group Scout Leader (GSL) will shortly be standing down and we urgently need to find a replacement for this vital role. The GSL does not run activities for our young people, but is welcome to come and lend a hand, of course. Instead, the GSL looks after the behind-the-scenes running of 5<sup>th</sup> Hitchin, liaising with the other groups in the town and ensuring that the group is well run and resourced. Feel free to come and have a chat with one of the leaders after church if you think that this role may suit you and we can talk about what it entails in more detail.

*Joanne Hughes, Mark Lally, Rachel Drury, Sandra Stokes and Peter Watson*

### **General Election meeting**

Churches Together in Hitchin is organising a meeting for General Election candidates on Wednesday 22 April, 7.30pm at Christchurch. This will be an opportunity to hear their policies and their answers to questions put by church members. There will be more details nearer the time but if you are interested in asking a question, please contact John Richardson on 01462 435595 or [johnrichardson891@btinternet.com](mailto:johnrichardson891@btinternet.com)

### **Quiz Night for Christian Aid**

This takes place on Saturday 9 May, 7.30pm at Christchurch, Bedford Road. Teams of 6 or 8 are invited to uphold St Mark's quite respectable record at these events, so seek out brainy friends, form a team and think of a wacky name. Tickets are £10 each which includes food (fish/sausage and chips or vegetarian option) or £4 without any food. More details from Michael Orton.