

Children's and Young People's Groups

As of this term, I have handed over the organisation of the Sunday morning groups. As we have grown so much over the past few years, we now have a team leader for each group:

Crèche (0- approximately pre-school): Maggie Mellersh

Sunday School (pre-school-Year2): Pippa Lally

Pathfinders (Years 3-6): Mark Lally

Travellers (Year 7 upwards): Spencer Polley

Children's and young people's choir: Naomi Morris and Pam Davies continue to run this

Thank you to everyone who is part of these teams. Rotas will be emailed out and put on the noticeboard very soon. If you feel the call to volunteer, please talk to the leader for whichever age group you prefer or to Jane or Jeni.

My 'thank you' gifts are lovely – thank you!

Marie Polley

Macmillan Coffee Morning

After the success of last year's Macmillan coffee morning we are hosting it again this year here at St Mark's on **Friday 25 September from 9.30am** finishing at 12 noon in time for the monthly church lunch. Donations of cakes and raffle prizes would be much appreciated. For further information contact Joy Hukin.

Phoenix Cards

Phoenix Cards are at the back of church today, 20 September. The church receives 10% of the value of all orders. Please feel free to take a catalogue and return it, with or without an order, either to Jane or Deena by next Sunday, 27 September. Any orders placed should be available for collection in church on 4 October.

Receiving the news sheet by email or submitting notices

If you would like either to receive this news sheet via email in future or would like to have a notice included in the next news sheet, please email deirdre.parr@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk or ring 456184.

Please send notices for inclusion in the news sheet by 7pm on Wednesday evening.

St Mark's Church



A member of Churches Together in Hitchin

20 September 2015

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

Services today

8.00am	Holy Communion (p29 in folder)
10.00am	Family Service (p5 in folder)
11.15am	Holy Communion (p29 in folder)

Readings for today

Jeremiah 11:18-20a
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

St Mark's extends a warm welcome to newcomers

If you are new here, do introduce yourself to 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

www.stmarks-hitchin.org.uk



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Hymns for 10.00am

JP 91	Lord of the Dance
JP 106	I'm special because God has loved me
JP 139	Jesus' love is very wonderful
SF 25	How deep the Father's love for us
SF 24	Marching in the light of God

Diary for the week beginning Monday 21 September

Tue 22	8.00pm	Parochial Church Council meets at St Mary's
Wed 23	9.15am 7.00pm	Morning Prayer Choir practice
Thur 24	6.30pm 7.45pm	Group With No Name 2Confused
Fri 25	9.30am-noon 12 noon	Macmillan Coffee Morning in the hall Church Lunch
Sat 26	9.45am	Exploring Christianity Group meets in the hall

Hall bookings – Thursday 24 to Saturday 26 September

Thur 24	9.15-11.30am 4.00-5.00pm 6.30 -9.00pm	Monkey Club Dance Group GWNN and 2Confused
Fri 25	9.00-noon Noon-3.00pm 7.15-9.00pm	Macmillan Coffee Morning Church Lunch Exercise class
Sat 26	8.30-11.15 2.00-5.00pm	Youth Forum & Exploring Christianity Party booking

Next Sunday, 27 September – Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Holy Communion

Suggestions for prayer

From our Cycle of Prayer:

Churches Together in Hitchin
People living with mental health issues and learning difficulties
Old Hale Way, Brampton Park Road, Balmoral Road

From the Churches Together in Hitchin Prayer Link:

We pray for **Tilehouse Street Baptist Church** today as Rev John Matthews, their long-standing minister and supporter of Churches Together in Hitchin, will be conducting his last service before retiring. We pray for him and his wife, Gill, in retirement and for Tilehouse Street Church as they look to the future.

Our Lady's Roman Catholic Church ask for prayer for their parents and children engaging in the various Sacraments of Initiation over the coming year and for the gift of the Spirit to guide and support them.

Notices

Exploring Christianity with Coffee and Croissants

Having had a break for the summer term, we are re-starting our Saturday morning group looking at some of the basics of the Christian faith next Saturday, 26 Sept. Anyone is welcome to join us, even if you've not been before. We meet in the hall from 9.45am with coffee and croissants and aim to start our discussions at 10.00am, finishing at approximately 11.00am. The dates we're meeting this term are 26 Sept, 10 and 24 Oct, 7 and 21 Nov and 5 Dec. If you'd like more information, do contact Jane on 01462 434686 or jane@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk)

New volunteers to join church cleaning rota still urgently needed!

Every week, between Thursday afternoon and Saturday evening, 2 people from a team of volunteers clean the church at a time convenient to them. If you could offer a couple of hours every 8 or 9 weeks to do this vital job, the Wardens would love to hear from you. You won't have to vacuum the carpet – Roy Dixon does that every week! If you can help or would like more information, please speak to Tricia or email tricia.reed@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk

Help for the Refugees

1 Food Parcels for Calais

Thank you everyone who kindly donated in response to the appeal last week. During our services this morning your donations will be on their way to Dover.

2 Collection organised by Farley's Hairdressers at the Priory School on Sunday 4 October, 9am-1pm

Items requested are: shoes/trainers, wellies, socks, hoodies, waterproof jackets, trousers, jeans, shirts, t-shirts, underwear, hats, gloves, scarves, sleeping bags, tents, blankets, canvas sheets, toiletry bags (with toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, tissues), wide tooth comb, tinned food, rice, cooking oil, onions, garlic, ginger, tomato sauce, spices, sugar, flour.

3 Save the Children Fund

If you would like to contribute financially, a charity to consider is Save the Children, which has a designated refugee children's fund (state that this is the fund you wish to contribute to).

Please continue to pray for all who are fleeing from their homelands.

Harvest Festival: 4 October

As in previous years, our Harvest offerings will be split between the North Herts Sanctuary (dried goods - see below for details) and individuals in our community (fresh produce and flowers). The cash collection at the 10.00am service on 4 October will go to the Bishop's Harvest Appeal, 'Building Hope – opportunity for all', (details to follow next week). If you know of any individuals in our community who are facing a particularly challenging time and might welcome a harvest gift from St Mark's, do let Jane know.

Harvest gifts for North Herts Sanctuary

The Sanctuary is a hostel for the homeless in Grove Road that provides beds, meals and help for addictions. They would be particularly grateful for the following, please: jams, sugar, coffee, biscuits, crisps and any snacks, tins of tuna and salmon. Anything else would be good but **no pasta, thank you** as they have plenty.

Monthly Foodbank collection

We are very aware that this notice sheet already contains requests for food donations but also aware that a number of you like to contribute regularly to the Foodbank, so the donations box will be out as usual on the last Sunday of the month, 27 September. If you feel able to contribute to this, they are in urgent need of the following: instant potato; UHT fruit juice; jam; tinned veg; tinned tomatoes; long-life milk; granulated sugar 500g/1kg; sponge puddings; rice; coffee 250g. Supplies of men's deodorant and strong carrier bags are low and supplies of dried milk are very low. Thank you for your continued support for this service.

Thursday Group meeting: 1 Oct, 7.45 for 8pm in the church hall

By popular request, a return of Sheila Parker with a talk entitled 'The Beatle Next Door'. Sheila's previous visits have been highly entertaining and her stories of life in the theatre and television world are presented informally from her own experiences. All welcome – bring along partners, husbands, friends for a trip down Memory Lane. Visitors £3 (includes refreshments). For further information contact Val Conetta.

Pen Recycling Scheme

Thank you to all who have continued to put their used pens into the small cardboard box at the back of the church. We shall soon have another full box to send off to the organisation which can arrange for them to be re-filled. The proceeds of our collection will go towards financial support for North Herts Sanctuary for the homeless. If any of you new to St Mark's would like to know more about the scheme, I am very willing to give you further information. **Alison Smith**

An invitation from the residents of Westbourne Care Home

The residents and staff will be baking cakes in readiness for their **Macmillan Coffee morning on Wed, 30 Sept from 10am**. They have deliberately chosen to avoid the set date to enable you to attend your regular coffee morning and try out theirs! **Tricia Reed**