

New Internationalist

The April edition is now available to borrow, courtesy of Austin Smith, from the mission table. See, in particular, 'Last Stand – Saving the world's forests' which addresses the destruction of the world's last ancient forests, the ensuing impact on the communities whose lives and culture are rooted there and the part that we in the western world play in this ecological disaster.

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 Wed evening.

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 email deirdre.parr@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk

St Mark's Church



A member of Churches Together in Hitchin

5 June 2016

Second Sunday after Trinity

Services and events today

8.00am	Holy Communion (p29 in folder)
10.00am	Holy Communion (p15 in folder)
5.00pm	Confirmation Groups meet at St Mary's
6.30pm	SIX:30 Service
8.00pm	Sunday Social at the Angels

Readings for today

1 Kings 17: 17-24
Galatians 1: 11-24
Luke 7: 11-17

St Mark's extends a warm welcome to newcomers

If you are new here, do introduce yourself to Jeni, our Curate. Please also feel free to take and fill in one of the newcomers' cards which you'll find on the Welcomers' table near the entrance to the hall.

PLEASE TAKE THESE NOTICES HOME WITH YOU

www.stmarks-hitchin.org.uk



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Hymns for 10.00am

MP 33	And can it be that I should gain
AMNS 431	We have a gospel to proclaim
AMNS 170	The Church's one foundation
SF 9	Brother, sister, let me serve you
SF 12	Will you come and follow me?

Diary for the week beginning Monday 6 June

Wed 8	9.15am	Morning Prayer
	7.00pm	Choir Practice
	8.00pm	Deanery Synod at Holwell Church
Fri 10	2.00pm	Funeral in church of the late Diane Sheppard
Sat 11	Lancaster Ave/Rd closure for street party. Access to St Mark's via Bedford Rd/Lancaster Avenue	

Hall bookings – Thursday 9 to Saturday 11 June

Thur 9	9.00-11.30am	Monkey Club
	6.15-8.00pm	Group With No Name
Fri 10	9.00-11.30am	Twins Club
	2.00-3.00pm	Funeral in church
	7.30-9.00pm	Exercise class

Next Sunday, 12 June – Third Sunday after Trinity

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Holy Communion
3.00-5.00pm	Royal Garden Party in the Vicarage garden
5.00pm	Confirmation Groups meet at St Mary's

Suggestions for Prayer

From the Churches Together in Hitchin Prayer Link, we pray for:

- **Wymondley Baptist Church** as they consider leadership options for the future as they serve God in and around Wymondley
- all the elderly folk within the **New Testament Church of God** and for any elderly people with whom their church comes into contact

From our Cycle of Prayer we pray for:

- St Faith's
- Garden House Hospice, Lavender Fields Cheshire Home, Stagenhoe Sue Ryder Home
- Beaumont Close, Nutleigh Grove

Prayer Ministry

If you wish to pray with someone or to be prayed for at the end of the 10am service, someone will be near the side altar to listen, talk and pray with you. Feel free to approach whoever is there. The space around the side altar remains available for you to be with your own thoughts, to pray by yourself or simply to light a candle.

Notices

'Here I stand' - a series of 4 sermons

This sermon series, which began on 22 May and will end next Sunday, uses the great statement of faith made by Martin Luther almost 500 years ago as a basis for Jeni, Andrew, John and Jane to declare their own convictions. The sermons are being recorded week by week and made available to listen to (again or for the first time if you miss a week) online. Simply go to <http://www.stmarks-hitchin.org.uk/here-i-stand-sermon-series> Jeni's and Andrew's sermons are there already with John's to come today and Jane's next week. If you don't have access to the internet and would like the complete series on CD, please sign the list at the back of church.

Coach Trip to Southend-on-Sea: 20 August – sign up today, please

To help us gauge viability, please sign the list at the back of church **today** to indicate your interest.

A Royal (Vicarage) Garden Party: next Sunday, 12 June, 3-5pm

High tea, live music and a children's 'royal' fancy dress competition in the Vicarage garden. **If your child would like to enter the fancy dress competition, please sign the list at the back of church today.**

Adults are invited to dust off their tiaras and to don red, white and blue! For more details, see the notice in church and/or contact Joy.

St Mark's Summer Fair: 9 July, 9am-3pm in the Market Place

On Saturday 9 July, we will once again be holding our summer fair in the Market Place. We are hoping to have the following stalls: cakes; jewellery; tombola; flowers; books, records and CDs. We are in need of donations for these stalls and boxes to receive the non-perishable items will be in church from next Sunday. We also need someone or several people to run the books, records and CDs stall and someone to run the tombola stall on the day (we have had an offer of getting everything ready for the tombola - it's just a matter of setting up the stall etc on 9th). We will also need people to offer an hour during the day to relieve people on stalls. If you can offer to organise either the book or tombola stall, please talk to Jane asap. If you can help on the day, please sign your name by a time slot on the sheet at the back of church. This is our biggest fund raising event of the year so please support it in any way you can. Thank you.

Phase Prayer Guide for June

This is now available from the Mission table. *Phase* would be grateful for your prayers for the busy month ahead.

Memorial Service of Thanksgiving: Sunday, 26 June at 6.30pm

This year's Memorial Service of Thanksgiving will be held as above. Please note the change of date from the first Sunday in July to 26 June. The service will be preceded by tea in the church hall from 5.30pm. All are welcome.

During the service the names of those to be remembered will be read out. If you would like a name(s) to be read out, please contact Mike Davies.

Please note that names will not automatically be read out; rather, they will only be read out if you have let Mike know this is your wish.

HICCA Rangers' Italian Pop-up Restaurant: 10 June from 7pm

Rangers, the Senior Section of Girlguiding, are celebrating our centenary this year and we're fundraising for this special occasion. HICCA Rangers are hosting an Italian themed pop-up restaurant on 10 June at Christchurch from 7pm. We are offering a two course menu with a choice of spaghetti bolognese, vegetable risotto, or homemade pizza. Tickets are available now for £10 for adults and £5 for children under 12. To purchase a ticket, contact Clare Banham.

An outing to Wrest Park: Wed. 15 June (reserve date 29 June)

A reminder that the Morning Prayer regulars warmly invite anyone who would like to join us to for our post-service coffee on 15 June at Wrest Park rather than in the hall. If the weather proves to be horrible that day we shall postpone our visit to 29 June. If you can't make it to the service at 9.15, you would still be welcome to come for coffee at Wrest Park. We'll set off from church around 10.00am. We have several cars at our disposal for transport there, and 3 wheelchairs and willing wheelchair pushers for getting around at Wrest Park. If you are interested in joining us, please let Anne Watson know.

TRAIDCRAFT STALL – why do we have one at church?

You've probably (hopefully!) noticed that I've been holding a Traidcraft stall at St Mark's every month, and have had very good support from the congregation, thank you!

I thought it might be a good time to explain a bit more about how Traidcraft works, and why we have a stall at church.

Traidcraft was established in 1979 as a Christian response to poverty, and it is both a trading company and a development charity.

Traidcraft supports hundreds of thousands of farmers and artisans in developing countries to trade their way out of poverty, working with poor, marginalised producers, helping them work together successfully, opening up local and wider markets, and supporting them to build sustainable futures. Traidcraft also campaigns to change unfair trade practices, influencing policy makers and challenging other businesses to behave ethically.

There are over 2000 references to justice and poverty in the Bible, and I believe that, as Christians, we have a part to play in challenging the causes of poverty. We are part of a global community, and it is our love for those who are poor and exploited that should move us to seek justice, and question the way that society is run. Buying fairly traded products is one way that we can make a difference.

Traidcraft stocks the UK's widest range of fair trade foods, beverages, household cleaning, charcoal and rubber products, as well as fair trade crafts and clothing, from fair trade suppliers in more than 30 developing countries. It has an online shop – www.traidcraftshop.co.uk – and also sells through a network of more than 5000 Traidcraft reps, of which I am one. Reps do not make any profit from sales, although we do get a small discount when we buy the goods which helps towards the cost of holding unsold stock.

Fairly traded goods are much more widely available these days, and most supermarkets stock at the very least Fairtrade coffee, tea and bananas, which is great, and I hope that most of you will purchase these. But please bear in mind that, for supermarkets, Fairtrade is just a small part of their business, whereas for Traidcraft it is ALL of their business, and justice, fairness and dignity are fundamental to the way they work.

I will be changing the monthly stall to the 3rd Sunday of the month, and it will be in the hall, between the Family Service and the 11.15am Communion. I hope that if you haven't already been a customer, you will come and have a look! The next stall will be on 19 June and will be run by Helen Richardson.

If you would like to know any more about Traidcraft, or Fairtrade, please do come and ask Helen or me.

Thank you for reading this!

Maggie Mellersh