

### Sunday School Lite

With the school holidays upon us, our normal crèche, Sunday School, Pathfinders and Travellers groups stop for the summer. However, from next Sunday, 31 July, Sunday mornings will offer a slightly more family-friendly communion service with the opportunity for children and young people to go into the Vicarage garden (hall, if wet) for some games during the middle part of the service. While there is no formal crèche, toys will always be out in the hall should you want to use this area. Please note that **21 August will be Family Service**, followed by an 11.15am service of Holy Communion.

### News sheets in August

The news sheet will appear fortnightly rather than weekly in August. There will, therefore, be a news sheet on 14 and 28 August but none on 7 and 21 August. Please bear this in mind if you need to circulate information about events during the summer or early September. From 4 September, we will revert to a weekly news sheet. Please send items for inclusion, as usual, by 7pm on Wednesday evening to [deirdre.parr@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk](mailto:deirdre.parr@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk) or ring 456184.

If you would like to have the news sheet and Sunday readings emailed to you each week, please email me at the above address or speak to me in church.

*Deirdre Parr*

### 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, or in the email version. If you have no access to either of these, please contact Deirdre Parr using the contact details above.

# St Mark's Church



**A member of Churches Together in Hitchin**

**24 July 2016**

**Ninth Sunday after Trinity**

**Services and events today**

8.00am	Holy Communion (p29 in folder)
10.00am	Holy Communion (p15 in folder)
6.00pm	Hot Chocolate Club

### Readings for today

Genesis 18: 20-32
Colossians 2: 6-15
Luke 11: 1-13

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

If you are new here, do introduce yourself to Jane, our Vicar. 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](http://www.stmarks-hitchin.org.uk)



**Follow us on Twitter: @stmarkshitchin**

### Hymns and songs for 10.00am

AMNS 397	Lord, save thy world
AMNS 177	Thy kingdom come, O God
AMNS 170	The Church's one foundation
SF 14	Teach me to dance
AMNS 72	Lift high the cross (omit vv 3-7)

### Diary for the week beginning Monday 25 July

Wed 27	9.15am	Morning Prayer
--------	--------	----------------

### Hall bookings – Thursday 28 to Saturday 30 July

Thur 28	9.00-11.30am	Monkey Club
Fri 29	7.30-9.00pm	Exercise class
Sat 30	No bookings	

### Next Sunday, 31 July – Tenth Sunday after Trinity

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Holy Communion – <i>We welcome Revd Jane Fox as our preacher and celebrant at this service</i>

### Suggestions for Prayer

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

**Christchurch** as they make final preparations for their Holiday Club for youngsters taking place at the beginning of August.

**From our Cycle of Prayer we pray for:**

- The Society of Friends
- Prisoners and their families
- Periwinkle Lane, Water Lane

### Monthly prayer list –

For the list of people in need of long-term prayer support see the Prayer Requests book in church or the paper or email versions of the news sheet. These people will be prayed for by name each month in church on the first, second or fourth Sunday of the month. They will also be prayed for each week by a group of people praying individually in their own homes. Please remember them in your prayers and also those listed on the church Prayer Tree.

### Prayer Ministry

If you wish to pray with someone or to be prayed for at the end of the 10am service, Jane will be near the side altar to listen, talk and pray with you today. 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

#### Thanks

Thank you so very much to all of you who came to help with the church cleaning day on Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup>. You all worked so very hard and made a big difference, especially in those difficult to reach places. Thank you also to all those who clean the church on a regular basis - your dedication made our job a lot easier! *Tricia Reed*

#### Furniture moving

The church carpet is to be cleaned on **15 August**; in order to do this all the church furniture needs to be moved into the hall on the afternoon of **14 August**. If you can be free to help from 2-4pm, please let Trish or Louise know. We also need help to return the furniture on **18 August**. Again, if you can help that afternoon we would love to hear from you. *Trish and Louise*

### **New blinds for the hall**

In 2012 we had a huge fundraising drive to enable us to update the hall and kitchen. With your generosity, we were able to fit the new oak folding doors, install the new kitchen and buy new chairs for the hall, all of which has created a more welcoming and more practical venue for meeting together. The last action on our Centenary Project list was to replace the very worn curtains. The DCC has met recently and would like to recommend the installation of vertical blinds that will provide a safe, effective and practical solution. Kevin Banks, who owns *Hitchin Blinds* and is a member of our congregation and Fabric Committee, has kindly offered to supply new blinds at a substantial discount and to install them. The cost of the blinds is significantly less than that of new curtains, even if these were to be made by volunteers.

Six blinds are needed, each costing about £115. The Centenary Fund cannot support this cost, so the Church Council would like to ask you to consider donating towards the purchase of these blinds; you could purchase all or part of a blind. If you would like to do this, please put your donation in an envelope, along with a note of your name and the amount you are giving and mark the envelope 'Centenary Fund – Blinds'. It can then be given in with the collection. As always with such requests, please do not feel under any pressure to contribute; we trust in God that the funds will become available in time.

### **North Herts Sanctuary**

The Sanctuary is in need of new underwear for its clients, especially for men. They are not allowed to distribute second-hand underwear for health and hygiene reasons. For the Sundays of 24 and 31 July and 7 August there will be a box in church in which to place your purchases if you wish to contribute to this appeal. Thank you in advance for your help.

*Helen Richardson*

### **Foodbank collection: next Sunday, 31 July**

If you would like to donate to our monthly collection for the Foodbank, the following are the items which are most urgently needed: tins of fruit and fish; long-life fruit juice. Less urgently needed but still in short supply: tins of vegetables (not sweetcorn) and meat; biscuits; sponge puddings; 500g or 1kg bags of sugar; long grain rice; instant potato; cereals; dried milk; squash.

The following are **not** needed, thank you: pasta; soup; baked beans; toilet rolls; UHT milk. Thank you for your continuing support.

### **Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Historic Churches Annual 'Bike Ride' Saturday, 10 September 10am-6pm**

In this annual event where participants are asked to get themselves sponsored, the money raised is split equally between the participants' chosen church and the Trust.

Over 600 churches and chapels can be visited. It's a very good way to visit our historic churches/chapels and to raise money for their upkeep. Any means of getting from one church to another is permissible – running, walking, travelling by bike, car, coach or on horseback! Last year no-one from St Mark's participated – it would be lovely if we could change that this year. Please do give this challenge your careful consideration and register your interest with **Mike Davies or sign the form at the back of church.**

Thanks in anticipation.

*Mike Davies, St Mark's Co-ordinator*