



St Mark's Church Hitchin

8th March 2020

2nd Sunday of Lent

**Services & events for
today**

8am Holy Communion

10am Holy Communion

*We welcome Rev Lindsay Dew
to lead our Communion services
today*

Traidcraft Stall after the service

Readings

Genesis 12. 1-4a

Romans 4.1-5, 13-17

John 3. 1-17

Hymns (A&M – red hymn book)

A&M 203 O praise ye the Lord!

JP 341 From heaven you came

A&M 200 Fill thou my life

Service Folder 33 Spirit of God

A&M 171 Thy hand, O God,

Prayers

From the Churches Together in Hitchin Prayer Link we pray with **Zeo Church** for the work of Christians Against Poverty as the debt centre in Hitchin reaches out to those in the community who are in a difficult financial situation. We ask for wisdom for the advisors and courage for clients who are taking difficult lifestyle decisions. We also pray for the next Messy Church at **Wymondley Baptist Chapel** on Saturday 14th. **Our Lady's** ask for prayers for their ongoing Landings outreach programme.

From the St Mark's Cycle of Prayer, we pray for our District Church Council and all the Committees. We also pray for Arthritis Care and the National Osteoporosis Society. This week we pray for residents of Westmill Rd, Westmill Court and Westmill Lawns.

Please pray for those involved in shortlisting and the process of choosing the new vicar, that they have the wisdom, insight and discernment necessary to make the right choice.

Prayer Ministry Frances will be in the side aisle after the service should you wish to pray with someone.

NOTICES

St Marks Craft Fair - Sat 2nd May

10.00am - 2.00pm

Put this date in your diary now!

It has been known for some time that St Mark's has many talented people - Artists, Woodturners, Embroiderers, Card Makers etc etc. Well now is your chance to sell your works of art. For those of us who are not so talented bring along your Antiques, Bric a Brac, Collectables, anything that you think may be of interest.

The rent is £10.00 per table. All churches/individuals are welcome to rent or share a table.

Teas and coffees will be served so do come along and join us. Let's have some fun and raise some money for St Mark's.

Tables are limited so book yours early. Please call: Kevin or Val

Ceilidh – 21st March in aid of Amnesty International and Children with Cancer. Pippa Lally and Mark Drury are organising a Ceilidh at St John's Community Centre as part of their fundraising for the London Marathon. Tickets £20 include loaded pulled pork baps and mouthwatering Irish desserts (veggie, vegan and gluten free options available). For more information or to book tickets speak to Pippa, Mark or Rachel

Annual General Meeting: Sunday 29 March, 11.30am

Please do try to come along to our AGM in three weeks' time when we shall elect the various church officers to serve for the coming year. Nomination forms for District Church Council (DCC) members, Churchwardens, Churches Together in Hitchin (CTH) reps etc will be available in church from Sunday, 15 March. Please consider whether you, or someone you know, could serve, particularly as a member of the DCC (a role for three years) or as one of our representatives on the Deanery Synod or the Churches Together in Hitchin council.

The meeting offers a chance to get a full picture of the life of our church and usually lasts no longer than an hour. To speed up the meeting, all the reports will be available for you to read in advance. If you receive the weekly notices by email, you will automatically receive the agenda, 2019 minutes and all the reports electronically in the week beginning 15 March. If you haven't signed up for email communications from St Mark's but would like to receive the AGM papers in this way, please email deirdresparr@btinternet.com and I will send them to you. Some paper copies will also be available in church from 15 March for those who can't access them electronically.

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM!

Real Easter Eggs – the only Fairtrade Egg which includes the Easter story! They are plastic and palm oil free, and cost £3.99 for original and £5.50 for dark. Order form is at the back of church or speak to Maggie Mellersh.

Messy St Mark's 19th March and Good Friday. We still need more jam jars please, and empty cereal boxes. Please leave at the back of the church. Thank you.

Jane's Collation Service will be next **Saturday 14 March at 2pm**, at St Mary's church in Hemel Hempstead, when Jane will be formally made the Archdeacon of St Albans. The service will be followed by afternoon tea. Everyone is welcome, and we hope that as many of the congregation as are able will be there to cheer Jane on. *Sign-up sheet is on the welcome table.*

Phase

Copies of the Phase Daily Prayer Guide for March are still available from the Mission table at the back of church. Please take one and pray for all the work the Phase team will be doing this month in our primary and secondary schools.

The Phase Newsletter for March is on the noticeboard with dates for your diary and a plea for 'chocolate sponsors'! They are looking for people who would like to help buy a box of eggs (30 eggs per box at £1 per egg) for their Year 6 Easter workshops. See the notice for more information or speak to Andrew or Deirdre (456184) who will be happy to pass on any "egg money" to Phase.

Ash Wednesday Lunch Many thanks to those of you who came, and those who helped last week. £233 was raised for Christian Aid.

Lent with a view at St Mary's

Art historian Zoe Davis and Rev Charmaine Sabey-Corkindale are leading 3 sessions on 'Amazing Art & Lent themes'. Monday 2nd, 16th & 23rd March, 7.30-9pm in St Andrew's Chapel, St Mary's.

Services and events for Sunday 15 March

8am Holy Communion (said)
10am Family Service
11.15am Holy Communion (said)

Church Diary for w/c 9 March
Wed 11 - 9.15am Morning Prayer
Thurs 12 6.30pm GWNN
Sat 14 2pm Service of Collation at Hemel Hempstead

Hall bookings w/c 9 March
Mon 9 8.30am-3pm Signing class
7-8pm Tai Chi
Tues 10 9.30-12.30 Jo Jingles
7-9pm NCT Yoga
Wed 11 11.30-12.30 Tai Chi
8.15-9.15pm Tai Chi
Thurs 12 12-2pm Hall cleaning
Sat 14 10-12 NCT Duplo group

Lent 2020 – Do take a flyer from the welcome table explaining the 2 ways we're marking Lent this year. Our **Lent Appeal** is for **Embrace the Middle East**, and there are leaflets and gift envelopes, plus gift aid forms now available, or you can donate via the church website. Please do take these and consider whether you can make a donation. There is also information on the flyer about **LiveLent 2020** – the Church of England's Campaign focussing on climate change, and challenging us to take action.

The Electoral Roll is being updated in advance of St Mark's AGM on 29th March. If you are not on the Roll already and would like to join please complete a form from the back of church and return it to Maggie Mellersh or in the box provided. Please also inform Maggie of any deletions or changes. The closing date for return of forms is 22nd March. The updated Electoral Roll will be displayed in church from 29th March, when it will be closed until after the Annual Parish Church Meeting on 22nd April.

"Talk & Tea" at Holy Saviour

Sunday 15 March, 3pm.

Frances Hodgson Burnett and the Secret Gardens of Victorian Childhood. See poster for details

At the Foot of the Cross: A meditation in music for Passiontide

Friday 27 March 7.30 at Holy Saviour Church with the Holy Saviour Choir & the Radcliffe Singers. £13/£9
Call 01462 675496 for more details



St Mark's extends a warm welcome to newcomers!

Please do join us for a drink and a biscuit at the end of the service. If you would like to discuss getting involved in the life of St Mark's, please email

wardens@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk

or call Joy on 01462 456129

See our website,

<http://www.stmarks-hitchin.org.uk>
for the latest information about events and services.

St Mark's church is entirely funded from donations and hall hire.

We receive no external funding.

If you would like to contribute to our running costs, please enquire about giving by Standing Order, or using a Gift Envelope

DO PLEASE TAKE THESE NOTICES HOME WITH YOU

If you would like to have a notice included, for a maximum of two weeks, please email

notices@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk

or ring Maggie on 504003

Please send notices by 7pm on the preceding Wednesday.