

Thursday Group meeting on 3 September, 7.45 for 8.00pm

A talk on bee-keeping by Frank Everest. All are welcome, visitors £3 which includes refreshments.
Val Conetta

Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Historic Churches Annual 'Bike Ride' Saturday, 12 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. Last year one person from St Mark's participated, raising a total of £224.

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! Please do give this challenge your careful consideration. Sponsor forms available from **Mike Davies (01462 434202)** or sign the form at the back of church.

Draft Pastoral Scheme - Benefices of Hitchin Team Ministry and St Paul's Walden

It is proposed that the Hitchin Team Ministry and the Parish of St Paul's Walden formally join together to make a new benefice and team. Over the last few years we have been working together well, and it is now the wish of both PCCs that we make this informal arrangement more formal. Up to 1 September, copies of the draft scheme are available in church for anyone to inspect. If you would like to make your views on the proposal known, for or against, please see the blue notice on the door of the church for details about to whom views can be sent. If you would like any clarification or further details about the proposal, feel free to talk to Jane or the Wardens.

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.

St Mark's Church



A member of Churches Together in Hitchin

30 August 2015

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Services today

8.00am	Holy Communion (p29 in folder)
10.00am	Holy Communion (separate order of service) We welcome Revd Elizabeth Bunker as our celebrant and preacher at this service
1.30pm	Baptism Service
3.00pm	Baptism Service

Readings for today

Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-9
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

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

www.stmarks-hitchin.org.uk



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Hymns for 10.00am

AMNS 104	For the beauty of the earth
SF 33	Spirit of God, unseen as the wind
SF 12	Will you come and follow me
SF 15	At this table we remember
SF 2	Lord, the light of your love is shining

Diary for the week beginning Monday 31 August

Wed 2 Sept	9.15am 7.00pm	Morning Prayer Choir practice
Thur 3 Sept	10.00am 7.45pm	Holy Communion at Westmill Lawns Thursday Group meets in the hall
Fri 4 Sept	9.30am	Little Lions

Hall bookings – Thursday 3 to Saturday 5 September

Thur 3	9.15-11.30am 7.30-10.15pm	Monkey Club Thursday Group
Fri 4	9.00-11.30am	Little Lions
Sat 5	2.30-5.00pm	Service in church

Next Sunday, 6 September – Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Holy Communion Crèche, Sunday School, Pathfinders and Travellers re-start
3.30pm	Talk by Dominic Stockbridge on his year in China

Suggestions for prayer

From our Cycle of Prayer:

The Children's Society and The Asian Student Christian Trust
North Herts Inter-faith Forum and the local Muslim, Sikh, Buddhist,
Hindu and Jewish communities
Lancaster Road, York Road

From the Churches Together in Hitchin Prayer Link:

We pray for: **Walsworth Road Baptist Church** as they say 'goodbye' today to their youth worker and as they consider their next steps; **PHASE** who, during the coming week, will be coordinating 'enrichment days' for pupils in years 7, 12 and 13.

Notices

Sunday School Lite

Today is the last day of Sunday School Lite. Many thanks to those who have looked after the children and young people in the garden and hall during these holiday weeks. Next week, all our normal children's and young people's groups will re-start during the 10am service. Thank you, in advance to those who will take up the leadership and helper roles once again and to all who are venturing into this for the first time.

Do you want to know anything about China? - Sept 6th, 3.30pm

As many people will know, I have spent much of the past year in China learning Mandarin. I also had a decent amount of time to travel and get a basic impression of what this amazing, diverse country is about.

Our family has always been really grateful for the support of the community at St Mark's, and so I thought it would be nice to share some of my experiences with everyone. As such, I'll be presenting some stories and (amateurish) photographs at 3.30pm next Sunday in the hall. It will be very casual - but hopefully fun, and with any luck a chance to learn something too! Refreshments might be provided (if I remember).

Dominic Stockbridge

New volunteers to join church cleaning rota 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 couple of months to do this vital job, the Wardens would love to hear from you. You won't have to Hoover the carpet – Roy Dixon does that every week! If you can help or would like more information, please speak to Louise.