

Foodbank collection: 28 February

If you wish to donate to our regular monthly collection for the Foodbank, which will take place next Sunday, the following are the items which are still most urgently needed: UHT juice and milk; dried milk; instant mash; pasta sauce; tinned rice pudding; toilet rolls and heavyweight carrier bags. Thank you for your continuing support.

Cake stall on 12 March

A big 'thank you' to everyone who supported the cake stall in the Market Place on 12 March whether by baking cakes, helping on the day or giving a donation. The final total raised was £251.

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 e-mail deirdre.parr@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk

St Mark's Church



A member of Churches Together in Hitchin

20 March 2016

Palm Sunday

Services and events today

8.00am	Holy Communion (p59 in folder)
10.00am	Family Service and Parade (p5 in folder)
11.15am	Holy Communion (p59 in folder)
4.00pm	Baptism service
6.30pm	Youth Alpha

Readings for today

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 19:28-40

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. 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



Follow us on Twitter: @stmarkshitchin

Hymns for 10.00am: Separate song sheet

Diary for the week beginning Monday 21 March

Mon 21	2.30pm 8.00pm	Prayer Group meets at 8 Lancaster Rd Reading of St Mark's Gospel chapters 1-6 followed by Compline
Tue 22	8.00pm	Reading of St Mark's Gospel chapters 7-11 followed by Compline
Wed 23	9.15am 7.00pm 8.00pm	Morning Prayer Choir Practice Reading of St Mark's Gospel chapters 12-16 followed by Compline
Thur 24	8.00pm	Iona Communion Service for Maundy Thursday followed by Stripping of the Altar
Fri 25	9.30am 10.00am 10.30am 11.00am 2.30- 4.30pm	Service of Reflection Leave St Mark's to walk to Bancroft Gardens Walk of Witness leaves Bancroft Gardens Good Friday Service in the Market Place Good Friday Workshop
Sat 26	8.00pm	Easter Vigil at St Faith's Church

Hall bookings – Thursday 24 to Saturday 26 March

Thur 24	9.30-11.30am 7.30-9.30pm	Monkey Club Maundy Thursday Service
Fri 25	9.00-10.00am 1.30-5.30pm 7.30-9.00pm	Good Friday Reflection Good Friday Workshop Meditation Exercise Group
Sat 26	10.00am-12noon	Flower Arrangers

Next Sunday, 27 March – Easter Sunday

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Family Communion

Suggestions for prayer

From our Cycle of Prayer we pray for:

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:

Everyone who has taken part in **Hitchin Christian Centre's** Alpha Course which is now coming to an end.
The Good Friday Walk of Witness and service that **Churches Together in Hitchin** coordinates every year.

Notices

Good Friday Workshop 2.30-4.30pm

Once again on Good Friday, we will be helping children engage with the Easter story through an hour of different craft activities from 2.30pm, followed at 3.30pm by a short, informal service, ending with hot cross buns and drinks. Everyone is very welcome to join us. The craft activities are aimed at pre-school and primary school-aged children. A donation of £3 per child is suggested to help with the cost of the craft materials. For more information please contact Jane.

Helpers for the Good Friday Workshop

If you would be willing to help with running a craft stall or doing the refreshments, please sign the list at the back of church today.

Easter Leaflets

There are just a few bundles left for delivery this week – mostly short roads, plus Lancaster Ave. **Please take a bundle today.**

Easter Vigil

Please note that the time and place of the Easter Vigil advertised in the CTH leaflet and in the Mercury is incorrect. The joint vigil will be held at St Faith's church beginning at 8pm.

Easter Lilies

If you would like to dedicate an Easter lily this year, please write down the name/s for the dedication and give, with your donation, to me, a warden or a member of the clergy. Thank you in anticipation.

Ann Wakefield

Easter Monday Pilgrimage to St Albans Abbey

People, young and old, walk from across the diocese to meet and gather together in the cathedral on Easter Monday. For many years people have walked from Hitchin, sometimes just 2 people, sometimes 20 or more. Roger and Naomi Morris are planning to walk again this year and invite anyone interested to join them. We will meet at the Three Moorhens roundabout at 7.15am and walk to St Albans with the aim of arriving at the abbey in time for the service with everyone in the afternoon. If you don't want to walk all the way, just join us for part of it or spend the afternoon in St Albans where there are games from 1pm followed by the service at 3pm. Please talk to one of us to find out more and/or sign the sheet at the back of church.

Our first informal Evening Service is on Sun 3 April at 6.30pm

Sunday Social at The Angels will follow straight on from the service. Everyone is very welcome at either or both events. For more information, please contact Jane: jane@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk

Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll is the membership roll for the church. If you aren't currently on the Roll but consider yourself part of St Mark's, please pick up an Electoral Roll form from the back of church. Forms can be returned to Jane or to Jean Jenkins, the Electoral Roll Secretary. If you'd like more details, please talk to Jane or Jean.

Annual General Meeting: 11.30am on 10 April

Our AGM is fast approaching. Reports will be available in church from next week for people to pick up and read prior to the meeting. Nomination forms for DCC members, Churchwardens, CTH reps etc will be out in church from Easter Sunday. Please consider whether you, or someone you know, could serve, particularly as a member of the District Church Council (a role for three years) or as one of our representatives on the Churches Together in Hitchin council.

Thursday Group meeting 7 April, 7.45pm for 8pm in the hall

An evening with a representative from the Charity 'Help For Heroes'. Please come along and find out more about this organisation and how the donations are used. All are welcome. £3 per person (refreshments included). For more information contact Val Conetta.

Saturday 23rd April, 2.00-5.00pm – St Mark's Games Afternoon

With Slot-Stock Car Racing - "Scalextric with Attitude"

Something for all ages to enjoy - challenge yourselves in the church with the car racing or join in board games in the hall, or a bit of both! From Bananagrams to Buckaroo, Cluedo to Connect 4, or bring along your own favourite board game! Also Giant Draughts and Dominoes, and a 'Quiet Corner' for Scrabble or something more sedate.

Refreshments available throughout the afternoon. **BOOK THIS IN YOUR DIARY NOW!**

Diocesan vacancy

St Albans Diocese is looking to appoint a full-time Estates & Trusts Administrator at Diocesan Office. Details are available on the website at

<http://www.stalbans.anglican.org/diocese/other-vacancies/>