

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.

Phase Prayer Guide for April

The latest prayer guide is available from the Mission table at the back of church. For more information about *Phase* or to sign up to their monthly news email, go to www.phase-hitchin.org

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

3 April 2016

Second Sunday of Easter

Services and events today

8.00am	Holy Communion (p29 in folder)
10.00am	Holy Communion (p15 in folder) We welcome Emma Kevan from <i>Us</i> as our speaker at this service
6.30pm	Informal Service
7.30pm	Sunday Social at The Angels

Readings for today

Acts 5: 27-32
Revelation 1: 4-8
John 20: 19-31

St Mark's extends a warm welcome to newcomers

If you are new here, do introduce yourself to our Vicar, Jane. 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

AMNS 81	At the Lamb's high feast we sing
AMNS 207	Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
MP 167	Give me oil in my lamp
SF 13	Beauty for brokenness
MP 266	I cannot tell why he, whom angels worship

Diary for the week beginning Monday 4 April

Mon 4	2.30pm	Prayer Group meets at 6 Fosman Close
Wed 6	9.15am	Morning Prayer
	7.00pm	Choir Practice
Thur 7	10.00am	Communion at Westmill Lawns

Hall bookings – Thursday 7 April to Saturday 9 April

Thur 7	9.30-11.30am	Monkey Club
	7.30-9.30pm	Thursday Group
Fri 8	9.45am-12.15pm	Twins Club
Sat 9	12.00-4.00pm	Private booking

Next Sunday, 10 April – Third Sunday of Easter

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Holy Communion
11.30am	Annual General Meeting
2.30pm	Baptism Service

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.

Suggestions for prayer

From our Cycle of Prayer we pray for:

St Mary's

Hitchin Foodbank, Extra Smile project and Christians against Poverty debt help

Spellbrooke, Berkeley Close, Fosman Close

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

all who will go to *Spring Harvest* this year, particularly remembering the group of 34 who have booked through Christchurch.

Notices

A new service at St Mark's this evening at 6.30pm

Today sees the exciting launch of our new-style monthly evening service. It will last no more than 45 minutes and it's going to be quite different from anything else we do at St Mark's, with its mix of modern worship songs, bible readings in 21st century language, people's stories of their Christian faith and an opportunity to get to know people by chatting to them and praying for them in a simple way. We hope many of you will give this new venture a try and then, if you like, join us afterwards at *The Angels* for our Sunday Social.

Hall bookings

From this week, Maggie Mellersh will be looking after the hall bookings. If you would like to book the hall or need to check availability please contact Maggie at

maggie.mellersh@phonecoop.coop or ring her on 01462 504003.

Annual 24-hour gate closure: from 4.30pm on Sunday, 10 April

The gates to St Mark's grounds have to be closed for a period of 24 hours once a year to prevent the land becoming a public right of way. This year they will be closed as above and will reopen at 4.30pm on Monday, 11 April.

St Mark's Lent Appeal 2016

Many thanks to all who have contributed so far to this year's Lent Appeal in support of the work done by Christian organisations in Greece for refugees from Syria, Afghanistan and other countries who arrive in small boats, often after a perilous journey. This morning, we are pleased to welcome Emma Kevan of the Anglican mission agency *Us* to our morning service and she will tell us more about how the money is being used. The Appeal will be open until next Sunday, 10 April, so it's not too late if you wish to give something. Please put cash or a cheque (payable to St Mark's Parish Church) in one of the Lent Appeal gift envelopes available at the back of the church - gift-aided if possible - and place this in the offertory bag or hand it to Jane, a churchwarden or John Richardson. Many thanks for your generosity.

Annual General Meeting: next Sunday, 10 April at 11.30am

Nomination forms for DCC members, Churchwardens, CTH reps etc can be found at the back of church today. Please consider whether you, or someone you know, could serve, particularly as a member of the District Church Council (we need 4 new members to serve for three years) or as one of our representatives on the Churches Together in Hitchin council. Reports, which give a really good picture of life at St Mark's, are also available for you to take away and read prior to the meeting.

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 which you'll find with the AGM paperwork at 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.

St Andrew's C of E Primary School is seeking new governors

St Andrew's School is seeking new governors to join the governing body over the next 18 months. In particular, they are seeking Foundation Governors (those that attend local churches) to help promote the Christian values of the school and are keen to appoint people with experience in the following areas: human resources; marketing; finance/accountancy. Even if you don't have this experience but are interested in becoming a governor, please let the school know. Being a governor is an extremely interesting and rewarding job. It will entail 1-2 meetings every 3 months and you will work alongside a team of extremely dedicated people. Please contact Ms Fenn (Headteacher) on 01462 459160 or Adam Heaysman on 07515 515 164 or a_heaysman@hotmail.com

Christian Aid admin - help desperately needed!

Two people are needed to count out materials for collectors and distribute these to them, plus a bit of paper work. One person is needed for six collectors in the Blackhorse Road area, the other for Benslow Lane and the small roads off Wymondley Rd. Christian Aid Week is 15-20 May and this is a once-a-year only job preparing for this. For more explicit information, please contact Helen Richardson: 01462 435595, 07880 682681 or helenwrich@btinternet.com