

Exploring Christianity: 4 February, 9.45am in the church hall

We will meet in the church hall on Saturday for the second session of our 6 week course in which we are looking at The Creeds. If you'd like to join us, you'd be very welcome. The group meets at 9.45am for coffee and pains au chocolat, with discussion starting at 10.00am. Further dates are 18 February, 4 and 18 March and 1 April.

Thursday Group: 2 February, 7.45 for 8pm start in the church hall

The meeting will be a talk on *Waste Awareness* given by a representative from North Herts Recycling Department. If you are interested in finding out what happens to your rubbish, this is your opportunity to hear exactly how it is disposed of and where it goes! All are welcome. £3 for visitors (includes refreshments). For further information, contact Val Conetta.

PHASE February Prayer Guides are available from the mission table.

Receiving the news sheet by email or submitting notices

If you would like either to receive this news sheet via email in future or to have a notice included in the next news sheet, please email notices@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk or ring Deirdre Parr on 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 or in the email version. If you have no access to these, please contact Deirdre Parr using the above email address or phone number.

St Mark's Church



A member of Churches Together in Hitchin

29 January 2017

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

Services today

8.00am	Holy Communion (p29 in folder)
10.00am	Holy Communion (p15 in folder)
6.30pm	Taizé Service

Readings for today

1 Kings 17: 8-16
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
John 2: 1-11

St Mark's extends a warm welcome to newcomers

If you are new here, do introduce yourself to Jane, our Vicar, or to a Welcomer or Warden, and 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 161	Christ is our corner-stone
AMNS 199	Immortal, invisible, God only wise
AMNS 138	We sing the praise of him who died
MP 170	Give thanks with a grateful heart
AMNS 172	Glorious things of thee are spoken

Diary for the week beginning Monday, 30 January

Mon 30	2.00pm	Prayer Group meets at 30 Pirton Road
Tue 31	8.00pm	PCC Finance and Standing Committees meet at St Mark's
Wed 1 Feb	9.15am	Morning Prayer
	7.00pm	Choir Practice
	8.15pm	Worship Committee meets
Thur 2	10.00am	Communion at Westmill Lawns
	3-5pm	Hall cleaning
	7.45pm	Thursday Group
Fri 3	9.30am	Little Lions
Sat 4	9.45am	Exploring Christianity

Next Sunday, 5 February – Fourth Sunday before Lent

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Holy Communion
6.30pm	SIX:30 Service

From the Churches Together in Hitchin Prayer Link in this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we pray for:

the Taizé Service being held tonight at **St Mark's** and ask that it may be a time of reflection and renewal in working together for Christ.

From the St Mark's Cycle of Prayer, we pray for:

Anglican mission agencies: Church Mission Society (CMS) and United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG);
Children and vulnerable adults who suffer from abuse;
The residents of Westmill Lane, Burford Way and Carling Place.

Prayer Ministry

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

Sunday School Helpers

We are looking for some helpers for Sunday School. This doesn't involve any preparation, simply spending Sunday morning in the hall and helping the Sunday School Leader run the session. This can mean encouraging the children to join in, cutting and sticking, helping them with their writing and generally joining in. Depending on how many people might like to join the team, the commitment should only be a couple of Sundays each term. Of course, if you would like to be a leader and run sessions, we'd be happy to welcome you to that role too. If either helping or leading is something you might be able to do, please contact Pippa Lally.

St Mark's Rainbows: helpers needed

St Mark's Rainbows (girls aged 5-7) meet on Tuesdays in term time, 4.45 to 5.45pm for a mixture of crafts and games and we really need more adults, either to become a leader or just to be an adult helper. If this is something you'd be interested in or would like more details, please contact Glenda Darby on.

**Delivering prayer cards: help needed weeks beginning 12 & 19 Feb
Truemans Rd (50 houses), Mulberry Way, Beechwood Cl (90 houses)**

Thank you to everyone who, since September, has taken a turn at delivering prayer cards to one or two streets in our parish per week. Between now and Easter, there are just 2 blanks on the rota. If you could help deliver the cards in either of the above weeks, please sign the rota on the Mission notice board or let Jane know.

Request for documentation or photos relating to St Mark's history

The Wardens will be presenting the revised church inventory to the DCC on 9 February. As part of this review, the first in 30 years, they are recording all the documentation on the history of our church and will be archiving it in the Hertfordshire Archive along with all other church information. They would be grateful for the return of any documentation or photos which form part of St Mark's history. Church members will be able to have copies of any paperwork that they want to use for other purposes if they specify what is needed.

Lent Groups 2017

Churches Together in Hitchin (CTH) is organising Lent Groups. These can be in homes or churches; they can be groups arranged just for the weeks of Lent or existing groups who would like to use the study material at the same time. This year's study is *Centred on Christ* by Michael Baughen and has six sessions but, if you have less time, can be combined to make five.

Ash Wednesday is 1 March and Good Friday 14 April so in between is the time to participate. Experience shows that people find this most beneficial and new friendships are made.

If you would be willing to host or lead a group or are an existing group willing to invite a few folk from other churches to join you, please contact me. *Helen Richardson* - text/phone 07880 682681

Women's World Day of Prayer: Friday 3 March

This year, the Hitchin service is being held at St Mark's at 1pm on 3 March. You are all invited including men despite the name! We need to provide refreshments so please could anyone help staff this? Cakes are being made by the Hitchin WWDP group so it's a case of serving tea and coffee and clearing up after. There are usually about 80 people. If you could help me with this, please let me know. Helen Richardson helenwrich@btinternet.com or text or phone 07880 682681.

Churches Together in Hitchin Council (CTH) meeting

The next council meeting is on Monday 6 February, 8.00 pm at Our Lady's Church - tea/coffee from 7.30pm. The agenda will include a presentation by representatives of *Herts Welcomes Syrian Families* on their initiatives and how Hitchin churches can help. There will also be one or two reports and a conversation about how CTH is doing and how it might do better.

CTH Council meetings are open to all so do please come along and encourage others to come with you. Further information from John Richardson - johnrichardson891@btinternet.com or 07505 426876.