

⊕ St Mark's Church Hitchin ⊕

A member of Churches Together in Hitchin

29 October 2017 *(web)* The Last Sunday after Trinity

Services and events for today

8.00am	Holy Communion (pg 29 in folder)
10am	Holy Communion (pg 15 in folder)
1pm	Baptism of William Prasad

Readings for today

Deuteronomy 34. 1-12
Thessalonians 2. 1-8
Matthew 22. 34-46

St Mark's extends a warm welcome to newcomers

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

423	Thanks to God whose Word was spoken
448	Come, Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire
114	A safe stronghold our God is still
JP 141	Jesus, name above all names
JP 8	Amazing grace

Diary for week beginning Monday 30 October

30 Oct	2pm	Prayer group meeting
1 Nov	9.15am	Morning Prayer
1 Nov	7pm	Choir Practice
2 Nov	10am	Communion at Westmill Lawns
	8pm	Communications Group Meets
3 Nov	9.30am	Little Lions
4 Nov	8.30am	Cake Stall in the Market Place

Services for Sunday, 5 November – Fourth Sunday before Advent

8am	Holy Communion
10am	Holy Communion
8pm	Sunday Social at The Angels

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), and children and vulnerable adults who suffer from abuse. We also pray for the residents of Symonds Road.

Prayer Ministry: If you wish to pray with someone or to be prayed for at the end of the 10am service, Gail will be near the pulpit in the side aisle to listen, talk and pray with you.

Notices

Cake Stall

Another bumper cake stall will be held in the market place on Saturday 4th November from 8.30am until sold out. Donations of cakes, preserves, biscuits etc would be gratefully received, or money or contributions towards ingredients. We hope for a fine day, lots of eager buyers and sales to "go with a bang"! If you need items collected please call Joy Hukin, or Judy Page for more information.

White Peace Poppies - will be available from Today Oct 29th in the from Christchurch and Our Lady's. They will also be there, over the next fortnight, during Open Church sessions. For more details contact Trish Bonnett-trishbonneett@rcdow.org.uk

Communion before confirmation

For a long time the parish has had a policy of allowing children from Year 5 and above to receive communion, after a time of preparation, before being confirmed at an older age. We currently have a few children interested in this. Therefore we are looking to run some preparation sessions in the new year, during the Sunday morning services, for any of our children or young people interested in exploring this further. Please speak to Jane for further details.

Lourdes Pilgrimage-June18th-22nd 2018 led by Father Tom O'Brian

To book a place contact Trish Bonnett-trishbonneett@rcdow.org.uk. Full details on the poster in the Bradbury area, Our Lady's or contact Owen McFarlane 07982640187

St Andrew's Primary School

St Andrew's are in search of new Foundation Governors who are not current parents of children in the school. If you are interested then please let Jane know.

Remembrance Help

I am looking to borrow a large globe to use in my children and young people's talk on Remembrance Sunday. It will end up with poppies stuck all over it so no family heir-looms please! I would also be really grateful of someone's help in cutting out some paper poppies if anyone has the time to spare. Thank you as ever, Jeni.

Foodbank

The monthly donation to the foodbank will be collected from church this week (29 October). The foodbank is asking in particular for long life fruit juice, dried and long-life milk, small tin potatoes, dried potato, tinned veg, sauce for pasta, noodles, 500gm bags of sugar, toilet rolls, tinned rice pudding and sponge puddings, and tinned pulses. Thanks to very generous donations they cannot accept pasta or rice at the moment. The Foodbank is **urgently in need of strong carrier bags**.

North Herts Sanctuary

Thank you for your kind harvest donations. They are put to good use for our residents both at the hostel and in our move-on properties and where appropriate to homeless who call at the door in very obvious need. We are extremely grateful for the support shown from members of the local community. Your continued generosity is greatly appreciated by everyone here. (Full letter on notice board at back of church)

Save your cereal boxes please!

I am in need of "cereal box" card to make stars for Messy Church in November. Please bring to church over the next two weeks. With grateful thanks Ann Wakefield.

Lister Hospital Help

Volunteers are needed to help move patients from wards to the chapel. Sunday mornings 9am-12-00noon. If interested in helping contact John Richardson-johnrichardson891@btinternet.com

Prayer Service at Built on Faith Apostolic Church

1st November 2017, 7.30 – 9pm at Westmill Centre, John Barker Place, Hitchin SG5 2PG. After the tremendous blessing of the BOF & Ellel Healing Conference there has been a desire to pray for healing in Hitchin and keep up the momentum of what God is already doing. Please Join us as we seek God's plans for the future. (All are welcome). For more info and to send in your prayer requests contact Donald on 07737 451105 or email bof_biblewaychurch@yahoo.co.uk.

Statement about the late Bishop Hubert Victor Whitsey

The Church of England has been supporting the police on an investigation into allegations of sexual offences against children and adults by the late Bishop Hubert (Victor) Whitsey. The allegations date from 1974 onwards when he was Bishop of Chester and while he was retired and living in Blackburn diocese. Bishop Whitsey also served as Bishop of Hertford in St Albans Diocese from 1971 to 1974.

Anyone affected by this news should call the CCPAS helpline on 0303 003 11 11 who can offer help and signpost to church-related support and information or alternatively call the NSPCC 0808 800 5000. Anyone with further information on the case should go direct to the police on 101.

Any allegations or information will be listened to and treated seriously. Alternatively, if you have any information or concerns please call Jez Hirst, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser on 01727 818107 Mob: 07867 350886 or safeguarding@stalbans.anglican.org Jane, Jeni, Andrew or John are always willing to listen or to pray with people who are affected by this news.

Christmas lunch

We will be offering a Christmas Lunch to anyone who would like to join us on Christmas Day, from 1pm until 4pm. If you would like to come, please sign the sheet at the back of church so that we have an idea of numbers, the closing date for which is 26th November. If you have any questions please call Joy Hukin.

Thursday Group

The next Thursday Group meeting is on November 2nd and will be a Dry Flower arrangement workshop led by Val Chamberlain. All are welcome. Please bring a small vase or jug. Materials will be provided. We meet in the church hall 7.45pm for 8pm start. Entry £3 (inc. refreshments). Contact Val Conetta for further details.

Looking for "Somewhere to Go" This Christmas?

Nowhere to go this Christmas? then you are welcome to join us... for Christmas food, festive fun and good company at Walsworth Road, Baptist Church, Walsworth Rd, Hitchin, SG4 9SP! Join us on Christmas day 11am-5pm, Boxing day 10am-4pm, and New Year's Day 10am-4pm. For booking, donations or volunteering contact Leigh 07931 – 833838 or Donald 07737451105, email bof_biblewaychurch@yahoo.co.uk

Thank You

A very belated and heartfelt, thank you to the kind person (probably Judy) who delivered some flowers to me after the Harvest Festival. They were lovely and I don't know what I have done to deserve them.

Diane Porter

Prayer Leaflets

We are beginning to deliver pray leaflets through the homes in our part of town, a road at a time over the coming year. If you would be prepared to deliver the pray leaflets to a street please have a look at the list on the mission board and sign up for a street. If you'd like any further details please talk to Jane.

Swaziland fundraising

I will be running a stall in the Market Place on Saturday 11 November to raise money for my trip to Swaziland next summer with the Explorer Scouts. We will be finishing building a community youth centre in a small village and helping with a soup kitchen. On the stall I will be selling jams, chutney, cakes and books and toys. Please come and have a look.

Ellie Stone

Carols Service at Westmill Lawns and Nightingale House

This year we will be taking Carol Services at both Westmill Lawns and Nightingale House. It would be really helpful to have some extra people to come along and boost the singing. If you're able to help the dates are as follows: Nightingale House 2.00pm on Wednesday 13th Dec, Westmill Lawns 2.30pm on Friday 15th December. If you'd like more information please contact Jane.

Real Advent Calendars

There is a signup sheet at the back of church if you would like to order a Real Advent Calendar – as well as delicious Fairtrade chocolates they also have a story/activity book, and the real story of Christmas! £3.99 each, orders please by Sunday 12th November. For more info contact Maggie Mellersh.

Traidcraft Christmas Catalogues are available from the back of the church. If you would like to place an order via Maggie Mellersh (no p&p costs) please let her have the order by Sunday 12th November. Otherwise you can order online from www.traidcraftshop.co.uk

Messy St Mark's

Thank you to everyone who has got behind our launch of Messy St Mark's at Oughton Primary School. We had over 100 people turn up for our first session! Thank you to the team who planned and helped on the day, to those who baked cakes for us and for all who prayed. Our next session will be next half term and will be focusing on the Christmas story. If you'd like to get involved or know more then please do get in touch with Jane.

And because there is space, a beautiful prayer – the Collect for the last Sunday in Trinity.

Faithful Lord,
whose steadfast love never ceases
and whose mercies never come to an end:
grant us the grace to trust you
and to receive the gifts of your love,
new every morning,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

To receive the news sheet by email or submit a notice

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 Tricia Reed on 440278.

Please send notices for inclusion in the news sheet by 7pm on Wed.