

⊕ St Mark's Church Hitchin ⊕

A member of Churches Together in Hitchin

11 March 2018 Mothering Sunday



Services and events for today

8am	Holy Communion (Said) pg 59 in folder
10am	Holy Communion (separate booklet)

TRAIDCRAFT STALL will be at the back of the church today. Easter gifts and cards available, and last chance to order the Real Easter Eggs!

Readings for today

1 Samuel 1. 20-28
Colossians 3. 12-17
John 19. 25b-27

St Mark's extends a warm welcome to newcomers

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



@stmarkshitchin



Hymns for 10.00am

422	Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
407	O God in heaven, whose loving plan
360	For Mary, Mother of our Lord
MP 170	Give thanks with a grateful heart
205	Now thank we all our God

Diary for week beginning Monday 12 March

Mon 12	2pm	Tea and DVD at Joy Hukin's House
Wed 14	9.15am	Morning Prayer
	7pm	Choir Practice
Thur 15	2pm	Pastoral and Bereavement groups meet
Fri 16	9.30am	Little Lions

Services and events for Sunday 18 March 2018

8am	Holy Communion
10am	Family and Parade Service with baptism of Jonty Pike
3pm	Baptism Celebration

From the Churches Together in Hitchin prayer Link we pray for: PHASE and their Year 6 Easter Workshops being delivered at present in Primary schools across Hitchin.

From the St Mark's Cycle of Prayer, we pray for: Those receiving communion at home, the unemployed, and all living with poverty and debt. We also pray for the residents of Truemans Road.

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 pulpit in the side aisle to listen, talk and pray with you.

Notices

Holy Week Services

As we approach Holy Week and Easter this year there are a number of ways to mark and remember this important part of Jesus' life and of our faith journey.

Sun 25 March 10.00am - Palm Sunday Holy Communion

Mon 26, Tues 27, and Wed 28 March - 8pm Compline with reflection

Maundy Thursday (29th) 8pm Iona Communion Service and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday 30 March - 9.30am Service of Prayer and Reflection

10am - Leave from church to walk to Bancroft Gardens

10.30am **Walk of Witness**, with other churches, from Bancroft Gardens to the Market Place

11.00am - CTH Service in the Market Place

2.30pm - 4.30pm - **Good Friday Messy Church**

Easter Sunday (1st April) 7.00am Holy Communion followed by breakfast

10am - Family Easter Communion

Alpha Course Help

I am looking to recruit a team of people who would be happy to be part of an 'Alpha Team'. The idea is if there are a few volunteers the work load will be spread and it won't become too burdensome for one person to manage. There are many jobs involved ranging from administrative to more practical and involved in supporting the guests. This does not mean committing to every term. If you are interested please let me know on 07773 784 736 or jennifercmcquaid@gmail.com.

Easter Lilies

Over the next few weeks I will be collecting dedications for the Easter lilies. Please let me know the name of your loved one. Thank you in advance. *Ann Wakefield*

Messy St Mark's

Our next Messy St Mark's at Oughton Primary school is on 22nd March and is on the theme of Easter. As we prepare we would be grateful for any of the following: clean junk (for junk modelling), sturdy cardboard tubes, plastic round yogurt pots e.g. Muller light pots or equivalent, coffee filter papers from filter machines which are no longer needed. Any items can be brought to church by 11th March please. If you'd like to help with Messy St Mark's, do let Jane know.

Confirmation 14th June

This year St Mark's will be hosting the Team Confirmation Service. Being confirmed is an opportunity to publicly declare that you wish to try and follow God, and to have the Bishop pray for you. If this is something you'd be interested in exploring, without any commitment at this stage, please talk to Jeni or Jane.

Social Events (*amended*)

We are going to start two new monthly social events aimed at our older members. On the **second Monday** of the month (starting 12 March) there will be tea and a DVD at Joy Hukin's home, and on the **third Tuesday** of the month (starting 20 March) there will be tea and games (whist, scrabble, RummiKub etc) at Margaret Hammond's home. Both will start at 2pm, and all are welcome. If you have any queries, speak to Joy Hukin), or Margaret/Joy Bennett (07970 729 733) or just turn up on the day.

Easter Morning Alleluia Breakfast! 7.45am onward

Do join us for a cooked breakfast to begin our Christian celebration day. Stay after the 7 am service or come early for the 10 am service and enjoy together. Cost: donations. It would help if you sign the sheet on the welcome table for catering purposes, but happy to accommodate any extras on the day. Further information from Helen Richardson by email helenwrich@btinternet.com or Joy Hukin

St Mary's Church is Recruiting!

We are looking for an enthusiastic Christian with an ability to facilitate worship to engage children and families in a twice-monthly sustainable fresh expression of church. This is to build on the work of our pilot, and empowering lay leaders. 10 hours a week £5,200 pa. For an informal conversation, contact Revd Daniel Drew on 07738 553264.

Closing Date: 26th March 2018.

Thursday Group

Thursday Group meeting on April 5th is entitled " English Customs"; A light-hearted evening of entertainment presented by Gill & Barry Goodman. We meet in the hall at 7.45pm for an 8pm start. All welcome, visitors £3 (includes refreshments).

For further information contact Val Conetta

Hitchin Rock Choir Concert Friday 23rd March

Hitchin Rock Choir will be performing some of their uplifting and feel good repertoire at The Priory School on Friday 23rd March at 8pm. All proceeds will go towards the wonderful charity Phase, which is a local charity working alongside young people at primary and secondary schools in Hitchin and beyond, to promote wellbeing and resilience. Phase started life with support from Churches Together in Hitchin back in 2002 (<http://phase-hitchin.org/>). Tickets are available for £10 from the Phase office (01462 422940 or office@phase-hitchin.org), or for more information via [hitchinrockchoir.eventbrite.co.uk/](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/), or contact Belinda Brett.

Good Friday Messy Church

We will be holding our annual Good Friday Workshop, re-named 'Good Friday Messy Church', this year on 30th March between 2.30-4.30pm. If anyone is able to help with the craft activities or with the refreshments please let Jane know.

St Patrick's Day Ceilidh in aid of The Alzheimer's Society - Saturday 17th

March, 7pm. As part of my fundraising for The London Marathon, I am holding a Ceilidh and dinner on St Patrick's Day at St Michael's Community Centre, St Michael's Road. Tickets are £20 each and include a dinner of loaded pulled pork baps or vegan bean tacos and Irish desserts. The Ceilidh is being provided by Ivel Valley Band and there will be a fully licensed bar. If you would like a ticket or any more information speak to Gail Litterick or Rachel Drury, or email Drurys26.2@outlook.com.

Many thanks, Rachel Drury.

Swimathon in memory of Phil Chamberlain

My son Stephen is doing the swimathon in memory of his dad. The money is going to Cancer Research and Marie Curie. If you would like to help him there is a Just Giving page for the Hitchin Swimathon Steve Chamberlain, or you can give donations to me. *Thanks Val Chamberlain*

'Celebrating our baptisms' – Sunday, 18 March at 3pm

Everyone who has been baptised at St Mark's in the last 3 years should have received an invitation to join us next Sunday afternoon to remember and celebrate the day of their baptism. If you were baptised before 2015 and would like to join the celebration, you would be very welcome. Please pick up an invitation from the back of church today and let us know you're coming so we can make sure there is enough cake for everyone. Email jane@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk or text 07910 526471 We would also love to hear from anyone who could help make and serve the drinks after the service and/or make some small cakes. If you can help in either way, please tell Gill Hadden in church or text or ring her by Wednesday 14 March.

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.