

24th
December
2017



St Mark's
Woodthorpe

A heart for the Community



Welcome to St Mark's

Welcome to this growing church! We hope you feel at home. If you have any questions, just ask. We regularly hold welcome afternoons.

To find out about our Vision and Values, visit www.stmarksonline.co.uk and click 'About Us'

Dear friends

Thank you for journeying together this year, and for your commitment to be disciples who make disciples. Thank you for the many ways in which you contribute to this wonderful church.

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Matt

Christmas Greetings

Due to popular demand, there is a display board at the back of church on which you can write your Christmas greeting to church family. We encourage you to donate the money saved on cards to your chosen charity.

Christmas Flowers

If anyone wishes to make a donation towards the church Christmas flowers it would be very much appreciated. There is a basket at the back of church.

EMU Toiletries Collection

Following the night of prayer against gender-based violence, EMU are collecting toiletries to give to a local women's hostel. Any unwanted Christmas gifts or donations welcome. Please put them in the box at the back of church or give to an EMU member. More information from Laura, Pat, Sue or Rosemary.

Christingle Services 3.30 & 5pm on 24th December

As in past years we have 2 Christingle services on Christmas Eve, where we give away Christingles, and we light candles during the service. This service raises over £600 for the Children's Society and is a major part of our church's giving, that helps them to support families and youngsters living on the street. Please invite your friends and neighbours to come with you to one of the services.

Christmas Day Lunch

at St James Porchester (Church Hall). Open to anyone on their own at Christmas. Three course meal: £7.50. Contact Dorothy Chapman (950 3088).

Church Office

The church office will be closed from 3.00pm on 22nd December 2017 and will reopen at 9.30am on Wednesday, 3rd January 2018.

Children's and Youth Ministry

CYM groups resume on Sunday, 7th January 2018.

Mothers Union

We meet every 2nd Wednesday of the month and the next meeting will be 10th January 2018, 2.15pm-3.45pm in the Meeting Room.

The Church Friendship Group

This group aims to bring kids together to have fun and build lasting friendships. Aimed at the primary age range but all welcome. Meet up once a month, alternating between Friday after school & Sunday afternoon: Friday 19 Jan and Sun 11 Feb. Contact Kari Lao/Jo Pratt.

Desk for sale (from church office)

£40. See John Sargent.

St Mark's News - next edition

Please send articles to Ann, in the church office, by 12 noon on Monday 8th January.

Newsletter Distributors Needed

Distributors are needed for Greendale Road and Hemsby Court, Overstrand Close and Oulton Close. Please contact the Church Office if you are interested.

Advent & Christmas 2017

Christmas Eve at 10.00am Holy Communion

Christmas Eve at 3.30pm and 5.00pm, Christingle
Our popular Christingle events in aid of The Children's Society.

Christmas Eve at 11.15pm, Holy Communion

This traditional service includes the first Communion of Christmas.

Christmas Day Celebration at 10.00am

Let's celebrate Jesus' birthday together. Children and teenagers bring a small 'wrapped' gift to open during the service.

This is the final edition of the Weekly Sheet for 2017, the next edition will be 7th January 2018

St Mark's is a caring church where every member is encouraged to love and support others. In pastoral situations, home groups are normally the first point of contact. We also have a lay-led pastoral team whose contact details are below. Our local hospitals have trained chaplains available who offer support, prayer and Holy Communion. However, if you urgently need to make contact with a member of clergy, please use the following numbers when the church office is closed:

Bryan Mallows (Warden) 07884 062337
John Sargent (Warden) 0115 952 2275
Diana Mallows (Pastoral Team) 0115 953 7017
Pat Simpson (Safeguarding) 07816 908133

If you know of anyone who would benefit from a visit from a member of the Pastoral Team call:

Sue Roberts 0115 953 7949
Diana Mallows 0115 953 7017
Linda Freeman 0115 959 0093



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Church Office:

Monday 09.30-11.30
Wednesday 09.30-11.30
Friday 13.00-15.00

Telephone: (0115) 926 7859

Email:

stmarks.woodthorpe@ntlworld.com

Website: www.stmarksonline.co.uk

Facebook: stmarkswoodthorpe

Vicar: Matt Roberts

Please note that photographs/videos may be taken during services and events

THIS WEEK

Sunday 24th December

10.00 am Holy Communion
Leader Peter/Matt, Preacher Peter
3.30pm Christingle
Leader Matt, Preacher Matt
5.00pm Christingle
Leader Matt, Preacher Matt
11.15pm Midnight Communion
Leader Peter, Preacher David Clayden

Monday 25th December 2017

10.00am Christmas Day
Leader Matt, Preacher Dave Keetley

Thursday

10.00am Parish Prayer (58 Thetford Close)
10.30am Coffee Time, Coningsby House

Sunday, 31st December 2017

8.45am No Service
10.00am Morning Service
Leader, John C, Preacher Alan S
6.00pm No Service

Tuesday

7.30am Julian Prayer Meeting in Chapel

Sunday 7th January

8.45am Morning Prayer
Leader Elaine, Preacher Peter
10.30am Communion
Leader Jack, Preacher Jack
6.00pm Evening Service
Leader Alan S, Preacher Stan

Please can you pray for the following:

Please continue to pray for Laura Rhodes and her family, Stan Carter and Frank Atkinson, who are all now at home.

Our elderly who are no longer able to attend church.

Those that are housebound and those in care homes.

Parish Prayer

This week we pray for homes in
Arno Vale Road, Arno Vale Gardens

Mission Partners

Friends in Burundi

Please pray for a peaceful Christmas and New Year in Burundi.

Please pray for Rev. Pascal Bigirimana who is suspected of having prostate cancer and has to undergo extensive tests.

Azaria Spencer in Guatemala

Pray for Azaria as she spends her first Christmas and New Year in Guatemala and for her family and friends here in the UK.