



## Parish Prayers Week Commencing 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023

		Evening Prayer	Eucharist
<b>Mon</b>	St Mary's 8.45am St Matthew's 9am	St Matthew's 5pm	
<b>Tues</b>	St Mary's 8.45am St Matthew's 9am	St Mary's 5pm St Matthew's 5pm	
<b>Wed</b>	St Mary's 8.45am	St Mary's 5pm St Matthew's 5pm	St Matthew's 10am St Mark's 1pm
<b>Thurs</b>	St Mary's 8.45am St Matthew's 9am	St Matthew's 5pm	St Mary's 10.30am
<b>Fri</b>	St Mary's 8.45am St Matthew's 9am	St Matthew's 5pm St Mary's 5pm	
<b>Sat</b>	St Mary's 12 noon		

### Parish News

**Team Prayers:** Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at St Mark's 2pm

**St Matthew's Wimbledon 'Spotlight on Social Justice' Talk:** An interfaith event focussing on questions of faith and sexuality, featuring guest speakers Rabbi Adrian Schell (Wimbledon Synagogue) and Rev Dr Charlie Bell (St John the Divine Kennington). Don't miss out on this opportunity to hear from two stellar speakers in this field, and to learn about how you can make a difference so that all people - regardless of sexuality or gender identity - can feel welcomed in communities of faith. Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 7pm - 8pm, followed by wine and nibbles. Tickets available at: [www.faithsexuality.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.faithsexuality.eventbrite.co.uk)

**Christian Care Executive Manager:** Christian CARE Association (CCA) are recruiting an Executive Manager to oversee the day to day running of CCA. This will be its first paid employee and in the first instance a one-year contract is on offer at the rate of £24 per hour for a 21-hour week spread over 3-5 days. Closing date 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023. Full details at: [www.christiancaremerton.org.uk](http://www.christiancaremerton.org.uk)

**Team Confirmation Service:** Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm at St Mary's. Do come along and support the confirmation candidates from the Team in this special service. It is lovely that Bishop Rob Gillion will be confirming 7 adults and 6 young people from the Team this year. Please remember the candidates in your prayers.

**Wimbledon Foodbank Volunteers Needed:** Warehouse, Client Team, Social Media, Admin & Fundraising. Further details on <https://wimbledon.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/volunteer/>

Please email parish news items by 9am Wednesday each week to [sam@parishofwimbledon.org.uk](mailto:sam@parishofwimbledon.org.uk)



# St Mark's

The Church at the Heart of Wimbledon  
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Welcome! Whether you are a visitor or a regular member of the congregation, we pray that you might come closer to God during the service.

**Children & young people:** We currently have a single group for children pre-school age and above that meets in the hall after the first hymn. We ask that children under four are accompanied. Do join us!

**Parents with babies & toddlers** are welcome to use the chapel at the back of the church behind the glass windows. There are toys and books provided, & a loudspeaker so you can hear what is happening during the service.

**Thinking of making a donation to the church?** You can give contactlessly using the card reader at the back of church, or via your mobile phone using the QR code in the Entrance Area. If you give regularly, why not join the Planned Giving Scheme? This is an easy way to give, and helps the church plan its finances. Contact Sheila Dunman: [s.dunman@btinternet.com](mailto:s.dunman@btinternet.com), for more information, or pick up a Planned Giving form from the back of St Mark's.

**Mobile telephones:** Please ensure these are turned off / silent during the service.

**After the service** please collect a tea, coffee or squash in the narthex (entrance hall).

**Can't be here every Sunday?** We can help you stay in touch with St Mark's by emailing the notice and readings sheets to you each week. Please let Becky know ([office@stmarkswimbledon.org.uk](mailto:office@stmarkswimbledon.org.uk)) if you would like this.

#### Our mission statement, purpose, and reason for being here:

- To be enriched by the love of God
- To extend the welcome of God
- To express the compassion of God

**Vicar:** The Revd Clive Gardner 020 8944 0184 [clivegardner@outlook.com](mailto:clivegardner@outlook.com)

**Pastoral Minister:** Paula Thorvaldsen-Brits 07711 887430  
[paula@stmarkswimbledon.org.uk](mailto:paula@stmarkswimbledon.org.uk)

**Reader:** Charles Esdale [cestrongdale@gmail.com](mailto:cestrongdale@gmail.com)

Church Office hours: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 9.30am – 1.30pm  
020 8944 8436 [office@stmarkswimbledon.org.uk](mailto:office@stmarkswimbledon.org.uk)

*Items for inclusion should reach the Church Office by Wednesday of each week.*

### Prayer requests - please pray for:

John Clifford  
Angel  
Jane Pillay  
Sarah Jane Wong  
Esther Shenbanjo  
Susan  
Abigail

*If you would like to add an individual to our prayer request list, please email the Church Office or use the intercession folder at the back of the Church.*

**Book Discussion Group:** Please join us for our next book discussion group which will be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 8pm at 9 Midmoor Road, SW19 4JD. We will be discussing the rather topical book 'Apeirogon' by Colum McCann, published in February 2020. The novel explores the conflict in the Middle East and follows the story of two men, one Palestinian, the other Israeli, who have each lost a daughter. Do feel free to come along even if you have not read the book. This is an opportunity to meet, exchange news and views and yes, discuss the book! *Kathy Pring.*

**Bishop Gilpin RE Day:** I have put up a new display of work at the back of the church. Please stop for a moment to see what the children have been learning in their RE lessons. You may like to say a quick prayer of blessing while looking. *Paula Thorvaldsen.*

**Christmas Gathering:** Come and join us in the hall, immediately after the service on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, for some Christmas cheer. There will be delicious snacks, a sumptuous finger buffet and mulled wine. It's a great opportunity to catch up and enjoy each other's company. We'd love to see you there. *Paula Thorvaldsen.*

### Notices

*We warmly welcome Rev'd Alastair Newman to St Mark's today as part of Clergy Swap Sunday.*

**Join the Choir for the Carol Service:** St Mark's annual Carol Service is fast approaching and will be on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm. For the Carol Service, we would like to welcome anyone who wants to join the choir and perform with us, no previous singing experience required. Just join us for rehearsals on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November (5pm – 6.30pm) and/or Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December (5.30pm – 7pm) plus on the day before the service. We are looking forward to singing with you! *Anian Wiedner.*

**Wimbledon Guild Activities:** Wimbledon Guild has lots of varied activities this winter, from Christmas craft workshops to a performance of festive classics by Royal Albert Hall musicians. Please see their website for the full timetable of events: <https://www.wimbledonguild.co.uk/how-we-help/activities/full-timetable>. *Clive Gardner.*

**Bishop Gilpin Coffee Morning:** You are invited to join us on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 10am - 11:30am for a very special morning at our parish school. The children look forward to playing a game of bingo with you and sharing a small, but wonderful, concert. They will be providing tea, coffee and cake! Please RSVP to me by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December. We need this to comply with the school's safeguarding procedure. We do understand that health circumstances can sometimes change; please do let me know if you can no longer make it. I really would appreciate your support since learning about serving our community and making meaningful connections is incredibly important to our children. *Paula Thorvaldsen.*

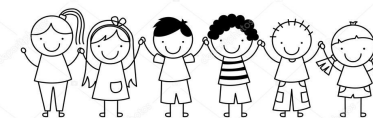
**Church Office:** Please note revised Church Office opening hours for Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November only of 1pm – 4pm. Normal opening hours apply at all other times. *Becky Bryant.*

### Children & Young People

Children of two and above are invited to join us in the hall after the first hymn for Sunday Club.

This term we continue to look at the Life of Jesus and in the coming weeks will also be preparing for our Christmas Nativity on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December in the main service.

*Beccy and Steph*



**Wimbledon Library Coffee & Chat:** Visit Merton Libraries for a free hot drink in a warm and welcoming environment. All welcome, no need to book. The second Wednesday of the month at 10am at Wimbledon Library. Please see poster in the narthex for details of sessions at other Merton libraries. *Clive Gardner.*



### Christmas at St Mark's



- \* **Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec, 10am:** Our Sunday Club give a Nativity Presentation at the end of the Eucharist
- \* **Sat 9<sup>th</sup> Dec, from 10am:** Decorating St Mark's for Christmas
- \* **Sun 10<sup>th</sup> Dec, 10am:** All-Age Christingle Eucharist with Cantores Choir
- \* **Sun 17<sup>th</sup> Dec, 6.30pm:** Carols by Candlelight (a service for adults and older children) followed by mulled wine and mince pies
- \* **Christmas Eve, 11.30pm:** Midnight Mass in the Chapel
- \* **Christmas Day, 10am:** All-Age Christmas Communion

Note: there will be no 1pm service on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> December.