

ST MARK'S PARISH MAGAZINE



Autumn – "Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness"

OCTOBER 2017

Price 30p

THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARK, REIGATE

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Visit our website: www.stmarksreigate.co.uk

THE CURATE'S LETTER

Dear Friends

As the Autumn takes hold after summer, I find the changing of the seasons rather comforting. Although I have enjoyed the light summer evenings, being able to walk the dog across Banstead heath at the end of the day, I also enjoy the dark nights too where a nice cup of tea and a blanket tucked up by the fire also brings its benefits and sense of cosiness!

The winter months however can also invoke a sense of anxiety and fear, especially for those living alone as the dark nights creep in earlier and earlier. As I write for this month's magazine, the month of October also brings with it the dreaded 'H' word... Halloween! In a previous parish, the incumbent was very strict in that there was to be no mention of the H word, which for a few members of the parish immediately initiated a sense of anxiety and fear.

So, with the permission of our Vicar, I am going to knock the taboo out of Halloween and bring the festival back to light where it belongs so that we may celebrate and not be scared!

As many of you will know, Halloween was shortened from All Hallows Eve, marking the first chapter of the story, which concludes with All Hallows (All Saints) day. On All Saints' Day, we know and celebrate that death is not the end, that when we die we spend eternity with Jesus, with new life stronger than death.

So, Halloween is a time where we can draw comfort from that, and confront all that scares us in life. Halloween is an opportunity for children to do what they always do when working out issues of life... play!! If approached with a sense of wonder rather than cynicism, it is a perfect opportunity to educate children from a Christian perspective. Halloween enables children to unpack all the usual 'baddies' in fairy tales – witches, ghosts, skeletons and vampires – and confront all that scares them, including death. Then, on All Saints' Day, we hear the second half of the story – that death is not the end, that we do not become eerie ghosts when we die, but we spend eternity with God and those we love but no longer see.

Children who dress-up as e.g. witch, doesn't mean that they are interested in the occult. They are simply working out, through play, good and evil. I do not know about you, but I cannot think of one story in my childhood where the hero/heroine loses! Whether it be a vampire, a witch, ghosts or goblins these playfully represent the DARKNESS and fear in the world around us. But as we hear from St John's Gospel 1:5, 'The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it'. God is always with us in our times of fear, and when we can't see the road ahead, 'Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path' Psalm 119:105.

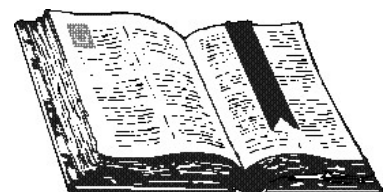
It is an interesting fact that the playful act of Trick-or-Treating began in the British Isles with children going from door to door singing for 'soul cakes' to remember the dead. (Sting on YouTube does a beautiful rendition.)

Also, the tradition of carving a lantern also came from Christianity – this time in Ireland and was used to scare away the devil.

So, the origins of Halloween are steeped in Christianity, unfortunately, the commercialisation of Halloween has meant that the costumes have got rather sinister causing fear and trepidation. But like all things that we face in life that challenge us, it's worth pausing to try and look from a different perspective, and by doing so it allows us to question and consider where God is in all this!

Happy Halloween

Anna.



READINGS FOR OCTOBER

1 October	Harvest	2 Corinthians 9:6 to 15	Luke 12:16 to 30
8 October	Trinity 17	Philippians 3:4b to 14	Matthew 21:33 to 46
15 October	Trinity 18	Philippians 4:1 to 9	Matthew 22:1 to 14
22 October	Trinity 19	1 Thessalonians 1:1 to 10	Matthew 22:15 to 22
29 October	Bible Sunday	Nehemiah 8:1 to 4a, 8 to 12	Matthew 24:30 to 35

ST MARK'S PASTORAL TEAM

St Mark's pastoral team is available to support and help those in need in our community. If you know anyone that would benefit from a visit from our team, or would like to speak confidentially about personal matters, please feel free to approach members of the team directly, by email or alternatively there are referral slips available at the front and back of the church. All referrals are treated with the strictest confidence.

Team members are:

Ian & Jenny Archer, Marilyn Assender, Patricia Bird, Sarah Cousins, Stephanie Lawrence, Ken Packer, Alison Stagg, Louise Wallis, Reverend Martin & Reverend Anna.

For more information Email:

Reverend Martin Colton vicar@stmarksreigate.co.uk
Reverend Anna Moore curate@stmarksreigate.co.uk

TOWER FUND-RAISER – TABLE TOP SALE

In St Mark's church hall on Saturday 21 October, between 1.00pm and 4.00pm, we shall be holding a Table Top Sale to raise funds for the urgent repairs to the church tower.

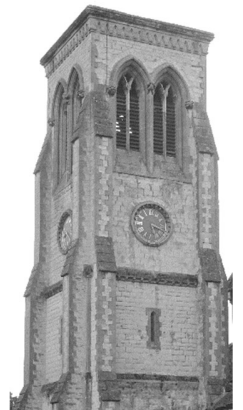
Entrance will cost £1.00, with tea/coffee and cake available to purchase during the afternoon.

Tables are for rent at £10.00 each. Some wonderful feature tables have already been booked (ie Plants, Games & Puzzles, Stationery, Woodturning, China & Glass and Phoenix Cards). Reservations for the remaining 3 tables can be made via the office.

Now is the time to clear out your cupboards, book a table and bring your treasures / crafts / hobbies to help repair our tower.

Please contact myself, Elizabeth Davis (01737 240781) or Shona Prosser (office@stmarksreigate.co.uk) for further details.

Patricia Bird (01737 247941)



ARCH'S WAY

Alison and I took Norman and Olive for tea at Leith Hill House, Vaughan William's old house at Coldharbour. The National Trust now run it, and the house has an excellent grass terrace which slopes away to the South with superb views. We were watching a young couple where the Dad was trying to interest his three or four year old daughter in a game of football. To put it politely, the youngster will probably not feature in our up and coming ladies' national football team in the foreseeable future. She kept tripping over the ball, losing interest and wandering off to look at other the visitors. My dad, rather rashly, remarked to the mother that her daughter seemed a 'typical girl', whereas a 'typical boy' would have been running around at full speed, shouting most of the time. He asked her whether she had any views about how their daughter was growing up and where her future might be.

Talk about 'fools rush in'! Nevertheless, I did understand why Norman was asking these impertinent questions. Olive had been telling us over tea that they always heard 'Woman's Hour' on Radio 4 in the morning while they did the household chores and one of the regular topics these days (to their obvious displeasure) is how youngsters could be assisted to discover their own gender and what to do if the parents thought their children might be gay in the future. In this case, however, the parents seemed to have no concerns. Their daughter had played with boys and girls equally but suddenly, in recent months, had started wanting teddy bears which she could line up for mock tea parties. When Norman asked whether Mum had influenced the girl in any way, she said "Certainly not! She can do exactly as she likes!"

The reason I raise this topic at all is the amount of air time and column inches spent worrying on such issues and the increased level of anxiety which appears to arise as a consequence. In a way, this is ironic because during the last few hundred years, there has never been a time when variations in gender and life-styles have been as socially acceptable in all their forms. So, surely this is time the media takes a step back from putting the microscope on our youngsters. I'm sure such perpetual examination creates anxiety rather than alleviates it.

Alison drew my attention to some comments by author Ms Zadie Smith who noticed that her seven-year-old daughter 'had started spending a lot of time looking in mirrors'. She has imposed a limit on her daughter of 15 minutes of 'beautifying'. I can see her point. If one looks at the magazine racks at the local stationers, there are yards of shelf space devoted to glossy magazines of teens and twenties, with their problems of falling into and out

of love. And then there's the dreaded Internet. Young people are comparing themselves to each other and, unfortunately, believing much of what they see. Growing up is, and always has been, a challenge; a time of considerable change, when youngsters need all the confidence-building they can get. At the same time, they are confronted with the challenges of education. They have my sympathy there! I was never a model student, being rather lazy and only really putting my mind to it when examinations loomed. Alison has always been more conscientious. Good for her. I'm glad one of us is!

These days, youngsters are subjected to a constant regime of testing, from the earliest ages. Once again, this is a big subject on 'Woman's Hour'. Teaching and testing methods come under scrutiny on a regular basis, causing anxiety in the pupils and the teachers. Of course, this then transmits itself to anxiety among parents. I was encouraged when I read a report from Reach2, a trust which has 55 schools, after it polled its Year 6 pupils. Their conclusion was that 80% of pupils said that they either enjoyed or did not mind taking the tests. I don't think this tallies with the views of the parents, or the newspapers! Perhaps two polls could be taken independently - what do the parents think of education tests, and what do pupils think of them. I know from my own experience that what I told my friends and what I told my parents was quite different!

Another very heartening report I read was from Mouhssin Ismail, the principal of Newham Collegiate Sixth Form, an East London Academy. To quote the report, its students are nearly all Asian or black, with some of the poorest and least educated parents. This year, 88% of A-level results were A* or B. This contrasts quite starkly with most accounts of education I've read, about the privileges of wealth, and the hopeless situation of deprived areas. We know that all children do not have an academic turn of mind so it should not be a surprise that there is a movement towards better provision of vocational education such as catering and house building. That will be an interesting issue because, on the one hand, schools obviously want to demonstrate their excellence in the mainstream academic league tables, while on the other hand, many pupils could be relieved to know that, by aiming for somewhat less academic achievements, they may well be avoiding the circa £40,000 debt that most university students incur.

Choices, choices! As the new academic year starts, I wish all students, young and younger, the very best of luck - and happiness - in whatever they're aiming for.

Time to go!

Roman Arch

A new kitchen for Saint Mark's Church Reigate

With approval from the PCC over the past year we have been involved in researching and planning a new kitchen for St Mark's: visiting other churches; discussing requirements with the main users; considering planning and other legal issues and obtaining quotes from builders and kitchen suppliers.



Why do we need a new kitchen?



The current kitchen is 28 years old and in need of replacement. Between Community Lunch and Messy Church, well over 100 people enjoy a hot meal and fellowship every month but we may not be able to continue to do this without upgrading the kitchen.

You might ask why we cannot carry on as we are since we seem to manage. However, in order to cater for large numbers on a regular basis, we need to comply with regulations including food hygiene and fire regulations and therefore need to register our kitchen for more regular use. In particular, separate areas are needed for hand-washing, food preparation and dirty dishes.



We will be better able to serve our community by having a larger kitchen with better facilities to match the capacity of the hall.

Where will it be located?

The current kitchen space will be extended by knocking through into the store cupboard and corridor and also into the committee room by about a metre. The doors to the car park area, the committee room and stage exit area will become fire doors. There will also be serving hatches with fire shutters to both the main hall and committee room. This will provide us with a kitchen large enough to include all appliances and equipment with enough space for everything currently stored in cupboards in the halls.

What will be included?

A full plan is available to view in church and includes the following:

◆run through dishwasher ◆new range cooker with electric oven and gas hobs ◆separate electric convection oven◆ventilation system◆fire alarm system◆two water heaters for tea and coffee away from the cooking area ◆full height fridge◆under counter freezer◆separate sinks for hand-washing, food preparation and pot washing◆storage racks for crockery, glassware, pots, pans and utensils ◆ lockable cupboards for food items and equipment for church use only◆central island preparation area◆hygienic surfaces, walls and non-slip flooring

Who will do the work?

We have invited quotes from three different kitchen suppliers and four different builders to ensure we look at various options and obtain advice from a range of experts. Other contractors have also been looking at the structural implications including asbestos removal and upgrading the electrical supply to the hall. We estimate the total costs will be in the region of £120,000 including VAT and contingency. A decision on the preferred suppliers will be made in discussion with the PCC.

How will it be paid for?

We are applying for a number of grants which hopefully will cover a significant amount of the cost. There will also be specific fundraising events around once a month on a variety of themes to which all members of the community and users of the hall and kitchen will be invited. We will also set up an online donations page. Of course, any donations by cheque will also be very welcome.

When will it be completed?

The plan is to raise funds over the next year and to do most of the work in June, July and August 2018 with the new kitchen being available in the autumn and a party to celebrate.

We are very excited at the prospect of a new improved kitchen here at St Marks and we hope you will share our vision. It will be available for everyone and will help us to fulfil our mission of reaching out to our local community.

Mel Crighton, Barbara Perkins & Nicci Lloyd

CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER

Sunday 1 October	Harvest Thanksgiving 12.30pm Harvest Lunch
Wednesday 4 October	10.00am until Noon - Vintage Tea in the church 8.00pm Pilgrim Course 1 of 6
Thursday 5 October	9.45am Pilgrim Course 1 of 6 2.00pm SMART 5.00pm Choral Evensong
Saturday 7 October	1.00pm Holy Matrimony 7.00pm SMOAT Quiz Night
Sunday 8 October	Trinity 17 1.00pm Community Lunch
Monday 9 October	5.00pm Choral Evensong
Wednesday 11 October	8.00pm Pilgrim Course 2 of 6
Thursday 12 October	9.45am Pilgrim Course 2 of 6
Sunday 15 October	Trinity 18 4.00pm Messy Church
Wednesday 18 October	St. Luke
Saturday 21 October	1.00pm until 4.00pm Tower Fundraiser Table Top & Craft Sale
Sunday 22 October	Trinity 19
Wednesday 25 October	8.00pm Pilgrim Course 3 of 6
Thursday 26 October	9.45am Pilgrim Course 3 of 6
Saturday 28 October (St. Simon & St. Jude)	8.00pm St Mark's Social Dance Clocks go BACK one hour
Sunday 29 October	Bible Sunday 5.00pm Roots Youth Group

NOVEMBER

Thursday 2 November 2.00pm SMART

Sunday 5 November All Saints

6.00pm All Souls Memorial Service

Wednesday 8 November 8.00pm Pilgrim Course 4 of 6

Thursday 9 November 9.45am Pilgrim Course 4 of 6

Saturday 11 November 7.30pm Concert

Sunday 12 November Remembrance Sunday

9.45am Sung Eucharist

11.00am Act of Remembrance at the
War Memorial

1.00pm Community Lunch

Wednesday 15 November 8.00pm Pilgrim Course 5 of 6

Thursday 16 November 9.45am Pilgrim Course 5 of 6

Sunday 19 November 2 Before Advent

4.00pm Messy Church

Saturday 25 November 8.00pm St Mark's Social Dance

Sunday 26 November Christ the King

5.00pm Roots Youth Group

Monday 27 November 8.00pm PCC Meeting

Wednesday 29 November 8.00pm Pilgrim Course 6 of 6

Thursday 30 November 9.45am Pilgrim Course 6 of 6
(St. Andrew)

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism: The Community of God's People welcome you with love.

27 August

Lily Blu Allen-Rickards

Edward James Allen-Rickards

10 September

Bella Rose Duffell

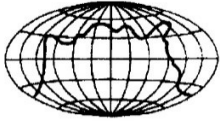
Indie Eve Duffell

17 September

William Edward Bell

24 September

Erin Sinclair-Smith



S · M · O · A · T

ST MARK'S OVERSEAS AID TRUST
REGISTERED CHARITY No. 280091

For the 2016 Christmas Appeal we raised money for two projects, one of which was an IMPACT project, supporting Mwingi Primary School in Kenya. The school includes a specialist school for children with hearing impairments. All these children are boarders but facilities are very basic and the school remains woefully under-resourced. There are few desks, and there is limited seating in classrooms. In the dormitories beds are squeezed into the available space and children can sleep up to three in a bed.

There have been some great improvements, the most significant of which was the construction of their own borehole. By digging deep into the ground, the school can now access fresh water on site. This means the children no longer have to walk several kilometres to get water. It also means that each pupil has been able to grow saplings, along with vegetables which they then eat.

The inspirational headmistress, Rosina, asked for our help to allow for an expansion of their dining room. She said in a short video for SMOAT: 'When the school was finished it was supposed to have only 45 learners, now we have 143. They are all boarders..... the cookers have aged, it doesn't have basic things like the kitchen sink, cupboards..... so we need expansion. Porridge burns, food spillage will be a thing of the past.'

The cost was forecast at £3,276 and through the generosity of our supporters, we were able to send £4,600, providing funds to support their wider ambitions such as providing classrooms with desks and chairs for pupils and teachers.

Earlier in the year we received an email from IMPACT which included a quote from Rosina:

'On behalf of the Mwingi School fraternity we thank you and promise to utilize for the purpose intended (dining hall extension). There will be clear record keeping and each stage communicated to you through writing accompanied by photos. God bless you all.'

She has sent some photographs and I hope you can get a flavour of what has already been achieved. When this project has been completed, it will

have transformed the children's school life and that of those pupils attending Mwingi School in the future. If you go to the SMOAT Facebook page, you will see the children sending a message of thanks in sign language. Please do 'like' our page to receive updates on our projects.

Thank you once again for your overwhelming generosity.



Barbara Perkins, Chairman

SMART

We will meet on Thursday 5 October in the church hall between 2.00pm and 4.00pm.

After our very stimulating meeting in September when we welcomed Pam Pulling-Smith to talk to us about her travels in Jordan and around the Middle East, we are planning a meeting where all can contribute and enjoy participating through discussion and debate.

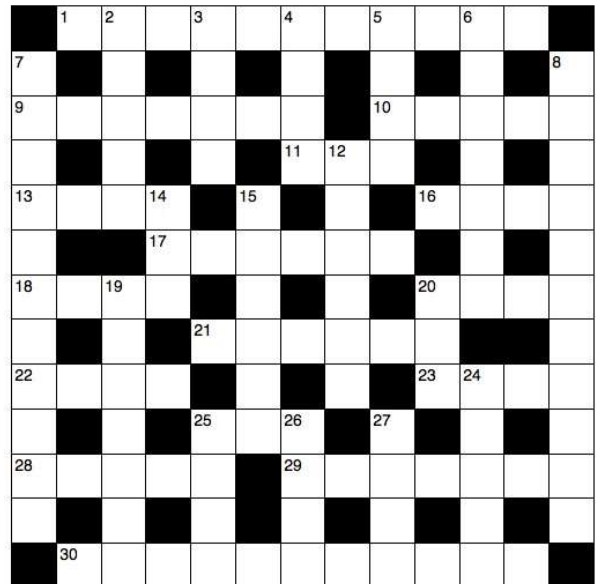
Tea and biscuits will be served. All are welcome. If you would like a lift, please contact Louise Wallis, Sarah Cousins or Marion Wall.

THIS MONTH'S CROSSWORD

(Bible references are New International Version)

Across

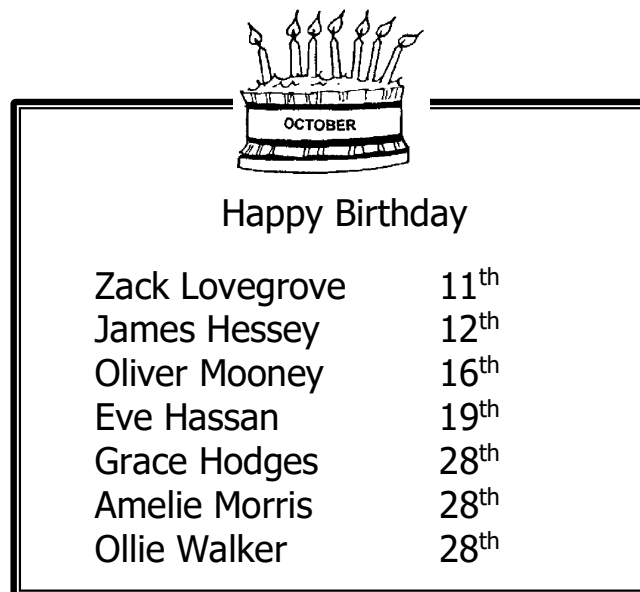
- 1 The sixth disciple (Matthew 10:3) (11)
9 'And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the — — '
(Matthew 6:13) (4,3)
10 Love intensely (Song of Songs 1:4) (5)
11 From Mt Carmel to Jezreel, Elijah — all the way (1 Kings 18:46) (3)
13 One of the Midianite leaders who was captured and killed after Gideon's
victory in the valley near Moreh (Judges 7:25) (4)
16 Metallic element (4)
17 At line (anag.) (6)
18 'Cursed is everyone who is — on a
tree' (Galatians 3:13) (4)
20 Where Samson killed a thousand
Philistines with a donkey's jawbone
(Judges 15:14) (4)
21 He succeeded Moses (Deuteronomy
34:9) (6)
22 'When he saw him, he took — on him'
(Luke 10:33) (4)
23 'For — is the gate and broad is the
road that leads to destruction' (Matthew
7:13) (4)
25 'The god of this — has blinded the
minds of unbelievers' (2 Corinthians 4:4) (3)
28 Fear or terror (Psalm 31:22) (5)
29 'We, who are many, are one body, for we all — of the one loaf' (1
Corinthians 10:17) (7)
30 Assyrian ruler assassinated by his sons while worshipping his god
Nisroch (2 Kings 19:37) (11)



Down

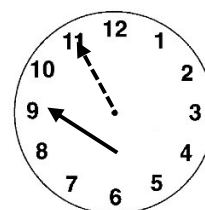
- 2 'For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made — ' (1 Corinthians
15:22) (5)
3 'After supper he — the cup' (1 Corinthians 11:25) (4)
4 The request of a man of Macedonia in Paul's vision: 'Come — to
Macedonia and help us' (Acts 16:9) (4)

- 5 He disobeyed his father Judah by refusing to impregnate his dead brother's wife (Genesis 38:9) (4)
- 6 I veto me (anag.) (7)
- 7 Fourth king of Judah (1 Kings 15:24) (11)
- 8 Priest of God Most High, who blessed Abram (Genesis 14:18) (11)
- 12 'I have made you — — for the Gentiles' (Acts 13:47) (1,5)
- 14 Implore (1 Samuel 15:25) (3)
- 15 'Out of the eater, something to eat; out of the — , something sweet' (Judges 14:14) (6)
- 19 'I am the most ignorant of men; I do — — a man's understanding' (Proverbs 30:2) (3,4)
- 20 'Sin shall not be your master, because you are not under — , but under grace' (Romans 6:14) (3)
- 24 Native of, say, Baghdad (5)
- 25 The last word in the Bible (Revelation 22:21) (4)
- 26 Heroic tale (4)
- 27 'Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you — ' (John 8:32) (4)



PLEASE DO NOT FORGET

European Summer Time ends on 29 October.
Clocks should be put back one hour.



MAGAZINE - CHANGE OF EDITOR

Dear Readers

This is just a little reminder (in case you missed an earlier letter) that, having been Magazine Editor for eleven years, it's time for someone else to take it on. They, of course, will decide what it should contain and how it should be presented.

Hopefully, it will continue to be available in paper form, as some people don't regularly use the Internet and it is also seen by some visitors to the Church. I shall finish by next Spring at the APCM, so if anyone is interested or wants information, please contact me.

Malcolm Toye (Magazine Editor)

SUDOKU

OCTOBER

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AUGUST SOLUTION

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SEPTEMBER CROSSWORD SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Also 3 Offering 9 The Magi 10 Rules 11 Soper 12 Help me
14 Isaac and Jacob 17 Scorch 19 In man 22 Loads 23 Inertia 24, Vicinity
25 Belt

DOWN: 1 Artistic 2 Sleep 4 Faith in Christ 5 Enrol 6 Islamic 7 Gasp
8 Fabric 13 Abundant 15 Archaic 16 Jailer 18 Resin 20 Mitre 21 Slav

REGULAR SERVICES AT ST MARK'S

SUNDAYS

- 8.00am Each Sunday Holy Communion (said) – Book of Common Prayer
- 10.00am 1st Sunday Parish Eucharist (with Junior Church)
2nd Sunday Sung Eucharist (with Junior Church)
3rd Sunday Sung Eucharist (with Story Telling)
4th Sunday Sung Eucharist (with Junior Church)
5th Sunday Sung Eucharist (with Junior Church)
- 4.00pm 3rd Sunday Messy Church
- 6.00pm 1st Sunday Evening Prayer (said)
2nd Sunday Taizé Prayer
3rd Sunday Evening Prayer (said)
4th Sunday Evening Prayer (said)
5th Sunday Evening Prayer (said)

MONDAY TO THURSDAY

- 9.15am Morning Prayer

WEDNESDAYS (during school term-time)

- 3.25pm 'T'- Time Tales

THURSDAYS

- 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona)
followed by tea or coffee

Please send contributions for the November magazine to
Malcolm Toye at 10 Raglan Road, Reigate, Surrey RH2 0DP
Tel: 01737 247016 or email mctoye@hotmail.com
by 10 October 2017 please.

PARISH ACTIVITIES AND GROUPS

DAILY BIBLE READINGS – 'NEW DAYLIGHT'

Parish Office 210785

CHOIR PRACTICE

Each Thursday in Church - all parts at 7.00pm - other practices as notified

CHURCH FLOWER ROTA

Contact: Mrs Valerie Jones 246538

PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

Contact: Mrs Louise Wallis 242129

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

Mrs Rosemary Absalom 240351

Mrs Kate Lovegrove 226776

SMART - St Mark's Afternoon Retirement Team

Contacts: Mrs Sarah Cousins 789943

Mrs Louise Wallis 242129

ST MARK'S COMMUNITY LUNCH

Contacts: Mrs Angela Daniels 247162

Mrs Alison Stagg 243992

ST MARK'S HALL

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E-mail : jean.hatton@btinternet.com

ST MARK'S OVERSEAS AID TRUST - SMOAT

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janeartis@hotmail.com 07831 269866

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Distribution: Mrs Jenny Toye, 10 Raglan Road, Reigate 247016

YOUTH WORK

Junior Church Contact: Mrs Leonora Corden, l.corden@btinternet.com 224534

'ROOTS' Youth Group (4th Sunday of month 5-7pm) contact: Reverend Anna

Stoneman Funeral Service

Head Office and Funeral Home
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Reigate Road, Redhill
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or e-mail janeartis@hotmail.com
for further details



Abbeyfield House at 34 Somers Road, Reigate is a friendly, happy place. In our affordable family style house we provide a careful combination of independence with support, privacy with companionship. Residents have their own rooms, furnished by themselves, with meals provided by our House Manager. We are part of the nationwide Abbeyfield movement but the Reigate House is managed independently by local volunteers to provide sheltered accommodation for active independent senior citizens at very reasonable all-inclusive rates.

Please call the House Manager (01737 247928) for more information

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