THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARK, REIGATE

Vicar: Reverend Martin Colton

Assistant Curate: Reverend Reginald Grant

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SUNDAY 23 JANUARY (EPIPHANY 3)

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) in Church 10.00am Holy Communion in Church and on-line

TUESDAY 25 JANUARY (THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL)

WEDNESDAY 26 JANUARY

3.25pm T-Time Tales

THURSDAY 27 JANUARY

11.00am Funeral Service for Margaret Dodson (No Holy Communion (Iona) in Church)

SUNDAY 30 JANUARY (PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE)

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) in Church 10.00am Holy Communion in Church and on-line

THE COLLECT FOR TODAY

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.



The readings appointed for today

THE FIRST READING Nehemiah 8: 1,2,3,5,6,8,9,10

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen,' lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.

THE GOSPEL READING Luke 4: 14 to 21

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

INTERCESSIONS

Please pray for those in particular need: Jean Hovey, Alison Stagg, Alec Parish, Yvonne Powell, Jackie Whymms, Ruston Biggs, Margaret Steward.

For those living in Alma Road

For anniversaries falling at this time: Hilda Elizabeth Baker, Frieda Willson, Leonard Paxton, Kaye Farrington, Alan Davison, Mary (Bobbie) Coker, Stanley Hatton, Peter leSueur Draper.

FOOD BANK

There is still a huge demand on the Food Bank at St Matthew's Church in Redhill. Any donations you can make are very gratefully received. They can be left on the Vicarage doorstep at St Mark's, and these will be taken to the Food Bank.



CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Our Christmas Appeal this year is supporting two projects from organisations very familiar to us. The first is a Village Water project in three villages in the Manica Province, Mozambique. We will be supporting a Water, Sanitisation and Hygiene project, reaching approximately 1,200 people. They will receive WASH sessions and will also provided with life-saving be materials such as soap and disinfectant. Each village will have a functioning protected borehole from where they can obtain clean water.

The second project is from Advantage Africa and is aimed at improving incomes for disadvantaged families in rural Kenya by providing them with goats. Our aim is to help twelve families, who will receive training in goat rearing and also in the principles of local marketing and simple record keeping. After the training each family will receive two goats and a water storage tank for watering the livestock and family water storage.

The appeal will remain open until the end of March for those who would still like to make a donation.

GREEN SUNDAYS

The PCC has agreed to trial holding some Sunday services in the Hall during January, February and March to reduce our carbon footprint. This will be on the 1st Sunday of the month in January, February and March and will be the 8.00am, 10.00am and **4.00pm services.** The Church will be open as usual for private prayer, but the heating will not be on. The services in the Hall will follow the same format, etc. and will be live streamed. Later in 2022 the PCC will review this trial and decide whether to run it again next winter. The dates of the next Green Sundays are: 6 February and 6 March 2022.

COVID-19 UPDATE

With the recent increase in infections locally and the appearance of the Omicron variant, the Diocese has advised us that those attending worship should wear face coverings whilst in the building. All published services and activities will continue – any changes will be published on the website.

PARISH OFFICE

Please note the office will be closed for one day – tomorrow Monday.