

# ST MARK'S PARISH CHURCH REIGATE

**Vicar: Reverend Martin Colton**

☎ 01737 241161

Email: [vicar@stmarksreigate.co.uk](mailto:vicar@stmarksreigate.co.uk)

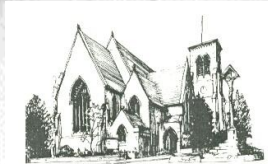
**Associate Priest: Reverend Reginald Grant**

☎ 07385 832372

Email: [curatestmarks@gmail.com](mailto:curatestmarks@gmail.com)

[www.stmarksreigate.co.uk](http://www.stmarksreigate.co.uk)

Reg. Charity No. 1134121



## **SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER (ADVENT 3)**

- 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) in Church
- 10.00am Sung Eucharist in Church and Online
- 4.00pm Messy Church

## **WEDNESDAY 17 DECEMBER**

- 9.00am Prayer Meeting in the Lady Chapel

## **THURSDAY 18 DECEMBER**

- 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

## **SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER (ADVENT 4)**

- 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) in Church
- 10.00am Sung Eucharist in Church and Online
- 6.00pm Carol Service in Church and Online

## **THE COLLECT FOR TODAY**

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee: grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, now and for ever.

**DIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK**



**CROYDON EPISCOPAL AREA**

**ARCHDEACONRY OF REIGATE**

## ***These are the readings appointed for today***

### **THE FIRST READING**

#### **Isaiah 35: 1 to 10**

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

### **THE GOSPEL READING**

#### **Matthew 11: 2 to 11**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to Jesus, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'

---

### **INTERCESSIONS**

Please pray for those in particular need:  
Yvonne Powell, Jacqueline McCallough,  
George Hook, Lennox Hartman,

Rosemary Absalom, Jane-Ann Paul,  
Sonia Pearson, Sylvia Loring, Ian Archer.  
For those living in Reigate Hill Close  
For St Mark, Reigate

For anniversaries falling at this time:

Jack Budgen, Frances Kitteringham,  
Harold Jones, Nancy Porter,  
Irene (Scottie) Scott.

### **WINTER NIGHT SHELTER**

St Mark's is hosting Winter Night Shelter each Friday night from 12 December until 23 January. If you have attended a volunteer training session since the Shelter resumed in 2023, please sign up for shifts on Dutyman.

*Nigel Perkins*

### **CHRISTMAS CHARITIES**

As is our usual practice, the collections, both cash and card, at our Christmas Services will be donated to various charities. At the Christingle Service at 4pm on Christmas Eve, we will be supporting the **Children's Society**. At the other services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and at the Carol Service, we will be supporting **Renewed Hope**, who run the Winter Night Shelter, and **Sparkfish**, a local charity working in local schools. Online donations during this period will be shared with all three charities.

### **PERSONAL CHRISTMAS CARDS**

As in previous years boxes are on the table in the tower lobby for members of the congregation to "post" personal cards. Any cards which are not collected by 31 December will be removed.



S · M · O · A · T

ST MARK'S OVERSEAS AID TRUST  
REGISTERED CHARITY No. 28091

### **CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

We launched our Christmas Appeal, last Sunday 23 November. This year we are supporting one project in Tanzania with our partner Action in Africa. We are hoping to raise at least £6,300 to buy seven motorbikes to enable medical teams to get to far flung patients in the community of Nyaishozi, where the terrain makes it almost impossible to reach people. Watch the Appeal video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1leximWEEQs>. Any donations would be very gratefully received.

### **BINGO – A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

We are holding a Bingo afternoon on Sunday 25 January 2026! To avoid disappointment, pop the date in your diary now. More details will follow but, rest assured, there will be lots of homemade cakes for everyone and a tombola for the children.

*Barbara Perkins*

### **GREEN SUNDAYS**

On the **1<sup>st</sup> Sundays of the month from December to March inclusive** all services will be in the Hall as we attempt to use less energy. Dates are:

Sunday 4 January 2026

Sunday 1 February 2026

Sunday 1 March 2026

### **REGULAR GIVING TO ST MARK'S**

If you are able to, please consider making a regular donation to St Mark's through the Parish Giving Scheme. This is the most effective way to donate as we receive 100% of your donation and Gift Aid is automatically claimed. Please follow the link below to sign up.

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/reigate-st-mark-reigate/>

Please contact me if you need any more information. Many thanks.

*Mel Crighton Treasurer,*  
[treasurer@stmarksreigate.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@stmarksreigate.co.uk)

Please send any notices for the news sheet to Terrence Hancock ☎ 01737 761178 or email [terrence.hancock1976@gmail.com](mailto:terrence.hancock1976@gmail.com) at the latest by 8.00am on a Thursday.