# **THIS SUNDAY -  8th January**

MORNING SERVICE, 10.30am  
[**In Church**](https://www.stmarksgillingham.org/Articles/607245/Church_Building_Open.aspx?redirected=1)**,** [**Facebook**](https://www.facebook.com/stmarksgillingham) **and** [**Youtube**](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1b5IAYzi3iBqXPBu0OnRrQ/videos?view=2&live_view=502)

**Title:** What is Christian hope?  
**Speaker**: Catharina

CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS

**GEMS & PEBBLES**

Children’s group will not be running until the 15th of January    
  
**SUMMIT | 6:30-7pm | Old Vicarage**  
Summit will be updated as soon as we know the date.

## This week

Home Groups  
Throughout the week

Joining a **home group** is a brilliant chance to meet and pray with others, build relationships, support one another, exchange views and explore God's word together. [Take a look at the groups and sign up here](https://www.stmarksgillingham.org/Groups/268148/Small_Groups.aspx) or contact the office.

Ladies Group

We will re-convene on Wednesday

18th January at 10am to finish the last study about Joseph, the following week will be games morning with men invited.

Standing in the Gap (Prayer meeting)

**Saturdays | 7 - 8am | Online**

On Zoom, join us [online here](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2238511807?pwd=TU94WVN3cDlaSWxnejhHZTYxMTdvdz09).  
[Meeting ID: 223 851 1807 | Passcode: inthegap]

Open Church  
**Tuesday | 10am - 12pm | Church**

Come along for a chat, fellowship or private prayer. Refreshments will be served. Please be aware masks are advised.  
If you are interested in volunteering please contact Dammy via [admin@stmarksgillingham.org](mailto:admin@stmarksgillingham.org).

Dementia Cafe

11th January, 25th January |1pm to 3pm | Church

Parent & Toddlers

Wednesdays, 1.15-2.45pm, Vicarage Hall

Fun space for children to play and for parents/guardians to connect. No need to book, just drop up. Wednesdays in term time.

Bible Stream

Sunday 8th January, 6:30pm at St Mark’s Church

### **NEWS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Holy Communion

If you are unable to get to Church and would like to have communion brought to your home, please contact the Church office.  [admin@stmarksgillingham.org](mailto:admin@stmarksgillingham.org) 01634 570489.  You need to live in St Mark’s parish and be happy for your contact details to be passed to the home communion team.

Prayer Meetings for 2023

Meetings between 7 and 9pm

4th January, Old Vicarage, Vicarage Road, ME7 5JA. 1st February, Old Vicarage. 1st March, Old Vicarage.

5th April, St Mark’s, 1 Canterbury Street, ME7 5TP. 3rd May, St Mark’s. 7th June, St Mark’s. 5th July, St Mark’s. 9th August, St Mark’s. 6th September, St Mark’s. 4th October, St Mark’s. 1st November, St Mark’s.

6th December, Old Vicarage.

Alpha Course

The Alpha course starts 23rd January 2023 for 10 weeks, on Mondays 6:30pm – 9:30pm. For more information, please follow the link to the Alpha Course website.

<https://alpha.org.uk/>

#### PLEASE PRAY –

Worldwide –

* **For China** in the grip of many serious cases of Covid, that their vaccination programme is more successful, and people’s needs are met; and that they share their data.
* **Ukraine,** may they withstand Russia’s onslaught and overcome; the people continue to minister to one another; and for all those separated from loved ones.
* May the watching world continue to offer support & aid.  **Israel,** for care and wisdom in their new leadership.

The UK –

* For our country in the grip of many strikes, that there may be ways forward; for the **NHS** under great strain - for those in need of treatment and care and those ministering to their needs.
* Pray for the children and young people going back to school, and for all those working in education, especially as there is so much infectious illness in communities;
* for our hospital and medical centres; and for those receiving palliative care and living with terminal illness, as they navigate an ‘under pressure’ service.

God’s Church –

* ***Gal 2:20****… The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*For humbly coming before Lord God in this new year and the renewing of commitments to follow Christ.

If you would like to be added to the ***Prayer & Praise*** email list to receive weekly praise reports and prayer requests from our church family please contact Kath Burtrand: [*kathyb.nana@yahoo.co.uk*](mailto:kathyb.nana@yahoo.co.uk)

Any questions, please email, catharina@stmarksgillingham.org

Foodbank

If you would like to donate to foodbank here is the link to the shopping list of things that are needed for those who are in need.

[file:///C:/Users/Student.26327/AppData/Local/Packages/microsoft.windowscommunicationsapps\_8wekyb3d8bbwe/LocalState/Files/S0/5/Attachments/Shopping%20List%20July-August%2022\_large[1640].pdf](file:///C:/Users/Student.26327/AppData/Local/Packages/microsoft.windowscommunicationsapps_8wekyb3d8bbwe/LocalState/Files/S0/5/Attachments/Shopping%20List%20July-August%2022_large%5b1640%5d.pdf)

Medway Night Shelter

There are some gaps available for working and supporting this important work with the homeless, with a zoom training available too … ‘We are still on the lookout for volunteers to help with cooking 5.30-8.30pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday’. If you would like to be involved or donate, contact by email  [medwayshelter@gmail.com](mailto:medwayshelter@gmail.com)

WARM CLOTHING

Do you own any good quality warm clothing, coats, hats, scarves, gloves, blankets etc that you no longer need. Please donate these to Street Angles to help others.

Focus on Mission

Clive & Glenda McMinn  
Bettaway Community Church, Sunday 14th January, 6:30pm, The Vicarage, Vicarage Rd

Warm Spaces weekly in Gillingham

Monday, St Mary’s Gillingham Green, 9am to 12pm

Tuesday, St Mark’s Church, Gillingham High Street, 12pm to 2pm

Wednesday, St Augustine’s, Rock Avenue, 9am to 11am, St Barnabas, Nelson Road, 1:30pm to 4pm

Thursday, St Augustine’s, Rock Avenue, 13:30am to 4pm

Sunday, St Luke’s Church Hall, 12:30pm to 4pm

##### Upcoming Events

NEXT SUNDAY

15th January **, 10.30am, Church**  
  
**Title:** why do we need hope?  
**Speaker**: Catharina

Peace and Hope

Saturday 14th January, 10:30am to 12pm, Vicarage Hall

Thank you for the week

Thank you to those who took part, served and prepared, in both the Christmas Service’s and the New Year’s celebration service.

St Mark’s Church **Canterbury Street, Gillingham, ME7 5TP  
Registered Charity 1141709**  
  
**Office**: The Old Vic, Vicarage Road, Gillingham, ME7 5JA  
01634 570 489 | [admin@stmarksgillingham.org](mailto:admin@stmarksgillingham.org)  
  
**Office hours:**  
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday | 10.00am - 2.00pm  
Fridays | 10:00am – 12 noon   
***Please contact the office if you need to make an  
appointment & do not drop by without prior arrangement.***