# **THIS SUNDAY -  26th March**

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:** Failure is part of our lives – Living well with failure  
**Speaker**:  Graham Wilkins  
**Readings:** Psalms 107:1-9

CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS

**GEMS & PEBBLES**

Children’s groups will be running as usual Sunday. Parents can drop their children off from 10.15am and pick them up at 12pm.

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 meet on Wednesday at 10am at the Old Vicarage.

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

12th and 26th May|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.

Peace and Hope

25th March, 10:30am, vicarage hall

Gospel Night

Sunday 26th March, 6:30pm, St mark’s Church

KMWA MOSQUE INVOTATION TO TASTE OF RAMADHAN

Saturday 1st April 2023 KMWA MOSQUE are hosting a taste of Ramadhan

Kent Muslim Welfare Association (KMWA) Mosque

114 Canterbury Street, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 5UH

The itinerary is:

5:15 pm: KMWA doors open for Taste Ramadhan

5:45 pm: Azan (call to prayer and transition)

6:00 pm: ASR Prayers

6:15 pm: Mosque tour /Prayer Explanation

6:30 pm: Talk on Blessed Ramadhan (main hall)

7:05 pm: Preparation for Dua

7:10 pm: Dua (Supplication)

7:32 pm: Break-Fast/Ifter (Main hall)

7:33 pm: MAGHRIB Prayers

7:45 pm: Iftar Dinner (conservatory)

8:45 pm: Taste Ramadhan finishes

Please RSVP your attendance and the number of people coming, below via email or text and with any dietary requirements; this is important for catering purposes.

RSVP: Ajaib Hussain: 07824445346 or email ajaib@medwayinterfaith.org.uk

If you want to look at their website it is: WWW.Kmwa.org.uk

### **NEWS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Tearfund Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal

If you would like to make a donation, please click the link underneath.

[**Please CLICK HERE to make a donation to the Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal**](https://gillingham.churchinsight.com/Articles/655600/Tearfund_Turkey_Syria.aspx)

Easter at St Mark’s

2nd April: All Age Palm Sunday Service 10:30am

6th April: Maundy Thursday Holy Communion

7th April:

An hour at the cross 10.30am

Good Friday March of Witness 11.30am

Good Friday Gospel Night 6pm

8th April: 2.30-4pm Messy Church

9th April:

6.00am Sunrise Holy Communion Service with St Mary’s Island Church in the grounds of St Mary’s Island School

10.30 Holy Communion Easter Service

A message to St Mark’s

St Marks has been our spiritual home for many years. Helen settled here in August 1991 and Trevor joined in 1996. We were married in St Marks in 1997 and our children Ben and Beck grew up here. In the last year or so God has been prompting us to move on to a new spiritual home and we have both managed to talk ourselves out of it – it can’t be God because………. God has been shaking us out of our settled life which is really hard because neither of us are good with change.

We have been so active in St Marks, both of us in children’s and youth work, helping in It’s Wicked and SPLAT. We both went to Zimbabwe and Uganda on mission trips which were amazing! Helen led Ladies Group for almost 20 years, then took on the role of Churchwarden for 4 years. Trevor was an assistant warden (oh the power to be in charge of Trevor says Helen!!). For all of her 32 years, Helen has sung in worship groups and choirs. There is no way Mayowa would let her off with leaving fully so she will still be around for gospel nights and other singing events. All of these experiences have been integral in our spiritual growth and we will take them onto new challenges.

We have been worshipping at Cornerstone City Church since January and feel that this is where God is calling us to be. We will miss you all so much but its time for us to test our calling and we will continue to hold you all in our prayers.

Love in Christ,

Helen and Trevor Towers

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

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, **Vicarage Road, ME7 5JA.**

Any questions, please email, catharina@stmarksgillingham.org

New Wine

As a church we are going to the New Wine summer conference this year - at the Kent Event Centre in Maidstone, previously called the Detling Campsite.

Sign up to join and camp from 1-5 August on the New Wine website <https://www.new-wine.org/events/united23/> by booking onto St Mark’s with St Mary’s Island Church.

If you have any questions, please contact Catharina

Thanksgiving service

A Service of Thanksgiving will be held for The Reverend John Collins on Friday 19th May 2023 at 12 noon at Holy Trinity Brompton, Brompton Road, London SW7 1JA, followed by refreshments in Church House.

Please can you kindly send an email both to [reception@htb.org](mailto:reception@htb.org) and [chickpaget@gmail.com](mailto:chickpaget@gmail.com) if you wish to attend.  If you could possibly confirm your numbers, that would be very helpful.

For those who don’t know, Rev John Collins was part of the story of St Marks Gillingham.  it was during an all-night prayer vigil here, in the 1960s, that he and all those present, experienced a “visitation of the Holy Spirit”.  It is said that this experience and the three weeks that followed, transformed the church into a catalyst for what would become known as the “Charismatic Revival” in Britain.

#### PLEASE PRAY –

Worldwide –

* **Ukraine,**for many comforts following the invasion and this dreadful war.
* Pray that those of faith in Ukraine & Russia do not forsake their first love but continue to honour & exalt Lord God.

The UK –

* for the 17-year-old boy stabbed in Gillingham High Street last week and his care and recovery; and for his family, his perpetrators and all affected or involved.
* For peace on our streets.
* And for the UK as the Chancellor gives his 2023 budget on Wed 15th March, may the Lord guide him in all Righteousness.

God’s Church –

* The partnerships and relationships with other local churches and with different faith groups;
* for the outreach of St Mark’s and SMIC; our Vicar Catharina, PCC members and committees, that they are guided in Godly wisdom and discernments in their discussions and decisions;
* for our encouragements to one another, thanks and appreciations; and faithful closeness to the Lord and His Holy Word … *Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies.*

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)

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/Desktop/fb.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)

The night shelter are looking for volunteers for cooking and laundry.  If you are interested, can they please email.  Medway Night Shelter [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.

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

Easter Hampers for families at Skinner Street school:

Jonica Thomas, a member of St Mark’s, is organising Easter hampers this year again for Skinner Street school. Please can you help by donating any of the following: cake, chocolate and Easter eggs, sweets, crackers, crisps, gravy and custard. There is a box in the back of the church for donation.

Good Friday Street Party Volunteers:On Good Friday the North Gillingham Churches are holding their annual March of Witness from 11.30am. That day the Council has asked Street Angels to organise a Street Party on the High Street from 12-3pm. All churches in the area will have a few gazebos in the High Street with crafts, opportunity for prayer, an Easter themed Treasure Hunt and tea & Cakes. For this we will need volunteers. If you can help an hour between 12 and 3pm on Good Friday, and/or bring a homemade cake, please let Catharina know.

##### Upcoming Events

NEXT SUNDAY

**2nd April , 10.30am, Church**

**Title:** Palm Sunday

**Speaker**: All age Team

**Readings:**

Thank you for the week

Thank you to Helen and Trevor Towers for the wonderful presence that they have brought to the church and the amazing work that they put in as Church Wardens.

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.***