# **THIS SUNDAY -  19th February**

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:** Hope when life is Hard

**Speaker**: Graham

**Readings:** Romans 5 1-5

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

Will be back on, on the 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

22nd February, 8th and 22nd March|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.

Messy Church - Valentine’s Party

Saturday 18th February 2:30-4pm

St Mark’s Church

Come and join us for Crafts, Songs, Snacks, and a story.

For more information please email: chris.curtis@stmarksgillingham.org

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday Holy Communion Service

22 February 11.30am

St Mark’s Church, Gillingham

### **NEWS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Office Closures

The office will be closed on Thursday 16 and Friday 17 February and between Monday 27 February and Friday 3 March.  In case of an emergency please contact Rev’d Catharina: [catharina@stmarksgillingham.org](mailto:catharina@stmarksgillingham.org)

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)

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

1st March, Old Vicarage, Vicarage Road, ME7 5JA.

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.

Any questions, please email, catharina@stmarksgillingham.org

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/>

Church Doors

New front doors are being installed at the Church on Friday 16 January, if you hold keys for the Church and Eve or Vicki have not contacted you, please contact the Church office to arrange to get a new key.

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. There is an early bird price until 31.1.

### United 23

##### Week A: Wednesday 26 July – Sunday 30 July 2023, Week B: Tuesday 1 August – Saturday 5 August 2023, Kent Event Centre, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 3JF

If you have any questions, please contact Catharina

#### PLEASE PRAY –

Worldwide –

* Think of the many nations, peoples, and situations of need –
* look to the inequalities in our world, injustice, poverty and disease that cause such distress, anguish and hopelessness;
* the war weary, the displaced and the refugee, and to the causes that touch hearts.
* Pray for those who grieve loss, seeking God’s many comforts in the pain of separation.
* Look to the world Bodies that proffer unity and support.
* Pray for reconcilers and peacemakers and seek the Lord to raise them up for such a time as this.

The UK –

* remembering King Charles, the Government and authorities, local officials, and community leaders, in all their commitments, responsibilities and duties.

God’s Church –

* **ALPHA starting 23 Jan** for 10 weeks (see newsletter);
* **LET LOOSE: Mission to Uganda 28 April – 8 May 2023;** and the 9th Edition of **LET LOOSE** happening on **28 July 2023** in Gillingham High Street.

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/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)

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

##### Upcoming Events

NEXT SUNDAY

**19th  February, 10.30am, Church**

**Title:** 1st Sunday of lent

**Speaker**: Catharina

**Readings:**

Peace and Hope

25th February, 10:30am vicarage hall

Thank you for the week

Thank you to those who helped with the children’s Calentine’s Day party

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.***