

**Latest update on Coronavirus from the Diocese**

In the light of all the recent Government announcements, we have decided to take a pause this week before we share further guidance on churches or reopening.

Please continue to follow all the current guidelines and stay safe.

Bishop Sarah Mullally, who chairs the Church of England's Coronavirus Recovery Group (of which Bishop Christopher is a member), has responded to the Government announcement, saying the Group will be studying the details and refining the advice for local churches in the weeks ahead.

It is encouraging news for those looking forward to being able to meet again in larger groups, and for couples planning weddings, later this year.

In the light of all the recent announcements, we are considering the range of advice before we share further guidance on churches or reopening.

Some of our churches have remained open throughout this lockdown and others are closed. We are aware that some churches returned to a mixed mode model (in-person and on-line) on Ash Wednesday. Those still closed will now be considering when to reopen.

Schools are going back on 8 March.

We wish you all a blessed Lenten Season.

**The Coronavirus Task Group**

*(Bishop Christopher, the Very Revd Andrew Nunn, the Venerable Alastair Cutting, Ruth Martin and Sophia Jones)*

\*\*\*\*\*

The United Benefice of South Norwood, Holy Innocents and Saint Mark 2021 Lent Course for- Adults on Tuesdays (during Lent), 6pm Via Zoom LIVE LENT			
Date	Week	Theme	Bible Text
23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Session 1	<b>The Greatest Story of All Time</b>	Matthew 24:14 1 Corinthians 9:14 Mark 16:15
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Session 2	<b>Catching Up with God</b>	Mark 1:15 Luke 15:7 2 Corinthians 5:14 Luke 14:15-24
9 <sup>th</sup> March	Session 3	<b>Jesus was in the transformation business</b>	Mark 5:1-20 1 Thessalonians 2:5-8 1 John 1:1-3
16 <sup>th</sup> March	Session 4	<b>Communicating Like Jesus did</b>	John 4:4-29 Mark 10:51 Matthew 9:36
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Session 5	<b>Passing on the story of Jesus</b>	Acts 2:4 Matthew 10:19-20 Acts: 8:26-40

**RESOURCE:** Hannah Steel's book *Living His Story*

\*\*\*\*\*

In the absence of income from the Church Hall and in order to boost its finances, **St Mark** has now introduced a **#GiveLent** campaign. While the name speaks for itself, you are invited to add money (in the form of an IOU) to a jar during Lent and at Easter, donate said sum to St Mark via the Donate Page on the website, where it can be Gift Aided, so the church can receive the maximum from your contributions! Happy Giving!

**Welcome to the United Benefice of Holy Innocents & St. Mark, South Norwood**

*Sharing God's grace and love in our community*



**28<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

**Vicar:** The Revd. Canon Roxanne Eversley  
**Asst. Priest:** Mother Susan Wheeler-Kiley

**The Second Sunday of Lent**

**10.00am Parish Mass**

**President and Preacher, Mother Susan**

*Genesis 17.1-7,15-16 \* Psalm 22.22-30 \* Romans 4.13-25 \* Mark 8.31-38*

**Access online worship via**

[www.youtube.com/c/StMarksSouthNorwood](http://www.youtube.com/c/StMarksSouthNorwood)

**This week's diary**

Mon. – Sat. 1-6 March	Week 2 <b>#LiveLent</b>	<b>12noon</b> online only Daily Reflections
Tuesday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, 672	<b>6pm Adult Lent Group II via Zoom</b>
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Feria	<b>6pm Children's Lent Group Zoom</b>
Thursday, 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Feria	<b>10.00am Mass at Holy Innocents</b>
Sunday, 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Third Sunday of Lent	<b>8.00am BCP Mass</b> <b>10.00am Parish Mass</b>

**CHURCH NOTICES**

**Pastoral Care: Mother Roxanne is available on Tel. 020 8916 1830 or Mobile 07723 038215 or [mtrroxanne@gmail.com](mailto:mtrroxanne@gmail.com)** Mother Roxanne is not available on Mondays; or Mother Susan (07890 780572) on Fridays.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**For your prayers:** *Archbishops Justin and Stephen; Bishops Christopher, Jonathan, Richard and Karowei in this Diocese; and the bishops in our link Dioceses of Zimbabwe.*

**For the Diocesan Working Groups and the World Mission Agencies and their representatives covering Southwark Diocese.**

**For the Diocesan Training Centre – for Richard Ellis (Centre Manager) and his team at Wychcroft House who are the heart of the operation of the House.**

*Pray for the Bishops, priests and people of Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America.*

**For the sick** – Enid, Alec, Una, Claude, Helen, Linda, Mick, Jennifer and Reuben, Marie-Gabrielle, Vera, Barry and Valerie, Sheila, Andrew (Scorgie), Joanna (Simpson), Rose, Allison, Caroline, Gillian, Donald & Sigi, Anecka, Monica, Dennis and Rosemary.

**For the bereaved** – the Davies, Aberdeen, Stephens, Webley, Ferguson, Caines, Harris, Robb, Allen and Robson families.

**For the recently departed** – Olu Aberdeen, Marvin Stephens, Len Webley, Alanzo Ferguson, Michael Rennie, Norman Caines, Alex Robb, Linton Allen, Sean Robson.  
**Years Mind** (those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time).



## COLLECT

Almighty God,  
you show to those who are in error the  
light of your truth,  
that they may return to the way of  
righteousness:  
grant to all those who are admitted  
into the fellowship of Christ's religion,  
that they may reject those things  
that are contrary to their profession,  
and follow all such things as are  
agreeable to the same;  
through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING Genesis 17:1-7. 15-16

*A reading from the book of Genesis.*

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you." God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

## PSALM Psalm 22:22-30

**R** *All the ends of the earth shall turn to you, O Lord.*

Praise the Lord, you that fear him;  
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;  
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.  
For he does not despise nor abhor  
the poor in their poverty;  
neither does he hide his face from them;  
but when they cry to him he hears them. **R**

My praise is of him in the great assembly;  
I will perform my vows  
in the presence of those who worship him.  
The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the Lord shall praise  
him:  
"May your heart live for ever!" **R**

All the ends of the earth  
shall remember and turn to the Lord,  
and all the families of the nations  
shall bow before him.  
For kingship belongs to the Lord;  
he rules over the nations. **R**

To him alone all who sleep in the earth  
bow down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust fall before him.  
My soul shall live for him;  
my descendants shall serve him;  
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.  
They shall come and make known to a  
people yet unborn  
the saving deeds that he has done. **R**

## SECOND READING Romans 4:13-end

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.*

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") – Abraham believed in the presence of the God who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he

gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

## GOSPEL

*Either Mark 8:31-end*

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.*

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

*Or (RCL only) Mark 9:2-9*

## POST COMMUNION

Almighty God,  
you see that we have no power of  
ourselves to help ourselves:  
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,  
and inwardly in our souls;  
that we may be defended from all  
adversities which may happen to the  
body,  
and from all evil thoughts which may  
assault and hurt the soul;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.