

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Over the past two thousand years there have been times and places where being a Christians brought pain and suffering. The earliest disciples suffered terribly and many were martyred for their faith. Obedience to Christ meant certain death for so many of the earliest converts. Things changend when Constantine the Roman Emperor became a Christian about 312. Over the coming years the tide turned and people became Christians because they knew that was the way to gain status and material wealth

Today you may or may not suffer persecution for your faith, it will depend upon where in the world you live. However one thing is clear, Jesus calls us all to obedience and following Jesus is something which we should do knowing that we might be challenged to take on things which we would rather avoid. This is the teaching which Jesus gives in the passage we read this week from Luke's Gospel. He tells his followers that they must put everything aside and be single-minded if they wish to follow him.

Responding to the APCS data breach

Bp Christopher has written to all parishes in the wake of the APCS data breach which has affected a number of parishes and people. He has assured every one of the measures being taken to limit the impact of the breach which occurred with the software provider, Intradev. The Bishop's letter is at the back of both churches for you to read.

Open House Festival

Holy Innocents Church will be open on Sunday 4th **September** from 1.00pm-5.00pm. At 4.00pm there will be a piano recital given by Miranda So, who will be playing popular classical pieces. Church will be open again on Tuesday evening 16th **September**, from 6.00pm-8.00pm, and Dr Andrew Storey will be giving an organ recital of Bach compositions at 7.00pm.

Diocese of Southwark – Jubilee, Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Conference

The Bishop warmly invites us to the above conference which will be held at St John, Waterloo on **Saturday 8th November**. The day will focus on social action and social justice, with Revd Dr Rob Wickham, CEO of the Church Urban Fund as the keynote speaker. Earlybird and group discounts are £10 each, £15 thereafter. Posters are at the back of both churches.

8th September the Church celebrates the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This festival in honour of the mother of our Lord is celebrated in both the eastern and western churches. It stands 'on the boundary between the old and the new covenants and ushers in the new dispensation of grace. Today is built a shrine for the creator of the universe' (qv *Andrew of Crete*)

The Benefice Interregnum Prayer

Heavenly Father, we glorify Your name for Your blessings upon us. We pray for guidance and wisdom, Holy Spirit, in the process of appointing a new vicar for our United Benefice. Give us the right person to help us fulfil our vision here in South Norwood. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

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

United together in Christ, shining Christ's light in our community



7th September 2025

Vicar: Vacant

Priest (PTO): Revd. Mother Susan Wheeler-Kiley, TSSF, SCP

Priest (PTO): Revd. Ada Onyekwelu

Reader (PTO): Mrs. Cicelyn Hinds,

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8.00am BCP Mass (St. Mark)

10am Parish Mass (Both Parishes)

*Deuteronomy 30.15-end * Psalm 1 * Philemon 1-21 * Luke 14.25-33*

Today St Mark welcomes back **Fr Charlie Bell** to the 8.00 am Mass and **Revd Funke Ogbede** to the 10.00 am Mass

Access online worship via
www.youtube.com/c/StMarksSouthNorwood

CHURCH NOTICES

Pastoral Care: for enquiries regarding Holy Innocents, please contact Mother Susan 07890780572 fs.kiley@btinternet.com and for St Mark, please contact Mother Ada 02086574018 or Cicelyn Hinds (both churches) 02086562474 cahinds@btinternet.com

The Benefice is in vacancy. For Parish matters, please contact in the first instance, the respective church wardens, St Mark – Norma McKnight (ndwillis12@outlook.com) and Cicelyn Hinds (cahinds@btinternet.com) Holy Innocents – Church.warden@holyinnocentschurch.co.uk

We pray: for Archbishop Stephen; for the Bishops in this diocese, Christopher, Rosemarie, Alastair and Martin.

For the Bishops, priests, deacons and people in our link Dioceses of Zimbabwe and The Anglican Church of Southern Africa.

Horley Team Ministry Les Wells (Team Rector) Naomi Ngururi (Team Vicar) Kerry Evans (Assistant Curate) Vic Stone (Assistant Curate) Tim Hill (Reader) Penny Lochead (Reader) Dorothy Lupinda (CPLM).

For the sick – Barbara, Emma, Rona, John, Richard, Leonard, Reiss, Malik, Simon, Graham, Luke, Linda, Fred, Ethel, Terri-Ann, Marcia, Caroline, Iris and Revd. Barbara.

The Bereaved Lorette Fritz and family and Janet and the Howard family. **The recently departed** Pancelena Fritz and Neil Howard - **and those whose Years Mind falls at this time.**