

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

People have always been the same, with wounded and broken lives, some are just better at pretending than others. It was one such poor broken woman who Jesus met at the well in our Gospel reading today. She had loads of men and broken relationships, no doubt she was the subject of gossip in the village where she lived. Perhaps Jesus had heard the gossip, anyway he knew her life was in a mess and he wasn't afraid to help. Jesus was not critical of the woman, not self-righteous or preachy, instead he offered her living water, hope of a new start and refreshment for her weary soul. We don't know what happened to the woman afterwards but she went and started spreading the word about Jesus. For once here was a man in her life who was really worth talking about.

**** DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ****

Tuesday 10th March our Lent course “**Lentwise**” continues. This week we will be reflecting on what nourishes us and keeps us going on our journey of faith. St Mark's Church, 7.00pm, finishing by 8.30pm.

Friday 13th March, 6.30pm, Holy Innocents Church Hall

FLAVA is a community-driven initiative based in Croydon, built to bring families closer together through food, conversation, and play. We believe the dinner table should be more than just a place to eat — it's a space for bonding, laughter, and life lessons.

With Mothering Sunday approaching, we wanted to bring families together over cooking some pizzas! To sign up, email hello@imprintcroydon.co.uk by Wednesday 11th March. www.flavafamily.net

Alpha Course, Sunday afternoons, 3.00pm, Holy Innocents Church. Although the course has already started, it is not too late to join the sessions. An opportunity to explore life, faith and meaning in a safe and welcoming space.

Saturday 21st March, St Mark's Easter Fair, 11.00am till 2.30pm in the Church hall. Food, stalls, tombola, raffles.

Please join us after the service for coffee and fellowship (both churches)

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

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



8th March 2026

Vicar: Vacant

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

Reader (PTO): Mrs. Cicelyn Hinds,

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

8.00am BCP Mass (St. Mark)

10am Parish Mass (Both Parishes)

1.00pm Imprint Contemporary Church (Holy Innocents)

*Exodus 1.1-7 * Psalm 95 * Romans 5.1-11 *
John 4.5-42*

*Today we welcome **Father Tom Hurcombe** at the 8.00am Mass and **Father Paul Smedley** who is presiding and preaching at the 10.00am Mass at St Mark*

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 Cicelyn Hinds 0208656 2474 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 our Archbishops Sarah and 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 **For the Bishops, priests, deacons & people of The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East. St Augustine of Canterbury, Honor Oak Park** Vacancy (Priest in Charge) Michael Brooks (Assistant Priest).

For the sick – Richard, Barbara, Emma, Rona, John, Leonard, Reiss, Malik, Simon, Fred, Ethel, Terri-Ann, Marcia, Caroline, Shirley, Luke, Beverley, Rowena, Revd Barbara, Susan, Jean, Nicholas, Orlando. **The bereaved** Pauline, Malik, Maya, Jamaal, Kayla and the Powell family, Beverley, and the Herbert and the Graham families, and Pauline and the Domingo family. **The recently departed** – Conray Powell, Coreena Graham, and Rupert Black **and those whose Years Mind falls at this time.**