



Holy God, Father and Mother of us all, thank you for the beauty of creation. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, so may we care for and respect all creation.

Mothering Sunday was originally a time when people returned to the church, in which they were baptised or where they attended services when they were children. This meant that families were reunited as adults returned to the towns and villages where they grew up. In time, it became customary for young people who were working as servants in large houses, to be given a holiday on Mothering Sunday. They could use this day to visit their own mother and often took a gift of food or hand-me-down clothing from their employers to her. In turn, this moved towards the modern holiday, on which people still visit and take gifts to their mothers.

Traditionally, also, during the Lent fast, people did not eat sweet, rich foods or meat. However, the fast was lifted slightly on Mothering Sunday and many people prepared a Simnel cake to eat with their family on this day.

Lent Course "Face to Face" continues on **Tuesday 1st April** – 8.00pm via zoom.

 For everyone from both parishes who is interested in or new to leading intercessions, reading the lessons, or being a welcomer, the training session will be held at 11.00am on **Saturday 5th April**, at St Mark's Church

St Mark's Easter Fair – Saturday 12th April, 11.00am till 2.00pm in the Church Hall.

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday – 13th April. We meet at St Marks at 9.45am and process to Holy Innocents for a joint service. Holy Innocents will be open from 9.00am for those who would like to go direct there. Monday to Wednesday – Morning Prayer and meditation 9.15am Holy Innocents, 8pm Eucharist at St Marks Maundy Thursday – 8pm Mass for Maundy Thursday with Footwashing, St Marks (joint service).

Good Friday – Stations of the Cross, 9.45am St Marks. Procession of Witness. Good Friday Meditation and Liturgy, Holy Innocents.

Easter Day – 5.30am Sunrise service at Holy Innocents, 8.00am and 10.00am at St Marks and Holy Innocents.

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

Sharing God's grace and love in our community



30th March 2025

Vicar: Vacant

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

Priest (PTO): Revd. Ada Onyekwelu

Reader (PTO): Mrs. Cicelyn Hinds,

MOTHERING SUNDAY

8.00am BCP Mass (St. Mark)

10am Parish Mass (Both Parishes)

*1 Samuel 1.20-28 * Psalm 127.1-4 * Colossians 3.12-17 * John 19.25-27*

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 07961728618 a_onye@yahoo.co.uk 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 Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo.

St John w Holy Trinity, Deptford Christopher Hanning (Vicar), Olunike Keshiro (Reader) (PTO), Quaggy Development Trust Lewisham Churches Refugees (LewCAS) and Lewisham College.

For the sick – Barbara, Emma, Santosh, Rona, Don, John, Richard, Leonard, Marina, Reiss, Malik, Simon, Janet, Graham, Luke, Linda, Fred and Maxine.

The bereaved – for Penny and the Smith-Orr family and Josephine, Marina's daughter, and her family
The recently departed – Pamela Blomfield and Marina Williams - **and those whose Years Mind falls at this time.**

