

### THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Nobody would have felt worse about his failure than Peter. He was the disciple who was supremely confident that he could not let Jesus down. Even if everybody else was a disappointment to Jesus, he knew that he would stand firm. So when he denied Jesus the depth of his fall must have been very low. So it was to this miserable Peter, full of remorse and bound by past hurt and disappointment, that Jesus came and offered hope. Jesus did not have to forgive Peter, that was already clear from the fact that Jesus endured the suffering of the cross. But Jesus did have to convince poor Peter that he was forgiven, to enable him to move forward and leave behind the past. Of course it is not just Peter that Jesus speaks to, he speaks to us all and encourages us to move away from the pains and failures of the past and to discover a new and better future.

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**Seven Days to make a difference -**

**Christian Aid Week begins on May 11<sup>th</sup>.** The theme this year is 'Abounding Hope'. This year, Christian Aid – which is marking its 80th anniversary – is focussing its flagship appeal on work in Guatemala, in Central America, where climate change is causing the seasons to intensify and shift erratically. As a result, farming communities have to battle severe floods and, more recently, ferocious heatwaves. Water sources are drying up and vital crops are failing, plunging farming families into hunger and poverty. Despite the challenges families are facing, the unstoppable power of hope drives people to look for ways to push back. Collecting envelopes and posters will be at the back of the churches next Sunday.

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### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup>** – the next phase of Mission Action Planning will be taking place with a meeting of a smaller group of both church members to agree a set of priorities and our short and long term goals for joint collaboration in each area of mission activity. For more information please chat with Mother Ada or Mother Susan.

**APCMs - A final reminder** that the APCM for St Mark's is next **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May**, with Holy Innocents the following week **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May**.

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### The Benefice Interregnum Prayer

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, we glorify your holy name. Thank you for your love and care. Heavenly Father, as we journey through this period of interregnum, we pray for wisdom, patience, guidance, and renewed hope. Help us to work together in love and unity. And as we seek to find a new Vicar for this United Benefice of St. Mark's and Holy Innocents, we pray O Lord, for someone filled with compassion, Godly love, and is steadfast in prayer, passionate in growing the Church, children and youths work and able to work collaboratively with others. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour, Amen

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

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



**4<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

**Vicar:** Vacant

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

**Priest (PTO):** Revd. Ada Onyekwelu

**Reader (PTO):** Mrs. Cicelyn Hinds,

### THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

**8.00am BCP Mass (St. Mark)**

**10am Parish Mass (Both Parishes)**

*Acts 9.1-6 [7-20] \* Psalm 30 \* Revelation 5.11-end \*  
John 21.1-19*

**Access online worship via**

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

### CHURCH NOTICES

**Pastoral Care:** for enquiries regarding Holy Innocents, please contact Mother Susan 07890780572 [fs.kiley@btinternet.com](mailto:fs.kiley@btinternet.com) and for St Mark, please contact Mother Ada 02086574018 or Cicelyn Hinds (both churches) 02086562474 [cahinds@btinternet.com](mailto: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](mailto:ndwillis12@outlook.com)) and Cicelyn Hinds ([cahinds@btinternet.com](mailto:cahinds@btinternet.com)) Holy Innocents – [Church.warden@holynnocentschurch.co.uk](mailto:Church.warden@holynnocentschurch.co.uk)

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**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 Church of Ireland.

**Merton Priority Team Ministry Christ Church, Colliers Wood Joy Lyons (CPLM).**

**For** our young people, Teddy and Lizzie, and others, preparing for their GCSEs, till after the exams.

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

**The bereaved** – Josephine, Russell and the Kennedy and Williams families.

**The recently departed** – Marina Williams - **and those whose Years Mind falls at this time.**

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