

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – PASSIONTIDE BEGIN

Jesus finds Lazarus in Bethany. Lazarus means 'God helps,' whilst Bethany means 'House of Affliction.' We can all find ourselves in a place of affliction at some time in our lives, a place so

bad it is like death itself in its debilitating hopelessness. Sometimes the living need someone to call them out of their graves and to give their spirit new life, just as the people in Ezekiel's time needed God to raise them from their graves. Our Christian faith is not just about a reward in the next life, Jesus is concerned about our lives now. He calls us out from our darkest places, he calls us to leave the tomb and gives us the strength to live as his resurrected people? May God sustain you in whatever situation you find yourself at this time of trial, and in his strength may you find peace.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Sunday 29th March – PALM SUNDAY

Joint service for both churches at St Mark, with the dramatized reading of the Passion according to St Matthew, and distribution of the Palm Crosses. We begin the service at 9.45am on the corner of Albert and Portland Roads, and process to the church, or you may wish to go straight to the church.

We still need volunteers to read the voices in the Passion Narrative. Please see Mother Susan or Robert if you would like to take part.

**LETTER FROM RT REVD. DR ROSEMARIE
MALLET, BISHOP OF CROYDON -
CONSULTATION ON THE NEXT BISHOP OF
SOUTHWARK**

Dear Friends, The Diocesan Bishop - The Rt Revd Bishop Christopher Chessun - will be retiring this summer, after many years of faithful leadership in our diocese. We'll miss him greatly – and there'll be an opportunity to give thanks for his ministry in due course.

Because of this, as a diocesan family, we are preparing to begin our search for the next Bishop of Southwark – and in doing so, we want to ensure that we hear the views of as many people as possible across our communities.

So we've created this simple anonymous online survey - use this link <https://tinyurl.com/southwarknewbishop> - we'd love you and those in your parish to fill it out. The whole thing should take no more than 5-7 minutes to complete and is completely anonymous. **The survey will close at noon on 1 April 2026.**

SAFEGUARDING SURVEY REMINDER

Please can everyone complete the Safeguarding Survey. This is being undertaken independently by INEQE on the Church of England. The deadline is the **8th April 2026.** <https://ineqe.com/churchofengland/southwark/>

SPRING FAIR – BIG THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who helped out, contributed to, and attended the St Mark's Spring Fair yesterday.

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

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



22nd March 2026

Vicar: Vacant

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

Reader (PTO): Mrs. Cicelyn Hinds,

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8.00am BCP Mass (St. Mark)

10am Parish Mass (Both Parishes)

**1.00pm Imprint Contemporary Church
(Holy Innocents)**

*Ezekiel 37.1-14 * Psalm 130 * Romans 8.6-11 *
John 11.1-45*

Today we welcome **Father Sam Dennis** who will be presiding at the 8.00am BCP Mass at St Mark and **The Ven. Greg Prior, Archdeacon of Croydon** who will be 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 Anglican Church of Korea. St Nicholas & St Luke, Deptford** Jane Petrie (Priest in Charge). **For the sick** – Richard, Barbara, John, Reiss, Malik, Simon, Fred, Ethel, Terri-Ann, Marcia, Caroline, Shirley, Luke, Beverley, Rowena, Revd Barbara, Susan, Jean, Nicholas, Orlando, and Thomas. **The bereaved** Pauline, Malik, Maya, Jamaal, Kayla and the Powell family, Beverley, and the Herbert and the Graham families, Pauline and the Domingo family, Norma, David and the McKnight family and Margaret and Kelvin Zebedee. **The recently departed** – Conray Powell, Coreena Graham, Rupert Black, Leonard McKnight, Pat **and those whose Years Mind falls at this time** – as we remember Stanley Mitchell Hazell.