

HOLY INNOCENTS DAY

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This morning Cicelyn will be leading St Mark's congregation in Morning Prayer

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Herod was eager to destroy anyone or anything that would threaten his power or authority, so he decided to kill all newly born male children. Through a dream Joseph is warned of this and told to take Mary and Jesus into Egypt for safety. This perhaps reminds us of the reality we see every night on our televisions; millions of men, women and children, refugees, exiles and immigrants being forced from their homeland because of climate change, terrorism and warfare. Despite all the lovely Christmas cards depicting the Holy Family, there is nothing romantic about being forced from your home. The danger and uncertainty that these people suffer today is exactly the same experience that Mary, Joseph and Jesus had. In these days after Christmas Cradle and grave come very close, as we remember those whom the early church called the Companions of Christ, Stephen, first Christian martyr, John the Evangelist – and, today, the Holy Innocents. Today let us pray especially for those families we know who are struggling or who are in pain in any way. As God was with Mary, Joseph, and Jesus, may God also guide, support and protect those families who are experiencing problems or difficulties.

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A huge THANK YOU to Cicelyn and everyone who helped to provide the Christmas dinner on Christmas Day. It was a wonderful meal, and enjoyed by all who were there.

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A Collect for the New Year

Eternal Lord God,
we give you thanks for bringing us through the changes of time
to the beginning of another year.
Forgive us the wrong we have done in the year that is past,
and help us to spend the rest of our days
to your honour and glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Welcome! Especially if you are a visitor. Please make yourself known to one of the Wardens, Sidespeople, or the Clergy. Members of other Churches are welcome to receive Communion. If you do not wish to receive Communion, please come up for a blessing.

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

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



The Holy Innocents

Vicar: Vacant

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

Reader (PTO): Mrs. Cicelyn Hinds,

8.00am BCP Mass (St Mark)

10.00am Parish Mass (both churches)

1.00pm Imprint Contemporary Church
(Holy Innocents)

*Jeremiah 31.15-17 * Psalm 124 * 1. Cor. 1.26-29 *
Matthew 2.13-18*

Access online worship via

www.youtube.com/c/StMarksSouthNorwood

CHURCH NOTICES

Pastoral Care: please contact Mother Susan 07890780572 fs.kiley@btinternet.com 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@holyyinnocentschurch.co.uk

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We pray: for the Archbishop of Canterbury elect, Sarah Mullally, Archbishop Stephen; for the Bishops in this diocese, Christopher, Rosemarie, Alastair and Martin, and for our new Vicar, The Revd Jessie Daniels-White as she prepares to take up her ministry in South Norwood.

For the Bishops, priests, deacons and people in our link Dioceses of Zimbabwe and the Diocese of Saskatoon, the Anglican Church of Canada

For children in danger. Pray for housing justice and those in the Diocese working to find lasting solutions to problems of housing and homelessness.

For the sick – Richard, Barbara, Emma, Rona, John, Leonard, Reiss, Malik, Simon, Fred, Ethel, Terri-Ann, Marcia, Caroline, Revd Barbara, Shirley, Luke, Beverley, Rowena, Susan, Joyce, Jean, Nicholas and Orlando. **The bereaved** – Jackie and David Underwood, the Penn and the Hines families, Christopher, Stephen and James. **The recently departed** – Maurice Underwood, Anne Penn, and those whose Years Mind falls at this time.