

GIVING TO MISSION

Here at St Mark's we give 10% of our core income to support Christian mission at home and abroad. In addition, a substantial proportion of the Parish Share which we pay to our Diocese goes towards mission outside of our own area. We are proud to be able to support so many gospel based, kingdom initiatives which are bringing light, hope and practical help to people across our town, nation and globe.

There are two easy ways in which you can give to St Mark's Church to help maintain this valuable work:

- Regular giving
- One-off giving

Find out more, download a form or make a one off donation on our website: www.smch.org.uk/give or call the church office on: 01423 544528 and we'll send you the information.

Every penny donated to us is spent in support of the mission and ministry of the church.



Thank you

Visit St Mark's Church, Leeds Rd, Harrogate, HG2 8AY

Call 01423 544528 Email office@smch.org.uk

www.smch.org.uk   



St Mark's

PRAYER DIARY

FOR SEPTEMBER AT ST MARK'S

Praying as a scattered body

In a time of national crisis, when our normal habits of meeting together at church are halted, praying together can unite us as a church family, and help us to remember before God the vulnerable in our town, the wider world, the sick in our community, and our church.

Praying for our new vicar

This month we pray in particular for the appointment process for our new vicar, asking God to guide all involved in that process. We thank God that his knowledge is perfect, He knows the end from the beginning, and that He promises to complete the good work he has begun in us. Pray that each person in this process will have a sense of God's Holy Spirit at work in them and through them.

Sunday 6th – Sat 12th September

Almighty God, you search us and know us: may we rely on you in strength and rest on you in weakness, now and in all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Creationtide is the annual season in the church calendar, from 1st Sept to 4th Oct, dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of life. During this season we pray for our world, created and sustained by God, and for our part in stewarding His Creation. We pray for Jemima Parker as she prepares and delivers the BRICK course on Creation care this month, and that as individuals and as a church we will live lightly on the earth, protect the vulnerable, and preserve the world's rich natural resources for future generations.

Please pray for families and young people as schools reopen, for peace, health and safety for staff and children. Pray for families with young children, infants & toddlers, and for wisdom for Toddler group leaders as they look to the future & when our groups might be able to reopen. Please pray too for new Toddler leaders so we are able to open our St Mark's Toddler groups again when the guidance allows.



YouTube

Join us via YouTube Mon-Fri at 12 noon for midday prayer

www.youtube.com/channel/UC2ZCQKjOtssPHQZ3CXLcOrw

Prayer Diary

SEPTEMBER 2020

Please use this resource to guide your own prayers this month for our community and the wider world.

Sun 13th – Sat 19th September

Merciful God, your Son came to save us and bore our sins on the cross: may we trust in your mercy and know your love, rejoicing in the righteousness that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

As church services begin to be possible again, pray for all involved with the running of St Mark's central operations, especially now that Andy Wilson has moved on to his new job at Lifeline Harrogate. Pray for understanding, good communication and a sense of your love so that we may rejoice with our church family, serve one another and build others up in the body of Christ. Thank God for Janet Green and all she has enabled through technology and electronic communication this year.

Pray for those listed in the prayer list below, and others you may know in need, in particular those who, through anxiety or due to health issues cannot engage with church activities or mix easily with groups of people. Pray for God's peace for them, and for healing and wholeness in Christ. Give us eyes to see the lonely and the isolated, Lord, that St Mark's might be a church where everyone feels they are valued and belong.

Sun 20th – Sat 26th September

Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

We praise God for our youth pastor Natalie and her whole youth team, and thank you for the planning and preparation they've done to help young people to grow closer to God, know they are loved by him and are equipped to share Him with their friends. 'Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; His greatness is unsearchable. One generation will commend Your works to the next, and will proclaim Your mighty acts' Psalm 145:3-4. Pray this verse for all our young people, as they go back to school, move on to college or university, or resit exams: 'Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us...' Ephesians 3:20.



Pray this week for the children who have just started secondary school and for our youth leaders to build relationships with them following on from the 'it's your move' project in July, and pray that Natalie and other Christian youth workers are soon allowed back into schools. In the wider community we think of the end of the furlough scheme, and pray for employers having difficult decisions to make. Hold before God business leaders in our congregation, and the peer-on-peer initiative Mike Proctor is facilitating.



Sun 27th Sept – Sat 3rd October

Lord of creation, whose glory is around and within us: open our eyes to your wonders, that we may serve you with reverence and know your peace at our lives' end, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We pray for all our small groups and community groups at St Mark's, including the Choir, the Flower group, the Thursday Communion group and all the Housegroups and Communities. Many of us haven't been able to meet up in person for many months, so pray for good relationships to form between smaller triplets, pairs, and over technology. Thank God for the leaders of these groups, and pray that they might truly be "disciples who make disciples". Pray for each group member to have our eyes open to God's wonders, and a servant-hearted attitude like Jesus.



This coming Sunday is Harvest Sunday (4th October). Thank God for His provision here, of food, water and harvests. Thank God for his provision of food through Resurrected Bites to many families on little or no income. Pray for another country which is close to your heart, which has not enjoyed such plenty this year, due to famine, war or the pandemic. Pray for God's presence and provision there, and ask God how you can help, perhaps through supporting an organisation working there such as Tearfund or Christian Aid. Ask God to show you how you can support organisations closer to home too, through the St Mark's Harvest appeal.

We pray for the continuing needs of Anne-Marie Atkinson, Michelle and Ethan Beckett, Stan and Lorraine Bisby, Christina, Mike Calvert, Andrew and Mo Clarke, Merle Clayton, Helen Hardie, Frances and Andy Kershaw, Aidan and the Newton family, Latha Prabhu, Maureen Preston, Rosie Rant, Liz and Shirley Ruddle, Amber Seaver, Adrian Selway, Dave Worthington.

We pray for all in our church family who have been bereaved recently bereaved. We pray also for their families and friends and all those who care for them. We pray for all those who are affected by Covid 19, physically, emotionally or financially. For those who are isolated and lonely. For your healing hand on those who are sick. Comfort to the bereaved.

Praying for our Mission Partners

We continue to pray for all our church's Mission Partners in this time, organisations which are having to adapt their work due to the pandemic, and also cope with a significant drop in funding. St Mark's is committed to supporting them financially and also in prayer.