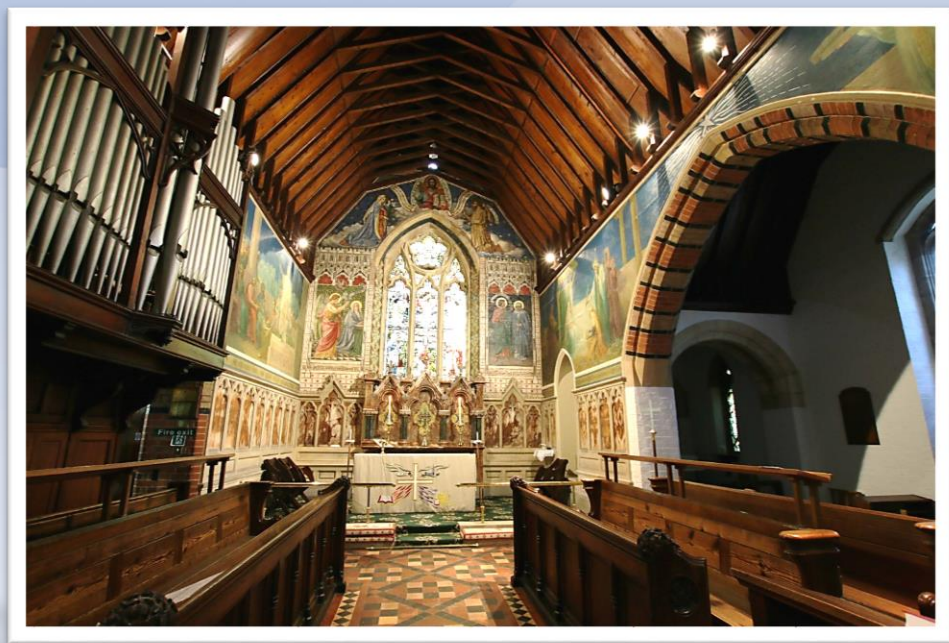




# St Marks Church

## Pennington

*To love, to serve, to give to all – in Jesus' Name*



JANUARY 2017

*Minimum Price – 50p*



## FROM THE PULPIT

### Welcome to a New Year!

Lots of people make New Year resolutions: some people give up after a day or so, others get bogged down with striving, and yet others make real and positive changes in their lives. Likewise, some people want to forget the last year and put it behind them, and pray for a 'better' year. Some of you may know the Serenity prayer, which says:

*God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,  
Courage to change the things I can,  
And wisdom to know the difference.*

And maybe this is a good way to start the year. Or for that matter, each day, because what is the difference between 31 December and 1 January, and any other two days?

I do believe we need to pray for both wisdom and courage, to know when we can make changes, and when we need to accept what is. When we know that change is called for, we can pray for God's strength through his Holy Spirit to encourage and sustain us in our endeavours. Often this comes through God providing people around us to help us, as well as through an inner conviction and joy of the Spirit within us.

When we cannot change a situation, and this is often the case, we can be assured that God is with us. He will never leave us or forsake us – a promise spoken about God by Moses to the Israelites and which still holds true for us today. God will bless us in the midst of troubles, and Jesus knows of our troubles in each day – He said so Himself.

Whether our troubles are constant or intermittent, large or small, God wants us to know His inner peace and joy. Often, we find this enhanced in the 'sparkle moments' in life: in the sun shining on an autumn leaf, seeing a Robin fluffed up against the cold and sunning itself to keep warm, in a late flowering rose, a radiant blue sky, a smile, a laugh, a helping hand, the light of a candle. God does bless us, He wants us to know He cares, to enjoy the life He has given us - even though we live in a troubled world.

Whether or not you make any New Year resolutions to bring about positive changes in your life, each of us has the choice to start afresh each new day, whether it's the 1st January - or any other day - and enjoy anew the blessings God has in store for us. They are given to us, we don't have to do anything to get them other than to be aware, and to receive in thankfulness.

**Anne**

# CALENDAR

Date	Time	Details
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	08:00	Holy Communion (Said, BCP)
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	08:45	Refreshments served between morning services
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	09:30	Family Communion
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	10:15	Coffee Morning and 'Reflections', Church Centre
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	11:30	Holy Communion, followed by fish and chips
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00	Churchyard working party
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	08:00	Holy Communion (Said, BCP)
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	08:45	Refreshments served between morning services
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	09:30	Family Communion
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	13:30	Strictly Come Crafting, Church Centre
<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	10:15	Coffee Morning, Church Centre
<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	11:30	Holy Communion, followed by fish and chips
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	08:00	Holy Communion (Said, BCP)
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	08:45	Refreshments served between morning services
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	09:30	Family Communion
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	17:30	Refreshments, followed at 6pm with Evening Worship
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	15:45	Meditation Group
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	10:15	Coffee Morning, Church Centre
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	11:30	Holy Communion, followed by fish and chips
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	15:30	Messy Church
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	08:00	Holy Communion (Said, BCP)
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	08:45	Refreshments served between morning services
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	09:30	Family Communion
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	18:00	Evensong
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	13:30	Strictly Come Crafting, Church Centre
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	10:15	Coffee Morning, Church Centre
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	11:30	Holy Communion, followed by fish and chips
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	13:30	Rest home Communion
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	08:00	Holy Communion (Said, BCP)
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	08:45	Refreshments served between morning services
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	09:30	Family Communion

## A LETTER FROM CYNTHIA CHAMBERS, SING SWAY...

*I do not know if we have ever had a letters page but I feel that the church should be congratulated on a lovely evening - the atmosphere in the church was warm and friendly and the choir were excellent. With thanks to the Musical Arranger (pianist) and Musical Director along with all those from our church who made the evening quite memorable.*



## READINGS FOR 9:30AM SERVICES

### ***Naming of Jesus***

**1<sup>st</sup> January**

***New Testament  
Gospel***

**Galatians 4 : vv 4 – 7  
Luke 2 : vv 15 – 21**

### ***Epiphany***

**8<sup>th</sup> January**

***New Testament  
Gospel***

**Ephesians 3 : vv 1 – 12  
Matthew 2 : vv 1 – 12**

### ***The Second Sunday of Epiphany***

**15<sup>th</sup> January**

***New Testament  
Gospel***

**1 Corinthians 1 : vv 1 – 9  
Matthew 6 : vv 19 – 24**

### ***The Third Sunday of Epiphany***

**22<sup>nd</sup> January**

***New Testament  
Gospel***

**1 Corinthians 1 : vv 10 – 18  
Matthew 4 : vv 12 – 23**

### ***Candlemas***

**29<sup>th</sup> January**

***New Testament  
Gospel***

**Hebrews 2 : vv 14 – end  
Luke 2 : vv 22 – 40**

## THE RESTORATION OF OUR WALL PAINTINGS



Work has been completed upon our east wall, with work underway on the north and south now to come!

The second phase will start on 9th January with work being done to the north and south walls. Whilst the work is in progress the organ will be covered to avoid any damage due to the dust

and we will be using the piano during services. We would like to thank all those people who have made donations to enable this work to commence and apologise in advance for any inconvenience that may be caused whilst the work is in progress. We thank you for your understanding.

## NEW! – REFLECTIONS

Coffee and cake followed by 20 minutes of shared thoughts on the previous Sunday's Gospel reading (found in your newsheet under '*Today's services*'). Join us at **10.15am** on the first Wednesday of each month (from January onwards) for coffee, followed by '*Reflections*' at **10.30am**, at the Church Centre. Cost is 50p each for coffee and cake. Please speak with Anne Elliott for further details: do come along - *everyone welcome!*

## ST MARKS DRAW CLUB

The winning numbers for the recent prize draw were as follows. Congratulations to our winners!

	First	Second	Third
November	693	764	380

## CHURCH CENTRE

Mon	09:00 – 10:30	Yoga
	13:45 – 14:45	Pilates
	15:30 – 20:15	Children's Dancing
Tue	09:30 – 10:30	Zumba
	13:30 – 16:00	NHS Retirement Fellowship ( <i>1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday only</i> )
	13:30 – 16:00	Strictly Come Crafting ( <i>2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays</i> )
	18:15 – 19:15	Pilates
Wed	10:15 – 11:30	Coffee Mornings
	15:30 – 17:15	Messy Church ( <i>once a month, see calendar</i> )
Thu	18:15 – 20:15	Pilates

## CONTACT DETAILS FOR BOOKINGS

Church Centre Bookings	Shirley Saunders	01590 677628
Pilates	Lynda Hutchins	01425 638464
Children's Dancing	Kayleigh Sergeant	01425 616750
Yoga	Anna Hasling	01202 434789
Zumba	Lucy Thomas	01590 645919
Strictly Come Crafting	Dorothy Davies	01590 676163
NHS Retirement Fellowship	Jacqui Allan	02380 666603

## OUR COMMUNITY

News and events from various groups in and around Pennington.

### PENNINGTON SOCIAL CLUB

Congratulations go to Pennington Sports and Social Club who have been named the UK's community club of the year. They scooped the top accolade out of about 2,000 nominations for the category in the Club Mirror Awards 2016 hosted by the Mirror Group in conjunction with BT Sport.

Congratulations from St Mark's Church for all the work you do in the Community.

### CAROL CONCERT

We were the beneficiaries of Sing Sway's wonderful medley of Christmas carols, songs and readings on Sunday evening, the 11th December. It was lovely to welcome you all to our church and share this evening with us. What a talented choir, all brought together by an enthusiastic, encouraging leader in Rosemary Elliott-Jones, ably accompanied by a versatile Richard Dingle on piano and organ! Many thanks to the Events Committee and all who gave their time in getting this together; having only just dismantled the scaffolding, and the sanctuary and chancel deep cleaned, it was

wonderful to see the clarity of the newly cleaned and repaired wall paintings. Our thanks go to Peter and Miguel for their patient and skilled work so far. Everything resulted in a harmonious, joy filled evening.

### CHRISTMAS FAYRE



It was lovely to see our friends and neighbours at our Christmas Fayre, despite the rain. A lot of stalls offering their wares from cakes to plants, a raffle, face painting and much more. A lot of unseen work goes into these events, your commitment is so appreciated.



What a lovely surprise to see Father Christmas who kindly opened the Fayre and then spent time with the children, offering gifts.

Thank you Father Christmas for popping in to spend time with us and for your enthusiasm which was much appreciated. We thank you and all who helped prepare and set up to ensure such a happy occasion.

## NEW FOREST SOUTH STREET PASTORS

This year has seen a few losses and gains over membership, so to be able to increase our patrols with prayer pastor support, we are looking for some new people to join this happy, committed team. We have made great progress in New Milton, especially with the youth, and have a good working relationship with the Town Council and Youth Group. By next summer, we will have been going four years, how time flies.

*Please contact Ingrid or Anne if you would like further information or a quiet chat about our very worthwhile work.*

## CHURCHYARD REPORT

We have seen a busy year in the churchyard garden. Never able to

manage all of the three acres, we do what we can - especially round the public front areas of the church, to make a nice welcome for visitors and churchgoers alike.

I am pleased to say we will have the paid help of the Probation Service team of about 4 or 5 lads a visit, from April to October next year. They manage to keep the grass cut, and the grass pathways open. Clearing of ditches and general maintenance when and where possible.

Our small team meet on the first Thursday of each month from 10am. We have a break for coffee and plan the next meeting and would welcome any helpers - especially a few men to help us ladies with some of the more robust work! So do please ring any of the Team - or myself, Ingrid, on 01590 677940 - or a chat when next in church. Our next meeting is on the 5th January: why not come and see what we get up to?



## FIRST LYMINGTON BROWNIES

As we came up to Christmas, the girls made snow globes out of plastic bottles to take home for Christmas. They also crafted calendars with four different trees on - one for each of the seasons. Not made with a paint brush, they made these by using their fingers: very messy, but very enjoyable! These were then donated to the residents of Court Lodge, where we performed carols to the residents there.



To complete the requirements for a Science badge, we visited the Winchester science centre. The girls had a great time - and so did we!

We hope you all had a great Christmas and we wish you a very Happy New Year!

**Tawny Owl** (*Erika*)

## PENNINGTON WI

December has been a busy month for the Pennington WI. As well as the usual monthly goings on for the

Pennington WI ladies, there was also the added bonus of it being Christmastime! There was the usual weekly 'Stitches & Stuff' every Tuesday morning and the regular monthly meeting which was jam-packed with festive fun. There was also the Group Carol Service in Everton with a collection for the Salvation Army. The monthly 'Lunch Club' even had its Christmas hat on with a festive lunch at South Lawn Hotel.

Pennington WI also took part in the popular Pennington community event that was the Pennington Christmas Fayre, it was a wonderful evening full of merriment and community spirit. The ladies raised nearly £500 for their hall refurbishment on the Pennington WI stall selling yummy baked treats and homemade goods.



On a cold wintery Tuesday evening, the Pennington WI ladies met for their December meeting. After the



usual rendition of Jerusalem, President Di Clark warmly welcomed the many members, visitors and 1 pooch. The meeting was turned upside down this month with the entertainment at the beginning rather than the end, with Mr John Sherborne as quiz master providing a musical quiz. Di Clark went over the matters arising as well as a summary on how well the stall did at the Pennington Christmas Fayre. Secretary Carol Labram gave an update on the correspondence, highlighting the interesting articles in the current edition of Hampshire News as well as the recent mailings. Di Clark covered the sign-up boards which included many interesting activities and fun outings.

Treasurer Di Young gave a quick update on the bank balances. The evening was closed with the not so usual refreshments of mulled wine and party food and raffle of numerous seasonal hampers!

It looks like the start of 2017 will be just as busy with the usual weekly craft meetings, the monthly lunch club and the usual monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of the month, there will also be a trip to the Panto and a tour of Ringwood Brewery.

The ladies of Pennington WI wish you all a wonderful Christmas full of love, joy and merriment. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

## WORDSEARCH!

### January 2017 brings us numerous significant dates.

75 years ago, in Jan 1942, the first US troops arrived in Europe. 50 years ago, in Jan 1967, the Apollo 1 caught fire at Cape Canaveral. 30 years ago, in Jan 1987, Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy in the Middle East, was kidnapped in Beirut, Lebanon.

20 years ago, in Jan 1997, Bill Clinton became President of the USA for a second term. 15 years ago, in Jan 2002, the Euro became the official currency of the EU. And this month, Donald Trump becomes President of the USA.

Numerous	Apollo	Beirut	Currency
Significant	Cape	President	Donald
Dates	Waite	Bill	Trump
Troops	Envoy	Euro	United
Europe	Kidnapped	Official	States



# MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION FOR 2017

**We thank you for subscribing to the magazine and payment is now due, if you wish to continue into 2017!** The amount due for the year's supply of the St Marks Church Parish Magazine is £6 which includes free delivery.

Payment may be made by cheque or postal order and either forwarded to our Treasurer, Teresa Nivison, at the address below, or dropped into Church.

If you have any questions about a subscription to the parish magazine, please contact John Nivison on 01590 672896 or alternatively by e-mail at [john.nivison@btinternet.com](mailto:john.nivison@btinternet.com)



<b>Name</b>	_____
<b>Address</b>	_____ _____ _____
<b>Email</b>	_____
<b>Signature</b>	_____
<b>Date</b>	____ / ____ / ____

**Please return this form with your cheque payment (payable to St Marks PCC) to:  
Mrs Teresa Nivison, 6 Stratford Place, Lyminster, SO41 9TL**

## ORGAN RESTORATION APPEAL



Within the chancel of St Marks stands our organ, which remains largely unaltered from the originally installed instrument - built by Bishop & Son around 1904, the instrument is situated on the north side of the chancel and extends partially into the vestry behind. With musical pipes nestled within an oak carved trellis, our organ has led song for new lives coming together through marriage, provided the right note as we say a fond farewell to loved ones and brings

our congregation together for worship each and every week.

However, the decades from initial installation have taken their toll upon this centre piece to music at St Marks. Our organists are very talented to make the most of squeaky pedals and leaky pipes - but as time goes by, the quality of the music the organ can produce diminishes.

St Marks are applying for grants towards the costs of restoring this instrument, however we will be short of the full amount to cover the cost for this. Therefore, we would be grateful for your generosity, if you feel able to donate to this cause.

<b>Name</b>			
<b>Address</b>			
<b>Email</b>			
<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>	/	/

☐ **I wish Gift Aid to apply to the above donation.**

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and / or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference

*Please return this form with your cheque donation (payable to St Marks PCC) to:*  
**Mrs Teresa Nivison, 6 Stratford Place, Lymington, SO41 9TL**

# Bible Bite

## A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Genesis 12:1-9, 17:1-22, 18:1-15, 21:1-7

About 6000 years ago, God told Abram and his wife Sarai to leave their home and go to a new Land that He would give them

This Land will belong to your family, but not yet



But Sarai and I cannot have children

and I am changing your names to Abraham and Sarah



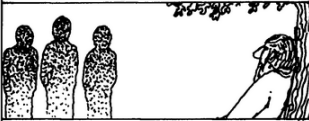
'Abraham' means 'Father of many'  
'Sarah' means 'Princess'

You and Sarah will have a son, Isaac



We are too old to have children. Ha ha ha!

It was noon, and everyone was resting from the heat...



When Abraham saw three men coming to his tents.

He recognised the Lord



Please stay and have something to eat.

He ran to tell everyone



Quick, we need a feast cooked for special guests

Sarah was in the tent, listening

By this time next year, you will have a son



At our age?  
Ha ha ha!

Why did Sarah laugh?



I didn't laugh



Yes, you did.

Soon afterwards...



I'm pregnant!

Sarah and Abraham's baby boy was born



I'm so happy, I can't stop laughing

They called him 'Isaac' which means 'Laughter'



Ha ha ha!

Ha ha ha!



# CHRISTIANITY IS RADICAL IN A LIBERAL SOCIETY?

*By Paul Young*

When Jesus came and shared his message of hope with the oppressed Jews and Gentiles of Israel, he was sharing a message the people needed – but many didn't want. Those in positions of power, with wealth or political sway, did not approve of this upstart who came from a humble background. Professing the truths of God: despite being raised a carpenter's son with a dubious exile in Egypt?



Yet despite the odds, this radical succeeded. Through his wisdom and divinity, that Gospel did not die at the cross: rather it exploded across the Middle East and beyond. Today, through Jesus teaching and example, with the efforts made by his early apostles and disciples, the Christian faith can be found in all corners of the world – with over a third of humanity recognising his truth.

Despite this however, it's clear to see a trend away from the church in recent years. Gone are the days of pews filled every Sunday: now you'll find that only occurs for weddings, funerals or perhaps at Christmas or Easter.

## WHAT CHANGED?

Our society was founded on Christian values. The principals of the ten commandments and Jesus teachings in our own laws meant that a conservative society inherently supported ideals of sex being a part of marriage and marriage being a serious commitment for life. Where food and personal possessions were not hoarded to the exclusion of others. Where there was an awareness of the spiritual governing groups and society.

Progress is a funny thing however. The teenage rebellion in the fifties gave rise to a generation who didn't simply move from childhood into adulthood, following the career of their father – or housekeeping of their mother. With the rise of prosperity, adults could spend more while less responsibility and

pressure was put on the teen. With less responsibility and more support from their parents, teens were able to do more things such as go out with their friends more often, buy food more, buy more clothes, and buy more new music. With all this, teens also became much more independent by not asking their parents for permission to do things and just doing them with their own authority, especially if they had their own cars. Teens began to attend dances, make hair fads, and make clothing trends.

This gave rise to groups such as the hippy movement in the USA or the punk and mod groups in the UK. For those in the older generation, the fear that the youth were being corrupted was a palpable one – and in many cases, true. However, as the teenager grew up and became the adults of society, the radical liberal extremes from these groups became part of the fabric of society in general.

The liberalisation of a conservative society continues today. Through the desire for gadgets, games consoles, mobile phones and more, conservative ideals have lost their favour: and with it, a turning back on what represents an oppressive conservative society. Sadly, steeped in tradition and history, is the Anglican church just such a symbol?

However, here's the good news: *Christianity is only good news when it is radical* – that held true for Jesus and does for us today. The church offers refuge for those blighted by drink, drugs and excess which modern society promotes as glamorous and acceptable. In the race for possessions and materialistic goals, inevitably this focus on personal greed leaves others behind. Through food banks, friendship lunches and Messy Church, the church offers a safety net to those trampled on by a society who have focused more on the material than their community.

Could we as a church do more to welcome those in a liberal society? Of course: we can embrace technologies to share our message digitally – but this serves no goal if it doesn't bring people together in the real world. Should we perhaps shed some of the perceived "stiff" ideals then? But no: selling a message that marriage isn't important and co-habitation is just as good – or that materialistic gain is fine (*and here's our limited edition CoE branded iPhone to prove it*) – weakens the message.

Here however is the irony. When the whole world becomes liberal, it is the conservative who is the radical. When the whole world is wrapped in moral decadence, chastity and ideals of marriage becomes radical. When the whole world is consumed with gluttony, the one who abstains is extreme. When the whole world is chasing materialism, it is the one who recognises the supernatural who is on the fringe.

I don't believe society will return to a time of "Victorian" values and indeed I don't think it should – society has the potential to be much fairer with a few liberal values thrown in. However, I do think it's likely that over time a swing back to a more conservative way of thinking will occur, as people reject the perceived freedoms received through materialistic and selfish goals.

Until then? Can we as a church offer a shelter against modern life and catch those who fall off the escalator that is our society? Can we sell ourselves to our communities as an alternative to a society that prioritises the individual over the welfare of the majority?

I think we do and I think we should endeavour to do more. After all, Jesus as just one man did so much: as a third of humanity, we can strive to do the same.

## THE WRONG SHOES?

*By Paul Young*

I've discovered that my shoes have holes in the sole. I know this because I've just walked through a shallow puddle and after a sudden feeling of cold in my left foot, I'm now feeling that squishy wet sock starting to coil up around my toes as I walk along.

I've known these shoes were on their way out for a while now, but I've done nothing about it. I mean, it's been mostly dry of late and indeed this morning too, besides the pot-hole I just encountered. Okay, so they've also been uncomfortable for a while, if I'm honest with myself: causing my arches to strain on each step and soreness in the balls of my feet. Oh, and gravel? Well, that's been best avoided: with thinning tread on the underside of my shoes, it just takes a ninja pebble to sneak its way underneath for a sharp stab when next I put that foot to floor.

Perhaps I'm holding on to these old shoes because they cost so much and came from Marks and Spencer. If put together, that combination indicates quality – so should last more than the ten months or so I've owned them. I've got to keep them going at least to the year, otherwise I'm admitting defeat – and nobody likes to be wrong?

Yesterday? Well, I wore the trainers I bought from the outdoor shop on Lymington high street. A completely different walk: each step cushioned and springing back as I stride along – seemingly powering my legs to my destination as much as my breakfast does. No soreness, no risk of callouses, no worries about puddles – unfortunately, I'm not wearing them today, as by the end of it my feet won't like me very much any longer.

There is something to be said for equipping yourself with the right tools, routine and mindset for the day. As popular breakfast cereal makers, would say, their product “*keeps hunger locked up until lunch*”, allowing the groggy early riser a better morning away from the warmth of their bed. The right shoes and attire for a chilly morning too: ensuring I can get to work warm and comfortable, able to concentrate on more than sore feet.

But our attitude has to be right. We can have all the right clothing and footwear, have eaten all the right food and been sure to drink that glass of water that doctors recommend we start a day with: but if our attitude is wrong, we get nowhere.

*Therefore take up the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,*

Ephesians 6:13-18 ESV



The author of Ephesians likens this to putting on armour for battle and the readiness to equip ourselves with a trust in God to protect us though our day. It's not a bad idea either, nor does it need to be an arduous task: it's simply putting yourself in the right mindset, which is easily done by prayer. I sometimes wonder if I look like a bit odd talking to myself as I walk the mile to the train station, but I'm really articulating to God what troubled me yesterday and what I hope to achieve today. This mental paper shuffling exercise undertaken via a casual conversation with God really helps: for myself, to mentally write my daily to-do list but also because some of the tasks I might feel are impossible become straightforward in hindsight – which I put down to God helping my focus.

So, what do leaky shoes and sore feet mean in all this? Extending the analogy, I'd suggest that the routine we've always followed isn't always a good thing. Times change and so we do also, meaning what works for us now might not work for us tomorrow. Prayer at the same time in the same way and via the same script can become the goal, not the greater conversion with God itself.

So, I'll replace my shoes: but mentally for the day, I know I'm ready – since I have God with me and he knows what I need to get me through it!

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PRAYERS – JANUARY

<b>1st</b>	Avon Close	<b>16th</b>	Clausen Way
<b>2nd</b>	Alison Court	<b>17th</b>	Conifer Crescent
<b>3rd</b>	Children starting a new term	<b>18th</b>	Corbin Road
<b>4th</b>	Bays Road	<b>19th</b>	Cowley Road
<b>5th</b>	Beresford Road	<b>20th</b>	Curzon Place
<b>6th</b>	Billington Place	<b>21st</b>	The priests leading services
<b>7th</b>	Susie and David's wedding	<b>22nd</b>	Deneside Copse
<b>8th</b>	Birch Court	<b>23rd</b>	Edwards Close
<b>9th</b>	Broadley Close	<b>24th</b>	Efford Way
<b>10th</b>	Those who work in our pre-schools and nurseries	<b>25th</b>	Efford Court
<b>11th</b>	Bowling Green	<b>26th</b>	Elm Avenue
<b>12th</b>	Brooklands Close	<b>27th</b>	Foreset Court
<b>13th</b>	Broomhill Close	<b>28th</b>	Foxward Drive
<b>14th</b>	Brownings Close	<b>29th</b>	Fox Pond Lane
<b>15th</b>	Chequers Close	<b>30th</b>	Parish Visitors
<b>16th</b>	Clausen Way	<b>31st</b>	Youth Groups

## THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED – JANUARY

*If you would like someone to be remembered in the prayers at church on the nearest Sunday, please give the name and date to one of our churchwardens, Teresa Nivison or Maureen Barnard.*

<b>1</b>	Gladys DOE	<b>18</b>	Bill FENNER
<b>3</b>	Nellie LONGLAND	<b>19</b>	Barbara LUKINS
<b>4</b>	Margaret PLUMBLY	<b>20</b>	Peter SOFFE
	Arthur LLOYD		Harry SINGLEON
<b>6</b>	Barbara KLITZ	<b>22</b>	Frederick SPARKS
<b>8</b>	Sheila MOORE	<b>24</b>	June RENOUF
<b>9</b>	Joan GUY		Joan BIX
	Michael CARRICK	<b>25</b>	Violet KEARL
<b>10</b>	Ruth SAUNDERS	<b>26</b>	Sheila HOLLAND
<b>12</b>	Joyce HARRIS	<b>28</b>	Dennis KNIGHT
	Elaine MILLER		Douglas GATES
<b>15</b>	Mona Emily Dawn SIMS		Peter FISHER
<b>16</b>	Christine TAYLOR	<b>29</b>	Raymond OSEY
	Gordon SPEED	<b>30</b>	Ian RICKMAN
<b>18</b>	Anthony WYATT		Lydia HUTCHINS
	Betty TIPTON		

## RECENTLY DEPARTED

**29<sup>th</sup> November**

Eileen Joyce MAPES

## FROM THE EDITOR

I'm writing this in the middle of December, but I'm predicting that come the afternoon of the 25<sup>th</sup> I – like many in this country – will be suffering mild indigestion and will probably as the afternoon marches into evening, be snoozing in a sofa somewhere. Christmas is for many a time of excess, and why not: after all, it's a celebration?

But ...is it? For many, it's a time of worry and in some cases even fear and suffering. Homelessness at any time of the year is a tragic position to find oneself in; but at this time of year, doubly so. I've therefore donated to the St James Society 'Give a Dinner' appeal – ensuring homeless people can enjoy a Christmas lunch. Why not join me and do the same: you can find out more from their website, [www.ssj.org.uk/giveadinner](http://www.ssj.org.uk/giveadinner)

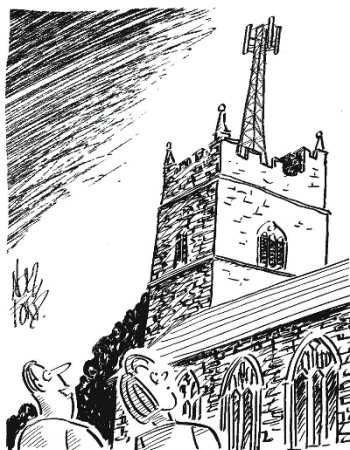
## PARISH CONTACTS

<b>Church Office</b>	General Enquiries	01590 672896
<b>Church Wardens</b>	Mrs Teresa Nivison	07541 842025
	Mrs Maureen Barnard	07541 721440
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	Jackie Paul	01590 671813
<b>Associate Priest</b>	Rev. Anne Elliott*	07553 552540
<b>PCC Secretary</b>	Mrs Eve Jolly	01590 679310
<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	Mrs Teresa Nivison	07541 842025
<b>Gift Aid Secretary</b>	Mrs Maureen Barnard	07541 721440
<b>Envelope Scheme</b>	Mrs Maureen Barnard	07541 721440
<b>Director of Music</b>	Dr. Leigh Jerwood	01590 678678
<b>Church Centre Manager</b>	Mrs Shirley Saunders	01590 677628
<b>Church Centre Bookings</b>	Mrs Shirley Saunders	01590 677628
<b>Parish Visitors</b>	Mrs Christine Scott	01590 672335
<b>Electoral Roll Officer</b>	Mrs Pat Wright	01590 678416
<b>Magazine Editor</b>	Mr Paul Young	editorstmarks@yahoo.co.uk
<b>Magazine Advertising and Distribution</b>	Mr John Nivison	07541 842025
<b>Traidcraft</b>	JohnNivison@stmarks-pennington.org.uk	
<b>Pennington Junior School</b>	Mrs Pat Wright	01590 678416
<b>Bible Fellowship</b>	Headteacher	01590 672104
<b>Churches Together</b>	Mrs Ingrid Bolhoven	01590 677940
<b>Messy Church</b>	Mrs Anne Harris	01590 678378
<b>New Forest Basics Bank</b>	Mrs Sandy Negrescu	01590 675506
		01590 610008

\*Not available on Friday

*There are additional contact methods available through our church website ([www.stmarks-pennington.org.uk](http://www.stmarks-pennington.org.uk)) – as well as general enquiries being welcome via email to [enquiries@stmarks-penninton.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@stmarks-penninton.org.uk).*

*Whilst we work towards appointing a new priest in charge for St Marks, we are very fortunate to have Anne Elliott with us as a familiar face to lead us in worship. For any day to day questions in regards to St Marks however, please find our church wardens are happy to help with any questions you may have as they guide our church through this time of interregnum.*



"The vicar's hoping providing a really strong mobile signal will attract more young folk to the church."



## SERVICE TIMES AT ST MARKS

Holy Communion (BCP)	Sundays, 8:00am
Family Communion	Sundays, 9:30am
Evensong with Act of Healing	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday, 6:00pm
Evening Worship	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 6:00pm
Evensong	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday, 6:00pm
Holy Communion	Wednesdays, 11:30am

For any changes to these services, please refer to the calendar on the inside front cover of this magazine, on our parish notice boards or upon our website.

## REGULAR MEETINGS

Choir Practice	(Church)	Sundays, 8:45am
Coffee Morning	(Church Centre)	Wednesdays, 10:15 – 11:30am
	(Church)	Sundays, 8:45 – 9:30am
Rainbows	(Pennington Guide hut)	Tuesday, 5:15pm
Brownies	(Pennington Guide hut)	Wednesday, 6:00pm
Brownies	(Pennington Guide hut)	Thursday, 5:30pm
Guides	(Pennington Guide hut)	Thursday, 7:15pm
Beavers	(Pennington Scout hut HQ)	Thursday, 6:00pm
Cubs	(Pennington Scout hut HQ)	Wednesday, 6:30pm
Scouts	(Pennington Scout hut HQ)	Monday, 7:00pm
Scouts	(Pennington Scout hut HQ)	Friday, 7:00pm
Explorers	(Pennington Scout hut HQ)	Thursday, 8:00pm



**St Marks welcomes all who come through our doors** – be your visit a brief one for the wedding of a friend or family, or a regular one as a member of our church family. If you wish to help St Marks to spread God's truth in our local community and beyond, your donation is always welcome.

*You can donate by text if you wish; simply send the message **SMCP00** and your donation amount to **70070** to donate to St Marks Church - for example, **'SMCP00 £5'** - and make a difference today.*

*Submissions for the February edition are required to the editor by the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017*

St Marks Church, Ramley Road, Pennington, SO41 8GQ  
[www.stmarks-pennington.org.uk](http://www.stmarks-pennington.org.uk)