

Weekly Link

Sunday 2nd May: Easter 5

Sharing the love of Jesus with All

The week ahead:

Tuesday 4th May

- ⇒ 7:30pm: Evening Prayer online
- ⇒ 8pm: Singers at St Mark's via Zoom (contact Chris Neufeld for details)

Wednesday 5th May

- ⇒ 9:10am: Morning Prayer online
- ⇒ 11am: Holy Communion @ All Saints
- ⇒ All Day: All Saints Open for Private Prayer

Service materials can be found on our website:

www.allsaintsandstmarks.com and on our Facebook page:

All Saints' Weston & St Mark's Shavington

Pray for India

I will say of the Lord, "You are my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust".

God of power and might we lift our brothers and sisters in India to you.

We pray for your protection,

We pray for your provision,

We pray for the nations of earth to have compassion.

When people are in need, you are our refuge.

When people are scared, you are our refuge.

When people are mourning, you are our refuge.

Compassionate God, draw close to those who seek your refuge today.

Amen

Services Today:

- 10am Morning Worship online
- 11:30am Morning Praise @ St Mark's (please book with Margaret Hodgkinson)

Sunday 9th May: Easter 6

- 10am Morning Worship online
- 11:30am Morning Praise @ All Saints (please book with Sue Moore)

Vicar: Rev. Rachael Griffiths

01270 582 585, vicar@allsaintsandstmarks.com

Usual days in the parish Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday services.

Booking contacts: Sue Moore (01270) 587566
Margaret Hodgkinson (01270) 841577

If you would like to have anything included in the Weekly Link, please send to Becky (admin@allsaintsandstmarks.com, 01270 582 585) by Wednesday evening.

As a parish we pray for:

Monday: All pupils and students studying for exams this term

Tuesday: Those faced with overwhelming decisions for themselves or loved ones

Wednesday: Those who suffer from addictions, and those who strive to help them

Thursday: The elections, for a good turnout

Friday: Those who live in Hampstead Drive and Edwards Avenue

Saturday: Those now living in care homes and the staff who care for them

Sunday: Christians around the world persecuted for their faith

PHOTO COMPETITION

As our Parish finances are suffering from the lack of our usual fundraising events, we're intending to sell **PARISH CALENDARS for 2022**. We need YOUR best photos please, covering Weston and Shavington in all seasons. Anything taken since January 2019 will be fine – and of course this Spring is a great opportunity to take more.

See attached poster for further information; entry forms available from our website or church.

Shavington cum Gresty Neighbourhood Plan

A reminder that if you are eligible to vote, the referendum on the Plan takes place on Thursday 6th May.

The Referendum is a legal requirement to confirm that the residents agree with the Plan and to (if approved) turn the plan into law.

A majority vote in favour will determine whether Cheshire East Council should take note of the Neighbourhood Plan when determining planning applications.

The Plan contains reference to the proposed St. Mark's New Build project and it would be great to have lots of support.

Parish website updates: please check the website for two important updates - St Mark's New Build and a new "Giving" page.

All updates should be available by this weekend.

Feedback Requested

As we move towards the summer months when we hope that the easing of lockdown restrictions will continue, the PCC and I are starting to think about what parish life might look like going forwards.

Over the past year, there have been a lot of changes to what we do as a church community. We have been worshipping at different times and in different ways, and many of the activities that previously filled our time have stopped. Therefore, we need to start to re-imagine what the shared life of our churches will look like as life returns to 'normal', not just in terms of how we worship together but also the many different ways we try to share the love of Jesus with all.

To this end, I would be very grateful if you could take a few moments to reflect on the following four questions about your experiences over the past year, pray about them and then offer your thoughts and perspectives in response:

Over this time of pandemic -

1. What have we lost that we want to re-gain?
2. What have we lost that we would feel happy if it remained lost?
3. What have we gained that we want to keep?
4. What have we gained that going forwards, we would want to lose?

You can either email me your responses (vicar@allsaintsandstmarks.com) or write them down and either drop them off at the vicarage or give them to me in person. Your responses will help the PCC and I to have a sense of how people are feeling and what people might like the future life of our parish to be like. Responses will be collated into one document which I will then share with you, and will also provide the basis for discussions at PCC. All responses will be treated in confidence and details of 'who said what' will not be shared with PCC or the wider community.

Many thanks, Rachael

Knitting project update.

My Goodness how busy all you knitters have been!

Already on the way to Knit for Peace are, 3 blankets. 10 pairs of mittens and 2 adult size sweaters.

Knit for Syria are 8 pairs socks, 32 scarves, 3 child sweaters. 26 adult hats, 27 child hats, 5 babies hats, 10 baby cardigans/sweaters and 1 adult waistcoat. Can you spot your handiwork?



They have all now been collected and are on their way to help those who are in need. A fabulous effort and thank you to everyone who has contributed. (See thank you emails we received below). Please keep knitting we can send items

to either charity as time goes by. I'm sure some of you have items you have made and are ready to bring to church when you feel safe to join us, and that is fine. Look forward to seeing you and your knitted items.



However if you would like a change as mentioned in my last update I have found another charity we could make things for. Knit-for-Nowt is a charitable service based in Yorkshire. It appeals to knitters for knitted, crocheted, or sewn hand puppets and "worry monsters", which are used by therapists to help children suffering from abuse, neglect, bereavement or other serious problems. There is a huge need for these. They are donated to Social Work teams and Children's therapists right across the UK.

On this site <https://www.knitfornowt.org/> you can find details of what they need and get inspiration for your own creativity, and get full details about the multitude of different characters you could create!

If you are unable to access the internet I will try to post different pictures of monsters and puppets in the updates and will print off patterns if required, just give me a call Margaret H 01270 841577.



Here's the number 1 basic worry monster. Useful for using up all those odds and ends. Haven't tried my hand at one yet, but it's next on my list, working on a puppet first!



Dear All Saints Weston & St Mark's Shavington Knitters,

I am delighted to say that we have received your wonderful knitted donations, thank you so much. Thank you also for the donation of knitting needles. You have certainly been busy in the lockdown. We look forward to delivering the knitted items, as they will undoubtedly make a big difference to those in need. Thank you for your support, we truly appreciate it.