



St Mark's Church

LEAMINGTON SPA

Belonging... Believing... Becoming...
A community of believers, sharing God's love with the world

Sunday 1st December

Advent Sunday

10.00am Holy Communion

Zechariah's Doubt and Restoration

Luke 1:11-20, 57-64

Leader: Rev Ellie Clack. Preacher: Helen Toner.

www.youtube.com/StMarksChurchLSpa

After the service, please join us for refreshments at the back of church.

Order of Service:

Welcome, Song, Children
 leave, Confession, Reading,
 Sermon, Song, Creed,
 Prayers, Song, Holy Communion,
 Song, Blessing

6.30pm Evening Worship in the Lounge

Mary's Faith and Courage. Luke 1:26-38

Leader: Rev Tim Broadbent

Refreshments served from 6.00pm

Order of Service:

Welcome, Confession,
 3 Songs, Reading, Talk &
 Discussion, Sharing & Prayer,
 Song, Blessing

Monday 2nd December

Milverton School in Church for Experience Advent

Tuesday 3rd December

Brookhurst School in Church for Experience Advent

Wednesday 4th December

9.15-10.45am Toddlers in the Hall.

7.00-8.30pm Youth Group in the Upper Room

Thursday 5th December

9.15-10.45am Toddlers in the Hall.

9.00-10.20am Church open for private prayer & café,

10.30am Holy Communion

7.30pm Together in Meditation in the Upper Room

Livestreaming Notice: Our 10am service on Sunday mornings is livestreamed on our YouTube channel www.youtube.com/c/StMarksChurchLSpa/videos

If you have items to be included in the weekly notice sheet please email office@st-marks.net **by 10am Wednesday**. Keep in touch via www.st-marks.net or St Mark's Facebook Page. Contact the office to receive this notice sheet by email (or to stop receiving it). Our privacy policy can be found on the website.

Events and activities coming up



Parents Brunch. Sun 8 Dec in the Upper Room after the service.

Congratulations to Fiona Henshaw, who will be starting a full time job at CPAS in January. Sadly this means we will lose her from the church office.

Office Administrator Post. Details and application form from the church office.

Churchwardens. Marcella and Charlie have announced that they will be stepping down as wardens next May (at the APCM). Please pray and consider whether this is a way you would like to serve St Mark's. Role description available from office.

Welcome Team. 1 or 2 people still needed for the 3rd Sunday. You will need to turn up 20-25 minutes before the service, greet people and hand out sheets as required. Speak to Amanda for more information.

After service refreshments. Jackie Ward is stepping down from her duty on the 2nd Sunday and we need 2 people who could do the 4th Sunday on a regular basis. Please contact the office if you would be able to do this. It means turning up about 9.45 to set up and staying late to wash up.

Firs Christmas Lunch. Tue 10 Dec 1pm-3pm. Tickets £5. Please book with the office by 4 Dec.

Church Weekend Away. 20-22 June 2025 Booking form available soon.

Carol Service Choir. Sadly this is no longer happening.

Christingle Tickets now available. They are free, but you need to have one per person <https://buytickets.at/stmarkschurchleamingtonspa>

Yellow Pages. Available in church or from the office. Please shred old copies before throwing away (or return them to the office).

December Music Get-together. Cancelled.

Explorers' Mini Christmas Fair. Sunday 15 December after the 10:00 service. At the back of church, St. Mark's Explorers' will supply you with decorated biscuits to eat and a few festive games to play for donations to **Myton Hospice**. Our 9 to 11 year olds are really looking forward to doing something to help this incredibly important charity. Please come along and support us! Also, if anyone would like to take part in the Guess the Little Angel game, please email a picture of yourself as a child or baby to ros@st-marks.net by Friday 6 December. Thank you.

Crossteach vacancy for a Christian schoolworker . See website: <https://www.crossteach.com/schoolworkers-general/>



Christmas Services at St Mark's

Sunday 8th December

- 10.00am All Age Service re-telling the Christmas Story
6.30pm Reflective Christmas (A quiet service offering space to reflect through poetry, music and imagery, and to discover afresh the God of love and comfort who comes to us.)

Sunday 22nd December

- 6.30pm Carol Service

Tuesday 24th December Christmas Eve

- 4.00pm Christingle
(Tickets from <https://buytickets.at/stmarkschurchleamingtonspa>)
6.00pm Christingle
(Tickets from <https://buytickets.at/stmarkschurchleamingtonspa>)
11.30pm Midnight Holy Communion

Wednesday 25th December Christmas Day

- 10.00am All Age Holy Communion

Thursday 26th December No Thursday Service or café.

Sunday 29th December

- 10am Morning Worship
No evening service

Help needed to serve mulled wine and mince pies after the carol service and welcoming/ stewarding for the Christingles. Also to put Christingle packs together. Please contact the office if you can help.

Christmas Support

Many charities have an extra push at Christmas. Below is information from some of those we support as a church.

Foodbank have a Reverse Advent Calendar scheme
<https://warwickdistrict.foodbank.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/324/2024/11/NL-RA24.pdf> donations needed by 13 December.

Coventry Cyrenians will be hosting a Christmas Day dinner at Coventry Central Hall <https://coventrycyrenians.co.uk/>

Flourish have some fund raising events <https://www.youcanflourish.co.uk/events> Including Wreath Making on 28th Nov

Helping Hands 'Big Give' campaign 3rd-10th December
<https://www.helpinghandscharity.org.uk/>

Pray for people and organisations supported by St Mark's

Local

- Brookhurst, Milverton & Trinity Schools
- Thrive Youth Ministries & Crossteach
- Christians Against Poverty
- Leamington College and the St Mark's Chaplaincy Team in their work there
- Nightlight and Street Pastors
- Helping Hands
- Foodbank
- Cyrenians Supported Accommodation Service
- Flourish
- Student Christian Movement

National and International

- CPAS & Bible Society as they help to spread God's word,
- CORD and their work with refugees
- Open Doors and the persecuted church around the world,
- TEAR Fund as they work to relieve poverty around the world
- The Mundos in Nepal: Dan in Healthcare Development

Donating items to St Mark's. We are happy to accept items for Food Bank <https://shorturl.at/DxxPx> and the Cyrenians supported Accommodation Service <https://coventrycyrenians.co.uk/> (Men's toiletries). These can now be left in the red boxes under the table behind the sound desk.

We appreciate that people like things to be re-used and that you think of us, but please ask first as we have limited storage - and more toys, books and most stationery items than we really need. **Please do not leave items without speaking to Amanda, Ros or Tim.**

General Information

Days off

Tim does not usually work Tuesdays. Ros does not work Saturdays.

Fiona works Tuesday and Thursday.

Amanda works Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Contact information

Tim vicar@st-marks.net phone 01926 421004 and follow the instructions.

Office The office is usually open Monday-Friday 9-1. Staff meeting 11.30-12.30 Monday. Email office@st-marks.net or phone as above.

Please avoid office related questions on Sundays.

Ros ros@st-marks.net or phone as above.

Churchwardens wardens@st-marks.net

Safeguarding Officer Sue Turner safeguarding@st-marks.net

Children & young people's groups.

Sundays (except all age services and school summer holidays)

Climbers (Reception to Year 3). Explorers (Year 4-6). These meet together on the 1st Sunday of the month.

Pathfinders (Yr 7 and up)

Parents and carers are welcome to take children under 4 into the Committee Room at the front left of church, where there are toys and a screen to watch the service.

Wednesdays (term time). Youth group (Yr 7 and up)

Prayer

The ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah to hold and the ongoing relationship between them, for people as they return home.

Russia, Ukraine, and other countries in the midst of conflict.

Those affected by flooding.

For all those at St Mark's who are finding life tough at the moment.

Dan and Phillipa Munday working in Nepal

The Church in Turkey www.givinghopetoturkey.org

Environment: Ongoing impact of climate change in many countries. Our response as individuals and as a nation. There are lots of ideas here

<https://prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk/>

Giving to St Mark's. We are very grateful to everyone who gives financially. Ideally, and particularly if you can gift aid your donation, please set up a regular direct debit through the Parish Giving Scheme. Go to www.parishgiving.org.uk and you can find St Mark's from the front page, and set it up online. Thank you. Alternatively, you can give on line, using this link <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/670e813c-9dbf-456a-b47e-c077c9a02904> or the one on the church website. <https://www.st-marks.net/more/giving> You will also find a link to a Gift Aid declaration form here.

If you are writing or updating your will, please consider leaving us a legacy.

Opportunities to ask for Prayer. After the morning service on Sundays (except all-age services). Members of our prayer ministry team are available to pray with and for you.

Through a note in the prayer box at the back of church. Leave as much or little information as you feel comfortable, it can be anonymous – or just your name; and we will pass it on to the prayer team.

By emailing prayer@st-marks.net Your request will then be passed on to the team, again you can give as much or as little information as you wish.

If you would like to be part of the prayer team please contact the office.

Small Groups at St Mark's. You can find out a bit about each group on the notice board at the back of church (opposite the kitchen door). Speak to Amanda di Giovanni for more information or email office@st-marks.net

Getting involved at St Mark's. If you would like to find out more about being part of the Welcome or Coffee Teams, leading intercessions, reading in church, joining the music groups, helping with children's or youth work, Chaplaincy Team at Leamington College, cleaning the church... Please contact the office and we will put you in touch with the relevant person.

Inclusive Church. St Mark's is part of this network of churches, groups and individuals uniting together around a shared vision. www.inclusive-church.org



Sight Loss Friendly Church. If you, or someone you know, are affected by sight loss please let the office know how we can help.

Eco Church. We have achieved our Silver award.



/StMarksLSpa

St Mark's Church
LEAMINGTON SPA

⊕ THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

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