

Sunday 21st November 2021

Living with Contrasts in the Real World

Peace & Conflict

Micah 4:1-5 and Romans 12:9-21

10.00am Morning Worship

<https://www.youtube.com/c/StMarksChurchLSpa/videos>

Leader: Amanda di Giovanni. Preacher: Marie Calvert

6.30pm Holy Communion in the Hall

Leader: Revd Jo Parker. Preacher Marie Calvert

Wednesday 24th November

Toddler Group 9.15am—10.45am in the hall.

Youth Group 7-8.30pm in the Upper Room (alternate Wednesdays)

Thursday 25th November

Toddler Group 9.15am—10.45am in the hall.

9.00—10.30am Church open for private prayer & cafe

10.30am Holy Communion

Livestreaming Notice:

Our 10am service on Sunday mornings is livestreamed on our YouTube channel www.youtube.com/c/StMarksChurchLSpa/videos The distribution of Holy Communion will not be filmed.

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 later this month

Reverend Ruth Smith: As many of you will already know, Ruth has been struggling with her mental health for some time and has agreed with Jo and the diocese that what she needs is a time of extended leave to get properly well. So Ruth will not be working with us as a curate and will be taking a break but will be joining us with her family in the life of the community here at St Marks later on this year. Please pray for her and Adrian during this time of transition.



Christine Lawson: Christine's funeral will be at St Mark's on 29th November time at 12 noon.

Joan Foulds: Joan's Funeral will be at 1pm on Thursday 2nd December. Please pray for her and Christine's families.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes: It's time to think about filling a shoebox and putting a smile on a child's face. The leaflets in the pews tell you what you can and cannot include in your box and it also gives you the label to attach to your box. The children also receive a book of Bible stories along with their shoe box so you have the chance to change a child's life by telling them about Jesus. 400 boxes were collected from St Marks last year, some of which came from the local community. **Last drop off date 30 November.** For more info speak to Beryl Chisholm.

FIRs Christmas Lunch Tuesday 14th December 1pm in the Hall. Please pay in advance, tickets £5 from the church office.

Christmas Fair. In conjunction with Milverton Primary School. **Saturday 11th December 2-4.30pm** (Tree Decorating at 3pm). **We are in need of cake donations and tombola donations (good quality items).** Please contact Fiona in the office to arrange drop off.

Treasurer: Still needed. Please talk to Amanda di Giovanni, Jo Parker or Marcella King for more information.

Christingle Services. December 24th 2.30 & 4.00pm. These are ticket only.

Tickets are free via Eventbrite, but numbers are limited.

2.30pm <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/210945422437>

4.00pm <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/210970908667>



/StMarksLSpa



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Rugby Road, Leamington Spa
CV32 6DL

01926 421 004 / www.st-marks.net

Reg. charity no. 1128485

Foodbank items can be left in the labelled pew at the back of Church on the left as you come in. You can check what they need at <https://warwickdistrict.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

We are also collecting towels and toiletries for the local Supported Living House.

Thrive Fundraiser: Comedy Night with Christian comedian, Andy Kind on Thursday 2nd December, 8pm at Holy Trinity Church in Leamington. Tickets £12/ £6 concessions via Eventbrite or on the doors.



Christmas Cards to the parish. These will be available to deliver soon, so if you usually deliver a bundle please be ready to take it. All offers of help welcome.

Covid Guidelines: Numbers locally are still high so we are not serving refreshments after the service and are continuing with socially distant seating throughout the church. So please remember to use hand sanitiser on the way in and continue to wear face masks. Do not attend if you or any of your family have any Covid symptoms, or if you are self-isolating. You can come if members of your family are self-isolating.

Pray for people and organisations supported by St Mark's

Local

- The Well Christian Healing Centre
- Brookhurst, Milverton & Trinity Schools
- New Hope Counselling Centre
- Thrive Youth Ministries & Crossteach
- Beryl Chisholm, Darren Mitchell, Andrew Cooper, and all who are part of Christians Against Poverty working to help people escape debt and poverty,
- Leamington College and the St Mark's Chaplaincy Team in their work there
- Craighaven Residential Home
- Leamington Nightshelter & The Way Ahead Project (Homeless Action Project)
- Nightlight and Street Pastors
- Helping Hands
- Foodbank
- Cyrenians Supported Accommodation Service

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 Mundays settling into their work in Nepal: Dan in Healthcare Development and Phillipa in Education (Newsletter at back of church, or from the church office).

Environment

- COP26 United Nations Climate Change Conference 31 Oct– 12 Nov. <https://www.24-7prayer.com/great-britain/19/pray-for-climate-justice-cop26>

Contact Information

Revd. Jo Parker (Vicar)
01926 421004
vicar@st-marks.net

Revd Heather Elson (Curate)
01926 421004
heather@st-marks.net

Ros Davies (Children and Families Worker)
01926 432348
ros@st-marks.net

Kelly White
(Parish Safeguarding Officer)
safeguarding@st-marks.net

Amanda di Giovanni
(Church Office Manager)
Fiona Henshaw
(Office Administrator)
01926 421004
office@st-marks.net

Marcella King
(Churchwarden)
01926 421004
wardens@st-marks.net

Treasurer (Vacant)
office@st-marks.net

The office is open Monday to Friday 9am –1pm. Phone messages can be left at other times.

Staff meeting Wednesday 11.00am-12.00pm.

Days off: In general Jo does not work on Fridays, Heather & Ros do not work on Saturdays.

Eco News

Reduce, reuse, recycle

Eco Challenge:

Commit to having one meat-free day a week - for example, 'meat-free Mondays'.

Why? Animal agriculture creates a lot of harmful greenhouse gases.

Dial it down - if a stepped approach is better for you, try switching red meat for white e.g. buy turkey mince instead of beef mince.

Spice it up - if you already do 'meat free Mondays', try adding a second meat-free day, or try a 'vegan' day once a week.

Eco Church:

This is A Rocha UK's award scheme for churches in England and Wales who want to demonstrate that the gospel is good news for God's earth.

We answer an online survey covering our care for God's world in our worship and teaching; in how we look after our buildings and land; in how we engage with our local community and in global campaigns, and in the personal lifestyles of our congregation.

The vision is for churches of all denominations to care for creation as an integral part of loving their neighbours and following God faithfully. You can find out more at <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/>

We have just qualified for the Bronze award.

Eco Christmas:

Some ideas were sent out with the notice sheet on 5th November. Do check them out. Non-plastic Sellotape is available in other shops beside Wilco.

This year we would like to offer a communal Christmas Card scheme (if you have been here a long time you will be familiar with this). In December we will put up a board you can put your card to all members of St Mark's on. We are suggesting a donation towards a local charity supporting the homeless (details to follow).

Eco Prayer:

Creator God, We acknowledge that as your handiwork, we stand alongside all that you have made. Trees and rivers, mountains and valleys, soaring birds and scuttling creatures, all are held within your care. May we grow in our love and appreciation for the fabulous variety around us; and may our awe and wonder draw us closer to the natural world, and through it to you, the God of all things. We pray in Jesus name, Amen. (Revd Cate Williams, Mission and Evangelism Officer Diocese of Gloucester)

Reusing

Freecycle/ sell/ swap/ de-clutter call it what you will, this is a space to advertise items which others may want. There are some guidelines:

- St Mark's Church takes no responsibility for the condition or safety of items advertised.
- By advertising you are giving permission for people to contact you.
- Email the office with a description of your item, you can include a photo.
- We will just put your name on the advert. People can either contact you directly or can email the office and we will forward their details to you.
- Please let us have details by Wednesday.
- Items will be advertised for a month.

UN Climate Press Release

Alok Sharma, UK President of COP26 said: "We can now say with credibility that we have kept 1.5 degrees alive. But, its pulse is weak and it will only survive if we keep our promises and translate commitments into rapid action. I am grateful to the UNFCCC for working with us to deliver a successful COP26."

The Heads of State and Government and the delegates who participated in COP26 brought to the conference a keen awareness of the severity of the climate crisis that the world faces and of the need to live up to the historic responsibility of setting the world on the path to address this existential challenge. They leave Glasgow with clarity on the work that needs to be done, more robust and effective instruments to achieve it, and a heightened commitment to promote climate action —and to do so more quickly— in every area.

Keep praying for Governments as they work to move forward with the decision made.

Church of England Eco update

The C of E have published a consultation document with their route map to net zero carbon by 2030. The part most relevant to churches starts on p12.

https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/gc_misc_consultation_-_routemap_to_net_zero_2030.pdf