Saturday 30th May – A Prayer Festival

The heart of mission is prayer, and this prayer festival will explore different ways of praying. It will take place in West Malling, at St Benedict's Centre and Malling Abbey between 10am and 4pm on Saturday 30th May. The keynote speaker will be Canon Dr Neville Emslie, Director of Mission and Ministry in the Diocese of Canterbury and workshops will include pilgrimage, Christian meditation, Celtic Prayer, Labyrinth Pilgrimage, Praying with Dreams, Ignatian Prayer & the Jesus Prayer. There is a suggested donation £10-20, and if you would like more information or to book tickets, please contact Susanne Carlsson, the Diocesan Director of Spirituality at susanne.carlsson@rochester.anglican.org

Top of the Pew Quiz

It is that time of year again when St Mark's needs to assemble a team for the inter-church Top Of The Pew general knowledge quiz competition. Everyone who plays in the team always enjoys the competition, so you may do also. As always we are keen to expand the number of team members we can draw from, and I suspect that many of you are hiding your intellectual prowess under a bushel. So if you would like to join us and to give it a go please contact Philip Hood, or the Churchwarden – info@stmarksbromley.org.uk

Christian Aid Week - 10th - 16th May

This annual appeal is an opportunity to stand alongside people facing poverty around the world by supporting the life-changing work of Christian Aid, which currently works with local partners in around 30 countries. This year's appeal focuses on support for urban farming projects in crowded informal settlements in Nairobi, Kenya. There will be more information next week and details regarding how to donate. Thank you.

Greetings from the Rev'd Michael Roberts on St Mark's Day

The Vicar has received the following message from the Rev'd Michael Roberts, who some of you may remember; "I am happily reminded of you at St Mark's. I think you yourself have only recently arrived and I wish both you and the parish well. I was the incumbent some 50 years ago. There can't be many who remember me! It was a sharp learning curve for me – hospital chaplain as well then when the district hospital was in the parish – as a young priest. Prayers, then, for you and all who work with you on this St Mark's day".

In the service today:

Servers: Ursula Phillips and Ryan Cupido-Weaich. **Reader**: Jeanette Keefe
Intercessions: The Rev'd Michael Gentry - The Vicar. **Director of Music:** Richard Sutton.

Contact Details

Vicar: The Rev'd Michael Gentry vicar@stmarksbromley.org.uk
Churchwarden: Emile Akabi-Davis info@stmarksbromley.org.uk
Parish Safeguarding Officer: Theresa Weller - pso@stmarksbromley.org.uk 07856 775603
Safer Recruitment: Ruth Russell – hr@stmarksbromley.org.uk;
Hall bookings: Ruth Liddon - hallbookingstmarksbr2@gmail.com

St Mark's Church, Bromley

3 May 2026

5th Sunday of Easter

The Rev'd Michael Gentry - Vicar

Hymns

Processional:	452	Stand up, and bless the Lord
Gradual:	114	Now is eternal life
Offertory:	105	Christ the Lord is risen again!
Communion:	108	Hail, Easter bright, in glory dight!
Final:	124	Ye choirs of new Jerusalem

Setting: Festive Eucharist - Noel Rawsthorne (1929-2019)
Anthem: Now the green blade riseth - Simon Lindley (1948-2025)
Organ Voluntary: Prelude and Fugue in C, BWV 545 - J S Bach (1685-1750)

Collect: Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Reading: Acts 7. 55-60: Standing before the high priest and the council, 55 Stephen, filled
with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the
right hand of God. 56 "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man
standing at the right hand of God!" 57 But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout
all rushed together against him. 58 Then they dragged him out of the city and began to
stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named
Saul. 59 While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my
spirit." 60 Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin
against them." When he had said this, he died.

Please turn to face the gospel as it is read from the central aisle.

The Gospel: John 14. 1-14: 14 Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. [2] In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? [3] And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. [4] And you know the way to the place where I am going." [5] Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" [6] Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. [7] If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." [8] Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." [9] Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? [10] Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. [11] Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. [12] Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. [13] I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. [14] If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Prayers

Today's Bidding and Response During Prayers:
Bidding - Let your face shine upon us and upon your world
Response - Save us in your steadfast love

For all who are unwell at this time:
James Bunting, Tobias Franzén, Mary Marsh, Roderick Cupido, Cheryl Nicholls, Bob and Jenny Humble, William Wright and Heather, Keith & Colin Pagano

For the recently departed: Hazel Robins, Ian Dawes & Chrislyn Wright

To add names to or remove names from these lists please contact Ruth Russell - hr@stmarksbromley.org.uk

Post Communion Prayer: Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

Coffee/tea and biscuits will be served in the church hall after this service. All are most welcome to join us.

Forward Programme

Wednesday 6th May – St Mark's Friendship Group
12-2pm in the church hall – BYO lunch – Please join us for a really interesting talk from John Keefe; the second instalment of his "History of the Nation's Past". Everyone is most welcome to join us.

Sunday 10th May – Sixth Sunday of Easter - 10am Parish Eucharist

Thursday 14th May – Ascension Day - 8pm Sung Eucharist

Sunday 17th May – Seventh Sunday of Easter - 10am Parish Eucharist

Sunday 17th May – 11.30 – The Meeting of Parishioners for the Election of Churchwardens & The Annual Parochial Church Meeting – please see below for details.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting – Sunday 17th May

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of parishioners for the election of churchwardens and the annual parochial church meeting (APCM), will both take place in the church hall from approximately 11.30am on Sunday 17th May 2026. Anybody on the Electoral Roll of St Mark's is very welcome to join us for these very important meetings in the life of our church. Copies of the Financial Statement and Reports are available at the back of the church this morning for your information, and there will also be copies available for all, on the morning of the meeting.

2026 Revision of the Electoral Roll at St Mark's

This year's revision of the Electoral Roll at St Mark's took place on Sunday 26th April 2026. A copy of the new roll is available on the notice board at the back of the church this morning. If you would like your name to be added to the roll and unfortunately missed the opportunity of this year's review, please speak to the Vicar or contact Ruth Russell, our Electoral Roll Officer, and your name will be added after the APCM on the 17th May. Ruth Russell - hr@stmarksbromley.org.uk .

Midweek Communion Service

Please note that Midweek Communion Services will recommence from Wednesday 27th May. Services will take place at 11.15am on Wednesday mornings, to tie in with Friendship Group meetings when they are taking place.