

enjoyed the experience so much. Don't be shy: if you're in need of gentle persuasion, please speak to me or Eleanor.

Richard Sutton, Director of Music.

Social Activities at St Mark's

The Parochial Church Council has recently established a Social Committee to plan and hold various social events throughout the year for the congregation and wider community. We have eight members of the congregation who have volunteered to sit on this committee and others who have offered to help with social events. The committee is chaired by Theresa Weller and if you would like to find out more about what the committee will be doing, please speak to her. In the meantime, the committee have decided to ask the congregation what type of events you would like us to hold, to ensure that we are not just organising things that interest us! We are doing this by sending an email survey to everyone on the Electoral Roll at St Mark's for whom we have an email address. If you are interested in taking part in the survey and either you are not currently on the Electoral Roll and/or you do not have access to an email account, please contact one of us and we will ensure that you receive a hard copy of the survey. Many thanks

Rev Michael and Theresa Weller

In the service today:

Servers: Ryan Cupido-Weaich & Emily Jones

Reader: Gaye Blagden

Guest Preacher: Zara Rawlinson, Diocesan Racial Justice Minister

Intercessions: The Rev'd Michael Gentry

Organist: Sarah Best

Contact Details

Vicar: The Rev'd Michael Gentry vicar@stmarksbromley.org.uk;

Churchwardens: Emile Akabi-Davis info@stmarksbromley.org.uk and

Helen Cooper churchwarden@stmarksbromley.org.uk;

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Theresa Weller - psa@stmarksbromley.org.uk 07856 775603;

Safer Recruitment: Ruth Russell – hr@stmarksbromley.org.uk;

Hall bookings: Ruth Liddon - hallbookingstmarksbr2@gmail.com

Please see the porch noticeboard and notices in church for details of all regular and seasonal services and the website: www.stmarksbromley.org.uk

St Mark's Church, Bromley

12 July 2026

Sixth Sunday after Trinity

The Rev'd Michael Gentry – The Vicar

Hymns

Processional:	345	Christ is the King, O Friends rejoice!
Gradual:	377	Immortal, invisible, God only wise
Offertory:	294	Just as I am, without one plea
Communion:	305	Soul of my Saviour, sanctify my breast
Final:	334	All people that on earth do dwell

Setting: Mass of St Thomas - David Thorne (b.1950)

Organ Voluntary: Allegro moderato maestoso - Felix Mendelssohn (1809 - 1847)

Collect: Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Reading: Genesis 25. 19-34: ¹⁹ These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, ²⁰ and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. ²¹ Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife because she was barren, and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. ²² The children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to enquire of the Lord. ²³ And the Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other; the elder shall serve the younger." ²⁴ When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. ²⁵ The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle, so they named him Esau. ²⁶ Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel, so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. ²⁷ When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. ²⁸ Isaac loved Esau because he was fond of game, but Rebekah loved Jacob. ²⁹ Once

when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. ³⁰ Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) ³¹ Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." ³² Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" ³³ Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴ Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

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

The Gospel: Matthew 13. 1-9 & 18-23: 13 Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ Let anyone with ears listen! ¹⁸ Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Prayers

Today's Bidding and Response During Prayers:

Bidding - Lord, in your mercy

Response – Hear our prayer

For all who are unwell at this time:

James Bunting, Tobias Franzén, Mary Marsh, Roderick Cupido, Cheryl Nicholls,
Bob and Jenny Humble, & William Wright.

For the recently departed:

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

Post Communion Prayer: God of our pilgrimage, you have led us to the living water: refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Forward Programme

Sunday 12th July (Today) – 12 noon – Confirmation Class – Church Hall

After the morning service.

Wednesday 15th July – 11.15am Midweek Said Communion Service

Readings: James 5. 7-11 and Matthew 11. 25-27

Wednesday 15th July - St Mark's Friendship Group

12-2pm in the church hall – Bring and Share Party – all are most welcome to join us.

Wednesday 15th July – Meeting of the Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Sunday 19th July – The Seventh Sunday after Trinity

10am Parish Eucharist

Wednesday 22nd July – 11.15am – Midweek Said Communion Service

Reading: Song of Solomon 3. 1-4 and John 20. 1-2 & 11-18

Sunday 26th July – The Eighth Sunday after Trinity

10am Parish Eucharist

Visiting Preacher at This Morning's Service

We are delighted to welcome Zara Rawlinson, Diocesan Racial Justice Minister to preach for us at this morning's service. "Zara was appointed to this role in 2025 and is funded by the national church. She is a vital part of helping support the Diocese's outworking of [From Lament to Action](#), a national report that has proposed a suite of changes to bring about a change of culture in the life of the Church of England."

Summer Choir

Over the summer months of July and August, St Mark's Choir will be on holiday. The musical content of services will therefore consist of a congregational mass setting, hymns and organ music. Members of the choir attending services will continue to lead the singing from the stalls and, as in the past two years, we invite anyone from the congregation to join them to form an informal 'Summer Choir'. This worked very well in 2024 and 2025, and I was delighted that several occasional singers who joined the choir
