

St Mark's Church, Bromley

2 August 2026

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

The Rev'd Michael Gentry – The Vicar

Hymns

Processional:	346	City of God, how broad and far
Gradual:	394	Let all the world in every corner sing
Offertory:	333	All my hope on God is founded
Communion:	407	Lord, thy word abideth
Final:	375	I danced in the morning when the world was begun

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

Organ Voluntary: Benedictus - Alec Rowley (1892-1958)

Collect: Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; 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 32. 22-31: ²² Jacob got up, took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

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

and missional disciples. This is the largest external funding award the Diocese has received in support of mission and ministry, and It is designed to enrich every church setting. In the latest update on the diocesan-wide Called Together vision, find out how churches across the Diocese are starting to see the benefits, with new staff funded by the bid in post, bringing increased capacity to support churches with their local mission, from schools' engagement and leadership development to parish revitalisation and mission initiatives. Read the latest update on how work is progressing by visiting: www.rochester.anglican.org/about-us/ourvision/progress-updates/ or pick up a printed sheet as you leave church today.

In the service today:

Welcomers: Barbara Pikesley & Catherine Webb

Servers: Philip Hood & Ursula Phillips

Reader: Kate Buchanan

Intercessions: Ursula Phillips

Director of Music – Richard Sutton ATCL

Contact Details

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

Churchwardens: Emile Akabi-Davis info@stmarksbromley.org.uk
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Please see the porch noticeboard and notices in church for details of all regular and seasonal services and the website: www.stmarksbromley.org.uk

The Gospel: Matthew 14. 13-21: ¹³ When Jesus heard that Herod had beheaded John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷ They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸ And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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:

Raymond Akabi-Davis

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

Post Communion Prayer: Holy Father, who gathered us here around the table of your Son to share this meal with the whole household of God: in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace, gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal banquet 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

Wednesday 5th August – 11.15am – Midweek Said Communion Service

Readings: 1 Peter 4. 12-end & John 16. 29-end

Sunday 9th August – The Tenth Sunday after Trinity

10am Parish Eucharist

Wednesday 12th August – 11.15am – Midweek Said Communion Service

Readings: Ezekiel 9. 1-7; 10 & 18-22 and Matthew 18. 15-20

Sunday 16th August – The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

10am Parish Eucharist

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 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.

Growing God's kingdom across the Diocese of Rochester

Our church is part of the Diocese of Rochester. As a family of faith across Medway, north and west Kent, and the London Boroughs of Bromley and Bexley, we are on a shared journey to grow God's Kingdom. In March 2025, the Diocese of Rochester secured nearly £11 million of funding from the National Church to support the Called Together vision. This is a nine-year programme of work to grow missional churches, with missional leaders
