

St Mark's Church, Bromley

23 August 2026

Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

The Rev'd Michael Gentry – The Vicar

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.

In the service today:

Welcomers: Kate & Stuart Buchanan
Servers: Ryan Cupido-Weaich & Ursula Phillips
Reader: Barbara Pikesley
Intercessions: Rev'd Michael Gentry
Director of Music – Richard Sutton ATCL

Contact Details

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

Hymns

Processional:	265	Lord of beauty, thine the splendour
Gradual:	372	He who would valiant be
Offertory:	307	Sweet Sacrament divine
Communion:	369	Happy are they, they that love God
Final:	359	Fight the good fight with all thy might

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

Organ Voluntary: Tuba Tune — Norman Cocker (1889-1953)

Collect: Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of 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: Exodus 1.8-2.10: ⁸ A new king arose over Egypt who did not know Joseph. ⁹ He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. ¹⁰ Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." ¹¹ Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. ¹² But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. ¹³ The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, ¹⁴ and made their lives bitter with hard servitude in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them. ¹⁵ The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, ¹⁶ "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him, but if it is a girl, she shall live." ¹⁷ But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt

commanded them, but they let the boys live. ¹⁸ So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this and allowed the boys to live?" ¹⁹ The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women, for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." ²⁰ So God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and became very strong. ²¹ And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. ²² Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live." **2** Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ² The woman conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. ³ When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. ⁴ His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. ⁵ The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶ When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. ⁷ Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" ⁸ Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. ⁹ Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰ When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

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

The Gospel: Matthew 16. 13-20: ¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Prayers

Today's Bidding and Response During Prayers:

Bidding - Lord hear us

Response - Lord graciously hear us

For all who are unwell at this time:

James Bunting, Tobias Franzén, Mary Marsh, Roderick Cupido,
Cheryl Nicholls, Bob and Jenny Humble, William Wright,
Wynne Bowen, Mark Burkitt and Carol Robins

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: God of all mercy, in this eucharist you have set aside our sins and given us your healing: grant that we who are made whole in Christ may bring that healing to this broken world, 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

Wednesday 26th August - 11.15am - Midweek Said Communion Service

Readings: 2 Thessalonians 3. 6-10 & Matthew 23. 27-32

Sunday 30th August - The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

10am Parish Eucharist

Wednesday 2nd September - 11.15am - Midweek Said Communion Service

Readings: 1. Corinthians 3. 1-9 & Luke 5. 1-11

Sunday 6th September – The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

10am Parish Eucharist