

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK-

- our sisters and brothers at St George's Cathedral, Southwark and the link with Rochester Cathedral and our partnership in the Gospel
- maternity wards, midwives and expectant parents
- those who feed the poor and visit the sick
- the Church in Kubwa, Nigeria

Please continue to pray for the sick and those in need:-

Isabel Anderson; Sarah Beaney; Jill Boyd; Beryl Guarnori; Peggy Pope; Hannah West; Diana Young.

Please remember the recently departed, and all those who mourn them.

+ **For those in need, O Lord, we make our prayer:**

**the sick in mind or in body;
the blind, the deaf and the disabled;
the isolated; the sorrowing, the anxious and the perplexed.
Lord, give them courage, patience and peace of heart,
and do for them whatever is for their good.
We give thanks and pray for those who care for them. +**

Parish Priest:

The Revd Rachel Wilson

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Usual Working Days: Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays

Churchwardens:

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Office opening hours: Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays: 2 - 5 pm

Please make sure all items for the **Notice Bulletin** reach the office by **Wednesday midday**



...and if you scan it, you can download my Christmas sermon!



*To live the love of God,
in the Way of Christ Jesus
in our parish and community*

www.stthomassouthborough.org.uk

**23rd December 2018
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

8 am The Eucharist
10.30 am Parish Eucharist
6 pm Carol Service



24th December 2018

Christmas Eve

3.30 pm Crib Service
11.30 pm Midnight Communion



**25th December 2018
Christmas Day**

8 am Eucharist
10.30 am Festival Eucharist



NEXT SUNDAY

30th December 2018

First Sunday of Christmas

Readings:- 1 Samuel 2:18-20,26; Luke 2:41-52

8 am Eucharist
10.30 am Parish Eucharist

Tuesday 1st January 2 pm STIFF Walk (*see over for details*)

Saturday 5th 10 am Coffee Morning

6th January 2019

Epiphany

Readings at 8 am:- Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

8 am Eucharist
10.30 am Family Service



CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

TONIGHT @ 6 pm

As usual mince pies and mulled wine will be served after the Carol Service. Contributions to the mince pies would be gladly received. If you are able to help provide some mince pies please bring them to the kitchen before the Carol Service begins.



DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

This will take place on **Christmas Eve** from 9.30 am. All helpers will be very welcome. Any contributions of greenery, particularly holly with berries, would be gratefully received.

WEEKDAY SERVICES AFTER CHRISTMAS

Please note there will be NO weekday services after Christmas until **Wednesday January 9th**, when our normal pattern of services will resume.



OFFICE CLOSED

Please note that the church office will be closed between Christmas and the New Year. Normal working will resume on Wednesday January 2nd.



CALLING ALL WALKERS

The STIFF programme for next year is now available on the St Thomas's web-site and there are some printed copies in church. The first walk of 2019 is on New Year's Day - an afternoon stroll to Bidborough Ridge and back, followed by seasonal refreshment in the parish room. Meet outside the church at 2pm. All welcome.



TAKING A BREAK

Please note that Rachel will be on leave between 1st and 8th January inclusive. She will respond to e-mails on her return.



Mission Aviation Fellowship

THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS CHARITY

Our Christmas charity this year is Mission Aviation Fellowship. MAF is a Christian organisation serving 27 developing countries to reach the world's forgotten people. With land access denied by inaccessible terrain thousands of communities are completely isolated. Operating around 140 light aircraft MAF's pilots fly into some 1,700 remote destinations transporting essential medical care, food, water, relief teams and church workers to those in desperate need. Each flight carries practical help, spiritual hope and physical healing to thousands of men, women and children for whom flying is not a luxury but a lifeline. If you have not already received a gift aid envelope there are some at the back of church, and please do look at the display by the parish room door. Thankyou.



COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 5th January
10 to 11.30 am



DONATIONS OF CAKES

WOULD BE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED.

Enjoy a cup of coffee.

Browse our book stall offering a wide range of books at reasonable prices.

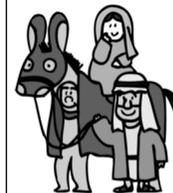
Home-made cakes and jams, raffle, bring and buy gifts and cards.



All Welcome. Bring your friends.



THE ADVENT JOURNEY



Thank you to all the families and children who hosted Joseph, Mary and the Donkey on their travels around Southborough and beyond.

This year the travellers stayed with: the children of Southborough School and of Pennington Pre-School, the Coles, Fenns, Barkaways, Turveys, Owens, Nashes,

Bellshams, Marshalls, Moffats, Prices, Benches, Rorkes, Blackwells and Parfitts.

You have all helped to keep our special tradition going for another year.

Heather