

### Useful Contact Numbers

Vicar	Rev. Rupert Higgins 20 Alton Road, Bournemouth.BH10 4AE	939799
Parish Secretary Parish Office	Mandy Williams 9am to 11.30am. e-mail stmarks_talbot village@btinternet.com www.stmarkschurch-talbotvillage.org.uk	529349
St Mark's website		
Curate	Rev. Asa Humphreys	510343
Assistant Priest	Rev. Diana Newman	745136
St. Saviour's Worship Leaders	Jim and Sue Divall	512140
Churchwardens	Mrs Marion Marks Mrs Janet Lee	520840 710533
Deputy Church Wardens	Mr David Humphreys Mr David Way Mr John Gray Mr David Kellard	527136 768410 511745 382349
Verger	Mr Trevor Adamson	518737
St Mark's Organist	Mr Keiron Marshall	570863
Choir Master	Paul Simpkin	
Mothers Union	Mrs Valerie Cox	746480
PCC Secretary	Mrs Janet Moyse	527717
PCC Treasurer	Mr Jeremy Turrell	553523
Gift Aid Secretary	Mrs Janet Lee	710533
Free Will Offering	Mrs Janet Lee	710533
Children's worker	Miss Alex Morris	079478400
Church Cleaning	Mrs Lyndsey Wilson	517648
Church Flowers	Mrs Celia Hurn	01202 027031
Electoral Roll	Mrs Alex Grimes	
Intercession Readers		
Lost Property	Ms Angie Cornish	520052
Magazine Editor	Rev. Diana Newman	745136
Archivist	Mrs Carol Medlicott	01425 672899
S. Mark's Sch. Head Teacher	Mrs Caroline Burn	512241
Uniformed Groups:	(see inside magazine)	
Visitors Group		
Bible Reading Fellowship	Mr Trevor Adams	518737

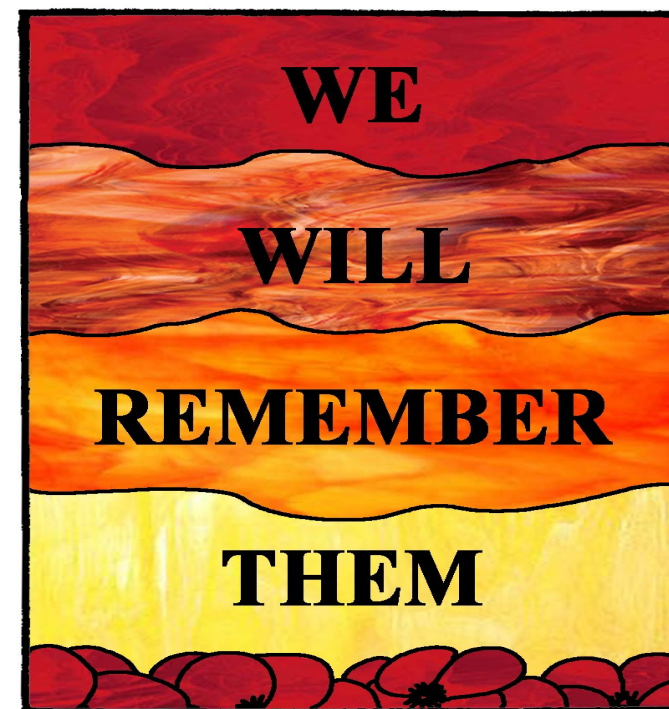
Please add 01202 before the above numbers except mobile numbers

# St Mark's Church

## Talbot Village



with St. Saviour's, Scott Road



## Parish Magazine

# NOVEMBER 60p

## SERVICES AT ST MARK'S CHURCH

**At the present time during the pandemic services at St. Mark's are temporarily changed to:**

**Sundays 9 am Holy Communion**

**10.30 am Family Service followed by shortened communion**

**Week Day Prayers in Church – The church is open on a Wednesday morning from 11am-12pm for prayer**

### SATURDAY PRAYERS IN CHURCH

Saturday prayers (the first Saturday of each month) will resume from Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 10am in church. All are welcome to share in this informal time of prayer for our church, community and other world issues that we feel we need to bring before God.

#### Parish Office:

Open weekdays Tues. 9 -12.30pm, Wed. 10 -12.30 pm  
Thu. 11-12.30 pm, Friday Closed. 01202 529349

Post: St Mark's Church, Wallisdown Road, Bournemouth.  
BH10 4HY

E-mail: [stmarks\\_talbotvillage@btconnect.com](mailto:stmarks_talbotvillage@btconnect.com)

Website: [www.churchofstmark-talbotvillage.org.uk](http://www.churchofstmark-talbotvillage.org.uk)

#### HALL BOOKINGS

Bookings for the new hall complex are taken in the Parish Office between 9am and 12.30pm Monday to Friday.

#### In praise of peanut butter

One quirky change of life under Covid-19 is that for some reason, we are eating more peanut butter. According to a recent report in The Grocer, sales of the stuff rose by 35.5 per cent in the Spring.

Peanut butter producer Kirstie Hawkins (Whole Earth brand) is delighted. "Peanut butter offers an easy way to add more nutrition to breakfast and snack choices."



### PARISH REGISTER



#### HOLY BAPTISMS

No baptisms

#### MARRIAGES

John Clarke and Kelly Spiers

#### BURIALS AND CREMATIONS

*We offer our sincere sympathy to friends and relatives of:*

William McManus

Jean Elizabeth Moore

College is currently relocated from Yei to Arua in Uganda. Jane had extensive experience of teaching in Nigeria but also spent two spells working at BATC in her retirement. The legacy has been vested in the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Finance and will be administered by a small advisory group. The Episcopal University continues to develop, securing a lease on land at Rokon for its central campus. The Board of Governors and Trustees are praying that after an extended application process the Accreditation Certificate will be granted and the University will be launched this year, as 90% of the work of land acquisition, curriculum, and preparation has been completed. The ECSS colleges that constitute the University are waiting hopefully for Government permission to reopen, having been closed since March, along with all schools and universities. A phased reopening of education establishments has just been announced.

**MEDICAL LINK** Two consignments of primary healthcare supplies have been sent this year: the first to Ezo, Maridi, Nzara, Olo, Rasolo, Yabongo, Yabua and Yambio; and the second to Maridi and Nzara. Security concerns are still there and Juba-sourced medicines continued to be flown by Mission Aviation Fellowship to Maridi and Yambio airfield hubs. The clinics that normally receive supplies have been warned that due to the effect of Covid on our fundraising it will not be possible to send any further consignments until more funds come in to the Medical Link. Fees arrears were paid for nursing and midwifery students at Mary Help College of Nursing and Midwifery in Wau and fees for clinical officer and lab technician students at Kajo Keji Health Training Institute. Also assured of support with fees were 2 clinical officers and a midwife student at Maridi Health Science Institute and a student lab technician at Clarke International University in Kampala. The Bishop's Garden Fete and the Chase Benefice Christmas Fair, both normally important sources of funds for the Medical Link, were sadly both Covid-19 casualties. External funding has been sought to enable the continuation of the support for nursing and midwifery students at Mary Help

**DONATIONS** If you or your church would like to support the Medical Link or the general work of the Sudans Link please contact the Sudans Link Treasurer, Church House, Crane Street, Salisbury, SP1 2QB. Or visit <http://www.salisbury.anglican.org/mission/the-sudan-link/donate>

## From the Editor

As most church groups are not yet meeting there is little news from them in the magazine, but there is the Annual General Meeting information and many other articles I hope you will find interesting.

I have decided to retire from much of the ministry I have been doing at St. Mark's but will hope to cover when Rupert is away or unwell. Like many of you I have to take great care because of age and some health problems. I have enjoyed taking services and visiting people in the parish of St. Mark's over the last 19 years, and at the same time have continued to take a few services at my former parish St. Peter's in Parkstone, where I often worship if I am not at St. Mark's.

For the time being I shall continue editing the magazine for as long as people want to read it or, until someone else offers to do it! There will be a few copies printed and left in church, but the magazine will also be put on the website for those who are able to read it on-line. Sometimes the magazine will be a double issue and sometimes a monthly one, depending on news and the season. There will be a double issue for December/January, and items for this should be sent in by 12th November. There will not be a special theme, so if you have something interesting which others might like to read please send it in to my email address: [diananewman36@gmail.com](mailto:diananewman36@gmail.com) Thank you to those who have sent in articles in the past. Good wishes to you all, and stay safe.

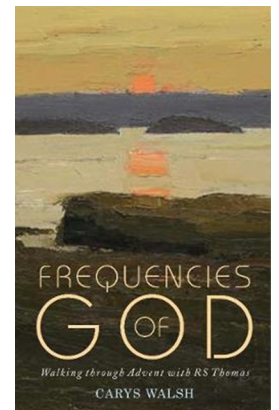
**Rev. Diana Newman**



**Advent Sunday  
29th November  
2020**

**Frequencies of God – Walking  
Through Advent with  
R S Thomas  
By Carys Walsh, Canterbury  
Press, £12.99**

This collection of 28 reflections on Thomas's poetry travels through the season, and follows a Carmelite pattern of waiting, accepting, journeying and birthing.



## *Clergy Letter*

Hello everyone. I think that we are all experiencing a touch of déjà vu as we head further into autumn and winter. For some parts of the country, this is a very worrying time as they face further restrictions. We can't be at all complacent here either as we just don't know what the next few months will bring us.

For our Church Family life, we are trying to keep things as normal as we are able. We have had Harvest and our Annual Meeting, all quite different from normal of course. On November 8<sup>th</sup> we will have a Remembrance Service which, again, will have to be different. Please let Mandy know if you will be attending so we can prepare appropriately.

Alex, our Children and Youth Minister, has been fabulously creative and has managed to prepare and continue so much keeping to all the protocols we need to. There will be a Light Walk on Halloween evening which will be a lovely way to celebrate light. Alex has also been able to creatively use the rule of six to reopen Toddlers. Fusion, our Youth Group, has also reopened and we are exploring whether the Christmas Experience for schools can go ahead safely. We pay tribute to Alex's hard work and creativity.

In all of this we are mindful that things could easily change over the next few weeks and that can make us feel insecure. The psalmist in Psalm 18 writes this:

I love you, LORD, my strength.  
The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer;  
my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.

This refuge is not escapism. It is a strength and anchor for our souls that comes from our relationship with our heavenly Father so that we can then face the uncertainties and still serve him even in the midst of it all. There have always been upheavals throughout human history and now we are facing one. The Lord's invitation is to find our stability in him. Let that be your prayer as you continue to serve.

*Rupert*

One example is that Bishop Abraham of Aweil, with the support from the Aweilian diasporas in the United States, Canada and Australia and the local UNMISS and UNDP teams has put together a comprehensive WASH and protection programme at a cost of some \$US87,000 for the Greater Northern Bahr el Ghazal area. Another example is Christian Relief and Education for South Sudan (CRESS) funding a 'Loud Hailer' project, providing loud hailer to communicate hygiene and health information to refugees in camps in Uganda which have populations of 120,000 to 400,000 people. SUDANS DAY 2020. Our annual event will continue this year but in a COVID-secure way. On or around Saturday 10 October we will send an email programme with links to videos and attachments for you to watch and read.

**LAMBETH CONFERENCE** The conference that was planned for this summer has been delayed until 2022. This consequence of the COVID pandemic was a great disappointment causing such a long delay until we can meet the Sudans' Bishops and celebrate our link with them. Many of you had offered to host our visitors and we hope you will still be able to do so the year after next. In the meantime, the Bishops have a vital role in their Dioceses leading, providing pastoral support and co-ordinating volunteer and support services.

**JUSTICE, PEACE AND RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE** Reports have been received detailing the work done by the National Coordinator and the Finance Officer. Both are volunteer posts whose expenses have been supported by grants from the Sudans Link. The Committee's limited staff have a huge range of issues they are involved in or wish to tackle including: – advocacy for refugees and internally-displaced people who need help to regain land plots; – facilitating dialogue to reduce conflict between cattle-keepers and farmers; – meetings with community leaders on action to reduce cattle-raiding and revenge attacks; trauma healing and reconciliation training; – developing the capacity of traditional leaders to identify and address negative cultural issues leading to gender-based violence; – collecting civilian opinion on what should be done to persuade civilians to give up carrying guns in a peaceful and voluntary way; – training of army chaplains.

**FOCUS ON EDUCATION** Bishop Allison Theological College (BATC) is to benefit from a substantial legacy from the late Jane Pelly. The



**BULLETIN.** This is the first edition since February 2020. There was a brief update in April that was only sent to email subscribers. SUCCESS OF SUDANS COVID APPEAL 2020 There was a wonderfully generous response from the Diocese to the Bishop's July Appeal for funds for 'SOAP AND FOOD'. The target of £50,000 seemed optimistic, given that we were competing with so many worthy causes that needed financial help. In the end our target was exceeded by more than 50%, gathering in £78,600. This is to be equally shared by the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (ECSS) and the Episcopal Church of Sudan (ECS). Payment of the Sudan share, £39,300, has been made to the ECS via the Diocese of Leeds which also has links to Sudan and is also contributing its own Special Appeal for Relief. These funds will be spent on feeding programmes given Archbishop Ezekiel's foresight that increasing numbers of his people were and still are in danger of starvation. He memorably said: "My people would rather die of Covid than hunger" and this became a slogan for our campaign. The very serious collapse of the economy of Sudan has been caused by a number of damaging developments including severe flooding and the consequent loss of crops, real fear of the effects of the Covid pandemic and increasing unemployment with continuing uncertainty about the stability of the government and the role of 'hardliners'. About the Collection for Christians in Jerusalem 2 Corinthians 9: 11-12 NLT Bible Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God. So two good things will result from this ministry of giving—the needs of the believers in Jerusalem will be met, and they will joyfully express their thanks to God. Before making payments from the appeal to the ECSS we are awaiting essential details from the church's South Sudanese Development and Relief Agency (SSUDRA) Covid Task Force on how and where their funds will be spent and how they will be accounted(-)for. We are ready to make payments the moment we receive such confirmations. A heart-felt thank you to everyone involved in our Sudans Covid Appeal from within our Diocese and beyond; to those who donated and those who through their hard work and dedication made it happen and achieved this grand result. There are also some very impressive local Covid initiatives under-way.



**The following poem was written during 1869 and reprinted during the 1919 Spanish Flu Pandemic.**

And people stayed at home and read books and listened  
 And they rested and did exercises and made art and played  
 And learned new ways of being and stopped and listened more deeply.  
 Someone meditated, someone prayed, someone met their shadow  
 And people began to think differently and people healed.  
 And in the absence of people who lived in ignorant ways  
 Dangerous, meaningless and heartless,  
 The earth also began to heal  
 And when the danger ended and people found themselves,  
 They grieved for the dead and made new choices  
 And dreamed of new visions and created new ways of living  
 And completely healed the earth, just as they were healed.

(Sent in by Janet Moyse)

**Poppy Appeal 2020**

Look out for the Poppy Appeal again this year, but not so much via street collections. Instead, the Royal British Legion will focus on contactless donations, as a safer way forward during the pandemic.



One such method will be 'point of sale donations'. This means that when you shop at your supermarket and reach the till or online, you may be invited to round up your total to the nearest pound to help the Poppy Appeal.

A spokesman for the Royal British Legion said: "The Poppy Appeal 2020 is very much still going ahead", but that "the safety and wellbeing of our volunteers, staff and members is paramount.

This means that collectors who fall into the vulnerable category have been advised "not to take part in activity on behalf of the Poppy Appeal that would expose them to any additional risks while coronavirus is still present."

And yet the need is still huge: "Members of the Armed Forces Community are suffering significant hardship as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak and we at the Royal British Legion will do everything we possibly can to support them."

**"Trail of Light in the Darkness"**  
**Celebrating Jesus the Light in the Darkness**  
**and all those who have valiantly gone before... announcing and declaring the goodness and presence of God.**

**Saturday 31st October 2020 - All Saints' Eve**  
**TIME: The trail will be lit up between 4:30pm - 9:30pm**



**Help us flood our community with hope and light during this season!**

Every year St. Mark's Church, Talbot Village, holds a Light Party (as an alternative to Halloween) on October 31st bringing light, fun and joy to many families. This year we cannot do it in quite the same way, however, our community, more than ever, needs 'light in the darkness' and we have a wonderful opportunity to hold out Jesus - The Light of the World - to the people around us.

Following on from our magical Lantern and Light Night Walk last year, we are continuing with this theme but taking it wider and out into our community... This October 31st, All Saints' Eve, we are asking and encouraging people from our church family (that's you ☺) who live around the church, school or Talbot Village, to create a "Trail of Light in the Darkness" by lighting your windows - with fairy lights/ Christmas lights - or whatever you choose.

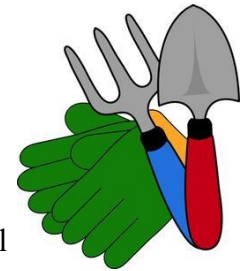
All you need to do is to **let Alex know that you'll be joining in**, and then decorate your window during the week of 26th October. Light it up every evening in the lead up to All Saints' Eve from 4:30pm during half term, Monday 26th October - Sunday 1st November, and make sure it is ready for the big night on Saturday 31st October when you will need to have it lit up from 4:30pm - 9:30pm whilst the actual trail is in operation.

It will be a great talking point with our neighbours. Attached is a flyer advertising the event and explaining why we are doing it.

We will be plotting a map of all the windows/ lights/ pumpkins, including (and especially, those of the church), so that anyone who wants to follow our light trail can find all the plots in their area. **If you would like to be on the map, please send your name and address to Alex Morris. Please e-mail: [stmarksyouthandchil-dren@gmail.com](mailto:stmarksyouthandchil-dren@gmail.com)**

## GARDEN NOTES FOR NOVEMBER

I hope you are well through Autumn tidying and mulching  
 Are your very precious plants warm enough?



The autumn lawn treatment has brought on a wonderful strong show of green.

Shrub roses should have a medium prune to stop the wind from breaking branches. Clear small thin branches and make a neat top shape. Never cut off more than a third of the bush.

It could be very wise to plant fruit trees. October to February is the best time when they are dormant.

Dig a square hole to allow compost around the root bole, about knee height.

Mulch well and water well through 3 seasons of hot summers

This is still time to take cuttings and split perennials and sew seeds like honesty.

It is a good time to transplant self sewn foxgloves to the place you want them. Remember they are biannual.

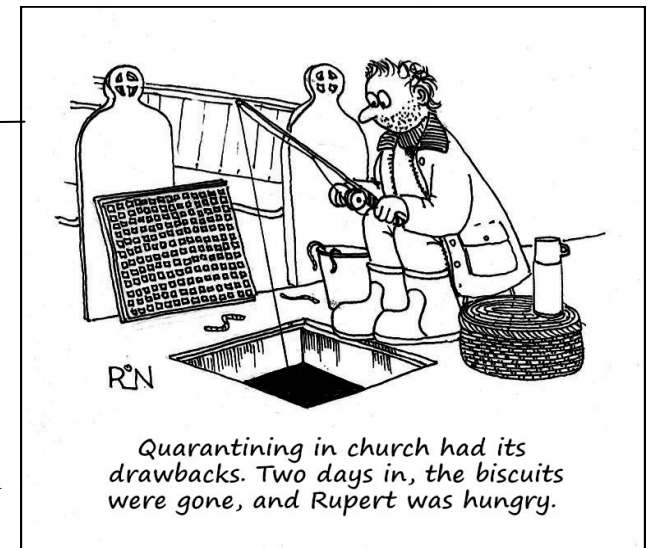
Enjoy your garden and  
 God bless

**Joanna**

### A wee bit too pious

A Scottish lady invited a gentleman to dinner on a particular day, and he accepted with the dour reservation: "If I am spared."

"Weel, weel," she replied briskly, "If ye're deid I'll no' expect ye."



## **2nd November All Souls' Day – a time of reckoning with the past**

The early Church was slow to dedicate a liturgical day to offering prayers and masses to commemorate the faithful departed. But in time prayers were offered on behalf of dead monks, that they might attain 'the Beatific Vision' through purification, which the Church later described as Purgatory. Odilo, the powerful abbot of Cluny, (d 1049) decreed that All Souls' Day should follow the feast of All Saints' Day.

At least four ancient English dedications are known, the most famous of which are All Souls College, Oxford and the church in Langham Place in London.

In bygone centuries All Souls' Day was certainly uncomfortable for anyone who had wronged a person who had then died. For it was believed that souls in purgatory could appear on earth on this day, in the form of ghosts, witches or toads, to haunt anyone who had wronged them in life.

On a more cheerful note, it was also believed that you could help the dead on this day by almsgiving in cash or in kind. Some of these beliefs seem to have been caught up in the popular customs of Hallowe'en. When the Reformation came, the Protestants disregarded the idea of Purgatory, and this feast day remained with the Roman Catholic Church but many Church of England churches use it as a day of remembrance for deceased loved ones today.

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### **The Soldier's Prayer by a Soldier in the American Civil War**

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve,  
 I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey.  
 I asked for health, that I might do greater things,  
 I was given infirmity, that I might do better things.  
 I asked for riches, that I might be happy,  
 I was given poverty, that I might be wise.  
 I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men,  
 I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God.  
 I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life,  
 I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.  
 I got nothing that I asked for –  
 But everything that I had hoped for,  
 Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.  
 I am among all men most richly blessed.

## **THE DEADLINE TO SIGN UP TO BE PLOTTED ON THE MAP IS**

**FRIDAY 23rd OCTOBER, this is so that the map can be  
 plotted in time.**

The map won't be released until the morning of Saturday 31st October ready for later that day when it turns dark.

Even if you don't live close enough to the church to be part of the trail why don't you still have fun decorating and lighting up your window? ☺

Your designs can be as elaborate or as simple as you like but they have to include something that you LOVE about Jesus and make reference to Him. Nothing scary or to do with Halloween please.

On the night of 31st October, between 4:30pm and 9:30pm, at a time of your choosing, you can follow the map around the community and explore the different windows of light - **please follow government guidance at all times and don't go in groups of more than 6 people or mix amongst other groups.**

Whilst you are exploring the windows why not use it as an interactive prayer walk to pray for different homes, families, streets, businesses, the church, the schools and neighbourhoods in our community?

Hope you will be able to join in with this special event. Have fun! Love and Blessings Alex

**Alex X Youth, Children's and Families Minister**  
**stmarksyouthandchildren@gmail.com**

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History books will inevitably tell the story of a virus that swept the world in 2020. But it is up to us what that story will look like. Either... the story of a virus that ... showed up the weakness, selfishness and frailty of people... or how people responded with their best, how the virus was a medical but not a social tragedy. – Canon Will Hughes, Vicar of Petersfield, Portsmouth Diocese.

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### **Baby sitting**

We encouraged our 18-year-old daughter to find a job to help pay for her college education. One day she came home with five applications, and later that evening we read them. Under 'Previous Employment', she listed 'Baby sitting'. And under 'Reason for Leaving' she wrote, 'They came home'.

## **Church Warden's Report AGM 2020**

On behalf of Rupert and myself we thank Terry Hall so much for his help and support over the last 2yrs ! have a good rest but remember we have your Phone number on speed dial.

And now we welcome Janet Lee as are New Church Warden , I would like to express my thanks to all the Deputy Wardens for all there dedication and commitment. A massive thank you to the PCC , SIDESMEN CHALICE ASSISTANTS, LPAs , CHOIR, REAERS, INTERCESSERS , FLOWERS LADIES, the CLEANING TEAM, and many more VOLUNTEERS, who help behind the scenes, its such an amazing commitment to St Mark's and St Saviour's.

We would love to have more Volunteers it's a wonderful way to experience the fellowship of are Churches and can make lasting friendships .

Updates of all works carried out can be read in the AGM booklet.  
The Bats in Churches Project is still on going - more Reports to follow after the Architects get together in Church!

The Graveyard keeps very busy it was a blaze of colour in the Spring and birds making nests. If you take time out to sit on one of the many benches and watch the beautiful habitat Gods Creations, its so peaceful and a eternal resting place for many.

Many thanks to Adrian and Dave for their hard work, I also would like to thank Mandy for all her pastoral support she gives apart from her day to day office work she always has time for the Bereaved .

2019 was full of Joy, Mission and Fellowship .

We linked up with Hope in the Community by Breakfast meetings Which then led me to Pelhams Kinson to the Dementia group I sat throughout their afternoon sessions. How humbling this was for me .

Dementia affects so many including our own Church Family and surrounding Communities. Rupert and myself arranged a meeting with Pramacare and with their help a Dementia group was going to be set up at St Mark's Fortnightly. Sadly this is all on hold because of the Virus.

We invited Andy Gilbert to give a Dementia Friends awareness session and exploring ideas on how to make St Mark's and St Saviour's more Dementia Friendly. 69 people attended—followed by a cream tea .

We attended meetings with the Talbot Trust at St Saviour's and the wonderful news came last November that they had decided to donate the money for a much needed refit of St Saviour's ! Works started in the early part of this year, .

God is like Love going everywhere!

Great Thanks to Mandy for her love and dedication which she gives to all ! To Alex for her much loved Children and families work and Adrian for help and advice with the grounds and Church buildings.

We Thank God for Rupert , Diana and Paul for their leadership and determination to bring praise to our Lord Jesus Christ and for making us all more aware of Gods presence in the Life of our Churches and our lives .  
We prayerfully seek God always for a Parish Community Vision to continue to bless us with humility, generosity, and unity as we continue to grow.

Marion Mark's Church Warden .

Owing to covid 19 very few attended the AGM which is very sad !

I had the privilege of being voted back on as Church Warden and Terry Hall was thanked for help and support over the last two yrs always so pleasant and known for his lovely smile .Janet Lee will now be a church Warden, I must Express my thanks to all the Deputy Wardens John Gray , David Huphreys, David Way , David Kellard for there dedication and commitment!

Volunteer's we would love to have more its such a wonderful way to experience the Fellowship of are Churches and can make lasting friendships.

PCC David Broom  
Valerie Cox  
John Gray  
David Humphreys  
Adrian James  
Janet Moyse  
Angela Odell  
David Way  
Jonathan Williams  
Marion Mark's Church Warden  
Janet Lee Church Warden  
Susan Divall Deanery Synod Representative  
We Thank God For Rupert Diana and Paul .  
Love Marion x

OUR THANKS TO MARION FOR ALL SHE DOES DURING THE YEAR. HER COMMITMENT IS AN EXAMPLE TO ALL.

### **Lesson**

All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.