# **THIS SUNDAY -  18th December**

MORNING SERVICE, 10.30am  
[**In Church**](https://www.stmarksgillingham.org/Articles/607245/Church_Building_Open.aspx?redirected=1)**,** [**Facebook**](https://www.facebook.com/stmarksgillingham) **and** [**Youtube**](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1b5IAYzi3iBqXPBu0OnRrQ/videos?view=2&live_view=502)

**Title:** Fourth Sunday of Advent   
**Speaker**: Catharina Olsson Gisleskog

CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS

**GEMS & PEBBLES**

Children’s group will not be running until the 15th of January    
  
**SUMMIT | 6:30-7pm | Old Vicarage**  
Summit will be running as usual.

## This week

Home Groups  
Throughout the week

Joining a **home group** is a brilliant chance to meet and pray with others, build relationships, support one another, exchange views and explore God's word together. [Take a look at the groups and sign up here](https://www.stmarksgillingham.org/Groups/268148/Small_Groups.aspx) or contact the office.

Ladies Group

Meet at the Old Vicarage from 10am – 12 noon each Wednesday.

Last Wednesday of the month men are very welcome to join.

We are currently studying the book of Jonah.

Tea/Coffee, biscuits and cakes are served.

Standing in the Gap (Prayer meeting)

**Saturdays | 7 - 8am | Online**

On Zoom, join us [online here](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2238511807?pwd=TU94WVN3cDlaSWxnejhHZTYxMTdvdz09).  
[Meeting ID: 223 851 1807 | Passcode: inthegap]

Open Church  
**Tuesday | 10am - 12pm | Church**

Come along for a chat, fellowship or private prayer. Refreshments will be served. Please be aware masks are advised.  
If you are interested in volunteering please contact Dammy via [admin@stmarksgillingham.org](mailto:admin@stmarksgillingham.org).

Dementia Cafe

28th December, 11th January, 25th January |1pm to 3pm | Church

Parent & Toddlers

Wednesdays, 1.15-2.45pm, Vicarage Hall

Fun space for children to play and for parents/guardians to connect. No need to book, just drop up. Wednesdays in term time.

The Gathering

**Join the Junction Small Group for an intimate time with God and the Bible in the Old Vicarage on Wednesday evenings at 7.30 pm,  
on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in the month.  
All welcome.**

Peace and Hope

17th December, 10:30am, Vicarage Hall

Jesus’ Birthday Party

Saturday 17th December 5pm

A nativity about the birth of Jesus Christ featuring a drama and community choir with a meal served afterwards.

### **NEWS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Christmas 2022 at St Mark’s Church, Gillingham

Saturday 17 December: 5.00pm Gospel Carols: Jesus’ Birthday Party

Sunday 18 December: 10.30am 4th Sunday of Advent, Service of Holy Communion

Saturday 24 December: 11.00pm St Mary’s Island, Service of Holy Communion

Sunday 25 December: 10.30am Christmas Day

Saturday 31 December: 11.00pm Gospel Night, Praise Night

You, and your whole family, are warmly invited to join us at any of our Christmas Services.

Holy Communion

If you are unable to get to Church and would like to have communion brought to your home, please contact the Church office.  [admin@stmarksgillingham.org](mailto:admin@stmarksgillingham.org) 01634 570489.  You need to live in St Mark’s parish and be happy for your contact details to be passed to the home communion team.

Prayer Meetings for 2023

Meetings between 7 and 9pm

4th January, Old Vicarage, Vicarage Road, ME7 5JA. 1st February, Old Vicarage. 1st March, Old Vicarage.

5th April, St Mark’s, 1 Canterbury Street, ME7 5TP. 3rd May, St Mark’s. 7th June, St Mark’s. 5th July, St Mark’s. 9th August, St Mark’s. 6th September, St Mark’s. 4th October, St Mark’s. 1st November, St Mark’s.

6th December, Old Vicarage.

#### PLEASE PRAY –

Worldwide –

* **For Ukraine** that they know victory in the Lord, with an end to the invasion by Russia; and for the countries on your hearts at the moment.

The UK –

* For King Charles & the family, in their first Christmas since the Queen’s passing.
* For the families and communities of the 3 young boys who died in the Solihull lake tragedy; for God’s healing of the 6-year-old still in a critical condition in hospital;
* for those involved in the emergency and recovery.  For the families and fishing communities of the lost trawlermen, Jersey.
* For those affected by the explosion at a low-rise block of flats in Jersey, for the grieving families and those of the missing.

God’s Church –

* For those persecuted for their faith; and for the sharing of the Christmas truth.

If you would like to be added to the ***Prayer & Praise*** email list to receive weekly praise reports and prayer requests from our church family please contact Kath Burtrand: [*kathyb.nana@yahoo.co.uk*](mailto:kathyb.nana@yahoo.co.uk)

Any questions, please email, catharina@stmarksgillingham.org

Foodbank

If you would like to donate to foodbank here is the link to the shopping list of things that are needed for those who are in need.

[file:///C:/Users/Student.26327/AppData/Local/Packages/microsoft.windowscommunicationsapps\_8wekyb3d8bbwe/LocalState/Files/S0/5/Attachments/Shopping%20List%20July-August%2022\_large[1640].pdf](file:///C:/Users/Student.26327/AppData/Local/Packages/microsoft.windowscommunicationsapps_8wekyb3d8bbwe/LocalState/Files/S0/5/Attachments/Shopping%20List%20July-August%2022_large%5b1640%5d.pdf)

OPEN CHURCH/WARM SPACE – Tuesdays between 10.00 am and 2.00 pm

We are all aware of the rising energy costs and we would like to offer a place where people can come to be warm. We are looking for people who are willing to volunteer on Tuesday mornings to man the church. This will enable us to open to offer a Warm Space for people to come where we will serve tea, coffee and or cup of soup. If you are available any time between 10.00 am and 2.00 pm on Tuesdays and would be willing to help on a rota basis please get in touch with the church office. Other churches in Gillingham are opening on other days in the week, and once we have volunteers we will be included on a flyer which will show details of all available Warm Spaces.

WARM CLOTHING

Do you own any good quality warm clothing, coats, hats, scarves, gloves, blankets etc that you no longer need. Please donate these to Street Angles to help others.

##### Upcoming Events

NEXT SUNDAY

25**th December, 10.30am, Church**  
  
**Title:** Christmas Day   
**Speaker**: Catharina Olsson Gisleskog

Gospel night- New year’s celebrations

Saturday 31st December 11pm-12:15am

Come and join in a midnight celebration to bring in the new year with Christ. All welcome, Refreshments and non-alcoholic bubbly served as well as other drinks.

Thank you for the week

Thank you to David Wilkins for the time, planning and creating Bible stream.

St Mark’s Church **Canterbury Street, Gillingham, ME7 5TP  
Registered Charity 1141709**  
  
**Office**: The Old Vic, Vicarage Road, Gillingham, ME7 5JA  
01634 570 489 | [admin@stmarksgillingham.org](mailto:admin@stmarksgillingham.org)  
  
**Office hours:**  
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday | 10.00am - 2.00pm  
Fridays | 10:00am – 12 noon   
***Please contact the office if you need to make an  
appointment & do not drop by without prior arrangement.***