

st mark's anglican church, versailles, france

The logo for St Marks Versailles Reach features the text "stmarksversailles" in a sans-serif font. "stmarks" is in blue and "versailles" is in green. A stylized swoosh, transitioning from blue to green, arches over the text. Below this, the word "reach" is written in a large, bold, blue sans-serif font.

stmarksversailles

reach

building to serve
our community

we need your help

“St. Mark’s Church has always been a place of welcome”

*Long term and short term residents in France discover that St. Mark’s is a welcoming community...
...a place to connect with each other - sharing life together, in good times and not so good
...a place to connect with God - praying and worshipping, learning from the Bible.*

“We benefit from the giving and kindness of people who were a part of this community before us”

As well as being welcomed, we enjoy the use of a building made possible by the giving and sacrifice of those who were here before us.

“We need a bigger building to serve our community”

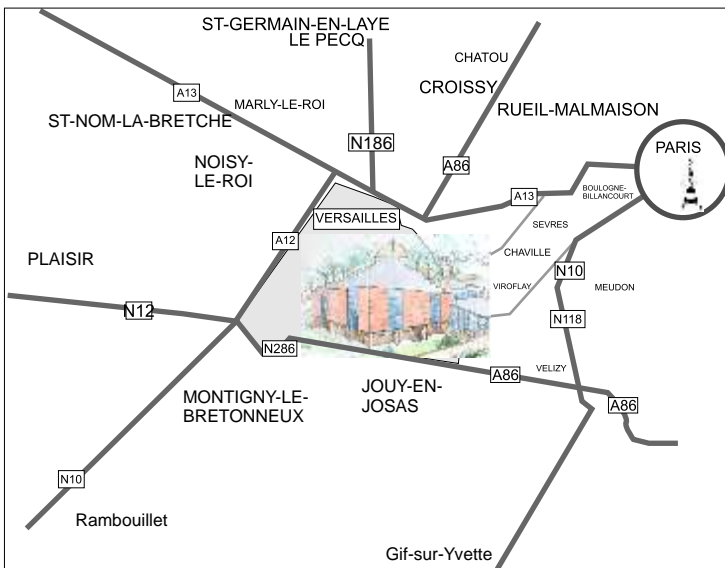
*We have plans for a 250-seat auditorium...
...enabling continued church growth
...one of the largest Christian centres with dedicated car parking in the Ile-de-France (Greater Paris Area).*

We need to raise 1 million euros to complete this building. St. Mark’s members have already given more than 100 000 euros.

REACH is an exciting opportunity! I hope this brochure gives you a flavour of the excitement we feel and inspires you to join us in the way which seems best to you.

“We need your help”

*Paul Kenchington
Chaplain*





A Unique Opportunity

St. Mark's Church welcomes people from all over the world as well as people from our host country, France. Business people, students, military and embassy staff, au pairs and nannies, families, single people, young and old. Many find meaning and community here.

As a church we are well-placed to encourage and work with many different churches and Christian organisations. Our Anglican identity helps us to have excellent relationships with Protestant, Catholic and Orthodox groups as well as those which are not denominational. These relationships have been built and nurtured over a long time, in fact since 1814.

A Unique Place

We believe that our location is God-given.

On the edge of Versailles, we are readily accessible from the excellent French road system. We have space for facilities which enable us to serve our community, including car parking on site.

A Unique Time

We believe God is expanding our church.

This is a time when many Christian organisations are looking for larger event facilities. It is a time for churches to stand together; we hope it will be our role to encourage, train, equip and support other churches and church leaders, so as to enable us all to achieve more and have a greater impact on the world.

Our vision is to be a "storehouse church" – a church that will take this God-given opportunity to share his blessings in this unique place and time.



**"The vision began at least
22 years ago"**

In the 1980s, the growing church of St. Mark's took the bold step to sell "old St. Mark's" in Rue Peintre Lebrun, near the palace. This was in order to buy the house and garden at



31 Rue du Pont Colbert [in partnership with Intercontinental Church Society (an Anglican mission agency that owns our building) and with the support of the Diocese of Europe].

"The aim was to establish a church that would continue to grow, develop and have an impact on Versailles"

The land was purchased and plans were set in place to build a new church to suit the needs of a Christian worshipping community.



Phase 1 (1993) - construction of the ground floor [planned as Sunday School and Youth rooms, but now used for worship]. Phase 2 (1998) added the much needed foyer, kitchen and toilets, and connected up the whole complex.

"a new church to suit the needs of a Christian worshipping community"



But from the beginning, Phase 3 had always been intended with a church/worship hall built on the first floor.



"This is the vision we are about to complete – and indeed to extend while we are in the process"



Consideration is being given to environmental and ecological factors, as we seek to have a building with a low carbon footprint.

We will have an enlarged foyer area enabling safe and easy pedestrian access from both car park and main road. There will be a spacious welcome area as people arrive for worship in a 250-seater worship space and auditorium, with good blackout for video projection. There will also be better rooms for youth and children's ministry, and a

well-equipped kitchen. We believe this new facility will be of inestimable value to the local community, the wider Christian church and ultimately to the kingdom of God.

"We are looking into ways of celebrating the continuing community at St. Mark's, perhaps with a glass etching or some other artwork"



This building will be the final stage of a building started by those who have been a part of the St. Mark's family before us, with many of them giving towards its completion.

Will you be a part of it?



Tania Morris

When I began as a trainee broker at Lloyds in London a family friend



suggested I go on an Alpha course at Holy Trinity Brompton Church as it would be a great way to meet people. I vividly remember the moment I understood and accepted that Jesus had died for ME on the cross, and I was really grateful to God.

At the dinner at the end of Alpha course one of the guys from my group asked me to have dinner with him. To cut a long story short, he asked me to marry him.

Soon after moving to Paris, we were delighted to find St. Mark's and have been here ever since. Everyone was so welcoming and friendly that we felt at home immediately.

It hasn't always been plain sailing. At one point we were very low spiritually and considered leaving St. Mark's but then decided that if we wanted to change things, the only way to do that was by getting very involved. This we did and I am happy to say that we are very pleased to be part of a growing church and love St. Mark's and our extended family there. We also hope and pray that our children will grow up knowing God personally and learn from some great role models at St. Mark's.

Gerry Raymond

"I had found a home, in the church community, and in the Lord"

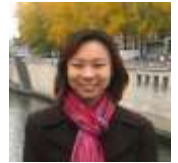


Before my 2 year old started to ask direct questions, I decided I should make up my mind if God existed, or not. An American living in Paris suburbs, I knew no Christians so decided to combine church and English for Greg's sake.

I have taken part in just about every part of church life - Sunday School, Council, coffee, cleaning and flowers. I was there to pray over the foundations of the new church. I have always been nourished and supported at St. Mark's and I have come to love the people here.

Kah-Mun Foong

I came from Malaysia for six months' work placement. I have grown deeper in my walk with the Lord



through Alpha, home group, and time spent together with St. Mark's people. I learned to trust in Him more and praise Him for the people He put in my path during those days. I also loved the "Chestnut Woodland Walk" and my first experience of Christmas caroling!

I thank and praise God for all at St. Mark's. May the Lord's favour continue to shine upon St. Mark's and I do hope to come back for a visit when the new church building project is completed in the near future.



Jacob Pandian

Having finished my University education in the UK, I moved from Southampton to Paris in 2005 to work at Alcatel. I was introduced to St. Mark's by the Simmons family, my only contact in France.



"I experienced a sense of community among the members and have made some lasting friendships!"

I found St. Mark's practical ways of reaching out through initiatives such as 'Operations Stephen' a huge blessing.

I never interacted much with the people who came in because of my poor language skills. I was an extra hand most of the time to set up the table, serve tea, to wash up the cups and so on. However trivial these acts appeared initially, I later realized that through such simple acts of serving, the spirit of God was teaching me some practical lessons about humility! I also very much enjoyed doing various things with the youth.

Now back in India, I see my year at St. Mark's as a fantastic experience and I take every opportunity to come back and visit!

Desmond Weaver

My wife and I arrived in France from the United States in 2006 on a



2-year work-term. We didn't understand French, or have any friends or family in the area, but enjoyed the challenge of starting life in a new country, but initially we didn't establish many relationships.

Shortly after my wife gave birth to our first daughter, Soleil, we found St. Mark's Church and knew immediately that this would become our church home. It is a warm and personal environment where many people from different countries, cultures and backgrounds have come together to worship God.

During the remaining year and a half that we lived in France, we became involved in the worship program, the energetic youth group, Marriage and Alpha Courses, and had a wonderful 6 months in a home group.

"We were very sad to leave our community of friends at St. Mark's when my work-term concluded, but we took away memories and friendships that we know were blessed by God."



get involved

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who has given financially to REACH.

"Giving financially is not the only way to get involved"

(1) Pray

Pray for planning & fundraising, for God's guidance & wisdom

(2) Tell Others

Tell us who might like to know about REACH (friends in your home country and in France, churches, organisations and companies...)

(3) Give

This building will cost an estimated 1 million euros. St. Mark's members have already given over 100 000 euros.

A donation of...

50 euros will pay for a small external panel

200 euros will pay for a church quality chair

500 euros will pay for an entrance door

1 000 euros will pay for a window

10 000 euros will pay for sound equipment

200 000 euros will pay for the roof over the church

Any donation will be gratefully received. A tear-off response form is on the opposite page.

More Information:

REACH, St. Mark's Church, 31 rue du Pont Colbert, 78000 Versailles. France
www.stmarksversailles.org, reach@stmarksversailles.org, +33 1 39 02 79 45

PATRONS OF THE APPEAL FUND

The Rt Revd Geoffrey Rowell
Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe

Sir Peter Westmacott KCMG, LVO
HM Ambassador to France

Sir Peter writes: "I wish you and your congregation every success in your efforts to complete Phase 3 of St. Mark's Church REACH construction project. I hope too that your fundraising efforts will enable you to realise your aim of finishing the building works by spring of 2010."

St. Mark's Church Versailles gratefully acknowledges the patronage of
The Intercontinental Church Society



Please fill in BOTH SIDES of this form, and return to the address indicated
 To donate online see <http://www.stmarksversailles.org/6BuildingGive1.html>

1. Tax Status (if applicable)

- I pay Tax in France - Please issue a receipt for this donation
 - Submit with your income tax return (impôt sur le revenu) - to receive a 66% rebate.
 - For those who pay ISF, this receipt enables you to receive a 75% rebate (subject to a maximum donation of 50 000 euros claiming ISF rebate)

- I am a UK taxpayer and would like to use Gift Aid to increase the my donation value
 - Please donate to *Intercontinental Church Society (supporters of 'Reach')*, using the form enclosed or available from St. Mark's, ICS or www.stmarksversailles.org/6BuildingGiveUK.html

- I pay Income Tax in USA and would like gifts to be deductible from US taxable income.
 - Please donate to *DFMS* using the *DFMS* form enclosed or available from St. Mark's or www.stmarksversailles.org/6BuildingGiveUSACheck.html [DFMS is registered as a not-for-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the US Internal Revenue Code. Gifts made to the DFMS for the benefit of St. Mark's, are deductible from the donor's US taxable income].

2. Donation

- Donate Now (€, £ or \$): I enclose cheque for
 Euro cheques - payable to 'St. Mark's'.
 Cheques in GBP (£) - payable to 'Intercontinental Church Society', using the form enclosed or available from St. Marks, ICS or from www.stmarksversailles.org/6BuildingGiveUK.htm
 Cheques in USD (\$) - payable to 'Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society', using the DFMS letter enclosed or available from St. Mark's or from www.stmarksversailles.org/6BuildingGiveUK.html

 - Donate Now (Other Currency): Please donate to Intercontinental Church Society (supporters of 'Reach'), using the form enclosed or available from St. Mark's, ICS or from www.stmarksversailles.org/6BuildingGiveUK.html

 - Regular payment: I want to make a regular payment of every month/year. Please contact me about how to do this.

 - Pledge: I want to give [indicate currency] to REACH by [date]

 - Loan: I want to loan [indicate currency] to REACH interest free for repayment by St. Mark's after 5 years
- Signature:

We understand that your circumstances may change. This is not a contract.



giving to REACH



3. Personal Details

(Please complete details in block capitals)

Title _____ First name _____

Family Name _____

Address _____

Country _____

Daytime telephone _____

E-mail _____

4. Where to send this form:

Please send to the address indicated:

For Donations in Euros,

please mail to:

REACH, St. Mark's Church, 31 rue du Pont Colbert, 78000 Versailles. France

For Donations in US Dollars (\$),

please send gift to DFMS (address overleaf) using using the DFMS letter enclosed or available from St. Mark's or www.stmarksversailles.org/6BuildingGiveUSACheck.html

For Donations in GBP (£), & All Currencies Other Than Euros & US Dollars (\$),

please donate to Intercontinental Church Society (supporters of 'Reach'),

using the form enclosed or available from St. Mark's, ICS or

www.stmarksversailles.org/6BuildingGiveUK.html

Thank you so much!

Paul Kenchington, Chaplain

Tim Norman, Associate Pastor & Building Project Development Coordinator



an international anglican church to the west of Paris

REACHing

- people of all ages, from over 30 nations
- 1 church, 2 worship centres, 4 congregations
- local home groups across a wide area
- growing, thriving youth programme
- large, dynamic children's programme
- Alpha - an opportunity to explore the meaning of life
- training programme relating Bible truth to real life
- family, men's and women's ministry

a resource for the community around us

- facilities in regular use by 'Our School' (private English primary school)
- community breakfast for anyone, especially homeless ('Operation Stephen', in partnership with other churches)
- an estimated 500 000 English-speakers in the Ile-de-France

global vision - touching the world

- as church members move to other countries
- in compassionate care and Christian mission support

working with partner churches and organisations

- regular ecumenical meetings with local churches
- a resource and a facility, and several have said the new building would be even more useful to them, particularly 'New Wine', an international organisation whose aim is to support and equip churches and Christians.
- training for individual Christians ('Kingdom Training Days')
- training days for church leaders ('Download Days')



2008

22 & 23 Nov

Pre-launch Weekend
with Brian & Gill Lea

Wed 26 Nov

REACH Prayer meeting

Sunday 30 Nov

Official Launch &
Thanksgiving Gift Day

Sunday 14 Dec

Christmas Market,
Nativity & Carol Services

2009

January

Presentation to Churches &
Associations in France

29 March

600 000 euros needed by this day,
for REACH to proceed on schedule

Spring,
Summer

Construction process begins

Building, furnishing & fitting,
ongoing filling of the 'storehouse'

December
2012

Celebration of Completed Building

St.Mark's Church Versailles (Association Culturelle No: 26 déclarée 22 février 1980)

St.Mark's Cultural Association [Versailles]
(Association Culturelle No: 0784016340 déclarée 26 novembre 2007)



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