Sunday 14th January 2007

2nd Sunday Of Epiphany

St. MARY'S

Newsletter

Sunday Worship

9.30 Holy Communion (BCP) in Chapel		
10.30 Family Service	Junior Steward	Hannah
	Drinks	Elaine & David
	Stewards	Kate
	Music	Jon, Jess, Veronica

If you would like someone to pray with you after the 10.30 service please feel free to approach anyone with a prayer badge or ask the clergy.

Collect For Epiphany 2

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
through 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.

Diary Dates

PCC Quiet Morning: For all Church Council members. **Saturday 27th January 9.30am-12.30** at Whirlow Grange Chapel.

Home Groups: 17th January and 31st

Little Lights: Friday Jan 26th, Feb 23rd and March 30th at 1.30pm.

Chapel prayers: Wednesday 7th Feb and 7th March 7.30 - 9pm

Parish Day: Saturday 17th March at Ranmoor Parish Centre (Please note there is no parish weekend away this year).

New Wine Womens Day: in Harrogate on 31st March and New Wine Training Day for kids workers 12th May - more details about both of these from Karen.

See the online church diary for more

Diocesan Prayers

The Sheffield Diocesan Intercession Calendar for Spring 2007, can be downloaded from the diocesan website or ask Steve for a printed copy.

This Week At St Marys

Parent & Toddlers	This **Wednesday morning 9.30-11.30am** in the hall.
Women Exploring Faith	**Thursday 9.30am** in the Parish Room. We will be exploring some spiritual disciplines, encouraging one another and enjoying friendship, coffee and biscuits

Week Of Prayer For Christian Unity

This is worldwide movement of Christians of many denominations, languages, and great diversity of race and culture, who are engaged in praying and working for the unity of Christians in the service of the wider redemption, unity and peace of all peoples.

The dates of the Week of Prayer (actually its an octave) are always the same from **January 18 to 25**, regardless of the days of the week. These dates are chosen because they represent the feasts of two saints significant to our understanding of Christian unity. January 18 is the feast of the confession (or chair) of St. Peter. January 25 is the feast of the conversion of St. Paul. Peter and Paul are understood as representing two competing experiences of Christianity which are reconciled in the gathering at Jerusalem (Acts 15). In a similar way, it is understood that Christianity today experiences a multitude of differing expressions of Christianity which are nevertheless ultimately reconcilable.

Praying for unity does not involve prayer for any specific schemes for unity. It is about being faithful to the prayer of Jesus Christ, as seen in John 17, 'that they may be one'.

In this part of Sheffield, this year the service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is coming to St Mary's this year:

Sunday 21st January at 6.30pm Service for WOPCU here at St Mary's for all the Sharrow Churches.

This newsletter is available on the internet at **http://www.stmarys-church.co.uk/**
To submit news or to receive emails when this newsletter is updated, steve tozer-loft 258 4382 steve@tozer-loft.fsnet.co.uk

Vicar: Julian Sullivan 0114 272 4987

These include Highfield Trinity Methodist, Cemetery Road Baptist, St Mary's Wesleyan Reform, Lansdowne Chapel, Lansdowne Christian Fellowship and Shiloh Apostolic Pentecostal Church.

We hope to have a united worship group with participants from most of the participating churches.

Come and celebrate our unity with our Christian brothers and sisters in Sharrow.

Sheffield Is My Planet 5th-9th February

The UK's greenest city (that's us apparently) is staging a series of events based around the visit of Former US Vice President Al Gore who is to make the keynote address at a global climate change conference being held in Sheffield on 7th February.

There are all sorts of events including an exhibition at the City Hall, tree planting sessions (for carbon offsetting), and several showings of Al Gore's film 'An Inconvenient Truth'.

Full details on www.sheffieldismyplanet.com

The Omega Project

A group of Sheffield Christians including our old friend Michael Bayley, and several from St Marys are helping Michael to produce a *Lent Course* based around a Christian look at climate change, environmental issues, and what we can do about it all. Hopefully at least one of St Marys home groups will be piloting the course this year in the 5 weeks of Lent this year, after which it may become a national resource.

The Al Gore film (see above) is an important part of the background to this course, and there will be a showing *at St Marys on* ***Saturday 3rd February***. Everyone is strongly encouraged to see this film, but its particularly important if you might be interested in joining in with the Omega Course.

Find Graham, Pete or Steve for more details.

Saint Of The Week – Anthony Of Egypt

First in an occasional series:

Born in about the year 251, Anthony heard the gospel message, "If you would be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." He was twenty years old and rich, following the death of his parents, but he did as the gospel instructed and went to live in the desert, living an austere life of manual work, charity and prayer. His many spiritual struggles left him both wise and sensible and he became a spiritual guide for many who flocked to him. His simple rule of personal discipline and prayer was taken up and spread throughout Christendom. He died peacefully in the desert in the year 356, asking that he be buried secretly, so that his person might be hidden in death as in life. His feast day is on **17th January**.

Diocesan Young Adults Event

All 18-25 year olds .... You are invited to a special evening at Whirlow Grange on **Friday 26th January 2007** from 7- 10pm.

The evening will include a meal and entertainment from Joe Fisher ~ a very funny Christian comedian!
Tickets must be booked and cost £10 per head
Dress code ~ Gorgeous! More details, menu or to book tickets please contact nel.shallow@sheffield.anglican.org

Diocesan Rainbow Day 4

Saturday, 20 January 2007 - An event for children and young people aged 7-14 in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - Celebrating 200 years since slavery was abolished - or was it?

Cost £2 per person at The Dearne Valley Leisure Centre nr Mexbrough. 1.00 - 5.30 pm

Computers & Music•Indoor football•K-Nex•challenge•Drama•Worship•Unihoc•African Drumming Workshop•A swim if you want to!

Booking form on the children and youth page (http://www.sheffield.anglican.org/children/)to book or phone Trish Stafford for further information (01709 309147) trish.stafford@sheffield.anglican.org

Next Sunday - 21st January

10.30 Parish Communion

People with jobs to do next Sunday: Steve or Yo (readings); Veronica (drinks); Della (Communion Assistant); Kate (prayers); Kara (Junior Steward); Margaret A (Steward); Steve, Kara (Music)

6.30pm at St Marys: Service for Sharrow Churches as part of Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

(see above for details)

Youth Fellowship 6-7.30 at 41 Brook Road