

Sunday 21st January 2007

3rd Sunday Of Epiphany

St. MARY'S
Newsletter



Sunday Worship

10.30 Parish Communion	Junior Steward	Kara
	Drinks	Veronica
	Reader	Steve
	Prayers	Kate
	Steward	Margaret A
	Music	Steve

We welcome Jean's family for the baptism of her great-grandson Ellis this morning.

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.

Tonight

6.30pm Service for Sharrow Churches as part of Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

We will be welcoming Christians from local churches in this part of Sheffield, to join the service, which this year, is at St Marys.

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.

Collect For Epiphany 3

Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles
the wonder of your saving presence:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your mighty power;
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.

PCC

Meet **tomorrow** at the Vicarage 7.45 for 8pm start.



THE VICAR, OUTVOTED BY THE PCC
APPEALS FOR A PENALTY

Then next **Saturday 27th 9.30am-12.30** PCC Quiet day at Whirlow Grange Chapel.

Diary Dates

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

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
Little Lights	This Friday 1.30pm A special time in Church for all children under five. With singing, Bible stories, simple crafts, and play. See Karen for details.

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](mailto:steve.tozer-loft@tozer-loft.fsnet.co.uk)

Vicar: Julian Sullivan 0114 272 4987

Rafi's Thanksgiving Next Sunday

Kim & Mark would be really pleased if you would join them in celebrating the safe arrival of Rafi at the morning service on **28th January**. Everyone is invited to stay behind after the service for cakes with tea and coffee.

News From The Wider Church

(thanks to Alf in Upminster)

- Andrea Jaeger, a Wimbledon finalist in 1983, has become an Anglican nun.
- A survey carried out by MethodistChildren has found that children prefer to go to church during the week on summer holidays rather than on Sundays.
- Members of Christian Unions at many British universities are being denied access to university facilities or privileges because non-Christians are not allowed to address meetings or sit on ruling committees
- The MP for Norfolk South West is supporting a campaign in his constituency to exempt churches from laws protecting bats.
- Christians in Leicester are giving free flip-flops to clubbers who lose shoes on a night out.
- The Danish Government has approved a proposal by the country's crematoria to pipe the heat from their gas-fired ovens into nearby churches to warm them.
- A "car-boot church" has been set up in a tent at the weekly Sunday car-boot sale at Calverton, Notts.
- In his Epiphany message, the Archbishop of Westminster called upon Roman Catholics to practise fasting as a sign of solidarity with the world's poor.
- Chelmsford Cathedral used glowsticks instead of candles at its Christingle service because of safety considerations.
- Cathedral Deans are to seek a meeting with the BBC after plans were revealed to move the broadcasting of Choral Evensong from Wednesday afternoon to Sunday.
- The winner of the 2006 Sanford St. Martin religious radio award was the Radio 4 religion-and-ethics programme Cities without Maps.
- A virtual church, run in a partnership between the Diocese of London and Premier TV, was launched early, in time to carry the Christmas message to Londoners who might have been unwilling or unable to attend a real church.
- A collection of talking dolls representing Biblical characters, which speak bible verses

when squeezed, has sold out. The Holy Huggables collection is produced in the USA (where else!)

Sharrow Today

The Spring Sharrow Today will soon be due out, and the Editor, Mark Rufus, Contributions can be made any way you like, but should be limited to 400 words maximum and are very much appreciated when they include a picture or illustration! Deadline for contributions this time will be Friday 16th February. You can contact Mark at Sharrow Community Forum, 154 London Road, S2 4LT. Tel: 250 8384, or email: mark@sharrowcf.org.uk

By the way, did you know that the Sharrow Forum website now has a special 'Churches Activities' page?

Church Schools Guidance

The CofE has issued new guidelines for dioceses for advising church schools to match with the requirements of a new Code from the Government. 2,155 Church of England schools must consult their dioceses on their admissions policies. The national guidance emphasises the nature of Church of England schools as "distinctive and inclusive":

New schools should normally have at least 25% of their pupils from other faiths or none. All schools should aim to have at least 15% such.

It also suggests simpler criteria for the "faith priority" places to achieve greater transparency for parents and more straightforward decision making for the admissions panel:

- known to the church
- attached to the church and
- at the heart of the church.

David Whittington added: 'The resultant Code is a lengthy document but, together with the Church's own advice, it should lead to the desired clarity and to more responsiveness to parents' wishes.'

Next Sunday - 28th January

10.30 Parish Communion

People with jobs to do next Sunday: Caroline (readings); Karen (drinks); Caroline & Veronica (Communion Assistant); Elaine C (prayers); Lydia & Molly (Junior Stewards); Doreen & Joan (Steward); Graham, Jess, Jo (Music)

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