

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2007

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Of Epiphany

St. MARY'S  
Newsletter



## Sunday Worship

<b>10.30 Parish Communion</b>	Junior Steward	Lydia and Molly
	Drinks	Karen
	Reader	Caroline
	Prayers	Elaine
	Communion Assistant	Caroline and Veronica
	Stewards	Doreen & Joan
	Music	Graham, Jess, Yo

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.

## Rafi's Thanksgiving

Kim & Mark would like everyone to stay behind after the service for cakes with tea and coffee.

## Collect For Epiphany 4

God our creator,  
who in the beginning  
commanded the light to shine out of darkness:  
we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of  
Christ  
may dispel the darkness of ignorance and  
unbelief,  
shine into the hearts of all your people,  
and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the  
face of 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

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.

## This Week At St Marys

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

## 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](mailto:mark@sharrowcf.org.uk)

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

## Cities Without Maps

At 11am tomorrow (29<sup>th</sup>) on Radio 4 - there's another chance to hear Tim Gardam exploring the new map of England's inner cities where the importance of religion and belief are at odds with the rest of secular Britain.

## Candlemas (2<sup>nd</sup> Feb)

Candlemas commemorates the ritual purification of Mary, 40 days after the birth of her son Jesus. This day also marks the ritual presentation of the baby Jesus to God in the Temple at Jerusalem.

The Gospel of Luke says that Jesus was met by Anna and Simeon (see Luke 2:21-40). Simeon held the baby Jesus and called him a Light to the World .

Anna spoke about the child to all who were waiting for God to set Jerusalem free.

PTO

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

Ritual purification stems back to a Jewish tradition that women were considered unclean after the birth of a child. For 40 days for a boy, and 60 days for a girl, women did not worship in the temple. At the end of this time, women went to the Temple or Synagogue to perform the ceremony of purification. After the ceremony women took part in religious services again.



The festival is called Candlemas because this was the day that all the Church's candles for the year were blessed.

On Candlemas night, many people place lighted candles in their windows at home.

This day also used to have great significance in the rural calendar, because the date lies half way between the winter solstice and the spring equinox, so it marks the day upon which winter is half over! It is a time of the year which naturally forms a transition period in winter - there is a sense in which thank God we are moving on into brighter and better days.

In USA, February 2<sup>nd</sup> is also Groundhog Day.

## Deacon Dave

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Dave Havard has been asked to go back to Hebron much sooner than he expected. He will be talking about his experiences including a slide presentation **Sunday 11th February at 6.30pm** at 'Connections' at Christ Church Pittmoor, Pitsmoor Rd. (Nottingham St.).

Also he is planning another fundraiser at the Kashmir, Spital Hill and will be showing slides there. **Monday 5th February 7pm.** cost £10 for Vegetable or Meat Thallee, an assortment of curries on a tray.

For more info contact Dave on 272 9695

## Live The Cool Life - Imagining A Greener Sheffield

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Open Climate Change Conference at St Marys (free entry) **next Saturday 3rd February**

A chance for Sheffield people to have their say and discover practical steps to combat climate change locally and globally. Share ideas and discover how Sheffield can be much less reliant

on fossil fuel, the main source of global warming, and be a happier place.

**Eco-footprinting** - find your own impact on the planet and how to reduce it

**Food** - local solutions won't cost the earth

**Energy** - how to save energy at home, and make Sheffield a low-carbon city

**Transport**- what kinds of affordable, effective transport do we need?

**National and Global** - campaigns and resources

10-12.30pm: Opening speakers and morning workshops

12.30 -2.00 pm: Affordable veggie lunch, music, kids activities, stalls

2.00 to 4pm: Afternoon workshops and plenary

Practicalities:

Come to morning or afternoon session, or just for lunch. Free entry donations welcome.

An accessible complement to the invitation-only "Cooling The Planet" conference, that Al Gore will be addressing.

Booking not essential but helps for catering. Reserve a place or book a stall:

Rob Last - roblast61@btinternet.com / 2509180

Further information:

Heather 2217284 Jenny 2587073

Check website for programme  
<http://sheffield.campaigncc.org/>

Event coordinated by: **Sheffield Campaign Against Climate Change** (and other local organisations)

## Website Of The Week

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<http://charlestwigg.co.uk/>

Duncan, a Sheffield artist who has had a strong relationship with St Marys for many years (his pictures adorn our north aisle), now has his own website where you can buy high quality prints (or mugs, actually) of his wonderful work. There's even one of St Marys' in there somewhere.

## Next Sunday - 4<sup>th</sup> February

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### 10.30 Parish Communion

People with jobs to do next Sunday: Giles (readings); Christine (drinks); David M & Kim L (Communion Assistant); Steve (prayers); Hannah (Junior Stewards); Kate (Steward); Steve, Kara, Angi

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