

Sunday 21st October 2007

20th Sunday After Trinity

St. MARY'S

Newsletter



Sunday Worship

10.30 Parish Communion	Drinks	Elaine & David
	Readings	Steve
	Communion Assistants	Giles & Karen
	Prayers	Steve
	Steward	Margaret A
	Light Factory	Jo, Kim, Penny
	Music	Giles, Veronica, Graham

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.

Women Together – Last Chance

Women are warmly invited to attend the St Mary's Asian Project Eid Party, here in the building on Tuesday 23rd October 10-12am. Please let Della know today if you'd like to come, and if you will need to use the crèche. Aroose has asked us to dress up! An excellent opportunity to build relationships and peace between people from different backgrounds

This Week At St Marys

Parent & Toddlers	This Wednesday morning 9.30-11.30am in the hall.
Life & Faith	Wednesday at 8.00pm for anyone interested in making connections between faith and everyday life. If you want to explore discipleship and deepen your experience then this is for you, whether at the start or well on in your journey of faith. This week's session is on <i>Gaining Access</i> . See Julian for more information.
Ecclesall Homegroup	This Wednesday 23rd October – at the Mathers.
Women Exploring Faith	On Thursday from 9.30am in the Parish Room. An opportunity to share fellowship and pray. Looking at 'parables', over the coming weeks. Please ask Helen or Karen if you are interested in knowing more.

October - A Month Of Thanksgiving And Celebration

Margaret, our Treasurer, writes:

Last week we celebrated both harvest and 50 years of the centre. We welcomed back many people who have had connections with St Mary's Church and Centre over the past 50 years and more. It showed us how much God blesses us in our individual lives, as a church family and how many people share with us in our enjoyment and use of the church building. We are a pioneering church, breaking new ground as we explore new forms of ministry and mission in a challenging, fast changing urban setting. Our unique situation means that we have special opportunities and face challenges that are not experienced in other churches.

An issue which is not unique however but faces all of us in this diocese is that of paying our way: something which we have managed to do over the last ten or twelve years. Indeed between 1996 and 2003 we even managed to build up a small reserve of £13500 but over the last few years our annual income has not been enough to cover our expenditure. We have seen increases in the parish share which have been difficult to meet and we have had to dip into our reserves. These have now fallen to £7000. (They would have been even less but for your generous donations at the Gift Day last year). As the figures stand at the moment we are looking at having to use up all the rest of our reserves in order to break even this year.

As we give thanks to God at this time for all that he has given us we are using this month to give us all an opportunity to 'top up' our regular giving if we are able to do so or to make a contribution if we are

Collect For 20th Sunday After Trinity

God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life;

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steve@tozer-loft.fsnet.co.uk



Vicar: Julian Sullivan 0114 272 4987

unable to contribute on a regular basis.

Here is a way of responding to the love and generosity of God as each of us can afford and according to our own heart. Let our giving go hand in hand with our worship and service at St Mary's to the glory of God and the spreading of His kingdom and His word.

If you would like any help or advice Margaret and Julian are available and I am sure that Andy and Tom will be able to help too. We will make Gift Day envelopes available at the back of the Church during the rest of October so that you can offer these gifts to God during the service as part of our thanksgiving. In the meantime please join us in our prayers for the future of our mission at St Mary's.

Financial Facts and figures:

Average monthly deficit January - August:
£230.50

Therefore estimated deficit at end of 2007:
£2,670

Present shortfall on parish share (after our regular monthly payments): £5,000

Total estimated deficit at end of 2007: **£7,670**

Porter Croft School

Children from the Porter Croft School Council visited Lunch Club last Thursday to meet Lunch Club members and to share their harvest gifts.

Fischy Music

There is a Fischy Music event in Sheffield on **Saturday 10th November** at Christ Church Pittsmoor. There is a concert at 3.15pm suitable for children of all ages- preceded by a childrens workshop for 7 - 12 yrs who want to learn some songs and help present them in the concert. We will make this a Light Factory event and perhaps include tea together afterwards. If you would like to go please let Karen know and we can block book tickets. Fischy music includes "Build up" "You are a star" and many others - it is great fun.

PCC And Centre AGM

The next PCC will be **Monday 12th November**, and will be preceded by the Centre AGM to which all are welcome.

Climate Change

Public meeting on Climate Change: an illustrated talk by David Hughes of *A Rocha* and the Sheffield

Diocesan Environment Group, followed by discussion. The facts about global warming, present and future consequences and what we can do about it now. **Tuesday 6 November at 7.30pm** in St Oswald's Church, Millhouses (corner of Abbeydale Road and Bannerdale Road). All welcome. Further details from Margaret Stone on 0114-2746362 or email margaretstone@fish.co.uk.

Living Nativity

Sunday 18th November. Shepherds, wise people and holy families needed! Your chance to dress up, and rub along with live animals in a makeshift stable on the Moor. We become a living picture of Christ's birth within the City Centre 'switching on the lights' event, and have, in previous years, been described as the highlight! Phone Pete Egginton 265 2729 or give your phone number to Yo.

50 Years Of Church And Centre

Please enjoy a look at the time line and photographic display of the last 50 years of St Mary's since its rebirth after the building was struck by a WWII bomb.

Facebook

Did you know there's a group called 'St Marys Bramall Lane' on facebook now? For members of St Marys old and new.

Mens Group

A very longstanding tradition at St Marys restarted this week - a men's fellowship group.



Next meeting is for breakfast on **29th November**. Guest speaker: Bishop Jack. This space for details.

Next Sunday - 28th October (Bible Sunday)

10.30am Parish Communion

People with jobs to do next Sunday: Kate K (readings); Veronica (drinks); Della (communion assistants); Giles (prayers); Doreen +1 (steward); Hannah, Karen, Andy (light factory); Jon, Kim (music).

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