

Sunday 9th December

Second Sunday In Advent

St. MARY'S

Newsletter



Sunday Worship

9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) in the Chapel

10.30am Christingle Family Service	Drinks	Della
	Steward	Kate
	Music	Steve, Veronica, Rachel

Collect For Second Sunday In Advent

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

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. This week's session is on Christmas is Coming. See Julian for more information.
Women Exploring Faith	On Thursday from 9.30am in the Parish Room. An opportunity to share fellowship and pray. Looking at 'parables'. Please ask Helen or Karen if you are interested in knowing more.



A scene from last week's Confirmation service (thanks to Giles). More on [facebook](#)

Christmas Shoeboxes

Empty shoeboxes are available at the back of church ready to be gift-filled for children in need around the world. There is a list of suggested items with the boxes - please choose a couple of items and put them in the boxes over the next couple of weeks. For more information please speak to Helen or see their website samaritanspurse.co.uk.



Christmas Flowers

Next Saturday 15th 10am. Come and join in under Kate's able guidance, plus all contributions to cost of flowers gratefully received.

Online Advent Calendar

Paperless Christmas is an alternative online calendar of short video clips - one for each day of Advent.

<http://www.paperlesschristmas.org/>

or there's another one around the them of living with HIV and AIDS here

<http://www.203zebras.com/DigitalAdventCalendar/calendar.php>

Cut-Price Panto Tickets

£8 (instead of £13) to see Cinderella at the Lyceum. **Tuesday 8th January 2pm.** 6 tickets left. See Yo ASAP or phone 258 4382.

Washing Up Volunteer

Needed for Lunch Club on **Thursdays 1.30 - 3pm.** Free lunch included plus any travel expenses. Please talk to Yo (258 4382) if you are interested.

Salaam Bethlehem

Riding Lights Theatre Company presents a new play by Bridget Foreman, directed by Paul Burbridge, designed by Sean Cavanagh. Looking beyond the

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Vicar: Julian Sullivan 0114 272 4987

wall .

Thursday 20th December 7.30pm at St. Oswald's church. Admission: £10 Concessions: £7 groups (10+): £6

Box office 01904 613 000
www.salaambethlehem.com

Salaam Bethlehem is a fascinating, lively and moving encounter with people whose witness in the land of Jesus's birth is something for which the worldwide church should be profoundly grateful.

This is not a children's Christmas play - but about the life of the Christian Palestinians although it will have links with the Christmas story. It has had excellent reviews so far.

Deanery "Get Togethers"

For Children's Leaders and Baptism Visitors. You are invited :For Ecclesall Deanery this will be on **Thursday 10th January 7.00– 9.00pm** at St Andrew's Psalter Lane, S11 8YL. Further information phone Jenny Lambourne on 01709 309147 or email trish.stafford@sheffield.anglican.org

Wanted: Bishop

Must have GSOH, own Crozier and look good in purple.

Actually, the selection of a new Bishop is a bit more complicated than putting in a personals ad! This is not just a job interview; it involves the Prime Minister's Appointments Secretary, the Archbishop's Appointment Secretary, a Vacancy in See Committee and the submission of desirable characteristics from both laity and clergy within the Diocese. To this end I went to the public meeting at the Cathedral on Monday where people were able to suggest the sort of character and abilities our new bishop should have, including:

- Be a leader;
- Have both a personal vision and a vision for the Diocese;
- Have experience of churches in growth;
- Have demonstrable leadership for mission – take the church to the people;
- Be of personal integrity, holiness and above reproach;
- Be a strategic thinker, aware of the realities of the Church today;
- Have a heart for the Parish;
- Promote training of clergy and laity;
- Expand and encourage lay leadership;
- Should allow the church to develop in the context of a modern society and active in politics and social justice;
- Be welcoming to all from every part of society and enter into dialogue;
- And all from a clear biblical perspective.

This shows the kinds of demands and expectations placed on Bishops, and we as Anglicans in the Diocese of South Yorkshire have two responsibilities during Advent and Christmas. We must:

Thank God for the role Bishop Jack has played, and that he retires leaving the Diocese in a strong position;

Pray for all those involved in the process of selecting the new bishop; for their discernment and wisdom; for those candidates who may be considered, that God would inspire the right person with the right vision for this Diocese at this time.

Giles

Jellybean Result



Asylum Seekers Support Initiative - Short Term

Well done to our very own Jellybean who raised nearly £200 for asylum-seekers from donations during their gig at the Sportsman pub. More bookings for the band in January, including a session at the Moon pub, Netherthorpe, and a spot at Christ Church Fulwood.

Caption Competition

Last week's caption competition for this snap of Bishop Jack with Andy at the recent men's breakfast produced a record number of entrants and entries:

Runner up was Yo with:

"Slow. slow. Quick-quick. Slow."

The winner was Giles with his answer:

Andy: "Pension fiddle? Of course I can help."

Thanks to all who entered.



Praying For Sheffield

Wednesday 12th December 7.30pm at Grosvenor House Hotel.

Next Sunday – 16th December

10.30am Family Service

People with jobs to do next Sunday: Andy (readings); Margaret A (drinks); Caroline & Veronica (communion assistants); Della (prayers); Margaret A (steward); Jo, Kim, Karen (Light Factory); Graham, Yo, Giles (music).

4pm Carols by Candlelight

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