

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2008

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

St. MARY'S

Newsletter



Sunday Worship

<b>10.30am Parish Communion</b>	Drinks	Carol
	Readings	Caroline
	Prayers	Elaine C
	Light Factory	Jo, Tom, Andy
	Communion Assistants	Giles
	Music	Steve, Veronica
	Stewards	Doreen & Joan

This Week At St Marys

<b>Youth Fellowship</b>	Restarts tonight <b>6pm</b> at Yo and Steve's house. Tel: 258 4382
<b>Parent &amp; Toddlers</b>	This <b>Wednesday morning 9.30-11.30am</b> in the hall.
<b>Life &amp; Faith</b>	<b>Wednesday at 8.00pm</b> 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. See Julian for more information.
<b>Women Exploring Faith</b>	On <b>Thursday</b> from <b>9.30am</b> in the Parish Room. An opportunity to share fellowship and pray. Please ask Helen or Karen if you are interested in knowing more.
<b>Prayers</b>	For all at St Marys. <b>Friday</b> from <b>9.30am</b> in the Parish Room

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

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.

Flags In Worship Workshop

For ten minutes after church **this morning** in the Hall for one Light Factory Group - more details from Penny.

St Mary's Church Mens' Group

**This Thursday 8pm-9.30pm** at St Mary's (First Floor Meeting Room)

The aim of the group is to give us something to be challenged by, for fellowship (and some laughs) in a low key and relaxed atmosphere..

This week's meeting will be led by Tim Chester from Crowded House (Sheffield House Church, not the Rock Group).

Please see Andy Cribb: 266 3496 familycribb@btinternet.com or Tom Mather: 263 1693 for further details.

Faith Awareness Training

Would you like to know more about the different faiths in our region? this **Tuesday 1-4.30pm**. At Victoria Methodist Church. If interested contact Tim Wright on 2536730 or [tim@offer.org.uk](mailto:tim@offer.org.uk) or steve has more information.

CMS Event - On Your Mark

Christ Church, Pittsmoor on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 10.30am-2.30pm:**

An opportunity to learn about the exciting things happening to your Church Mission Society. Mark will share the vision of CMS and help us to understand where we all fit in! Bring your questions with you - Mark will be happy to answer them. Before lunch there will also be a presentation by members of the recent CMS Praxis Team following their visit to Freetown, Sierra Leone. A short AGM will follow lunch. Please contact Rev Martyn Snow on 272 7756 for further information, or [martyn@christchurchpittsmoor.com](mailto:martyn@christchurchpittsmoor.com).

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



Vicar: Julian Sullivan 0114 272 4987

## Whirlow Grange 2008

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Whirlow Grange has a jam-packed 2008 calendar. If you fancy a Quiet Day of reflection and guidance, or want to spend a day Exploring Prayer, Whirlow is the place for you. There will also be Myers-Briggs courses, assessing personality type and helping with teambuilding, and a day on Healing and Wholeness. For more details, see [www.whirlowgrange.co.uk/prog.htm](http://www.whirlowgrange.co.uk/prog.htm)

## General Synod

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Major debates on detention without charge, mental health issues and casinos will be on the agenda of the General Synod when it meets at Church House, Westminster, from Monday, February 11, to Thursday, February 14. There is a large programme of legislative business, the most substantial item being the Revision Stage of the Clergy Terms of Service legislation. Synod will have further opportunity to debate the Anglican Communion Covenant and Senior Church (Crown) Appointments, following earlier debates in July 2007, and there will also be a focus on Anglican-Roman Catholic dialogue. Communicating Synod Parishioners can keep in touch with General Synod while it meets. Background papers and other information will be posted on the Church of England website ([www.cofe.anglican.org](http://www.cofe.anglican.org)) ahead of the General Synod sessions. Audio files of debates, along with updates on the days' proceedings will be posted during the sessions. Further information from: Steve Jenkins on 020 7898-1326

## Jenny's Art Sessions

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Jenny Mather (local artist and grandmother to three of our congregation) is hosting a series of studio sessions and workshops at her home in Bamford.

Studio sessions are on **February 13/14, March 13/14, April 16/17, May 21/22**

Workshops are **March 14/15, April 18/19**

more details on the website [www.jennymather.co.uk](http://www.jennymather.co.uk) or phone 01433 651795

## Centre For Radical Christianity

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St Marks Centre for Radical Christianity is delighted to announce that during this coming February there will be at St Marks Broomhill three Sunday afternoon seminars **3.30pm - 5.30pm** with tea, led by distinguished writers and thinkers.

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February** - Keith Ward - Regius

Professor of Divinity Emeritus, University of Oxford.

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February** @ 15.30-17.30 - George Pattison - Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity at the University of Oxford and a canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February** @ 15.30-17.30 - David Boulton, humanist and Quaker is a former TV producer

The subject for these informal seminars is that of God - how God has shaped our thinking about the world and ourselves and how we put our own journey into the God story. To lead us in our reflections are three people who have had distinguished careers:

The cost (including light refreshments) is £4 per seminar for members of St Marks CRC and £5 for non members.

For further information and booking forms phone Adrian Alker on 0114 2670362 or visit the website [www.stmarkscrc.co.uk/news-and-events/crc-events](http://www.stmarkscrc.co.uk/news-and-events/crc-events)

## Diary And Rotas

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The latest version of the service rota on the church website shows who's doing what, and, (if you're a steward or a communion assistant), right up to Advent. If anyone would like a printed version, please ask Steve. There's also a new church diary on the church website. This shows the bible readings for every day, among other things, and you can 'subscribe' to it in all sorts of ways. It will even send text message reminders to your mobile phone.

## Israel's Blockade Condemned

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Christian Aid have added their voice to those of many others calling for Israel to end their blockade of Gaza. Israel's decision to allow in limited shipments of fuel and basic humanitarian supplies will not ease the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

'Since Hamas took power last June, Gaza has been subjected to severe restrictions on movement that have allowed in only a drip-feed of aid, preventing a full-scale humanitarian emergency but keeping the population in a perpetual state of economic crisis.'

## Next Sunday - 3<sup>rd</sup> February -

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### 10.30am Celebrating Candlemas

People with jobs to do next Sunday: Margaret I (readings); Della & Caroline (Communion Assistants); Kim (drinks); Steve or Yo (prayers); John & Margaret (steward); Hannah, Kim, Penny (Light Factory).

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