

26<sup>th</sup> October 2008

Bible Sunday

St. MARY'S

Newsletter



### Sunday Worship

<b>10.30am Parish Communion</b>	Readings	Della
	Drinks	Margaret A
	Communion Assistants	Margaret A & Penny B
	Music	Jon, Yo, Ortrude, Keith
	Stewards	Doreen & Joan

### This Week At St Marys

Please note that there will be *no* 'Women Exploring Faith' or Wednesday toddler Group this week.

<b>'Faith and Life'</b>	A central meeting for all every <b>Wednesday at 8pm</b> in St Marys. The aim is to explore 'practical' faith, by sharing stories together, reflecting on the scriptures, discussing questions and praying with each other. Looking for God at work in grass-roots Christian lives. Julian 2724987
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The Tuesday group next meets on 4th November at the home of Peter and Kim Rowe. See Andy (2663496) or Giles for further details.

### Bible Sunday Personal Testimony

Andy writes:

When I became a christian I was encouraged to find time to do a daily private bible study. For years I struggled with summoning up any enthusiasm for this. Then a few years ago (4 or 5) I was challenged/encouraged when holidaying with a christian friend who started each day with his own "bible study/quiet time".

Not that he said anything directly to me but I noticed how his "walk with God" seemed much deeper than mine. Since then I have used 'Every Day With Jesus' study notes and they have been a great guide/focus for finding a quiet time in the day to be focused on God. Of course this isn't a

quick fix and everyone has to find something that works for them . But from my own experience my journey and experience of God has been deeper as a result.  
Andy

### The New Bishop Of Sheffield

At long last, the wait to know who is to be the next Bishop of Sheffield is over. 10 Downing Street announced on Tuesday that Dr Steven Croft, 51, currently Archbishops' Missioner and Leader of the



Fresh Expressions team will succeed Bishop Jack as our bishop.

Dr. Croft will be consecrated as bishop by the Archbishop of York in the New Year and is expected to be

enthroned in Sheffield Cathedral in the spring.

Steven is married to Ann and they have four grown up children.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Rowan Williams, said this morning: "I am delighted about this significant appointment, and I wish Steve every blessing for his ministry in Sheffield.

The Bishop of Doncaster, Cyril Ashton, today welcomed the appointment on behalf of the Diocese of Sheffield: "The waiting is over. The prayerful process has produced a man of deep faith and commitment who I am sure will lead the Diocese through its next stage of outreach and mission with real vigour and enthusiasm".

Dr. Croft, in Sheffield, said today: "I am honoured to be invited to become Bishop of Sheffield and to follow in the footsteps of Bishop Jack Nicholls. Ann and I are looking forward enormously to moving back to Yorkshire. I will have a great deal to learn about South Yorkshire, about the life of the church here and about being a bishop.

He added: "I intend to spend my first months in the diocese listening to what is happening in the many different communities [of Rotherham, Sheffield, Doncaster, Goole and Barnsley and everything in between]. I'll be spending time getting to know clergy and parishes but also, I hope, working alongside different people in the community to see

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Vicar: Julian Sullivan 0114 272 4987

South Yorkshire from different points of view.

Steven Croft was born in Halifax in 1957. He graduated from Oxford in 1980 and went on to study for the priesthood in Durham at Cranmer Hall, St John's College. It was there that he was awarded his doctorate in 1984.

After being ordained in London in 1983 he served as Curate of St. Andrew's, Enfield between 1983-87 before returning to Yorkshire as Vicar of Ovenden in the Diocese of Wakefield between 87-96. For the last three years he was also diocesan mission adviser.

In 1996 Steven became Warden of Durham Theological College. He thrived in his new responsibilities and wrote widely about his experiences as a parish priest and began to express increasing concern about how urgent is the task for the Church to re-engage with huge swathes of the population which it had completely lost touch with.

Shortly after Rowan Williams was appointed Steven was appointed as Archbishops' Missioner and Leader of the Fresh Expressions team.

He was a member of the Church of England Evangelical Council from 1997-2000 and a member of the steering group for Anglican Church Planting Initiatives and the Sheffield Centre from 1996-2002.

He has been a member of the Finance Panel and of the Theological Education and Training Committee of the Ministry Division and of the Publishing Board of the Archbishops' Council.

He is a co-author of *Emmaus: the way of faith*, a set of resources for Christian nurture widely used in the UK and across the world. He is author or co-author of a number of books including *Ministry in Three Dimensions* (1999 and 2008); and *Travelling Well* (with Stephen Cottrell) (2000). His first novel for children and adults, *The Advent Calendar* was published in 2006.

The new Bishop's interests include walking, cooking and films.

## Assisting ASSIST – 3 Events

- Iona Big Sing in aid of ASSIST, to be held on **Saturday 15th November from 7pm-8.30pm** at the Central United Reform Church in Sheffield. Yo's going if you want someone to go with.

- A free film screening and discussion of the documentary film *'Sierra Leone's Refugee Allstars'* at NRC, Scotia Works, Leadmill Road on **Wednesday 29th October at 5.30 pm**. Donations taken for Assist.

The film tells the uplifting story of a group of six Sierra Leonean musicians who came together to

form a band while living as refugees in the Republic of Guinea. A brutal civil war (1991-2002) forced them from their homes. Many of their family and friends were murdered in the violence, leaving them with physical and emotional scars that may never heal. Despite the unimaginable horrors of civil war, they were saved through their music. Through music they find a place of refuge, a sense of purpose and a source of power. The film follows the band over the course of three years as they make the difficult decision to return to their war-torn country and realize their dream of recording an album of their original music.

- Jellybean Jazz at the Sportsman. Featuring our own Mark and Yo, and the Vicar guesting on drums.

Come and hear some jazzy tunes!

## Jellybean Jazz



*Fantastic five piece jazz covers band*

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2008  
from 8.00 pm  
The Sportsman Inn Pub, Denby Street  
(off Bramall Lane) S2  
Entrance by donation

Gig in aid of ASSIST Sheffield, supporting destitute  
asylum seekers in Sheffield  
[www.assistsheffield.org.uk](http://www.assistsheffield.org.uk)  
Charity No 1100894

## Traidcraft Stall Results

Thanks to everyone for supporting the traidcraft stall over the past two weeks. £260 worth of goods were bought. Well done Hannah.

## Experiencing Godly Play For Adults

Advent and the Mystery of Christmas - Experiencing Godly Play, with Jenny Lambourne, Diocesan Children's Officer.

**Friday 7 November 10 am – 4 pm** at Whirlow Grange Christian Spirituality Centre.

Godly Play was created for 3 to 8 year olds but experience shows it is effective for people of all ages! This is a day for grown-ups to engage in Godly Play. It will be a day with Time and Space to Wonder about the Mystery of Christmas. See Steve for more details or [www.whirlowgrange.co.uk](http://www.whirlowgrange.co.uk)

## Next Sunday - 2<sup>nd</sup> November

### 10.30am Parish Communion

People with jobs to do next Sunday: Christine (drinks); Andy & Kate (Communion assistants); John & Margaret I (Steward); Steve, Ortrude (music); Margaret I (readings); Della (prayers).

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