

30th November 2008

Advent Sunday

St. MARY'S

Newsletter



Sunday Worship

10.30am Parish Communion	Drinks	Elaine & David
	Reader	Rachel M
	Music	Steve, Veronica, Yo
	Prayers	Elaine C
	Communion Assistants	Margaret A & Penny

Collect For Today

Almighty God,
 give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
 and to put on the armour of light,
 now in the time of this mortal life,
 in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great
 humility;
 that on the last day,
 when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
 to judge the living and the dead,
 we may rise to the life immortal;
 through him who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.

Today Today Advent Tea

You are warmly invited to our **Advent Tea at the Vicarage**. Bring something to share. This afternoon at 4pm.

St Marys Brownies

Are holding an event called 'Doctor Owl – her trip through time and space' on **Thursday 4th December 6-7.15pm**. Refreshments, raffle and crafts. In St Marys Pavilion. All welcome.

Congo Evening

News, prayers, and flavours of the Democratic Republic of Congo. **Sunday 7th December**

8-9pm here at St Marys. Come and hear Sam Foulds (Christian Aid youth and student volunteer) talk about his trip to DRC last month, plus music from our own Dieumerci and Victor plus friends. All welcome.

This Week At St Marys

Parent & Toddlers	This Wednesday morning 9.30-11.30am in the hall.
'Faith and Life'	A central meeting for all every Wednesday at 8pm in St Marys. Looking for God at work in grass-roots Christian lives. Julian 2724987
Women Exploring Faith	Meet every Thursday from 9.45 am . This week: starting to prepare for Advent with Bible meditations and prayers, all welcome For more information please speak to Kate or Karen.
Parish Room Prayers	This Friday at 9.30am, everyone is welcome to join a time of prayer in the Parish Room for all the work of St Marys, and all those involved with the church and centre. See Della for details.

Do Nothing: Christmas Is Coming

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu, has recently written

"What seems to have happened is that the tingle of anticipation, which looking forward to Christmas brings, has encouraged us to 'anticipate' Christmas in another sense, not in the sense of 'looking forward to' but in the sense of 'bringing it forward and beginning celebrations early'. Christmas decorations seem to appear earlier and earlier every year so that we have barely returned from our summer holidays when we are entangled in yards of tinsel. Preparation for Christmas, for many people, means beginning Christmas early. I was entertained last year to find a box of mince-pies in a supermarket in September with a consume-by date of the end of October. Not only were we to buy our



This newsletter is available on the internet at <http://www.stmarys-church.co.uk/>
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Vicar: Julian Sullivan 0114 272 4987

mince pies early, we were to eat them early too."

In response to this, (as well as some new books) the Church of England has produced a new website called "Why we are waiting".

<http://www.whywearewaiting.com/>

There's a video message from Archbishop Rowan Williams, and some kind of Advent Calendar with suggestions for each day.



Join The Minstrels

Next **Saturday 6th December 10.30am** St Marys will be represented by members of our 'Minstrels' singing and playing carols on Fargate to raise money and awareness for Christian Aid. Please come and join in.

Handbell Concert

Saturday 6th December 7pm at St John's Church, Ranmoor, 'A Prelude to Christmas', featuring handbell bands from around the country playing popular musical items and Christmas selections plus communal carol singing and *mince pies*. £4 inc. refreshments. See Margaret Ibbetson for details.

The Waiting Is Almost Over...

...For our new East Window.



Last week a group went from St Marys to see the work in progress.

National Climate Change March

Saturday December 6th

Part of a Global Day of Protest. Join people all around the world to demand action now to prevent the catastrophe that threatens to engulf us all. Join the Sheffield coach for the day (at 7am) £20 and £10 concessions. Text 07760 174335 or email jenny.patient@blueyonder.co.uk,

TODAY if you'd like to go. Steve has more details.

Advent Open Studio

Jenny Mather is running an Open Studio at her home in Bamford soon:

Browse & Buy - Work of 4 Artists:

Paintings - Jewellery - Woollens - Glassware

At Blackberry Barn, Main Rd (opp church) Bamford

December 6/7, 13/14 11:00 - 5:00

Sheffield Hope

HOPE 2008

Let's Celebrate



3rd December 2008

at

Salvation Army Citadel, Psalter Lane.

From 7.30pm

A time of inter-church celebration and prayer for Sheffield

Let's thank God for all that has been accomplished in Sheffield through Hope08 and pray for all that is to come...



*Free, but an offering will be taken toward future Hope projects and costs

Further details from Sheffield Cross Links. tel: 0114 2493956. Email: hope08@sheffieldcrosslinks.co.uk
www.sheffieldhope08.co.uk

Next Sunday - December 7th

10.30am Parish Communion

People with jobs to do next Sunday: Justice (readings); Dolly (drinks); Andy & Kate (Communion assistants); John & Margaret I (steward); Jon, Ortrude (music)

6pm in Church - Youth Fellowship in church followed by...

8-9pm Congo Evening (see above)

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