

8th February 2009

3rd Sunday Before Lent

St. MARY'S

Newsletter



Sunday Worship

9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) in the Chapel		
10.30am Family Service	Drinks	Christine
	Steward	Kate K
	Music	Steve, Yo
6.30pm Iona Healing Service		

Collect For Today

Almighty God,
who alone can bring order
to the unruly wills and passions of sinful
humanity:
give your people grace
so to love what you command
and to desire what you promise,
that, among the many changes of this world,
our hearts may surely there be fixed
where true joys are to be found;
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.

Today Is...

...Education Sunday

For well over a hundred years there has been an annual recognition of Education Sunday in England and Wales. It is a national day of prayer and celebration for everyone in the world of education.

This year's theme is 'The Earth is the Lord's', highlighting the role of schools and colleges in helping young people lead lives that recognise the vital importance of caring for God's creation.

...Autism Sunday

World Church Leaders have sent messages of support to the organisers of Autism Sunday - the International Day of Prayer for Autism and Asperger's Syndrome scheduled to be held on Sunday 8th February 2009. Cathedrals, Churches

and religious organisations around the world are to mark the international day and pray for over 60 million people with autism and Asperger's Syndrome.

This Week At St Marys

Toddler Group

Wednesday 9.30-11.30

St Marys Centre AGM

This will be held tomorrow **9th February at 8pm**. This is an opportunity for church members to raise any questions/make comments to Graham/The Trustees. A special effort is being made this year to encourage dialogue at the AGM so it would be really good to support this event. If you would like to raise questions it would help the flow of the meeting to get these in advance.

A "Centre AGM Box" will be placed at the back of church each Sunday before the AGM date - please put any questions you wish to raise in the box or email Andy at familycribb@btinternet.com

A Green New Deal

A one-day conference *here at St Marys* organised by Sheffield Campaign Against Climate Change.

What are green jobs? How can we create new green jobs? How can we help grow existing green community enterprises and businesses? How can we involve trade unions? How we grow more local food and create effective transport and marketing systems? How we can re-invest in our local green economy? How can we improve our housing stock? How can we use the new Sustainable Communities Act? How can we use the new Local Transport Act to provide a regulated system that serves us? What policies should we demand of our local councils and regeneration agencies? How can we involve faith based communities?

Registration is now open. £15 or £12 for concessions.

Visit www.sheffieldgreennewdeal.org.uk

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.fsnet.co.uk



Vicar: Julian Sullivan 0114 272 4987

Praying For Our Leaders

Each month *Sheffield Prayer Link* is focussing on Christian leaders and ministers in a particular area of the city. Starting in S1& S2 they will give the surname of every one, irrespective of their denomination. This month please join them in praying for the wisdom and power of God in their lives and in their preaching of the Gospel; for their health and family; for their prosperity and blessing.

Please pray for: Bradley, Croft, Shakerley, Braithwaite, Edwards, Tooze, Houghton, Love, Bremer, Dawson, Heathecote, Marsh, Sexton, Chatburn, Davies, Duncan, Sullivan, Reid, Cusworth, Grenfell, Hodges, Beattie, Clark, Ness, Smith, Wills, Borkett, Rawsthorne, Patterson, Tan, Bazzie, Bako, Blake, Gilpin, Stebbing, Goohan, Hall, Oliver and Newell.

Sheffield Prayer Link is available from www.sheffieldcrosslinks.co.uk

Darwin And God

The Bishop of Sheffield's Shrove Tuesday Lectures: Nick Spencer of THEOS - Darwin and God.

Tuesday 24 February, Lectures: 1000 - 1300; Seminar 14.30-15.30 at Victoria Methodist Mission, Norfolk Street, Sheffield.

The 12th February is the bi-centenary of Charles Darwin's birth and the 150th anniversary of the publication of *On the Origin of Species*.

Nick Spencer worked as a researcher and consultant for Research International, The Henley Centre, the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity and the Jubilee Centre before joining Theos. The author of the first and fourth Theos reports, he has also written a number of books including *Asylum and Immigration: A Christian Perspective on a Polarised Debate* and *Christianity, Climate Change and Sustainable Living*.

john.thomson@Sheffield.anglican.org

Redemption Song

Performed by Riding Lights Theatre Company

Wednesday 11 March at St Luke's, Lodge Moor, Sheffield. Tickets at £5 (no concessions) from Colin Peskett 0114 230 7740

A moving combination of powerful theatre, meditation, prayer and corporate worship. Shot through with moments of great joy and great conflict, robustly and compellingly performed,

Redemption Song asks each of us to review our understanding of our own faith in the searing bright light of the crucifixion of Christ.

Dave Bilborough At St Marys

Saturday 7th March. Tickets are on sale today or phone Yo 258 4382. These will sell like hot cakes so buy soon for a great evening of live music.

Yo now needs 8 volunteers to help on the night.

Bishops In The House Of Lords

The Church of England website has a new page about the work of the 'Lords Spiritual', the 26 bishops who sit in the House of Lords.

- The 26 Bishops that sit in the House of Lords are comprised of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Bishops of London, Durham and Winchester and the 21 other longest serving English diocesan bishops.
- They make up 3.5% of the 742 members of the Upper House.
- The Lords Spiritual traditionally read prayers at the beginning of each sitting day in the Lords, including when the House meets for judgments from the Law Lords.
- Following the retirement this month of the Bishop of St Albans, the Rt Revd Christopher Herbert, the Bishop of Bradford, Rt Revd David James, will shortly be introduced as the newest Lord Spiritual.
- In the most recent White Paper on House of Lords reform, the government reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring that the Lords Spiritual would remain in any reformed second chamber that retained an appointed element.

<http://www.cofe.anglican.org/about/bishopsinlords/>

Next Sunday – 15th February

2nd Sunday before Lent

10.30am Parish Communion

People with jobs to do next Sunday: Rachel M (readings); Margaret I (drinks); Giles & Karen (communion assistants); Kate K (prayers); Margaret A (steward); Jon, Veronica, Ortrude (music)

6.30pm Confirmation Preparation – The Cross

Our 'whole church experience' preparation for confirmation continues. Artwork through the ages helps us look at the cross and focus on the person of Jesus. Venue: St Mary's Church

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