

8th March 2009

Second Sunday Of Lent

St. MARY'S

Newsletter



Sunday Worship

9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) in the Chapel		
10.30am Family Service	Steward	Kate K
	Music	Steve, Veronica, Jess

Collect For 2nd Sunday In Lent

Almighty God,
 you show to those who are in error the light of your truth,
 that they may return to the way of righteousness:
 grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion,
 that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession,
 and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;
 through our Lord Jesus Christ,
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.

At St Marys This Week

Toddler Group	Wednesday 9.30-11.30
Tuesday Group	Tuesday evening Home Group meets this week at Dave & Penny's at 8pm Please speak to Tom Mather for more details.
Iona Meeting	Update for everyone joining the summer pilgrimage to Iona. Wednesday 7.45pm in church

Fairtrade Stall

This weekend marks the end of Fairtrade

Fortnight. We hope to have a stall selling Fairtrade produce today and next Sunday morning - please speak to Hannah for more information.

DIAGRAM SHOWING HOW LENT
 AND FAIR TRADE FORTNIGHT
 CANCEL EACH OTHER OUT



MORE CHOCOLATE
 BECAUSE IT IS
 FAIR TRADE
 FORTNIGHT

LESS CHOCOLATE
 BECAUSE IT IS
 LENT

THE AMOUNT
 OF CHOCOLATE
 YOU MIGHT
 HAVE HAD
 IN THE
 FIRST PLACE

© Dave Walker www.churchtimes.co.uk

Motherhood

Karen has some tickets for this event (£3) 266 3496: 'Motherhood - a Roller Coaster Ride 2009' in The Megacentre, Sheffield **this Tuesday 10 March**

Wherever you are in the roller coaster ride of motherhood, you'll find Dianne Parsons's warmth and wisdom encouraging and life affirming. Special guests Marion White and Cathy Madavan are joining Dianne to chat about the ups and downs of life as a mum.

At the end of the evening:

- You'll have laughed a lot
- You'll feel affirmed as a mum
- You'll know that even when your kids are driving you crazy, most of it is normal!
- You'll leave the motherhood guilt thing behind

Details at

<http://www.careforthefamily.org.uk/mum/>

Easter Story On Fargate

Saturday 28 March 2pm

Easter Story: A Play for our Times

In 2009 it will begin at the top of Fargate, move to the Town Hall steps, then to Barkers Pool, and

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

finish in the Peace Gardens. The audience stand for each of the four short scenes and then move with the play, giving a sense of being involved.

For more information or to help or take part contact Philip West - philipwest@givemail.co.uk tel 232 4490

Bishop's Letter

This month, Bishop David writes:

Mundane or routine?

Woody Allen said, "80% of life is just turning up"! Most of our Christian discipleship is the same: it is easy sometimes to create the impression that if we are really taking this faith thing seriously, seeking to be a real disciple of Jesus Christ, then all sorts of things are going to happen – and if they don't then I am not doing the job properly!

That is just not so. Let's start with the Founder. Jesus spent the first 30 years of His life in obscurity. We get one glimpse (at the age of 12 – Luke 2, verses 41-51) and that's it. And (we surmise) mostly in Nazareth, where, we read He was brought up. Nazareth had little to commend it.

When He started His public ministry, we believe it lasted about three years. The Gospels seem to be jam packed with incident – that everywhere He went, things happened; amazing, exciting things. Well, I am sure they did – but it takes about an hour to read St. Mark's Gospel at one sitting (if you can sustain that) so there MUST have been many periods – unrecorded – when life was very ordinary.

Do you remember Ananias? He appears in chapter 9 of Acts, verses 10-18. Ananias, sent by God to Saul (later to become the Apostle Paul) to restore Saul's sight and baptise him. He was simply a disciple – nothing more but nothing less!

Note – simply a disciple. Not the Vicar or whatever the equivalent would have been and certainly not the Bishop. Just a disciple.

Note, secondly, we hear nothing further of him after verse 18. But he was absolutely crucial to God's purposes and his moment came when God asked him to go and do a risky, (humanly speaking, a foolhardy) thing. Namely this ordinary disciple, minding his own business, is to go and be God's agent to enable this Saul, with a terrifying reputation of persecuting the likes of Ananias, even at the cost of their lives, to be ". . . an instrument whom I (God) have chosen to bring my name before the peoples of all nations and Kings and the people of Israel".

That is ordinary Ananias. But thank God, he did not fail.

Lent is the time for making sure we are prepared even if everything seems so mundane and routine.

Every blessing, +David

News From Lucy

Lucy and Chris, on their travels around North Africa write:

Well I would say there is about a 4 month limit when the novelty of living in a tent on top of a car

wares off, but here are a few snippets of the things we have been doing over the last month or so:

I have been learning traditional Malian Tie and Dye techniques in Gambia;

We were living at a scout skills training centre for 2 weeks ; cooking around a campfire, giving the odd maths lesson;

Had a quick visit to Guinea Bisseau, pre the coup which took place last week, We are now learning to kiteboard in Dakhla, Morocco, and heading home.

Love Lucy n Chris

Pam's Retirement

Pam has been cleaning St Marys for longer than anyone cares to remember. There will be a leaving do for her on **Thursday 26th March at 5.00pm** here at St Mary's. If anyone in the congregation would like to know please let Graham know.

Next Sunday – 15th March

3rd Sunday in Lent

10.30am Parish Communion

People with jobs to do next Sunday: Keith (readings); Andy & Kate (communion assistants); maureen (prayers); Margaret A.(stewards); Jon, Yo, Ortrude, Jess (music)

Followed by a Fellowship Lunch...

The service next week will be followed by a Fellowship Lunch - everyone is invited to stay after the service for that. Please speak to Peter Rowe or Julian for more information.

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 258 4382

Vicar: Julian Sullivan 0114 272 4987