

31st March 2013

Easter Day

**St. MARY'S
Newsletter**



Welcome to St Mary's Bramall Lane

Refreshments including tea and coffee will be available at the end of the service.

An induction loop is available for those who are hard of hearing. Please turn your hearing aid to the 'T' setting.

Toilets, including disabled and nappy changing facilities are situated at the west end of the church. Follow signs past reception and the main hall.

Collect For Easter Sunday

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

This Morning's Worship

6.15am BST - Sunrise Service

10.30am Easter Family Communion and Baptism	Stewards	Michael & Chester
	Leader, Celebrant	Revd Julian Sullivan
	Preacher	Revd Karen Cribb
	Reader	Rob or Rosie
	Prayers	Della
	Drinks	Margaret I
	Music	Bryony, Tom, Yo, Steve, Reuben, Nathaniel

Karen will baptize Nathaniel T-L during the morning service

During communion, four songs from the green hymn book will be sung:

495 The strife is o'er
474 The day of resurrection
509 This joyful eastertide
855 Now the green blade riseth

...not necessarily in that order! Enjoy listening or sing along.

Easter Activities

They begin this **Easter Monday at 2pm** in the Nave, with the promise of games, craft and a film to start the week rolling. Please ask Karen for more information and have a look at the activity schedule at the back of church. Claire is running the activities so if you want a full schedule please e-mail her on c.a.wood@sheffield.ac.uk

Odette Is Back In Sheffield

We thank God this week for the safe return of Odette to Sheffield, having been granted bail from the detention centre where she was being held under threat of being deported to a country which is not her own.

Many friends from the congregation were at Sheffield train station to meet her back on Wednesday,

and her return was reported by a Guardian journalist here <http://gu.com/p/3en3a>

Photograph: Joe Bream



This newsletter is available online at <http://www.stmarys-church.co.uk/church/>
To submit news or to receive emails when this newsletter is updated, steve@to-lo.co.uk or follow @stmarysnews on twitter



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But the struggle to allow Odette to be given the right to remain in England continues – you can join her campaign group on facebook at <http://tinyurl.com/sefuko> and sign the online petition at <http://goo.gl/KHEI2>

Bishop Peter's Letter

Easter is at the heart of our faith

In April I will be visiting our link Diocese of Argentina. While there I'm hoping to visit my good friend Agustin Marsal, the parish priest of 'The Good Shepherd' Devoto and formally Diocesan Missioner. At the turn of the century Agustin led a transformative mission in my parish and people still speak about it today. Agustin would regularly say that we needed as Christians, to constantly live in 'hope' and 'expectation'. That's what I have as we look to the future vision and strategy of our Diocese.

We have a number of challenges and opportunities before us and we go forward in hope, expectation and the knowledge that God is journeying with us, leading us to a new and bright future as we proclaim afresh the good news of the risen Christ. Through our witness others will come to know Jesus as Lord and Saviour, have new and transformed lives. We are already seeing that in a number of places across the Diocese and so we look to the future, not just with real hope and expectation, but real joy and thanksgiving.

Easter is the great event that lies at the heart of the Christian faith and if there's one word that encompasses its meaning and significance it's "hope". 1 Peter 1:3 speaks of the resurrection of Jesus Christ giving new birth into a living hope. It's a hope that addresses the desire of the heart for all those with a sense of spirituality and searching for meaning and purpose beyond what the material world has to offer, all those searching for God. St Augustine puts it like this "Our hearts were made for you O Lord, and are ever restless until they find

their rest in you".

Our Easter celebrations recall Jesus' Resurrection from death to life and in doing so we now have hope that death is not the end for us. Life is but one part of the journey, an expectation of a new and everlasting life for all who truly turn to Christ. Could we really expect or hope for more?

+Peter

Songs Of Life With John Bell

Friday 26th - Sunday 28th April 2013

This weekend offers the opportunity to be with John Bell in a variety of settings, mostly at Whirlow Grange, to hear him speak and lead in music. The programme begins on Friday evening and closes at lunchtime on Sunday. For residential participants all meals, accommodation and transport to the Sheffield Citadel are included (£180 all inclusive). Non-residential attendance at individual sessions can also be booked. Details at

<http://www.whirlowgrange.co.uk/songs-of-life-with-john-bell/>

or ring Whirlow Grange on (0114) 236 317



Claire New Phone

Claire, our Youth, Student and Families Worker, has had to get a new phone as the other one died, rather sadly from rain water damage. She has the same number but currently no contacts, so if you have her number please can you give her a text message with your name on it so that she knows who is contacting her! Much appreciated.

Next Sunday – 7th April

10.30am Parish Eucharist

People with jobs to do: Della (readings); Kate (prayers); Chester & Joan (drinks); John & Margaret I (stewards).

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