



St Mary's Church Newsletter

7th December 2014

Second Sunday of Advent

WELCOME TO ST MARY'S

We welcome Revd. Graham Duncan our Centre Director as our speaker this morning.

There are supervised activities for children of all ages during the service, please follow us out after opening worship. Parents are welcome to leave their children or stay with them. Gluten free wafers are available for communion.

Please ask a steward or member of the clergy. 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.

10.30 HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant..... Revd Julian Sullivan
Preacher..... Revd Graham Duncan
Reader..... Della S.
Intercessor..... Margaret I.
Communion..... Miriam and Michael
Steward..... John & Margaret I.
Music..... Sam E., Jess & Veronica
Drinks..... Steve

COLLECT

*Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again
as judge and saviour,
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God.*

4.30PM FIX

Please note no youth group this week.

6.30PM STUDENT CHRISTMAS MEAL

Meet at St Mary's **6.15pm** if you need a lift.
Please see Georgia, Chris or George for info.

THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

St Mary's Café open 11-2pm.

Wednesday

8m Life and Faith group

Thursday

7.30pm Minstrels Practice

Friday

4-6pm Christmas Messy Church

LIFE AND FAITH GROUP

We explore the questions people are asked when they become a follower of Christ at baptism, the beginning of the journey. They are directed to the heart and mind as we explore and affirm what it means to be a Christian.

Wednesday 10th December. "Do you repent of your sins? led by Giles Morrison

Wednesday 17th December: Carols around the streets and carol party with mince pies and mulled wine hosted by local residents at Duchess Road Community Centre.

MESSY CHURCH 12TH DECEMBER

Come and join us for our Fun Packed Advent Story, Christmassy crafts, Music (Margaret and the Bell Ringing Group), Games and a meal together for all the family, adults and children, All are welcome.

A big Messy Church Thank You to all those who came to help out on 21st November 2014, your help is very much appreciated.

Help still needed for signing people in, setting up and offering refreshments, activity helpers and preparing or serving meals. You are welcome to come from 4pm – 6pm or just drop in to help. Pudding donations also welcome! Please see Chris, Georgia, Karen, Margaret or Miriam for more information. Blessings :)

CHRISTMAS DIARY

Friday 12th December 4-6pm

Messy Church - Preparing for Christmas.

Sunday 14th December 10.30am

Christingle Service. A messy-church style service for all ages, creating our own Christingles to take home and celebrating together "The Light of Christ". This service is particularly suitable for inviting those who might not normally come to church.

Thursday 18th December

Lunch Club Christmas dinner

Friday 19th December 10am

Porter Croft Christmas Service

Saturday 20th December 10.30am

Children Nativity Celebration at St Mary's (particularly suitable for families with children under 8 yrs) Come dressed as your favourite nativity character and gather around the crib to retell the Christmas story through song and activity.

Also... Sharrow Churches Carol Singing on the Lansdowne Estate

Sunday 21st December

Carols by Candlelight. A traditional Carol service with a range of music and readings.

Monday 22nd December 12-3pm

Timebuilders Christmas Celebration

Christmas Eve 11.30pm

Midnight Service of Holy Communion

Christmas Day 10.30am

All Age Communion for Christmas Day

READERS AND INTERCESSORS

Calling all readers and intercessors (and those who would like to give it a go). I'm about to do the next rota, so could you let me know by **14th December** if you no longer wish to be on the rota and let Julian know if you'd like to be

...find out more...talk to someone...send some news...

Follow @marys_church on twitter for congregational news, or text follow marys_church to 86444 for news via text message (may be a charge)

Vicar: Revd. Julian Sullivan
jandvsullivan@blueyonder.co.uk
0114 272 4987

stmarys-church.co.uk
Newsletters available online
news to steve@to-lo.co.uk or
0783 5420392

Youth, Student and Families Worker:
Georgia Hoskin
mb: 0771 323 7027

St Marys facebook group
facebook.com/stmarysbl

Associate Vicar: Revd. Karen Cribb
revkaren@stmarys-church.co.uk
0114 223 0237

included. Many thanks for your input, Barbara.

GIFT DAY

I would like to thank everyone for the gifts they made in response to the Gift Day in October. Between us we raised just over £3500 which is a great response. I am hopeful that, providing we don't have any large unexpected invoices before the end of the year, we should be able to break even this year.

We have had a very nice letter from the Bishop thanking us for the offer we have made towards the Common Fund which replaces Parish Share this year. He says that in 2015, thanks to the offers from the parishes, they are not having to plan to reduce clergy numbers for the first time for a number of years.

Margaret.

CHRISTMAS MINSTRELS

Dust off your musical instruments and join us to learn Christmas Carols together and play at a few local events. There is one more rehearsal here in St Mary's 7.30-9pm Thursday 11th December. See Steve T-L.

HARC APPEAL

HARC (Homeless and Rootless at Christmas) are running an appeal for clothing and shoes suitable for young men to distribute at their Christmas project at the Archer Project. They also need general and kitchen volunteers as well as entertainment - music, bingo, quizzes etc. - for the guests. Please contact Angela Martin: angelaemartin@hotmail.com.

NEXT SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER

9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) in the chapel

10.30am All Age Christingle

People with jobs to do: Karen (lead, preach); Light Factory (read and prayers); Della (drinks); Kate and Odette (stewards); Steve, Yo, Reuben, Sam M. (music)