



# St Mary's Church Newsletter

13th December 2015

Third Sunday in Advent

## WELCOME TO ST MARY'S

- 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 far end of the church. Follow signs past reception and the main hall.

## 9.30 BCP COMMUNION

In the Chapel

## 10.30 ALL AGE CRISTINGLE

This morning we will be worshipping together in the style of our monthly Friday Messy Church - an interactive hour to help us reflect creatively on Jesus the Light of the World.

Lead.....Messy Church Team  
Drinks..... Margaret & John  
Stewards..... Kate & Odette  
Music.....Steve, Reuben, Jess,  
.....Jem

## COLLECT

*God for whom we watch and wait,  
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of  
your Son:  
give us courage to speak the truth,  
to hunger for justice,  
and to suffer for the cause of right,  
with Jesus Christ our Lord.*

## THIS WEEK AT ST MARYS

### Monday - Thursday

**11.30am - 2pm** Cafe open. Lovingly made and tasty food at low prices.

### Monday

Porter Croft Academy Christmas Service

### Wednesday

**From 9.30** Toddler Group Christmas Party, ask Miriam for details.

**7pm** Meet to Carol sing round the streets of St Mary's finishing with refreshments at Duchess Road Community Centre, thanks to Shoreham St TARA (read their latest newsletter pinned on the church notice boards).

### Friday

**4-6pm** Messy Church Messy Crib - our Christmas Messy Church Celebration for all ages (incorporating the Crib service which used to be held on Saturday morning)

### Saturday

**10am** meet at Landsdowne Chapel to sing with other churches round Landsdowne flats

## CHRISTMAS WEEK

### Sunday 20th December

**10.30am** Holy Communion as usual

**4pm** Carol Service.

Also an invitation to sing carols with us at the church door before Carol Service from **3.30pm**.

### Thursday Christmas Eve

**11.30pm** Midnight Mass

### Friday Christmas Day

**10.30am** All Age Communion.

## GIFTS: PRAYING AND READING

One of the things Karen mentioned in her talk for the Gift Day was the fact that we can give our time and talents as well as our money. If you feel you have a talent for reading the Bible in church or leading the intercessions, please talk to me today or next weekend, as I'm preparing the rota for these tasks for the next few months. Those who already do this find it very rewarding - why not chat to someone you've seen reading or leading the prayers and ask them. Many thanks too to all those who already take part in this valuable ministry.

Barbara (07875 251935,  
b.thompson@sheffield.ac.uk)

## GIFTS: MAKING TEA

We also do need an extra volunteer(s) for the drinks rota as this is now getting short of people. Please ask Elaine for information or chat to Margaret and John doing the drinks today!

## LIFE AND FAITH

**Wednesdays 8pm.**

In our winter programme we explore what it means to live as a child of the Kingdom of God and follow in the way of Christ each day as a member of his church. How does it affect our life at work as well as at home? How does it affect what we do with the gifts we have been given? How is the Christian faith changing us and shaping us so that we become more like Jesus?

Pilgrim is an innovative and inspiring programme for enquirers, new Christians and those more experienced in following Christ. It approaches the great issues of faith through participation in discussion and reflection in the company of a small group of fellow travellers, led by group members.

### December

Wed 16th Carols round the streets (7pm start)

## January 2016

Wed 6th Epiphany Communion  
Wed 13th Confronting Injustices in the world  
Wed 20th Treading lightly on the earth  
Wed 27th Special Deanery Service

*"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my saviour .. He has mercy on those who fear him from generation to generation .. Casting down the mighty .. lifting up the lowly .. He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty .."* Magnificat Luke 1: 46-55.

## FAREWELL JULIAN

Julian's Retirement and Farewell Celebrations will be on the weekend of **January 30th and 31st** with a Saturday evening Ceilidh and Supper and Sunday Morning final service followed by a lunch. There will also be a service on **Wednesday 27th January** for colleagues from the Diocese, the city and beyond.

## NEXT SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER

### 10.30 HOLY COMMUNION

People with jobs to do: Julian (lead/celebrate), Karen (preach), David F (reading), Sam D. (prayers), Veronica (drinks); Chester and Michael E (stewards); Miriam and Christine (communion assistants); Kevin, Veronica, David, Yo, Rachel (music)

### 4PM CAROL SERVICE

...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)



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