



St Mary's Church Newsletter

14th February 2016

First Sunday in Lent

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.

10.30 ALL AGE WORSHIP

Lead.....Revd Karen Cribb
Readings and Preach..... Godly Play team
Stewards..... Kate and Odette
Music..... Jem, David, Rachel

COLLECT

Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and
prayer
that we may witness to your saving love
in 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

12.30 - 1.30pm. Guided meditation in the chapel. Please see Kate for more information.

Tuesday

Evening, Lent group, see below for info.

Wednesday

9.30 - 11.30am Toddler Group in the church centre, see Miriam for details.

Family Choir. **3.30pm** drinks, singing **4-5pm**. This half term singing Irish songs, please see Yo for info.

Evening, Lent group, see below for info.

Friday

4.00pm - 6pm. Messy Church: a church which is about doing, chatting, making, listening and eating. All welcome.

LENT GROUPS

Our Tuesday and Wednesday evening groups will meet weekly throughout Lent to provide an opportunity to meet informally for prayer and to reflect on the Bible together. Our focus will be on the Psalms, and we will also include these in our Sunday worship. Tuesday evenings meet in someone's home and Wednesday evenings meet at St Mary's. Groups begin **Tuesday 16th** and **Wednesday 17th Feb**. For more information please speak to Revd. Chris Rees or Maureen.

JARS OF CHANGE

Maureen writes: Christian Aid and WaterAid ask us to "turn our coins into clean water" with their "Jars of Change" appeal this Lent. Simply by putting our small change into jars throughout Lent. Donations raised through this appeal can really make a difference: £15 would provide a child with a lasting supply of clean water.



In my family we have decided to place 1p in on first day of Lent then 2p on second day etc. This will raise around £9 which may not sound like much but if we all do it in my small immediate family we realised just doing this we could easily raise £100.

WaterAid has lots of fundraising tips on their webpage www.wateraid.org.

Please see Maureen if you would like a 'Jar of change' sleeves. She will then collect your pennies raised at the end of Lent and make a collective donation from St. Mary's.

DIARY DATES

Feb 22nd, March 14th, and April 18th, PCC Meetings

Saturday 19th March - Bollywood Evening (Fundraiser event for Church Army and Timebuilders). Tickets available soon.

PORTER CROFT NEWS

The advert for a new Headteacher is out - full details on the school's website and twitter feed. Please keep this process in your prayers.

CHRISTIAN VOICES IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD

Christians today are faced with significant challenges when it comes to engaging with the contemporary world. Knowing how to explore social, ethical and intellectual questions in a "Christian" way is increasingly important.

The third edition of our public theology series Christian Voices in the Contemporary World starts next week, bringing five speakers of the highest quality to Ecclesall, to help us grapple with some of these questions.

Wednesdays during Lent 7:30 pm start, All Saints Ecclesall, Ringinglow Road Sheffield, S11 7PP.

17th February - Robert Innes.
The Soul of Christian Europe

24th February - Sarah Snyder.
Peace-building and Reconciliation in a Multi-faith world.

2nd March - Francis Campbell.
Our Man in Rome – Working with God's Foreign Service

9th March - Adrian Brown.
Changing the Climate

16th March - Chris Cook. Theology, Spirituality and Mental Health

VACANCY INFORMATION

Following Julian's retirement as Vicar we are now in a period of "vacancy" (formerly known as an inter-regnum), which may last for about one year. There is a clear and ordered process towards a new appointment in which the Area Dean and Archdeacon will work with us. This process will be outlined to the PCC at their next meeting on 22nd Feb and that information will then be shared with the congregation. In the meantime Margaret and George as church wardens and Karen as Associate Vicar will be the first point of call for any information, questions and enquiries.

A prayer for use during our vacancy:

*Generous God
we thank you for
all those who have ministered faithfully at St
Mary's.*

*Help us in this time, to continue
to share responsibility, to grow in faith,
to love one another, to serve our communities,
and to welcome all.*

*Bless and guard us Lord Jesus Christ
as we seek to follow you together.
Lead and inspire us Holy Spirit of God
that we may discover your way for the future
and see your kingdom come. Amen.*

NEXT SUNDAY 21ST FEBRUARY

10.30am Holy Communion

People with jobs to do: Karen (lead and preach); Chester and Ann (stewards); Sally and Margaret A (Communion Assist), Margaret I (prayers), Keith H (readings), Steve, Yo, Jess (music).

...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)



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

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

St Marys facebook group
facebook.com/groups/stmarysbl

