

11th January 2009

1st Sunday Of Epiphany – The Baptism Of Christ

St. MARY'S Newsletter



Sunday Worship

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

This Week At St Marys

PCC	The church council meets on Monday to start at 7.45pm at the Vicarage
Parish Prayers	On Friday 9.30am in the parish room. To pray for the work of goes on at St Marys. All welcome.

Collect For Today

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Dave Bilborough At St Marys

On the evening of **Saturday 7th March**, please put in your diaries that there will be an acoustic gig here at St Marys with renowned singer-songwriter Dave Bilborough, plus two excellent support artists. Tickets will be available soon at £8 / £5 (limited number available). This event is being supported by many local churches as well as St Marys.

New Bishop

We have tickets for the consecration of Stephen Croft as the new bishop of Sheffield in York Minster on **Sunday 25th January 2009**.

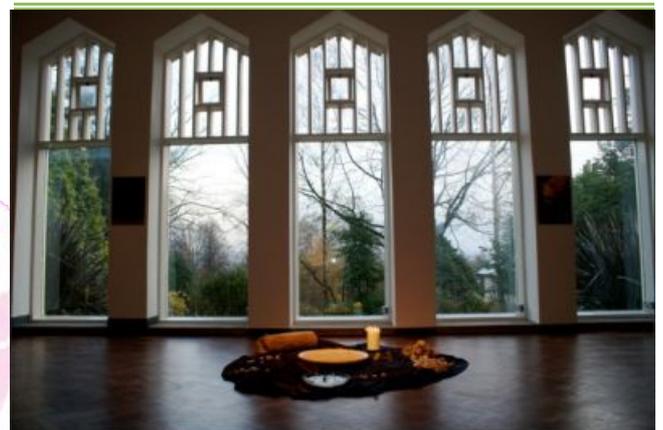
As many as would like to go can have a ticket but we need names for security. A list will be out at the back of church for you to sign if you wish to come.

It is a significant event for the diocese of Sheffield, our mission in South Yorkshire and the ministry of St Mary's. Let's make this journey together and celebrate Stephen's arrival. Sign up for the party.



Please talk to Julian for more information.

Whirlow Grange Developments



The first phase of development at Whirlow Grange 'Christian Spirituality Centre' is now complete. There are photos of the work at their website www.whirlow.soulspark.org.uk details of the programme of events to be held there during 2009.

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

Greening Our Church Buildings

7.30pm Tuesday 26th January at the Quaker Meeting House. More information from More Information: Mike Gilbert 01433 639152 M.Gilbert@Churcharmy.org.uk

Climate Change In Sheffield

There is an excellent local group called 'Sheffield Campaign Against Climate Change' who are involved in the issues in all sorts of ways. If you are interested in this area, or would like to find out what's going on around Sheffield, they meet locally, at Highfield Library, and their next meeting is **Tuesday 13th January 7.30 - 9.30pm**. All very welcome. See Steve if you would like more details.



Reading The Bible In 2009

Have you turned over any new leaves about getting familiar with God's word during 2009. Here's a couple of ideas:

A website called www.communityofreaders.com invites you to become part of a 'Community of Readers', absorbing and wrestling with the most incredible book ever compiled. Whether you want to read the Old Testament, the New Testament or chomp your way through both, Community of Readers welcomes you to engage, explore and journey together.

Tim Chester (a local church leader) has provided a flexible 'weekly bible reading plan' aimed at partners, or small groups. Its 'realistic' and 'balanced' and sounds very good. Look for it on Tim's blog at [/timchester.wordpress.com/](http://timchester.wordpress.com/) or ask Steve for a copy.



Pray Without Ceasing...

2008 is a special year, marking the 100th anniversary of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The Week of Prayer was first marked by Father Paul Wattson, an Episcopalian Franciscan priest in the USA. The resources have therefore been produced in this centenary year from within the United States of America. The image is from Ground Zero and symbolises the sense of praying for peace and reconciliation, both within the Church and the world.

The aims are:

* To pray as Christ prayed "that they may be one".

* To pray for the unity of all Christian people as we share in Christ's ministry.

Readings and meditations focus on Paul's advice to "pray without ceasing".

The Week of Prayer offers opportunities to meet and pray with fellow Christians of different denominations in your locality. Often new local initiatives emerge out of meeting and praying together in this way.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity traditionally takes place between 18-25 January. It lasts for 8 days and was originally called an Octave of Prayer.

There will be United Service to mark the start of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity **next Sunday 18th January at 6.30pm** at Cemetery Road Baptist Church. All welcome.

Next Sunday – 18th January

10.30am Parish Communion

People with jobs to do next Sunday: Elaine (readings); Elaine & David (drinks); Della & Caroline (Communion assistants); Maureen (prayers); Margaret A (steward); Jon, Veronica, Ortrude (music)

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