

**31<sup>st</sup> January 2010**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Of Epiphany**

**St. MARY'S  
Newsletter**



Welcome to St Mary's Bramall Lane this morning.

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

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.

## **This Week At St Marys**

Light Factory leaders meet this **Tuesday 8pm** – see Karen for details.

**Wednesday 9.30am** – Parent & Toddlers in the hall.

Next **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February** – Youth Fellowship meet in the Cafe at 7pm.

## **St Marys On Line**

A couple of improvements to the church website

[www.stmarys-church.co.uk/church/](http://www.stmarys-church.co.uk/church/)

The 'church calendar' now shows lots of our church events with times and details. Its a 'google calendar' which means you can pick up the information in all sorts of ways even by mobile phone.

The 'church rota' showing who's doing what at all St Marys services is now available as a webpage directly from this easy address: <http://tinyurl.com/stmrota> . Its will even work on lots of mobile phones and similar gadgets.

## **This Morning's Worship**

<b>10.30am Parish Communion</b>	Music	Jon, Veronica, Keith
	Readings	Maureen
	Communion Assistants	Veronica & Elaine C
	Light Factory	Jo, Tom, Andy / James
	Steward	Veronica

## **Collect For 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Of Epiphany**

God our creator,  
who in the beginning  
commanded the light to shine out of darkness:  
we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of  
Christ  
may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief,  
shine into the hearts of all your people,  
and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the face  
of 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.

## **Onside Events For Men**

The next meeting of this group, which men from St Marys have attended previously, features "From a 'Boro boot boy to the Bible". That's the amazing journey undergone by Gram Seed, founder of 'Sowing Seeds Ministries', which is endorsed by Archbishop Sentamu ([www.sowingseeds.org.uk](http://www.sowingseeds.org.uk)).

**Friday 19th February 7.30pm** at Sheffield Wednesday Football Stadium S6 1SW

Good Company – Quiz – Food – Bar. Entry £5 pay on the door. Contact Peter 07772926278

If you contribute to the rotas, you can add your information directly through a different website.

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 258 4382  
[steve@tozer-loft.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:steve@tozer-loft.fsnet.co.uk)

Vicar: Julian Sullivan 0114 272 4987

Please talk to Steve about the details.

## Giving For Life

---

Over 100 people gathered on Saturday morning at St Mary's, Bramall Lane to hear Bishop Steven and Nick Hutton, the Diocesan Christian Giving Director, launch Giving for Life.

Giving for Life is a national initiative encouraging church members to be generous in all aspects of our lives in order to further the work of the Kingdom of God. This includes the use of our time, our skills, our money, and our hospitality. Bishop Steven spoke about the new Vision that has been developed in the Diocese and how our generosity can help enable this to be realised. He said we are challenged to be generous in our lives and in this way we show our gratitude to God for all that he has shown us in our lives.

Nick Hutton recognised the significant generosity already shown in the Diocese and hoped Giving for Life would build on this. He explained the resources that are available for parishes to use to teach this message and asked all PCCs to consider how they should respond, offering his help with this.

Nick Hutton was on Saturday morning's breakfast show on Radio Sheffield talking about Giving for Life.



***If you want to know what this intriguing object is, ask someone who went on the PCC quiet day to explain***

## Bishop's Letter For January

---

*This month Bishop Steven writes:*

### **New Year Resolutions**

I'm a great believer in New Year Resolutions. They give us all at least one chance in the year to start a good habit or drop a bad one. As my mum used to say: if at first you don't succeed, try, try, try again. Most years something will stick.

So here are three resolutions I'm making for 2010 which I recommend are on your list:

The first is to explore God's mercy. Most of us know in our heads that God loves us. But we don't appreciate just how much.

I've made two visits to the Peak District so far since moving to Sheffield. We went once to Chatsworth and once to Ladybower. We intend to go more often this year. But it wouldn't be honest for me to say to a friend that I know the Peak District very well.

Many of us are like that with God's mercy. We know it's there. We've visited once or twice. But we haven't taken the time to explore that love properly. We only understand a fraction of the length and breadth and height and depth of the love of God.

The second is to practice random acts of kindness. When I worked in a college some years ago, a friend had a big sign on his door: love is practising random acts of kindness. It's not the whole of love, of course. Love also means sticking at something year after year. But loving your neighbour as yourself becomes a bit more of an adventure when you try and be kind once a week or once a fortnight to people you don't know well.

And the third is to pray as often as you can for three people you know who are not Christians. Add them to your personal prayers and pray for them to come to faith.

The greatest treasure we have in life is the gospel of Jesus Christ. The greatest gift we can give at any time of year is the knowledge of God's love. Pray this year that someone you know will become a Christian.

Explore God's mercy. Practice random acts of kindness. Pray for someone to become a Christian.

And yes, of course, I will be making other resolutions to do with calories and exercise!

Have a very happy New Year!

## Next Week – 7<sup>th</sup> February

---

### **10.30am Parish Communion**

People with jobs to do next Sunday: Jon, Bryony, Yo, Jess (music); John & Margaret I (stewards); Kate K (readings); Della (prayers); Margaret A & a.n.other (communion assistants); Penny & Kim (Light Factory)

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 258 4382  
[steve@tozer-loft.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:steve@tozer-loft.fsnet.co.uk)



Vicar: Julian Sullivan 0114 272 4987