



# St Mary's Church Newsletter

7th February 2016

Sunday Next Before 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.
- 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.

## 10.30 HOLY COMMUNION

Preach/Lead/Celebrate.... Revd Chris Rees  
Readings..... Frederic K  
Stewards..... John & Margaret I  
Communion Assist..... Michael & Miriam  
Prayers..... Barbara T  
Music..... Steve, Yo, David  
Readings..... Exodus 34.29–end p. 94  
..... 2 Corinthians 3.12–4.2 p.1160  
..... Luke 9.28–36 p.1040

## COLLECT

*Holy God,  
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:  
set straight our crooked hearts,  
and bend our wills to love your goodness  
and your glory  
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.

### Wednesday

No Toddler group today because Wednesday and Thursday are Family Activity Days, see poster overleaf.

(Families Choir will restart after half-term)

## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

**7.30pm** A service for Ash Wednesday of Ashing and Holy Communion in the Chapel. This service marks the beginning of Lent.

## 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 will begin next week - **Tuesday 16th** and **Wednesday 17th Feb.** For more information please speak to Revd. Chris Rees or Maureen.

## LENT STORYTELLING LUKE

As part of our Maundy Thursday evening (24th March), we will have a collective storytelling of the Holy Week story from Luke's gospel. Would you be interested in learning a section of the overall story during Lent, then telling it as part of a group? We still need a few people to learn a passage. Perfection or experience of memorising, not required, just enjoyment and a bit of effort. Please see Clare Rishbeth for more details, **TODAY.**  
crishbeth@googlemail.com or text 0775 473 0507.

## 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](http://www.wateraid.org).

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

**Friday 19th Feb 4-6pm** Messy Church

**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 went live on Friday - full details on the school's website and twitter feed. Please keep this process in your prayers.



## 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

# Family Activity Days

*in February 2016:*  
**Wed 10<sup>th</sup> & Thurs 11<sup>th</sup>**

St Mary's is full of fun from 11 - 2pm!  
Open to all families with children aged 0-11 years  
Children must be accompanied by an adult  
Pay only £1 or 1 Timecredit per child  
Lots of games and activities to enjoy, toys, bouncy castle, arts & crafts and a toddler area.

St Mary's Community Centre  
Bramall Lane  
0114 223 0223

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 14TH FEBRUARY

**9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) in Chapel**

**10.30am All Age Worship**

People with jobs to do: Karen (lead); Kate and Odette (stewards); Jem, David, Rachel (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](http://stmarys-church.co.uk)  
Newsletters available online  
news to [steve@to-lo.co.uk](mailto:steve@to-lo.co.uk) or  
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St Marys facebook group  
[facebook.com/groups/stmarysbl](https://facebook.com/groups/stmarysbl)

