

WELCOME

All Christians who would normally do so are invited to receive communion. If you wish not to receive, please come forward for a blessing. You are warmly invited to coffee afterwards.



CHILDREN

Children are very welcome at St Mary's. Junior Church takes place in the Parish Room during the Sung Eucharist. There is a children's corner in Church for supervised pre-school children.

24th April 2016
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Hymns

114, 35, 946, 555, 70, 754

THIS WEEK

Memory Café An opportunity for anyone with memory loss or dementia, their carers, family and friends to come together to reminisce, share experiences or just get out of the house. Set up by Home Instead, the informal sessions include activities, free refreshment and access to information. There is no need to book or stay for the whole session. The Memory Café launches tomorrow, **Monday 25th April** when we shall be joined by the **Mayor of Basingstoke, Cllr Anne Court** and will take place on the **fourth Monday** of the month in the Parish Room from **2.15pm – 3.45 pm**. For further information please speak to Rev'd Sarah or call Sally Regan at Home Instead on Bas. 840660.

LOOKING FORWARD

Ascension Day Service There will be a Eucharist at 8.00 am on Ascension Day, Thurs. 5th May, followed by breakfast.

Confirmation Service with Bishop David, on Pentecost Eve Saturday 14th May at 6pm. Bishop David will preside and preach. This will be a wonderful celebration service of Confirmation and first Holy Communion for James, Fiona and Zenden. Please come and support as they take the next step on their Christian journey. Refreshments afterwards.

Christian Aid Week 15-21st May: If you would be willing to collect envelopes on a local street this year during Christian Aid week, please tick your name or fill in a gap on the list on the noticeboard in church. New collectors hugely welcomed! See noticeboard if you'd like to join in the week camping

out by the church for Christian Aid too. Pentecost Sunday 15th May will also focus on Christian Aid. **Please note that the service on Pentecost Sunday will be at the later time of 10 am.**

24hrs of Prayer in Old Basing & Lychpit: Please visit the Bolton chapel at any time of day or night between **5pm Tues 10th - 5pm Wed 11th May** to simply sit in prayer or reflection. This is part of the Archbishops' call for a wave of prayer across the country from Ascension to Pentecost (www.thykingdom.co.uk), and the Basingstoke Churches' Ecumenical Novena of Prayer. Different creative prayer spaces/resources will be setup in the Bolton chapel for you to engage with in prayer if you wish. If you can fill a particular hour to ensure we have at least 1 person in the Bolton chapel throughout our 24hrs, please sign up on the notice board.

Stations of the Resurrection: You will have noticed the paintings around St Mary's which portray encounters with the risen Jesus. These were painted by artist Richard Caemmerer for our church in 2010. Please take some time to engage with the subjects shown by using the guide which can be found on the welcome table. They will be up until Pentecost. If you would like to there will also be a led reflection by Gill Sakakini incorporating some of the paintings as a stimulus to prayer during the 24 hours of prayer on **Tuesday 10th May 7-8pm.**

BITS AND PIECES

Good Neighbours' Meeting: Please come to the public meeting on Saturday 21st May, 11am – 1pm in the Parish Room to hear more about the new Old Basing & Lychpit Good Neighbours initiative being setup, and to consider volunteering or using the network.

Coffee Catch Up opens its doors on Friday afternoons during May (1.30 – 3.30 pm). Any **donations of cakes** would be

most appreciated. Please get in touch with Debbie Filer.

Silchester Parish Church is holding an inaugural recital of the newly restored organ, Sat 21st May, 7.30 pm. For details contact Ralph Atton on 0118 970 0825.

The Basingstoke Foodbank is particularly short of the following items currently: long-life milk (not skimmed); sugar (500g), jars of cooking sauces, tinned spaghetti /ravioli.

From Fr Alec

As this Easter we celebrate our Risen Lord, we must not allow ourselves to forget that the risen Christ is also the crucified Christ. The Jesus who has conquered death on the cross, still bears the scars of sacrifice. He offers us redemption and hope through the way of the cross - a costly path, but one characterized by self-emptying love through which the wounds of life are transfigured into the trophies of victory.

Please pray for

- Love to abound and flow out from our community
- The people of St Apolo's Church, Katakala. Especially those subsistence farmers struggling to get a fair price for their crops.
- A new beginning for those fleeing violence and persecution.
- The people of Myanmar, Japan and Ecuador
- Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, and all places of conflict.
- James, Fiona, Zenden, and all preparing for Baptism or Confirmation.
- Jack McCaughan & Nicola Sampford & Ed Bury & Rebecca Stanford preparing for their marriages at St Mary's;
- The residents of Basingfield Court;
- Those who are sick or suffering, among them: Elan Bansal; Jackie Deadman; Jean Schluter; Emily Fisk; Betty Thorn, all others in pain or sorrow;
- All those who have died recently; Joan Milne; and all whose anniversaries fall at this time, and those who grieve for them.

During the service a collection will be taken during the Offertory Hymn. If you miss this collection, gifts can be placed in the wall pillar. Gift Aid envelopes are available in the pews. Deo Gratias Registered Charity No. 1136606

PARISH CONTACTS: Vicar - The Rev'd Alexander Battey 354707 vicar@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk

Assistant Curates – The Rev'd Rachel Hartland 07717 942669 rachel@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk,

The Rev'd Sarah Lloyd 816122 sarah@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk

Churchwardens - Mrs Tricia Renwick 326155, Mr Ian Kershaw 355500