

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 also a children's corner in Church for supervised pre-school children.

14th January 2018 Christingle Eucharist

THIS WEEK

Ploughmen's Lunches This Thursday 18th January at 12.30 pm in the Parish Room. All welcome.

LOOKING FORWARD

Gifts for Katakala from St Mary's & Old Basing & Lychpit: Parish visit 2018: On Feb 8th 4 people from our parish will be travelling to Uganda to visit our Katakala Global Partnership and further develop our parish links with St Apollo's church and Katakala CU Primary school. Rosey Stevens, Gill Sakakini, Tracey McCarley (Headteacher of OB Infant School who are developing their school link with Katakala too), and Rev Sarah, will be spending time in the school and with groups in the church and village. We are raising much needed funds to take with us on 8th Feb for school resources and church's provision to the sick (please use gift aid envelopes or online), and gathering donated gifts now too. See poster, flyer and boxes in porch for details. If you can, please tie a bow round your items to show our care. Thanks so much for your support of our friends living with very little in Katakala. St Mary's charity of the month Feb is Katakala, but please make any donation between now and 8th Feb if you can as we have to take cash with us to give directly. If you would like to sponsor Tracey's 5k run for Katakala, please visit website: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/t-mccarley

Living Soup Mondays: Each Monday evening through Lent (beginning Monday 19th February), all very welcome to join me in sharing soup, bread and cheese for supper anytime between 7-8pm in the parish room. Just bring your soup and/or cheese and join whoever comes along that night for a simple supper and chat together. *Rev Sarah*

Lent Course Our shared ecumenical Lent Course, *Lent Wise*, using the book of the same name by Paul Gooder, will begin at The Methodist Chapel at 7pm on Tuesday 20th February. If you would like a copy of the book (cost £5.99) please put your name on the sign-up sheet in the lobby.

Parish Quiet Day in Lent: Fr Alec will lead a quiet day in Alton Abbey on Saturday 10th March 2018. Details to follow but please note the date.

BITS & PIECES

Tree Festival The recent festival raised a tremendous profit of £1,473.82! Thank you to everyone for your support. *Team Joy to the World*

St Mary's Advent Shed arrives at destination: as we journey and arrive with the Magi, this is a good moment to celebrate the wonderful gift the Advent Shed brought to so many in our community in recent weeks. Many individuals, church and village groups and organisations, children and adults, were involved in dreaming up, creating, and hosting, and also coming along to participate in and enjoy, the Advent Shed as it flung open its doors in hospitality to all and opened the Christmas story to so many every day through Advent. It's sad not to see it trundling off to another exotic Old Basing/Lychpit location, but it has now found rest at last. Shed loads of thanks particularly to Gill, Steve, David and Rosey for inspiring, leading, and moving St Mary's Advent Shed and taking us on a local journey of such wonder and delight.

Parish Vision morning Saturday 3rd February: ALL are welcome to come to this morning 9am-12pm in the Bolton Chapel, building on all the feedback from the *Who Cares?* initiative in our church and wider community. A chance to explore with the PCC how we build on work done in small groups last November, and discuss St Mary's vision for the future in the heart of our community and develop our PMAP. This is open to everyone in the community, and coffee and cake will be served. - Steve Sakakini

Games Afternoon Following the success of our dough-nutting trip, Caroline and I will be holding a games afternoon for Pilots, servers, siblings, etc. (we are thinking Junior and Secondary School age, but younger siblings welcome too) in the Parish Room on Sunday 21st January from 2.30 - 4.30pm. We hope to have a variety of games (beetle drive, charades etc.) and do bring along any favourites. Also we will have some snacks and any donations are welcome (especially cake, though do be mindful of food allergies). Please let us know if you can come. *Paul Skinner*

A big thank you to all those who generously donated to the South Africa project. All the money will go towards the materials and equipment needed when we build the school at Easter. I will be continuing to fund raise over the next few months, keep up to date on my page

(www.justgiving.com/fundraising/connie-stevens). Many thanks, *Connie*

Children's Society Boxes We are now collecting in the boxes for sending on to The Children's Society. Please can you return your box on 3rd February or alternatively leave in the church. Thank you.

The Coffee Catch Up Café will be taking a break over the winter and will re-launch again in May.

Peter May Miller There will be a Thanksgiving Service to celebrate Peter's life at 11.30 am next Sat. 20th Jan at St. Mary's, at which everyone will be very welcome. *Hilary*
For information: Funeral in church for Mavis Lloyd, Friday 19th January, 2.30 pm

From Fr Alec

Today, as we support the work of the Children's Society with our Christingles, we reflect on how Christ's work amongst us was to change lives from the water of bare existence to the joyful and fulfilling wine of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Please pray for

- Christ's light and love to fill our lives as we start a fresh new year
- The work of the Children's Society
- People experiencing poverty, hunger, loneliness, particularly in this festive season
- Those staying and volunteering at the Basingstoke Winter Night Shelter
- First Point and the You Trust, the homelessness emergency fund we support in January
- Residents of Basingfield Court & Oakfields, and our friends in Katakala, Uganda
- Regions of conflict and disasters: Myanmar, East Africa, Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Congo, Yemen
- Those who are sick or suffering, among them: Lisa Allen; Jackie Deadman; Jean Schluter; Betty & Peter Thorn, Esther Wong; Inge Bowman; Dudley Clark; Lindsay; and all in sorrow or pain.
- All those who have died recently: Mavis Lloyd; Ann White; and those 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 Curate - The Rev'd Sarah Lloyd 816122 sarah@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk

Churchwardens - Mrs Tricia Renwick 326155, Mr Ian Kershaw 355500

Home Communion Enquiries - please contact Rev'd Sarah in the first instance

Parish Administrator & Parish Room Bookings - Mrs Debbie Filer 07541 698235 admin@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk