WELCOME

All Christians who would normally do so are invited to receive communion. If you vish not to receive, please come forward or 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.

11th February 2018 Sunday Next Before Lent

Hymns 54, 67, 70, 658, 944, 419

TODAY

Holy Baptism At 2 pm Chloe Wallace is to be baptised. All are welcome at this service.

THIS WEEK

Monday Discussion Group: As in the past we shall be meeting on five consecutive Mondays for our Lent course commencing tomorrow 12thFebruary at 1.45 pm in the Parish Room. We will use the USPG study course 'All things are possible.' All are welcome. *Ann Price* (320388)

Ash Wednesday Eucharists at both 10 am and 7.30 pm including the imposition of ash. Please return last year's Palm Crosses so that they can be burned to form this year's Ash by this Monday 12th at the latest. Thank you.

Ploughmen's Lunches All welcome this Thursday, 15th February at 12.30 pm in the Parish Room.

LOOKING FORWARD

Lent Course Our shared ecumenical Lent Course, will begin at The Methodist Chapel at 7pm on Tuesday 20th February. LENTWISE, the book we are using on our Ecumenical Lent Course, is available as an ebook from Amazon, cost £5.60. Copies are not readily available at a good price at the moment, it seems to be re printing, so it would help if some of you would be prepared to access the course this way. I do have a few copies however. Thank you. Penny Potter

A Katakala thank you! Today in Katakala we are giving all your prayers and love and donations to all our friends in St Apolo's church and this week in Katakala Church of Uganda Primary school. You have been wonderfully generous, thank you! Our suitcases are bulging with your wonderful gifts, and you all donated a total of £1,145 for Katakala which will be so gratefully received.

And we'll be back next Sunday to show you pictures and tell you stories, as well as let you know how your donations will be used as decided by the people of Katakala. Thank you, wonderfully generous St Mary's family. Rev Sarah

Friends of St Mary's Quiz Night Saturday 24th February, starting at 7.30 pm
St Mary's Parish Room. Maximum team size is 6,
come with a team or join others on the night.
Prize for the winning team!
Tickets: £5 per person (members);
£7.50 per person (non-members)
available from Ian Kershaw, tel. 355500

I 0am Second Sunday All Age Worship: for the next few months the new I 0am All Age services on the second Sundays of every month will continue. The PCC would love to hear your feedback over the coming weeks. Whilst particularly welcoming children and young people to participate and enjoy, it is hoped that these services will be opportunities for all ages of the St Mary's church family (which includes any visitors and all in the parish) to come together in worship. If you arrive early by mistake, please stay and have a coffee!

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

BITS & PIECES

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

This year Christians of all denominations are invited to gather for a shared hour of prayer on Sat 3rd March, from 7pm until 8pm.

PARISH QUIET DAY SATURDAY

MARCH 10th: Details are now available in the foyer and there is a list to sign up on. We aim to arrive for Conventual Mass at 9.00 am. We will leave by car from St. Mary's at 8.15 sharp. Please arrive at 8.00 am and join our sending prayer. Please indicate on the list if you will drive and if so how many passengers you could take. If there are requests for a later start I suggest a group could meet an hour later (9.15) and arrive in time for coffee 9.45 -10.00. Please sign up accordingly. Details of cost, likely to be around £10 per head and details of lunch which maybe provided but

may be a bring your own meal will come soon. Penny Potter

Women's World Day of Prayer takes place on Friday 2nd March at 10.30 am at The Methodist Church. An interdenominational service open to all, men, women and children with this year's title being 'All God's Creation is Very Good!'. This year's country focus is Suriname. Refreshments will follow.

Flower Arrangers Coffee Morning: St Mary's Flower Arrangers will be holding their annual Coffee Morning on Saturday 24th February in the Parish Room from 10am to 12 noon to which all are invited. There will be a Bring and Buy stall, a Raffle and the 2018/9 rotas will be available. ALL WELCOME.

For information: Funeral in church for Michael Bennett, Mon. 12th Feb, 11.15 am

From Fr Alec

Today, as we remember Jesus transfigured before his disciples, shining like the sun, we look to the vision of heavenly glory that he gave us, and ask what we can do to reflect that light in our own lives.

Please pray for

- ♦ Christ to set us aflame with love and inspire us in sacrificial service.
- Generosity and compassion to flow out from our church as we follow in the footsteps of Jesus.
- People experiencing poverty, hunger, loneliness, depression, pain and any kind of suffering.
- ♦ Chloe Wallace, being baptised today;
- Our friends at St Apollo's and Katakala Primary School in Uganda, and the joy of our growing relationships in Christ through our visits and prayers
- Safety and hope for those sleeping rough in the streets across Britain, and for restored lives long-term through Basingstoke Winter Night Shelter support.
- Residents of Basingfield Court & Oakfields,
- Regions of conflict and disaster:
 Afghanistan, Myanmar, South Sudan, Syria,
 Iraq, 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: Michael Bennett; Murdoch Skelton; Len Clark; 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