

## 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.

18th March 2018  
Fifth Sunday of Lent

### Hymns

195, 343, 34, 663, 503, 394<sub>vvl-6</sub>

### TODAY

In **Junior Church** we are **celebrating our Katakala Partnership**. We shall be sharing stories, photos and videos, as well as artwork and musical instruments from the recent trip to Uganda.

**Retiring collection for March:** This month we are collecting for **St Michael's Hospice**.

### THIS WEEK

**Lent Course** Our shared ecumenical Lent Course, concludes at The Methodist Chapel at 7pm this Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

**Living Soup Mondays:** Continue every Monday evening through Lent. Come to join in sharing soup, bread and cheese for supper between 7-8pm in the parish room.

### LOOKING FORWARD

**Palm Sunday** The Blessing of Palms and the Procession will start at **9.20 am** from The Jubilee Cross, opposite The Bolton Arms, with the service in church starting at the usual time of 9.30 am. **Bring a branch to wave!** If you would like to be involved in the reading of the Passion please speak to Fr Alec. **(Please note that the clocks go forward to British Summer time next weekend).**

#### Holy Week Services:

*Monday 26 March*

Tenebrae Service at 7:30

A candle-lit quiet space amid shadows and light

Come for Soup & Bread at 6:30

*Tuesday 27 March*

A quiet reflective service on the theme of Prayer & Forgiveness 7:30 pm

*Wednesday 28 March*

The Stations of the Cross

An opportunity to follow in the footsteps of Jesus up to the cross in word and image 7:30 pm

**Easter Services** Please do pick up a leaflet from the table by the North Door giving details of Easter services.

### BITS & PIECES

#### Annual Parochial Church Meeting

**(APCM)** This will be held on Sunday April 22nd at 11.15 am and will be followed by a **Parish Lunch**.

**Me on the PCC?** There are openings for election to the PCC at the APCM on 22<sup>nd</sup> April. It is important for a healthy parish to have fresh and vigorous discussion around the decisions we take, and I would encourage anyone with a little time to offer to consider putting themselves forward for nomination ahead of this year's APCM (Sunday 22nd April) *(you will need a Proposer and a Seconder)*. Please do chat to me or any current PCC members if you'd like further information before putting yourself forward.

**Rev'd Rachel Hartland** If you are planning on going to Rachel's licensing at St Mary's Eversley (Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30 pm.) please sign up on the list in the lobby by Palm Sunday - thank you.

**Messiah in St Mary's** Basing Singers and Ooh Mama will be performing the Messiah in St Mary's on Palm Sunday, 25 March. The concert starts at 7pm and tickets are £7 for adults, under 16 free - available on the door or from Mike on 01256 471493.

**Des Atkin's** funeral service will take place at St Mary's on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 12.30 pm.

**St Mary's Support for Charity Giving:** Charity suggestions for the coming year are invited - please add any suggestions to the list in the lobby by Easter Day. These charities can then be formally approved at the APCM.

**Churchyard Mowing** It's that time of year again to start mowing the churchyard! From April to October a group of volunteers works in teams of 2 and are allocated a 2-week slot to mow the front and back of the churchyard. Are you able to provide 2 to 3 hours of effort about 3 to 4 times over the spring & summer months? If so, you'd be very welcome, and all the equipment and petrol is provided. Please speak to or contact Steve Sakakini (07812 145 987)

**Church Electoral Roll** Are you on St. Mary's Electoral Roll? You are entitled to join the Electoral Roll if you are baptised and aged 16 or over and live in the parish of Old Basing and Lychpit, or if you live outside the parish but have attended services regularly for at least 6 months. Although you can join the

Roll at any time during the year, people are encouraged to join now so that they can take an active part in the life of St. Mary's and the APCM on Sunday 22nd April. If you would like to serve on the Parochial Church Council, join the sidesperson's rota, or take some other active part in the running of the church, - or even if you would just like to vote for those who do these things - please make sure that you are on the Electoral Roll. Application forms are available in church, or from the Electoral Roll Officer, Hilary May-Miller. She, or one of the churchwardens can give you more information. **NB:** The last date for applications to join before this APCM is **Saturday 7th April**.

#### From Fr Alec

How willing are we to take up our cross? No life is without its share of suffering, but we have a choice always between whether we face it, and lean into it for the sake of God's kingdom, or flee from it and hide behind a flimsy barricade of distractions. The cost of discipleship is to share Christ's sufferings, but the reward is to see them transformed into something beautiful.

#### Please pray for

- ◆ Courage to carry our cross with Christ.
- ◆ All those facing suffering or injustice.
- ◆ Those who grieve still for parents they have lost.
- ◆ People experiencing poverty, hunger, loneliness, depression, pain and any kind of suffering.
- ◆ 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: Des Atkin; 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](mailto:vicar@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk)

**Assistant Curate** - The Rev'd Sarah Lloyd 816122 [sarah@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:admin@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk)

**Friends of St Mary's** (Enquiries to 358533) **St Mary's Church Website Address:** [www.stmarysoldbasing.org.uk](http://www.stmarysoldbasing.org.uk)