

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.

10th January 2016 The Baptism of Christ

Hymns

527, 259, 541, 656, 615, 84

TODAY

Holy Baptisms At 2pm Nathan Lilleker is to be baptised. All are welcome at this service.

THIS WEEK

Monday Discussion Group: Our first meeting of the New Year is on Monday 11th January at 1.45 pm in the Parish Room. We will share and discuss our favourite passages from the Bible and quotes that are in everyday usage. Everyone welcome. *Ann Price (320388)*

Prayers & Bears this Thursday, 14th January at 2.00 pm in the Parish Room. Rev'd Sarah looks forward to sharing Prayers & Bears with you.

LOOKING FORWARD

Anniversary Evensong To honour our organist, Paul Wright's 40 years service to St Mary's as organist, all are invited to a celebratory Evensong on Sunday 31st January at 5pm, to be followed by light refreshments. To mark the occasion we would like to give Paul an **anniversary gift** – if you'd like to contribute please leave any contribution in an envelope, clearly marked "Paul's Gift" in the blue box in the North Aisle.

BITS AND PIECES

Big Turkey thanks: Thanks so much to all the 85 diner-helpers, and helper-diners, who came to the Big Community Christmas lunch. You made it a great occasion celebrating together. Thanks to all who so generously donated too - we achieved our aim of not making any money but did virtually break-even. Hopefully Big Community Lunch 2 next Christmas, with special smaller portions on offer!

Message from Miss Pat May Caroline & Steph Bale popped in to see Miss May whilst visiting family in Bristol over Christmas and Miss May has sent her love to all at St Mary's and would like everyone to know that she is happy and has settled well into her new

home. She wishes all at St Mary's a very Happy New Year and would love to see visitors if anyone is in the area (for address details please get in touch with Debbie Filer). **A postscript on Pat:** Her sister-in-law, Liz, in her Christmas card to me, reports that she has the picture of us all at St Mary's on her wall and proudly points it out to everyone. *Trish Renwick*

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S QUIZ NIGHT

Sat. 16th January 7.30 pm, Parish Room
Quiz will start at 8.30 pm

Please bring your own supper & drinks
Tickets: £5 each (max of 6 per team) from
Chris Beadle on tel. 358533

Advent Collection for St Francis' Hospital, Katete The total amount raised came to £443.64 – thank you to all who gave so generously.

The Children's Society Thank you to everyone who contributed their time, energy, ideas and money to this Church charity last year. £566.03 was raised through the Box Holders, £831.87 at our October coffee morning and £650.25 from the sale of Christmas cards so that all in all we raised and sent £2048.15 to The Children's Society in 2015. Last Sunday's Christingle Service raised an additional £167.90. Thank you for your kindness and generosity! *Rosemary Kershaw, Parish Representative*

Heather Quilter RIP Many people will know Heather Quilter who sadly passed away recently. Heather's funeral is to take place at Basingstoke Crematorium on Monday 18th January at 10.15 am.

Basingstoke Foodbank Thank you to all who donated to the Foodbank over the Christmas period. Due to everyone's overwhelming generosity, the Foodbank is currently overwhelmed and has put a temporary halt on receiving donations.

Eastertide Pilgrimage 2016 Fr. Alec is again leading a group to the Anglican Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, from **Tuesday April 12th to Thursday April 14th** (ie. 2 nights, cost ca £102 for two nights half board, i.e. bed, breakfast and evening meal). Please let me, Penny Potter, know as soon as possible if you wish to join this group as I shall make a preliminary booking before

Christmas. (tel. 333249, or potterpenny@tiscali.co.uk) . We shall be going in cars - cost of a minibus is prohibitive!

Plates There are several plates that have been in the lobby for several months which have been unclaimed. If you think they are yours please contact Trish Renwick. They will be taken to the charity shop if not claimed this week.

Confirmation If you (young or old) would like to be confirmed, or just discuss the possibility, please speak to Fr Alec. A confirmation service will take place at Pentecost/Whitsun - Sunday 15th May, 6.30pm in Winchester Cathedral where our candidates will be confirmed by Bishop David.

From Fr Alec

The baptism of Christ is God's answer to the question 'Who is Jesus?'. In the same way, our own baptism answers the question: 'Who am I?' When we are washed in the water of baptism it is in order to reveal the image of God, our true self, the child of God that has been hidden beneath the accumulated grime of life.

Please pray for

- For the justice, mercy and peace of God's Kingdom to break in to our hostile world, through works of reconciliation.
- Those living in areas of conflict, particularly in the Yemen, Syria, Afghanistan, Palestine/Israel, Libya and Iraq, and all refugees and those seeking asylum.
- For all people to encounter Jesus in this Christmas season.
- All those who have personal battles against addiction and depression.
- Our Bishops Tim, David and Jonathan.
- Nathan Lilleker being baptised today;
- Those who are sick or suffering, among them: Penelope Bickley; Elan Bansal; Beryl Streether; Mavis Lloyd; Jackie Deadman; Jean Schluter; Clifford & Christopher Browne; Des Atkin; Violet Philips, Emily Fisk; Marg; and all others in pain or sorrow;
- All those who have died recently; Queenie Snell; Ruthmary Ivens; Heather Quilter; 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

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