

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 January 2016
3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Hymns

359, 752, 420, 540, 590, 485

TODAY

Seasons House Group If you would like to get to know people at St Mary's better and want an opportunity to study the Bible with them, why not come to this informal gathering over tea at the home of the Sakakini's. This Season's House Group takes place over 5 sessions and offers a warm, welcoming environment in which to ask questions and explore faith and life together. For further information please call Gill or Steve on 81 1956 or come to 2 Priory Gardens, Old Basing from 5:30 - 7:30 this afternoon or on any of the following Sundays: Feb 7 and 21, March 13 and 20.

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 next 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 **wall safe, in the pillar**.

Ecumenical Lent Course 2016 – 'The Joy of the Gospel' by Paula Gooder. Copies of the book are available from Fr Alec (donations welcome).

BITS AND PIECES

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. However, **The Camrose Centre** is asking for donations of items for their food parcels to give rough sleepers. Items such as small bottled water and juice cartons, tinned ring pull soups, crisps, and packet noodles would be gratefully received. Mark them for 'Camrose' but please leave them in the usual place by the door. They could also do with sleeping bags on a regular basis - these can be left in the choir vestry.

2015 Palm Crosses Please return your palm crosses from last year so they can be burned to provide ash for the Ash Wednesday services on Feb 10th. Please place your crosses in the basket provided on the table by the church door by no later than Sunday 7th Feb. *Thank you!*

Flower Arrangers Coffee

Morning: St Mary's Flower Arrangers will be holding their annual Coffee Morning on **Saturday 13th February** in the Parish Room from 10.00 to 11.30 am to which all are invited. There will be a Bring and Buy stall, a Raffle and the 2016/7 rotas will be available. **ALL WELCOME.**

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 Rev'd Rachel:

In this week's gospel we sit in the synagogue in Nazareth, our eyes are fastened on Jesus. He has come home, confident in his calling and mission as the Son of God, and with a challenging message for those of his local community. As we hear the same message of freedom, justice, healing and love that he brought, Jesus is calling us to accept that as his followers, living out this message in word and deed is our task too.

Please pray for

- For the boundless generosity and grace of God's Kingdom to break in to our hostile world, through works of reconciliation, healing, and justice.
- 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 teachers. Especially those engaged in teaching the faith.
- For the prophetic ministry of the church. That we might have courage to speak truth to power.
- Our Bishops Tim, David and Jonathan.
- 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; Emily Fisk; Marg; and all others in pain or sorrow;
- All those who have died recently; Floss Challis, Richard Davies; 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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