

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.

19th March 2017 Third Sunday of Lent

Hymns:
428, 584, 45, 541, 310, 252

TODAY

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

THIS WEEK

Lent Course Our shared ecumenical Lent Course, *The Mystery of Everything*, based on the film, *The Theory of Everything* continues this Weds at The Methodist Chapel (7pm for 7.30 pm start).

LOOKING FORWARD

Mothering Sunday Next Sunday we look forward to welcoming the uniformed organisations of the Parish to our Mothering Sunday service on 26th March. **This service will be at the later time of 10.00 am (please note that the clocks go forward to British Summer time next weekend).**

Sunday 2nd April 9.30am: please come and make our special guest very welcome: Panelope (Rev'd Rocky's 14 yr old daughter) from our partnership village of Katakala, Uganda, will join us for our worship and at coffee afterwards. Panelope will be staying with us in Old Basing from Friday 31st-Sunday 2nd April.

MESSY CHURCH 3.45pm

Saturday 8th April

Volunteers are sought to help with Merry Church on 8th April. If you're free please speak to Andree McLean. Further details to follow.

BITS AND PIECES.

Me on the PCC? Please do take a look at the booklet on the board in the lobby which gives an idea of why someone

might stand for the PCC and what the vision of the PCC is at present. There are openings for election to the PCC, and for Synod representatives (who also sit on the PCC). 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 30th April) (*you will need a Proposer and a Secunder*). Please do chat to me or any current PCC members if you'd like further information before putting yourself forward. A copy of the leaflet is also available from our Administrator, Debbie Filer. *Fr Alec*.

Hair Cut in support of the Little

Princess Trust I didn't give anything up for lent this year, so instead I'm having more than 7 inches cut off my hair this Easter and donating it to The Little Princess Trust. It will cost them £500 to turn my hair into a wig and help a child cope with their treatment. All wigs are free to the children and their families. Hopefully you could spare some money to make it possible - a sponsorship form is up in the lobby. Thanks, any questions come and ask me! *Ellie McLean*

Monday Discussion Group: As is our custom we are meeting weekly during Lent on the following Mondays at 1.45 pm – 20th and 27th March and 3rd April. We will study the USPG Lent course 'Living an authentic life.' All are welcome. *Ann Price (320388)*

Coffee Catch Up & Comic Relief!

Thank you to all who continue to support the café (a fabulous total of £143 was collected on behalf of the Basingstoke & Alton Rehabilitation Unit last month). This week we continue to support Comic Relief with extended opening to 4pm - do come along and join in the fun!

Community Bus Information An updated information sheet is now pinned up on the board in the lobby.

The Basingstoke Foodbank is short of several items including long-life fruit juice/milk, tinned meat & fish, small coffee & toiletries. Thank you to all who give so generously.

From Fr Alec

It is telling that Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well begins with a request from Jesus: "give me something to drink". It reminds us crucially that, like Jesus, we are most able to speak effectively into peoples lives when we come to them not from a position of strength, but from weakness, as those who have need.

For information: Funeral in church, Monday 20th March, 12.30 pm for Charlie Croft RIP

Please pray for

- Grace this Lent to reassess ourselves and determine what and where we are called to be.
- True repentance, to turn ourselves back to Christ and walk with him the way of the cross.
- Loving hearts to serve the most vulnerable in our community, our society, and around the world.
- A willingness to reach the young families of the community who don't know God's love for them.
- Those coping with the darkness of depression, grief, or loneliness;
- We pray with our friends in Katakala: for parents of children in the school, struggling to feed and care for their children.
- The people of Syria, Iraq, the Congo, Yemen and all regions where there is violence, fear, or suffering.
- Residents of Basingfield Court & Oakfields;
- Those who are sick or suffering, among them: Lisa Allen, Richard Rylance, Elan Bansal; Jackie Deadman; Jean Schluter; Betty & Peter Thorn, Esther Wong; Steve North; Inge Bowman; Peter May-Miller; Dudley Clark and all in sorrow or pain
- All those who have died recently: Charlie Croft; 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

Assistant Curates – The Rev'd Rachel Hartland 07717 942669 rachel@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk,

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

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