

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.

3rd January 2016
Epiphany

Hymns

36, 656, 642, 49, 729, 724

TODAY

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

TODAY AT 4.00 pm
(all invited for tea and cakes from 3pm)

A service celebrating the light that has come into the world with a collection supporting the work of The Children's Society

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

THANK YOU to all those who have made our Christmas Services run so smoothly as we have shared the love and light of the infant Christ this Christmas in our beautiful church.

Family Service The Family Service will resume next Sunday 10th January.

Christmas Crib Festival Thank you once again to everyone who contributed to this event both creatively and practically. The lovely welcoming and festive atmosphere generated by so many people working together was experienced by all our visitors. Many commented on how they saw the nativity through fresh eyes as they lingered at

each scene. It is also very pleasing to know that the total amount raised was £2156.73! Don't forget to give feedback to Gill and Rowena.

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).

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

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)*

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 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

The Children's Society Collection Boxes

If you have not yet returned your box for counting, please would you kindly bring it to me in Church next Sunday January 10th? If there is any difficulty, please let me know. Thank you! *Rosemary Kershaw tel. 355500*

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!

Coffee Catch Up will be open again tomorrow and every Monday morning from 8.30 am – 11.30 am in the Parish Room. We look forward to seeing you!

St Mary's Pocket Diaries We have some 2016 pocket diaries for sale (£1).

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 Sarah

Today as we begin the season of Epiphany, we celebrate God's love made manifest to all. The enlightening realization that the mystery of God's intimate love present in and among us through the birth of Christ, has interrupted and changed our lives whether we notice or not.

For information: Funeral Service in church this week: Wednesday 6th January, 1.30 pm, service for Michael Mullender RIP

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 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.
- 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; Michael Mullender; Queenie Snell; Ruthmary Ivens; 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