

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.

6th March 2016
Mothering Sunday

Hymns

631, 25, 182, 350, 437, 605

TODAY

Welcome This morning we particularly welcome the uniformed organisations of the parish as we celebrate Mothering Sunday.

Thank You to the Men's Breakfast Group for preparing today's flower posies and also to those who have made cakes as part of today's refreshments after the service.

Lent Charity On Sundays during Lent there will be a retiring collection for **Veterans Aid**. If you would like to gift aid a donation, please use one of the gift aid envelopes provided. Please leave the form and your donation in an envelope to be forwarded on your behalf.

THIS WEEK

The Ecumenical Lent Course 2016 continues this Tuesday evening at the Methodist Chapel starting at 7.30 pm.

Prayers & Bears this Thursday 10th March at 2.00 pm in the Parish Room. Rev'd Sarah looks forward to sharing Prayers & Bears with you.

LOOKING FORWARD

Messy Church at Easter,
Sat 19th March
4.00-6.00pm



Messy Church is for the whole family to engage in the story of Jesus, through creative activities, worship and a shared meal, all based round the Holy Week story. **CAN YOU HELP US PLEASE?** We need people to guide worshippers through some of the activities (which will be provided), and to serve food. We also need a few people to offer to provide TRAY BAKES and BAKED POTATOES. Costs can be reimbursed. If you can help please let Rev'd Rachel know.

Holy Week & Easter Details of Holy Week & Easter services are available on a separate flyer in the North Aisle. There is a separate flyer detailing Easter events for children.

BITS AND PIECES

Children's Easter Garden On Holy Saturday, 26th March at 10am the children of the parish are invited to create an Easter Garden in the Church lobby. Please bring small bunches or pots of spring flowers, catkins and foliage. Adult help would be a great help as it would be nice to offer the children small activities to suit 0-11 year olds alongside this. Please speak to Rev'd Rachel for more information.

SHINING FRIENDS IN HIGH PLACES 19th March 10- 12 noon. It will soon be time for our eagerly anticipated annual chance to swing from the rafters and clean all the high sills in the process. We will also be polishing the brass so all those less suited for higher things can still play a part in getting St.Mary's ready for Easter. Mel's amazing efforts in stripping the pews of old polish mean that we will not need to polish the woodwork this year but will stripping off, with the aid of vinegar and warm water, as much of the polish on the remaining wood as we can. Can you please spare an hour or so to help? We would be delighted to have you for company. Refreshments and materials provided. *The Churchwardens*

St Mary's Pastoral Visitors: please join our short course of 4 training sessions if you are already, or would like to consider starting, pastoral visiting to somebody who may be going through a time of isolation, bereavement, or other struggles. Please chat to Sarah to book/for more details.

Holy Communion at Home If you know anybody who is house-bound or sick and might like to receive Holy Communion at home, please mention to Revd Sarah and one of the clergy will be very happy to visit.

Coffee Catch Up – Coffee Morning for Macmillan Cancer Support Donations of raffle prizes and cakes would be most appreciated in preparation for our charity morning for Macmillan Cancer Support on 21st March. Please get in touch with Debbie Filer if you'd be willing to bake a cake or donate a prize. Thank you.

Home Library Service Do you, or someone you know, love reading but can no longer get to the library due to ill health, disability or caring responsibilities? We may

be able to help by arranging for a volunteer to deliver books or audio books to your home. This service is free. Interested or want more information? Contact Lois Lang at Basingstoke Discovery Centre, tel. 478670 or email clnocom@hants.gov.uk.

The Monday Discussion Group continues during Lent, with our next meeting tomorrow at 1.45 pm in the Bolton Chapel. Everyone is welcome. *Ann Price* tel. 320388.

Prayers for the Sick All those for who we regularly pray will be prayed for at a Healing Service on Wednesday of Holy Week Please let one of the clergy know if prayers should continue to be said publicly after Easter when we renew the current list.

Basingstoke Food Bank Current Needs: Cooking sauces, dry crackers/crispbreads, coffee (small jars please), cold desserts, peanut butter, marmite, dried milk packs, sugar (500g or less), shampoo. Thank you.

From Fr Alec

This Mothering Sunday let's rediscover our motherly role as the Church. Picking up the fallen, nurturing the helpless and offering New Life in Jesus Christ.

Please pray for

- Courage and faith for all those whose suffering and loss leads them into doubt.
- Mothers and children everywhere.
- Families experiencing the pain of breakdown or bereavement.
- An end to suffering for the people of Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, the Holy Land, and many other places of conflict in our world;
- Leaders and negotiators seeking peace and reconciliation; for them to be guided in wisdom and compassion;
- Those experiencing homelessness close to our doors; for the work of the You Trust, Camrose Centre, May Place and street outreach;
- James, Fiona, Zenden, and all preparing for Baptism or Confirmation.
- 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; David Buckland; Maureen Gobener; and all others in pain or sorrow;
- All those who have died recently; 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