

## 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



## 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

### 12<sup>th</sup> January 2014 The Baptism of Christ

#### Hymns for Today

689, 259, 117, 150, 174,

## THIS WEEK

**"The Dawn from on High": Celebrating Epiphany at St Mary's.**

**TODAY** at 4pm you are welcome to the Round-the-world Epiphany Tea in the Parish Room at 4pm. Come and try King Cakes from other countries followed by a short Taizé style service. All ages are welcome at both.

During this liturgical season, between Epiphany Sunday and Candlemas, there will be many further opportunities to explore the theme of the "manifestation" of Christ to the world, and what it means to us here at St Mary's.

#### **This week on Tuesday 14th**

**January** is the first of two Epiphany and the Arts evenings hosted by the Seasons House Group. The focus is on art, music, and poetry about the Baptism of Christ and the Wedding at Cana. Come at 8pm to the Bolton Chapel. Refreshments follow the presentation.

#### **This week on Wednesday 15th**

**January** is the first of two Creative Epiphany Break - this will be a restful day for women after the busy festive season. It will include creative activities, time to reflect on the New Year, and a delicious lunch. The cost is £6 and fliers are available in the church. For further information

contact Gill Sakakini (811956). If you can't make this one consider coming next Wednesday 22nd January. Look out for Epiphany and the Arts 2 on Tuesday 28th January.

**Monday Discussion Group:** The next meeting will be on Monday 13th January at 1.45 pm in the Parish Room. Our topic for this session will be 'Reflections of Christmas 2013'. All are welcome. *Ann Price (320388)*

**Ploughmen's Lunches** This Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 12.30 pm in the Parish Room. All welcome.

## BITS AND PIECES

**Farewell to Bishop Peter** Following the announcement that Bishop Peter has been appointed as the next Bishop of Bath & Wells, a farewell service is to take place during Evensong at 5.30 pm in Winchester Cathedral on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April followed by a reception in the Cathedral. All are welcome. If you are planning on attending please sign up on the sheet in the lobby so that we can let the Diocese know for catering purposes. There will be a collection towards a gift for Bishop Peter. If you would like to contribute to this please make cheques payable to "Winchester Bishopric Official Expenses" and leave this in the blue post box marked for the attention of Debbie Filer (with "Bishop's Gift") written on the outside of the envelope. We will forward any cheques received to Wolvesey.

**2014 Parish Pilgrimage** Fr Alec will lead a short pilgrimage to the Anglican Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham from April 22nd - April

24th 2014 - ie 2 nights away. We will be there on a half board basis and will be travelling by car - we already have 3 drivers so there are plenty of places for passengers! The cost is confirmed as £99 per head.

Places are limited to 12 and details have to be given to the Shrine Office by Jan 28th. So please speak to Fr Alec or Penny Potter (333249) if you'd like to know more about it and give in your name(s) to Penny if you want to book a place/places as soon as you can.

**Confirmation** If you (young or old) would like to be confirmed, or just discuss the possibility, please speak to Fr Alec. Classes will begin during Lent, with a view to a confirmation service being held in June.

**St Mary's Honey for Sale** We still have some jars of honey for sale following the Christmas Tree Festival. These are on sale after today's 9.30 am service in the Parish Room.

**Box Holders: The Children's Society** Just a reminder to all Box Holders that they are now due in to be counted. It would be very much appreciated if they could be brought to church for me to collect or alternatively, dropped off at my house at 42 Linden Avenue, Old Basing, Tel:- Bas. 324065. Many thanks.

*Thelma Gregson.*

**Discussion group Jan. 23rd, 7.30 for 8.00 pm in the Parish Room**

All welcome. We will discuss what we understand by the Grace of God. One way of preparing might be to read and ponder the Book of Jonah.

**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. DeoGratias Registered Charity No. 1136606**

**PARISH CONTACTS: Vicar** - The Rev'd Alexander Battey 354707 vicar@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk

**Churchwardens** - Mrs Myrna Lewis 355157, Mr Ian Kershaw 355500

**Parish Administrator & Parish Room Bookings** - Mrs Debbie Filer 07541 698235 admin@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk

**Friends of St Mary's** (Enquiries to 358533)

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**Barn Dance** Regrettably the Burn's Night barn dance has had to be cancelled. Many thanks to all those who put in time and hard work to its organisation.

## FROM FR ALEC

Jesus' baptism is the second act of revelation that we celebrate in the season of Epiphany. Just as last week, Jesus was revealed as saviour to the gentiles, today he is revealed to all as God's own son. By receiving baptism, he underlines his nature as a Man for Others. As the advocate for humanity, he is washed clean on our behalf, demonstrating the new status as Sons and Daughters of God possessed by all who share in his life.

### ***Please pray for:***

- Tim, Peter & Jonathan. our bishops; especially for bishop Peter preparing for his new appointment.
- Those who speak out against evil and injustice.
- The coming of God's kingdom.
- The growth and development of St Mary's.
- Those who are sick or suffering, among them: Pat and David Sacree; Beryl Streether; Mavis Lloyd; Sylvia Dark; Geoffrey Armstead, Margaret Lomax, Des & Joyce Atkin; Canon Simon Wilkinson; and all others in pain or sorrow;
- All those who have died recently; Liz Gray; Enid Saint; Jonathan Parker; Adrienne Sargent; Josephine Barton; Reginald Smith; John Olohan; and for all those whose anniversaries fall at this time;

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