

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.

10th September 2017 Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Hymns:

758, 605, Book (x2), 473,759

TODAY

Our Patronal Festival Today we celebrate the **Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary**. This is a very special day for our church, as it provides time for congregational members and the wider community to celebrate both our church family, and our Patron, the Virgin Mary.

Retiring collection for Treloar's - St Mary's charity for September. See noticeboard for details.

THIS WEEK

Monday Discussion Group: We meet tomorrow (11th) at 1.45pm in the Parish Room. We shall continue to study a book by Stephen Cottrell entitled 'The Things He Said' (The story of the first Easter Day). Everyone welcome. *Ann Price* (320388)

Prayers & Bears This Thursday 14th September at 2pm.

LOOKING FORWARD



MESSY HARVEST:

Saturday 23rd September from 3.45 - 6pm. Come and join us in a creative

celebration of Harvest. We will be exploring the power of the tiny mustard seed through craft and worship, ending with a Messy tea in the Parish Room. Whatever your age you are more than welcome to come and take part.

St Mary's Harvest Festival Sunday 8th October **10am** with uniformed organisations of the parish. This year we are once again inviting donations to the Basingstoke Foodbank (please see Harvest "shopping lists" now available on

the table in the North Aisle as well as monetary donations to Katakala.

BITS AND PIECES

Join to sing with friends at

Basingfield Court: Please come and join our monthly St Mary's/Basingfield Ct Songs & Praise in the lounge at Basingfield Ct care home. It's a wonderful chance to simply sing a few hymns and chat together with residents. See poster in porch. All welcome to the next date - Wednesday 20th Sept 11am. *Rev Sarah*

Any spare fabric scraps? The new activities manager at Basingfield Ct is seeking bits of colourful fabrics to use in craft workshops. Please put donations in the box in church porch.

St Mary's "Imaging the Story

Exhibition". Come and see works of art produced as a result of the course. All are welcome to the opening reception on the 15th September 6pm and to hear participants speak about their work and inspiration at 7pm. The exhibition takes place at the United Reformed Church in London Street, Basingstoke. Exhibition open to visit between 15th - 28th September. For times please see the poster in the lobby or contact Gill.

Sponsored Walk. The South Coast Challenge was very aptly named; it most certainly was a Challenge! I started at 0830 on Saturday morning at Eastbourne and by 1130 that night I had trekked 55km along the south coast and South Downs Way to arrive in Brighton. By that stage I realised that I was not going to achieve the aim of 100km so, reluctantly, I withdrew. I genuinely would not have made it that far without the fantastic encouragement and support of all at St Mary's and I am most grateful to those who have sponsored me so generously, both in person and on line. The total amount raised was £1,170. I would like to thank you all most sincerely for your interest, help and generosity.
Mike Leaming

PIOCC (Churchyard Conservation Group) will be holding its New Season 'Kick Off' meeting on **Monday 2nd October at 8pm in the Parish Room**. This will be a treat for ornithologists as our talk will be "British Birding Highlights" by our old friend Graham Sharp. There will be light refreshments - so do come along. **ALL WELCOME**.

Junior Church Helpers We ideally need at least one more helper for Junior Church to join the rota on an occasional basis. Please speak to either Fr Alec, Sarah or Debbie if you'd be willing to help. All helpers are required to complete a DBS application.

Macmillan Coffee Morning: 68 The Street on Friday September 29th, 10.30am - 12.00noon. Raffle, books, bring and buy... do come and bring your friends. *Penny Potter*

From Fr Alec

Today, as we celebrate our Patronal Festival, we can reflect on how Mary keeps us grounded in the physical world. Her motherhood is an antidote to our tendency to over-spiritualise religion - to remove it from the realities and dilemmas of real life. From her, Jesus was born a flesh and blood child. One with her, and one with us.

Please pray for

- Our own church, its life and mission.
- Grace to serve one another and our community.
- All struggling with depression, grief, illness, isolation, relationship breakdowns, addiction
- Victims of floods in South Asia and Hurricanes Harvey & Irma;
- All regions where there is famine, conflict, abuse, suffering: Sudan, Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Congo, Yemen
- Our global partnership friends in Katakala.
- The staff, students and parents of Treloar's school and college, Alton
- Residents of Basingfield Court & Oakfields.
- Those who are sick or suffering, among them: Lisa Allen, Elan Bansal; Jackie Deadman; Jean Schluter; Betty & Peter Thorn, Esther Wong; Inge Bowman; Dudley Clark, Brenda Pollard, Sarah Jones; and all in sorrow or pain.
- All those who have died recently: Alison Battey; baby Elih; Walter Brazier; and those

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 Curate - 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

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whose anniversaries fall at this time, and those who grieve for them.

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