

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 also a children's corner in Church for supervised pre-school children.

7th January 2018
Epiphany

Hymns

552, 49, 85, 4, 724, 359

TODAY

St Mary's January Charity This month we shall be supporting the *First Point Hardship Fund*, run by *The You Trust* in Basingstoke, who offer support to people who are homeless or struggling with poverty.

THIS WEEK

Monday Discussion Group: Happy New Year! We will meet tomorrow (8th) at 1.45pm in the Parish Room. We will read and study the letter of James, Chapters 1 and 2. All are welcome. *Ann Price (320388)*

LOOKING FORWARD

Christingle Service: Our Christingle service this year will be an All Age service at **10 am** on Sunday 14th January in aid of the Children's Society.

Katakala-Old Basing & Lychpit Global Partnership: Parish visit 2018: On Feb 8th 4 people from our parish will be travelling to Katakala to visit our friends there and develop our parish links with St Apolo's church and Katakala CU Primary school. Rosey Stevens, Gill Sakakini, Tracey McCarley (headteacher of OB Infant School who are developing their school link with Katakala too), and Rev Sarah, will be spending time in the school and with groups in the church and village. We'll be raising much needed funds to take with us for school and church projects, and gathering goods donations soon too. More details to follow next week. If you would like to sponsor Tracey's 10k run as St Mary's Church and OB Infant School raise funds for Katakala, please

visit website:

www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/t-mccarley

Living Soup Mondays: Each Monday evening through Lent (beginning Monday 19th February), all very welcome to join me in sharing soup, bread and cheese for supper anytime between 7-8pm in the parish room. Just bring your soup and/or cheese and join whoever comes along that night for a simple supper and chat together. *Rev Sarah*

Parish Quiet Day in Lent: Fr Alec will lead a quiet day in Alton Abbey on Saturday 10th March 2018. Details to follow but please note the date.

BITS & PIECES

St Mary's Advent Shed arrives at destination: as we journey and arrive with the Magi, this is a good moment to celebrate the wonderful gift the Advent Shed brought to so many in our community in recent weeks. Many individuals, church and village groups and organisations, children and adults, were involved in dreaming up, creating, and hosting, and also coming along to participate in and enjoy, the Advent Shed as it flung open its doors in hospitality to all and opened the Christmas story to so many every day through Advent. It's sad not to see it trundling off to another exotic Old Basing/Lychpit location, but it has now found rest at last. Shed loads of thanks particularly to Gill, Steve, David and Rosey for inspiring, leading, and moving St Mary's Advent Shed and taking us on a local journey of such wonder and delight.

A big thank you to all those who generously donated to the South Africa project. All the money will go towards the materials and equipment needed when we build the school at Easter. I will be continuing to fund raise over the next few months, keep up to date on my page (www.justgiving.com/fundraising/connie-stevens). Many thanks, Connie

Mavis Lloyd My friend, Mavis Lloyd, sadly passed away on Boxing Day at the age of 83. I first met Mavis 41 years ago when I joined the Basing Singers, which she founded in 1968. She conducted and accompanied the choir for many years until ill health led to her retirement. Mavis also accompanied Fr Andrew on the keyboard at the monthly St Mary's service at Lychpit Hall. A celebration of her life will take place at St Mary's on Friday 19th January at 2.30 pm. *Jill Basing*

Peter May Miller There will be a Thanksgiving Service to celebrate Peter's life at 11.30 am on Saturday 20th January at St. Mary's, at which everyone will be very welcome. *Hilary*

From Gill Sakakini

We arrive today with the Magi and celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. The surprising place, people, and presents in this story serve to highlight Christ's revelation to the world by disrupting our expectations. When we realise just who this baby is, will our response be to bow the knee in worship?

Please pray for

- Christ's light and love to fill our lives as we start a fresh new year
- Thankfulness for times of sharing with family or friends.
- People experiencing poverty, hunger, loneliness, particularly in this festive season
- Those staying and volunteering at the Basingstoke Winter Night Shelter
- First Point and the You Trust, the homelessness emergency fund we support in January
- Residents of Basingfield Court & Oakfields, and our friends in Katakala, Uganda
- Regions of conflict and disasters: Myanmar, East Africa, Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Congo, Yemen
- Those who are sick or suffering, among them: Lisa Allen; Jackie Deadman; Jean Schluter; Betty & Peter Thorn, Esther Wong; Inge Bowman; Dudley Clark; Lindsay; and all in sorrow or pain.
- All those who have died recently: The Rev. Peter Robbins; Jim Bamford; Keith Kimber; Mavis Lloyd; John Morris and those 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 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