

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.

13th March 2016
Fifth Sunday of Lent

Hymns

32, 738, 369, 658, 723, 572

TODAY

Lent Charity On Sundays during Lent there will be a retiring collection for **Veterans Aid**.

THIS WEEK

Ploughmen's Lunches this Thursday 17th March at 12.30 pm in the Parish Room. All welcome.

Messy Church at

Easter,

Sat 19th March

4.00-6.00pm

Great fun for the whole family to worship together through creative activities, drama, music and a shared meal, based round the Holy Week story. PLEASE COME but also SPREAD THE WORD! **CAN YOU HELP US PLEASE?** We would still appreciate help with offers of TRAY BAKES and BAKED POTATOES or just being around to talk to people. Please talk to Rev'd Rachel for more information.



LOOKING FORWARD

Palm Sunday The Blessing of Palms and the Procession will start at **9.20 am** from The Jubilee Cross, opposite The Bolton Arms, with the service in church starting at the usual time of 9.30 am. **Bring a branch to wave!**

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. Please note that the **clocks go forward** on Easter Day, with the Sung Eucharist of the Resurrection for All Ages taking place at 10am

BITS AND PIECES

Children's Easter Garden and Activity

Holy Saturday, 26th March 10 am. Come and create an Easter Garden and share some Easter fun - bring small bunches or pots of spring flowers, catkins and foliage, and be surprised what you take away! Please speak to

Rev'd Rachel for more information or with offers to help.

Sidespersons Sides persons play an important role in welcoming and helping the congregation at services. We are looking for further volunteers to take on this role. If you feel you might be able to help occasionally please contact one of the Churchwardens.

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. 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 & warm water, as much of the polish on the remaining wood as we can. Can you please spare an hour or so to help? Refreshments and materials provided. *The Churchwardens*

Mowing Teams: Did you know that the churchyard is mown by a group of volunteers? If you would like to join this band of grass cutters, you would be very welcome, and we are looking for one to three new persons to join us this year. All of the equipment and petrol is provided, and we are organised in teams of two, so it divides up the work. We are "on duty" for a 2 week period and ask that each person mow 1/2 of the churchyard once during their allocated 2 week period. Currently that works out that each team mows 4 times between April and October. If you are interested or have any questions, please come along to the shed next **Saturday, 19 March** from **10 a.m.** where we will be servicing the mowers, or speak to **Steve Sakakini** or contact him on 81 1956

St Mary's Church Electoral Roll Are you on the Church Electoral Roll? During the next few weeks, leading up to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on the 17th April, the Electoral Roll will be revised. Anyone who is baptised and 16 years or over can be included in the Roll if they either live in the parish or live outside the parish but have regularly attended services at St. Mary's for at least 6 months prior to the application. All those on the Church Electoral Roll can vote for the new Parochial Church Council at

the Annual Meeting in April, and take a full part in the life of St. Mary's by serving in various capacities, e.g. offering to stand as a member of the PCC, helping and welcoming as a sidesman or woman, working with the Junior Church or the Pilots, and many other ways which help with the smooth running of the church. If you would like to apply to join the Roll, please complete an application form available near the church door, or if you have any questions please speak to Hilary May-Miller, the Electoral Roll Officer. The **closing date** to apply if you wish to take part in the Annual Meeting is Sunday 3rd April.

Easter Flowers A box is now placed on the offertory table to receive donations towards the Easter Flowers in church. Please consider making a donation in memory of a loved one.

The Churchyard Conservation Group (PIOCC) will be holding its AGM on **Monday 4 April at 8pm in the Parish Room**. Do come along and find out what's been happening in the Conservation Area. After the business is concluded, to put us all in a sunny mood, Margaret & Tim Carr will be giving a talk on "Spring in Crete & Lesvos". Light refreshments available all welcome.

Coffee Catch Up – Coffee Morning for Macmillan Cancer Support – 21st March Raffle tickets in preparation for the Macmillan Coffee Morning will be on sale in the lobby after this morning's 9.30 am service.

From Rev'd Sarah

Mary's gesture of love to Jesus is extravagant, as Jesus prepares to offer his extravagant love on the cross. Can our church, our lives, our hearts and our prayers rise up and overflow with the extravagant fragrance of God?

Please pray for

- Faith, hope and love as we respond to others and to our calling in Christ.
- Families experiencing the pain of breakdown, illness or bereavement.
- Peace and an end to suffering for people of Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, the Holy Land, and other places of conflict
- James, Fiona, Zenden, and all preparing for Baptism or Confirmation.
- 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; Betty Thorn, Maureen Gobener; all others in pain or sorrow;
- All those who have died recently; Yvonne Black; 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. DeoGratias 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

Churchwardens - Mrs Tricia Renwick 326155, Mr Ian Kershaw 355500