

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.

12th March 2017 Second Sunday of Lent

Hymns:

680, 303, 690, 312, 487, 13

TODAY

Retiring collection for our March charity: This month we are collecting for **St Michael's Hospice**.

THIS WEEK

Lent Course Our shared ecumenical Lent Course, *The Mystery of Everything*, based on the film, *The Theory of Everything* continues this Weds at The Methodist Chapel (7pm for 7.30 pm start).

Ploughmen's Lunches This Thursday, 16th March at 12.30 pm.

LOOKING FORWARD

Mothering Sunday We look forward to welcoming the uniformed organisations of the Parish to our Mothering Sunday service on 26th March. **This service will be at the later time of 10.00 am**

BITS AND PIECES.

PCC/Deanery Synod Vacancies

There are openings for election to the the PCC, and for Synod representatives (who also sit on the PCC). It is important for a healthy parish to have fresh and vigorous discussion around the decisions we take, and I would encourage anyone with a little time to offer to consider putting themselves forward for nomination ahead of this year's APCM (Sunday 30th April) (*you will need a Proposer and a Seconder*). Please do chat to me or any current PCC members if you'd like further information before putting yourself forward. There is also an information sheet in the lobby giving details of the role of the Deanery Synod. *Fr Alec.*

Monday Discussion Group: As is our custom we are meeting weekly during Lent on the following Mondays at 1.45 pm – 13th, 20th and 27th March and 3rd April. We will study the USPG Lent course 'Living an authentic life.' All are welcome. *Ann Price (320388)*

Old Basing & Lychpit Good

Neighbours - Can We Help You? A reminder that if you or anyone you know who lives in the parish needs help such as transport to an appointment, hospital clinic, doctors, shopping, do give OBLGN a call tel. 0333 0440116. Postcards are available on the table. New volunteer drivers or telephone coordinators always much appreciated too. Please chat to Rev Sarah. www.oblgoodneighbours.com

Diocese Rule of Life Lent

Workshops Please see the flyer on the table by the door giving details of Sharing God's Life workshops. These will take place at St Leonard's Oakley on Tues 14 March, 2-4.30pm. Places are limited so booking essential.

The Stitchcraft Group at St Mary's

extends a warm welcome to anyone who enjoys sewing, knitting, crochet, embroidery, tatting, or any craft of that sort to their monthly meeting on March 14th in the Parish Room at 2.00pm. Bring your own work and join in a relaxed afternoon, or come and learn a new craft from our experienced members. We cannot provide materials but can provide a cup of tea, and maybe a biscuit. For more information please contact Christine Young tel: 356973 or email chris8young@hotmail.co.uk.

Rota Availability I am currently compiling the rotas for April, May and June and would appreciate it please if you could let me know your availability. Thank you. *Debbie Filer*

The Basingstoke Foodbank is short of several items including long-life fruit juice/milk, tinned meat & fish, small

coffee & toiletries. Thank you to all who give so generously.

From Rev'd Rachel

Going back to the roots of God's original call to Abram, and his revelation of himself in Christ, we consider with Nicodemus how much we are living by a set of rules, rather than by a faith brought alive by the work of the Holy Spirit. Are our relationships paying lip-service to love or are they a testament to our love for God in Jesus, and our baptism by water and the Spirit?

Please pray for

- Grace this Lent to reassess ourselves and determine what and where we are called to be.
- True repentance, to turn ourselves back to Christ and walk with him the way of the cross.
- Loving hearts to serve the most vulnerable in our community, our society, and around the world.
- A willingness to reach the young families of the community who don't know God's love for them.
- Those coping with the darkness of depression, grief, or loneliness;
- We pray with our friends in Katakala: for parents of children in the school, struggling to feed and care for their children.
- The people of Syria, Iraq, the Congo, Yemen and all regions where there is violence, fear, or suffering.
- Residents of Basingfield Court & Oakfields;
- Those who are sick or suffering, among them: Lisa Allen, Richard Rylance, Elan Bansal; Jackie Deadman; Jean Schluter; Betty & Peter Thorn, Esther Wong; Steve North; Inge Bowman; Thelma Gregson; Peter May-Miller; Dudley Clark and all in sorrow or pain
- All those who have died recently: John Lane; Charlie Croft; 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

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