

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.

5th February 2017 Fourth Sunday Before Lent

Hymns:

689, 690, 35, 60, 154, 372

TODAY

Retiring collection for our February charity of the month: This month we are collecting for **Katakala, Uganda**, our Global Partnership, and particularly for donation to Katakala school, for food supplies to be given out to surrounding remote villages during Sarah's group trip, and for St Mary's contribution to enable Katakala & St Apollo's community lunch on 19th Feb. Thank you already for all your generosity in supporting our growing link – all the interest and support has been wonderful.

Holy Baptism At 2pm Elsie Lillywhite is to be baptised. All welcome.

THIS WEEK

Prayers & Bears This Thursday 9th February at 2pm.

Flower Arrangers Coffee Morning: St Mary's Flower Arrangers will be holding their annual Coffee Morning this **Saturday 11th February** in the Parish Room from 10.00 to 12 noon to which all are invited. There will be a Bring and Buy stall, a Raffle and the 2017/8 rotas will be available. ALL WELCOME.

LOOKING FORWARD

Parish Lunch Sunday 19th Feb 12.15pm: m

Parish Quiet Day, Saturday March 4th There is now a notice in the lobby where you can sign up if you wish to join the group going to Alton Abbey. The group leaving at 8.15 will attend the Conventual Mass and those leaving at 9.15 will be in time for coffee! Please speak to Penny Potter for

further information or if you are coming and have special dietary lunch requirements.

BITS AND PIECES.

Pilgrimage to the Shrine of our Lady of Walsingham Fr Alec will lead a group to Walsingham **April 25-27th 2017**. It is important that we collect numbers asap. The cost will be £108.10 per head for 2 nights half board. Those who have been before will know what a special experience it is to visit this holy place and join in the healing, the communions and the benediction services there. Please ask Fr Alec or Penny Potter if you wish to know more. We do encourage those who have been before to return this year and hope some of you will make a first visit. Names of those wishing to join to Penny Potter 01256 333249 asap please.

Monday Discussion Group: Our next meeting is on 13th February at 1.45 pm in the Parish Room. We will read and study the book of Malachi. All are welcome. *Ann Price (320388)*

Your Greetings to Katakala: Sarah will be leaving 16th Feb for Katakala to bring back news of people and projects for all of us to have the opportunity to link to and build new relationships. If you are part of a church or village group, or as an individual, could you email/give Sarah a photo and letter/message about yourself/group for our scrapbook to take. Very many thanks.

The Children's Society Thank you to everyone who gave so generously of their time and creativity to the Christingle Messy Church celebration. Before enjoying a delicious meal together participants made badges, glass lanterns, and a prayer circle round a large orange globe. They made their own Christingles and somehow managed to put the sticks of fruit representing the fruits of the earth on an even larger orange in the shape of Steve Sakakini. As darkness fell, the wonderment of making electricity through cut oranges gave focus to the wonder of the Light of the World as shown in the candles on each Christingle. Thank you also for your donations to The Children's Society which totalled £83.84 pence. *Rosemary Kershaw*

Foundation Governor Vacancy A volunteer is sought to join St Mary's Junior School as a Foundation Governor. Please do consider if you could join a team of

Governors who support a very valuable village asset (ie. a well respected and sought after junior school). Requirements are enthusiasm, commitment and a willingness to learn. Please chat to Fr Alec or Phil Jubin if you would like to find out more.

From Fr Alec

Both 'Salt of the Earth' and 'hiding our light under a bushel' have become familiar expressions, yet they both refer to the innate attractiveness of those who have a close connexion with God. How do you nurture and develop that relationship?

Please pray for

- Refreshment and clarity in our faith.
- Those coping with the darkness of depression, grief, or loneliness.
- All those seeking to make Christ known in word and deed.
- Our friends in Katakala: St Apollo's church, the school, and community..
- The people of Syria, Iraq, the Congo, Yemen and all regions where there is violence, fear, or suffering.
- Elsie Lillywhite, being baptised today;
- Residents of Basingfield Ct & 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; Del Davis; Inge Bowman; Thelma Gregson; Peter May-Miller; and all in sorrow or pain
- All those who have died recently: Mavis Sykes; Meloney Atkins; Louise Harris; 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