

## 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.

9<sup>th</sup> March 2014  
First Sunday of Lent

**Hymns for Today**  
572, 190, 497, 161, 165, 503

## TODAY

**Lent Charity** During Sundays in Lent there will be a retiring collection for the charity Veterans Aid. For more information on the work of the organisation please go to <http://www.veterans-aid.net/about-us/>

## THIS WEEK

**Monday Discussion Group:** During Lent we will meet on five consecutive Mondays commencing on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 1.45 pm in the Parish Room. We will be using the US Lent study course for 2014 – 'A heart for mission.' For further information if you wish to join our group please speak to me. *Ann Price* (320388)

**Pram Service** This Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 2.15 pm, with the theme this month "Lent". This service is a gentle introduction to Christian worship for pre-school children.

**The Diocesan Lent Course** continues this Thursday evening at 7.30 pm in the Parish Room and will continue on Thursday evenings during Lent. If you missed the first session it is not too late to come along.

## LOOKING FORWARD

**Mothering Sunday** We look forward to welcoming the uniformed organisations of the Parish to our Mothering Sunday service on 30<sup>th</sup> March. **This service will be at the later time of 10.00 am.**

**Holy Week & Easter** Details of Holy Week & Easter services are available on a separate flyer in the North Aisle.

## BITS AND PIECES

### Opportunities for Volunteering

If you, or anyone you know, would feel able to join the team cleaning the Parish Room, please speak to one of the Church Wardens.

### Posters for St Mary's Notice Boards

- in order to allow adequate space for publicity about services during Holy Week and Easter, please could all posters be **A5** in dimension from March 20 till April 20. Any questions please contact Gill Sakakini.

### Fairtrade Last Sunday Georgina

**Sievers** presented a **cheque for £200** to St Marys to highlight "**Fair Trade Fortnight**". This money had come from proceeds she had made from running a **Fair Trade** stall once a month after the 9.30am service. Since her sister went to university, Georgina has operated the stall on her own. With true entrepreneurial spirit, Georgina enlists the help of family (especially for transport and banking) and church friends e.g. Connie, Esme and Hana, to push sales of seasonal items, when the need arises. Last Thursday she represented St Marys Church at the **Fair Trade Forum** chaired by Bishop Peter in Basingstoke. We thank Georgina very much for promoting **Fair Trade** and for donating her profit to our church. *Churchwardens*

**Food Bank News** The Food bank Box has been reinstated in the church porch. The requests from the bank at the moment are for Fruit Juices, 500gms Sugar, choc/ treats, tea, coffee, dried milk. There is a particular need for items that can be reconstituted with just hot water, e.g., Instant potato/mash, or cuppa soups etc as these latter items can be used by flood victims from the Buckskin area of Basingstoke who are in temporary accommodation. Many thanks for your continued support. *Myrna*

**Holy Dusters Thank You** A big thank you for everyone one gave their time to making St Mary's even more spick and

span in preparation for Lent, Holy Week and Easter.

### RSCM Choir Conductors Workshop

A very happy and successful time was had recently at the workshop hosted by St Marys' Church Choir for 12 conductors arriving for instruction and advice from Frances Novillo, a Regional Music Advisor for The Royal College of Church Music. 16 adult church choir members, choristers Joseph, Esme and Hana, were joined by 5 of our other adult singers. It was extremely interesting, responding to the different styles and experiences of all the conductors as the workshop progressed. It gave insight into the two way process and interaction of singers with the conductor, indicating how dependent each is on the other to produce a good result. However, most of all it showed that the singing of choral music can be fun, very enjoyable and very rewarding. *Myrna*

### FROM FR ALEC

Jesus temptations test him in preparation for the ministry and sacrifice that will follow.

What have we learned from the tests and trials we have faced, and how have they prepared us for ministry and enabled us to grow?

### Please pray for:

- renewal in faith and love this Lent.
- Tim, Peter & Jonathan, our bishops; especially for bishop Peter preparing for his new appointment.
- For the people and Churches of Ukraine.
- Those driven from their homes and livelihoods by flooding, especially those in Buckskin.
- The persecuted church in the Middle East.
- Those who are sick or suffering, among them: Penelope Bickley; Pat and David Sacree; Beryl Streether; Mavis Lloyd; Sylvia Dark; Margaret Lomax; Joyce Atkin; Canon Simon Wilkinson; Bea Preston; and all others in pain or sorrow;
- All those who have died recently; and for all those whose anniversaries fall at this time;

**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