

St. Mary's News

Our Mission Statement:

Saint Mary's is a Christ-centred family, caring, sharing and working together, seeking to change through growth.

February 2013

Dear Friends,

A belated Happy New Year to you, our readers. I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and wish you every blessing for this New Year.

A few weeks ago I preached one Sunday morning in our church about new beginnings. The beginning of any New Year is a good time for taking stock of what we have done in the past, where we have been and all that we are aiming for in this new time given to us.

For me it is so important not to forget the past but, in anticipation, to move on with God as we walk with Him into the future and into all that lies ahead for us.

May this be time for you and yours to take stock of your lives and of all that you do and offer for the kingdom of God. May it be a time, yes, perhaps of looking back, but also of driving forward into the new, to whatever and wherever God is calling us to be!

I found a lovely poem this week which I would share with you. Something for you to ponder on, perhaps, as you think at the start of each new day about new beginnings!

*Each day is a bright new beginning,
With time for a fresh new start.
I receive it as a gift from God,
And set old limitations apart.*

*I do not accept the boundaries
and pressures from the past.
I free myself of all prejudice,
And hold to values that last.*

*I bring to this day expectations of good
And willingness to partake
In activities that will lead my life
On the paths that I should take.*

*God, guide me to make right decisions,
And teach me to use my time
To accomplish the greatest good
And to strengthen this life of mine.*

*Today, as I take the first step,
I will hasten to begin it, — for
“This is the day which the Lord hath made,”
I’ll “Rejoice and be glad, in it.”*

Micky Mayer Matthewson

God bless you all as you begin anew this hallowed time!

Have a great year and I look forward to seeing you all in church.

Graham.

Normal weekly services:

Sunday: Holy Eucharist at 8a.m. and 10.15a.m.

Tuesday:
Morning Prayer at 7.45a.m.
Eucharist at 7.00p.m.

Wednesday:
Holy Eucharist at 10a.m.

Thursday:
Morning Prayer at 7.45a.m.

Open 4 Prayer

Our lunchtime services continue to take place, normally on the last Tuesday of the month, aimed at attracting the office workers around us in the West End. Please support them and make our new worshippers welcome! The next service is on 26th. February at 12.30p.m.

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The next Prayers of Healing services will be held on Sunday, 3rd. February, at 6p.m., and thereafter on each first Sunday of the month. In addition, there are short prayers for healing after each Sunday 10.15 service in the War Memorial Chapel.

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Vestry Report

There was a meeting of the vestry on 13th December when the following items were discussed.

A small gas leak on one of the heaters in Church has been repaired.

Church cleaning has become a major problem as most of the ladies who have done it for many years are no longer able to undertake this important task. The secretary is hoping to get enough volunteers so that a rota can be drawn up and people only have to commit to helping once per month or hopefully less than that.

Two garden seats have now been delivered and set up at the west end of the grounds.

The long extending ladder has now been fixed to the perimeter wall at the east end of the grounds. New chuckies have been laid at the west end of the grounds.

Pete, the gardener/handyman has seen to the following items: - All the downpipes and gutters have been cleaned, the white panel which had been damaged by water has been repainted, the ceiling in the Crypt has been plastered. He is also going to box in the pipes in the Crypt during the next few weeks. He is also going to do some re-pointing of the wall at the east end of the building. The Bruce Nursery held their Nativity Play at Saint Mary's on 13th December and may wish to hold other events here in future.

Bobbie Sutton has agreed to become a key holder to allow people access to the premises so that the cleaning can be done each week.

The steps leading to Albert Terrace at the east end of the grounds have moved, probably pushed by the roots of the horse chestnut tree. Freddie Stephens is to contact the council for advice as the tree has a preservation order on it.

Mary Allardyce
Vestry Secretary

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St. Mary's Christmas Raffle

The Christmas Raffle made an amazing £872.50! Many thanks to all who took part, congratulations to all who won prizes, and thanks particularly to Mary for organising it again.

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Wednesday Lunches

Regrettably, due to lack of support for the monthly lunches, it has been decided that we will cancel them for the next few months and review again at a later date if people express an interest in restarting them.

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Sunday School

Happy Birthday to Henry Steward, who will be seventeen on the 21st. February!

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Friday Openings

More volunteers are always needed to keep the church open to the public on Friday lunchtimes. This is invaluable for people in need of a church open for them to stop, think and pray, as well as those just curious about what the inside of the Tartan Kirkie looks like. If anyone can give up a little time, between 11a.m. and 2 p.m., for this valuable service, please contact the Rector.



Events at Holburn West Church

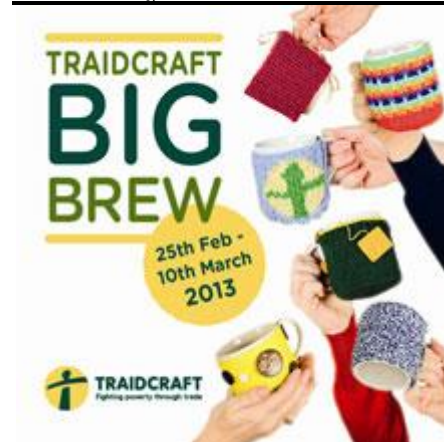
Holburn West's Guild has invited members of St. Mary's to join them for meetings on Wednesdays at 7.30p.m. The upcoming events are:

6th. February: The Guild Projects: Mary's Meals, Paul and Jo Costello

17th. February: Soup and Sweet Lunch after church.

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Fairtrade Fortnight 2013: February 25th – March 10th



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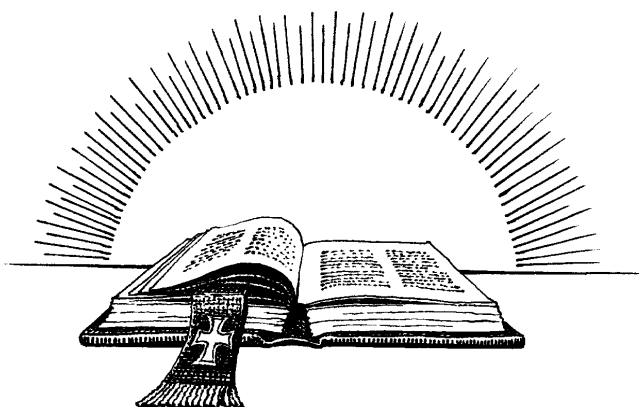
[Ideas, information and resources to make Fairtrade Fortnight 2013 the best yet!](#)

Go to www.traidcraftshop.co.uk or ask Nicola Mills for more details, or to ask for any other products you would like to see stocked in the Fair Trade shop at the back of the church.

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Saints' Days in February:

- 1st. St. Bride of Kildare
2nd. The Presentation of Our Lord
6th. The Martyrs of Japan
10th. St. Scholastica
14th. Ss. Cyril and Methodius
15th. Thomas Bray
17th. St. Finan of Lindisfarne
18th. St. Colman of Lindisfarne
19th. Martin Luther
23rd. St. Polycarp of Smyrna



Your Magazine

You can order your St. Mary's News to be sent to you each month by e-mail, or ask for a Large Print version, or ask for any back copies of editions you may have missed. Just contact the Editor!

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Rector: Rev. Canon Graham Taylor, 28, Stanley Street (584123)

Curate: Rev. Jason Hobbs

Rector's Warden: David Rose

People's Warden: Rachael Cormack (209380)

Vestry Secretary: Mary Allardyce (704743)

Vestry Treasurer: Lydia Ross (864072)

Lay Representative: Nicola Mills

Sacristan: Mary Allardyce

Organist: Kyle McCallum

Sunday School: Gillian Rose

Protection of Vulnerable Groups Co-ordinator:
Elizabeth Smyth

Flower Convener: Josie Duncan (645309)

Website:

www.stmarysepiscopal.co.uk

All copy for the March magazine must be with the Editor by 18th. February, 2013. Hard copy to Nicola Mills, or telephone 01224 488700, or e-mail to palaeography@aol.com. Thank you!

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Carden Place, is a charity (Scottish Charity No. SCO 14062).