

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.

March 2013

Dear Friends,

In this period of Lent, let us reflect back to a couple of Sundays ago in the Church's calendar when we celebrated the presentation of Jesus in the Temple, which revealed the significance of the True Light.

Light is a powerful symbol – one used not only in Christianity and Judaism but also in all the world's great religions.

It is a powerful symbol because of the many positive associations it conveys. Light shows us the way. Light can also help us to find what we have lost.

We use light to speak of Jesus. John tells us that He is the Light of the World.

Through the incidents, sayings and parables of the Gospels, we learn that Jesus is the light who can guide us to the truth about God, and the right path of life.

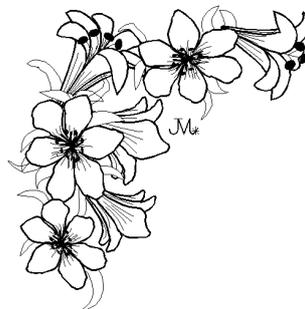
His is also a light that brings us warmth and growth, the Son of Goodness; and, to those who recognise the light, he is a sign of celebration, hope, reconciliation and joy.

During Lent, candles are often used as a symbol of light and darkness. They can be lit as a sign of our hope for peace amid the darkness of conflict.

As Christians, we must not lose sight of the light during this significant time in the Christian calendar. Light is always seen more clearly against the darkness, and as we enter the darkest season of the Christian year, the light of Christ continues to guide us. As John assures us in the Prologue to his Gospel: "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it". We are people of the resurrection, my friends, and we know that, beyond the darkness of Good Friday, comes the glorious light of Easter.

Blessings to you all,

Graham.



**Lent study
is on Tuesdays
following the
Eucharist – the theme
is 'Glimpses of God'.**

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.

Holy Week and Easter Services

A separate sheet of services for Holy Week will be available soon.

Easter Day Services
8am Holy Communion.
8.45am Easter Breakfast.
10.15am Family Service.
6pm Compline.

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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 March at 12.30p.m.

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Prayers for Healing

The next Prayers of Healing services will be held on Sunday, 3rd March, 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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Bishop's Lent Appeal

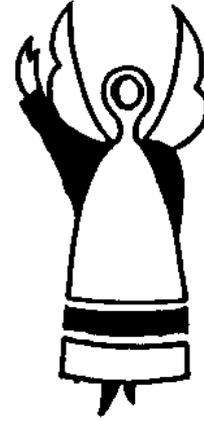
The Bishop's Lent Appeal this year aims to support our own Diocese's work with children and families.

'We have recognized that this is a crucial area for work in our church and we want to develop it as much as we can. Your help, your prayers and your generous giving will be vital if we are to succeed.

'Please pray for our work with Children and Families in the Diocese.

'Please talk about it with others and learn about the good work that is being done.

'Please give generously towards it in this Lent Appeal.'



Vestry Report

There has been no meeting of the vestry since the last magazine.

Mary Allardyce
Vestry Secretary

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Sunday School

No Sunday School birthdays in March, but thanks go as ever to the teachers who keep the Sunday School going despite the fact that we're in a bit of a dip for members – it is much valued.

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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.

Good Friday Devotions at St. Andrew's Cathedral – preliminary arrangements

Richard Bauckham, a lay man and significant international authority and gifted speaker on matters concerning the New Testament and the development of the early Church, will be leading the devotions at our Cathedral between Noon and 3pm on Good Friday coming. His working title is:

Senses of the Passion (in the Gospel of John)

Broadly speaking his addresses will follow something like this sequence:

Introduction: Seeing the Word made flesh
Pain Smell Taste Touch Hearing Sight
Spirit
Seeing and Believing

The addresses will be accompanied by hymns, prayers, scripture readings and silence.

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Music Café at St. Mary's

The Music Café is now growing at St. Mary's – just an hour to relax on the last Saturday of the month, eat cake, drink tea and listen to music. It's amazing what great acoustics we have in the church! If you want to perform, talk to the Rector or Jason. If you want to listen, come between 5 and 6p.m. on the 23rd. - you never know what you might hear!



Fairtrade Fortnight 2013: February 25th – March 10th



Take a step for Fairtrade, hold a Traidcraft Big Brew

Hold a Traidcraft Big Brew and help families to flourish.

By holding a Traidcraft Big Brew, selling Traidcraft goods, raising awareness and funds, you can help families across the world.

Traidcraft believes in the power of trade to bring hope to millions who are trapped in poverty. We are working to establish greater justice in the way trading systems affect poor people.

Join the Traidcraft family in our work of creating a **world freed from the scandal of poverty, where trade is just and people and communities can flourish.**

Take that step today.
Get the date in your diary now!

[Get your Traidcraft Big Brew packs now!](#)

[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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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:

- 1st. March: World Day of Prayer
- 6th. March: Musical Evening with Liz Meiklejohn
- 13th. March: The Spring Rally, Ferryhill Church
7.30p.m.
- 20th. March: the AGM – An Evening of Fun!

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The Philosophy of Ambiguity

1. One tequila, two tequila, three tequila, floor.
2. Atheism is a non-prophet organisation.
3. If man evolved from monkeys and apes, why do we still have monkeys and apes?
4. I went into a book shop and asked the assistant, 'Where is the self-help section?' She said 'If I tell you, it would defeat the purpose, wouldn't it?'
5. What if there were no hypothetical questions?
6. Is there another word for 'synonym'?
7. Where do forest rangers go to get away from it all?
8. What do you do when you see an endangered animal eating an endangered plant?
9. Would a fly without wings be called a walk?
10. If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is he homeless or naked?
11. Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?
12. If the police arrest a mime artist, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?
13. What was the best thing before sliced bread?
14. One nice thing about egotists: they don't talk about other people.
15. How is it possible to have a civil war?

16. If one synchronised swimmer drowns, do the rest drown too?
17. If you ate both pasta and antipasto, would you still be hungry?
18. If you try to fail, and succeed, which have you done?
19. Whose cruel idea was it for the word 'lisp' to have an 's' in it?
20. Why is it called the Tourist Season if we can't shoot them?
21. Why is there an expiry date on sour cream?
22. Can an atheist get insurance against Acts of God?

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Anecdotes

An elderly gentleman (mid nineties), very well dressed, hair well groomed, great looking suit, flower in his lapel, smelling lightly of a good aftershave, walks into an upscale cocktail lounge. Seated at the bar is an elderly looking lady (mid eighties).

The gentleman walks over, sits beside her, orders a drink, takes a sip, turns to her and says, 'So, tell me – do I come here often?'

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Another elderly gentleman had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100%. The gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said, 'Your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again.'

The gentleman replied, 'Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!'

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Saints' Days in March:

- 1st. St. David of Wales
2nd. St. Chad of Lichfield
3rd. John and Charles Wesley
4th. St. Adrian and Companions
6th. St. Baldred
7th. St. Perpetua and Companions
8th. St. Duthac of Tain
10th. St. Kessog
16th. St. Boniface of Ross
17th. St. Patrick of Ireland
18th. St. Cyril of Jerusalem
19th. St. Joseph
20th. St. Cuthbert
22nd. Thomas Ken
24th. Paul Couturier
25th. The Annunciation of the Lord
29th. John Keble



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 April magazine must be with the Editor by 25th. March, 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).