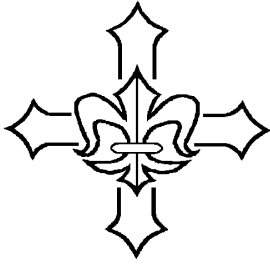


Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Godmanchester
Weekly Newsletter



Sunday 11th February 2007
Second Sunday before Lent

Holy Communion *President: Jerry Craddock Preacher: Paul Sibley*

Sung Eucharist *President: Jerry Craddock Preacher: Paul Sibley*
Deacon: David Busk

Reader	Pam Ayres
Readings	Genesis Ch 2 vv 4b -9, 15 - end
Gospel	Luke Ch 8 vv 22-25
Intercessions	Cathryn Turrell
Hymns	393, I, the Lord of sea & sky, 405 (t365), 263 (vv 1-4,7)
Communion	294, 387

Sung Evensong *President & Preacher: David Busk*

Hymns	382, 378, 243
Psalm	147 vv 13 - end

Collect

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and the earth
and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

Street Prayer Mission: London Road, Martin Close and Roman Gate

Charity of the month: Corrymeela

Holy Communion. All are welcome at the altar rail. If you are a communicant member of your own Church, you are welcome to receive the Sacrament here. Or if you would like to receive a Blessing, please come forward with a hymn book, kneel at the rail and bow your head.

Notices

A leaving present for Ally, Sam, Joanna and Daniel

Sadly, the time has come when we have to think about saying goodbye to Ally and her family. Ally's final Sunday as Curate will be on April 29th, when she will give the sermon at the 9.45 Eucharist, and a 'do' will be held afterwards in the Church Hall. Those who would like to give money towards a present for Ally and the family can hand their contributions to Peter Ballantine.

Lent Courses

Lent courses will be held this year with the title of *The Return of the Prodigal Son*. They will be based on the book of the same name by Henry Nouwen and will also make use of colour copies of the painting by Rembrandt depicting this moving parable of Jesus. There will be a choice of afternoon or evening sessions, both on Wednesdays. The afternoon sessions will be in the Vicarage from 1.30pm and parents or guardians with young children will be welcome to bring their charges with them. We would aim to finish before 3.00pm. The evening sessions will be at 8.00pm in the Friends Meeting House (Quaker Centre) in Post Street, to finish by 9.30pm. The relevant Wednesdays are February 28th, March 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th. No need to sign up – just come along. It is not essential to read the book beforehand but it is highly recommended in its own right. It is published by Darton, Longman and Todd.

Preparation of New Electoral Roll

The date for the next preparation of church electoral rolls has been moved forward a year from 2008 to 2007 by the General Synod. The date that governs the timetable for the preparation of the new roll is that of the annual parochial church meeting. This year, our annual meeting will be held on 15th April. The notice for the preparation of

the electoral roll is affixed to a notice board in the south porch. Under the rules, the new electoral roll must be completed not less than 15 days, nor more than 28 days, before the annual meeting. You are, therefore, invited to have your name included on the Church Electoral Roll by completing the application form enclosed and placing it in the electoral roll box on the table at the south door, returning it to the Parish Office, or to the Churchwardens. May I thank you in anticipation of early completion of your application form. *Trevor Weedon. PCC Secretary.*

Church Forums

There is a new addition to the Church website. We now have our very own forums - sometimes known as a bulletin board. We are running the latest version of 'Invision Power Board', one of the market leaders in commercial forum software. It's a powerful system, with a great deal built in to make the forum experience as safe and pleasant as possible. Do please consider joining the forums if you have access to the website. If you have any problems with the registration process, or there are questions you would like answering about the forums, do feel free to contact me.

www.stmarysgodmanchester.org/forums/index.php

Paul Sibley(380754)

paul.sibley@stmarysgodmanchester.org

Wives' Group

Tuesday 13th February at 8pm in the Church Hall. Our speaker will be Ruth Rogers, who will tell us about the work of Age Concern - our chosen charity of the year. Bring & Buy - something for a valentine.

The Pancake Race

We'll be holding our popular sponsored pancake races again, on Sunday, February 18th after the 9.45 service. This year we will again divide the money collected between East Anglia's Children's Hospices and Christian Aid – hoping to pay for two or

three goats! Please collect further details and sponsor forms from *Jules Shelley* or *Victoria Richardson* (431430). If you don't wish to run yourself, please help to publicise the event and support the runners: they need lots of sponsorship to encourage them!

Flower Guild AGM

Please would all members note that our AGM will take place on Saturday 24th February at 10.00am in the Church Hall.

I look forward to seeing you all there.

Jean Miller (437488).

Fairtrade News

To mark Fairtrade Fortnight (26th Feb – 11th Mar), the Youth Group would like to invite you to use fairly traded coffee at work. How about buying a large tub of instant coffee for your workplace? You can order them from Gill (01480 390473) before Friday 9th February. 500g tubs each of:

- instant cafédirect - £12.95
- organic decaffeinated cafédirect - £14.95
- Traidcraft instant coffee granules - £8.95

Frugal Lunch

Early notice for forthcoming frugal lunch on Sunday 4th March at 12.30pm. Tickets, £3.00 & £1.50 available from Val Pithey (454851). Proceeds to Christian Aid.

Lent Concert

On Saturday 10th March at 7.30pm, choirs and singers from the Huntingdon area will be combining in our church to give a concert of music for the season of Lent, with Eric Thiman's 'The Last Supper' as the main item in the programme. It will be conducted by Ken Diffey, with Paul Bryan (organ), Caroline Jones (soprano) and Tony Burnley (Baritone). The Hemingford Ladies' Choir is also contributing two items to the programme. Tickets at £6 (£5 for senior citizens) will be available after the

9.45am service each Sunday, or from Ken Diffey on 458846. This annual event is not only a significant contribution to our worship in Lent, but also a major source of income for our church funds. Please do try to support it if you can.

St Mary's 0-5s Group

Help needed! We are looking for volunteers to join the committee for this successful playgroup held at the Comrades Club on Mondays from 9.30 to 11.30 am. This involves mainly getting out toys and arranging craft activities etc. Some of the current committee are standing down at Easter and any offers of help would be greatly appreciated. Contact Donna Atkin 417282.

How is it done? Who would know?

We are thinking of trying to compile a useful fact file about church events, to be kept in the Parish Office, probably in a large ring binder. If you know key details about a church activity in which you have often been involved, e.g.

Preparing Christingles

Putting up the Christmas tree

Organising breakfast on Easter morning

Making bouquets for Mothering Sunday

- to name but a very few! Please jot them down for others to share. Entries could include the most recent key contact(s), where to order materials and quantities, where equipment is stored, key deadlines in preparing the event, hints for any publicity etc etc. Please let Jules Shelley have your contributions, either via the pigeon-hole, or email: christopher.shelley1@ntlworld.com

Newsletter Compiler

Jim Heeley is the current Newsletter compiler on jskc@btinternet.com (412264). All contributions please by 18.30 on the Thursday.

DIARY

Sunday 11th February Second Sunday before Lent

- 08:00 *Holy Communion*
- 09:45 *Sung Eucharist (No Children's Church or Vestry Group (half-term))*
- 11:30 *Grassroots with Baptism of William Duncan Peter Macrae*
- 12:30 *Valentine's Lunch (church hall)*
- 18:30 *Sung Evensong*
No youth Group (half-term)

Monday 12th February

- No Stepping Stones (half-term)*
- 20:00 *Wives' Group (church hall)*

Wednesday 14th February

- 19:30 *Fabric Committee (Vestry)*
- 19:30 *Bellringers' Practice*

Thursday 15th February

- No St Mary's 0-5s (half-term)*
- 12:00 *Interment of the Ashes of Alan Groves (Churchyard)*
- 19:30 *Prayer Group Meeting (36 Old Court Hall)*
- 20:00 *Emmaus Home Group (27 Grainger Avenue)*

Friday 16th February

- 19:30 *Choir Practice*
- 20:00 *Rehearsal for Lent Concert*

Sunday 18th February The Sunday next before Lent

- 08:00 *Holy Communion*
- 09:45 *Sung Eucharist – Baptism of Charles Todd*
(No Children's Church or Vestry Group (half-term))
- 18:30 *Sung Evensong*
No Youth Group (half term)

Coffee is served in the Church Hall after the morning Eucharist. Everyone is welcome

