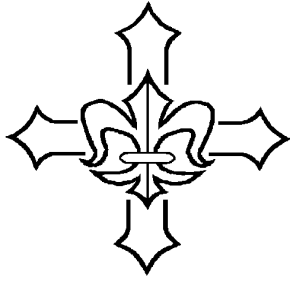


Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Godmanchester

Weekly Newsletter



Sunday 22nd February 2009
Sunday next before Lent

Holy Communion

President & Preacher: David Busk

Sung Eucharist

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Deacon: Linda Watson

Gospel

Mark 9:2-9

Intercessions

Children's Church families

Hymns

441; Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;
There is a Redeemer; 436

Communion

389, 384

Sung Evensong

Minister: Pat Saunders

Readings

1 Kings 19:1-16; 2 Peter 1:16-end

Hymns

410, 250, 247

Psalm

2

Hymns: please omit * verses, if any

Collect

Holy God,
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord..

Amen.

Street Prayer Mission: Sweetings Rd, Devana Close, Parcell Walk, Middlemiss, Miller Close

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

Admission of children to communion

Today we admit to communion for the first time Des'ree-Rose and Ellen-Eve Abbott, Karin Busk, Jack Edwards, Oliver and Harry Nicholls, George Ward, Phoebe Ward, and Alexander and Helen Wienand.

After the Creed, the children will come forward with their parents and other sponsors, and we will pray for them using the words below:

Minister: *As these children receive the sacrament of the body and blood of Christ for the first time today, let us pray that we may all know and reflect the love of Christ in our lives.*

All: Merciful God, you give us new life in baptism and call us to your table. Today we thank you for calling these children to receive the bread of heaven and the wine of life, and we ask you to bless them. As we feed on your love, help us to live our lives for the sake of others and to shine as your lights in the world; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.

Afternoon Lent Group

In addition to the special MAP Lent Groups (see note elsewhere in the newsletter), we will be holding an afternoon Lent Group as on previous years. This will meet in the Vicarage from 1.30 to 3.00 pm on five Wednesdays in Lent, beginning on March 4th. As last year we will use material from the mission society USPG, which this time looks at what is happening in the world and the church today and relates that to the Gospel of Luke. All are welcome to this, and no prior notice is necessary. The evening Lent Group has been replaced by the MAP Groups.

David (436400)

Children's Church Annual Pancake Race

After the 9.45 service this morning, members of Children's Church will be encouraging everybody - the young and the young at heart - to join in the fun of our annual Pancake Races round the churchyard.

There will be a bucket collection in aid of the Save the Children Fund. Pancakes and pans will be provided: all we need is your support and some fine weather.

Victoria (431430), Angela (437090) or Debbie (374991).

Lent MAP Groups

Everyone on the electoral roll should have received an invitation to these, but if you are a regular worshipper who is not on the roll (you will know if you are on it) and would like to be involved in praying and planning for the mission of the church, you would be most welcome. Please contact me as soon as you can if you would like to take part. The groups meet on four Wednesday evenings at 7.30 pm, beginning on March 4th. There are various locations, and we will assign individuals to their starting points once we have an idea of numbers. For more information, please see my letter in this month's Parish News, or speak to me.

David (436400)

Pastoral Visiting

Have you considered being a Pastoral Visitor?

We are currently trying to increase the number of visitors in the Parish, even if you were able to only visit one person once a month that would be a great help. If you would like to join the team or have a chat as to what it would entail, please contact:

Mary Jepp (411734)

m.jepp@btinternet.com

Frugal Lunch

The Frugal lunch this year will take place on Sunday 15 March in the Church Hall.

Tickets will be available this weekend from Val Pithey. Adults £3.00, non adults £1.50. The proceeds will be given to a charity.

Val Pithey (454851)

Flower Guild AGM

Please would all Flower Guild members note that our AGM will take place on Saturday, February 28th in the Church Hall at 10:00 am. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Jean Miller (437488)

Children's Church – Older Children

We are in the early stages of planning a new Sunday morning group for the older children who currently come to Children's Church. It will be similar to the previous Vestry Group. We would be very grateful to hear from any volunteers who would be willing to be included on the rota to help with this and also to provide ideas at a forthcoming planning meeting. For further details please contact:

Angela Wright (437090) or Victoria Richardson (431430)

Lent Concert - 21 March

On Saturday 21 March at 7.30 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 Stainer's 'Crucifixion' as the main item in the programme. It will be conducted by our Organist and Choirmaster, Ken Diffey, with Paul Bryan (organ), Peter Cook (Tenor) and Tony Burnley (Baritone). There will also be a solo by Hannah Reed (soprano) and items by the Hemingford Ladies' Choir.

Tickets at £6 (£5 for senior citizens) are available in advance after the 9.45 service from next Sunday or from ***Ken Diffey (458846)*** or diffey@homecall.co.uk.

Gift Aid It

You will no doubt have noticed the yellow envelopes at the end of each pew. These have been provided to allow anyone who pays income or capital gains tax to 'Gift Aid' their donations to the Church. Gift aid is tax relief on money donated to UK charities and we can reclaim this tax at the basic rate to increase the value of your donation by 20%. To claim the tax you must have paid sufficient income or capital gains tax to at least cover the donation and we need your name, home address and the date given on the envelope as we are required to maintain a record of all gifts.

If you wish to give regular donations to the church please consider either a monthly bankers order or our free-will offering envelopes both of which can be gift-aided on a single 'one-off' gift aid form. If you have any questions about any aspects of personal donations please speak to our Treasurer, ***Peter Ballantine (450432)***, or Chair of the Finance Committee, ***Colin Thirlwall (457018)***.

Invitation

All members of the congregation are invited to join Jean and Dai Morgan for a glass of wine and a slice of cake to celebrate their 'coming of age' in the Church Hall after the 9.45 Eucharist on St David's Day

Two Mobility Scooters for sale

For further details please contact

Rosemary Jones (412347)

Newsletter Compiler for February and

March is ***Jean Morgan (417502)***

morgan_01339@msn.com

Prayer Corner

"In Lent we try to give up things or take on extra acts of kindness. So, let us pause to thank God for those sacrifices and acts of kindness that are done for us."

DIARY

Sunday 22nd February Sunday next before Lent

08:00 Holy Communion
09:45 Sung Eucharist (Teaching Eucharist)
o/c Pancake Races
18:30 Sung Evensong
18:45 No Youth Group

Monday 23rd February

13:30 No Stepping Stones
20:00 Signing Group (18 Windsor Rd)

Tuesday 24th February

07:30 Morning Prayer
19:45 MAP Committee Meeting (Vicarage)

Wednesday 25th February Ash Wednesday

09:15 School Eucharist (St Anne's School)
09:45 Holy Communion (McCartney House)
19:30 Sung Eucharist & Ashes

Thursday 26th February

07:30 Morning Prayer
09:45 Holy Communion
10:00 St Mary's 0s – 5s

Friday 27th February

19:30 Choir Practice (Church Hall)
20:00 Rehearsal for Lent Concert

Saturday 28th February

10:00 Flower Guild AGM

Sunday 1st March Lent 1

08:00 Holy Communion
09:45 Sung Eucharist
18:30 Sung Evensong
18:45 No Youth Group – Stop frame animation (Church Hall)

Refreshments are served after the 9.45am Eucharist. Everyone is welcome

Visit the church website at www.stmarysgodmanchester.org