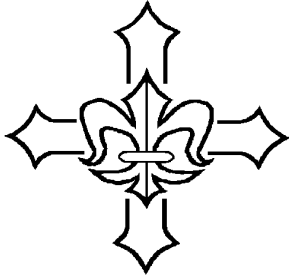


Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Godmanchester

Weekly Newsletter



Sunday 27th September 2009
Trinity Sixteen - Back to Church Sunday

Holy Communion

President & Preacher: Mary Jepp

Parish Praise

(see separate order of service)

Sung Evensong

Mary Jepp

Readings

Exodus 24 & Matthew 9: vv 1-8

Hymns

368, 374, 253 (please omit * verses)

Psalm

121

Collect

Lord of creation,
whose glory is around and within us:
open our eyes to your wonders,
that we may serve you with reverence
and know your peace at our lives' end,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Street Prayer Mission: Carnaby Close, Rushes Walk, Field Walk, Merton Walk

Charity of the month: Mission Aviation Fellowship

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.

Churches Together Christmas Lunch

As you probably know, the churches of Godmanchester are this year organising and hosting the annual Churches Together Christmas Lunch for the people of Huntingdon and Godmanchester who would otherwise be on their own on Christmas Day. We need a small army of volunteers to make this happen. There are three basic categories of volunteer needed:

- 1. People to help from now until Christmas with admin and preparation. These people do not necessarily have to be available on Christmas Day as well.**
- 2. People to help on Christmas Eve, with food preparation and getting the hall ready. These people do not have to volunteer on Christmas Day either.**
- 3. People to help on the day. These include several drivers to pick up and return guests. Drivers can volunteer for either the morning or the evening run only. The remainder are needed to help with preparing and serving the food and looking after the guests.**

Please note **1. Children are very definitely invited to accompany volunteers in the hall on the day, food is of course provided. 2. It is not necessary to be a member of a church or a practising Christian to volunteer.**

Please consider carefully and prayerfully whether **you** might be able to volunteer in any capacity, or whether you know someone who might. It is worth remembering that some of the best volunteers are often people who themselves might otherwise be alone on Christmas Day. Please contact Mary Jepp (411734) or me (436400) if you think you can help. This is a very valuable service local churches provide for local people. We need to start gathering names of volunteers **now!** David

Churches Together in Godmanchester Lunch Club

Following the sad closure of the Salvation Army Hall, the Tuesday Lunch Club will resume on 6th October in the Baptist Church in East Chadley Lane. Please let people know about this. If you would like to go, please contact John Callaghan (354188). We need more volunteers to help with this – you do not have to be available every week. Please contact me (436400) or John if you can help. David.

Gift Day

Just a reminder that Gift day is on October 3rd from 10.00am until 3.00pm and gift envelopes will be at the back of the church and in the magazine. Do try and visit sometime during the day. Tea, coffee biscuits etc will be provided.

Visiting speaker at Harvest Festival – 4th October

We have a visiting speaker at our main 9.45 Harvest Service on Sunday October 4th. Bill Ashdown is a member of St. Neots Methodist Church and is a regional co-ordinator for the Samaritan's Purse Christmas shoe box appeal – we have been involved in this for the past few years through Joan Jackson's leadership. Bill recently delivered some of the shoeboxes filled with gifts to Kyrgyzstan, and will be giving an illustrated presentation on how these gifts affected some of the recipients. This is a good opportunity to remind ourselves that for most of us our harvest is not only in marrows and apples but also in what we can offer to God from the riches we already have. There will be no Children's Church that day - this service should have an appeal for children as well as adults.

Harvest Festival 4th October

The Flower Guild would be very grateful for donations towards the cost of the Harvest Festival decoration of the church. Please would you kindly give these to Vera Arnold or Linda Weedon. Thank you very much.

Jean Miller

Digital Piano

Following the demise of the digital piano, which has served the church well for the last 9 years, the PCC has agreed to invest in a good quality keyboard which costs far less than a new piano and which is completely portable. It will be kept in the hall for use for choir practices but will be available for other occasions as necessary. Meanwhile, the choir's acoustic piano will remain in the church. The choir is making a significant contribution to the cost of the new keyboard, and over the winter there will be various fund-raising activities to reach the balance needed. If you would like to support this initiative, could you please send your donation to the Treasurer, Colin Thirlwall. Any contribution, large or small, will be greatly appreciated.

Deanery Evensong

On Sunday 25th October at 6.00pm a Deanery Evensong will be held at the Kimbolton Parish Church when choirs from the Deanery (including our own) will join forces for a full Choral Evensong that includes the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat by Stanford and the anthem 'O Thou the Central Orb' by Charles Wood. Our own Evensong will be cancelled on that evening and it is hoped that many of our congregation will be able to make the short journey to Kimbolton to support the Rural Dean, the clergy and the choirs in this special joint venture.

Choir Membership

Although we are fortunate to have a strong choir which serves the church faithfully throughout the year, we are always pleased to welcome and accept new members, either on a full-time basis or as one of the band of augmenters who join us on special occasions or at times when the regular choir is temporarily depleted. If you, or anyone you know, is interested in joining us I would be delighted to hear from you.

Ken Diffey (458846)

The Friends of St. Mary The Virgin Godmanchester AGM will be held in church on Sunday 4th October at 2.00pm. After which the choirs of St. Anne's School and Godmanchester Community Primary School will give a short concert beginning at 3.00pm. The children will take refreshment in the church after singing, of apple pie and juice. Donations of apple pies would be gratefully received and can be left at the hall prior to the concert or after the morning service. Gillian Bathurst-Hoile (465442).

Mothers' Union

The next meeting will take place in the Queen Elizabeth School Hall at 2.00pm on Tuesday 6th October. Daphne Meats will be teaching us how to ice cakes decoratively. If you need a lift please contact Jean Morgan on 417502.

Home Group News.

A home group is starting at 7.30pm on Wednesday 7th October at 37 Post Street. We shall be using one of the study courses developed by the Diocese of York entitled 'Live Your Faith'. Please contact Mary Jepp (411734) or Peter Dawe (392188) for more information or to reserve your place.

Autumn BBQ

Sunday 11th October at 12.45pm in the church hall. Tickets £5 (adults) £2.50 (children) available from Val Pithey (454851).

The Children's Society boxes are due to be emptied this month. If you would like your box emptying please could you bring it to church or please telephone me to arrange a convenient time for collection.

Kate Steed (382101)

Parish Office Telephone

The Parish Office telephone is now working again but please note that the number has changed to **01480 457744**.

The current ***Newsletter Compiler*** is Jean Morgan. Please submit items by Thursday evening. morgan_01339@msn.com, or 417502.

DIARY

Sunday 27th September Trinity Sixteen - Back to Church Sunday

- 08:00 *Holy Communion*
- 10:30 *Parish Praise*
- 16:00 *Ecumenical Service (Rectory Gardens)*
- 18:30 *Sung Evensong*
- 18:45 *Youth Group- Walk in the dark (if wet, then games in the Church Hall)*

Monday 28th September

- 13:30 *Stepping Stones (contact Naomi Tel. No. 436737)*
- 20:00 *Communications Committee meeting (23 Earning Street)*

Tuesday 29th September

- 07:30 *Morning Prayer*

Wednesday 30th September

- 20:00 *Bible Study Group (10 East Chadley Lane)*

Thursday 1st October

- 07:30 *Morning Prayer*
- 09:45 *Holy Communion*
- 10:00 *St. Mary's 0 -5s (Comrades' Club)*
- 19:00 *Godmanchester In Bloom AGM (Queen Elizabeth School)*
- 19:45 *MAP meeting (Vicarage)*

Friday 2nd October

- 19:30 *Choir Practice*

Saturday 3rd October

- 10.00 – *Gift Day*
- 15.00

Sunday 4th October Trinity Seventeen – Harvest Festival

- 08:00 *Holy Communion*
- 09:45 *Sung Eucharist*
- 11:30 *Holy Baptism – Olivia Kirsten Varey*
- 14:00 *Friends of St. Mary the Virgin AGM (Church)*
- 15:00 *St. Anne's & Community Schools' Concert*
- 18:30 *Sung Evensong*
- 18:45 *Youth Group- Youth ALPHA (Church Hall)*

Visit the church website at www.stmarysgodmanchester.org

Prayer Corner

Wednesday 30th September is International Day of Older Persons. We pray for and celebrate all older people, in our families, in our Church and in our town, for all the ways in which their life's journey enriches the world.