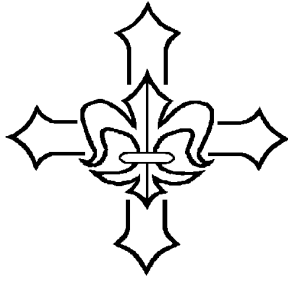


Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Godmanchester

Weekly Newsletter



Sunday 27th December 2009
First Sunday of Christmas - Apostle John

Holy Communion *President & Preacher: David Busk*

Parish Eucharist *President & Preacher: David Busk*
Deacon: Mary Jepp

Reader Jan Jackson
Reading Exodus Ch 33 vv 7-11a

Gospel John Ch 21 vv 19b-end

Intercessions David Ferris

Hymns 36, 19, An exile for the faith (t456), 21 please omit any * verses
Communion 297, 23

Evening Prayer *Mary Jepp*

Readings Isaiah Ch 6 vv 1-8 & 1 John Ch 5 vv 1-12

Psalm 97

Collect

God in Trinity,
eternal unity of perfect love:
gather the nations to be one family,
and draw us into your holy life
through the birth of Emmanuel,
our Lord Jesus Christ.

Street Prayer Mission: Park Lane, The Avenue, Pavilion Close

Charity of the month: Small Donations

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.

Offertory Hymn

The third hymn in today's 9.45 am Eucharist is "An exile for the faith." The words for this hymn are reproduced below:

An exile for the faith
Of his incarnate Lord,
Beyond the stars, beyond all space,
His soul in vision soared.

There saw in glory him
Who liveth, and was dead,
There Judah's Lion, and the Lamb
That for our ransom bled:

There of the kingdom learned
The mysteries sublime;
How, sown in martyrs' blood, the faith
Should spread from clime to clime.

Jesu, our risen Lord,
We praise thee and adore,
Who art with God the Father One
And Spirit evermore.

Moving Onwards and Upwards

Everyone will be pleased to know that Peter Moger is to be installed as a Residentiary Canon and Precentor at York Minster in July 2010 after the Summer school term. Heather expects to start a Suzuki Recorder teaching practice then in York. We all wish them well.

Big Sing

On Sunday 10th January 2010, in Great St. Mary's Church, Cambridge, there will be a "Big Sing" in aid of the Alzheimer's Society. Featuring **Mozart** Requiem, **Bruckner** Locus Iste & Ave Maria. All

music will be provided for singers and Pam Rhodes hosts the event. Doors open to singers at 1.15pm for rehearsal from 2.00pm-5.00pm with a break of 45 minutes. Cost is £10 or £5 for under-16s. To book please send a stamped, addressed envelope with a cheque (payable to Huntingdon Alzheimer's Society) c/o 8 The Quay St. Ives, PE27 5AR.

Fairtrade Initiative

There is to be a concert of light musical entertainment at All Saints Church Huntingdon on Friday 15th January, at 7.30 pm. Please come and enjoy a variety of music provided by the Belladonna String Quartet, Heather and Peter Moger, with Ally and Sam Barrett, and also enjoy a glass of Fairtrade wine. £5 for adults, £1 children and students.

Bishop Anthony's Farewell

Bishop Anthony's farewell service is to be held in Ely Cathedral, on Saturday 23rd January, and a presentation is to be made at that service. If you feel you would like to make a donation towards this presentation then please put it in the plate by the South Door. Thank you.

A Note From The Treasurer

For those who have not already found them, the Free Will Offering Envelopes are available at the back of the church under the letter rack. If you own envelopes No 7 or 36, we are very grateful for your donations but I have no record of your name, so please contact me so I can link names to envelope numbers. If you wish to start using the Free Will Numbered Envelope Scheme please let me know and I will provide them. Unlike the early days of the scheme (in pre-history) there is no obligation to give a set amount each week, or indeed to donate each week, but it is a convenient way to organise your

giving. If you pay UK tax then we can reclaim that tax from HMRC at the rate of 28p in the pound, so please ask me for a gift aid form if you qualify. Additionally, if you are a higher rate taxpayer you can reclaim tax against the difference between the basic rate of tax and the higher rate on your gifts.

If you wish to take all the effort out of giving (certainly for the treasurer) then a standing order is the answer. Contact me for the church account details and I will help you to set it up. Please note that we only accept standing orders and not direct debits, so you have complete control over what and when you pay and you can cancel or change the amount as you wish. Again, if you are a UK taxpayer I can provide a gift aid form to accompany your standing order so that we can make the most efficient use of your donations. If you have any questions or wish to join either of the schemes please contact me on 457018 or at home – 49 London Road. *Colin Thirlwall*

Digital Keyboard

Thanks to a number of generous donations and fund-raising activities over the past month or so, we have now reached the target of raising £813 to pay for the cost of the digital keyboard that was urgently needed to replace the old digital piano. We are very grateful to all who contributed to this project. *Ken Diffey*

Parish News

With the retirement of Joan Jackson from the Editorial Committee the role of typesetter passes to Dai Morgan. Committee members are delighted to have him on board. Items formerly sent to Joan may be sent to Dai on the following email address: morgan_01339@msn.com. The price of the magazine for 2010 remains unchanged – 45p for a single issue, £4.50 for one year's subscription. Annual subscriptions should be paid by the end of

January at the latest. If you have not yet taken out a subscription and would like to do so please contact Mary Fawcett (458383) who will put you in touch with your nearest distributor. *Peter Irving (382144)*

Hall and Church Bookings

If you wish to book the church hall or plan to use the church for an event outside the normal services please contact Barbara or Colin Thirlwall on 457018 to put the date in the diary.

Newsletter Compiler

Jim Heeley (412264) jssc@btinternet.com is Newsletter compiler for January. Contributions should be in by 8pm on the Thursday.

Prayer Corner

"Creator of all, please bless the family and friendships that we have and help us to be a blessing to them. Bless the time we spend together, our conversation, our silence, our support, and the roads we travel when we part."

DIARY

Sunday 27th December **First Sunday of Christmas**

08:00 *Holy Communion*

09:45 *Parish Eucharist*

18:30 *Evening Prayer (said)*

Thursday 31st December **New Years Eve**

09:45 *Holy Communion*

Friday 1st January **New Years Day**

No Choir Practice

Saturday 2nd January

08:00 *Men's Breakfast (Barley Mow, Hartford)*

Sunday 3rd January **Epiphany**

08:00 *Holy Communion*

09:45 *Sung Eucharist*

18:30 *Sung Evensong*

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

Visit the church website at www.stmarysgodmanchester.org