

ST MARK'S BROOMHILL

WEEKLY NEWS

SUNDAY 21 December 2014 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8.00 am	Holy Communion
10.00 am	Parish Eucharist: <i>(Preacher: Anne Padget)</i> with Godly Play and Crèche
6.00 pm	A Festival of Readings and Carols
8.00 pm	Night Service: Taizé (in the upper room)

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday	9.00 am	Holy Communion
Christmas Eve	4.00 pm 4.30pm	Crafts followed by... Crib Service and Christingle
	11.30 pm	Midnight Mass of the Nativity <i>(Preacher: Revd. Mark Newitt)</i>
Christmas Day	8.00 am 10.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP) Festive Eucharist <i>(with a sharing of gifts instead of a sermon)</i>

Friday No services
(Church closed)



SUNDAY 28 December 2014 - CHRISTMAS I

8.00 am	Holy Communion
10.00 am	Parish Eucharist <i>(preacher: Revd. Shan Rush)</i>
8.00 pm	Night Service: Sung Compline

Monday		No services <i>(Church closed)</i>
Tuesday	11.30 am	Funeral of Margaret Braybrook, followed by light refreshments
Wednesday-Thursday		No services <i>(Church closed)</i>

NOTICES

ADVENT SERVICE BOOKLET Thank you for your acceptance of the new seasonal Service booklet and insert. Please take the blue sheet home but leave the booklet behind. Thank you!

ELECTRONIC VERSION of Sunday's liturgy can be emailed to you in advance. Please contact Anne in the office.

COMMENTS BOX is still at the back of church – we do take notice of them!

OFFERTORY GIVING CARDS are available for those who give by means other than the weekly envelope. Please collect a yellow card to put in the plate.

SOUND We are looking for some more people to join the rota for the sound desk on Sunday mornings - an important job as it means we can all hear the service! No experience is needed. Please contact Anne in the office if you're willing to volunteer.

NOTICE ABOUT NOTICES During the vacancy, the 'announcements' on a Sunday morning will be organised by the churchwardens. If you would like to give a notice, please speak to the duty warden before the start of the service.

PARISH CONSULTATION As part of the recruitment process for a new incumbent, we need to update the Parish Profile for St Mark's. This is the document that potential candidates will see when considering whether to apply. It details our vision and mission, the activities we do and what we want from a new vicar. The final consultation event will run on 4 January (11.30am) - sign-up sheets are at the back of church. If you have not been able to attend and cannot come in January, paper questionnaires are available at the back.

MARKS MESSENGER for Dec. & Jan. is now out and in your pigeonholes. If you don't subscribe, it is available on the card stall as usual, for the bargain price of 60p!

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST. MARK'S - ALL WELCOME!

TONIGHT

6.00pm Festival of Readings and Carols

CHRISTMAS EVE

4.00pm crafts for

4.30pm Crib Service and Christingle.

Inspirational service for all ages.

11.30pm Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY

10.00am Festive Eucharist

PLEDGE APPEAL FOR 2015 – To date 49 responses have been received with total extra giving of £9,200 (including recovered tax) promised towards the our target of £10,000. They include 8 new pledges and 25 increases. This is wonderful news and grateful thanks to all who have responded so far. However, we still need more to have sufficient income to maintain the work and mission of the Church in 2015. An average increase of £1.50 per week from existing givers would more than help to cover our target. If you have not done so please return your pledge form as soon as possible (even if you are unable to increase your giving). Spare Pledge Appeal packs including a pledge form are available at the back of the Church. Please respond prayerfully to this request.

CHRISTMAS CARD SALES Thank you to everyone who has bought Christmas cards over the past few weeks. We sold £236 of cards on behalf of Oxfam and £166 of cards on behalf of Traidcraft.

Weekly Insert

Sunday 21st December, 2014 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

We are experimenting with a Seasonal Service booklet for Advent using this insert for the weekly hymns and readings. You will need a Bible if you'd like to follow the readings – there are plenty in church – please note that our Bibles are numbered in three separate sections. If the booklet is successful it will help cut down on our use of printing, paper and administrative time. We look forward to your comments.

The fourth week of Advent reminds us of Mary whose labour of hope brought Jesus to birth and prepared him for his kingdom ministry.

Hymn

Join the song of praise and protest
all the nations of the earth:
God, who loves the poor and humble,
sings of dignity and worth.
Those the world has long rejected
take at last their rightful place,
sharing in the song of Mary,
filled with unexpected grace!

God has rocked the earth's foundations,
turned its values upside-down:
strength is overcome by weakness
and the humble wear the crown.
Now the pow'r of God in action
undermines the nations' pride,
lifts the poor and feeds the hungry,
pushing rich and proud aside.

Join the song of praise and protest
as the voiceless find a voice,
as the pow'rless rise triumphant
and the broken hearts rejoice.
Now the God of all creation
rights the long-accepted wrongs;
let the voices of the nations
swell the liberation song.

Words: Michael Forster (b.1946)
Tune: Daily Daily

Collect

Holy God,
you called Mary and she was not afraid to question your call,
yet still she made her 'yes' to you,
freely and wholeheartedly.
Help us to discern your call in the midst of our lives,
to be unafraid to challenge and question it,
so that we may be ready to give our 'yes'
with all our heart and mind and strength. **Amen.**

Nicola Slee.

Reading:

Romans 16:25 - 27 (*New Testament, page 161*), read by Hazel Elliott-Kemp

Gradual Hymn

O God, you are my God alone
whom eagerly I seek,
though longing fills my soul with thirst
and leaves my body weak.
Just like a dry and barren land
awaits a freshening shower,
I long within your house to see
your glory and your power.

Your faithful love surpasses life,
evoking all my praise.
Through every day, to bless your name,
my hands in joy I'll raise.
My deepest needs you satisfy
as with a sumptuous feast.
So, on my lips and in my heart,
your praise has never ceased.

Throughout the night I lie in bed
and call you, Lord, to mind;
in darkest hours I meditate
how God, my strength, is kind.
Beneath the shadow of your wing,
I live and feel secure;
and daily, as I follow close,
your right hand keeps me sure.

*Words: Psalm 63
Tune: Gratus, John Bell (b. 1949)*

Gospel:

Luke 1:26 - 38 (*New Testament, page 54*)

Prayers of Solidarity & Concern, led by Pat Lane

Offertory Hymn

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Christ, be our light!....

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

Christ, be our light!...

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.

Christ, be our light!...

P.T.O.

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

Words and music: Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957)

During Communion the choir will sing: Bogoroditse Devo
by Sergei Rachmaninov (1837-1943)

Hymn

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age to same;
his holy Name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!

Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926)
Tune: Wodlands

ACCESS TO INFORMATION our weekly newsheets are posted on St Mark's Website. Contributors, please only include details you are happy to be picked up by a Google search. For further info, please see a member of the clergy.

SOUP RUN is consistently experiencing great demand these days. St Mark's has always been very generous in responding to appeals, and for that you have our grateful thanks. Unsurprisingly, warm clothing (coats, gloves and socks) is quickly snapped up right now, so any donations you might be able to make would be especially appreciated. Gary

CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY

Thank you for a stunningly fast response last week. Hopefully by now they have all been distributed. Good work folks!

INTERFAITH COMMUNITY

CHRISTMAS DINNER St Mark's is supporting this on Christmas Day and Boxing Day, in conjunction with the Islamic Society of Britain. It's being held in Burngreave, and any offers of support (human, transport or financial) would be greatly appreciated, along with any suggestions of people who might value not eating alone this Christmas. Gary

THE RELUCTANT PATIENT

We have ordered another 10 copies which are due to be delivered imminently (does that remind you of something?)

SUNDAY LUNCH DATES for your diary. 25 January; part of the tree planting celebrations (Briony and Vanessa), 15 February (watch this space!), 1 March. All are welcome to stay - cost £3.

NEW BOOKS in the library have appeared! Among them are Unbelievable: Why We Believe and Why We Don't by Graham Ward, and Patron Saint of Prostitutes: Josephine Butler and a Victorian Scandal by Helen Mathers. Browsing welcomed - indeed positively encouraged!

CHRISTIAN AID bucket collections will be held as usual at Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve, and at the 10 o'clock service on Christmas Day. This year your donation will be worth even more, as the UK Govt will **DOUBLE** every pound given over the Christmas season.

THANK YOU to those who joined in with the Christian Aid carol singing in the city centre on 6th December. The event raised a total of £1,457. This amount will also be matched by the Government.

PANTO TICKETS Nearly all of the tickets for the Manor Operatic Society's performance of Peter Pan at 2.00pm on Sunday 4th Jan at 2.00pm are now sold. Let me know **TODAY** if you would like one. If you have asked for a ticket I will be distributing them at Church when I would also like payment for the tickets. The cost is £14.00 for adults or £13 for children. If you are away for Christmas just post me a cheque & I will send you your tickets (my address is on the congregational list) or e-mail/phone at judith@performconsult.co.uk 268 1205.

CYCLING SOCIAL - various people at St Mark's enjoy cycling. We plan, next year, to organise a regular social ride (approx 2hours+cafe stop) on the last Sunday of each month. Look out for more details in the new year or chat with James/ Mark A/ Mark N/ Peter.

FUEL POVERTY Those of us fortunate enough not to need our winter fuel allowances (and generous younger people) can make donations to <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/SurvivingWinter> to help those less fortunate in South Yorkshire.

FOR OUR PRAYERS

For the international charities we support, including Us (formerly USPG)

For the UK charities we support, including Family Action

We continue to pray for Ian and Liz

For the people of Syria and for all refugees and those displaced by war.

For the countries of West Africa affected by the Ebola virus, the health workers who risk their own lives and all those affected by illness and loss

For all the children and teachers killed or injured in the terrorist attack in Peshawar and for their families and the wider community

For those affected by the siege in Sydney, particularly for those who have died or were injured and their families

We give thanks for the appointment of our first woman bishop in the Church of England, Libby Lane, and for the ministry of all women in the church

For residents of this parish who struggle with poverty, loneliness, depression or addiction as well as for those who try to support them

For those we continue to remember in our prayers, including Chris & Mary Knight and Betty May

For those who are unwell or recovering from illness or accident, including: Baby Danos, Gillian, Gregg, Matthew, Michael, Brenda Lewis, Kate Maloney,

For those who have died recently in this community and beyond, including Eleanor Marjorie Anson (David Anson's grandmother),

Margaret Braybrook, Betsy Drax (Liz Anson's grandmother)

Desmond Mangham (Nicky Wood's uncle), Cecilia Nyabezi (Chris' mother)

In remembrance of all those whom we love, but see no longer

St Mark's Church, Broomfield Road, Broomhill

www.stmarkssheffield.co.uk & www.nightsservice.org.uk.

Church Administrator: Anne Padget, t: 0114 266 3613 or 07736 527777;

e: office@stmarkssheffield.co.uk. **Office open daily 9.00 am – 1.00 pm**

Associate Vicar: Rev'd Sue Hammersley, t: 327 6908; e: sue@stmarkssheffield.co.uk

Assistant Priest: Rev'd Shan Rush, t: 075981 56817; e: shan@stmarkssheffield.co.uk

Chaplain to Night Service: Rev'd Liz Anson, e: info@adv.co.uk

Children's Outreach Worker: Rev'd Tim Gregory, t: 288 4198

Pastoral Care Coordinators: Briony Taylor: 235 0174 & Susan Whitmill: 2667316

Director of Music: Mark McCombs, e: mua08mwm@sheffield.ac.uk

CTBB Worker with Older People: Hazel Fox, t: 07914 693607

Safeguarding Children Officer: Jane Keeling, t: 07708 098499

Safeguarding Adults Officer: Michelle Wattam, t: 268 0642

Domestic Abuse Officer: Helen Gregory, t: 288 4198