



St. Mark's

NEWS

January/February 2012

2012 - A year of Jubilee

St Mark's Church 1962 - 2012

It is 50 years since the Reverend John Congdon announced, 'Fling wide the Gates!' in opening a Church built by the people and for the people of Woodthorpe .

The Biblical meaning of Jubilee is that every 50th year, is one to celebrate by proclaiming a year of liberty to all the inhabitants of the land. The people were to return to their extended families to celebrate a year of social justice, authentic worship and personal holiness. It was a time when no sowing or reaping would take place and the people were to rely on God's provision and his commitment to them.

I believe that even in these harsh economic times we have much to celebrate. John Congdon wrote 50 years ago, "I do believe that before a generation has passed on, St Mark's will have proved itself: it will have the precious associations and evoke deep feelings of a church which has played, literally, a crucial part in the lives of a great number of Woodthorpe people."

I believe this to be true today, so we will have a year of celebrations throughout 2012 to give thanks and

acknowledge how the Church and its congregation has progressed and changed within these past 50 years. We will also be sharing with you St. Mark's Vision, as we look forward to the next decade and beyond.

Two dates to write in your new 2012 Diary immediately are:

1) JANUARY 21st 2-5pm in the Church Hall, where we will be throwing our LAUNCH PARTY to begin our year of Celebration.

2) FEBRUARY 12th 4pm in St. Mark's Church, when Reverend Philip Thomas will be conducting a BLESSING OF MARRIAGES SERVICE.

This is the Sunday before Valentine's Day, so 'Love will be in the air'! We would like to welcome back those couples who were married at St. Mark's between 1962 and 2012. The invitation also goes to all other married couples in the area who would like to attend this special service.

A Calendar of proposed events to Celebrate St. Mark's Jubilee year can be found below.

You are welcome to join in any or all of these events.

St. Mark's Jubilee Year

Many celebrations and events will be taking place during the year to mark our 50th year. You are very welcome to join in any of the activities listed below.

- January 21st** 50th Birthday Launch Party
2-5pm Church Hall
- February 12th** Blessing of Marriages Service
4pm Church
- March** Mothering Sunday
- April** Easter Services
- May 13th** Confirmation Service with Bishop Tony
6pm Church
- May 20th** Burundi Sunday with Bishop Paul
10.30am Church
- June 15th** 'Revival' Concert
7-11pm Mapperley Social Club

- June 23rd** Celebration Open Day
10-3pm Open Church
- June 24th** Sunday Celebration Service
10.30am Church
- October 14th** Blessing of Baptisms Service
10.30am Church
- November 17th** 'Festival of Celebration'
Completion of Celebratory year
10-4pm Church Hall
- December** Christingle and Carol Services



St. Mark's Church, Woodthorpe Weekly Prayers

As part of our weekly prayers we will be praying in church for those who live in:

January

- 2nd January Abingdon Gardens,
Lambourne Gardens
9th January Arno Vale Road, Arno Vale Gardens
16th January Aylesham Avenue,
Winterton Close, Sheringham Close
23th January Barden Road, Malmesbury Road,
Pateley Road
30th January Beech Avenue, Shortcross Avenue

Also Staff and pupils of Arno Vale Junior School
Mission Partners - Rosemary Cottingham in
Burundi

February

- 6th February Birkland Avenue, Plains Grove,
Newbury Avenue
13th February Blakeney Walk, Syderstone Walk,
Rushmere Walk, Honingham Close
20th February Bonington Road, Gretton Road
27th February Breckhill Road (evens), Litton Close

Staff and Pupils of Arnold Hill Comprehensive
Mission Partners - Ros & Bob Arnold in Uganda

If there is anyone or anything in particular you would like us to pray for, please telephone and leave a message on 926 7859.

You are of course very welcome to join us at any of our services.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

ST. MARK'S 50th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS 2012



COME ON AND PARTY!

You are cordially invited to a party to launch
St. Mark's Church 50th Birthday
2012 celebratory year.

When: January 21st 2012

Time: 2 – 5pm

Where: St. Mark's Church Hall



Parish Registers

Baptisms - Sunday 9th October
Molly Rose Bradley
Molly Grace Tansley

Funeral - Tuesday 29th November
Liz Hare

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ARTICLES OF INTEREST



Messy Church comes to St Mark's in February.

Messy Church will begin at St Mark's in February. Come along as a family and get creative. There will be a Bible theme each week and each session will culminate in a short family friendly celebration before we all share a hot meal together. We look forward to seeing you there.

For the whole family



Saturday 25 February 2012
Saturday 31 March 2012
Saturday 28 April 2012
Saturday 26 May 2012



3.30
until
5.30

'Big' questions on the street

Do questions about life lurk in the back of people's minds?

Not so long ago a survey team went onto the streets of a Midlands town to try to find out. It turned out that the most common question was 'What happens after death'? When asked for more detail it seems most people see the soul as immortal and express a "longing for peace", and so harmony instead of strained relationships, and with a "desire for a divine presence watching over people in this life and the next". People also wanted to be "reunited with those they care about" and to be "somewhere that is free from the problems of life". Perhaps none of this is surprising.

Second on the most often asked list was something like "What is life all about"? People wanted to know if there is any meaning and purpose involved? One surprising thing was the discovery that when people were asked, "Who they most admired" they usually said someone like Nelson Mandela or Mother Theresa. People like heroes who save the world. People rarely

even mentioned an entertainment figure or sports star, or rich and successful people.

There were various questions around 'creation'. Most people said the beautiful world can't just be the result of 'chance'. Closely linked to this were concerns about the environment. Some also wondered, "Is there a spiritual force" behind the world and others asked, "What is the supernatural"?

The last of six big common questions, was around suffering. Questions were not so much about specific examples of suffering but rather about there being "something wrong with the world". Of course people were also concerned with their own pain and that of people known to them.

For the survey team one of the findings was that most people saw no link between these questions and the Christian church. In that Christians are ordinary people who ask these everyday questions Christian leaders will recognise some failures of communication here!

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

St Mark's Church Hall

Do you require a venue for a club/party/meeting?

Our rooms are hired out individually or together and are available to members of the community for regular, occasional and one-off events.

Will our facilities meet your needs?

- Large car park and a ramp for disabled users/pushchairs
- Newly renovated entrance enabling easier access for wheelchairs, pushchairs and those with impairment.
- Large hall – maximum capacity 150. This has large windows, a parquet floor and a serving hatch from the kitchen.
- Small hall – maximum capacity 50. This is newly decorated, with a vinyl floor.
- Meeting room – maximum capacity 40. This is a light room and overlooks the garden with patio doors. The flooring is carpet tiles
- Fully equipped kitchen.
- Disabled toilet and baby changing, set apart from separate male and female toilets
- 16 Folding tables and 150 stacking chairs available free of charge

We are non-profit making, therefore our rates are very competitive. The fees charged are an attempt to balance the general running costs. The Hall continues to be subsidised by Church members in the interests of the local community.

Current users include: Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Beaver Scouts, Cubs, Arnold Childminders, Mothers and Toddlers, Magical Movers, Shake Rattle & Rhyme, Pure Fitness, Reflex Keep Fit, Zumba, French Club, Wives Group, Mothers Union, Lunch club, Asian Elders lunch club and exercise, Sunday School, St Mark's Academy

If you are interested in using our facilities, Halina, our Church Administrator, would be pleased to show you around. Please contact her for prices and availability

Office opening hours:

Tuesday 0930-1130 hrs.

Thursday 1300-1500 hrs.

Friday 0930-1130 hrs.

Tel: 0115 926 7859

Email stmarks.woodthorpe@ntlworld.com

A special 3-hour rate is available for parties for children 10 yrs. and under.

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THURSDAY - NEW CLASS opens 5/1/12
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9:30 - 10:45 am (Slim & Aerobics)

Call Jo on 0115 953 1996 or 07751 034148
email: jo.polkey@rosemaryconley.com

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Web: www.sharecounselling.co.uk

People bring many issues to counselling, these include: relationships, self-esteem, trauma, grief and loss, stress, abuse, sexuality, loneliness and isolation or any other related issues. I have a practice in Woodthorpe and also in the city.

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FROM OUR ORGANISATIONS

Mothers' Union

Well Ladies, I can hardly believe that I am wishing you all a Happy New Year so soon, how quickly 2011 passed by, wherever did the time go? Here we are embarking upon our new programme drawn up by the committee. We hope you will like it.

January 11th - Philip will be leading us in a service based on the theme for 2012- ' Your Gift, Discover and Celebrate'- 2.15 in the Church Hall.

February 8th - We shall be holding our AGM but are also looking forward to hearing more from Sue and Peter Fisher about their visit to The Holy Land. Tea included so book your seats! 2.15pm in the Church Hall.

March 5th- Forward notice - Archdeaconry morning at St. Jude's Mapperley- more details at February meeting.

As always, we invite anyone to join us at our meetings, you don't have to be a member and you would be extremely welcome.

God Bless - Kathryn.

Senior Citizens Coffee Morning

We warmly invite anyone who would enjoy a chat over coffee & biscuits to join us at our next coffee morning, which will be on Thursday March 8th at 10.30am.

Contact the Church Office in the first instance for more information.

..... : **An item from Heacham** : : **(Norfolk) Newsletter** : :

:"Some people think of the church building as a millstone round our necks. It's worth remembering that active millstones driven by the wind (or other means) ground the grain that produced the flour that was baked into bread that fed the people."
:

men@stmark's

St. Mark's has a group specifically for the men in our parish; this group meets about 6 times a year, usually in one of our local pubs. The meetings are a mixture of social events and others where we can explore aspects of the Christian faith as it relates to our everyday life. All men are welcome to join us; if you fancy a fun night out or the opportunity to find out more about us and our faith, contact the church office or Alan on menatstmarks@virginmedia.com.

St Mark's Wives Group

Monday 16th January 2012 at 8 p.m. A talk by Alan Clayton on the history of the news. 1910 years but not the 'Great War'.

Monday 20th February 2012 at 8 p.m. The story of 'Edward and Mrs Simpson' told by Mr Whitfield.

To all our members I hope you had a good Christmas time and New Year. We are looking forward to seeing you all over the coming months.

St Mark's Wives Group meets in the church hall, De Vere Gardens on the third Monday of the month at 7.45 – 8 p.m. We hold interesting meetings with speakers on various topics. Ladies from Woodthorpe and surrounding areas are always made welcome. Trips and visits are arranged and good friendships are formed.

Non-members £3 per meeting - the first visit is free. Refreshments will be served on the evening.

For more details, please ring 0115 9554059

St. Mark's Toddler Group

The group has been running for over twenty years, and meets on Tuesday afternoons (1.30 – 3.00 p.m.) and Friday mornings (9.30 – 11.30 a.m.) during school term time. It takes place in St Mark's large hall which has lots of seating, and in the summer months when the weather is suitable uses the large outdoor grassed area. We have a large selection of indoor toys ranging from tunnels and slides to jigsaws and baby toys as well as bicycles and scooters for outside. We offer fresh fruit and snacks for the children as well as tea, filter coffee and biscuits for the adults. The group is supervised entirely by parents and carers. Our singing time is accompanied by a professional pianist.

We aim to provide a stimulating environment for children that is also friendly and welcoming for adults.

For further information please contact Liz Pritchard on 8598741.

HEALING ON THE STREETS

Healing on the streets is an exciting opportunity for anyone to come and receive prayer for healing. We believe God loves you and still heals today. If you, a family member, friend or anyone you know would like prayer, we are in Mapperley Precinct near Barclays Bank on Saturday mornings from 10am to 11.30am. Come and take a seat, we would love to pray for you.

Contemporary Worship

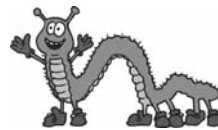
We have a service on the
1st and 3rd Sunday in the month
at 7:30 pm.

The service aims to offer informal contemporary worship, a chance to reflect on God's word and an opportunity to receive prayer for healing or for any other situation you may want to bring to God.

All are welcome.

Please refer to the calendar at the back of this Newsletter or visit our website for further information.

St Mark's Young Peoples Groups



Caterpillars
0 - 2 1/2



Butterflies
2 1/2 - 5



Heaven Bound
6 - 10



Academy
11 - 14

Caterpillars meet in the Chapel during every 10.30am service at St Mark's, where appropriate activities and toys are available.

Butterflies and Heaven Bound meet every Sunday at 10.30am at St. Mark's. We have lots of fun, play games and do activities which help us learn more about God and His world.

The Academy meets every other Sunday at 4.00pm in the Church Hall Lounge..

If you would like any more information then please call Alison Rhodes on 0115 985 6630.

We look forward to seeing you at St Mark's.

Tiddly Winks

A short service for Babies, Toddlers and Carers

Sing Time - Story Time - Make Time - Play Time
& Time for Mum's to have a chat and a cuppa

Where? in St. Mark's Church, Woodthorpe

When? Every Wednesday during Term time
at 2 o'clock

Come and join us - we hope to see you



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TUESDAY

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CALENDAR

January 2012

Sunday 1st January

8.45am Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service (All Age)

Sunday 8th January

8.45am Holy Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.00pm Holy Communion

Sunday 15th January

8.45am Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service and Baptism
6.00pm Evening Service
7.30pm Refresh

Sunday 22nd January

8.45am Holy Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.00pm Evening Service

Sunday 29th January

8.45am Morning Prayer
10.30am Family Communion
6.00pm Light Service

February 2012

Sunday 5th February

8.45am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am All Age Service
6.00pm Evening Service
7.30pm Refresh

Sunday 12th February

8.45am Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service and Baptism
4.00pm Celebration of Marriage Service

Sunday 19th February

8.45am Morning Prayer
10.30am Family Communion
6.00pm Evening Service
7.30pm Refresh

22nd February Ash Wednesday

10.30 Holy Communion
7.30 Holy Communion

Sunday 26th February

8.45am Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service
6.00pm Evening Service

A brief description of our Sunday services

- 8.45am** A traditional reflective start to the day.
- 10.30am** A family service with contemporary music. Children and young people's groups are provided most weeks (Details on page 7). There is a chance to talk with friends over tea, coffee and biscuits afterwards.
- 6.00pm** A chance to meet, to pray and to worship together and to respond to the Word of God.
- 7.30pm** Twice a month with informal contemporary worship Prayer Ministry is available after all our services for physical and emotional issues.

WHO'S WHO

- Vicar:** Rev. Philip Thomas, St Mark's Vicarage, 37a Melbury Rd, Woodthorpe
Tel: 952 1401
E-mail: philip.woodthorpe@googlemail.com
- Honorary Assistant:** Rev. Stan Carter
c/o The Church Office
- Family Worker:** Linda Sheppard
c/o The Church Office
- Pastoral Visiting Co-ordinator:** Diana Mallows
c/o The Church Office
- Parish Administrator:** c/o The Church Office, St Mark's Church De Vere Gardens, Woodthorpe, Nottingham NG5 4PH
Tel: 926 7859
E-mail: stmarks.woodthorpe@ntlworld.com
- Parish Office Hours:**
- | | |
|-----------|------------------|
| Monday | Closed |
| Tuesday | 9.30am - 11.30am |
| Wednesday | Closed |
| Thursday | 1.00pm - 3.00pm |
| Friday | 9.30am - 11.30am |

For baptism and wedding enquires, please contact the Church Office in the first instance.

Website: www.stmarksonline.co.uk