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May 2012
Number 50

*Your news round up from
St Mark's, Mansfield*

50p *Please pay: jar in Church
or cash box in Hall*



To remind us of **Ascension Day**, here is the magnificent window in St Peter & St Paul, Mansfield depicting Jesus hovering over Mansfield and the Nottinghamshire countryside.

On Ascension Day (Thursday 17 May) Mass (said) will be celebrated by Fr Michael Dobbs at 9.30am in St Mark's. The Church will be open for quiet reflection, to look around and to make enquiries between 10am and noon (as it is every Thursday morning).

Currently the post of Associate Priest for the two parishes is being advertised, as is the position of Organist and Director of Music for St Mark's – more on our website. Please pray that suitable people will come forward for these crucial roles.

To mark our link with Sts P & P, copies of their magazine THE NET are available at the back of St Mark's price 50p (please use the same jar as payment for MARK MAG). Similarly, MARK MAG is for sale in Sts P & P.

Lots of information on www.stmarksmansfield.org.uk



News from St Peter & St Paul

01623 640250 mail@stpeters-mansfield.org.uk

www.stpeters-mansfield.org.uk

THE NET magazine, available in St Mark's price 50p, contains more details on events listed below

The Latvian Choir - Novadi

The Choir returns by popular demand!

Saturday 19 May - 6pm
St Peter's Church

Community Craft Market 10am - 1pm

**Saturday 12 May &
2nd Saturday each month**
To book a table contact Tina Barnes
on 01623 428775

Queen's Diamond Jubilee Service

Friday 1st June - 7pm
St Peter's Church

*Refreshments provided by
Mansfield District Council*

St Peter's Summer Fair

Saturday 30th June
St Peter's Centre
10 am - 2 pm

CAMEO

*Cameo is a ladies group which
meets monthly in St Peter's Centre*

THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS ARE
OPEN TO EVERYONE SO PLEASE
COME AND JOIN US:

THURSDAY 10 MAY 2012
FLORAL MEDIA AT CAUNTON
HANGING BASKETS
7pm START
£4.00 PER HEAD INCLUDING
TEA/COFFEE AND CAKE.

THURSDAY 12 JULY 2012
FELLEY PRIORY
7pm START
£8.50 PER HEAD WHICH INCLUDES
ENTRY TO GARDENS, TEA/COFFEE
AND CAKE.

PLEASE CONTACT SUE 07941 684430
OR CHRISTINE 01623 644611
TO SECURE YOUR PLACE.
DIRECTIONS IF REQUIRED AVAILABLE
ON BOOKING

Church Walk

Saturday 26 May
Meet St Peter's Centre 8.30am
6 miles Clumber Park (easy)
Details: Tony Gelsthorpe
01623 429298; 07527 243608

Working together in faith, hope and love

Note from Revd Valerie Sharpe

VISITORS AND VISITED

Thanks to everyone who made contact after the request for information re the visited and the visitors who are involved in this important ministry at St. Mark's. I doubt we shall ever have a complete list of those who for one reason or another have slipped from our view, but I feel we are in a better position than we were some weeks ago.

The churchwardens, members of the PCC or the Revd Valerie are the ones to contact to amend the list, but PLEASE keep the information flowing. WE cannot respond if we do not know.

Revd. Valerie



ST MARK'S INDOOR CAR BOOT

Most Thursdays* from 11.30am Henley Community Hall

Book your own table (£5) *or* come to browse and grab a bargain and enjoy a chat over a sandwich and a cuppa

All profits to St Mark's to help run the Church and Hall

Would you be able to spare a few hours once a month to help? We need **YOU!!**

Please contact Adam Shaw 07593 822610

*** Open every Thursday subject to sufficient staff until the end of July 2012 EXCEPT NOT OPEN 14 June, 12 July**

St Mark's now open every Thursday 10am to noon to make enquiries, enjoy some peace and quiet, and to look around.

If you would act as a steward from time to time, please see Oliver

The 100 Club supports St Mark's Church

Monthly prize £100; Cost £1 per week paid at least one month's worth (£4 or £5) at a time. Recent winners: March Yvonne Hobbs; April Michael Longdon

Don't forget, every week in St Mark's . . .

Every Sunday 9.30am Parish Eucharist with Young Lions most weeks and refreshments afterwards; **Every Monday 7pm Evening Prayer**; **Every Thursday 9.30am Mass** (said), then **Church Open 10am - noon**

Monday 7 May & 4 June following 7pm Evening Prayer ...

Powerhouse: a time of prayer for our work with young people and families.



Tuesday 8 May in the Hall . . .

Celebration with story telling 2-3pm

Especially for pre-school children and carers

Activities – refreshments – chat – Time for God

Celebration on second Tuesday each Month: 12 June; 10 July

Wednesday 9 May . . .

HOUSEGROUP 7 – 8.30pm

The informal housegroup takes place in the home of Michael and Margaret Longdon (5 Pentland Court, NG19 6RR). This month, we are investigating the 10 commandments. If you need a lift, please ask (01623 632479).



Christian Aid week is May 13th to May 20th

If you could collect from just 12 houses it would make a difference. Please see Philip Bishop 01623 633494

ASCENSION DAY: Thursday 17th May

9.30am Mass (said)

Celebrant: Fr Michael Dobbs

'Men of Galilee,' they said, 'why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.' Acts 1:11



Guarantees
a **better deal**
for Third World
Producers

FAIRTRADE Coffee Morning

Henley Community Hall

From 11am Saturday 19 May

Enjoy good company over a hot drink
and a delicious cake

Browse & buy at the FAIRTRADE stall.

*Information from and offers of help to
Rosemarie Tomes*

Rosemarie will also open the FAIRTRADE stall at St Peter's Craft Market 12 May
and in the Henley Community Hall at 11am on Sunday 27 May

Tesco Schools Vouchers to Boys' Brigade please: boxes Church & Hall

St Mark's invites you to
SONGS OF PRAISE

on Sunday 20 May at 6pm
Come along for a good sing!

*Songs
of Praise*



Feast of Pentecost

Sunday 27 May: 9.30am Parish Eucharist
Celebrant: Archdeacon of Newark Venerable David Picken

Cantamus Junior Girls Choir

performs in St Mark's on Sunday 27th May 3pm
Tickets on door £10 (concessions £8)



We are invited to **Southwell Minster** on Tuesday 5th June (doors open 10am) where the celebrations from London will be relayed on a giant screen from 11am. Please bring your own picnic. More details from Pam and Phil Bishop who invite you to join them (01623 633494)



St Mark's Lions *See also page 13*

Day visits coming up (subject to enough adults to supervise):

Sun 13 May: Up the tower of Southwell Minster (led by Michael T).

Then Evensong. **Sat 2 June:** Mount St Bernard's Abbey. Tea with a monk to answer our questions!

Sun 1 July: Phil's hike, returning for Evensong at St Mark's with the Minster choir. **Sat 14 July:** West Midlands Safari Park, driving through the wild animals! *If you wish to join us, please speak to Oliver.*

**THE BOYS'
BRIGADE**
>the adventure begins here



Saturday 23 June: Day trip to Imperial War Museum, Duxford
Depart 8am; return 6pm. A fantastic day out. Children free. Priority BB members.
Please see Captain John Irons



On **Sunday 1 July at 6pm** the **Minster choir** are coming to St Mark's for **Choral Evensong** and a **short concert**
Please keep that evening free!

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

At the Annual General Meeting on March 11th the PCC was elected as below:

To serve until 2015	To serve until 2014	To serve until 2013	Churchwardens	Diocesan Synod
David Ince	Vivien Clark	Terry Fletcher	Michael Longdon	John Irons
Andrew Spybey	Joan Fletcher	Philip Bishop (S)	John Irons	Carla Tucker
Marjorie Wass (C)	Lee Clark (T)	Esther Vernon		Rosemarie Tomes
Adam Shaw	Oliver Foreman	Ruth Willey +		Pam Bishop++

+ Ruth Willey has been co-opted as no one came forward to fill this place.

++ Pam Bishop sits on Deanery Synod and on the PCC as a result of her position as Lay Chair of the Diocese. (C) Chair of PCC, (T) Treasurer, (S) Secretary

The main tasks of the PCC in the coming year will be to:

- Appoint a priest to work at St. Mark's. The first advertisement for the position was in the Church Times on April 20th. It is hoped that interviews will be held in late May – May 23rd is the target date.
- Handle our money better. Our Parish Share this year is £30,000. The total cost of running the church (including Parish Share) is expected to be around £55,000 (over £1000 per week.) Our income from planned giving, car boot, fees for weddings etc. will probably be in the region of £47,000. The deficit we face will therefore be about £8,000. We can meet this through reduced expenditure, through increased giving or by eating into our church investments. It will be a difficult balancing act!
- To engage in mission with our new priest to share the 'good news' of Christ with others and thereby increase the size of our flock. We have no rosy view of this task. All around us church congregations are falling and the number of labourers we can put into the field is dwindling. "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few." (St. Luke ch 10) We are facing the demise of some of the events we maintain which do connect us to the community (for example the Car Boot) because it is becoming increasingly difficult to find people to run them.
- We also have to chase grants and raise money if we are to rewire the church and repair the organ (both jobs likely to cost in the region of £40,000 each)

Philip Bishop (PCC secretary)

DATE	CHALICE	CHALICE
06 May	John Irons	Marjorie Wass
13 May	Pam Bishop	Russell Seals
20 May	Vivien Clark	Terry Fletcher
27 May	Barbara Spybey	Michael Longdon
03 June	Andrew Spybey	John Irons
10 June	Russell Seals	Pam Bishop
17 June	Marjorie Wass	Terry Fletcher
24 June	Michael Longdon	Barbara Spybey
01 July	Andrew Spybey	Vivien Clark
08 July	Pam Bishop	John Irons
15 July	Barbara Spybey	Andrew Spybey

< CHALICE ROTA

If you find that you cannot do your duty, please arrange for an exchange and amend the lists in the Narthex and Vestry.

Thank You!

Michael.

READERS AND INTERCESSORS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 29/7/12 Version 2

Date	Feast	Readings	1 st Reader	2 nd Reader	Intercessor
6/5/12	The Fifth Sunday of Easter	1. Acts 8. 26-end 2. 1 John 4. 7-end G. John 15. 1-8	Pam Bishop	Vivien Clark	John Irons
13/5/12	The Sixth Sunday of Easter	1. Acts 10. 44-end 2. 1 John 5. 1-6 G. John 15. 9-17	David Ince	Yvonne Hobbs	Russell Seals
20/5/12	The Seventh Sunday of Easter	1. Acts 1. 15-17. 21-end 2. 1 John 5. 9-13 G. John 17. 6-19	Terry Fletcher	Alison Day	Michael Longdon
27/5/12	Day of Pentecost (Whit Sunday)	1. Acts 2. 1-21 2. Rom..8. 22-27 G. John 15. 26-27;16.4b-15	Barry Harman	Marjorie Wass	Pam Bishop
3/6/12	Trinity Sunday	1. Isa. 6. 1-8 2. Rom. 8. 12-17 G. John 3. 1-17	Michael Longdon	Doreen Hall	Malcolm Robertson
10/6/12	The First Sunday after Trinity	1. Gen. 3. 8-15 2. 2Cor.4. 13-15. 1 G. Mark 3. 20-end	Andrew Tucker	Carla Tucker	Phil Bishop
17/6/12	The Second Sunday after Trinity	1. Ezek.17. 22-end 2. 2 Cor.5. 6-10, 14-17 G. Mark 4. 26-34	Russell Seals	Jane Seals	Carla Tucker
24/6/12	The Birth of John The Baptist	1. Isa.40. 1-11 2. Acts 13. 14b-26 G. Luke 1. 57-66, 80	Malcolm Robertson	John Irons	Russell Seals
1/7/12	The Fourth Sunday after Trinity	1. Wisdom1.13-15;2.23-24 2. 2 Cor.8. 7-end G. Mark 5. 21-end	Phil Bishop	Pam Bishop	Reg Beardsley
8/7/12	The Fifth Sunday after Trinity	1. Ezek.2. 1-5 2. 2 Cor.12. 2-10 G. Mark 6. 1-13	Andrew Spybey	Barbara Spybey	John Irons
15/7/12	The Sixth Sunday after Trinity	1. Amos 7. 7-15 2. Eph.1. 3-14 G. Mark 6. 14-29	Michael Longdon	Antoinette Lucassen	Rosemarie Tomes
22/7/12	Mary Magdalene	1. Song of Sol.3. 1-4 2. 2 Cor.5. 14-17 G. John 20. 1-2, 11-18	John Ford	Isobel Bounford	Michael Longdon
29/7/12	The Eighth Sunday after Trinity	1. 2 Kings 4. 42-end 2. Eph.3. 14-end G. John 6. 1-21	Clive Heaps	Alison Day	Pam Bishop

It is very important that if you are unavailable for a reading or intercessions please arrange a substitute, alter the reading rota list at the back of church and in the vestry. Would you please also let me know in order that I can inform Oliver to update the pew leaflets. This will ensure that there is no confusion at the service. Thank you. Barbara Spybey 01623 845762

Remember to keep an eye on
www.stmarksmansfield.org.uk

WE PRAY FOR THE DEPARTED

APRIL

23rd Thomas Liddon, Lucy Seymour
24th Iris Smith
25th Gladys Cotton, Anthony Cotton, John Cowlishaw
26th Florence Clarke, Hilda Hand, John Howorth
27th Charles Bayes (p), Harold Fell, Ethel Henstock
28th Gladys Dewar
29th Mary Fell, Dorothy Mary Meadows

30th Amy Victoria Harrison

MAY

1st William Whitworth, Margaret Hudson
2nd Thomas Jennings, Pearl Mason
3rd Annie Amelia Murphy
4th Leslie Barker, Mary Alice Kirby
5th Christine Blaney, Hannah Kirk
6th Agnes May Worsley

7th Mervyn Ross Palmer, Kathleen Thompson, George Ivan Palmer

8th Annie Ryley, Peter Wilkinson

9th

10th Mary Ann Ryley

11th Eileen Hunt, May Butler

12th John Fleet, Doris Mills, Ernest Pye

13th

14th Elsie Hewkin

15th Vera Creswick Mellor

16th Mary Duckmanton, John Paling

17th Margaret Beard

18th Doris Grimley, Gladys Teece

19th Alan Christmas (p), Bertha Cooper, Dorothy Elisabeth (Bettie) Wass

20th George Allison

21st William Richardson

22nd Millicent Mawer, Lucy Paling

23rd

24th Hugh Wortledge (p)

25th

26th Ernest Stephenson, Alice Taylor

27th Madge Hutchinson

28th Frederick Ghilkes, Peter Camp

29th Joyce Naylor

30th Alice Barker, Dinah Ellis, John Ellis

31st Frederick Grimley

JUNE

1st Lindsay Hays, Charles Smith, Ross Somervell (p)

2nd Frank Henshaw, Leopold Derek Dodsley

3rd

THE YEARS MIND (from which the list above comes and prayers for the departed are taken) may be found in a folder at the back of Church. If you wish to make a correction or addition to the names, please fill in a form to be found on the first page of the folder. I will then modify the main list. Oliver Foreman.

MANSFIELD DEANERY: *Please pray for the parishes for a week from date shown:*

29th April Warsop with Sookholme

6th May St Peter & St Paul Mansfield

13th May Clipstone, Edwinstowe & Perlethorpe

20th May Blidworth & Rainworth

27th May St Lawrence & St Mark Mansfield

3rd June Forest Town & Oak Tree Lane

Pray for our own Diocese including Bishop Paul, Tony Bishop of Sherwood, the clergy and people. We pray for all who lead our worship and for the priests and readers who worship with us.

Pray for our churchwardens Michael and John and for members of the PCC as important and sometimes difficult decisions have to be made.

Pray that the right priests may come forward for the new appointment, and that those on the selection panel may be filled with God's wisdom.

Pray for the appointment to St Mark's of an inspiring organist and Director of Music.

Your prayers are requested for . . .

THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Alison Barlow
John Bleby
Gerald Burton
Francis Collins
Evelyn Cossey
Bessie Fells
Joan Fletcher
Marie Fletcher
Nan Gibson
Clive Harris
Margaret Hibbert
Joanne Hubbard
Judy Kessler
Debbie McKeown
Adam Patrick
Ron Raybould
Barbara Shepherd
Cathy Smith
Jenny Smith
Ann Somerfield
Rev Philip Stead
Lucy Wass
Dick

HOUSEBOUND/CARE HOMES

Stan Adams
Barbara Almond
Sylvia C
Eileen Dawes
Ann Orridge
Brenda Roughton
Betty Shaw
Dorothy Watson

LONG TERM ILLNESS

Robert Burton
Barbara & John Cooper
Terry Leivers
Frank Molyneux

Please inform Jane Seals when circumstances of those listed change.

Risen Christ, you have raised our human nature to the throne of heaven: help us to seek and serve you, that we may join you at the Father's side, where you reign with the Spirit in glory, now and for ever. AMEN *Alternative Collect for Ascension Day 17 May*

St Mark's Church, Nottingham Rd, Mansfield NG18 1BP; 07866 219831; contact.stmarks@gmail.com - 8 -

APRIL DIARY

Sun 29 THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9.30am **Parish Eucharist** (Canon Richard Kirton) followed by **Fairtrade stall**

Mon 30 7pm **Evening Prayer** said by Michael Longdon

MAY DIARY

Tues 1 **PHILIP AND JAMES, Apostles**

Thurs 3 9.30am **Mass** (said) (Revd Jan Dewhirst); 10am-noon **Church open** for peace, to look round, make enquiries; 11.30am **Indoor Car Boot**

Sun 6 THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: 9.30am **Parish Eucharist** (Fr Michael Dobbs)

Mon 7 7pm **Evening Prayer** said by Malcolm Robertson followed by **Powerhouse**

Tues 8 2pm **Celebration of children, adults and families;** St John's **Archdeacon's Visitation**

Wed 9 7pm **Housegroup** 07866 219831

Thurs 10 9.30am **Mass** (said) (Revd Valerie Sharpe); 10am-noon **Church open** for peace, to look round, make enquiries; 11.30am **Indoor Car Boot**

7pm St Peter's Cameo Ladies Group visits **Floral Media at Caunton** £4 07941 684430

Sat 12 10am-1pm St Peter's Centre **Community Craft Market**

Sun 13 THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: ROGATION SUNDAY: CHRISTIAN AID WEEK STARTS

9.30am **Parish Eucharist** (Revd Valerie Sharpe) Preacher: Malcolm Robertson

11.30am **Young Lions visit Minster** to climb tower and attend Evensong

Mon 14 **MATTHIAS, Apostle:** 7pm **Evening Prayer** said by Rosemarie Tomes

Wed 16 7.30pm **PCC**

Thurs 17 **ASCENSION DAY:** 9.30am **Mass** (said) (Fr Michael Dobbs)

10am-noon **Church open;** 11.30am **Indoor Car Boot**

Fri 18 Boys' Brigade 2 day **Taster camp**

Sat 19 11am **Fairtrade Coffee Morning;** 6pm St Peter's **The Latvian Choir** 01623 640250

Sun 20 THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: CHRISTIAN AID WEEK ENDS

9.30am **Parish Eucharist** (Fr Michael Dobbs); 6pm **Songs of Praise**

Mon 21 7pm **Evening Prayer** said by Oliver Foreman

Tues 22 2 day interviews for **New priest** commence

Thurs 24 9.30am **Mass** (said) (Revd Philip Stead); 10am-noon **Church open** for peace, to look round, make enquiries; 11.30am **Indoor Car Boot**

Sat 26 8.30am St Peter's Centre **Clumber Park walk** Tony Gelsthorpe 01623 429298

Sun 27 THE FEAST OF PENTECOST: 9.30am **Parish Eucharist** (Venerable David Picken) followed by **Fairtrade stall;** 3pm **Cantamus training choir concert**

Mon 28 7pm **Evening Prayer** said by Ruth Willey

Thurs 31 **VISIT OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY TO ELIZABETH:** 9.30am **Mass** (said) (Fr Michael Dobbs); 10am-noon **Church open** for peace, to look round, make enquiries
11.30am **Indoor Car Boot; Deanery Synod**

JUNE DIARY

Fri 1 7pm St Peter's **Diamond Jubilee Service** Refreshments by Mansfield District Council

Sat 2 11am **Young Lions visit Mount St Bernard's Abbey**

Sun 3 TRINITY SUNDAY: 9.30am **Parish Eucharist** (Venerable Robin Turner)

Choir practice most Thursdays in Church 7.30pm and Sundays 9am: To find out more, contact David Ince on 01623 644325. Celebrants (shown in brackets) subject to change

Note also the dates on page 15 and Diary on www.stmarksmansfield.org.uk

Report on General Synod Feb 6th – 9th 2012 at Church House, Westminster *by Pam Bishop*

In some ways, the ongoing debate about women bishops seemed to dominate yet another Synod - more of that later. However, there were many other issues and events to keep us busy and interested. These included wonderful opportunities for worship and a chance to find out more and meet other people at a range of fringe meetings.

I attended a most moving session with a group of people supporting bereaved families on both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and a presentation from staff at Church House on how the church data we submit is being used to inform initiatives for church growth as well as support further research. General Synod members who additionally are Diocesan Lay Chairs also met to share information and experiences of what is happening nationally. Before Synod officially started there was a service organised by 'Women and the Church' (WATCH) and addressed by two women bishops from Canada and the USA, in St Margaret's church. This was followed by a silent walk and witness at Church House; a dignified and impressive reminder to synod members as they arrived of the extent of commitment to women in the episcopate. A service was held in Westminster Abbey on the Tuesday evening to affirm the relationship of the CoE with the United Reformed Church. This was a great opportunity to hear Archbishop Rowan preach and to enjoy the beauty of the music and the building. The business of Synod begins and ends each day with worship and on Thursday morning this was creatively led by members of the Deaf Church.

The agenda for the work of Synod as ever included a wide ranging and balanced group of topics. There were sessions devoted to routine administrative matters concerning standing orders, committee work and elections. These are very detailed and process-driven but necessary when one realises that General Synod is the only body apart from Parliament able to pass national legislation. A further series of debates was concerned with a final agreement and approval of church fees, refinements to the clergy discipline measure and consideration of funding to the Diocese of Europe ensuring that this is brought in line with all other dioceses. The new proposals for church fees aim to establish greater clarity on what can and cannot be included in the charges for occasional offices and also to ensure that there is parity across the country. This information will no doubt filter down to parishes in due course.

An international perspective was not forgotten. There was an excellent presentation on the work of the Anglican Alliance although I did wonder how this related to Christian Aid. The new Bishop of Durham shared his experiences and applied his obvious concern and commitment to lead an affirming debate on the CoE's response to the rising violence in Nigeria.



National matters which were debated included the reform of the House of Lords, proposed changes to Health Care provision and the sensitive issue of assisted dying. These topics enabled many members to speak to their areas of expertise and passion. Not all debates lead to a vote but they provide an opportunity for the church to be seen to have an opinion about and to be involved in secular and topical issues. The press in the gallery of the debating chamber are quick to pick up any controversial views.

There was some rejoicing from Nick Harding and Bishop Paul as the Eucharistic Prayers for use where there are significant groups of children were finally approved. They had both contributed significantly to the redrafting process and the prayers had been piloted in our Diocese. Watch out for these refreshing additions to Eucharistic liturgy.

A Diocesan motion was brought from Chichester proposing that Archdeacons need not necessarily be ordained priests but could come from people who had served only as deacons. Members of General Synod from Southwell and Nottingham were unanimously agreed that our model for the role of Archdeacon requires considerable prior experience as a working priest so that an archdeacon can both support and challenge clergy appropriately and with credibility as well as carry out the more routine duties related to church buildings. The motion was well defeated. The Bishop of Sheffield, Chair of the Higher Education working party made a comprehensive and competent presentation on the progress in reviewing and reforming the arrangements and funding for ministerial training. This is required partly as result of changes to HE funding generally and partly to rationalise programmes of study and routes for validation nationally.

And so to women bishops. The principle of accepting women to the episcopate has been agreed but it is the terms of appointment that have yet to be satisfactorily resolved. The legislation proposing the arrangements had been approved overall in 42 of the 44 Dioceses but there is still concern that sufficient provision has not been made for those who cannot accept women bishops. The Archbishops are concerned that no one should be excluded by the final arrangements. So we went to further debate. In the end it was agreed that the legislation as it stands should not be substantially changed but that there does need to be a form of words which allows the 'Forward in Faith' contingent to stay within the Anglican church whilst not creating a second class status for women bishops. There was further discussion about the distinction between the terms 'derivation' (whereby Bishops gain and retain their status as a result of their consecration) and 'delegation' (whereby Bishops may be required by other Bishops to act in carrying out particular practical tasks). It is with this fine attention to detail that the House of Bishops will be engaged in May to try to resolve the tensions holding back a clear pathway for the future. The Bishop of Gloucester made a pivotal speech declaring that if these problems are not resolved there will be a significant haemorrhage of women from the church. We now await further work from the House of Bishops and look hopefully to a final and affirming vote at the York General Synod in July 2012.

Pam Bishop Feb 2012

**Important
request
from
Esther
Vernon**

*Pictures show the
Easter flower displays*

2012 by Evelyn Cossey & Esther Vernon

**A church without flowers?
Evelyn and I won't see 70 again
and neither of us is in the best
of health so help is urgently
needed. If we are to continue
our tradition of flowers in St
Mark's we *must* have some
help. If with our support you
feel you could assist in this very
satisfying activity, please
contact Esther or the
churchwardens. *Esther***



LEFT: Luke with his family following his baptism at St Mark's on 22 April.

RIGHT: We are grateful for the efforts of all who helped provide such uplifting worship during



Holy Week and on Easter Day. Here is the Lady Chapel at the Maundy Thursday Vigil.



We are privileged to be sent a picture of Olivia (top left) when she was just one day old! Born on 10 April 2012, Olivia is sister to Isabella, shown on the right in St Mark's with Mum Natalie Wadley in September 2011. Thank you Natalie for the picture and we look forward to you all being with us soon.



YOUNG LIONS INVADE DOVER

We slept in a yurt; we walked and talked with the Archbishop; we worshipped in Canterbury Cathedral; we clambered over the White Cliffs; we walked for a tramps' supper (a different course in each house, thanks to the kindness of the parishioners of St Andrew's, Buckland-in-Dover); we enjoyed Dover castle so much we stayed for an extra two hours!

We are most grateful to Fr Tim and Ann Foreman, as well as James, Kathryn and Miriam, for being so hospitable and allowing us to take over their home. Fantastic!



YOUR CALL TO LOVE

(Sam Doubtfire's thoughts on the partnership between St Peter's & St Mark's)

Your church on earth, dear Lord, is at a crossroads in its story
With much by which your Gospel ministry and mission is transported
Standing near the brink of a great precipice
Below which lies a dark abyss with somewhere, at its centre,
That refiner's fire you promised would await our willingness
To surrender all the excess baggage we've collected
In our journeying and
When wandering from the path you walked.

And now, dear Lord, as we attempt to place our hand in yours
And let you lead us where you will,
We cannot help but ask, 'What will be spared
Of all those things now held to be essential:

What value will you place on all our treasured liturgies
Given life in ancient times and changed throughout the centuries
By Catholic, Evangelical, Pentecostal, even Charismatic thought?
And which interpretation of the Sacred Word will you uphold
To be that Word emanating from the heart and mind of
That great mystery which is the Ground of Being we call 'God'?

Is there any way dear Lord we can begin to see some shape
Emerging from the body that your church still wears
In the form of all its buildings and its services and ministries which
Many now believe to be outworn for this new season fast approaching?

Perhaps, dear Lord, we should just kneel and pray and understand
Your 'wilderness experience' by which you openly and honestly
Came to place your trust in a Father's care and then,
Without a thought of where He'd lead, you followed willingly
To meet the need and suffering you encountered
With the healing and the freedom offered in the Father's love.
Is that, Dear Lord, how you now call each one of us to live?
To follow in your way and take the rich resources we keep close
And use them use them wisely as we seek and save the lost, heal the sick,
Feed the hungry, clothe the naked and release the captives from their chains?
We cannot know where you will lead, or what, if any, sacrifice
You will demand: But should our following lead us to the place
Of your Gethsemane and Calvary and even to your Cross -
Then, Lord, may we but ask one thing, and that to know how,
Working with the problem of our human frailty, you have accomplished
That which we alone could help you do in our time
To serve your church in resurrection life and
To be about the Father's business in this world by putting into practice His great CALL
TO LOVE, as our true response to LOVE'S demands.

*Sam is a retired
priest, now
living in
Mansfield and a
member of St
Peter's
congregation.*

NOT MUCH MATCHES MANSFIELD by Kevin Fegan

A large community project open to all

To be performed in and around Mansfield Market Place on 14/15 July 2012

If you are interested in this project as an actor, dancer or musician, or would like to volunteer backstage or for one of the many roles that will be required during the two days of performance, then please contact AS SOON AS POSSIBLE Christopher Neil, Education Manager, Mansfield Palace Theatre.

Phone: 01623 412921; Email: cneil@mansfield.gov.uk

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY *Some events subject to confirmation*

<p>JUNE 2012 1 7pm Sts P&P Civic Diamond Jubilee Service 2 Young Lions to Mount St Bernard 4 7pm Powerhouse 5 11am Jubilee celebrations at Minster 6 2pm Minster Celebration of older people 9 10-1pm Sts P&P Craft Market 9 1pm Wedding Nicola Brudzinska/Stuart Radley 10 St John's Mansfield Confirmation 12 2pm Celebration (under 5s) 13 7pm Housegroup 14 Car Boot NOT open 23 Boys' Brigade to Duxford 30 10-2pm Sts P&P Summer Fair</p>	<p>OCTOBER 2012 10 7pm Housegroup</p>
<p>JULY 2012 1 11am Young Lions hike 1 6pm Minster choir at St Mark's 10 2pm Celebration (under 5s) 10 7.30pm PCC 11 7pm Housegroup 12 Car Boot NOT open 12 Sts P&P Cameo Ladies Group 14 Young Lions WM Safari Park 14 10-1pm Sts P&P Craft Market 14/15 Town Centre pageant 22 6.30pm MCT* @ S Mansfield Christian F/ship</p>	<p>NOVEMBER 2012 4 6.30pm St John's Carrington Confirmation 12 7.15pm Readers' Eucharist at St Mark's 13 7.30pm PCC 14 7pm Housegroup 23 for a week: Leaflet drop 25 6pm MCT* @ King's Mill Hospital</p>
<p>AUGUST 2012 11 10-1pm Sts P&P Craft Market 18-25 BB Annual Camp 18 3.30pm Wedding Kathryn Divine-Bradbury/Christopher Stockdale</p>	<p>DECEMBER 2012 2 6pm Advent candlelight service 9 4pm Christingle 12 7pm Housegroup 23 6pm Christmas candlelight service 24 4pm Crib service 11.30pm Midnight Mass 25 9.30am Christmas morning Eucharist</p>
<p>SEPTEMBER 2012 5 7.30pm PCC 12 7pm Housegroup 23 9.30am Harvest Thanksgiving 23 6pm MCT* @ St John's</p>	<p>JANUARY 2013 16 7.30pm PCC</p> <p>FEBRUARY 2013 13 Ash Wednesday</p> <p>MARCH 2013 12 7.30pm PCC 16 7pm Mad as a March Hare 24 Palm Sunday 31 Easter Day</p> <p>APRIL 2013 21 11am AGM</p> <p>MAY 2013 8 7.30pm PCC</p>

Please help Oliver keep this list up to date and accurate 01623 439612
stmark.update@gmail.com

*MCT: Mansfield Churches Together

See also Diary page 9 & diary on www.stmarksmansfield.org.uk

WORSHIP AT ST. MARK'S

Every Sunday 9.30am Parish Eucharist

6pm Sunday 20 May Songs of Praise

Every Monday 7pm Evening Prayer

Every Thursday 9.30am Mass (said) &
10-noon Church open (peace & enquiries)

See Diary page 9 & dates page 15 and online at

www.stmarksmansfield.org.uk

June **MARK MAG** out on Sunday 27
May. Please get items to Oliver &
prayer updates to Jane by Sunday 20
May. Oliver Foreman 01623 439612
stmark.update@gmail.com

Keep informed with . . . EMAIL UPDATES

While we are without a Parish Priest it is particularly important we know what is going on at St Mark's, especially if something crops up at short notice. It is very easy to sign up to EMAIL UPDATES from any main page on www.stmarksmansfield.org.uk

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARK, MANSFIELD

To contact churchwardens:
Phone or text: **07866 219831**

Email:

contact.stmarks@gmail.com

Write: Churchwardens,
St Mark's Church, Nottingham
Road, Mansfield NG18 1BP

Churchwardens:

John Irons 661735

Michael Longdon 632479

PCC Secretary:

Philip Bishop 633494

Director of Music: Vacant
(Choir info David Ince 644325)

Websites:

www.stmarksmansfield.org.uk

www.mansfielddeanery.org.uk

**Items for MARK MAG & Pew
Sheet** to Oliver Foreman:
01623 439612
stmark.update@gmail.com

St Mark's churchyard under the spotlight

RIGHT: Carla and Sheila seek
advice on the churchyard
from Nottinghamshire
Wildlife Trust experts.

There are various ideas being
considered, including moving
some flower beds (see the
plan at the back of Church)
and developing part of it as a
living churchyard.

Please speak to Carla Tucker
and Sheila Shorthose for
more information.

