

2nd Sunday Before Lent
(Stewardship Sunday 2)
12th February 2012

TODAY

A very warm welcome to Vicky, Robin, Emma, their family and friends, and especially to Holly and Lucy Charisse as they come to be baptised at St Mary's this morning.

Please pray for Lizzie Danes, from St Mary's who is being confirmed at St Mark's this morning - Sheena will be there to support her.

- 5.00p.m. Care-Ring Coordinators Tea in the Community Room at St Alban's - an opportunity to review the work of the Care-Rings.
- 6.30p.m. **Evensong** at St Alban's

THIS WEEK

- Mon 9.00a.m. Morning Prayer at St Alban's
7.30p.m. St Alban's Church Committee meets in St Alban's
- Tue 10.15-12.00 noon. Gary will be at St Mary's, pottering around in the Hall and Church. Do drop in, either to help with maintenance, or just for coffee and a chat
- Wed 9.00a.m. Morning Prayer at St Mary's
9.30a.m. Holy Communion at St Mary's
10.30a.m. Mission Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy in the Community Room at St Alban's, in aid of the Deanery Link with Busoga, Uganda
11.45a.m. **Funeral Service** for Edna Powell at St Mary's - all welcome. (Parking available at Connaught Hall)
- Thu 7.30p.m. Homegroup meets at 61 Bassett Green Road. All welcome
- Fri 9.00a.m. Morning Prayer at St Alban's
9.30a.m. Holy Communion at St Alban's
10.15a.m. Friday Coffee Pot and Credit Union at St Alban's. All welcome
2.30p.m. Covenant Ladies Group meets at St Alban's to hear of Anne and John Moore's trip to New Zealand
6.30p.m. Scout Group Beetle Drive in the Parish Hall - see below

NEXT SUNDAY **Sunday Before Lent** (Stewardship Sunday 3)

READINGS for next week: 2 Kings 2:1-12, Ps. 50:1-6, 2 Corinthians 4:3-6, Mark 9:2-9

- 8.00a.m. **Holy Communion** at St Mary's
9.30a.m. Choir Practice at St Mary's
10.00a.m. **Sung Eucharist** at St Alban's
10.30a.m. **Family Service** at St Mary's
12.15p.m. Baptisms at St Mary's
6.30p.m. **Evensong** at St Alban's

NOTES AND NEWS

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REVIEW - Please read the enclosed leaflet, pray about

your response to all that God has given you, and return the form in a sealed envelope by next Sunday if you can. Thank you.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SWAYTHLING & BASSETT - LENT GROUPS

- It is hoped to have Lent Groups running for the five weeks from Monday 27th February. This year we will be using material from the C.T.B.I. entitled "The Way to Freedom". (See their website for more details of the course.) *Please sign up TODAY* using the sheet in church to attend the course.

The local churches have come together in this way for many years and those who take part in the groups generally feel they have benefited greatly in the fellowship and time of sharing.

SCOUT GROUP BEETLE DRIVE - The 26th Swaythling Scout group which meets in the Parish Hall, and helps out at Parish events like the Christmas Market and Summer Fete, are holding a fundraising Beetle Drive on **Friday 17th February** from **6.30-9pm** in the Parish Hall. They'd love to see teams from our churches take part. Tickets cost £2.50 for an adult, £2 for children and £7.50 for a family of four (any age!) A hot dog and a drink are included in the price, and there's also a Bring & Win raffle. Hope to see lots of you there supporting our fantastic Scout Group!

SHROVE TUESDAY, February 21st - Community Pancake Lunch, 12.00noon-1.30p.m., in the Community Room at St Alban's - please come to help and to host. **PARISH PANCAKES**, 6.00-8.00p.m., also at St Alban's - come and bring your friends!

ASH WEDNESDAY, February 22nd - Eucharists to celebrate the beginning of Lent at 9.30a.m. at St Mary's, and 7.30p.m. (Sung, with Ashing) at St Alban's. Full Lent Programme in the February Magazine.

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS - In the pew sheet next week you will find a copy of Christian Aid's 'Count Your Blessings'. It is there for you to use during Lent, if you wish - it's a wonderful to give thanks to God for all we have, to remember the needs of others, and to support Christian Aid in its work with the world's poorest people.

BETTER TOGETHER - A presentation of the work of Christian Aid at the Nuffield Theatre Studio Café on March 6th - all welcome - see details on noticeboard in Church

MISSION DONATION ENVELOPES: If you are unable to come to the Mission Coffee Morning on Wednesday, and would like to make a donation towards this month's charity, please use one of the brown Mission Donation Envelopes at the back of the Church (not forgetting to fill in the Gift Aid section if you are a taxpayer) and either place it in the collection plate, or hand to a sides person. Thank you.

THE BASICS BANK - is providing for more people than ever at the moment, and needs to increase the stock of Hot and Cold Meat; Tinned vegetables; Tinned tomatoes; potatoes; Tinned Spaghetti; Pasta; Weetabix; Sauces; Rice Puddings; Custard.

E-MAIL PEW SHEET - Would you like to receive this Pew Sheet by e-mail each week? If so, send a message to Julie in the Office at Swaythling.Parish@tiscali.co.uk and she will send you a pdf copy.

You can donate to the Parish of Swaythling by text: Just text **70070** with the message: **SASM22** followed by **£** and the amount you'd like to donate, up to £10. All of your donation is sent to the Parish.

SOME ENGAGEMENTS FROM THE VICAR & CURATE'S DIARIES THIS WEEK. In addition to usual parish duties and the events listed above, please pray for: Sheena is off for a few days (half-term) this week, and Gary is hoping to have some space for catching up and preparation, for Lent and Easter, and other Parish Projects.

The Parish Website is: www.swaythlingparish.org.uk
The Vicar is: The Revd Canon Gary Philbrick - 023 8055 4231

This Week At Morning Prayer

W/C 13th February

We read of the birth of Jacob's 12 sons born for complex reasons to 4 women who become the fathers of the 12 tribes of Israel. We also hear of Jacob's return to his Father's land fearful of the vengeance of Esau, the bother he cheated of blessing and inheritance, only for Esau to greeting him with love and great joy. Paul concludes his letter to Timothy, and also writes to Titus and Philemon. In each the shape of the Christian life is set forth, a quietness and respectability not as an end in itself but to avoid any distraction from the truth of the Gospel.

M: Gen 29.31-30.24, 2 Tim 4.1-8; T: Gen 31.1.-24, 2 Tim 4.9-end; W: Gen 31.25-32.2 Tit 1; T: Gen 32.3-30 Tit 2; F: Gen 33.1-17 Tit 3; S: Gen 35 Phi

READINGS & HYMNS
- for you to use today and during the week

2nd Sunday before Lent
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COLLECT:

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**A Reading from the Book of
Proverbs**

Proverbs 8:1,22-31

*A description of Wisdom, one of
the attributes of God's nature.*

1 Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice? 22 The LORD created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. 23 Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. 24 When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. 25 Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth - 26 when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. 27 When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, 28 when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, 29 when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, 30 then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, 31 rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

At the end, the Reader says:

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 104:26-32

26. O Lord, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

27. There is the sea, spread far and wide,

and there move creatures beyond number, both small and great.

28. There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan
which you have made to play in the deep.

29. All of these look to you
to give them their food in due season.

30. When you give it them, they gather it;
you open your hand and they are filled with good.

31. When you hide your face they are troubled;
when you take away their breath, they die and return again to the dust.

32. When you send forth your spirit, they are created,
and you renew the face of the earth.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians

Colossians 1:15-20

Christ is the embodiment of all that God is

15 Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; 16 for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers - all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

At the end, the Reader says:

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL READING

Please stand and turn to face the Gospel Reader

An acclamation heralds the Gospel, to which all reply:

Alleluia.

When the Gospel is announced, the Reader says:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *John*

Glory to you, O Lord.

(Glory be to thee, O Lord.)

John 1.1-14

Jesus is God's Word for us.

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. 4 What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. 6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. 8 He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. 9 The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. 12 But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. 14 And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

At the end, the Reader says:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(At the end, the Reader says:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.)

(c) New Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible.

Eucharistic Prayer: St Alban's: G; St Mary's: Special

THERE IS A REDEEMER

1. There is a Redeemer,
Jesus, God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Holy one.

Chorus: Thank you, O my Father,
For giving us your Son,
And leaving your Spirit till
The work on earth is done.

2. Jesus, my Redeemer,
Name above all names,
Precious Son of God, Messiah,
Lamb for sinners slain.
3. When I stand in glory
I will see his face,
And there I'll serve my king for ever,
In that holy place.

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POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

God our creator,
by your gift
the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly
paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:
may we who have been nourished at your table on
earth
be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**