



**St. Mary's Church  
Woughton on the Green  
24th November  
2—4 pm**

Enjoy a tasty mince pie, washed down by a glass of mulled wine.

Be entertained by Carols from the children of Springfield School.

Activities for your children, leaving you free to browse.

Many stalls to tempt you, cakes, craft, jewellery, gifts, cards, tombola.

Entrance 50p. Children Free



**St. Mary's Church  
Keeping in Touch**

Newport Road, Woughton on the Green MK6 3BS

Serving the areas of Woughton on the Green, Woughton Park, Passmore, Peartree Bridge and Eaglestone.

***Part of the Woughton Ecumenical Partnership.***

I recently took a service looking at memories and change. Our busy lives are based on our memories, experience and people we meet. In amongst all this our world is changing rapidly, the age of technology is with us and growing at speed. Our lives need to change with the times as does the church. At St. Mary's we are always looking ahead and planning for tomorrow.

Currently we have plans for a new Audio/Visual system and WIFI to enhance our worship, and are busy fund raising for this. If we are to offer worship and use the church for other activities in the future this is very important. New ways of reaching the people and sharing the good news of the love of God is vital.

The weeks as we approach Christmas are the busiest of the year and require hours of hard work. But amongst all the change and hard work there is one constant, the love of God. The church has seen many changes over the years, both in terms of the building and the people, but the love of God never changes.

If you can help us to enhance our worship or day to day running of the Church, please come along and have a chat on a Saturday or Sunday morning. We have many visitors over the course of a year, either just passing or attending a service, but all say what a lovely church and what an amazing atmosphere, which is true. However, the church is lovely because God and God's people are at work in it.

Why not come and experience God for yourselves and join us for either traditional or contemporary worship, you will be sure of a very warm welcome. Perhaps come along to one of our Christmas services or events. We hope to see you at our Christmas Bazaar on 24th November, see back page, a warm welcome awaits.

Rev Paul Norris Associate priest.



## News from St. Mary's

**The 1822 Clock** continues to challenge us with part of the weight mechanism failing and the engineers have returned. By the time you read this, we hope that all is well.

**The hotel** has confirmed that they are taking steps to have the tree felled which is pushing our East wall into the graveyard. Let us hope that permission is given soon!

**New Audio System**— a revised quotation for a digital system is challenging us financially and as part of this project we propose to install a broadband link. When BT can find evidence that we exist, this might happen.

We have specially trimmed the **wild flower area**, it has been re-seeded so Spring 2019 should result in further colour in this area.

**Armistice** The church marked the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1 with a service, a small exhibition, provided by the Heritage Group. A peal known as Armistice Doubles with 1260 changes, which was half muffled, was rung as part of the national recognition of this important occasion.

**St. Mary's Day Celebration** was held in September when we welcomed Charles Woodd (yes it is spelt with two d's) from The Connection at St. Martin in the Fields, London. The Connection is a scheme to provide help for the homeless. We work with other Churches in Milton Keynes supporting the homeless in our City and were interested to hear what happened in that part of London. Those who find themselves without a home can be provided with shelter, food, clothes and specialist services including help finding employment. Certainly plenty to aim for here in Milton Keynes.

**The Woughton Heritage**, a local history group held a 2 day exhibition in the church in September. This year the focus was 'Life in the Village' during WW1. There were photographs and information gathered from some of the relatives of Woughton residents who went to war. All the servicemen were honoured whether they returned or made the ultimate sacrifice. Their names are inscribed either on the war memorial or on the memorial board in the lych gate. The substantial day's rations for a soldier were displayed and there was an opportunity to sample 'Trench Cake' made to an

authentic recipe. It tasted better than its name implied! Other WW1 memorabilia, medals and even an antique teas-made were among the exhibits. Over 200 people attended the expertly designed and presented exhibition.

**And as we continue to Fund Raise**—there was wonderful support for two events held recently in the Church.

On the last Saturday morning in September we held our annual coffee morning in aid of the Macmillan Cancer charity. The fresh coffee, tea and tempting array of cakes always bring in the crowds. We enjoy welcoming people into the church. It's an opportunity to meet the neighbours, get to know one another and raise much needed funds. £360.50 and with Gift Aid a total of £413.00 was donated to Macmillan. Thank you for your support and generosity.



**christian aid** In response to Christian Aid's **Harvest Appeal** we held a Harvest Breakfast as part of our annual Harvest Festival Thanksgiving celebrations. Before and during our October first Sunday in the month Café Style Service at 9.45 we were treated to a continental breakfast with a 5\*array of food.

Our thoughts though were focused on those parts of the world where availability of food is limited. How fortunate we are that we have a plentiful supply of food to share. We give thanks for that daily and are mindful of those struggling with hunger and famine.

Not only did we raise £384.50 for Christian Aid at the breakfast, but we also donated a large amount of dry and tinned food to the Milton Keynes food bank. Thank you.

### **TO CONTACT US:**

Parish Office 01908 392583 email: [office@woughton.org](mailto:office@woughton.org)

The parish welcomes enquiries from couples wanting to get married and families who would like their children Baptised.

If you would like more information about our news, you are invited to contact the Chairman of the Church Council, Jean Mattinsley  
01908 670415 email: [jmattinsley@btinternet.com](mailto:jmattinsley@btinternet.com)