

Worship and Activity This Week

Today	12.30pm	Baptism of Alexa Bates
	5.00pm	Office hour @ St Anne's
	7.00pm	Critical Mass @ St Francis
Mon	8.00pm	Mothers' Union @ St Anne's—AGM {nb Prayer Partner Presents!}
Tue	3.30pm	Sunbeams After School Church @ Church Hall
Wed	10.00am	Eucharist
	12 noon	Lunch in the Church Hall - open to all
	7.00pm	GIG Evening Prayer @ St Anne's
Thu	2.00pm	Bible Study @ St Francis
Fri	7.15am	Eucharist
	9.00am	Morning Prayer @ St Francis
	9.15am	Mothers and Toddlers @ St Anne's Church Hall
	12.30pm	Funeral in Church of Mabel Middleton
	6.45pm	Junior Choir Practice
	7.15pm	Full Choir Practice
Sat	9.00am	Hall Blitz

Next Sunday - 14th February - Next before Lent

8.00am	Eucharist
9.30am	Eucharist with Hymns [St Francis]
10.30am	Parish Eucharist [St Anne's]
6.00pm	Evening Prayer @ St Anne's
7.00pm	Critical Mass @ St Anne's Church Hall

Advance notice for all Church and Hall Key Holders

On the advice of our insurers, we intend to create a new **Key Register** to include under-takings by key holders not to duplicate or loan keys. We shall contact you shortly, and we trust the new arrangement will be acceptable to all concerned.
Churchwardens

Are you on the Electoral Roll? *not the political one for local and national elections!*

Our Electoral Roll is currently at the back of church. Please check your entry for accuracy. If your name is not on the Roll we invite you to take a form and return it completed to a Churchwarden. As a regular parishioner you are encouraged to be involved in the business of your parish church St. Anne's with St. Francis.

Each year at our APCM reports, accounts and visions are presented and you can question, vote and support our activities. To participate you need to be 16+ years of age, a baptised member, and have completed an electoral roll application.

Please email Items for this sheet by Wednesday to: joanie@sneakmail.zzn.com

INSPIRATION

St Anne's, Sale with St Francis, Sale Moor
0161 973 4145 www.stannessale.org



2nd Sunday before Lent

7th February 2010

We hope you will enjoy being with us. If you're not familiar with our services, don't worry. We follow a written order of service and we'll tell you from time to time which page we're on.

Children are welcome in church and in Sunday School or crèche across the road in the hall. If your children get restive in church, don't be afraid to get up and move around if this helps. There is a toilet at the back of church.

At St Anne's today

8.00am Eucharist

Giving in Grace Service order leaflet
President: Julian Heaton, Vicar

10.30am Parish Eucharist

Giving in Grace Service order leaflet
President: Olwyn Marlow, Asst Priest
Assisting: Alan Ward, Reader

6.00pm Choral Evensong

Led by: Janet Parker, Curate

At St Francis' today

9.30am Eucharist

Giving in Grace Service order leaflet
President: Julian Heaton, Vicar

Bible readings for today's services are on the next page.



I receive therefore I give

Occasionally on the radio you hear a donor meeting the person who benefited from the organ given. It may be because I am a bit of a softy but I always choke up. Often the donor speaks in a very matter-of-fact kind of way; 'it's one of those things you do' they say. No heroics; no preening of themselves. Their giving has given life to another. Nuff said.

In these tales I hear an echo of the Christian story; of God letting go his Son for us. 'It's one of those things you do for those you love' you hear God saying. And when I hear that echo, I pause and reflect on the nature of the Gospel, of this amazing gift of hope, life and redemption offered to me (and all creation). The theory (the doctrines if you like) makes sense all over again. My faith is renewed.

So the question is: how to respond? If I am to receive this gift, this grace from God, how am I to let this gift flow through me and out into the world?

The vibrancy and health and potential of the local church matters because it is through this Body of Christ that others can hear this Gospel for themselves. Our giving financially to the Church helps this become real.

Today's readings

A Reading from St Paul's second letter to the Corinthians

(2 Corinthians 9:6-15)

Remember this saying, "A few seeds make a small harvest, but a lot of seeds make a big harvest." Each of you must make up your own mind about how much to give. But don't feel sorry that you must give and don't feel that you are forced to give. God loves people who love to give. God can bless you with everything you need, and you will always have more than enough to do all kinds of good things for others. The Scriptures say, "God freely gives his gifts to the poor, and always does right." God gives seed to farmers and provides everyone with food. He will increase what you have, so that you can give even more to those in need. You will be blessed in every way, and you will be able to keep on being generous. Then many people will thank God when we deliver your gift. What you are doing is much more than a service that supplies God's people with what they need. It is something that will make many others thank God. The way in which you have proved yourselves by this service will bring honour and praise to God. You believed the message about Christ, and you obeyed it by sharing generously with God's people and with everyone else. Now they are praying for you and want to see you, because God used you to bless them so very much. Thank God for his gift that is too wonderful for words!

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Glory to you, O Lord

(Mark 4:1-12)

The next time Jesus taught beside Lake Galilee, a big crowd gathered. It was so large that he had to sit in a boat out on the lake, while the people stood on the shore. He used stories to teach them many things, and this is part of what he taught: Now listen! A farmer went out to scatter seed in a field. While the farmer was scattering the seed, some of it fell along the road and was eaten by birds. Other seeds fell on thin, rocky ground and quickly started growing because the soil wasn't very deep. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched and dried up, because they did not have enough roots. Some other seeds fell where thorn bushes grew up and choked out the plants. So they did not produce any grain. But a few seeds did fall on good ground where the plants grew and produced thirty or sixty or even a hundred times as much as was scattered. Then Jesus said, "If you have ears, pay attention." When Jesus was alone with the twelve apostles and some others, they asked him about these stories. He answered: I have explained the secret about God's kingdom to you, but for others I can use only stories. The reason is, "These people will look and look, but never see. They will listen and listen, but never understand. If they did, they would turn to God, and he would forgive them."

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Communion before Confirmation

At St Anne's we welcome to Communion those who are [1] regular worshippers with us and [2] who are over the age of eight and [3] who have been prepared by the Church. If this description fits you, please have a word with Fr. Julian. We are going to begin classes for children on 21st February at 12 Noon.

Hall Blitz 9am—11am Saturday 13th February

Can you spend two hours helping us "Blitz" the hall this Saturday? Fresh Coffee, rolls and lots of fun... and a serious opportunity to make a difference to our hall. Bring tools, cleaning materials, humour and two hours of your precious time.



GiG Response

Many of you have been really kind to respond to the Giving in Grace letters. If you have not yet done so - *however you are going to reply* - please put your response in the box in Church.



If you do not have the response with you today, please drop it, with the word GiG, into the

Vicarage by Thursday. *If you need an envelope, please see Mike Counsell or Fr. Julian.*

Note about the chalice

It is a joy that we are able to share the chalice again. Members of the congregation are however reminded to continue refraining from intincting [dipping] the host in the chalice.

The church teaches that the full sacramental presence of Christ is found in both kinds [bread and wine]; in other words if you do not wish to share the cup please return to your seat after receiving the bread.

GiG Prayer

Heavenly Father, give grace to us, the living stones who form your Church, to reflect prayerfully at this special time on our love for You and our neighbour.

Make us mindful of the many gifts You bestow upon us and we ask that your Holy Spirit will inspire and direct us in our choice of giving; remembering that we are only giving back that which is truly yours.



Strengthen us, Lord, to meet this challenge according to your will. Through Jesus Christ our Lord who has given all that we may live. **Amen.**

Church Bookstall

The bookstall has been re-stocked with Lenten books and other items. We also have a range of 'Special Occasion' cards.



Reports please! The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) is 21 March. Organisations' Reports (no longer than 400 words) are needed by month end by email to: