

Life News @ St Mary's

St Mary's Eaton Socon Newsletter - NOVEMBER 2022

Verse for 2022' - Psalm 127 v1

Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain.

Unless the Lord watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE - SATURDAY 19TH NOVEMBER

10AM - 2PM

Raffle

Children's games

Home-made cakes and produce

Crafts

Book stall

Letter to Santa

Gifts and Cards



Family photos



REAL - Women's Ministry

Saturday 5th November 3pm - 4.30pm

Ladies Cream Tea

Join us for tea, cakes, scones and fellowship



A Word from the Curate

The days are noticeably darker, and the winds are getting cooler, so we must remember that the Light of God shines bright for us, and the warmth of Christ will comfort us.

As we enter this time of darker days and colder weather, it is an excellent time to consider our outreach to those around us who don't yet know God.

Christians are to share God's light and warmth with others, so let us always consider those we know and meet. Do they yet know of the light and warmth of God? How can we help them learn more about God and His Kingdom? Perhaps this could be writing a heartfelt note to someone you know, letting them know you are praying for them this season. Maybe you could prayerfully invite people you meet to accompany you to one of our church services.

Just something for us all to think and pray about....

See you all soon,

Christopher



NEW TO ST MARY'S?

It's great to have you here and we hope you enjoy being with us.

If you would like us to contact you with more information about the church and what we offer, please fill in a 'Keeping in Touch' card and give it to one of the Welcomers.

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

Please contact us if you have suggestions about new ways we can serve and, of course, if you need help:

07305 210416 (messages listened to within 24 hours)

pastoralcare@eatonsocon.org

Roger Peppiatt
(team co-ordinator)

HOW CAN WE SUPPORT THE MINISTRY AT ST MARY'S?

The best way is by using the Parish Giving Scheme Alternatively, Gift Aid envelopes are available in Church.

For more details please contact our Treasurer, Roy Notley:

01234 589308

finance@eatonsocon.org



Sunday
20th November
2pm - 3pm

This group is aimed at children (of any age) who have additional needs or disabilities and their siblings and parents/guardians

Sensory activities Life skills
Chill out zone Games Crafts Friendship
Support Refreshments

Similar structure every session, visual timetables
(on day or in advance),
timers used for transitions.

Safe environment

Cost: £5 per family

(funding available if unable to meet this cost)

Booking essential!!

To book go to www.eatonsocon.org/events.



WAVE Café (We're All Valued Equally)

Saturday 19th November 2 - 4pm

at Eynesbury Methodist Church for Teenagers and Young(ish) Adults
with learning disabilities, their families and friends.



Come along to enjoy an art activity
and to share in tea and cake.

To find out more contact Sue on

sue.bakermaher@methodist.org.uk

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

As our Sunday School begins to regrow after Covid we are in desperate need of some more volunteers to join both our teaching team and support team one Sunday a month. No experience necessary, just an enthusiasm to help encourage and develop the faith of our youngest church members. DBS and reference check required (completed via our safeguarding officer).

Please speak to Liz Faulkner for more details.

World Mission News

Firstly a big thank you to the St Mary's congregation for their very generous giving of dried food for the Harvest Festival Appeal this year. Steve Bailey was able to deliver 14 boxes of food to the collection centre, all of which will now be making their way to Christians, associated with Food.gives, somewhere in the world who will be greatly encouraged by our brotherly support.

November is the month to make sure all **Samaritan's Purse shoeboxes** are filled and returned to church, to be sent to the depots and sorted through before being sent to their final destinations. This year some of our boxes will be sent to Ukraine. Please pick up a shoebox and leaflet on how to fill your shoebox from the table at the back of the church by the main door. If there are no leaflets left you can go onto the Samaritan's Purse website (www.samaritans-purse.org.uk) where you can find all the details. If there are no shoeboxes left please provide your own.

All shoe boxes must be back in church by 13th November.

Finally, our mission partners receive a Christmas card from us each year. Cards will be on the Mission table in church this month for you to sign. We would like the cards to be full of good wishes so please take some time to sign the cards and write a short message.



Over the last few months St Neots FoodBank has been reopening its distribution centres around the town, following their closure during the Covid pandemic. The one at St Mary's re-opened on Friday, 7th October and

will be open between 10am and 12pm every Friday. We have 16 volunteers, many of whom worship at St Mary's. We welcome donations of food in the container near the Music Vestry and, of course, prayers that the people we serve will experience a little of the love of the church for them.

Creation Care

loving, caring, supporting



The Creation Care team are planning to place a board (made by the Craft Group) in church during December, on which you can place a Christmas card to the whole church family, rather than giving out individual cards. There will also be an opportunity to donate to a charity in lieu of the cost of the cards.

'THREE PILLARS' CHARITY FOR THE HOMELESS

**NEED WARM COATS, JOGGERS, HOODIES,
TRAINERS & MEN'S UNDERWEAR
IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING YOU CAN DONATE THERE IS A
LABELLED BOX AT THE BACK OF CHURCH.
THANK YOU!!**

EAST AFRICA CRISIS APPEAL



CHRISTIAN AID
DEC MEMBER



The world is facing the worst humanitarian crisis since 1945. Drought and conflict have left 16 million people across East Africa on the brink of starvation.

They desperately need food and clean water to survive.

You can help us provide urgently needed supplies to families and malnourished children. **Please give today.**

You can use the QR Code above Or visit

<https://giving.give-star.com/online/christian-aid/st-neots-east-africa-hunger-crisis-appeal>



*Texts cost £5 plus your standard network rate. Christian Aid will receive 100% of your donation. By texting you consent to future SMS marketing from Christian Aid. Text HELP to 70507 to give £5. Text HELPNO to 70507 to give £5 and stop future SMS marketing contact.

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Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

Christingle Family Event

@ St Mary's Church, Eaton Socon



Sunday 27th November @ 3.30pm (approx. 1hr)

Suitable for all ages, families and individuals

£2 per person (under 2's free)

- Christmas crafts & activities -

- Learn what a Christingle is -

- Make your own Christingle -



To book go to our website: www.eatonsocon.org/events

For questions speak to Liz Faulkner on cfcw@eatonsocon.org



YOUTH NEWS

A massive big thank you to everyone who helped our YOUTH reach our fundraising target of £1000 with gift

aid. This will go a long way to help support those vulnerable children in extreme poverty. Well done to all our young people for your commitment and hard work, we are VERY proud of you.

Newday Cake Sale – Sunday 27th November

Our Youth will be hosting a cake sale after the services to help raise money for Newday 2023, their annual summer camp. Please come prepared to buy our delicious homemade cakes to enjoy with your coffee or tea after church!

Youth Diary Dates

Saturday 5th November - Youth Café team meeting

Sunday 13th November - Celebration worship service, marking the first anniversary of the St Neots Youth Project...6pm at SNEC

Friday 18th November - Proposed Fusion Bowling trip

Sunday 27th November - Refreshments and Newday Cake Sale...9am and 10.30am services.

Youth Café



We are very excited to be launching our new Youth Cafe! This will be run under the umbrella of Youth for Christ. We plan to start in mid-January in the church hall.

There is already a Youth Cafe at Loves Farm and they gather around 25 young people from unchurched homes! After one term, 8 did a Youth Alpha and started going to the Loves Farm Breakfast Church! A second one started at SNEC and sees regular youth come each week. Lots of youth have then gone onto attend church youth clubs and some have joined discipleship groups.

What it is: We want to provide a warm, friendly, kind space with snacks and the offer of games and chat, to children as they walk home from school. Many children go home to an empty house so this is a safe alternative. It is for any secondary school-aged pupil. No younger siblings, no adults, other than safeguarded and DBS checked leaders.

It is for any faith or no faith. It is not a place where we instigate God conversations, unless the youth instigate it. But, what flows out from this group is the opportunity to invite young people to discuss bigger questions, 'Is there more to life than this?' 'Was Jesus good, bad or mad?' We can also invite them to other church activities.



What we need:

- People to pray
- Some volunteers to add to our team – some who like to play cards and chat, some who are happy to wash-up or make toasties and milkshakes.
- People who might be willing to give an offering to help us start up the cafe or even to buy youth bibles for when we need them!



This is an exciting new venture which we hope will ultimately help and encourage young people back into church. Please join us in any way you can and be part of this life changing journey.

CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER 2022

MONDAY

Café on the Green - 10am - (A great chance to catch up with friends, or to make new ones)

Creation Care working party - 9.30am (7th) - inc. refreshments

M Team - 9.30am (21st) - inc. refreshments

TUESDAY

Morning Prayer - 9am

Craft Group - 10am

WEDNESDAY

Holy Communion - 9am

Little Stars - 10am

Wednesday Welcome - 3pm

Bell Ringing practice - 7.30pm



THURSDAY

Prayer Meeting - 9am

FRIDAY

Fusion (Youth Group) - 7.30pm

SATURDAY

Ladies Cream Tea - 3pm (5th)

Christmas Fayre - 10am (19th)



SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER

6th - 6pm - Service of Memories.

13th - 10am - Remembrance Service (starting with refreshments)

13th - 6.15pm - Service of Praise and Worship

20th - 2pm - HIVE - for children with additional needs

27th - 3.30pm - Christingle Family Event

27th - 6.15pm - Sharing Life through Learning

