



**ST. MARY'S
CHURCH**
LONG NEWTON



**St Mary's
News** Issue 8
September 2014

A warm welcome to the 8th issue of St Mary's News, we aim to keep you informed of the events taking place in the Church Community leading up-to Harvest. The next issue will be distributed in December giving details of Church events leading up to Christmas, with a further issue being delivered in March.

St. Mary's Fun Day 20th Sept 2014 at 12.30pm

Not long now to the Village Fun Day on Manor Green. There will be a variety of activities for everyone;

Fancy dress parade for all the children, BBQ and teas, musicians and illusionist - Steve Price, balloon fun, games and sideshows, stalls of produce and "Information Corner" where you can find out about the activities in St Mary's and the many groups and charities we support. We even have the Bishop of Durham paying us a visit.

In fact there will be something for everyone to enjoy. There will even be a visit from 'Peppa Pig'. In the event of bad weather the event will be held in the church and Wilson Centre.

Messy Church: St Mary's will be holding 'Messy Church' at 3pm on Sunday October 19th. Messy Church will involve - learning through craft or play, sung worship and shared food. So why not bring along your children, grandchildren and find out more.

Forthcoming Dates and Events in St Mary's Church
all welcome to join in any of these events

Weekly Sunday service at 10.30 am

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| 12th October at 10.30am | Family Harvest Service |
| 18th October 7.00pm for 7.30 pm | Musical Quiz |
| 19th October at 3.00pm | Messy Church |
| 2nd November at 3.30pm | Bereavement Service |
| 9th November at 10.30am | Remembrance Sunday |

Weekly Events

Tuesday - Tuesday @ 10, informal service in church
Wednesday - Little Ted in Church at 9.15am
Thursday - Drop In at Wilson Centre from 10.00am

Monthly Event - 2nd Thursday, Community lunch in Wilson Centre at 12.00

Find us on
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Why not take a look at St Mary's Church Website for further details of events and contacts
www.stmaryslongnewton.co.uk

**MUSICAL EVENING AT ST MARY'S ON SATURDAY
18TH OCTOBER**

Many thanks to all those who have contributed to the fund for the new pathways for St Mary's church. However, we don't yet have sufficient funds and so we hope that you will support a fundraising event on Saturday 18th October. This will be a light-hearted musical quiz with supper at St Mary's. The doors will open at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. Please bring your own drinks. Tickets are £10 and should be purchased in advance from Pauline Brown Tel: 587800.



Longnewton Music

On Saturday 27th September at 7.30pm, Michael Walton (violin) and Lada Khazanovych (piano) will be performing at St Mary's Church. Tickets are £10 and are available from Ian Palmer-Jones 01642 585238.

Heavens Above

One of our church members called Nigel likes to look up at the night sky through his telescope. With Madness' song *It Must Be Love* playing in the background I was looking at some of Nigel's pictures this week including some great shots of the Dumbbell and Ring nebulas and the Great Cluster of about 300,000 stars in the constellation of Hercules.

It is awesome to think that these places are so far away from Earth that light, travelling at 186,000 miles a second, takes between 1,360 years (the Dumbbell Nebula) and 25,100 years (the Great Cluster) to reach us. Wow. With a probe currently orbiting a comet that is hurtling round our solar system at 34,000 miles per hour and a laboratory rover still crawling over the surface of Mars two years after landing there, our inquisitiveness to explore the enigmas of space seems greater than ever.

If there's one thing on TV that I know I'll drop everything to watch it's a programme on space. The wonders of the heavens have always fascinated me and always will.

But as a Christian I believe that the One who put it all there, eons and eons ago, loves and cares about us infinitely more than I will ever wonder about the vastness and beauty and mystery of the universe. I also know that in this most violent of summers on the world stage we are so much better at removing our ignorance about worlds that are light years away than we are at removing darkness from the human heart.

*I often think of the heavens your hands have made,
and of the moon and stars you put in place.
Then I ask, "Why do you care about us humans?
Why are you concerned for us?" (The Bible, Psalm 8.3-4).
Why indeed? It must be love.*

With Best Wishes and Prayers, Rev. John Lambert

Summer Term Report from St Mary's School

Summer term is always a busy term, and this year was no exception. The children did their own "Tour de Long Newton" on their bikes. The summer fair was blessed by excellent weather, and the choir concert took place at All Saints to give more people a chance to go along. We celebrated the 40th anniversary of the school with an outdoor GodZone followed by a strawberry tea to which everyone was invited, and a picnic lunch on the last day of term. The 13 Y6s achieved good exam results, and are leaving to various secondary schools. We said goodbye to them at the leavers' service, as well as to Mrs Stevens, who leaves after an amazing 31 years service at the school; we wish her a very happy and well earned retirement.

John Taylor, Chair of Governors

