

## Notices

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April** ANNUNAL PAROCHIAL GENERAL MEETING can I please encourage you to stay to show your support for the work that goes on here and all who commit themselves to that work.

A finger buffet will be provided.

**A Total of £500** will be given to Rev Mary's Church Radcliffe to be used to help the community recovering from the floods. Again a huge thank you to those who regularly attended the lent lunches and to all who contributed to this great cause.

**Guest preacher** On the 8<sup>th</sup> May will be the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of LLM Ministry, (Reader Ministry). On that morning we at St Francis will welcome Richard West of St John's Church Stoke who will be preaching.

Lay Readers from all over the country will be attending local churches other than their own to Preach as part of this celebration

**Community Shop on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>**. New posters at the back of church please take one and display it or give it to someone who may be interested in coming along to the shop or the café'

### **Arch Bishop's call for Prayer**

The week between ascension 8<sup>th</sup> may and Pentecost 15<sup>th</sup> May, the Arch Bishop's Justin and John have invited all churches to join in with a special week of prayer. Churches all around the Anglican Communion will be setting up venues for prayer to be said 24hours a day for 8 days,

This is a wonderful opportunity for us to join in, over the next couple of weeks Diane and I will be preparing for this amazing venture. A sign up sheet will be being displayed for people to indicate the time they would pray.

There will be a variety of ways to encourage our prayer time, especially for those who are not used to praying, such as,

- Lead prayer, morning and evening.  
Stations with ideas for praying the Lord's Prayer.
- Creative spaces for private prayer,  
Prayer sheets for those who are unable to come to the church but can commit to pray at home, (even for those who suffer from not sleeping at night!
- There will be prayer walks incorporated for one of those hours most days.
- We will be inviting the preschool parents to write prayers and the rainbows also, which will be placed on the Prayer Tree which can be used for guidance for people who come to the church to pray.

This is an important part of church life and this gives us an opportunity to really connect with God as his people.

I believe we will hear and see of great things both large and small of what God will do through this commitment of his people

Look out for the list and sign up for an hour or more if you can.

Let us also remember it is a privilege that we have a God who wants a relationship with us and is always ready to hear our prayer.

### **CELEBRATION TIME!!!**

To the Glory of God we will be celebrating Diane's ordination to the diaconate, which in practice means, 1 year as Deacon and the following year we pray another service to the Priesthood.

Due to the building work currently going on at the cathedral the service will be held at the beautiful building of Charter House.

Everyone is invited. For practical reasons it would be a wise idea to hire a coach depending on how many people wish to attend, Could you please sign up on the sheet and indicate if you wish to attend and if you wish a seat on the coach. There will be a charge for the coach but not for the service.

Following the service there will be a Celebration Afternoon Tea.

Where we can continue to celebrate with Diane. Let us keep Diane, David and the Family in our prayers during this lead up to a very special time and for her future ministry. .

### **Prayer**

Please continue to pray for Peter,

Also for **Mary** who was rushed into hospital on Thursday –

Pray for **Dawn Murrell, Maureen McRedmond, and David Peters**

**Rev Carol Hayden** and the people of the parish of St Mary's Radcliffe,

as they continue to deal with the aftermath of the floods.