

**St. Mary's**  
**Quarterly News**

**KEEPING YOU INFORMED!**  
**December 2011**



***The angel, praised God saying, "Glory to God in the  
highest, and on earth peace and goodwill to all."***

***Luke 2:13-14***

## MOTHERS' UNION

Once again our meetings have been well attended and our speakers most interesting and informative. We continue to be involved with the Mothers' Union in Malawi and Kubakwe with whom we now have regular contact. Since our last report we have admitted three new members and we are delighted that they have decided to become part of our dedicated association.

We are currently preparing for the Christmas Fair; the proceeds from which; as in the past will provide gifts and vouchers (for local shops) for families in our own community who are in need.

Sadly, this is my last report as leader, since Mothers' Union Rules allow no more than 6 years in office. It has been a wonderful experience for me and enabled me to be involved in so many aspects of christian service. My thanks to all those generous people who have supported our members in so many ways, and I hope that you will continue to do so in the future when Sue Morgan takes over as leader in January.

***Audrey Ferguson***



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	4.00pm Carol Service at Golden Green
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	6.30pm Nine Lessons & Carols at St. Mary's
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Eve	4.30pm Crib & Christingle Service 6.30pm Carols in the Square 11.30pm Midnight Communion (Carols from 11.00pm)
Christmas Day	9.00am Holy Communion at Golden Green 10.00am Family Eucharist
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2012	7.30pm New Zealand – Trip of a lifetime
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2012	9.00am Kids am
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	Deanery Service at Pembury
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2012	10.00am Mothering Sunday Service
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2012	8.00pm Maundy Thursday Service
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> April 2012	10.00am Good Friday Service 12.00-3.00pm
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2012 - Easter Sunday	5.00am Dawn Service with renewal Baptism vows and communion 8.00am Holy Communion at St. Mary's 9.00am Holy Communion at Golden Green 10.00am Family Eucharist

**More details to follow on the above events.**

## WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER



### **What is it?**

An international, ecumenical organisation which began in Canada in the 19th Century and today encompasses more than 170 countries. It exists to encourage women across the globe to observe an annual day of prayer on the first Friday in March. The focus is on a different country each year and women from that country prepare a service to be used worldwide, highlighting the issues in their land which particularly need prayer and giving a flavour of life there.

### **Where is it?**

In this area, St. Mary's is part of an ecumenical group including the Tonbridge churches, Leigh and Hildenborough. The service is held in a different church each year; this year it is at **10.30am on Friday, 2nd March at Tonbridge Methodist Church, Higham Lane.**

### **Why should I come?**

The service provides a window into the lives of women in another country - this year Malaysia - which enables us to empathise with them and to pray for them as part of a global wave of prayer, which starts in Tonga and continues through Asia and the Pacific, across Africa and the Middle East until it reaches us in Europe and the UK - then on it goes across the Atlantic to the Americas and back to the Pacific, finishing in Samoa. (It also gives us an opportunity to meet women from other churches in our area.)

P.S. Men are allowed too!

*Linda Moore,  
St. Mary's Representative on the local WWDP Committee*

## AROUND NEW ZEALAND IN 53 DAYS

A journey of discovery around what the New Zealander's describe as 'God's own Land'.

From snow peaked mountains to turquoise blue lakes, rushing water falls, hot springs, bubbling mud, rolling hills, chapels, churches, cathedrals, Maori voices and of course RUGBY!



Looking across Lake Tekapo towards Mount Cook from the church of the Good Shepherd

Come and hear more about our time away... Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 7.30pm in the Upper Room.

**Rev. Gwen**

## FINANCIAL REPORT APRIL-JUNE 2011

### Voluntary Giving

Our budget is £5500 per month. For the third quarter our figures were: -

July	£6709
August	£5482
September	<u>£7198</u>

Total	£19389
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giving an average of £6463 per month, well above target. October is looking good as well. The effect of the Graciously Giving for God is showing up well in the figures.

Expenditure is still well under control, and our cash resources are recovering.

**Freddie Shaw**  
**St Mary's Hadlow Treasurer**