

PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISMS

14th December Maddison Louise Griffiths
Samuel Anthony Horton

FUNERALS

13th November William Ernest Burcham
23rd December Phyllis Ethel Callaway

CHRISTINGLE 2009

This special service will take place on Sunday 1st February at 4.30 pm. All children and their friends and families are welcome to celebrate the festival of Candlemass with us.



REGULAR SERVICES & EVENTS

Sunday:

8.00 am Holy Communion
10.00 am Family Communion
6.30 pm Evening Service

3rd Sunday:

10.00 am Family Communion & Youth Service
6.30 pm Choral Evensong

2nd Monday:

7.30 pm The Way at 2 Hemyock Road

Every Wednesday

10.00 am Holy Communion

1st Thursday:

10.00 am Holy Communion at Sellywood House

2nd Thursday:

7.45 pm Issues Group at 2 Middle Park Close

4th Thursday:

11.00 am Holy Communion at Queen Mother Court

SPECIAL SERVICES & EVENTS

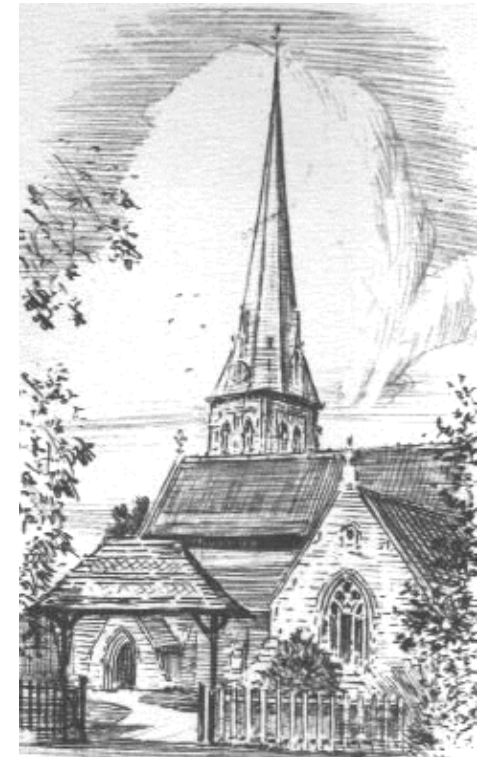
13 th Jan.	7.30 pm	F&GP
18 th Jan.	6.30 pm	United Service at Selly Oak Methodist Church
27 th Jan.	7.30 pm	PCC
1 st Feb.	4.30 pm	Chrssitingle Service

ST MARY'S SELLY OAK

Bristol Road B29 6ND

www.StMarySellyOak.org.uk

January 2009



Vicar: Vacancy
0121 472 0250
Asst. Priest: Revd. Susannah Izzard
0121 243 3745

Churchwardens:
Peter Washbourne
0121 476 2406
Anne Pycock
0121 476 3117

Hall Bookings 0121 604 0950

MESSAGE FROM THE PAST

(Extract from the Parish Magazine of January 1970)

Recently we began an introduction to Victorian stained glass, making the point that though it is much criticised, and even derided, the Victorians did at least recover the art of stained glass craft which had been lost in England for some centuries. Stained glass of the 19th century is a mixture of good and bad, often in the same church building. One remarkable feature about the glass in St Mary's is to be seen behind the font where the window could lay claim to be the best one in the church.

It depicts our Lord receiving the little children in his arms. The colours are very gay especially the reds, and the flowers have a life-like touch about them. The glass is comparatively well 'broken-up' (unlike so much Victorian glass) and though the window is definitely of its period, it is a good one of its period. The border is exceptionally bright and springs into life. Of course the position of the window catching the evening sunsets means that it can spring into a wonderful blaze of colour. This window was given in memory of Frederick George Ledsam who died at the early age of 50 in 1876



RECIPE FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Take twelve fine, full-grown months; see that these are thoroughly free from old memories of bitterness, rancour and hate, cleanse them completely from every clinging spite; pick off all specks of pettiness and littleness; in short, see that these months are freed from all the past—have them fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of Time. Cut these months into thirty or thirty-one equal parts. Do not attempt to make up the whole batch at one time (so many people spoil the entire lot this way) but prepare one day at a time.

Into each day put equal parts of faith, patience, courage, work (some people omit this ingredient and so spoil the flavour of the rest), hope, fidelity, liberality, kindness, rest (leaving this out is like leaving the oil out of the salad dressing - don't do it), prayer, meditation, and one well-selected resolution. Put in about one teaspoonful of good spirits, a dash of fun, a pinch of folly, a sprinkling of play, and a heaped cupful of good humour.

Anon

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

"Pray without ceasing" (1 Thes. 5-17)

In 1908 at Graymoor in Garrison, New York, the Franciscan Friars and Sisters of the Atonement held the first Church Unity Octave and have prayed for Christian unity, "without ceasing," ever since. Today, Christians around the world celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

together, with the encouragement of the World Council of Churches' Faith and Order Commission and the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity

Each year the theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is developed by one country which produces outline material that is adapted for use in other parts of the world. Korea is the selected country for 2009

This year, Christians around the world will pray for unity: "that they may be one in your hand" (Ezekiel 37: 17). Ezekiel – the name meaning "God makes him strong" – was called upon to give his people hope in the desperate religious and political situation following the fall and occupation of Israel, and the exile of many of its people.

A group of Christians from Korea found that the text of Ezekiel offered some compelling parallels to their own situation within a divided country and for a divided Christendom. Ezekiel's words give them hope that God will gather God's people again into one, calling them God's own, and blessing them to make them a mighty people.

This year the people of Selly Oak will join together for a service at Langelys Road Methodist Church on **Sunday 18th January** at **6.30 pm** to mark the beginning of the week of prayer.