

This Week at St Mary's

10 October 2021

ST PETER'S SLAVES MEMORIAL

I was invited to a reception at nearby St Peter's to mark their 'City Stories Heritage Project'. The occasion included Bishop Paul blessing their new roof. The weather meant this was done from inside, not on it, as some had hoped.

There followed an extremely moving Act of Remembrance: Memorial to Enslaved Peoples. It recently emerged that 3 plantations in Jamaica in 1820 had come into the possession of Robert White Almond, then rector of St Peter's. They had been owned by Joseph, Robert's wife Sarah's brother. He died and under his Will, he left them to Robert and Sarah's children. During their minority, their father had no choice in law but to become the legal owner (a married woman was prohibited from owning property). Slavery was ended in 1833, the slaves were emancipated and compensation was received by the family for the 'loss' of the slaves.

220 slaves are named on the Memorial. They are the ones associated with these plantations whose names are known. St Peter's is the first church to have taken so proactive a step to face their historic connection to slavery. At the least, Mr White Almond comes over as one of many thousands who 'passively went with the system'.

We listened as a poem and other powerful words spoke of the pain and injustice of slavery. A solo rendering of the great hymn Holy, Holy, Holy was sung by Esther, walking the length of the church to the Memorial where Bishop Paul prayed God's blessing. As the vicar Christopher Harrison said, he felt our response should be silence, as at the end of a Good Friday service.

'We still live with so many of the legacies of slavery. We hope hidden stories like this will illuminate the suffering and create change'.

Tom Gillman

SHAREWEAR CLOTHING SCHEME

(This was referenced at the Harvest Service last Sunday.)

Sharewear was founded in March 2014 by a group of five Catholic women from the combined parishes of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Bulwell and Infant of Prague, Bestwood Park. Today their team comprises people who profess several different faiths or none, whose mission is 'to clothe people with compassion'.

Their Founder and CEO, Louise Cooke, has been recognised in the Independent's Happy List for 2021 as one of 50 inspirational people driving positive change in Britain. Her happy list entry says: ***Clothing poverty has been significantly worsened by Covid, creating a busy time for Sharewear, Britain's largest provider of free clothing and bedding to the vulnerable. Those who nominated Louise spoke of her endless positivity and determination to help those in need. Sharewear's flagship clothes bank in Nottm (a 2nd centre opened in Sheffield in January) made bulk deliveries to London, Rhondda Valley, Hull, Wakefield, Brigg, Lincoln, Scunthorpe and Derby during the pandemic, coping with a 33% increase in annual demand for clothes.***

Donations are taken in by pre-arranged appointment to 41 - 43 Mansfield Road. NG5 6BB. If you have a clothing donation please get in touch sharewearclothingscheme@gmail.com 07724 118 666, or via their [Facebook page](#). We gladly accept these items in all sizes:

- Women's clothing, coats and shoes
- Men's clothing, coats and shoes
- Children's (Girls & Boys) clothing, coats and shoes
- Infants/Toddlers (Girls & Boys) clothing, coats and shoes
- Bedding, sheets, duvets, pillows and bath towels

We will only use clothes which are of a very high quality & can only accept brand new underwear. (sharewearclothingscheme.org)

MEADOWS FOODBANK - We welcome: UHT milk; 500g bags sugar; toilet rolls; small bottles cooking oil; tinned meat, fruit, potatoes, pasta; shampoo; toothpaste, or cash donations. Tues 5.30-7.15, Fri 10-12, Sat 11-1pm NG2 2JD

GIVING AT ST MARY'S - We are most grateful for all donations which are our main source of income. Please use the new contactless donation station by the South Porch. Alternatively cash/cheques may be placed in the nearby chest, using Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer, or use the Donate button on the website. Please consider a Standing Order (NatWest St Mary's PCC 560061 00834602).

RECENTLY AT ST MARY'S

Reception on Thursday for **International students from Nottingham College**, at which Alex Hill (choral scholar) provided beautiful piano music.

Last Friday St Mary's hosted the **funeral of Romenna Hylton** in a service led jointly by Pastor Sean Samuels (New Generation Church), Rev Sonia Barron (DDO, Lincoln Diocese) and Grant Walton. A large congregation attended to remember the life of a widely loved woman who was known for her celebration of life and faith.

Craft & Flea Market took place on Saturday, although the persistent rain kept many at home.

Harvest gifts for Emmanuel House - very many thanks and these have been gratefully received.

ART EXHIBITION at St Mary's 13-17 Oct 10-4pm (1-5pm Sunday). Nottm City Artists Studio Group will present Shades of Green, as the church is 'transformed into an oasis of green', in its varying tones, lime and leaf, tea and pea through to olive and the darkest ivy.

THE PRAYER COURSE - an eight-week journey through the Lord's Prayer, led by Mike and Alison Davies of Urban Abbey in Sneinton. Thursdays at 19:30, 21st October - 2nd December, by Zoom. Each session is 1 hour long, includes watching a video and discussion, with a practical prayer activity. To book your place please email dillsley@stmarynotts.org

BREAKING THE SILENCE OF THE BRITISH SLAVE TRADE - 21st October @ 7pm, St Mary's, Admission Free, Suitable ages 10+. A unique immersive theatrical tour for Black History Month. Testimony, story, and song from voices of the 18th century British Abolitionists. A unique theatrical performance. collisionstheatreuk@gmail.com for info. Bookings: <https://tinyurl.com/7skprehc>

CONCERT with Braimah Kanneh-Mason on violin, **Beate Toyka** on piano, & the Orchestra of the Restoration directed by John Keys, **Sat 23 Oct 7.30pm** at St Mary's. Vivaldi's The Four Seasons and Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 1. £15 (£10 conc £5 U23s) via <https://www.trybooking.co.uk/BDWX>, Nottm Tourism Centre & Windblowers, or on the door subject to availability.

TIME OF MORNING SERVICE will revert to **10.45** from 31st October.

VOLUNTEERS FOR REFRESHMENTS after the morning service.
Thanks to those who have come forward. Many hands will make for light work. If you feel able to be on a rota to help with this, please email Di in the office Dillsley@stmary.notts.org

Wherever you are, we extend a very warm greeting to you, especially if you've recently discovered St Mary's - we are open Mon-Fri 11-2.30pm

11.00am SUNDAY SERVICE in St Mary's Church
also Audio Broadcast live via our website
(follow the link, including for Order of Service)

6.30pm SUNDAY EVENSONG (Live & Broadcast)

6.15pm WEDNESDAY EVENSONG (Live & Broadcast)

6pm THURSDAY EVENING PRAYER (skype) Contact Grant
(gwalton@stmarynotts.org)

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR

Estelle Barks

Stephen Morris

Harry Palmer

Email admin@stmarynotts.org Web stmarysnotttingham.org

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