

Please **remember in your prayers** Isobelle Price and Evie Henderson, to be baptized here at lunchtime.

Tickets for the first concert in the **Autumn Concert Series** are now available from any PCC member. It takes place next Saturday 13 September at 7.30pm, and features the renowned Clifton and Lightcliffe Band.

You should have been given today a **letter from Bishop Stephen**, announcing an appeal to help those caught up in the recent events in Georgia. We have a diocesan Link with Georgia, which is why he has made this appeal. The collecting bottle is out this morning, and we be out next week too, for anyone who would like to contribute to this appeal.

This Tuesday is the first meeting of **Calderdale Council's Area Forum for Lower Valley**, taking place at the Hipperholme and Lightcliffe High School. Its on Tuesday evening, from 7pm, and key players in local decision making structures will be present to listen to our views on a range of matters, including facilities for young people, vandalism, and nuisance behaviours of various kinds. I have experienced Area Forums at work in other places, and they can be very powerful initiatives, which deserve our support. There is more information about the meeting in the Foyer *Fr Peter*

Looking ahead.. our patronal festival this year is on Sunday 21st September, when we welcome the Revd Hilary Barber, of Halifax Parish Church, who is patron of St Matthew's, as our preacher.

The PCC decided this week that this Harvest we would support a **Christian Aid Harvest Appeal** to help a small community in, who are developing ways to resist the advances of the Sahara Desert, which have been brought about by global warming. The idea is that we each bring a cake, and then buy a cake which someone else has brought, all the proceeds going to Christian Aid. Or if you're not the world's best baker, maybe you could just donate the cost of making a cake instead! There will be lots more information about the project on the day...

28 September is also **Back to Church Sunday**, and here are some special invitations this morning, for us to use in inviting folk to church that day.

This year our grand team of **Flower Arrangers** will be decorating the church for our Patronal Festival on 21 September, and Harvest on the 28th, all in one go, though there will be one or two specials for Harvest! Contributions towards the cost of flowers would be much appreciated in the bowl in the foyer.

St Matthew's Lightcliffe

striving to live in worship and prayer
growing in faith and love
serving the community
and so bringing people to Christ



Sunday 7 September 2008: The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

From wherever you have come, be it just around the corner, or from further afield, a very warm welcome to St Matthew's. We pray that you will find something here to inspire, challenge and comfort you.

Today at St Matthew's

8am	The Eucharist
10am	The Parish Eucharist: 49, 196, 106, 40, 520, 141, 138, 172
12 noon	Holy Baptism
6.30pm:	Evensong:

This week at St Matthew's

Tuesday	9.15am: Eucharist [BCP], 7pm: Area Forum meeting at Hipperholme and Lightcliffe High School
Wednesday	7pm: Eucharist
Thursday	9.15am: Eucharist,
Friday	12.30pm: Crossroads Lunch Club, 6.15pm: Family Service
Saturday	1pm: Wedding of Richard Clegg and Rebecca Luke 7.30pm: Concert by Clifton and Lightcliffe Band

Services next Sunday:

8am:	Eucharist
10am:	Parade Eucharist
12 noon:	Holy Baptism
6.30pm:	Evensong

Collect

Lord of creation,
whose glory is around and within us:
open our eyes to your wonders,
that we may serve you with reverence
and know your peace at our lives' end,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Old Testament: Ezekiel 33.7-11

So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, 'O wicked ones, you shall surely die', and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: 'Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?' Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

New Testament: Romans 13.8-end

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in

quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Gospel: Matthew 18.15-20

'If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'

Post Communion

Almighty God,
you have taught us through your Son
that love is the fulfilling of the law:
grant that we may love you with our whole heart
and our neighbours as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen