

ENCOURAGER

Sharing monthly stories of God at work among us.



SHROVE TUESDAY & ASH WEDNESDAY

February = Pancakes in Cafe Hope on Shrove Tuesday. Lieu took over the famous pancake party corner and served about 70 pancakes in just over 2 hours! Thanks to Joshua Macdonald who made the last minute batch of pancake batter for the stragglers! Cafe Hope is always sharing Jesus with its customers in many ways.

On Ash Wednesday Ruth took the Refresh Service at lunch time where people came as a place to think, pray and start Lent. Many had ashes marked in a cross on their foreheads. 120 people are receiving daily emails from Malcolm and following the Lent prayer this year and encouraging and can share through a Whatsapp group if they wish.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE



Nicole and Nester joined with others at St John's Church in Loughton on Sunday 22 to be confirmed by Bishop Adam. Ruth How presented them for confirmation as representative from St Mary's. Please pray for Nicole and Nester as they continue in their journey of faith, that they will be continually filled with the Holy Spirit.

ignite

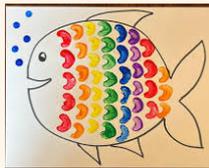
The ignite team is amazing in how they serve the children and youth at St Mary's. There was a team night for them and the ignite advocates for the various ages were given many thanks and a small gift and everyone enjoyed fish and chips. There are 105 children on our database who come into contact with us. ignite groups have been busy so far this year!



(L) ignite Youth Late Night



R) Blaze art - Psalm 139 & God & Creation



Kindling - Jonah and the Fish



Malcolm and Caroline

Malcolm and Caroline have had the opportunity of attending New Wine Leaders Conference in Harrogate just this week. Over 2,000 church leaders are gathering to connect with each other, worship Jesus together and to seek God in what is going on all around the UK.



Church Family

Some of those in our church who mark Chinese New Year, including some who recently joined Chinese Alpha, meet to celebrate Chinese New Year together with a meal. Bible studies are taking place and a lifegroup has formed following on from the Chinese Alpha Course.

