

## HOLY FAMILY

They say that a family that prays together stays together, and the most stressful time of the year for most families is Christmas, when aunts and distant uncles are once again thrown together for the festive period and sometimes that unusual cocktail doesn't always work.

In the image of the Holy Family we have a very different picture of love and harmony, where Joseph faithfully stands by the side of Mary acting as a good provider and protector and guides her and her new child into a safe homeland.

Here at Saint Luke's we belong to God's family and we should have the same loving care for one another. For a family unit to really work, individuals must forget about themselves and think more of others. **Tonight** there is an opportunity for our family to get together for some social time. Please do join us 7pm for our Karaoke evening. Bring with you a drink (there will be some available), at just £1 admission let us enjoy one another's company as we look forward to a new year.

**New Years Eve** – the Mass tomorrow will be at the slightly earlier time of 6pm, which should allow you all to make your own arrangements for welcoming in the New Year.

**New Years Day** – there will be a mass at 12 noon, and **not** 10am. This will contain a holy baptism and will be in the church, and will be followed by a party. A warm invitation is extended to you all to join us for this occasion. Let's start the year as we mean to go on and let us present our needs to the Lord. We will be praying especially at this Mass for Saint Luke's during 2008, the year that is going to be full of great changes.

**Dinner Money** – would all those who have booked for our farewell meal at the Plough and Harrow, please ensure they see Ann Babington today and if possible pay any outstanding money. Definite numbers have to be submitted on Friday with full payments.

**Meetings** – The Community Project holds its Management Committee on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 4pm. Please collect your agendas from Ann Chapman. Saint Luke's PCC holds its meeting on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm. Please see Syliva Orme for your agendas.

**Looking Ahead** – is anybody interested in going to the musical Mary Poppins at Birmingham Hippodrome on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August. The price is going to be *approximately* £39, which will include transport. Please give Ann Babington your name if you are interested. No definite commitments at this stage.

**Be our guest** – please do think about visitors when they come into Saint Luke's and be willing to move up the row or to vacate your seat entirely in order to make visitors welcome. It makes all the difference and will encourage a return visit if people feel welcomed.

**Christmas Greetings** – the display board will remain up for a few more days. Please do have a look at the greetings that are sent to you all. If you would like to add your name to theirs, then feel free to do so, placing a donation into one of the envelopes and handing it to one of the clergy or the wardens.