

**Easy Giving!** If you would like to donate to church funds you can now do it by text! All you have to do is type in the Just Giving Text code, **STSB41**, followed by the amount you want to give i.e. £10 and send it to **70070**. It's that easy!

**Housegroup** Tuesday 10th January - Continuation of Advent Course at 75, Kingston Avenue from 7.30pm.

**Confirmation** next year looks like being adults only – no children turned up to the meeting setting dates and times for classes, so for the first time in a long time there will be no younger group. But there will be a young at heart group, and you may want to join it, either to prepare to be confirmed or as a refresher course. There will be six sessions, all at 7.30 to 9pm at a venue to be decided on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> March then 19<sup>th</sup> April to 10<sup>th</sup> May inclusive; the Maundy Thursday service of Holy Communion on 5<sup>th</sup> April also forms part of the course. Confirmation is on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May.

**St. Richards Hospice** will once again benefit from your generosity if you sign the poster affixed to the mosaic at the back of church with your greetings, and make a donation in lieu of sending Christmas cards to those you see regularly. The money will be sent off **NEXT WEEK** so there is still time to make a donation **TODAY** to this very worthwhile cause.

**Silent Prayer Dates 2012.** The first two dates for 2012 are as follows: Thursday January 12<sup>th</sup> at 12.45pm in the Lady Chapel. Wednesday February 8<sup>th</sup> 7.30 pm at 13 Penbury Street. More dates to follow shortly. All are welcome even if you just want to attend once a year.

**St. Stephen's Visitors** next meeting is on **Monday 9th January** at 7:30 pm at the Vicarage.

**Jan's Sponsored Walk with a Difference!** The walk takes place on Saturday 28th January in **Jerusalem**. It's about 7 miles in total, three times round the outside of the old city walls. It has been organized by McCabe Educational Trust which is the charitable wing of McCabe Pilgrimages and every penny raised will go to support three projects: a boy's home and school in Bethany, a school for the blind in Bethlehem and a rehabilitation centre also in Bethlehem. All three projects rely totally on outside support from charities such as the Trust. Please consider making a contribution to this work - even a pound or two will make a difference to the help we can give to these worthwhile projects. Sponsorship forms are at the back of church. Thank you! Jan.

**Burns Supper.** If, unlike Jan, you are not lucky enough to be in Jerusalem on **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January** then come to the Burns Supper in the hall instead! Tickets cost £7.50 and there is a list at the back of church to sign up or speak to Beryl Thorp. There will be a 3 course supper including cock-a-leekie soup, haggis with neeps and tatties, oatcakes with cheese and shortbread. Soft drinks will be provided but if you want a wee dram of anything else I'm afraid you'll have to bring your own. Very good value I hope you will agree! There will be a piper to welcome you to the feast and to pipe in the haggis. During the evening there will also be some quieter entertainment courtesy of Ian and Claire King, and an inaugural performance by the St. Stephen's male voice choir. (It may also be their farewell performance as well!) How can you possibly turn down this unique opportunity! Places are limited to 50 so sign up ASAP to avoid disappointment.

**Thanks to Keith Layton** for doing his lumberjack impression by 'cutting down' the Christmas tree.

**Junior Church Leaders** next meeting will be at the Vicarage on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January** at 7.30pm. All welcome!



**8<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

[Contact Details](#)

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