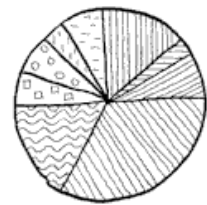
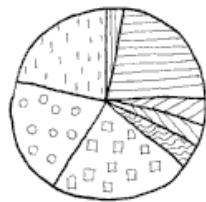


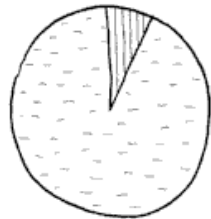
WHAT THE CLERGY DO ALL WEEK



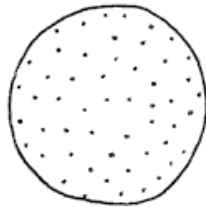
WHAT THE CLERGY DO



WHAT THE PARISHIONERS THINK THE CLERGY DO








WHAT THE CLERGY THINK THE PARISHIONERS THINK THE CLERGY DO



WHAT THE PARISHIONERS THINK THE CLERGY THINK THE PARISHIONERS THINK THE CLERGY DO

-  GO TO CHURCH, PRAY ETC
-  PREPARE SERMONS
-  GO TO MEETINGS
-  VISIT THE SICK
-  HELP PEOPLE BE BORN, GET MARRIED AND DIE

-  SURF THE INTERNET
-  PLAY GOLF
-  KEEP UP TO DATE WITH POPULAR CULTURE (TV, MUSIC ETC)
-  NOTHING
-  TO BE HONEST IT IS NOT SOMETHING I HAVE SPENT MUCH TIME THINKING ABOUT

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NOTICES

Children at St Stephens:

Baptism Course starts on Monday January 12th – If you are interested in having your child baptised please talk to Bob (07969090907)

Sunday School starts on Sunday January 11th – This is for children 4 years old and above. Younger children can stay with their parents on the colouring table or go into the playroom.

Mother & Toddler group starts on Monday January 12th. This meets on Monday from 9-11. Ring the door on the Coverdale Road side to get in.

Playroom – Parents who want 'time out with their children during the service. There is a speaker system set up so that you will be able to hear the service while sitting in the room with your children

Colouring table – parents can sit with their children during the service



St Stephen & St Thomas' Church

28 December 2008
Feast of St Stephen along with
the Holy Innocents

Welcome to St Stephen & St Thomas Church
Visit the church web site at www.ststephensw12.org.
You can read all the latest news about the parish.
You can also read the sermons which are posted each week

Processional Hymn

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
First Reading

The Stoning of Stephen (Acts 7:54-60)

When they heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.

Gradual Hymn

GOSPEL Massacre of the Innocents Matthew 2:13-18

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son." [a] When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under,

in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

"A voice is heard in Ramah,
weeping and great mourning,
Rachel weeping for her children
and refusing to be comforted,
because they are no more."[b]

*Amazing love, oh what sacrifice
The Son of God, given for me
My debt He paid, and my death He died
That I might live, that I might live*

INTERCESSIONS

Please pray for

- The sick and suffering: especially Felix Okike, Lucilda Bernard, Joan Andrew, Ivy Smith, Susie Leach, Norbert Edwards, Sylvia Steed, Tracey Davies, Esmay Young, Roger Cox, Althea Ferns, Dorian Henry, Detroy Henry, Mary Rodney, Esme Hoyte, Esme Fairburn

Offertory Hymn

Communion Hymn

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Recessional Hymn

Coffee in Church after the service

NEXT SUNDAY: 4 January 2009 Epiphany
10 am ALL AGE SERVICE Matthew 2.1-12 (p.41)
Celebrant and Preacher – The Reverend Dr Bob Mayo