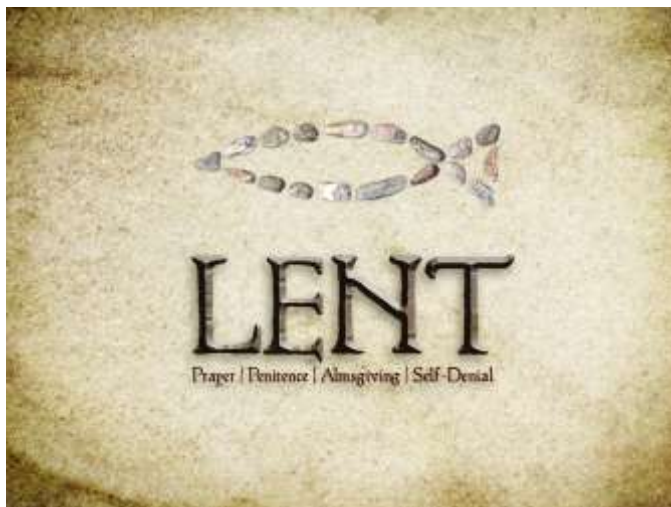


## ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



### CHURCH OF ST GUTHLAC

Holbrook Rd, Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

<http://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk/>

Minister: Revd Richard Bonney 2125677

[rjbonney@gmail.com](mailto:rjbonney@gmail.com)

Churchwardens:

David Hunt

Tina Jarvis

**1 March 2015**

**10.30 am Communion for All (Lent 2)**

### WELCOME TO ANY OF YOU VISITING US FOR THE FIRST TIME!

Please announce yourself to one of our welcomers and sign in the welcome book so that we get to know you by name! Also, please introduce yourself to Revd Richard or one of the Churchwardens. St Guthlac's is YOUR local church. We feel part of the local community and we hope that you will feel part of the church community. **We have a welcome sheet:** please ask for one if it is not handed to you on arrival.

Newsletter No 144

## **FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS**

Tuesday 3 March, 2.30pm

Mothers' Union AGM and tribute tea:

Knighton Parish Centre, Brinsmead Rd

Wednesday 4 March, 7.30 pm

Choir Practice

Thursday 5 March, 9.30 am

Holy Communion

Thursday 5 March, 6.45 pm

Knighton Players Rehearsal

Sunday 8 March, 10.30 am

Contemplative Communion for All

**PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL** We have been asked to keep **Dorothy Wollaston, Jan and Bob Newell, Aileen Orme, Saty French, Veronica Brown,** and **Gerry Markwick** in our prayers. Please also pray for the souls of **Violet Magee, Philip Tyler and Roy Freeman.** For other prayer requests, please speak to the Revd Richard.

**EBOLA CRISIS APPEAL (DISASTERS EMERGENCY COMMITTEE AND CHRISTIAN AID)** Christian Aid envelopes are available for you to support this appeal. The explosive spread of Ebola in West Africa is not just killing the infected but ripping apart health services, devastating communities, and destroying people's ability to support themselves. More than 4500 people have died and over 10,000 have been infected by the Ebola virus. The outbreak is not only a health crisis, but also a humanitarian crisis with global dimensions.

**THE REVD RICHARD WRITES** The Letter from the House of Bishops to the People and Parishes of the Church of England for the General Election 2015 entitled *Who is my Neighbour* suffers from being too long and at times difficult to read. It will not attract a large audience though it has already been dismissed by a number of newspapers under the mantra of 'meddling bishops' or 'meddling in politics'. They should know better. Politics is not the exclusive domain of politicians and journalists who fawn to the prejudices and business interests of the current owners of their newspapers. Everyone, or almost everyone (that is another debate) has the right to vote. And the Church of England is one of the last few institutions in touch, through its parishes, with the whole of the country (England, that is). Before a general election whose result will be of great importance for state and society alike, the bishops felt compelled by their faith to spell out the need for politics to recover the language and conviction of serving the common good. It was an important and necessary aim.

The majority of the country may no longer have faith, but those who lead the church do – and the bishops remind the rest of us of our (largely forgotten or ignored) Christian roots. The whole point about Jesus Christ, they argue, was that he came upon this Earth and experienced the human condition before meeting a painful death. 'Christians everywhere and throughout the ages,' they write, 'have prayed, as part of the Lord's Prayer, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on Earth as in heaven."' That is why politics and the life of the Christian disciple cannot be separated. That is why the church calls its members to play a full part in

the political life of the nation.' There needs to be once more a spirit of respect, neighbourliness and a mutual search for the common good.

They cite St Paul's letter to the Philippians (4:8) as an inspiration that should motivate believers and nonbelievers. 'Whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.' At present, 'we are subjected to sterile arguments about who might manage the existing system best. There is no idealism in this prospectus.' The advice of St Paul 'may help to defend us against the temptations of apathy, cynicism and blame and instead seek – because we are disciples of Jesus Christ who long for a more humane society – a better politics for a better nation.' The bishops' advice that constitutional change should not be rushed, least of all for party advantage (paras 97-99) and on identity and the politics of migration (paras 100-105) are just two examples of sensible words on current debates, where their opinion is of vital importance for the future and moral wellbeing of our nation.

**MEMBERS OF THE ST. GUTHLAC CONGREGATION: MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK** We are endeavouring to compile a complete list of activities undertaken by members of the congregation which enrich the life of the church. There is a huge amount which the congregation of a volunteer church undertakes and we would like to celebrate the wealth of help and thank all those who give in whatever way. Please will everyone who feels they help in any way, however small, let Tina have a note of the activities they undertake. Delivering leaflets, cleaning the church, growing plants to sell at the fayres, giving lifts to members of the congregation, helping run Bubbles, preparing services and gardening are just few things that you might be involved with. Thank you. PCC.

**BABY EQUIPMENT NEEDED** for prospective grandparents! Richard and Margaret are expecting a happy event in May - birth of 1<sup>st</sup> grandchild, all being well. If anyone has any of those many large items needed by small babies, eg cots, pushchairs, high chairs, which they no longer need, please think of moving them on to us! We would be most grateful for any offers. 2125677 or email [mmbonney@gmail.com](mailto:mmbonney@gmail.com)

**SURPLUS BOOKS** On the small table at the back of church are several bibles and old Sunday School books (mainly ladybird bible stories) which are surplus to requirements. If anyone can find a good home for them please feel free to take as many as you want, before they are disposed of.

**KNIGHTON REMEMBERS WORLD WAR I EXHIBITION** <http://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk/>

Coverimage:[http://www.caddomillsumc.org/hp\\_wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Lent\\_Slide1.jpg](http://www.caddomillsumc.org/hp_wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Lent_Slide1.jpg)

**MAY FAYRE** Thank you to everyone who has volunteered so far. There is still help needed so if you are able to help in any way please sign the list in the welcome area. There will be a **short meeting** for all helpers after church **TODAY** to run through the finer details to ensure everything is covered. If you have any queries about what you have signed up to do, please speak to Lesley, Ann, Anne or Jane.

**PARISH WALK TODAY March 1<sup>st</sup>**. It will be an unreconnoitred 4 mile circular route from St Bartholomew's Church in Foston (near Countesthorpe). Meet at St Mary's at 2:00pm or at 2:15pm at Foston. The route is over fields so sturdy footwear is recommended. All welcome and lifts are available.

**MOTHERS UNION** Our A.G.M. is next Tuesday, **3rd March**, at 2.30 p.m. in the Parish Centre Lounge, when members' subs are due.

**MESSY CHURCH Friday 6 March, 3.30–5.45pm** at Stoneygate Baptist Church. Fun craft activities on a Caribbean theme. Celebration: story, singing, prayer, especially for primary children and their parents/carers (all children must be accompanied). Delicious food (veggie option). Tell us you're coming if you can, or just turn up. We do need to know of any dietary needs (contact Rita. A joint venture of Stoneygate Baptist Church and St Mary's and St Guthlac's churches.

**WALKING AND PRAYING WITH CHRISTIANS OF THE MIDDLE EAST** Join with the South Leicester Christian Partnership for a pilgrimage of prayer and study through Lent at St. Thomas More, Knighton Road, **each Thursday of Lent** (5, 12, 19, 26 March) at 7.30pm.

**KNIGHTON PLAYERS** will be performing Sinbad on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm and Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2.30pm and & 7.30pm** in the Parish Centre. Tickets (adults £6, children £4) are available from Jane Wright (St. Guthlac's), Tanya Willis (St. Mary's), or [knightonplayers@ntlworld.com](mailto:knightonplayers@ntlworld.com).

**RAFFLE** Could you provide a **raffle prize**? If so, please contact Jane Wright or Judi and Bernard Stone. Thank you

**LENT COURSE BOOK.** The Worship Committee has selected the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2015 by Desmond Tutu. There will be two discussion meetings, on **Sunday 22 March** and **Sunday 19 April** at 4 pm in the Welcome Area; both meetings will last about an hour and refreshments will be served.

**FOR THE NEWSLETTER** Please contact us at the latest by 9 am Friday for material to be included in the next weekly newsletter. [administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk](mailto:administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk)