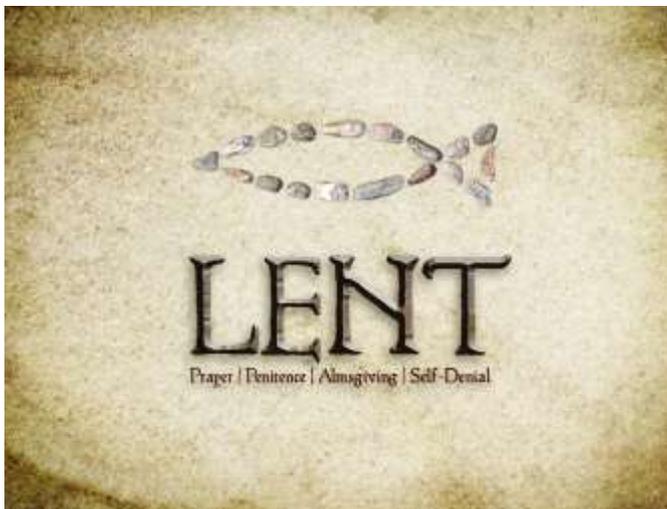


ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



CHURCH OF ST GUTHLAC

Holbrook Rd, Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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

Minister: Revd Richard Bonney 2125677

rjbonney@gmail.com

Churchwardens:

David Hunt

Tina Jarvis

8 March 2015

10.30 am Contemplative Communion (Lent 3)

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 145

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

Tuesday 10 March, 7.30 pm	PCC meeting
Wednesday 11 March, 7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 12 March, 9.30 am	Holy Communion
Thursday 12 March, 6.45 pm	Knighton Players Rehearsal
Friday 13 March, 1.30 pm	Memory Café
Sunday 15 March, 10.30 am	All Age Worship: Mothering Sunday

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL We have been asked to keep **Dorothy Wollaston, Jan and Bob Newell, Saty French** and **Veronica Brown** in our prayers. 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 Tom Wright, in his book *How God became King. Getting to the Heart of the Gospels*, writes: 'reading the gospels as the launching of God's renewed people, then, is not merely a historical note: "This was where and how our story began." It declares too: "This is the sort of people we are: suffering kingdom-bringers, suffering kingdom-sharers." **Today's Christians in the Middle East are the modern suffering kingdom-bringers and suffering kingdom-sharers.** This Lent, the South Leicester Christian Partnership, our ecumenical grouping, has been Walking and Praying with Christians of the Middle East. We have pondered the fate of Christians in Syria in our first meeting. This week it was revealed that as many as perhaps 400 Christians have been taken hostage by Islamic State. Their fate is unknown, although some have already been killed. And our group has resolved to write to our Christian brothers and sisters in that country. I have placed the draft of this letter on our noticeboard but, because of its importance, I share it with you now.

'During this season of Lent we are making a spiritual pilgrimage through the lands of the bible, to understand more deeply these ancient places where God first revealed Godself to our ancestors. We began our pilgrimage in your country, Syria, and heard at first-hand of the appalling hardships you face as you live your daily lives in a danger that is almost unimaginable to us.

'We know that you have kept the Christian faith since the very earliest times, and that your homeland is witness to so many generations of those who have followed God our Father. Our faith comes from your faith, and so it is with such sadness

that we see the destruction of your country, of your way of life, of those who have been dear to you.

‘Despite the distance that separates us, we want you to know that you are very much in our thoughts and in our prayers; **we wish to share your troubles and pain, in whatever way we can, and to assure you that the struggles you face are not forgotten by the world, but rather give us certainty in the power and love of God who is close to those in adversity, and who is surely very close to you in these days.**

‘God our Father loves each one of us, and we pray that God will keep you safe; will strengthen you in your trials; and will one day bless you and your land with peace. May we be close in prayer, and as sisters and brothers in Christ may we support each other with our love.’

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 1st 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

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.

LEPROSY MISSION We have collected £84.35 so far to send to the Leprosy Mission. If anyone else would like to donate, please leave your donation in the basket at the back of church **TODAY** as I will be forwarding the cheque to the charity this coming week.(please use a blue envelope if you would like to gift aid it). Many thanks Jane.

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

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** (12, 19, 26 March) at 7.30pm.

KNIGHTON PLAYERS will be performing Sinbad on **Friday 20th March 7.30pm and Saturday 21st March 2.30pm and 7.30pm** in the Parish Centre.

TICKETS ARE SELLING QUICKLY! Please come and support members of the congregation who are involved in this event. Profits are split between various children's charities. Tickets (adults £6, children £4) are available from Jane Wright (St. Guthlac's), Tanya Willis (St. Mary's), or 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.

MOTHERS UNION Prayer and Fellowship, takes place on Tuesday, **24th March**, in St. Mary's Narthex at 2.30 p.m. Members and friends are invited to join with us.

MAY FAYRE Monday 4 May. **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. If you have any queries about what you have signed up to do, please speak to Lesley, Ann, Anne or Jane.

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