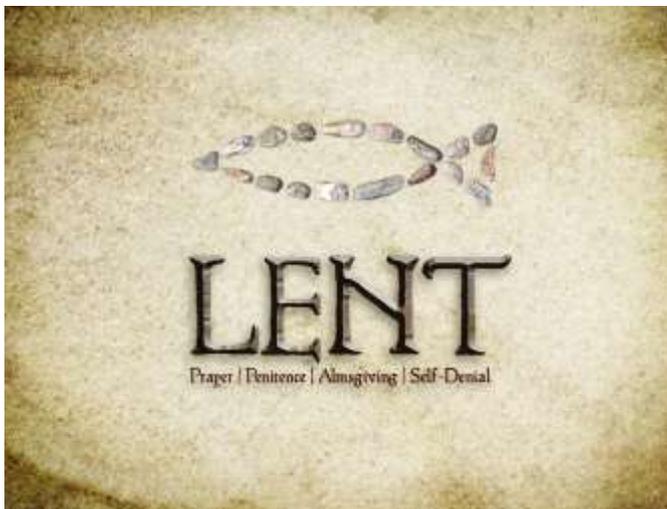


## ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



### 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

**15 March 2015**

**10.30 am All Age Worship: Mothering Sunday (Lent 4)**

### **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 146

## **FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS**

Wednesday 18 March, 7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 19 March, 9.30 am	Holy Communion
Thursday 19 March, 6.45 pm	Knighton Players Rehearsal (Parish centre)
Sunday 22 March, 10.30 am	Matins
Sunday 22 March, 4.00 pm	Lent book discussion (Welcome Area)

**PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL** We have been asked to keep **Ann Spring, Dorothy Wollaston, Jan and Bob Newell, Gerry Markwick, Sammy Davis, Saty French** and **Veronica Brown** in our prayers. Please also pray for the soul of **Caroline, who has died recently** For other prayer requests, please speak to the Revd Richard.

**THE REVD RICHARD WRITES** The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have written a much shorter letter to their faithful than their Anglican counterparts (no doubt some are saying it's too short...) but it echoes many of the same themes. It is divided into a number of sections: Respecting Life; Supporting Marriage and Family Life; Alleviating Poverty; Educating for the good of all; Building Communities; and Caring for the World, each of which can be consulted on the website <http://catholicnews.org.uk/>.

I was particularly interested in the section on **Building Communities**. The Bishops write: 'as human beings we share a common humanity and are members of a single human family. We rightly have ties to our own families and communities, but are always called by the Gospel to a wider solidarity with others and to help build a society based on love and justice, where decisions are made at the most appropriate level – whether local, national or international.

*Europe.* The principles of solidarity and subsidiarity assist us in how to think about the future of Europe. **Where do your candidates stand in protecting these values in the debate about European institutions?**

*The Voluntary Sector.* For some communities many factors make life more difficult, including rising inequality, increased loneliness for many older people, job insecurity and overstretched community services. Building communities is something that can only be done by active citizens. It cannot only be left just to politicians or government. **Where do your candidates stand on the role of the voluntary sector and how its work can be enhanced?**

*Living Wage and the Dignity of Human Work.* The private sector also has a vital role. Business should see itself at the service of society, solving problems and meeting needs. The market economy exists to serve humanity. People are not merely economic units to be exploited. The dignity of work should always be respected. **Do your candidates support a living wage and a thriving private sector committed to fair pay and the dignity of human work?**

*Asylum and Immigration.* Violence and conflict have led to the massive displacement of people, many of whom seek asylum or refuge. There are also workers and students from overseas who contribute much to the common good of our country. Indeed, most people who settle in this country find work in order to bring up their families and contribute to society's well-being. Immigration is a highly emotive issue and every country needs a policy to control immigration, as well as a positive commitment to policies that facilitate the integration of migrants into the mainstream of society. There

is a great danger of blaming immigrants for the ills of society. We support policies which fairly regulate immigration and uphold the human rights of all, recognising the rights, dignity and protection of refugees and migrants. **Where do your candidates stand on issues of asylum and immigration?**

*Religious Freedom.* In recent years we have witnessed a dramatic increase both in violent extremism and in the persecution of people on the basis of their religious beliefs. Many have suffered appalling violence. The recognition and respect given to religious belief is now a crucial issue in many societies including our own. Catholics seek to recognise the signs of God's goodness everywhere, promote mutual understanding, defend the fundamental rights and freedoms of all, including the right to practice their religion, both in private and in public, and the duty to strive to contribute to the common good of all. **Where do your candidates stand on these issues of religious freedom, mutual respect and the role of faith in God in contemporary Britain, and in defending fundamental human rights and promoting religious freedom overseas?**

**CONSULTATION FOR THE NEW BISHOP FOR LEICESTER:** As you will know Bishop Tim has announced he will be retiring as Bishop of Leicester on the 11th July 2015. The process for choosing a diocesan bishop begins in the diocese. However, because of the variety of roles which diocesan bishops have, not only within the Church of England but also in the local community and the nation at large, the choice is not made by representatives of the diocese alone. Diocesan representatives (known as the 'Vacancy in See Committee') work with representatives of the wider Church of England, under the presidency of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. In order to hear the views of people in the Diocese, there will be open consultation meetings:

- **Tuesday 17th March** – St John's Church Hinckley
- **Wednesday 18th March** – Grand Hall, St Martins House, Leicester

In each case the meeting will run from **7.00 for 7.15 to 8.45**. All are welcome, whether or not you are currently involved in the life of the Church.

At each meeting, members of the Vacancy in See Committee will be present to listen to your views on questions such as:

- What are the key challenges and opportunities for the Church in Leicester and Leicestershire in the next 5-10 years?
- What are the qualities we should be looking for in our next Bishop?

You will also be able to ask any questions you may have about how the process of choosing the next Bishop works.

If you are unable to attend any of these meetings, or would like to submit your views in writing, please email the Secretary of the Committee, Jonathan Kerry ([jonathan.kerry@leccofe.org](mailto:jonathan.kerry@leccofe.org)) or write to Jonathan Kerry, St Martins House, 7 Peacock Lane, Leicester LE1 1SY, to arrive no later than 27th March 2015.

**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** (now just 19 and 26 March remaining) at 7.30pm.

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)

**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 ARE SELLING QUICKLY!** 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 Tel: 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.

**EASTER FLOWERS** Church will be decorated for Easter on Easter Saturday 4th April starting at 9.30am. Please sign up on the planner if you can offer to decorate a windowsill. New helpers very welcome. Please bring flowers if you are able (we usually have a yellow and white theme) but additional flowers and foliage are usually available. If you would like to donate towards Easter lilies there will be a container available. Thank you.

**SENIORS' SATURDAY FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP Sat 11th April 12.15 pm** Senior members of the congregation are invited to the welcome area for lunch (soup, sandwiches and dessert) and conversation. Please sign up if you would like to come and indicate whether you require a lift. Cost £4.

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING** This will take place at **12 noon on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April** and will be followed by a bring and share lunch. Activities will be provided in the welcome area to entertain the children whilst the APCM is in progress. Please make a note in your diaries!

**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.

**LEPROSY MISSION** We have collected £104.35 which has been sent to the Leprosy Mission. Thank you to everyone who has donated.

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

**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)