

## 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

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Churchwardens:

David Hunt

Tina Jarvis

**24 May 2015**

**10.30 am All Age Communion: Pentecost**

### 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 156

## FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

Wednesday 27 May, 7.30 pm

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday 28 May, 9.30 am

Holy Communion

Sunday 31 May, 10.30 am

Communion for All: Trinity Sunday

**PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL** We have been asked to keep, **Ann Spring, Marjorie O'Neill, Dorothy Wollaston, Jan and Bob Newell, Brenda Harrison, Saty French, Christopher Bond, Samantha Hough-Farmer** and **Kate Adams** in our prayers. Please also pray for the souls of **Janet Hubbard** and **Derek Sibson** who have died recently. For other prayer requests, please speak to the Revd Richard.

**THE REVD RICHARD WRITES** We know that Pentecost Sunday, the birthday of the Church, is one of the most significant days in the Church calendar. The first Christians (before they even called themselves this) were waiting from guidance from the Holy Spirit, as had been promised by Christ. And then the Spirit came. And the faith was never the same again, but entered into a profound period of change and growth: the early Church became an organization peopled by people who from Antioch onwards called themselves 'Christians' (Acts 11:26). We need to recapture some of that transformative power.

In the *ABCs of Church Change*, the American pastor Karl Vaters writes that 'healthy churches need to move from a destination mindset to a change process'. What does he mean by this? His argument is that in a destination mindset, systems, facilities and methods become permanent parts of who we are and what we do. A building becomes our identity, or a method becomes our theology. But when a church implements a change process, we know what needs to be changed and why. 'When things never change, people think they never *should* change. Inertia becomes policy. But when things are regularly changing, change becomes part of the DNA of the church. Innovation becomes normal. **The ability to change is like a muscle. It grows stronger the more we use it.**'

So Karl Vaters pronounces: 'Change is healthy. Change is good. Change is normal. All living things change. Or they die. The church is no exception to that. No, we don't change the essential doctrines. They are our foundation. Messing around with the foundation doesn't bring change; it causes collapse... Just as churches that change the essentials will collapse, a church that isn't willing to change on non-essentials will die.'

Fear of change is no way to lead a healthy church, Vaters argues. 'Churches that seldom change never become good at it. Churches that have a regular process for change do it well – and healthily. **If you want your church to get used to making needed changes, change things regularly...** Stay firm on the foundations. Worship Jesus, honour Scripture and love people. On everything else, follow the ABCs. **Always Be Changing Something.**'

Karl Vaters, 'The ABCs of Church Change (Always Be Changing Something)' (11 May 2015).

**MEMORY CAFÉ FUNDING: SPARE FOREIGN COINS** There are Memory cafés at St Guthlac's and St Thomas More where people with dementia and their carers can come for support, guidance and information in a friendly and supportive environment. St Guthlac's café (called Holbrook) meets on every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday and St Thomas More café (called Knighton) meets on every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month 1.30- 3.30pm. We have been running for over a year. Stimulating reminiscence activities are provided, such as Singing for the Brain, Arts & Crafts and other memory activities. The sessions also provide a really valuable opportunity for carers to meet and support each other. The cafes are run under the guidance of the Alzheimer's Society. They provide a leader, arrange visiting presenters, make contact with people needing assistance and give training for volunteers. The cost, for two cafes, is £250 a month. The first year's funding came from the Church Urban Fund (Near Neighbourhood Fund). We now need to find funding to continue.

As part of this funding drive, **we would like to collect all spare foreign coins** that banks will not exchange. If you have any coins please donate them and leave them in the box at the back of the church. We can arrange to convert them into sterling.

### **REQUEST FOR SILENT MEDITATION DURING COMMUNION**

**Please use the time during the choir anthems for prayerful contemplation whilst others are taking communion. Thank you**

**TO ALL JAM, CHUTNEY AND PICKLE MAKERS.** Bottles and Jars going free to a good home. If anyone would like bottles and jars with metal lids please let me know. Happy to deliver to you or bring to church. Fiona Wingate

**SAMARITANS** Molly Clarke will be doing a sky dive in aid of the Leicester Samaritans on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July. There is a sponsorship form at the back of church if you would like to support her.

**PLANNED GIVING** Thank you to those people who have responded to the recent planned giving mailing. If you are still thinking about responding or would like further information, please speak to Mark Wyatt. Thank you.

**GARDENER NEEDED** to tend a small plot in the church garden. Please speak to Brenda if you would be willing to take responsibility for it. Thank you

**BUSY BEES** Busy Bees are hoping to run from July 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>, 9.30am to 3pm, at Stonegate Baptist Church, if there are enough helpers available. **If anybody is able to commit some time to help, during those dates, please contact Judi Stone** Thank you.

Cover image: <https://prayerbookguide.files.wordpress.com/2011/06/spiritumsanctam.jpg>

## THANKS FOR ALL YOUR GOOD WISHES RE MEGAN GRACE



**MOTHERS UNION** - our May Supper and Quiz is being held this **Tuesday, 26th May, at 7.00 p.m.** in the Parish Centre. Tickets are £10 and if you have not already purchased one please telephone Helen Long (0116 270 7781) or Anne Squires (0116 210 2504) and we can hold your ticket on the door. There are still a few places available on our Summer outing to Stoneywell Cottage, Ulverscroft, on Tuesday 23rd June, so please let us know if you would like to join us. Friends welcome.

**SEMP TREASURE HUNT Monday 29th June** based around the New Walk area starting at Victoria Park Gates Granville Road from 6pm. We will meet up afterwards at the Old Horse on London Road for a cold buffet. The cost is £6 which includes the treasure hunt and buffet or £1 for the treasure hunt only. Numbers by 22nd June to Robert Pike A great mission opportunity to invite your friends and families along!

**A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY.** Saturday, August 1st, 2015

**"Creative Blooms"** A relaxing afternoon of flower arranging with a difference!

To be held at the Parish Centre of St. Mary Magdalen at 2.30 - 5.00 pm.

Further information and ticket availability to follow. All proceeds to St Mary's church funds.

**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)