

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

28 June 2015

10.30 am Fourth Sunday after Trinity: Communion for All

6.30 pm: Evensong at Wistow with joint choirs

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 161

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

Wednesday 1 July, 7.30 pm

Choir Rehearsal & party

Thursday 2 July, 9.30 am

Holy Communion

Sunday 5 July, 10.30 am

All Age Worship

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL We have been asked to keep **Pamela, Ann Spring, Marjorie O'Neill, Dorothy Wollaston, Mirriam Norris, Phillip Squires, Brenda Harrison, Helen, Saty French, Christopher Bond, Samantha Hough-Farmer** and **Kate Adams** in our prayers. Please also pray for the souls of **Jim Ragg, Michael Biddick** and **Frederick Turnbull** who have died recently. For other prayer requests, please speak to the Revd Richard.

THE REVD RICHARD WRITES Every year since 1974 the UN World Environment Day (WED) has been held on 5 June 'to create an awareness about environment problems the world or a specific country is facing'. This year's theme was 'Seven Billion Dreams; One Planet; Consume with Care'. Water, which we assume is always plentiful as it covers 70% of our planet, is threatened. Freshwater is rare and makes up only 3% of the world's water – and two-thirds of that is either inaccessible in frozen glaciers or unavailable to use. Around 1.1 billion people around the world lack access to water and many of the water systems that keep ecosystems alive and feed the population are overused.

The same problem applies to food production. Around 805 million people worldwide do not have enough food to lead a healthy life, which amounts to around one in nine people. The problem is only going to get worse as the world's population continues to grow, particularly in developing countries, where 13.5% of the population is undernourished. Yet one-third of all food produced – around 1.3 billion tonnes – is never consumed and the production of it uses up natural resources. The poorly managed extraction of natural resources leads to clashes for control of the wealth, feeds corruption, displaces people, pollutes waters and has a negative impact on health, trapping people in a cycle of poverty. The executive director of the UN Environment Programme writes about food extravagance as a cause 80 per cent of deforestation and is the largest single cause of species and biodiversity loss at: <http://www.unep.org/wed/news/Waste-Not-Want-Not.asp>

In a happy (near) coincidence of dates with World Environment Day, today's first reading has St Paul teaching the Corinthians to share their abundance with the Jerusalem believers who are in need: 'it is a question of a fair balance between your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance'. Moreover, our PCC is shortly to consider once more, and we hope finalize, our own Environmental Statement. This includes a statement that 'We will ask everyone using the church, hall and grounds to take account of the following when planning and carrying out events.

- Responsible use of energy to avoid wastage
- Recycling of waste materials where possible using the orange bin provided (details of recyclable materials provided in the hall kitchen and on the bin)
- Reducing / minimising food waste
- Water usage and minimising the amount of water that is wasted
- Protecting the gardens, natural environment, and all creatures that live there.'

The final element in the mix is the most important of all, Pope Francis' encyclical on the environment (*Laudato Si'* or 'Be Praised', or 'Praised be to you') which is addressed to all the world's inhabitants and not just Catholics: 'I would like to enter into dialogue with all people about our common home.' 'The natural environment is a common patrimony of all humanity and the responsibility of everyone. If we make something our own, it is only to administer it for the good of all. If we do not, we burden our consciences with the weight of having denied the existence to others.' The ecological crisis is also a summons to profound interior conversion. 'It must be said that some committed and prayerful Christians, with the excuse of realism and pragmatism, tend to ridicule expressions of concern for the environment. Others are passive; they choose not to change their habits and thus become inconsistent. So what they all need is an "ecological conversion", whereby the effects of their encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in their relationship with the world around them. Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience'.

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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 2nd Friday and St Thomas More café (called Knighton) meets on every 4th 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.

Cover image: <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e1/Ecologia.jpg>

EVENSONG AT WISTOW TONIGHT at 6.30pm with the combined Choirs of St Mary Magdalene and St Guthlac. This year, the music in this service is dedicated to the memory of Janet Hubbard who was a member of St Mary's Choir for 53years. The conductor will be Dr. Paul Jenkins, conductor of the Knighton Chamber Orchestra and Knighton Opera.

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

CREATIVE BLOOMS. Join us for a relaxing afternoon of flower arranging with a difference and maybe a chance to show off your skills too! To be held on **SATURDAY, AUGUST 1ST**, in the Parish Centre at 2.30 p.m., to 5.00 p.m. There will be a raffle and a mystery prize. Tickets £4.00, to include tea, coffee and biscuits, from Deborah Martin, Lorna Kirk and Margarete Booton. Proceeds to St. Mary's church funds.

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

Jan and Bob Newell would like to thank everyone for their prayers over the last few weeks.

KNIGHTON PLAYERS are looking for a **new Producer** for their next production in March 2016. If you think you can help, please contact David Hunt on knightonplayers@ntlworld.com for more information.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK An excellent total of **£1367.81** was raised including £827.81 from the street collection (an increase on last year). A big thank you to everyone who collected or donated. You really do make a difference to people like Loko. Lesley

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.

RECYCLING FOR CHURCH AND HALL There is now an orange wheelie bin for recyclables, kept next to the general waste bin outside the hall. This is to be used for paper, cardboard, glass bottles and jars, food and drink tins and plastic food/drink containers (rinsed). Please put all suitable recyclable items in the plastic basket at the back of church or place directly into the orange bin. Thank you.

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