

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 November 2015

10.30 am Remembrance Sunday

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 180

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

Tuesday 10 November, 7.00 pm	Worship Committee (Welcome Area)
Wednesday 11 November, 7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 12 November, 9.30 am	Holy Communion
Thursday 12 November, 6.45pm	Knighton Players rehearsal
Friday 13 November, 8.00am	Ecumenical Morning Prayers (St MM)
Friday 13 November, 1.30pm	Memory Cafe
Friday 13 November, 7.00 pm	Youth Alpha (Welcome Area and church)
Sunday 15 November, 10.30 am	Matins

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL We have been asked to keep **Jean Swanson, David Pallot, Ann Spring, Dorothy Wollaston, John and Flo McVey, Saty French** and **Norman England** in our prayers. Please also pray for the souls of **Tony Berkley, Joyce Butterfield, Marjorie O'Neill** and **Joan Siesage** who have died recently. For other prayer requests, please speak to the Revd Richard.

THE REVD RICHARD WRITES I take my cue from the **Royal British Legion website this morning**. 'During the First World War (1914–1918) much of the fighting took place in Western Europe. Previously beautiful countryside was blasted, bombed and fought over, again and again. The landscape swiftly turned to fields of mud, bleak and barren scenes where little or nothing could grow.

Bright red Flanders poppies (*Papaver rhoeas*) however, were delicate but resilient flowers and grew in their thousands, flourishing even in the middle of chaos and destruction. In early May 1915, shortly after losing a friend at the second battle of Ypres, a Canadian doctor, Lt Col John McCrae, was inspired by the sight of poppies to write a now famous poem called 'In Flanders Fields'.

'In Flanders fields the poppies blow [McCrae wrote 'grow' in the original draft of the poem]
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.'

McCrae's poem in turn inspired an American academic, Moina Michael to make sell red silk poppies which were then brought to England by a French lady, Anna Guérin. The (Royal) British Legion, formed in 1921, ordered 9 million of the poppies which were sold on 11 November that year. The poppies sold out almost immediately and that first ever 'Poppy Appeal' raised over £106,000, a considerable amount of money at the time, which was used to help WW1 veterans with employment, housing etc. [In 2013, poppy sales raised £39 million in the UK].

The following year, Major George Howson set up a Poppy Factory to employ disabled ex-Servicemen and which today, together with the Legion's warehouse in Aylesford, produces millions of poppies each year. The demand for poppies in England was so high that few were reaching Scotland. Earl Haig's wife established the 'Lady Haig Poppy Factory' in Edinburgh in 1926 to produce poppies exclusively for Scotland. Over 5 million Scottish poppies (which have four petals and no leaf unlike poppies in the rest of the UK) are still made by hand by disabled ex-Servicemen at Lady Haig's Poppy Factory each year and distributed by a sister charity Poppyscotland.

Sales of the Royal British Legion poppy helps the British Legion to provide thousands of modern veterans, Service men, women and their families with vital advice and support. This year don't just wear a poppy for the memory of the fallen, wear it for the future of the living.

<http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/remembrance/how-we-remember/the-story-of-the-poppy/>
Cover image: <http://www.many-2-one.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Remembrance2013.jpg>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sun 22 nd November, 10.30am	Communion for All, with guest preacher Rabbi Mark Solomon
Sun 29 th November, 6.30pm	Advent service: Darkness to Light at St. Mary's with joint choirs
Sat 5 th December, 10am-1pm	Christmas Fayre
Sun 13 th December, 5pm	Christingle service
Sun 20 th December, 10.30am	Nativity Gift Service (Holbrook Hall)
Tues 22 nd December 7.30pm	Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
Thurs 24 th December, 4pm	Crib service
Thurs 24 th December, 8pm	First Eucharist of Christmas
Fri 25 th December, 10.30am	Christmas Morning All Age Eucharist

HOLY HABITS. CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY FOR DAILY LIFE. BISHOP'S LAY CONGRESS at St Martin's House, **Sat 14 Nov, 9.30am - 3.45 pm**. Four seminars to choose from and two main speakers with the presence of Bishop John Holbrook, interim Bishop of Leicester, throughout the day. **FREE** but entry by ticket only. Booking forms on the table at the back of Church.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE Sat 5th Dec 10pm-1pm. Please make a diary note!

Items we are now collecting include:

Full bottles of anything for the bottle tombola

Bulb bowls suitable to be filled with one or three hyacinth bulbs

Homemade preserves and pickles

Handicrafts

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE As this worked well last year it has been decided to raffle a Christmas Hamper again this year. If you would like to donate an item towards the hamper, please indicate what you would like to give on the list in the welcome area. As the hamper will be displayed at the Christmas Fayre, **items need to be brought to church by 29th November please. Thank you.**

MAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS GO FURTHER. The PCC would like to suggest that members of the congregation make a donation to a charity instead of exchanging Christmas cards with one another, as in previous years. **If you have a suggestion as to which charity we should contribute to this year, please speak to a member of the PCC.** Thank you.

HAVE YOU OR A RELATIVE OR FOREBEAR EVER COMPOSED ANY MUSIC? If so and it is suitable for a service (no heavy metal please!), please talk to Yolanda; we think we may have the makings of a Matins

CHOCOLATES AT HALF TERM This initiative was very successful in yielding funds for Fair Trade: the final figure will be announced shortly. Please continue to support Fair Trade.

ARE YOU WILLING TO VISIT ONE PERSON IN OUR DISTRICT? Those of us who visit Care Homes and housebound people are conscious that there are others who would appreciate contact. If you feel you could consider this please contact Brenda Lee or Jean Gabbar to talk it over. Thank you.

FOR THE NEWSLETTER Please contact us at the latest by **10pm Thursday** for material to be included in the next weekly newsletter. **administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk**