

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



A NEW BISHOP FOR LEICESTER

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

20 December 2015

10.30 am Nativity Gift Service (in Holbrook Memorial Hall)

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 186

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

See dates for your dairy below.

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL We have been asked to keep **Daisy Reynolds, Terry Cocks, David Pallot, Ann Spring, Dorothy Wollaston, John and Flo McVey** and **Saty French** in our prayers. Please also pray for the soul of **Jean Swanson** who has died recently. For other prayer requests, please speak to the Revd Richard.

Stewart, Ann, Katherine & David would like to thank all at St Guthlac's Church for keeping Jean Swanson and family in their prayers at what has been a difficult and sad time.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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
There is no service at St. Guthlac's on Sunday 27th December	
Sunday 3 January, 10.30 am	All Age Communion: Epiphany
Thursday 7 January, 9.30 am	Holy Communion
Friday 8 January, 8.00 am	Ecumenical Morning Prayers
Sunday 10 January, 10.30 am	All Age Worship and Holy Baptism
Sunday 10 January, 4.00 pm	Advent Book discussion (Welcome Area)
Sunday 17 January, 10.30 am	Matins

THE REVD RICHARD WRITES The natural state of affairs in the Church is one of departures and new arrivals. Our eager anticipation of the arrival of the new Bishop is matched by sadness at the impending departure of Keith and Ruth from Knighton and their move to Braunstone. Just as we pray for the success of the ministry of the new Bishop of Leicester, so we pray for the success of Keith's ministry in Braunstone where we trust he and Ruth will receive a generous welcome.

In praying for the success of our new Bishop, we should be mindful of the qualities which were sought. The new Bishop of Leicester will be: **A discerning and wise strategic leader, able to set priorities, delegate and empower other people's gifts**; rooted in prayer, wisdom to discern key priorities; a strong track record of effective leadership, team building and management in a significant post; and a vital aptitude for delegation and trusting others to share in the tasks of episcopate. **Deeply spiritual and prayerful, seeking to become more Christ-like**: in a fast-changing world, someone who draws from the stability of an underlying rhythm of prayer, is rooted in humanity and 'shaped by God'; someone who by example and vision will strengthen the prayer life of the Diocese and enable the resources of the Cathedral and Diocesan Retreat House to serve the spiritual renewal we seek in every local church. **An inspiring teacher and communicator**

of Christian faith to people of all ages, especially young people; someone with the capacity to offer teaching which inspires more people to follow Christ and to follow him more deeply; able to communicate faithfully and relevantly, holding together Bible and newspaper, so that the church proclaims afresh in this generation the Christian faith uniquely revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds; able to speak into the local media and engage with social media; “a people person who is fun, a good communicator, sociable and able to connect with young people” (*The Bishop’s Youth Council*); committed to the flourishing of our Church schools, and further development of mission in Further and Higher Education, including our three universities **An experienced pastor, overseer and creative leader of mission** Committed to, and experience of, leading the local church to engage in mission and grow numerically; the wisdom to encourage committed praying congregations, at the Diocese’s heart, and a servant ministry which provides active pastoral oversight, values lay and ordained ministers, and encourages the laity; dedicated to exploring new models of healthy, growing churches and committed to the discipleship agenda and encouraging vocations; proven insight and relevant experience that will enable the Diocese’s strong commitment to ‘pioneer ministry’ and ‘fresh expressions’ of church to continue and flourish. **A bridge-builder, able to connect centre and periphery, city and county, ecumenical partners, and different cultures:** the insight to support the central hub of Bishop’s Lodge & Diocesan Office and to connect proactively with grass-roots local ministry, bringing greater coherence; experience and understanding of ministry in urban and rural settings, able to take a lead on rural church issues, and commitment to engaging with minority ethnic communities; willing to develop ecumenical relationships further, both with established Christian denominations, new churches and black-led churches; committed to further developing relationships with overseas link Dioceses, and able to learn from world-wide Anglicanism. **A focus for unity: someone genuinely committed to the flourishing of all strands of Anglicanism within the Diocese:** able to offer spiritual leadership that commands respect from all strands of Anglican church tradition, and to work with and encourage the flourishing of all; diplomatic skills to continue to keep the Diocese united as one body, whatever its diversity and range of outlooks able to develop respectful ways of exploring issues around personal identity and its expression. **A genuine risk-taker, able to facilitate change and open to God’s future** “a Bishop with backbone – who knows what they want and will passionately lead us forward with a vision for the future” (*The Bishop’s Youth Council*); able to discern the vocation and vision of the Diocese as a whole, and willing to work with others to see this through boldly; someone who leads change well, facing conflict and working issues through to a conclusion. **Someone confident in being an ambassador for ‘faith in the public square’:** commitment to engage with both urban and rural poverty, with social justice; intelligence and articulacy in speaking into wider partnerships and concerns, and a critical contribution to the public voice of the wider Church of England; “a Bishop who will show the relevance of the Church in the public square,

communicate effectively and 'change the story' told about the Church in the media" (*The Bishop's Youth Council*). **Someone with a strong aptitude for engaging Christianity with other faith communities.** We ask for a Bishop who is confident in addressing all people in the public square, including those of other faiths and of none. The Bishop of Leicester, whose opinion is valued, is seen as an important leader by all cultures, and all forms of the media create opportunities for the Bishop's words to be heard.

NEW BISHOP OF LEICESTER ANNOUNCED The new Bishop of Leicester is to be the Rt Revd Martyn Snow, currently Bishop of Tewkesbury. The announcement was made on the website of 10 Downing Street on 15 December. Bishop Rachel Treweek of Gloucester says 'I have deeply appreciated Bishop Martyn's friendship, support and collegiality. Whilst I am sad that Bishop Martyn will be leaving us so early on in my ministry here, I am convinced that today's announcement marks a very natural and appropriate step for him. Bishop Martyn's gifts and experience will be richly used in Leicester.' Martyn is 47, married to Lynn and they have three children. Bishop Martyn spent his first day in the diocese visiting a variety of projects and places with which the church of England is involved. Later in the day the bishop met some of the diocesan staff at St Martins House, and attended evening prayer in the oldest church in the city, St Nicholas. The Bishop will be installed in Spring 2016.

DEPARTURE OF THE REVD KEITH MAGEE The Acting Bishop announces that the Revd Keith Magee, Vicar of the Benefice of Knighton, has been appointed as Vicar for the Parish of St Peter Braunstone Park, Leicester. The date of Keith's licensing will be announced in due course. His last service in the parish will be on 14 February.

CHURCH CHRISTMAS CARD There is now a large card in the welcome area. If you wish to donate to charity rather than exchanging cards this year, please sign the communal card and put your donation in the box. Thank you. PCC

THANK YOU to everyone who helped at, or supported the Christmas Fayre. The total raised to date amounts to just over £1000, with an additional £168 raised from the raffle which has been sent to Bishop Christopher to help fund a monthly visit of a mobile health clinic to Mfula and Chamalala in Northern Malawi - villages which are so remote that they have no regular access to health care.

EDGE PROJECT: TOASTIES VOLUNTEER URGENTLY NEEDED to help in the kitchen at the Youth Cafe on a Wednesday night (term time only) 5:30 - 8:30. We are looking for at least one volunteer who is able to offer some time. This could be monthly, fortnightly or as little as an hour every week to help run our kitchen. . Please contact Ali Simpson-Smith (via Richard) if you feel able to help.

THERE WILL BE NO NEWSLETTER W/C SUNDAY 27TH DECEMBER. Information to be included in the following newsletter must be received by Tuesday 29th December. Thank you. administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk