

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



CHURCH OF ST GUTHLAC

Holbrook Rd, Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

Minister: Revd Richard Bonney 2125677
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Churchwardens:
David Hunt
Tina Jarvis

19 January 2014
Matins: Second Sunday after
Epiphany

WELCOME TO ANYONE 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 87

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

TONIGHT Sunday 19 January 6.30 pm South Leicester Christian Partnership
Unity Service at Stoneygate Baptists
Monday 20 January 12 noon SLCP Pilgrimage: St Guthlac's
Wednesday 22 January 7.30 pm Choir Practice
Thursday 23 January 9.30 am Holy Communion
Thursday 23 January 6.45 pm Knighton Players Rehearsal

For more information about St Guthlac's, **please consult the notice board** or our website <http://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk/>

SOUTH LEICESTER CHRISTIAN PARTNERSHIP PILGRIMAGE FOR THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Monday 20 January 12 noon	St Guthlac's
Tuesday 21 January 12 noon	St Thomas More
Wednesday 22 January 12.30 pm	Society of Friends (Quakers Mtg Hse, Queen's Road)
Thursday 23 January 12 noon	St John's
Friday 24 January 12 noon	St Mary Magdalen

BUILDING BEYOND 2012 – WELCOME AREA (EXTENSION) FOR ST GUTHLAC'S. Many thanks for your kind generosity in helping us meet our target! This is a great blessing. We are still receiving donations to ensure that we can complete the project in terms of any extra needs such as fixtures and fittings or any unforeseen costs.

REVITALISATION OF HOLBROOK MEMORIAL HALL. The full bid was submitted for the Biffa Award Scheme by the deadline of 30 August 2013. Our thanks to Steve Bowyer for preparing the bid and for the community group in helping to obtain letters of support. Please hold the aim of improving our facilities in your prayers.

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL. We have been asked to keep **Liz Singleton, Janet Hubbard** and **Alf Comer** in our prayers. Please also pray for the souls of **Joan Ingle** and **Freda Neal** who have died recently. For other prayer requests, please speak to the Revd Richard.

LEGACIES. We welcome all legacies, however large or small, and we promise to use your gift to make a difference in our parish. Please consider leaving a proportion of your estate as a gift in your Will to our parish. For confidential advice to anyone at St Guthlac's, please contact Mark Wyatt [REDACTED]
<http://www.parishresources.org.uk/legacies/resources-on-legacies/>

THE REVD RICHARD WRITES On 7 January, our PCC met with Louise Warner, Children and Families Officer of the Diocese, for a discussion on the subject of the Admission of Baptised Children to Communion before Confirmation. This is not an innovation. It has taken place in a number of parishes in this Diocese, including our own, since 1997. Two of our 'older young worshippers' were in the cohort of youngsters to be admitted to Communion last time this was carried out after an introductory course lasting some weeks. Slightly different Regulations were approved by General Synod in 2006, which require a new vote of the PCC on this matter: the decision to proceed once more with this policy was approved unanimously with one abstention at our last meeting. There is no requirement to seek formal consent from the congregation as a whole, but the PCC and I felt that it would be good to explain why we are proceeding with this policy now and what implications there might be for the future.

The main reason for proceeding now with this policy is that a number of parents of our children have asked for this as an option during an earlier consultation. Some of our youngsters are felt by parents and others in the church to be of sufficient maturity for the training towards admission to Holy Communion to be practicable. The initiative needs to come from the child and his/her parents: there is no obligation to request admission to Communion before Confirmation. Some may ask whether children of, say, eight or nine can understand the full significance of the Eucharist. To this there are two answers. Firstly, St Paul talks about 'discerning' or 'recognising the body of the Lord' (1 Cor. 11:29) rather than 'understanding'. Young children's formal understanding will grow as they partake alongside their parents and other adults. The adults may well find that their own 'discerning' is deepened as they receive alongside a child.

What implications are there for the future? The aim is that admission to Communion before Confirmation will take place later this year for some children. Others may follow in subsequent years. The hope is that children will continue to stay in the Church after the move from primary to secondary education and that they will then treat the process of Confirmation seriously in its own right when they feel themselves ready for this additional step along the Christian journey. But for all this to happen two things are needed. The first is that the children are welcomed and supported in their journey towards receiving Communion. The second is that after they have finished this stage of the Christian journey useful roles and an appropriate place for them will be found within the Church community. We pray for God's blessing and your support as a congregation for this endeavour. We must all look to our own understanding and knowledge of Holy Communion so that the children who have followed the preparation course do not end up with a better knowledge than our own!

NEXT MATINS: SUNDAY 16 FEBRUARY

SOCIAL MEETING There is a meeting **TONIGHT** Sunday 19th January **7pm** at the **Craddock**, to plan future social events. Everyone welcome.

KNIGHTON MOTHERS UNION At this month's meeting, on **Tuesday 28th January, at 2.30 p.m.**, we welcome Ruth David, who will deliver a talk entitled 'Kindertransportee'. We are sure this will prove to be a fascinating insight into those times. Ruth was awarded the Cross of the Order of Merit by the German Government in 2012 for her work in teaching children about the Holocaust. All are welcome to join us in the Parish Centre.

SATURDAY BAKEHOUSE. Saturday, **February 1st, 10.00 a.m.**, at the Parish Centre. A demonstration and talk on home bread baking will be given by a local Artisan Baker. To be followed by a lunch of freshly baked breads served with homemade soup, puddings of the day, tea and coffee. Quiz, raffle and mystery prize. Tickets £8, to include lunch, available from: Cora Paul [REDACTED], Judi Stone [REDACTED], Lorna Pollard [REDACTED] and Margarete Booton, [REDACTED].

FAITH LUNCH & BUBBLES CONSULTATION After the All Age Worship on **2nd Feb** there will be a faith lunch in the hall. There will be no coffee that day, and the faith lunch will start at **12 noon**. There will be a discussion group for Bubbles parents and another for the children starting about 12.45pm for an hour leaving the afternoon free. People not involved in the consultation are welcome to stay and chat after lunch.

TASTE OF FAITH: JUDAISM AND CHRISTIANITY, Tuesday 25 Feb., 7.30 pm in the Welcome Area at St Guthlac's. Please book your place or places with Revd Richard because of catering implications.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING This will take place at 12 noon on **Sunday 27th April**. Please make a note in your diaries!

ST. GUTHLAC'S WEBSITE The website is now online and will be populated with content over the coming weeks. It can be found at **<http://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk/>** The articles in the series 'the Revd Richard writes' are now published on the website in the section 'our minister writes'.

CHURCH URBAN FUND Thank you to everyone who made a donation in lieu of Christmas cards. The sum of **£207.05** will be sent to the CUF.

MALLORCA HOLIDAY HOME Sheela Bonarjee (Shali's mum) has a house in Mallorca and has kindly offered it as a holiday let at a reduced rate for members of the congregation. In addition, she has offered to donate £50 from any church booking to a good cause such as the memory cafe. Flights are relatively cheap, typically between £50-100 return. If anyone would like further information about the house, there are some leaflets at the back of church, and Shali/Chris would be happy to tell you more about it.

INFORMATION 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