

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

1 June 2014

The Seventh Sunday of Easter (Easter 6)

10.30 am All Age Worship: the Ascension

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 106

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

Monday 2 June, 6.45 pm	First Communion preparation
Wednesday 4 June, 7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 5 June, 9.30 am	Holy Communion
Friday 6 June, 8.00 am	Ecumenical Morning Prayers (South Leicester Christian Partnership)
Sunday 8 June, 10.30 am	Pentecost: All Age Communion and Double Baptism

The Revd. Richard is preaching at St John's Clarendon Park today at their 11 am service

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

REVITALISATION OF HOLBROOK MEMORIAL HALL. Work started on the internal refurbishment on Monday 7 April and the first phase is nearing completion. This has involved a complete refit and rewiring in the kitchen, backroom and the toilets. The new decoration in this area makes it look very vibrant and clean. The next stage of the work will see the removal of a small amount of asbestos in the hall. Then in the summer holidays, the main hall will be rewired and the ceiling will be tidied up. The PCC has also approved the replacement of the main hall floor, which is breaking up quite badly and is becoming a safety hazard. This will happen later during the summer at a cost of about £13000 and will give us a new floor made of similar timber to the current floor, which will hopefully last another 100 years. There will be some fund raising events to help pay for this. Finally, we are thinking about a "Grand Opening" when all the work is completed. There's a lot going on! Our thanks to Steve Bowyer, Gary Ogg and the team working on the project.

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL. We have been asked to keep **Liz Singleton, Margaret Ellershaw, Tom Skinner, Michael Arnison, Kath Fidoe** and **Janet Hubbard** in our prayers. Please also pray for the souls of **Mary Mitchell** and **Sir Timothy Brooks, KCVO** 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/>

TO ALL INTERCESSORS Please remember to keep a watch on the rota for your turn to prepare intercessions. If you swap with someone else, please let Jane and the Revd Richard know by email to avoid any possible confusion. Thank you.

Cover image:

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/3/3c/Rembrandt_van_Rijn_192.jpg/436px-Rembrandt_van_Rijn_192.jpg

THE REVD RICHARD WRITES The Church of England has introduced a new 'Course for the Christian journey' entitled 'Pilgrim'. Attractively produced, it has two stages, firstly the 'Follow stage', and secondly the 'Grow stage'. I thought it would be good to introduce some key points from the first four booklets that have been produced so far, which are in the Follow stage. The first is called 'Turning to Christ'. Here are some key points: The Christian faith is not just about ideas, it is a relationship. Jesus shows us God's love and we love him in return. Being a Christian is about having a deep relationship with Jesus, spending time with him and listening to him.

Although we may have images of God as an old man sitting on a throne, a very important image of God in the Bible is that of God as a loving, caring and nurturing Father. Whatever our experiences of our own fathers, this reminds us that God loves us with a love stronger than any other we will ever know. People are often put off by descriptions of God's anger in the Bible. If you read carefully, however, you realize that this anger exists because of the depth of God's love for us. Love and anger go hand in hand: the more you love someone, the more you care when they let you down. God's anger is a sign of his love.

The Jews had waited many years for a king like David who would save them from their enemies. In his baptism we see that though Jesus is the Messiah and had come to save us, he would not live in a palace but would live alongside us in the world, just like we do. Throughout his life Jesus drew people to him and overturned expectations. He was often at odds with the authorities of his day. This conflict eventually led to his death, but death could not hold him and he rose again. He became one with us so that we might become one with God.

After Jesus' death and resurrection, the Spirit was sent on the disciples at Pentecost. This was the fulfilment of Jesus' promise to be with them always. Through the Spirit which remains with us, we experience the power of God in our lives and in the world. If we root ourselves in the Holy Spirit then we will bear the fruit of that in our lives. In the same way if we root ourselves in our own selfish desires than that will bear fruit too. The fruits of the Spirit are not optional extras but the natural product of being deeply influenced by the Spirit of God.

The whole story of the Bible is a story of God's forgiveness. This reaches its climax in the death of Jesus on the cross where Jesus forgave those who crucified him and set us all free from sin. As Christians we are called to turn away from all those things – whether big or small – that cut us off from God and from each other and to live in the knowledge that we are forgiven.

Forgiveness is not just about saying sorry, it is about re-orientating your life with Jesus at the centre, so that we can live a new life. God invites us to repent, to turn our lives around and to follow him. The question is how we want to respond.

Evil is not just something extreme that seems all too easy to reject. People are not born 'evil'. They become evil bit by bit over time, influenced by the way they think and feel and what we think and feel ultimately does affect what we do. Rejecting evil involves being open to and with God: open to the God who comes and searches for us and open with God about the toxic things we have inside us which, if unchecked, grow and grow and eventually become evil. We can easily be drawn to evil but we can also reject it and turn to God.

PARISH WALK The June parish walk **TODAY** will be about 5 miles in the Thurnby area. Lifts available from St Mary's for a 2pm departure or just turn up at the Rose & Crown pub car park at Thurnby at 2:15pm. The route is across fields and waterproof footwear is strongly recommended. Simon Britton [REDACTED]

MESSY CHURCH The next messy church will take place on **Friday 13th June**, 3.30-5.45pm at Stoneygate Baptist Church

YOUNG WIVES I have booked a table for lunch at Foxton Inn on **19th June** to eat at 12.30. Any former Young Wives wanting to go should telephone me on [REDACTED] or e-mail me at [REDACTED] before 16th June because the Inn wants definite numbers by that date. Many Thanks. Margaret Grindall

MAGICAL MIDSUMMER MUSIC with Boobs & Brass – the acclaimed all female brass band **Saturday, 21st June 2014, at 7.30 pm** St Mary Magdalen Tickets: £10 & under 16 £5 including refreshments available from Knighton Parish Office (open 9am – 1 pm) **0116 2702705**, Carolyn Oldershaw [REDACTED], Peter Carr [REDACTED], Sue Ardley [REDACTED] and Fiona Wingate.

SEMP TREASURE HUNT around Knighton. **Monday 30th June** starting at the Cradock Arms on Knighton Road from **6pm**, with cold buffet afterwards at the Cradock. Cost £6 including food, £1 treasure hunt only. Contact Robert Pike by Monday 23rd June to book place (including food choice) on [REDACTED] email: [REDACTED]. A great mission opportunity for friends and family!

BUSY BEES This year's holiday club for children aged 5-11 years, takes place on **16th, 17th, 18th July 2014** at **Stoneygate Baptist Church**. The club is free of charge but places are limited to 40 children so please book your place in advance by phoning Judi Stone [REDACTED] or see www.stoneygatebaptist.org.uk

MAY FAYRE Thanks to all those who made this an enjoyable occasion. An amazing **£1000** has been raised for church funds.

CUMBRIAN WAY WALK, 10 May-17 May. Our intrepid group of walkers walked for six days from Ulverston to Carlisle. Margaret walked for the Holbrook Dementia Café and appeals to the congregation and others to support this cause. Sponsorship is still possible.

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