

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

13 July 2014

Fourth Sunday after Trinity

10.30 am All Age Communion

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 112

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

Wednesday 16 July, 7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 17 July, 9.30 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 20 July, 10.30 am	Matins

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 20 th September, evening	Harvest Barn Dance
Sun 21 st September, 4.30pm	Harvest Songs of Praise
Fri-Sun 7 th -9 th November	WW1 exhibition in HH: Details to follow
Sun 9th November, 10.30am	Service of Remembrance in church with Bishop Christopher
Sun 9th November, noon	Official opening of refurbished HH with Sir Peter Soulsby and Bishop Christopher
Sun 30 th November, 4.30pm	Advent service: Darkness to Light at St. Mary's with joint choirs
Sat 6 th December, 10am	Christmas Fayre
Sun 14 th December, 5pm	Christingle service
Sun 21 st December, 10.30am	Nativity Gift Service
Sun 24 th December, 4pm	Crib service
Sun 24 th December, 8pm	First Eucharist of Christmas
The date of the 9 Lessons and Carols is not yet fixed.	

REVITALISATION OF HOLBROOK MEMORIAL HALL. The first phase of work on the internal refurbishment is complete. Phase 2, which includes rewiring and replacing the ceiling tiles in the main hall, begins on Monday 14th July. This will be followed by replacement of the main hall floor at a cost of about £13,000 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. **We have been successful in obtaining a grant of £3,500 from Leicester City Council, Knighton Ward.** Finally, we are planning a "Grand Opening" on Remembrance Sunday 9 November when all the work is completed (Bishop Christopher and the City Mayor Peter Soulsby are coming). 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 **Rachel Stevens, Liz Singleton, Janet Hubbard, Ray Wood, Mona Cufflin** and **Jean Abbott** in our prayers. Please also pray for the soul of **Betty Morris** who has died recently. For other prayer requests, please speak to the Revd Richard.

Please hold Aidan, Calum and Edwin in your prayers on their journey of faith after admission to Holy Communion.

Cover image: <http://theholyprepuce.tumblr.com/post/9338612278/the-christ-of-the-trenches>

THE REVD RICHARD WRITES The commemoration of the centenary of the outbreak of World War I will give thinking Christians much cause for reflection. In the weeks before our Remembrance Day events, I expect to address different aspects of the conflict from a religious viewpoint. The cover image, the celebrated Christ of the Trenches from Neuve-Chapelle, symbolizes the desecration of the faith by the horror of war.

Anticipating this time of reflection, Philip Jenkins has written a new study entitled *The Great and Holy War. How World War I became a religious crusade* – and thus, in his view, how religion helped to create and prolong the war. His thesis is that the war was fought by the world's leading Christian nations, who presented the conflict as a holy war. At first, it had seemed scarcely possible. Three days before the war began Randall Davidson, Archbishop of Canterbury, wrote to the German theologian Ernst Dryander: 'War between the two great Christian nations of kindred race and sympathies is, or ought to be, unthinkable in the twentieth century of the Gospel of the Prince of Peace.' William Temple, later Archbishop of Canterbury during World War II, wrote of the Great War: 'in a world gone pagan, what is a Christian to do? For the world is gone pagan. Members of the body of Christ are tearing on another, and His body is bleeding as it once bled on Calvary, but this time the wounds are dealt by His friends. It is as though Peter were driving home the nails, and John were piercing the side.' Pope Benedict XV lamented 'the suicide of civilized Europe'. 'Who would imagine, as we see them thus filled with hatred of one another, that they are all of one common stock, all of the same nature, all members of the same human society? Who would recognize brothers, whose Father is in Heaven?'

Henry Scott Holland, professor of divinity at Oxford and canon of Christ Church, argued there was nothing odd or contradictory about the fact that both the Germans and British prayed to the same God for victory. 'We would think less of the Germans if they did not believe in their cause. Herein lies our only hope – that both sides believe in a simple law of righteousness; a universal conscience. Praying to the same God proves that we are not relativists. We British pray that God will help Britain, not because she is Britain, but because she is righteous.' It was seemingly appropriate to allow that Germans were in fact praying to God, their problem being that He was only listening to the British.

Arthur Winnington-Ingram, the Bishop of London, never seemed to shirk enthusiastic endorsement of the righteousness of the war and the British cause and the important role the Church of England must play in the whole affair. His favourite sermon text was the same wherever he went: better to die than see England a German province. The church's duty was to 'mobilize the nation for a holy war', to 'band in a great crusade – we cannot deny it – to kill Germans. To kill them, not for the sake of killing, but to save the world; to kill the good as well as the bad; to kill the young men as well as the old, to kill those who have showed kindness to our wounded as well as those fiends who crucified the Canadian

sergeant, who superintended the Armenian massacres, who sank the Lusitania... and to kill them lest the civilisation of the world should itself be killed.' The Bishop went further, giving the war a further crusading touch by adding, 'As I have said a thousand times, **I look upon it as a war for purity, I look upon everyone who dies in it as a martyr.**' So what would Winnington-Ingram say was the role of the Church in war? He answered in a sermon that was published in 1915 stating, 'It exists to inspire the nation to take a noble and high-minded line of policy, to fill the sailors and soldiers with fortitude and courage, and give them in abundance the spiritual and sacramental help they need; to set an example of self-sacrifice; to visit the sick and wounded; to comfort the mourners; and to lead day and night the intercessions of the people.'

MOTHERS UNION Festival Service and Strawberry Tea - a reminder that the Service takes place on **Tuesday, 22nd July**, at 2.30 p.m. in St. Mary's, followed by tea in the Parish Centre. There is not a charge, but we do welcome contributions on the day. Anne Squires (Hon. Secretary)

THANK YOU to everyone who collected coupons from the mercury. Now we have to wait and see if they can offer us part of the community cash. Ann Allsop SKCE

PIANO in Holbrook Hall and old wooden 'Bubbles' tables are to be disposed of. If anyone would like them please contact Jane Wright on administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk or Mark & Steph on kpcbookings@btinternet.com as soon as possible. Thank you

ANNE AND DAVID HUNT announce the arrival of their first Grandchild; born to Richard and Ailsa on Monday June 16, **James Edward** weighed in at 6lb 4oz.

LEGACIES We welcome all legacies, 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 <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.

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

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