

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



CHURCH OF ST GUTHLAC

Holbrook Rd, Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

Minister: Revd Richard Bonney 2125677
rjbonney@gmail.com

Churchwardens:

David Hunt
Tina Jarvis

23 March 2014
Communion for All
Third Sunday of Lent

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 96

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

Sunday 23 March TODAY 7pm	Social planning meeting Craddock Arms
Tuesday 25 March 3pm	Good Friday AAW planning meeting
Wednesday 26 March 7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 27 March 9.30 am	Holy Communion
Thursday 27 March 6.30pm	Holbrook Hall Revitalisation meeting
Thursday 27 March 7.30 pm	Third SLCP Lent Meeting @ St Thomas More, Church Rooms
Sunday 30 March 10.30 am	All Age Worship: Mothering Sunday

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

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 or any unforeseen costs.

REVITALISATION OF HOLBROOK MEMORIAL HALL. Discussions are continuing with regard to the pricing of the work on the hall and the appointment of a builder.

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL. We have been asked to keep **Liz Singleton, Alf Comer** and **Janet Hubbard** in our prayers. Please pray for the soul of **Michael Reynolds** who 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.

ELECTORAL ROLL The electoral roll will be revised on the 6th April as set out in the notice at the back of church. Anyone not currently on the roll and wishing to join the roll should complete an enrolment form and hand it to Jane Wright by 6th April. Thank you.

Cover image: Methodist-Anglican Covenant, 1 Nov. 2003. http://www.anglican-methodist.org.uk/resources_1publicity.htm

THE REVD RICHARD WRITES In my sermon this week I refer to the fact that both Jews and Christians are covenantal religions, religions of the covenant. What is a covenant? The word 'covenant' is a translation of 'berith' in Hebrew and refers to a mutual agreement often incorporating some form of pledge or promise for the future. It is a chosen, as opposed to a natural, relationship of obligation established under divine sanction. In the Hebrew Scriptures there are three covenants of creation and five covenants of redemption, the last one of which, in Jeremiah chapter 31, is a foretelling of what is to come.

In our own time, on 1 November 2003, a Covenant was signed between the Anglican and Methodist Churches (see cover). This contained six commitments. 1) We commit ourselves, as a priority, to work to overcome the remaining obstacles to the organic unity of our two churches, on the way to the full visible unity of Christ's Church. In particular, we look forward to the time when the fuller visible unity of our churches makes possible a united, interchangeable ministry. 2) We commit ourselves to realise more deeply our common life and mission and to share the distinctive contributions of our traditions, taking steps to bring about closer collaboration in all areas of witness and service in our needy world. 3) We commit ourselves to continue to welcome each other's baptised members to participate in the fellowship, worship and mission of our churches. 4) We commit ourselves to encourage forms of eucharistic sharing, including eucharistic hospitality, in accordance with the rules of our respective churches. 5) We commit ourselves to listen to each other and to take account of each other's concerns, especially in areas that affect our relationship as churches. 6) We commit ourselves to continue to develop structures of joint or shared communal, collegial and personal oversight, including shared consultation and decision-making, on the way to a fully united ministry of oversight.

How well is the Covenant working out in practice?, we may ask. There is a joint implementation committee which has produced two long quinquennial reports, the second of which (2013) is available in a shorter version: *The Challenge of the Covenant: Growing in Holiness*. This still asks some fairly basic questions for the next phase of implementation. For example:

- Our two churches need local Anglicans and Methodists to worship and work together more closely to make the Covenant 'real'. Can this be done? How can you help?
- Church leaders and decision-making bodies need to make the Covenant a priority in order to bring our churches closer together in mission and holiness. Can this be done? How can we make this happen?

The Challenge of the Covenant suggests some ways in which our churches could strengthen the bonds of communion that already exist between the Anglican and Methodist Churches, even before we are able to say we are fully 'in communion' with each other. 'These suggestions would help our churches to begin to unite the ways they oversee their life of faith, worship and mission. If we take them a step at a time we shall be expressing our good intent, commitment and seriousness about the goal of visible unity.'

DO YOU WANT TO BE ON THE TELLY? BBC Songs of Praise is being recorded in Leicester Cathedral in April, and there's an opportunity for you all to appear – either as choir members or congregation. **Dates: for choir alone Wed 9th April 7pm-10pm at the cathedral. For congregation and choir Monday 21 April, 1pm-4pm and 6pm-9pm at the cathedral.** If you would like to be part of this event, please give your name as soon as possible to me or to Richard, so that we can book you in (and by no later than **Wed 26 March** to make sure we're in time to register you). Margaret Bonney ([REDACTED]).

SLPC LENT GROUP MEETINGS on the broad theme of the engagement of the Christian faith with the modern world; **the Church Rooms, St Thomas More Church, 75 Knighton Road LE2 3HN, 7.30pm.** Please join us. The theme is: Church and Culture, Church in Culture, Church through Culture. **27 March:** The kingdom of heaven has come near. **3 April:** Following Jesus with faithfulness and service. **10 April:** Living authentic Christian lives in modern times. **There is also a Thursday daytime course starting at 10.30am. We are invited to join a group at Christchurch, Clarendon Park Road, LE2 3AH.**

SPECIAL PASSIONTIDE SERVICE Sun 6 April 4.30 pm 'The Cross of Christ'. A service of music, readings and prayers for Lent and especially Passiontide. Choir rehearsals are on Wed. 26 March & 2 April, both at 7.30 pm.

LENT READING SCHEME AT ST GUTHLAC'S We will hold a discussion evening on Sunday 13 April between 5 pm and 6.30 in the Welcome Area.

EASTER FLOWERS Church will be decorated for Easter on the morning of **Saturday 19th April from 9.30 am** and a good number of people will be needed to do arrangements for the windowsills. New helpers are badly needed and no particular skill level is required. It is helpful if you can bring along some flowers (we usually have a yellow and white colour scheme) and any foliage you may have, but there is always spare available and Cheryl will be on hand to give advice if required. Please add your name to the planner at the back of church if you are able to come along to help. If you wish to donate towards Easter flowers there will be a collection basket available.

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

DIARY DATE: May Fayre Monday 5th May

PARISH MAGAZINE We are trying to assemble a complete set of Knighton Parish Magazines. There are some gaps, mainly in the 1990s. If anyone has any copies they are willing to donate or have copied, please get in touch with Doreen Macafee ([REDACTED]). Thank you.

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