

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

26 January 2014
Communion for All:
Third Sunday of 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 88

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

Wednesday 29 January 7.30 pm

Choir Practice

Thursday 30 January 9.30 am

Holy Communion

Thursday 30 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/>

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/>

VOCATIONS DAY 2014. The Revd Richard will be asking some members of the congregation if they would consider accompanying him to this event. Details so far announced are: **Vocations Day Saturday 22nd March 2014, 10am - 3:30pm at St Martins House.** For all those sensing God's calling and considering how to respond. The day will include key note addresses as well as workshops looking at authorised ministries including Ordination, Reader, Pastoral Assistant, Evangelist, Youth & Children's Work, Pioneer Ministry and more. With Guest Speaker The Rt Revd Andrew Watson, Bishop of Aston. Andrew previously led a small church in Redditch, a middle-sized church in Notting Hill and a very large church in Twickenham.

Cover image: <http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/7f/Baptistery.Arians06.jpg>

THE REVD RICHARD WRITES Today Sunday 26 January is World Leprosy Day 2014 – please pray for the three million people globally with irreversible disabilities as a result of the late treatment of leprosy. And, if you can, please give a gift of hope so that The Leprosy Mission of England and Wales can continue its life-changing work in 11 countries across Asia and Africa.

The apostle John tells us that Jesus came so that we may have ‘fullness of life’ (John 10: 10). Throughout the gospels we hear of Jesus’s concern for the poor and the oppressed. It is following Jesus’s example that The Leprosy Mission works to not only treat people with leprosy, but take an holistic approach to their life, helping to lift them from poverty. Leprosy-affected people face a triple blow of disease, disability and discrimination. Simply treating a person’s leprosy does not change the fact they remain living in poverty. Due to disabilities incurred as a result of the late treatment of the disease and age-old stigma surrounding leprosy, earning a living often seems an impossible dream.

Without a helping hand these people, so loved by God, can be reduced to begging in order to survive. The good news is that, thanks to your generosity, The Leprosy Mission can offer people affected by leprosy gifts of reconstructive surgery, sight-saving eye surgery, housing, a fresh water supply, schooling for their children, job training and help to start a business. In other words, everything needed to restore their dignity and enable them to be self-sufficient.

The Leprosy Mission has a mission statement that reflects scripture. It reads: *Following Jesus Christ, The Leprosy Mission strives to break the chains of leprosy, empowering people to attain healing, dignity **and life in all its fullness**. Our Core Values, *Compassion, Justice, Integrity, Inclusion and Humility* are the measures we have put in place to remind us of our calling and keep us on mission. There is a heart desire to enable all people suffering from leprosy and its consequences to have real choices in life: purpose, relationships, dignity, value, empowerment and lives transformed. But for words to become a reality there needs to be a desire, a commitment, a determination and a steadfastness. A breakthrough from mere words, powerful as they might be, into action.*

Life in all its fullness is not just a matter of words; it is the Father’s desire for us. It can be a reality. Consider Paul’s words in Ephesians 3: 20-21: ‘Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations, for ever and ever!’ Amen. For more information ring 01733 370505 or visit www.worldleprosyday.org.uk

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.

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.

PARISH WALK. Please join us for a walk on **Sunday 2nd February** starting from St Mary's church at **2pm**. We plan to do a walk of 3-4 miles and the route will depend on the weather. New walkers always welcome, so come and give us a try. Mary Britton [REDACTED]

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.

BEETLE DRIVE Saturday 8th March 5-7.30pm. Tickets available soon, adults £4, family £12, to include sandwiches, cake and drink.

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

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'. The diary of church events and the weekly newsletters are also reproduced.

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