

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



CHURCH OF ST GUTHLAC

Holbrook Rd, Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF
<http://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk/>

Minister: Revd Richard Bonney 2125677
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Churchwardens:

David Hunt

Tina Jarvis

7 December 2014 Second Sunday of Advent
10.30 Communion for All

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.

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

Tuesday 9 December, 7.30 pm	PCC Meeting
Wednesday 10 December, 7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 11 December, 9.30 am	Holy Communion
Friday 12 December, 11 am	Memory Cafe
Sunday 14 December, 10.30 am	Advent 3: Communion for All
Sunday 14 December, 5 pm	Christingle

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO SERVICE ON SUNDAY 28TH DEC AT ST GUTHLAC'S BUT THERE WILL BE A 10 AM EUCHARIST AT ST MARY'S THAT DAY.

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL We have been asked to keep **John Norman, Grace Mason, and Jeanine** in our prayers. Please also pray for the souls of **Kath Wadd, Marcel, Kathleen Stringer, Vi Silcock and Lee Parry** who have died recently and keep **June Parry** in your prayers. 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.**

EBOLA CRISIS APPEAL (DISASTERS EMERGENCY COMMITTEE AND CHRISTIAN AID) Christian Aid envelopes are in the pews for you to support this appeal. The explosive spread of Ebola in West Africa is not just killing the infected but ripping apart health services, devastating communities, and destroying people's ability to support themselves. More than 4500 people have died and over 10,000 have been infected by the Ebola virus. The outbreak is not only a health crisis, but also a humanitarian crisis with global dimensions.

SEASON OF INVITATION For the rest of this year we are focusing on inviting family, friends and acquaintances to join us for the many services and events which will be on offer; each of us has been challenged to make personal invitations to people we know. There is plenty of time for you to consider who you might be called to invite to the Christmas season events. There is a range of invitation cards at the back for you to select from and Christmas ones will be available soon. The Christmas leaflet has been produced. Let's make the Season of Invitation a success!

THE REVD RICHARD WRITES

Thanks to David Hunt for putting the images of the exhibition panels for Knighton Remembers World War I on our website: <http://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk/>

The exhibition has moved to the Town Hall and is erected outside the Lord Mayor's parlour as you go into the Council Chamber. Although the exhibition is behind security doors, a fair number of people have visited the area to see the panels.

Two weeks ago I briefly introduced the new feedback form that we will be using from now on to learn more about your reactions to our services. The Worship Committee will consider comments received at each of its meetings and will try to provide some response on occasions when this seems to be necessary. Our aim is to work consistently at ways to improve our worship.

Advent is here and with it the new Church Year (Year B in the Lectionary readings). What does liberation theology actually look like in 21st century Britain? How can the Church respond faithfully to issues like war, climate change and vast global inequalities? These are questions asked by the Revd Chris Howson in his book published in 2011 entitled *A Just Church. 21st Century Liberation Theology in Action* (also summarised in *Magnet*, Spring 2014, p. 34).

A 'fresh expression' church in the centre of Bradford has explored these questions through radical forms of worship, non-violent direct action (for example, physically resisting the unjust detentions of asylum seekers) and experimenting with new ways of being community that help to build the reign of God. Church members have been arrested, come under the scrutiny of security forces and been super-glued together at the gates of hell (aka Aldermaston Atomic Weapons Establishment). This is their story: their successes and disasters, and their modelling of **a new version of the Action/Reflection cycle called EARS (Education, Action, Reflection, Sustaining)**, aimed at helping other Christians to evolve their own way of thinking, growing – and demonstrating the relevance of Church in today's contexts.

I have asked for a number of copies of Chris Howson's article to be placed on the table at the back of the Church. In this he describes in more detail the EARS model which it seems to me could be of considerable interest and potential importance in developing and shaping the future ministry of St Guthlac's. Please take a copy and reflect on it, as well as making suggestions about possible changes for our consideration. The slips and pencils are also on the table at the back of the Church.

WARNING OF TELEPHONE SCAM Parcel Delivery Service. Royal Mail and the Trading Standards office are making people aware of the following scam: A card is posted through your door from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them on 0906 66119** (a premium rate number, partially censored). If you call the number and you start to hear a recorded message you will already have been billed £315 for the phone call. If you do receive a card with these details, then please contact Royal Mail Fraud on 020 7239 6655. For more information, see the Crime Stoppers website (external). Please be aware that the premium rate number may change but nevertheless please do not call any number stated on a card from PDS. Please make sure your colleagues, family, friends and neighbours are aware of the above.

PARISH WALK TODAY 7th December. Meet at St Mary's Church at 2:00pm for a gentle stroll around South Knighton and Stoneygate ending up at Queen's Road for the Christmas market. Once there you're free to make your own way back.

CAROL SINGING in the local area, **Thursday 11th December 6.00 – 7.00pm.** Everyone welcome, carol words will be provided. If you would like us to sing outside your home or the home of someone else you know, please let Ian know. Wrap up well and bring a torch or lantern. Meet outside Holbrook Hall at 6pm.

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL "CAKES & BAKES" A demonstration on preparation and presentation of festive treats will be given by local artisan baker, Christine Taylor, on **Saturday, 13th December, at 2.00 p.m.** in the Parish Centre. To be followed by afternoon tea. There will be a quiz, raffle and mystery prize. Tickets are £8.00 (to include afternoon tea) and are available now from Cora Paul, Judi Stone, Lorna Pollard, and Margarete Booton.

FOOD DONATIONS FOR THE NATIVITY GIFT SERVICE Sun 21st December. Open Hands have let us know that the following 4 food items would be particularly welcome: Cereal, long life milk 500ml, small bottles of cooking oil and tinned meat items. These items are for individuals and families so please note the pack sizes requested and add to your shopping list! The food will be delivered after Christmas.

SING CHRISTMAS 2014 Monday 22nd December 7pm – 8pm at The Old Horse London Road. Join in with this live BBC Radio Leicester interactive sing-along carol concert. Carol sheets can be downloaded at <http://www.singchristmas.org.uk/resource-downloads/>

YOUR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS GO FURTHER. The PCC would like to suggest that members of the congregation make a donation to the **Church Urban Fund** instead of exchanging cards with one another. If you would like to do this then CUF envelopes will be available at the back of church from the beginning of December together with a collection box and a large card for everyone to sign. If you wish to gift aid your donation please fill in your details on the envelope. Thank you.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION thanks St Guthlac's for the sum of **£145.88** collected (including the leaving gift at the Remembrance Sunday service).

KNIGHTON REMEMBERS EXHIBITION for further information see <http://www.leicester.anglican.org/blogs/details/knighton-remembers-exhibition>

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