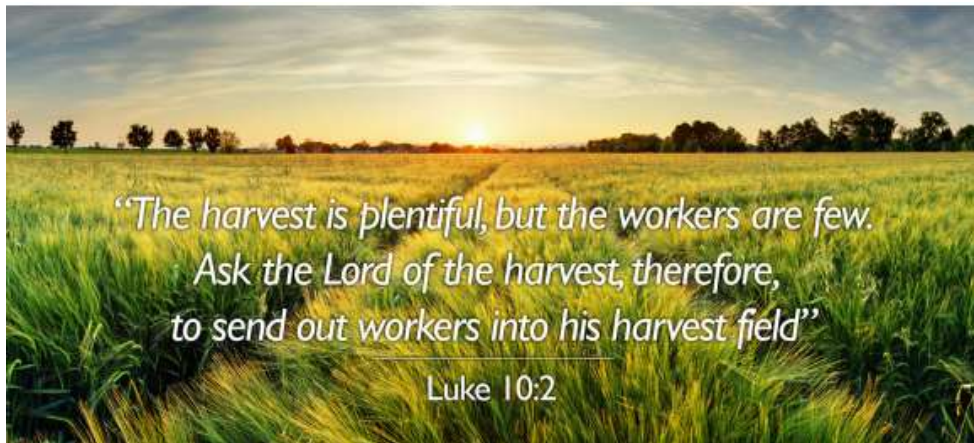


ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

<http://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk/>

Minister in Charge: Revd Richard Bonney 07595536338
rjbonney@gmail.com

Churchwardens:

David Hunt 2716991

Tina Jarvis 2707485

Sunday 22 May 2016

10.30 am Trinity: 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.

Newsletter No 207

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

Monday 23 May, 7.30 pm	South Leicester Christian Partnership meeting (Welcome Area)
Tuesday 24 May, 7.30 pm	Section 11 Meeting (conclusion of Parish Profile for St Mary Magdalen)
Wednesday 25 May, 7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 26 May, 9.30 am	Holy Communion
Thursday 26 May, 7 pm	St Guthlac's & St Mary's Youth Group
Sunday 29 May, 10.30 am	Communion for All

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL We have been asked to keep **Brenda Lee, David Pallot, Ann Spring, Dorothy Wollaston, Flo McVey** and **Saty French** in our prayers. We hold **Michael Fisher**, who died recently, his family and friends in our prayers. Until his last illness Michael worshipped with us when visiting Leicester. For other prayer requests, please speak to the Revd Richard.

THE REVD RICHARD WRITES: The latest communications update of the Church of England contains a section entitled *Vocation, vocation, vocation - what is God calling you to?* 'Speaking about vocation is a bit like asking for more Sunday School teachers. The generalised notice at the front of church has pretty much no effect; a few face to face conversations along the "have you ever thought of ?" lines is much more like it. So two questions: * When was the last time you seriously asked God what He wants from you and your life? * When was the last time you asked someone else a question about their own vocation or call? If the answer to either is **not recently** then maybe you need to prayerfully ask God what He may be saying, and maybe seek a little help from the Vocations website.

'One of my favourite stories recently is about someone attending a vocations course. The course coordinator was not messing around. She made it very clear that vocation is a serious business, that understanding and feeling affirmed in God's call on our lives is not something to be done lightly or hurriedly. Therefore the course members needed to get their heads in gear and commit to the whole course – no ifs or buts; no lame excuses about missing the odd session. They were here for the duration. And if this particular course coordinator says it's Wednesday then you really do need to work on the assumption that it's Wednesday. So, imagine the fear and trembling of one course participant as she approached the coordinator explaining how she wanted to finish the course early. Nervously she came up at the end of an evening to say that she wasn't intending to come back for the final two sessions.

'There was some significant [reaction] until [one] participant said: "Look. I came onto this course as a nurse. I am now absolutely certain that God is calling me to be a nurse. I am absolutely where God wants me to be. I'm sorted." Fabulous. A core aspect of Renewal & Reform is how we support and encourage all God's people to discern His vocational call. **God has called us afresh in our generation to be salt and light, to love our neighbours as ourselves, to have compassion on a lost and bewildered generation.** The Bible speaks of the

most unlikely people hearing, and often trying to resist, God's call - such as Gideon and Jonah; of the changes wrought by the transformational obedience of Ruth and Isaiah; of Elisha's desire to sustain and develop the ministry of another. Calling comes as individuals and calling comes from within communities – Moses' calling seemed quite an individual conversation between him and God; Barnabas' and Matthias' vocation seemed to have been much more clearly discerned within the fellowship of believers.

'As a church we need all God's people to be prayerful and serious both about their own vocation and about calling out the vocation in others. **This is not just about getting more clergy, although that is important. It's back to the nursing story at the start. Our vocation matters to God and to each other.** Within Renewal & Reform we are doing work on how to talk to people about their vocation and calling. We are also doing particular work on how to talk vocationally to some of those currently most under-represented in church – young people and people from minority communities. So: when was the last time you seriously asked God what He wants from you and your life? And when was the last time you asked someone else a question about their own vocation or call?'

For more information and to download resources visit the Vocations web pages on the Church Support Hub website: www.churchsupporthub.org/vocations We are also transforming our digital and social media to make communication and interaction much easier. This will include an overhaul of the Renewal & Reform pages on the Church of England website (www.churchofengland.org/renewal-reform) and providing regular updates, blogs, and podcasts. You can read up on the latest blogs focussed on the Renewal and Reform initiative on the Church of England Communications blog. To see the latest blogs, visit: bit.ly/RandRBlog

COVER IMAGE. <https://www.churchofengland.org/media/2512564/inreviewjune16.pdf>

ORGAN STUDENTSHIP The Parish of St. Guthlac's, Knighton, Leicester is offering a two-year organ studentship for the academic years 2016/17 and 2017/18 covering organ tuition fees and agreed expenses. Applicants will need keyboard skills at the level of Grade 4 or above and will be expected to play at St. Guthlac's services. This could be a school student but older people are also encouraged to apply. For further details and an application form please contact Yolanda Courtney. The closing date is 1st July 2016; interviews are planned for the week commencing 11th July 2016.

AGM AND PCC NEWS At the recent AGM David Hunt and Tina Jarvis were re-elected as Churchwardens and a new PCC was elected. Two new members, Steve Bowyer and Peter Lakin, are warmly welcomed to the committee which held its first meeting this week. A list of members and officers is on display in church. If you would like a copy of the AGM minutes or brochure, please ask Lesley.

MAY FAYRE £915 was raised; thanks to all who made this such a success!

SAT 11TH JUNE: ROYAL FLORAL DISPLAYS IN ST GUTHLAC'S CHURCH FOR THE QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY AND COMMUNITY OPEN GARDENS.

The church will be open from **11 am until 5 pm** for you to come and enjoy special floral displays on different royal themes organised by Cheryl and her team. A display on the church and neighbourhood over the last 90 years is also planned. There will be refreshments by the South Knighton Community Events group in the welcome area from 2-4.30 as part of the Open Gardens afternoon and tickets for Open Gardens will be available from the welcome area between these times. Please put this date in your diary and come and support this unique event!

GREGORIAN CHANT WORKSHOP Sat 9th July 10am - 4.30pm at St. Mary's.

Led by John Rowlands-Pritchard of Opus Anglicanum. £10 per person to include music and drinks. Please bring a packed lunch. Further details from Yolanda or see leaflet at back of church.

RSCM DIOCESAN FESTIVAL Sunday 25 September 2016 will take place at Leicester Cathedral, and will be conducted by James Lancelot, Director of Music, Durham Cathedral. Area Practices for this event will take place in July and early September, dates and venues to be announced. Please speak to Margaret if you wish to take part.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR MEMORY CAFÉ! Each year we have to raise money to keep our valuable cafe going. It's much needed and valued by those who attend each month. **Please consider sponsoring Margaret as she walks the Coleridge Way** – all 67 miles of it! – this May with the joint parish walking group. Every sponsor will be helping to keep the cafe in existence. Sponsorship forms will be in church from now – your support will be most gratefully received.

DEMENTIA AWARENESS WEEK, 15-21 MAY. Over half (56%) of people are putting off seeking a dementia diagnosis for up to a year or more, a study carried out by Alzheimer's Society has found. Dementia is the most feared health condition in the UK, perhaps explaining also why almost two-thirds of people surveyed (62%) felt a diagnosis would mean their life was over. **It's not true, but we need to make people more aware of the condition through the materials available at our Memory Café.**

BISHOP JOHN'S SERMON on 11 April 2015 is available for consultation (see sheets at back of the Church).

FOR THE NEWSLETTER Please contact us by **10pm Thursday** for material to be included in the next newsletter. administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk