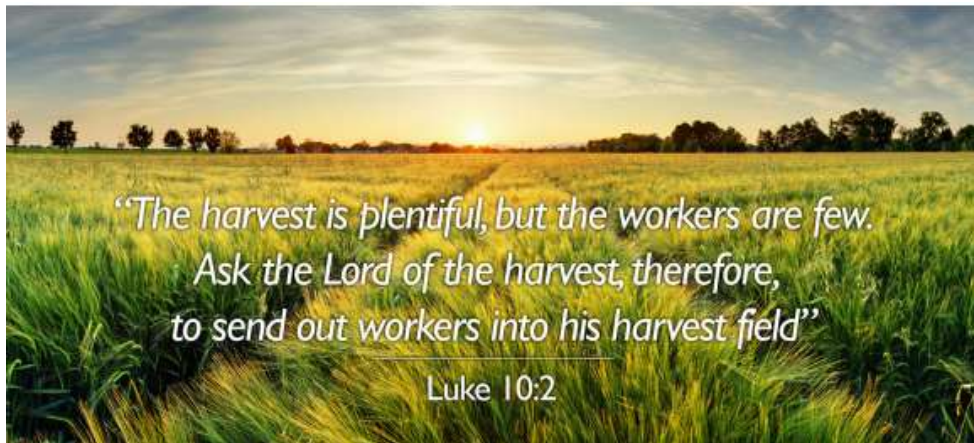


ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



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

Tina Jarvis

Sunday 29 May 2016

10.30 am Trinity 1: 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

Wednesday 1 June, 7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 2 June, 9.30 am	Holy Communion
Friday 3 June, 8.00 am	South Leicester Christian Partnership: ecumenical morning prayers. All welcome
Friday 3 June, 1.30 pm	Fiona Hunt's wedding at St Mary Magdalen
Sunday 5 June, 10.30 am	All Age Worship
Sunday 5 June, 11.45 am	Holy Communion (Revd Richard at St Mary Magdalen)
Tuesday 7 June, 7.30 pm	St Guthlac's PCC meeting

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: According to a recent report, four out of 10 adults who were raised as Anglicans now define themselves as having no religion, and almost as many 'cradle Catholics' have abandoned their family faith to become 'nones'. Neither church is bringing in fresh blood through conversions. Anglicans lose 12 followers for every person they recruit, and Catholics 10. A spokesperson for the Church of England said: 'The increase in those identifying as "no faith" reflects a growing plurality in society rather than any increase in secularism or humanism. We do not have an increasingly secular society as much as a more agnostic one. In a global context, adherence to religion is growing rather than decreasing. Christianity remains the world's largest religion with over 2 billion adherents.'

There is no purpose in gloom. Christians are people who are filled with hope, and led by the Holy Spirit. But led where? Is it not a time to take ecumenism (churches working together for agreed purposes, regardless of denomination) seriously in our locality? Churches Together in England suggests the aims should be:

- a. to enable the Member Churches, as pilgrims together, to explore the Christian faith together, to develop mutual relationships, to find common ground, and to work together to build God's Kingdom;
- b. to enable and encourage the Member Churches to worship and pray together;
- c. to enable the Member Churches to live and share the Gospel, to evangelise together and to take further steps towards fuller unity;

- d. to enable the Member Churches to respond to the needs of society and to witness to the Gospel together.
- e. to enable the Member Churches to reflect together on the nature and purpose of the Church in the light of its mission – each church sharing with others the treasures of its tradition.

Amen to that. Some progress has been made in local initiatives with the South Leicester Christian Partnership (for example, the memory café initiative of St Thomas More and St Guthlac's) but much more could be done. It is more likely to succeed, however, if there is an open conversation with the Anglican grouping of Churches in the Southern Edge Mission Partnership. This alone is likely to make a difference: if we work together in common projects responding to the needs of society and witnessing to the Gospel together.

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.

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 for successfully completing the Coleridge Way** 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. **Total distance walked was 71.7 miles and total height climbed 19,259 ft** (it felt like it too sometimes!)

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.

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

INVITATION TO FIONA HUNT'S MARRIAGE SERVICE AT ST MARY MAGDALEN, Friday 3 June at 1.30 pm. Members of the congregation are cordially invited to attend this happy occasion if they are free to do so. Celebrant: Revd Richard.

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!

Please sign the sheet in the welcome area if you are available to be a steward during the day. Thank you

REVD NEIL BULLEN: ORDINATION AS PRIEST 2 July and FIRST PRESIDENCY OF THE EUCHARIST 3 July. Please sign on the list if you would like a ticket to Neil's Ordination as priest on **Saturday 2 July 2016 AT THE CATHEDRAL.** The service starts at 4.30 pm but you will need to be seated by 4 pm at the latest. Admission is strictly by ticket only and numbers are limited so should the number wishing to attend be greater than the tickets available, names will be drawn from a hat. This list will close on **6 June 2016.**

On Sunday 3 July there will be no 10.30 am service at St Guthlac's, but the congregation will be encouraged to join that of St Mary Magdalen at 10 am for Neil's first presidency of the Eucharist. (The Revd Richard has been asked to give the intercessions.) Bubbles will meet in the Welcome Area or Holbrook Memorial Hall depending on numbers. As a result of this change of arrangements, there will be no All Age Worship in July.

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.

DATE FOR THE DIARY: RIDE AND STRIDE – Sat 10th Sept 10:00 - 18:00. The annual Ride and Stride event takes place on the second Saturday in September. Over 300 churches are open across the country on the day to visit. Raise funds by riding, striding or welcoming visitors to our church during the day. Half the funds raised come back to our church so it helps us as well as keeping our historic churches open. Explore the beautiful churches, villages, towns and city of our county. Get a group of friends together or go it alone. Sponsorship forms and details of church that will be open on the day will be available from me from late July onwards. For more information speak to me, Fiona Wingate or see <http://www.rideandstrideuk.org/counties/leicestershire/>