

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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

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Sunday 18 September 2016

Matins

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 218

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

Tuesday 20 September, 6.30pm

Tuesday 20 September, 7.30 pm

Wednesday 21 September, 7.30 pm

Thursday 22 September, 9.30 am

Thursday 22 September, 12 noon

Sunday 25 September, 10.30 am

Sunday 25 September, 4pm

Organ Studentship Meeting

Management Group of Southern Edge

Mission Partnership (St G has 3 reps): St

James the Greater Church Rooms

Choir practice

Holy Communion

Funeral of Jean Cooper at St MM

Communion for All: St Paul and the
Resurrection

Knighton Players social in Holbrook Hall

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL We have been asked to keep **Darryl Varley, Bob Newell, David Pallot, Ann Spring, Dorothy Wollaston, Derek Atkinson** and **Saty French** in our prayers. We hold **Jean Cooper**, who died recently, and her family and friends in our prayers. For other prayer requests, please speak to the Revd Richard. Please hold the discernment process for a new Vicar of Knighton in your prayers.

The funeral service of the late Jean Cooper will take place at St Mary's at 12 noon on Thursday 22 September. It will be followed by a short cremation service for close family and guests at South Leicestershire Crematorium at 1 pm. The reception will take place at Holbrook Hall following the service at St Mary's.

COVER IMAGE. St Paul:

<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/236x/90/a6/20/90a6205578d24ef85d65717fce25b683.jpg>

THE REVD RICHARD WRITES: The good news is that, on the basis of unanimity, the selection group for the new Vicar of Knighton agreed to forward the name of one of the candidates to the Bishop for approval. It is hoped that an announcement may be made before too long. We pray for a smooth process in the final stages of the appointment.

The potential appointment of a stipendiary priest led me to reflect on my own calling to the ministry as a non-stipendiary priest (NSM; sometimes called an SSM or self-supporting minister). After Acts 18:1-4 (vs. 3: because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them, and they worked together – by trade they were tentmakers'), 'tent making' has become a common metaphor for Christians who engage in a money-earning profession as a means to support what is often called 'professional ministry'. The term 'bi-vocational' is often used to indicate that two separate professions are involved, the money-earning one and the ministry one. But Paul's example shows that all aspects of human life should be a seamless witness. There is little room to draw distinctions between 'professional ministry' and other forms of witness. According to Acts, Christians actually have only one vocation, which is witnessing to the gospel. We have many forms of service, including preaching and pastoral care, making tents, building furniture, giving

money and caring for the weak. A Christian who engages in a money-earning profession such as making tents, in order to support a non-money-earning profession such as teaching about Jesus, would be more accurately described as 'dual service' rather than 'bi-vocational' – one calling, two forms of service. The same would be true of any Christian who serves in more than one line of work.

Paul is a witness when he preaches and when he makes tents and uses his earnings to benefit the broader community. This fits directly into Luke's view that the Spirit empowers Christians to use their resources for the sake of the whole community, which in turn becomes a witness to the gospel. Remember that Luke's orienting idea for Christian life is that of witness, and the entirety of one's life has the potential to bear witness. It is striking, then, that Paul is an exemplar of this Spirit-formed practice.

It is certainly true that Paul wants to support himself. Yet his impulse was not only to support himself in his preaching ministry, but also to provide financial support to the entire community. When Paul describes his economic impact among the Ephesians, he says: 'I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive' (Acts 20:33-35, RSV). Paul's money-earning work was also an effort to build up the community economically. Sadly, in modern society without fabulous wealth it is impossible to do more than make a modest contribution towards helping the various competing claims of equally worthy groups in need of help. Drawing upon: <https://www.theologyofwork.org/new-testament/acts/a-clash-of-kingdoms-community-and-powerbrokers-acts-13-19/tent-making-and-christian-life-acts-181-4/>

BISHOP'S YOUTH COUNCIL OPEN DAY 17th September, 10am-3pm St Martins House. BYC exists to represent young people in the diocese and to help them grow deeper in discipleship. It is run by young people who are given real opportunities to plan and run missional events for young people as well as going on mission trips overseas. It meets for business meetings 10 times a year and then at different times for worship, fellowship and prayer. The open day is a chance for young people to find out more about the youth council, to meet some of the members and to consider joining the council. Parents, youth workers or church leaders are welcome to stay for some or part of the day with their young people. **This event is open to any young people aged 14-18.** Mike Kelly, Diocesan Youth Ministry Officer T: 0116 261 5323 E: mike.kelly@leccofe.org

MOTHERS' UNION. We look forward to welcoming Gerry Unsworth at our next Meeting, who will demonstrate "Rags to Rugs". Visitors are also very welcome to join with us on **Tuesday, 27th September, at 2.15 p.m.** in the Parish Centre Lounge.

HARVEST SUPPER Sat 1st Oct 7.15-10 pm in church, for all ages. Please join us for a 2 course supper and entertainment. Tickets £6 adult, £3 child or £15 family from Wendy Bramley. You are welcome to bring your own alcoholic drinks. You are invited to enter a mini-scarecrow (max height 60 cm, any material or theme) into our competition. There will be a prize each for the best adult and best child entries. Raffle in aid of health clinics in Malawi.

DECORATING CHURCH FOR HARVEST Please add your name to the planner in the welcome area if you are able to do a windowsill flower arrangement for harvest weekend, when the church will be used for both the Harvest Supper (Sat 1st Oct) and our Harvest 10.30 am service (Sun 2nd Oct). Church will be open from **9.30 am until approximately 11 am on Sat 1st Oct**. Please bring your own flowers if you are able, but there are usually spares available, as well as foliage. Containers and oasis are provided. All welcome (you don't need to be an expert!) Please contact Cheryl if you have a query.

HARVEST DONATIONS FOR OPEN HANDS At Harvest we will once more be collecting food donations to help the work of Open Hands, a project which supports needy people in Leicester. The following items have been suggested as those most regularly needed by the project: Coffee, UHT milk, Tinned fish, Tinned meat, Cereal, Sugar, Cooking oil. Thank you for your support.

HOPE WALK 16 October 2pm Victoria Park. In Memory of Stephen John Farmilo. Join the walk to support Papyrus – a national charity working to prevent young suicide and shatter the stigma around it. Meet at the gates on Victoria Park Road and complete as many circuits of the 1.5 mile circuit as you wish. Donations can be made at: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/LizFarmilo>

MOLLY CLARKE'S 'SKY DIVE' EVENING Sunday 16 Oct. 5-7 pm, Knighton Parish Centre. Following my successful 'Sky Dive' in July, I will be holding an evening event at which there will be a talk from Leicester Samaritans. There will be an opportunity to view my DVD of the event! There will be a raffle and light refreshments. Admission free. Donations welcome. Molly Clarke

SKELLIG There will be a meeting on **Sunday 23rd October at 4.00 – 5.00** in the Welcome Area to chat about the book Skellig by David Almond. There will be tea/coffee and cakes. There is still time to read the book, which can be borrowed free. Just pick one up at the front of the church. It's a book suitable for all ages.

FOR THE NEWSLETTER Please send material to be included in the next newsletter to administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk