

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 07981 314072
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Churchwardens:
David Hunt
Tina Jarvis

Sunday 6 November 2016 All Age Worship

**WE WELCOME DR RALPH LEE AND HIS FAMILY TO THIS SERVICE AND
LOOK FORWARD TO LEARNING ABOUT THEIR CALLING TO SERVE IN
ETHIOPIA AND THEIR WORK THERE**

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 225

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

Wednesday 9 Nov., 7.30 pm	Choir practice
Thursday 10 Nov., 9.30 am	Holy Communion
Thursday 10 Nov., 6.45 pm-8pm	Knighton Players Rehearsal
Friday 11 Nov., 1.30pm-3.30pm	Memory Café
Saturday 12 Nov., 11am-3.30pm	Choir workshop-KJ Requiem
Sunday 13 Nov., 10.30 am	Remembrance Sunday: Dr Johannes Arens preacher
Sunday 13 Nov., 5.00 pm	Extracts from Karl Jenkins, <i>Requiem</i> with hymns and readings commemorating the Somme campaign

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL We have been asked to keep **Liz Vickers, Darryl Varley, Bob Newell, Ann Spring, Dorothy Wollaston, Derek Atkinson** and **Saty French** in our prayers. For other prayer requests, please speak to the Revd Richard.

THE REVD RICHARD WRITES For some time now we have been supporting the mobile clinic project in Malawi with prayers and tangible financial support. We will be handing over a cheque to Bishop Christopher when he visits us on Advent Sunday. In the meantime, if you are able to make a donation please speak to one of the Churchwardens. We need every bit of help you can give us in order to make an impression on the terrible situation on which Bishop Christopher has recently reported. He writes:

‘From May to August the clinic has been making two trips a month. From September to conserve funds trips have been reduce to one a month. The big step change over this period has been the inclusion on each trip of 15 x 25 kg bags of Likuni Phala (LP). Likuni Phala is a vitamin and iron enriched maize flour given to pregnant women and the under fives who are at a particular risk and most seriously affected in times of famine. Back in May a 25kg bag cost £15.65 it now costs £19.38, almost 24% increase in less than six months. One bag feeds about 8 persons in this vulnerable category, which is about £2.42 per head. 3kg of Likuni Phala, which is what each receives, does not last very long.

‘Canon Chifisi made repeated requests to include LP. We began by sending 10 bags. We are now sending 15. The decision to send LP was not easy. I knew it was going to put a huge hike on the cost of the clinic. However, it seemed that if we were offering health care to these remote villages it needed to be as holistic as possible. So we are trying to care for the most vulnerable – under 5s, pregnant women – during this time of extreme and acute food shortage. Fr Chifisi also gives talks on nutrition, sanitation and hygiene. As a result of his talks if villagers fail to build and use a pit latrine, rather than open defecation, they get fined by the Village Headman. This is a huge step forward in making their village a healthier and safer place to live.

'This is all subsumed of course in that last April Malawi declared a state of national disaster. Today, 6.5 million people are going hungry, more than the total population of Scotland. Drought, erratic rainfall and devastating floods, a consequence of the El Nino, have led to a life-threatening situation. In the hardest-hit communities, desperate parents are cooking whatever they can find so that their hungry families have something to eat. Some are digging for mice and insects to keep them going. As ever, it is the youngest, oldest and the vulnerable who suffer most. Hundreds of thousands of pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers and young children are at particular risk of malnutrition. One report spoke of nearly 1 million children under 2 years in danger.

'While food prices have been stable in the last few months they still remain abnormally high. Currently, a 50kg bag has nearly tripled in price since August 2015 making food access for low income households well-nigh impossible. Currently one trip of the Mobile Clinic costs £158 and treats around 200 people. This is an increase of just under 13% in six months but still treatment only costs around 79p per patient. Drugs: £59.86. Fuel: £69.42 Allowances: £28.72. When 15 bags of Likuni Phala are added (15 x £19.38) the cost per trip rises by just over £290 to £460/461 a trip.

Bishop Christopher concludes: 'I keep telling myself we cannot do everything but we can do something. What we do together is helping hundreds of people survive. Most importantly it gives them a sense of hope and the knowledge that others care. Currently we have sufficient funds to make trips through to the end of the year.' If you can help by adding to our next contribution to the mobile health clinic, please do so. And would you all, whatever your means, please hold this work in your prayers.

DONATIONS can be made using the blue envelopes - please clearly mark the envelope MALAWI and either put it on the collections plate or hand it to a church warden. If you wish to gift aid your donation please put your name and address on the envelope.

Image: <http://www.rippleafrica.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/healthcare-in-Malawi.jpg>

SAFE GUARDING IN FAITH ORGANISATIONS Wed 16th Nov. 5.30pm-8pm at St. Philip's Church Hall, Evington Road, LE2 1HN. This event is open to representatives of all faiths in Leicester & Leicestershire and organisations that work with faith groups. It will include: Introduction to safeguarding & good practice; who to contact for advice and reporting; case studies & toolkits; pack of resources. A vegetarian buffet will be provided. For more information contact John McCallum: nn@stphilipscentre.co.uk to book: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/safeguarding-in-faith-organisations-tickets-28653636799>

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY, 13TH November 5pm at St. Guthlac's Church

Come and listen to extracts from Karl Jenkins, *Requiem* with hymns and readings commemorating the Somme campaign, with the choirs of St. Guthlac's, St. Mary's and friends. There will be a retiring collection for the Royal British Legion.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AT ST MARY'S Sat 26th November 11am-3pm

at Knighton Parish Centre. Admission 50p, accompanied children free, refreshments available. Stalls include beading, jewellery, felt, posh tat, toiletries, cakes, Christmas gifts, cards, bottles, tombola, raffle, face painting and table decorations.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE As in previous years, we will be raffling a Christmas Hamper again this year. If you would like to donate an item towards the hamper, please indicate what you would like to give on the list in the welcome area. As the hamper will be displayed at the Christmas Fayre, **items need to be brought to church by 27th November please. Thank you.**

ADVENT REFLECTIONS: TUESDAYS IN ADVENT 6:30 pm in church.

Starting on **29 November**, take a little time out from the mad rush of Christmas shopping to reflect on the meaning of the Advent through readings, prayers and reflections, lasting no more than 45 minutes. Four reflections will be as follows:

29th November	Preparation
6th December	Hope
13th December	Light
20th December	Joy

ST GUTHLAC'S CHRISTMAS FAYRE Sat 3rd Dec 10pm-1pm. Please make a diary note!

Items we are now collecting include:

Unwanted, unopened gifts and full bottles for the tombola

Homemade preserves and pickles

Handicrafts

Cakes will be very welcome on the day.

PLEASE SIGN THE LIST IN THE WELCOME AREA IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP IN ANY WAY ON 2ND OR 3RD DECEMBER. THANKYOU.

Will you be buying chocolate advent calendars this year? Why not consider buying a Fairtrade 'Real Advent Calendar' which as well as containing tasty chocolate, tells the Christmas story and comes with an activity book to use throughout Advent? For details and stockists see www.realadvent.co.uk

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