

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
minister@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

Churchwardens:
David Hunt
Tina Jarvis

Sunday 19 March 2017 Lent 3
10.30am 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 243

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

March

Sunday 19 th	10.30am	Matins, David Hunt
Thursday 23 rd	9.30am	Holy Communion, Revd Liz Wilson, St Denys
Sunday 26 th	10.30am	AAW Mothering Sunday: Mary's Story
Thursday 30 th	9.30am	Holy Communion, Revd Neil Bullen, St Mary's

April

Sunday 2 nd	10.30am	Passion Sunday, Celebrant & Preacher Bishop Christopher
Thursday 6 th	9.30am	Holy Communion, Revd Liz Wilson, St Denys
Friday 7 th	1.30pm	Memory Café (note change of date)
Sunday 9 th	10.30am	Palm Sunday Communion, Celebrant & Preacher Canon Stephen Foster
Thursday 13 th	9.30am	Holy Communion, Canon John Tonkin, St Christopher's
Thursday 13 th	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Quiet Taize service, Fiona Wingate
Friday 14 th	10.30am	Good Friday All Age Worship, Fiona Wingate
Sunday 16 th	10.30am	Easter Sunday Communion Service, Celebrant & Preacher Revd. Neil Bullen

THANK YOU Very many thanks to all the clergy who are generously giving their time to officiate at our communion services whilst Richard is indisposed.

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL We have been asked to keep **Revd Richard Bonney, Ann Beams, Liz Vickers, Darryl Varley, Ann Spring** and **Bill & Ann Ibbs** in our prayers. For other prayer requests, please speak to one of the churchwardens.

Revd Richard sends you all his greetings and thanks everyone for their supportive messages and prayers.

BISHOP MARTYN'S MEETING WITH THE CITY OF LEICESTER DEANERY

LAY SYNOD Over the last few weeks Bishop Martyn has been visiting all the deaneries within the diocese of Leicester meeting with the lay representatives, the clergy and licensed lay member of the church in each deanery. On Tuesday 7th March he visited the City of Leicester deanery and met with all the lay deanery synod representatives. The purpose of his visits is to have the opportunity to share his vision for the diocese and to hear from the people of the church.

He explained that since coming to Leicester he has been reflecting on and living with Luke chapter 9 which is the passage in which he calls together the 12 and sends them out to preach the Kingdom of God and heal the sick. Jesus instructs the disciples "to take nothing" with them. Bishop Martyn shared his reflections on the following elements of the passage:

- The need for the church to come together and then to be send out into the world and that this is what the Christian life and church must be about. Both elements are needed – the coming together as the body of Christ and then going out to share that message.

- Jesus instructs his followers to travel light and is there something in this for the church of the 21st century. Bishop Martyn stressed that this was in no way about throwing out the rich heritage of the church but looking at it again; were there things in it that we always did but did not know why when it was clear there might be better ways of dealing with the challenges facing churches in today's society e.g. could some sense prevail around the "rules" that govern the church?

- Luke Chapter 10 starts with the sending out of the 72 and he noted that between these two sending out events there had been a multiplication. He reflected that between these two events the feeding of the 5000 takes place (in Luke 9) which is another act of multiplication. But what can be drawn from this was that the multiplication of believers is possible when we were each willing to offer what little we have to Jesus (in the same way that the boy offered the five loaves and two fish yet all ate and there was left over).

Bishop Martyn said how very encouraged he is from what he has seen happening within the whole diocese of Leicester and that his vision for the diocese was rooted in the story of the mustard seed (so beautifully portrayed in the hanging we have in St Guthlac's) which puts down deep roots (i.e. deepening discipleship) and provides shade in the branches for the animals and birds to rest (growing the number of disciples and in the loving service that overflows into a world in need). In support of these aims he was particularly pleased that the following steps were being taken;

- Appointment of the first prior for the new monastic community in Leicester. This would be an opportunity for young people (18 – 30 yrs) to live, pray and serve in community for a year at a time. There were still details to be firmed up but at its core was the idea of called together and then sent out to serve.

- Funding had been received from the central church for work among black and ethnic minority communities. Initially this would fund a research project that would help shape a way forward for the diocese.

- Renewing the vision and purpose and putting three questions all people in the church to consider and making funding available through the Growth Fund and the Capital Fund to help churches fulfil this vision. Those questions being:

1. How are you growing, and enabling others to grow in the depth of their discipleship?

2. How are you enabling growth in the numbers of disciples of Jesus?

3. How are you serving your community, and enabling others to love and serve those around them?

Bishop Martyn also urged us to make use of the diocese resources and stressed that the diocesan office was there to support the life of the church in the parishes. He also suggested that PCCs might invite members of the diocese structures e.g. the mission and ministry team to find out how they might be able to help.

In closing Bishop Martyn encouraged all present also to take time to reflect on Luke 9 and on the vision and purpose of the church in this place. It was a good evening in that those present saw clearly the enthusiasm and commitment of the bishop to the work of the all (the laity and the clergy) which bodes well for the ongoing growth and deepening of the church in this city and county.

REVD RICHARD'S 70TH BIRTHDAY falls on **Maundy Thursday, April 13th**. He has asked that if anyone would like to mark this occasion, then a donation to the Malawi Health clinic would be very much appreciated. If you would like to make a donation, please use a blue envelope and mark it '**Malawi-Richard**'. If you are able to gift aid the donation then please complete the form on the envelope.

CHURCH HEATING The work to replace the heating system in the church has now started; **AAW on 26th March will be in Holbrook Hall. Thursday morning services will take place in the Welcome Area.** If you would like to make a donation towards the new heating system, please fill in a Blue Envelope and mark on it "Heating"; all donations will be gratefully received. If you have any questions, speak to Tina or myself. David Hunt – Churchwarden

GIRL GUIDE COFFEE EVENING in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support on **Wednesday 22nd March 6:15 - 8:00pm** at the Scout Hut, Cademan Close, Knighton (round the corner from the Knighton Parish Centre). All welcome

MOTHERS UNION Our March meeting is a "Bring and Buy" followed by "tea and chat" time. We need to raise funds for the year to keep our coffers healthy! Guests and friends also welcome. Books, toiletries, groceries and good as new donations very welcome, please. **Tuesday 28th March, at 2.15 p.m.** in the Parish Centre Lounge.

EASTER FLOWERS If you would like to make a donation towards Easter lilies, there will be a basket available. Church will be decorated for Easter on **Easter Saturday 15th April 9.30 am until 11 am.** Please sign up on the planner if you would like to decorate a windowsill. The usual colour scheme for the flowers is white and yellow. If you are unable to provide foliage there is usually plenty available, as well as some spare flowers. New people are very welcome. No particular skill level is required and advice is always available. Thank you.

AGM Please note that this year's church AGM will be held at **12 noon on 30th April** in the church after the service. Churchwardens, PCC members, sidesmen/women and Deanery Synod reps will be voted in and the accounts for 2016 will be presented. An AGM brochure will be available in advance and will include reports from church committees and organisations. If you would like to consider being nominated as a PCC member or Deanery Synod rep, please see Lesley. **Please would any sidesman/woman who does not wish to be re-elected for the coming year let Lesley know.** Thank you.

FAIRTRADE COFFEE MORNING We sold £228.70 worth of FairTrade goods at the coffee morning and raised a further £105.26 for FairTrade from the sale of refreshments and from donations. Many thanks to everyone who supported this event in any way.

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