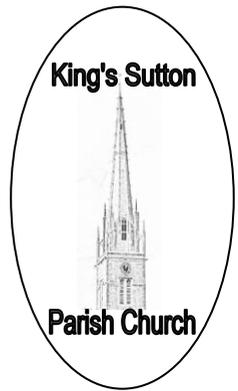


# CHURCH NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2015



Church of St. Peter & St. Paul  
King's Sutton

Contacts:

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## MORE THAN YOU CAN SEE



That there is more to reality than we can see is a core belief of most faiths and certainly of Christianity. And in our age, it is something that we have to keep saying, because there is a tendency to believe that only what you can see and measure and experiment with is real.

So, for example, we insist that a human person is far more than the physical body. It is, of course, the physical, but it is also the spiritual. When we look at human activities like music-making, art, literature, even architecture, we know there is more to them than the physical of which they are made up.

At times the Christian tradition has been to down play the physical, to see it as some kind of enemy over against the things of the spirit, and there is some truth in that, but in its finer moments it recognizes that the physical is the vehicle by which the spiritual becomes known.

Among these “vehicles” are the things we call sacraments. These are ritual activities in which the physical becomes the carrier of something invisible,

but nonetheless real. The Book of Common Prayer definition is: 'a sacrament is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace'. So we use water, crushed olives, bread, wine, and actions like holding hands, laying on of hands and in these things and action, visible for all to see, God is at work in ways that cannot be seen.

**Baptism** is the beginning of our Christian journey, and although there are symbols of the cross made in Holy Oil and the lighted Candle, the essence of the sacrament is in the poured water. At **Confirmation**, the bishop lays hands as a symbol of the coming of the Holy Spirit, and also signs the person with the cross in Holy Oil. In the **Eucharist**, bread and wine become for us the Body and Blood of Christ. In **Anointing**, the priest uses Holy Oil to represent the hands of Christ in bringing healing.

In **Ordination** the bishop lays hands on the heads of those to be made deacon, priest or bishop again as the symbol of the Holy Spirit giving authority for ministry. And, finally, in **marriage** the couple hold hands, make vows and exchange rings, again outward signs of the inviolable joining together that marriage is.

Those are the Sacraments, but our world is full of the grandeur of God, as the poet Gerard Manley Hopkins puts it, and in our world, if we have open eyes, we will see much more than we can see.

*Fr Roger*



There will be an **All Souls Liturgy on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2015 at 3pm** and is for anyone that has suffered the loss of someone dear to them; an opportunity to remember them and give thanks to God for their lives, to offer comfort with moments of reflection, an opportunity for the lighting of candles and practical acts of remembrance

## From the Registers:

### Funerals:

October 1<sup>st</sup> Joy McCarthy

**Celebration of Light** Since the last newsletter, the floodlighting has been sponsored to remember:

October 1<sup>st</sup> Anthony Storr  
October 3<sup>rd</sup> Ronnie White  
November 7<sup>th</sup> Neil & Jill Hunter  
November 20<sup>th</sup> Gwyneth Cartwright  
November 23<sup>rd</sup> Ron Reeve-Johnson

*If you would like to sponsor the floodlights of the church to remember an anniversary or other significant event in your family, please either contact Stephen Allday (811473) or take a form from the ledge just inside the church*

## **A PRE-CHRISTMAS EVENING**

**FRIDAY, 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 7 – 9PM  
IN CHURCH**

- *Mulled Wine*
- *Mince Pies*
- *Christmas Stalls*
- *Christmas Crafts*
- *Raffle*
- *Bottle Tombola*
- *Cakes*
- *Games*
- *Quiz*
- *Seasonal Music*



# The Advent Procession

The word 'Advent' comes from the Latin 'advenire' – to arrive. It is a time of quiet, joyful preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. The first Sunday of Advent is also a time of new beginnings, it is the official start of the Church's calendar, and so if you hear the words 'Happy New Year' in church on 29<sup>th</sup> November, you will know why!

On Advent Sunday evening at 6pm (29<sup>th</sup> November), in place of our usual sung Evensong, we will be holding an Advent Procession. The movement of the service is symbolic: travelling from West to East as a sign of our spiritual journey towards the light of Christ. We will be moving from darkness to light. The readings and music reflect the prophecies of the Old Testament with readings from Isaiah, and move us to the hope of the coming King. The procession culminates in a movement from penitence to praise, again reflected in the readings from the New Testament and in the hymns.

*Advance notice: **The Christmas Carol Service** will be on **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 7.30pm**. This will be a traditional service of readings and carols, followed by light refreshments in church.*

## **SEX, VIOLENCE, LIES, MURDER AND MAYHEM!**

No, this is not (as the joke goes), an advert for the book 'Little Women', but for talks that Fr. Roger is to give about Judith and Susanna – two stories in the Apocrypha which are not well known.

Fr. Roger will tell the stories and illustrate his talk with some paintings. The talks take place on Thursdays: November 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the Church Room. All are welcome!

## Martin, Bishop of Tours (November 11<sup>th</sup>)

At the age of ten he attended the Christian church against the wishes of his parents, and became a catechumen (preparing for Baptism). Christianity at this time was only newly legal, and was far from accepted by society.

In adulthood, Martin was a professional soldier. His father, a Roman tribune, had arranged for his son's conscription into the army at the age of 15. Held in great affection by his fellow soldiers, he regularly came to the help of those in trouble, supporting the needy, clothing the naked, and from his military pay keeping back only what he needed for his daily requirements.

One wintry day whilst out on duty, he met a shivering beggar in the streets of Amiens. Martin had already given away many of his clothes to the destitute, but he unsheathed his sword and cut his cloak in two, giving one half to the poor man, and wrapping the remaining half round himself.

The following night, Martin dreamt of Christ arrayed in the part of the robe that he had given to the poor man. He heard him say, 'Martin, you may still be a catechumen, but you have clothed me with this robe'. After this vision, Martin was spurred on to present himself for baptism. He was 20 years old.

Not long after this, barbarians launched an attack on the two divisions stationed in Gaul. Emperor Julian called up his troops, issuing them with their pay before the battle. Martin, determined that his faith prohibited him from fighting, asked for his discharge saying, "I am a soldier of Christ. I cannot fight." He was charged with cowardice and jailed, but in response to the charge, he countered, "If my act is set down to cowardice rather than to faith, I shall stand unarmed tomorrow before our lines. In the name of the Lord Jesus and protected only by the sign of the cross, without shield or helmet, I shall penetrate the enemy's ranks and not be afraid." The order was given that he was to stay overnight in jail and make good his promise.

The following morning, however, the enemy inexplicably surrendered, and with no war to fight, Martin was discharged.

Given land by the Bishop of Poitiers, he tried to live as a hermit, but his generosity of spirit and reputation as a healer soon drew disciples to him and together they pioneered the first monastery in Western Europe. The people of Tours acclaimed Martin as bishop c. 372, but he continued to live in the humble style of a monk. He invented a rudimentary parish system, faithfully visited village churches, and planted monasteries as educational centres. He died in 397.



## MUSIC IN THE BIBLE QUIZ

*(Answers at the end of the newsletter)*

*Music plays quite a big part in the Advent Procession service as a means of expression. Thinking of this, here are a few questions to tease you!*

1. Which letter writer encourages the early church to sing to one another with 'psalms, hymns and spiritual songs'? *a) Peter b) Paul c) James*
2. Who in the Bible is described as the 'father of all who play stringed instruments and pipes? *a) Jubal b) Josiah c) Joshua*
3. Moses and Miriam sang a song to the Lord on which occasion?  
*a) The parting of the Red Sea b) The provision of manna and quail in the desert c) The defeat of the Amelekites*
4. Which prophet spoke the words: 'away with the noise of your songs' and 'I will not listen to your harps'? *a) Jeremiah b) Micah c) Amos*
5. In which psalm is the exhortation given to praise God with a variety of instruments, including harp, trumpet, strings and pipe?  
*a) Psalm 23 b) Psalm 100 c) Psalm 150*
6. In which place of exile to the Israelites 'hang their harps' in sorrow at their separation from Jerusalem? *a) Egypt b) Babylon c) Persia*
7. Which 'skilful' Levite was in charge of leading the choir when the Ark of the Covenant was brought to Jerusalem? *a) Chenaniah b) David c) Asaph*
8. In whose prophecy does the Lord rejoice over his people with singing?  
*a) Isaiah b) Hosea c) Zephaniah*
9. On which occasion is Jesus said to have sung a hymn with his disciples?  
*a) The wedding at Cana b) The Sermon on the Mount c) At the end of the Last Supper*
10. Where did Paul and Silas sing hymns of praise at midnight?  
*a) on a boat b) in prison c) in a synagogue*

## Children and families

**PARENT AND TODDLER WORSHIP** is at 9.30am every Friday during term time. We are in church for a short simple service and then play and chat in the Church Room. Why not join us!

**FAMILY SERVICE:** this is held in the chancel of the church in the choir stalls, this month on November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10am.

*Fr. Roger*



### Quiz answers

1. (b), 2. (a), 3. (a), 4. (c), 5. (c), 6. (b), 7 (a), 8. (c), 9. (c), 10. (b)

*Courtesy of Church Music Quarterly*

The Catholic Congregation meets for Mass at 9am each Sunday  
in the Parish Church.

Fr James Evans is the parish priest: 01295 660592

[www.sacredheart.btck.co.uk](http://www.sacredheart.btck.co.uk)

### Services at Newbottle Church in November

Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup>	All Saints' Day: Sung Eucharist 9.30am
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup>	Kingdom 2 / Remembrance: Matins and Holy Communion 9.30am
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup>	Kingdom 3: Sung Eucharist 9.30am
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Kingdom 4 / Christ the King: Matins 9.30am
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>	Advent Sunday: Matins and Holy Communion 9.30am

## Calendar of Services in King's Sutton for November 2015

Sun	1	<b>All Saints' Day:</b> Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; All Souls' Service 3pm
Mon	2	
Tues	3	Requiem for All Souls' 9.30am
Weds	4	<i>S Rumbold:</i> Mass 7pm
Thurs	5	
Fri	6	<i>S Leonard:</i> Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	7	<i>S Willibrord:</i> Mass 12 noon
Sun	8	<b>Kingdom 2 / Remembrance Sunday:</b> Mass 8am; Act of Remembrance 10.55am; Requiem Mass 6pm
Mon	9	
Tues	10	<i>S Leo the Great:</i> Mass 9.30am
Weds	11	<i>S Martin:</i> Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial 11am; Mass 7pm
Thurs	12	
Fri	13	<i>Charles Simenon:</i> Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	14	Mass 10am
Sun	15	<b>Kingdom 3:</b> Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	16	
Tues	17	<i>S Hugh:</i> Mass 9.30am
Weds	18	<i>S Elizabeth of Hungary:</i> Mass 7pm
Thurs	19	
Fri	20	<i>S Edmund:</i> Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	21	Mass 10am
Sun	22	<b>Kingdom 4 / Christ the King:</b> Mass 8am; Family Worship 10am; United Service at the Baptist Church, led by the Catholic Congregation 6pm
Mon	23	
Tues	24	Mass 9.30am
Weds	25	<i>S Catherine:</i> Mass 7pm
Thurs	26	
Fri	27	Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	28	Mass SOLW 10am
Sun	29	<b>Advent Sunday:</b> Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Advent Procession 6pm

***Please check with the latest Sword & Keys for updates on these services.***