

CHURCH NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2015

King's Sutton

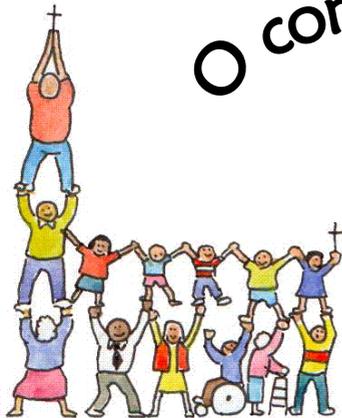


Parish Church

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

Contacts:

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Churchwarden:	Peter Allen	810967	



○ come, all ye faithful

These very familiar words for this hymn are a constant in our celebrations of Christmas. It may date back to the mediaeval period but is usually attributed to John Francis Wade (1711-86) whose version was in Latin. The simple reason being that he was a Catholic living in France. He was a supporter of Bonnie Prince Charlie and after the uprising of 1745 was crushed he fled to the Continent, where he worked as a music teacher and composer. He may also have written the tune to which we sing these words. It is said that it is really an ode for the birth of a Jacobite prince!! We know it in a version translated by Frederick Oakley (1802-1880). He was an Anglican priest in Oxford, but, with John Henry Newman, left the Church of England for the Catholic Church.

The hymn calls us to travel in heart and mind, as it were, to Bethlehem, to see the Christ Child, and we are to come with joy and faith. For this child is to be adored – worshipped – for he is the Son of God. The second verse uses phrases from the Creed: ‘God of God’, ‘Light of Light’, begotten not created, and becoming man of the Virgin Mary. Then the choirs of angels, who sang to the shepherds above the fields near Bethlehem are joined by faithful

Christians, for we too are citizens of heaven. 'Glory to God in the highest', echoes the angels' song. And having come to adore the Christ Child we greet the child 'born on this happy morning', for he is the eternal Word of God come to dwell among us.

But before we reach Christmas we have the season of Advent – preparing ourselves to celebrate the coming of the Christ Child, and also for the time when he will come again in glory at the end of time, when God will bring all things to their fulfilment in Him.

I hope in the midst of this busy time of the year, you will find time to ponder the coming of Christ, and I bid you come, not only to Bethlehem, but to Church to celebrate.

May Advent be a time of reflection for you and may your celebration of Christmas be filled with joy.

Fr Roger

GOOD NEWS FROM FR. ROGER!

Priests normally retire when they reach 70, but the Bishop, with the consent of the Parochial Church Council, can permit them to stay for up to two further years. The Bishop of Peterborough and the PCCs of King's Sutton and Newbottle with Charlton have so agreed, and so my retirement is delayed. Depending on continuing good health, I may well continue here till the end of 2018.

From the Registers:

Baptisms:

October	18 th	Jacob Peter Langley
October	24 th	Louis William James Bishop

Funerals:

October	22 nd	Evelyn Elsie Twynham
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Celebration of Light Since the last newsletter, the floodlighting has been sponsored to remember:

October	25 th	Roger Stillman
October	31 st	Mary Webster
November	1 st	Mary Webster
November	11 th	Irene Mitchell
November	11 th	Joyce Townsend
November	15 th	George Allen
November	16 th	Clive Ward
December	16 th	Roger Stillman
December	23 rd	Rodolph d'Erlanger
December	25 th	Nick Nice

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.

DID YOU KNOW?



Tuesday 9.30am....

Wednesday 7pm....

Friday 12 noon....

Saturday 10am....



These are the times of weekday services here. They last about 25 minutes and on the whole have small congregations. But the Scriptures are read, prayers are said and the Eucharist is offered.

All are welcome, and it may be that Sundays isn't a convenient time for you, but you could make it during the week. Occasionally there has to be some alterations, so it is as well to check the notices in the south porch. Or call Fr. Roger or Peter Allen.

FESTIVE FAIR

A pre-Christmas evening

FRIDAY, 4TH DECEMBER 7 – 9PM in Church

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

More about our special services this month:



December 6th - 4pm Apple Service. This is a service for all the family with prayers, readings and music. Everyone receives an apple with a candle in it which is then lit and is placed in a spiral on the floor.

December 22nd - 10.30 am Tree and Crib Service. Everyone is welcome to come along and help decorate the Christmas tree which will have been put up in the Church. The crib will also have been assembled with just some final touches needed. There will be a short service of blessing, the singing of one or two carols and then we will finish with suitable seasonal refreshments (what else!). This service is primarily aimed at our younger members of the parish but is for 'youngsters' of all ages and, if previous years are anything to go by will be enjoyed by everyone.



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

An alternative Nativity narrative.....

(from The Greatest Burger ever sold – Nick McIvor)

[Joseph is on the telephone and a little bit nervous]

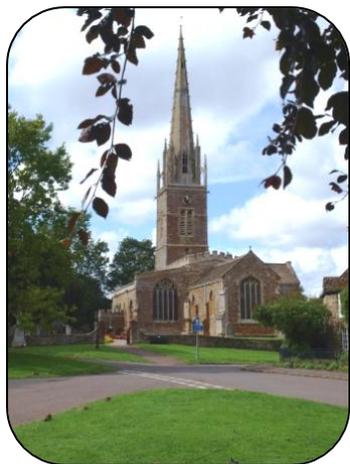
“Hello, Mother, it’s Joseph....Yes, I know it’s been a long time since I last rang. I’m afraid I’ve been rather busy.....Yes Mother, I’m still here.....Oh I’m fine, fine....Mary? She’s fine. Mother, I’m actually in Bethlehem for the census...Ah, well of course I would have stayed with you, but, ..um.., I knew how busy you’d be, and thought you’d have enough on your hands without the three of us turning up.....Did I say three? Mary, me, and the donkey, that is....We’ve got a room, well, more of a stable really.....Oh now, Mother, don’t get upset. I only said ‘stable’ because it’s full of straw and animals and ...things. No, what I should have said was ‘stable-like building’, extremely stable-like. Mother, are you sitting?...Well, it’s just that I’ve got something to tell you, and I really do think you’d be better to hear it in a seated position. Ready?.....I’m a father – only I’m not. What I mean is that I’ve got a son – in a manner of speaking. What I’m trying to say is that Mary’s had a baby boy, which is, I suppose, in some sense mine, if not actually my own. In so many words. If you get my drift. Mother? [*No reply*] Mother? [*No reply again*] Mother? [*Still no reply*] Mother, are you still there? [*He holds the phone at arm’s length as if he is being shouted at*] Yes, you are, aren’t you....Well...[*His mother won’t let him get a word in edgeways*] If you’d just let me explain....[*Shouting*] Well, what would you do if your fiancée told you she’d just been discussing family planning with an archangel?....Of course I didn’t believe her. At least, not until I’d talked it over with him myself....[*Defensively*]...Yes, I know it doesn’t take an angel to make a baby...Of course I remember what you told me about the birds and the bees! How could I forget? I was ten years old at the time, and I spent the next two months in terror of being stung by a wasp in case I got pregnant!



[Joseph looks across the room and sees somebody entering] Look, I’ll have to go, we’ve got guests.....[*Peering at them*]...Four shepherds, three oriental diplomats, and a baby lamb. Give my love to father.....”

THE PETER AND PAUL APPEAL

Restoring Our Parish Church in King's Sutton



What a *super* start! The generosity of people in King's Sutton, Astrop and around has come up trumps. Financial circumstances vary, so donations have varied. They are *all* marks of individuals' generosity and love for our church, its spire and its iconic place in the village. We're pretty confident that those donations and others to come, along with a grant we have received from a charitable trust, will allow a start in the spring on work on the tower and spire, the first focus of the appeal.

As was hoped, we can now look to other necessary work (mentioned in the first information about the appeal) – leaking roofs, repair to weathered stonework and windows, decoration – and have you seen the bulging churchyard walls?

None of this comes cheap – we'll need around another £100,000 to reach our overall goal of £250,000. So, inspired by the spire, we are into the second phase of the Peter and Paul Appeal. Fund raising events are in the pipe line. There's already been a concert and a French Impressionist Evening. Charities and grant making bodies are being approached. Collecting boxes are in the pubs.

And, if you've thought about, but not yet made, your own personal donation – out with the cheque book! (Cheques to: 'King's Sutton Parish Church Appeal'). Gift Aid forms and envelopes are available in the church. Donations through the Vicarage letter box in Church Avenue. Roger Bellamy (Vicar), Peter Allen (Churchwarden), Stephen Allday, John Duncan, and Roger Neill (appeal coordinator) are all happy to talk about the scheme.

Stop them and ask them!

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. Please note that this will not be held in December so the next Family Service will be on January 24th 2016 at 10am.

Fr. Roger



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

Services at Newbottle Church in December

Sunday	6 th	Advent 2: Sung Eucharist 9.30am
Sunday	13 th	Advent 3: Matins and Holy Communion 9.30am
Tuesday	15 th	School Christingle service 6pm
Sunday	20 th	Advent 4: Sung Eucharist 9.30am
Monday	21 st	Carol Service 6pm
Wednesday	23 rd	Crib Service 3pm
Thursday	24 th	First Eucharist of Christmas 10pm
Friday	25 th	Christmas Day: Sung Eucharist 9.30am
Sunday	27 th	S John: Matins and Holy Communion 9.30am

Calendar of Services in King's Sutton for December 2015

Tues	1	<i>S Andrew (from 30th):</i> Mass 9.30am
Weds	2	<i>S Charles de Foucauld:</i> Mass 7pm
Thurs	3	Carol Service for Carrdus School 6.00pm
Fri	4	<i>Nicholas Ferrar:</i> Parents and Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	5	Mass 10am
Sun	6	Advent 2: Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Apple Service 4pm
Mon	7	
Tues	8	<i>Conception of the BVM:</i> Mass 9.30am
Weds	9	Mass 7pm
Thurs	10	
Fri	11	Parents and Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	12	Mass 10am
Sun	13	Advent 3: Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	14	
Tues	15	Mass 9.30am
Weds	16	Mass 7pm
Thurs	17	
Fri	18	Parents and Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	19	Pontifical Sung Mass 10.30am to celebrate the ministry of Bishop James
Sun	20	Advent 4: Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	21	
Tues	22	Mass 9.30am; Tree & Crib Service 10.30am; Carol Service 7pm
Weds	23	Mass 7pm
Thurs	24	Christmas Eve: First Mass of Christmas 11.30pm
Fri	25	Christmas Day: Sung Mass for everyone 11am
Sat	26	<i>S Stephen:</i> Mass 10am
Sun	27	S John: Sung Mass 11am
Mon	28	
Tues	29	<i>S Thomas Becket:</i> Mass 9.30am
Weds	30	Mass 7pm
Thurs	31	

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