

# CHURCH NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2016



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

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It is a commonplace assertion that clergy do not so much have a job as live a way of life. The life of a priest is to be lived as a single thing – an integrated whole

where work, study, “living” are all one. I think that should be true for everyone, but although we can divide our time into different portions, they should not be at odds with one another. I know for many, the demands of work, family, and other activities compete and it is hard to get everything in, and make of life a single fabric.

Towards the end of January I will have had my Ministerial Review. This happens at regular intervals and this one was with the Archdeacon of Northampton. Before the meeting I try to complete a form answering some basic questions, and then the two of us meet for a longish conversation. Usually these conversations range widely. I am writing this before the meeting, but I am sure this time we will have talked about what I will be doing in the couple of years longer that I might be here.

It is an opportunity for me to reflect on what I have been doing and what the future might hold. What things might I be doing, how might I do things more effectively? For me it is one of a series of meetings and events that help me keep on course: confession, spiritual direction, retreat, quiet days. For “work” is linked in with my own spiritual life, with prayer and reading, with my shortcomings as well as my gifts, with my living - family, friends, housework, gardening, music-making and so on.

Sometimes people wonder to whom I am responsible, and often it may look as if we are answerable to no-one! One is certainly not accountable to parishioners, and only in limited ways to the Bishop, but when you think about the tasks that fall to us, the carrying out of that work is in itself the account we give. Prayer, leading worship, preaching, teaching, study, pastoral care, roles within the local community, being here and part of the wider community – all of these and more are the things that priests do and are. So I say Morning and Evening Prayer day by day, I pray for people and institutions, I baptize, marry, take funerals, and am available for any people who want me. And conversations with the Archdeacon in Ministerial Review, with my spiritual director, with some key friends help me to do these things better. I must try to do them with humility and good grace, with energy and love. And I do this supported by the prayers and goodwill of many, and, of course, by the love and grace of God himself.

*Fr Roger*

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

January	9 <sup>th</sup>	Betty Reid
January	10 <sup>th</sup>	Sara Charles-Jones
February	21 <sup>st</sup>	John & Winifred Burne
February	22 <sup>nd</sup>	John & Winifred Burne

*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.*

## From the Registers:

### Baptisms

December 20<sup>th</sup> Isobel Green

### Funerals:

January 7<sup>th</sup> Thomas Harris

January 8<sup>th</sup> Aileen Biggert

January 14<sup>th</sup> Thomas Essex



## **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. The next Family Service will be on February 28<sup>th</sup> 2016 at 10am and will be a simple Mass.

## **Other planned dates for your diaries – please check with the latest Sword & Keys for these!**

Saturday	5 <sup>th</sup>	March	tbc	Activity for Mothering Sunday
Friday	25 <sup>th</sup>	March	10am	Good Friday service
Sunday	27 <sup>th</sup>	March	11am	Easter Day Mass
Saturday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	April	11am	Art/Craft/Calligraphy as part of the Alleluia Festival
Sunday	24 <sup>th</sup>	April	10am	Family Worship
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	May	10am	A simple Mass
Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup>	June	10am	Family Worship
Saturday	16 <sup>th</sup>	July	3pm	A Service and picnic to celebrate the Children's Society
Sunday	28 <sup>th</sup>	August	10am	Family Worship
Sunday	25 <sup>th</sup>	September	10am	A simple Mass for Harvest
Sunday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	October	10am	Family Worship
Sunday	27 <sup>th</sup>	November	10am	Family Worship Advent Sunday
Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup>	December	4pm	Apple Service
Friday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	December	11am	Tree & Crib Service

## FAITH IN ACTION 2016

These are the things we do to express our faith in the One God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost – our love for Him and our love for our neighbour. We express our faith in action in our everyday lives, through our work and leisure activities, in sharing our faith with others, and in prayer.

We use our many gifts (time, talents etc.) to maintain the Church of which we are part, and through the Church we support:

- Church Mission Society: supporting and assisting Fr. Stephen and his wife in their missionary work in Burma
- Christian Aid: helping partners across the world with issues of development
- Maggie's Centre: for help with cancer sufferers and their families
- Primary Bereavement Service: helping those who have lost people they love
- Children's Society: working with less fortunate youngsters in the UK
- BYHP, helping with young homeless people in Banbury and the surrounding area
- Royal British Legion: for ex-servicemen and their families
- Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham: our light burns brightly in the Holy House.

## HEALING LITURGIES

Obviously all services are occasions where we can find healing but there are special times too:

### 1. Evensong with prayer for healing

On Sundays 7<sup>th</sup> February, 5<sup>th</sup> June and 11<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm

This is an opportunity to receive the laying on of hands and prayer for ourselves or for others we love that are in need of healing.

### 2. A Liturgy of Healing and Wholeness Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July 4pm

This is an opportunity to receive sprinkling, the laying on of hands and/or anointing, in a reflective service.

## SHROVE TUESDAY, ASH WEDNESDAY and LENT

**Shrove Tuesday** is the day when traditionally, in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries bishops admonished their flocks to cease all disputes and contentions, and to be reconciled to their enemies before entering the holy season of Lent. To be 'shriven' is to have confessed sins, been given a penance and to have been absolved of your faults. Somewhere in history, the day became a signal for people to give themselves up to all sorts of festivities before the chance of it was gone! In much of the world it is known as 'Mardi Gras' (Fat Tuesday) and is a carnival day. Shrove Monday, the previous day was known as Collop Monday, from the practice of eating collops (slices of meat) and the clearings of the larder before the Lenten fast began. To eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday has been a custom in England for centuries.

### *So what is the purpose of Ash Wednesday?*

It marks the first of the 40 days of Lent, a period dedicated to reflection, prayer and abstinence in preparation for Easter. The length of Lent refers to the fast Jesus undertook before He began his ministry. Ash Wednesday is actually 46 days before Easter – the Sundays are not considered days of fast – and can fall as early as 4<sup>th</sup> February or as late as 10<sup>th</sup> March.

### *How did it get its name?*

Ash Wednesday derives its name from the practice of burning palms left over from the services on Palm Sunday the previous year, and using this ash to make the sign of the cross on the foreheads of worshippers. Ashes have been used historically to express grief, and indeed, there are many occasions in stories in the Bible when penitents use both 'sackcloth' and 'ashes' as signs of their intention to repent. The practice of sprinkling ashes on heads has been found in documents of the 8<sup>th</sup> Century in Britain. In the time of Henry VIII, the following was commended: 'the observance of various rites and ceremonies as good and laudable, such as clerical vestments.....bearing candles...and giving of ashes on Ash Wednesday'. The practice disappeared during the Reformation, but re-emerged in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

### *What happens in church here on Ash Wednesday?*

There will be a Sung Mass on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm. This will follow the usual pattern of masses in the church. There will be an invitation



for the congregation to come to the altar rail and have the sign of the cross made on the forehead in ash. This is open to all – there are no qualifications needed! There are two forms of words which could be used by the priest at this point:

‘Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return’<sup>1</sup>

or

‘Repent and believe the Gospel’<sup>2</sup>

The words (1) are based on Genesis 3:19, when it has all gone horribly wrong in the Garden of Eden, and God is revealing to Adam the outcome of the serpent’s treachery and his temptation. The second set of words was introduced in the late 1960s, and is taken from Mark 1:15: ‘repent and believe in the good news’ (NRSV) at the start of Jesus’ ministry.

All are most welcome at this service.

Fr. Roger wrote last year: ‘**Lent** is a good time for making a special effort. And this may well be connected with fasting. Going without something that is good in itself but which we relinquish for a while. We get tempted to give up easily, so managing to do it for 40 days is a way of becoming more self-disciplined, and if we can do it in a small thing, then we have more chance with the big things in life. God desires our love and a bit more, or even some, praying will help us to show that.’

How will **you** mark the Lenten season this year?

**Lent Lunches** of soup and bread will be served on Fridays in Lent in the Church Room at 12.30pm. The dates for these in February are: 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Donations at these lunches go to charity.



There will be a special evening service for Lent on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February at 6pm, when the Litany (a petitionary prayer) will be sung, and a homily given.

Answers to the CHRistmas Quiz which was at the Festive Fair Evening:

1	Chronicles of Narnia	26	Christmas Cactus	51	Christchurch, NZ
2	Chrysanthemum	27	Chronicles	52	Chrysalis
3	Christian Dior	28	Chromosome	53	Chromium
4	Christina Rosetti	29	Christmas stocking	54	Christian
5	Christopher Robin	30	Christo & Jeanne-Claude Javacheff	55	Christie's
6	Christchurch, Dorset	31	Christine Hamilton	56	Christmas Rose
7	Chris Packham	32	Chris Froome	57	Chronological order
8	Chris de Burgh	33	Christopher Lee	58	Christian name
9	Chromophobia	34	Chris Ashton	59	Christian Wade
10	Christian Bale	35	Chrome	60	Christmas card
11	Christians	36	Chrysanthemum Throne	61	Christmas pie
12	Christingle	37	Christening	62	Chris Evans
13	Christ Church Oxford	38	<i>(no question here)</i>	63	Chris Hemsworth
14	Chris Eubank	39	Chryssie Hynde	64	Chris Waddle
15	Chris Martin	40	Christleton	65	Chromel
16	Chris Farlowe	41	Christopher Trace Christopher Wenner	66	Christopher Columbus
17	Chrysler Building	42	Christopher Marlowe	67	Chris Robshaw
18	Christopher Isherwood	43	Christmas Island	68	Christopher Timothy
19	Christopher Reeve	44	Christabel Pankhurst	69	Chronograph
20	Christopher (St.)	45	Christian Laboutin	70	Chris Evert
21	Christopher Plummer	46	Christian Barnard	71	Chris Tarrant
22	Christiansted	47	Christminster	72	<i>(no question here)</i>
23	Christopher Chataway Christopher Brasher	48	Christine James	73	Chromatic scale
24	Christine Lagarde	49	Chrip Street market, Poplar	74	Christmas pudding
25	Chronicle & Echo (Northampton)	50	Christopher Wren	75	Christ the Redeemer

Winners (in order) were: 1. The Wood family, 2. Peter & Sue Allen, 3. Carol Blunt, 4. Margaret Burne & Anne Burrell (tied), closely followed by Val Allen, the Tombs family and Maurice Stayton.

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)

### Proposed calendar of Services for February 2016

		KING'S SUTTON	NEWBOTTLE
Mon	1		
Tues	2	Mass 9.30am	
Weds	3	<i>S Anskar</i> : Mass 7pm	
Thurs	4	<i>S Gilbert</i>	
Fri	5	Parent & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon	
Sat	6	<i>MM of Japan</i> : Mass 10am	
Sun	7	<b>Sunday before Lent</b> : Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong with prayer for healing 6pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30am
Mon	8		
Tues	9	Mass 9.30am	
Weds	10	<b>Ash Wednesday: Sung Mass with Ashing 7.00pm</b>	<b>Holy Communion 10am</b>
Thurs	11		
Fri	12	Parent & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon	
Sat	13	Mass 10am	
Sun	14	<b>Lent 1</b> : Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; The Litany, homily and hymns 6pm	Morning Prayer & Holy Communion 9.30am
Mon	15		
Tues	16	Mass 9.30am	
Weds	17	<i>Janani Luwum</i> : Mass 7pm	
Thurs	18		
Fri	19	<i>Ember Day</i> : Parent & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon	
Sat	20	<i>Ember Day</i> : Mass 10am	
Sun	21	<b>Lent 2</b> : Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm	Sung Eucharist 9.30am
Mon	22		
Tues	23	<i>S Polycarp</i> : Mass 9.30am	
Weds	24	Mass 7pm	
Thurs	25		
Fri	26	Parent & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon	
Sat	27	<i>George Herbert</i> : Mass 10am SOLW	
Sun	28	<b>Lent 3</b> : Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm	Morning Prayer 9.30am
Mon	29		

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