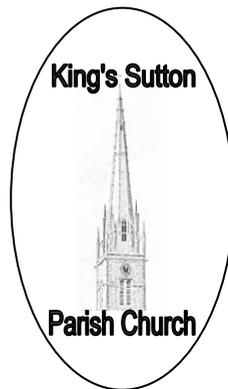


CHURCH NEWSLETTER MARCH 2016



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

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EASTER MOVES

There is a current project led by the Archbishop of Canterbury to fix the date of Easter. This has been tried before in the 1920s and I have to say I hope it does not succeed. The date of Easter moves because the date of the Jewish Passover moves. That is an important connection to remind us that Christianity is rooted in Judaism.

The Passover is the celebration of the great act of deliverance from slavery in Egypt under the leadership of Moses. The Jews having settled in Egypt at the time of Joseph, when there was a famine in their own land, slowly descended into being slaves. For the Jews this escape from Pharaoh was a sign of God's love for his people. They fled through the Red Sea and on into the desert of Sinai, and finally, some forty years later crossed the Jordan into the Promised Land.

Jesus' death took place at Passover, and thus the early church saw the Passover as an example of God's mercy and deliverance, fulfilled in the deliverance from sin and death brought about by the death and resurrection of Jesus. This link is important and, although Passover and Easter do not always exactly coincide, they do for the most part.

The method of calculating Easter seems complex, but basically it is the first Sunday after the Spring equinox, and hence it moves from around 25th

March to 20th April. The desire to have it on a fixed day is alleged to be about school holidays and commercial planning, but it shows a mindset which is about managing things tidily and not appreciating the historic and theological resonances of what we have.

So I hope Easter will continue to be a moveable feast, reminding us of God's act of deliverance first for his people from slavery, and then for the whole of humanity from the slavery of sin and death.

Fr Roger

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

February	8 th	Alec Lovell
February	9 th	Bett Simms
March	12 th	Miriam Thorne
March	28 th	Jill Hunter
March	30 th	Gwynneth Wood

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:

Funerals:

January	20 th	Barbara Bluck
January	28 th	Gordon Green
February	12 th	Carol Gilley

LENT

There will be the usual services during Lent, including Stations of the Cross and a service of words and music for Palm Sunday at 6pm, and I encourage you to the usual Lenten disciplines: fasting, prayer and alms-giving.

LUNCHES: *Light soup lunches will be served in the Church Room on Fridays during Lent at 12.30pm on Fridays after the 12 noon Mass. Donations at these lunches will be sent to charity.*



Did you ever sing in the Parish Church Choir?



This picture, from **1921** shows: Daniel Bray (organ blower), John Taylor (Vicar's Warden & Sexton), Revd. Beard, Victor Bray, Ernest Twynham, Percy McGinlay, Alfred Barber, Fran Dancer, Sonny Jones, Jesse Twynham, Bob Dancer, Billy Dancer, Billy Barber, Arthur Wyatt, Joe Barber, Reg Wyatt, Cyril Meadows and Oliver Compton.

We would like to make an album of photos of the choir as a historical record, and if you have a picture at home, we would like to be able to scan it to add to the album. The years 1993 up to the present are fairly well covered (we have gaps at 1994, 95), but earlier years are needed. So, if you can help, please contact Sue Allen (810967).

We are also trying to make a list of past organists, so if you can remember anyone who is not on the list below, please let us know.

A. Pamphett (1901), Claude Adkins (1942-80), David King (1980?), Ian Biggs (1982-3?), Graham Thornhill (1985-95), Julian Kent (1995-9), Jonathan Kingston (2000-1), Stephen Taylor (2001-2), Nigel Timms (2002-14), David Richardson (2014 & current). Temporary organists: David Boss, Sydney Watson (both during 1980s).

The Events of HOLY WEEK leading up to EASTER

The services and activities of Holy Week and Easter help us to “walk through” the last week of Jesus’ earthly ministry as we think together about his arrest, trial, crucifixion and resurrection. All human life is here: friendship and betrayal, courage and cowardice, suffering and love, loss and new beginnings. These are things we all experience. They are as much a part of our world as they were of Jesus’ world. Reflecting on them helps us to see our own stories, and the challenges we might face in a new way.

Why not come along this Holy Week to join with us in this journey of prayer and meditation? You will be very welcome.

PALM SUNDAY Sung Eucharist 11.00am

Our Palm Sunday service begins with the choir processing from the West Doors, carrying palm crosses as they walk singing a hymn. The crosses are blessed and we hear the story of Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey a week before he died. The crowds which shout ‘Hosanna!’ and greet him as a king then will soon shout just as loudly for his death, and as the service goes on we begin to think about his coming death.

Service of words and music for Palm Sunday 6pm

TUESDAY Simple said Mass 9.30am

7pm THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF OUR SAVIOUR ON THE CROSS - HAYDN

This work is a commission from a priest in Cadiz. It was originally an orchestral work: an introduction, seven sonatas and a final movement called Il Terremoto (the earthquake). The composer himself described the atmosphere in the church: ‘the walls, windows and pillars were covered in black cloth. Only one large lamp hanging in the middle lit the holy darkness. At noon, all the doors were closed and the music began’. The work has the pattern of: Word, meditation, music. The first performance was given in Cadiz Cathedral in Holy Week 1786. Later Haydn made an arrangement for string quartet and an oratorio. The piano arrangement we will hear was made by an unknown hand, but Haydn approved.

He wrote: ‘I am delighted with the piano score, which is very good and has been prepared with special care’.



WEDNESDAY Simple said Mass 7.00pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY Sung Eucharist and Vigil 8.00pm

Our Maundy Thursday service is a sung service of Holy Communion, recalling the Last Supper which Jesus shared with his friends on the night before he died. We hear the story of Jesus washing his disciples' feet and telling them that they too must be the servants of others. We remember also his words of reassurance to them that whenever they eat bread and drink wine together in the future he will be with them. At the end of the service the Church is darkened and the Altar of Repose, adorned with flowers, is candle-lit to replicate the Garden of Gethsemane. We are invited to pray in silence and to reflect on what happened on this day over 2000 years ago. The Church is open for silent prayer until midnight.

GOOD FRIDAY Family Worship 10.00am (see family section)

Liturgy 3.15pm

The afternoon service on Good Friday is a formal mixture of hymns, readings and prayers reflecting on Jesus' crucifixion. It lasts about 45 minutes. During the service we consider the meaning of Christ's death for us today and pray for those who suffer from injustice and oppression as he did.

HOLY SATURDAY Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter 9.00pm

The service starts in darkness as we light the new Easter (or Paschal) candle, a reminder of the light of Christ which even death could not put out. We light small candles held by the congregation – we all carry that light of Christ out into the world. Easter was the traditional time for baptisms in the early church, because in Baptism we claim God's promise that there can always be a new beginning and a new life, a promise rooted in the story of the death and rising of Christ. The service includes an opportunity to renew our baptismal vows.

EASTER SUNDAY Sung Eucharist 11.00am

The Easter morning service is a joyful time of thanksgiving for the Resurrection. At the end there will be refreshments and Easter eggs!

SONGS OF PRAISE and start of the Alleluia Festival 6.00pm



The Alleluia Festival comes to King's Sutton on Easter Day and will run until Pentecost (May 15th).

This period represents the 50 days of Eastertide. Most years we make a great deal of Lent and then after our celebration of Easter itself everything goes a bit flat.

So this year, we plan to make more of the 50 days after Easter; hence ***The Alleluia Festival.***

Why ***Alleluia!*** Because this word, which we forgo during Lent is **the** word of Eastertide. "We are the Easter people", said S Augustine, "and Alleluia is our song."

Among the events planned are:

- A study course under the title "I am the Resurrection and the life". (Tuesday mornings: 5th, 12th, 19th April c. 10am in the Church room and then repeated Wednesday evenings 6th, 13th 20th at 7.30pm)
- Stations of the Resurrection (Sunday April 10th at 6pm)
- An art, craft and calligraphy day (April 2nd – an activity afternoon making banners and posters for the church).
- A Quiet Day (16th or 23rd April – date and venue tbc)
- Paintings of the Resurrection (Thursday 28th April 7.30pm Church Room)
- Joint activity with all the churches 14th May 2.30pm

Then after Ascension Day (May 5th) a Novena of Prayer – nine daily short acts of worship in church and leaflets for you to use at home, work etc. to pray, as the Apostles and Our Lady prayed, for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

That brings us to Pentecost, the celebration of the Holy Spirit, and we shall end with the Christian Aid Week Service on the evening of that day.

Look out for more details of these events as they appear.

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 normally held in the chancel of the church in the choir stalls. Because Easter falls in March, the services for families are a little bit different: Friday 25th March at 10am there will be a service for Good Friday, when we will hear the story of Good Friday as we sit around a bare cross. There will be some prayers at the High Altar, where we can see the five crosses representing Jesus' wounds; we will then decorate the cross with tea-lights. On Easter Day we will all join the Sung Eucharist at 11am.



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 in March:

6 th March	Lent IV / Mothering Sunday	Sung Eucharist 9.30am
13 th March	Lent V	Matins & Holy Communion 9.30am
20 th March	Palm Sunday	Procession from the Village Hall in Charlton to the Church 11am
24 th March	Maundy Thursday	Holy Communion 10am
25 th March	Good Friday	Meditation with hymns 2pm
27 th March	Easter Day	Sung Eucharist 9.30am

Proposed calendar of Services for March 2016

KING'S SUTTON		
Tues	1	<i>S David</i> : Mass 9.30am
Weds	2	<i>S Chad</i> : Mass 7pm
Thurs	3	
Fri	4	Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	5	Mass 10am
Sun	6	Lent 4 / Mothering Sunday : Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	7	<i>SS Perpetua & Felicity</i>
Tues	8	<i>Edward King</i> : Mass 9.30am
Weds	9	Mass 7pm
Thurs	10	
Fri	11	Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	12	Mass 10am
Sun	13	Lent 5 / Passiontide begins : Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Stations of the Cross 6pm
Mon	14	
Tues	15	Mass 9.30am
Weds	16	Mass 7pm
Thurs	17	<i>S Patrick</i> :
Fri	18	Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	19	<i>S Joseph</i> : Mass 10am
Sun	20	Palm Sunday : Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Service of words and music 6pm
Mon	21	
Tues	22	Mass 9.30am
Weds	23	Mass 7pm
Thurs	24	Maundy Thursday : Sung Mass & Vigil 8pm
Fri	25	Good Friday : Family Worship 10am; The Liturgy 3.15pm
Sat	26	Easter Eve : Vigil and first Mass of Easter 9pm
Sun	27	Easter Day : Sung Mass 11am; Songs of Praise 6pm
Mon	28	
Tues	29	Mass 9.30am
Weds	30	Mass 7pm

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