

# CHURCH NEWSLETTER MAY 2017



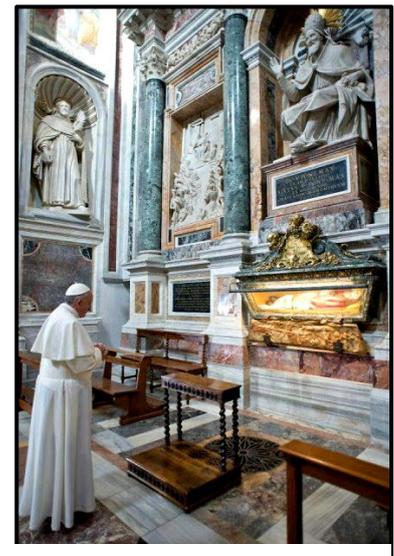
## Church of St. Peter & St. Paul King's Sutton

Contacts:

<b>Vicar:</b>	Fr. Roger	Contact via the Wardens, please.
<b>Churchwardens:</b>	Peter Allen 810967 Dee Thobourne 811961	
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://kingsuttonchurch.weebly.com">http://kingsuttonchurch.weebly.com</a>	

### REFORMING POPES

The 16th century saw a huge sea change in the nature of the papacy as it tried to deal with the reform movements of Luther, Calvin and of the Church of England. We think now of the Catholic Church's HQ as the Vatican – that small state in Rome, but five hundred years ago the popes were the sovereign of the Papal States, a swathe of central Italy and inevitably caught up in the politics of Western Europe.



*Pius V tomb*

They were a “power” alongside France, Spain, the Holy Roman Empire, and the emerging importance of England. So, Julius II (Pope 1503-13), was much embroiled in politics and it is said, even rode into battle. I forgive him all that because he was a great patron of the arts, and not least of Michelangelo! Paul III – the Farnese Pope (1550-55) – was something of a reformer in church matters, but had several illegitimate children, and nepotism was commonplace. However, he did begin the Council of Trent, which was to be the major reform element in Catholicism, and he sent the learned and ascetic Cardinal Pole to England, to be Queen Mary's Archbishop of Canterbury in 1553.

But it was Paul IV (1555-59) and Pius IV (1559-65) who were largely responsible for cleaning up the Catholic Church and seeing Trent through to a successful conclusion. This was not easy, as the Council came under attack from other Catholic rulers. These popes' names are significant – the great apostle and Pius announcing a desire for spiritual rather than political intentions. Pius IV was the uncle of S Charles Borromeo, who as Archbishop of Milan, was a great man of reform, and S Pius V would continue this work. He was Pope from 1566 – 72, a Dominican, ascetic, he was responsible for the creation of the Breviary - a daily prayer book – and Missal which remained in use until the 20th century. He was one of the allies of the defence attack against the Turks which won the victory at Lepanto. Western Europe was saved from further Turkish attacks. (It was there, incidentally, that Cervantes lost his left hand). Pius is noted in English history as the pope who excommunicated Elizabeth I.

Finally, Sixtus V (1585-90) was a Franciscan, zealous for reform but also a great builder. He suppressed brigandage within the Papal States and embellished the city of Rome. His greatest act there was to bring water into the city from a distance of some 20 kilometres, resulting in the Acqua Felice. It has that name because Sixtus birth name was Felice Peretti, and the great façade in the Piazza San Bernado has a grotesque statue of Moses who is striking the rock. It was important, for it brought clean piped water to the Quirinal area of the city for the first time.

Reform had, however, split the Church. In addition to the much older schism between Rome and the Orthodox Churches, disunity was now across the centre of Europe: there were Catholics in the north and some small reform churches in the south, but fundamentally southern Europe was Catholic: Italy, France, Spain, Portugal, Ireland, southern Germany, and Austria; but in the north – England, Scotland, Netherlands, northern Germany and Scandinavia there were various kinds of reform, and it wasn't until the early 20<sup>th</sup> century that any great effort was made to begin the process of reunion.

*Fr Roger*

*Fr Roger is continuing with chemotherapy, but is hoping that between the cycles he may be able to do some work. Meanwhile, he has begun work on a Commentary on S John's Gospel.....*

## **Celebration of Light**

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

April 30<sup>th</sup> Les Nutt

*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:**

April 2<sup>nd</sup> Emily Mae Rose Wilson

## **CONFIRMATION – Advance notice**

On 4<sup>th</sup> June 2017 we welcome Bishop Norman Banks, Bishop of Richborough to the parish to lead a service of Confirmation at 11.00 am in the Parish Church. This Confirmation will be part of the morning Mass service and will be an opportunity for everyone to witness the confirmation and also to meet Bishop Norman over refreshments afterwards.

King's Sutton is one of many parishes that Bishop Norman has oversight of and has always supported Father Roger over the years, and more especially so now as Father Roger undergoes his latest challenge. His addresses are always very informative and good humoured, so do come along, support the confirmation candidates and meet with Bishop Norman.



Bishop Norman is no stranger to this part of the country, having studied at Oriel College, Oxford before going on to study for ordination at St Stephen's House, Oxford. He was appointed Bishop of Richborough on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2011. He now lives in St. Albans.



**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK  
starts 14<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

With your copy of this Newsletter there will be a Christian Aid envelope. (If you are reading this on the website and don't have a hard copy, then there will be spare envelopes in church.) Please be generous: the developing world needs our help. So what does a gift to Christian Aid do? Well, despite the title it is not aid for Christians – aid goes to people in need of whatever faith, but it is Christians who organise the collection and distribution. It doesn't go to governments but to partner organisations around the world.

Please, if you can, put some loose change in the envelopes, gift aided if possible, and then pop the envelopes through the letterboxes at any of these addresses:

The Vicarage  
44 Astrop Road  
20b Banbury Lane  
26 Glebe Rise  
2 Marlborough Close

Or bring to any service at the Parish Church or the Baptist Church.

*Fr. Roger*



**Nejebar doesn't have a safe place to call home**

She fled Afghanistan with her family after the Taliban threatened to kill her husband, Noor, who was a teacher. It

wasn't an idle threat - the Taliban first blinded, and then murdered, another member of their family. 'The last days and weeks in Afghanistan were the hardest,' says Noor. 'When I went to work, my heart was beating harder. I didn't know if my family were going to be alive when I got back.'

Come along and hear more about Nejebah and Noor at the **Service for Christian Aid week on May 14<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in the Parish Church**



## We are joining Oxfordshire Arts Weeks!

The 2017 Art weeks May festival will take place from 6th-29th May, with each of the three weeks having a different regional focus:

- South Oxfordshire 6th-14nd May
- **North Oxfordshire 13th-21st May**
- Oxford City 20th-29th May.

The Parish Church is open from 12.30 – 6pm each day (8pm on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>), and will be the venue for 7 of the artists:

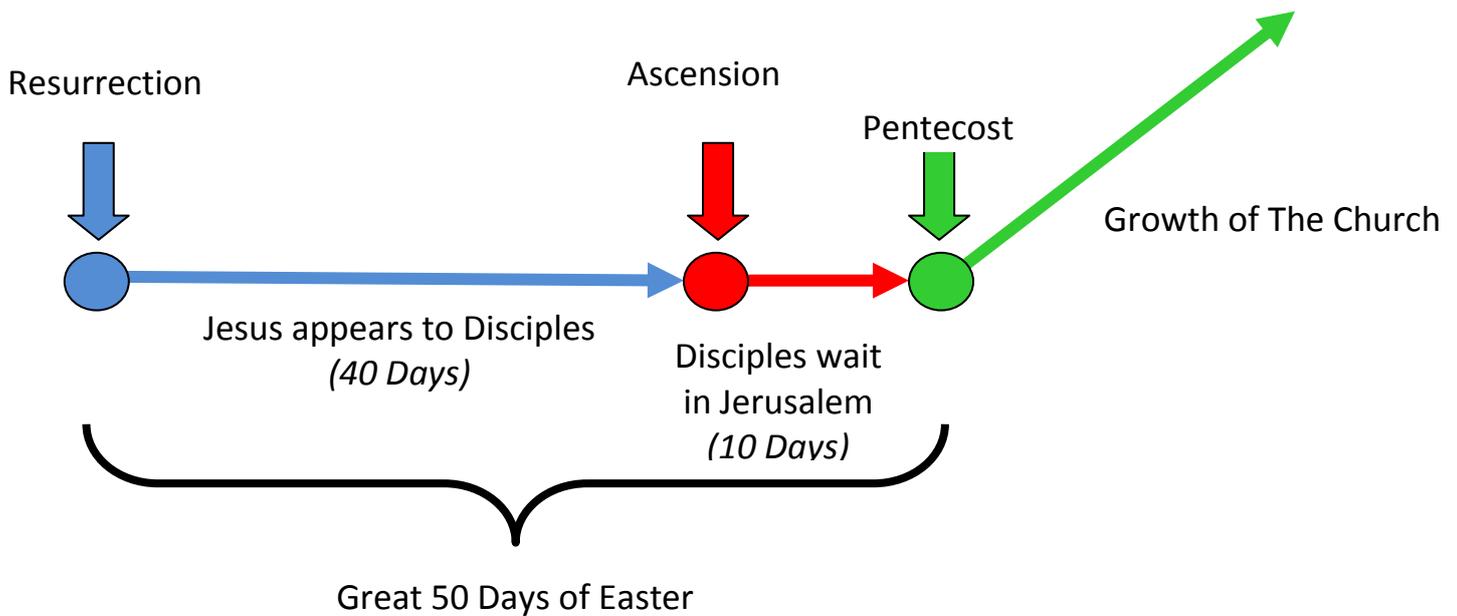
- Jill Collier, (*wildlife sculptor & painter*)
- Jackie Bradley, (*abstract painter*)
- Kim Kemp, (*textile artist*)
- Sheena McCormack, (*painter, jewellery maker, textile pictures*)
- Judith Warren, (*painter*)
- Teresa Wilson, (*painter*)
- Helen Street Woolner (*ceramics*)

Bell House will host the work of Margot Bell (*woodcut printer*), and Paul Murphy (*lithographic printmaker*) and Sharon Woods (*painter*) will display their work at 2 Banbury Lane. Full details are on the website [kingsseven.weebly.com](http://kingsseven.weebly.com).

Refreshments will be available in Church throughout the week, so come along and meet the artists and discuss their works over a cup of tea.

**Services will happen as normally around these events!** The dates and times of services are elsewhere in this newsletter so have a look at them before you decide to pop into the Church. However you are very welcome to come to any of the services, and then stay on and look at the artists' work.

## Why is the Easter season 50 days long?



Easter for Christians is not just one day, but rather a 50-day period. The season of Easter, or Eastertide, begins at sunset on the eve of Easter and ends on Pentecost, the day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church (see Acts 2). This is often called the great Fifty Days.

Easter is also more than just an extended celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus. It also celebrates His appearances to the disciples after Easter, His post-resurrection teachings, His ascension into heaven, and the disciples' eager anticipation of the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost.

In the early church, Lent was a season for new converts to learn about the faith and prepare for baptism on Easter Sunday. The initial purpose of the 50-day Easter season was to continue the teaching of faith to new Christians. Today, this extended season gives us time to rejoice and experience what it means when we say "Christ is Risen". It's the season when we remember our baptisms. During these 50 days the Church will be decorated with banners proclaiming **\*Alleluia\***.

Ascension Day, the 40<sup>th</sup> of the Great Fifty Days, is frequently commemorated with a special evening service since it always falls on a Thursday. This year, on 25<sup>th</sup> May there will be a Sung Mass at 7.30pm in the Parish Church. Why not come along and join in.

On Pentecost, the 50<sup>th</sup> (and last) day of this period there will be a Confirmation service at 11.00 am in the Parish Church. (See elsewhere in this newsletter).

## To think about.....

“His Ascension marked a stage in His revelation, but it only brought Him nearer to us. To have lingered among the early disciples would have limited His mission and sequestered Him from the later Church. As the Resurrection opened the grave, the Ascension opened heaven.”

*(Anon, collected C. N. Douglas 1917)*

## 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.

**FAMILY SERVICE:** this is normally held in the chancel of the church in the choir stalls. This month the service will be held on May 28<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 am.



## Services at Newbottle in May at 9.30am:

May	7 <sup>th</sup>	Easter 4	Sung Eucharist
May	14 <sup>th</sup>	Easter 5	Matins
May	21 <sup>st</sup>	Easter 6	Sung Eucharist
May	28 <sup>th</sup>	Easter 7	Matins

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)

**Calendar of Services for May 2017**  
**If in any doubt please ring 01295 810967.**

		<b>KING'S SUTTON</b>
Mon	1	<i>SS Philip &amp; James</i>
Tues	2	<i>S Athanasius: Mass 9.30am</i>
Weds	3	
Thurs	4	
Fri	5	Parent & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am
Sat	6	
Sun	7	<b>Easter 4:</b> Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	8	<i>S Julian of Norwich</i>
Tues	9	Mass 9.30am
Weds	10	
Thurs	11	
Fri	12	Parent & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am
Sat	13	
Sun	14	<b>Easter 5:</b> Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Service for Christian Aid 6pm
Mon	15	<i>S Matthias</i>
Tues	16	Mass 9.30am
Weds	17	
Thurs	18	
Fri	19	<i>S Dunstan:</i> Parent & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am
Sat	20	Mass 10am SOLW
Sun	21	<b>Easter 6:</b> Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	22	
Tues	23	Mass 9.30am
Weds	24	<i>John &amp; Charles Wesley</i>
Thurs	25	<b>Ascension Day:</b> Sung Mass 7.30pm
Fri	26	<i>S Augustine:</i> Parent & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	27	
Sun	28	<b>Easter 7:</b> Mass 8am; Family Worship 10am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	29	
Tues	30	<i>Josephine Butler:</i> Mass 9.30am
Weds	31	<i>Visitation of BVM:</i> Mass 7pm