

PARISH CHURCH NEWSLETTER
February 2018



Come and join us

For Lenten events:



Ash Wednesday Sung Mass with ashing 7.30pm
14th February.

Make a good start to Lent: the priest makes the sign of the cross on our foreheads with ash as a sign of our penitence and faith.

Lunches for charity each Friday in the Church Room 12.30pm.

Support a good cause and enjoy a soup and bread lunch - everything homemade! These start on February 16th.



A four-week Lent course

Tuesdays and Wednesdays,
starting on 27th and 28th February.

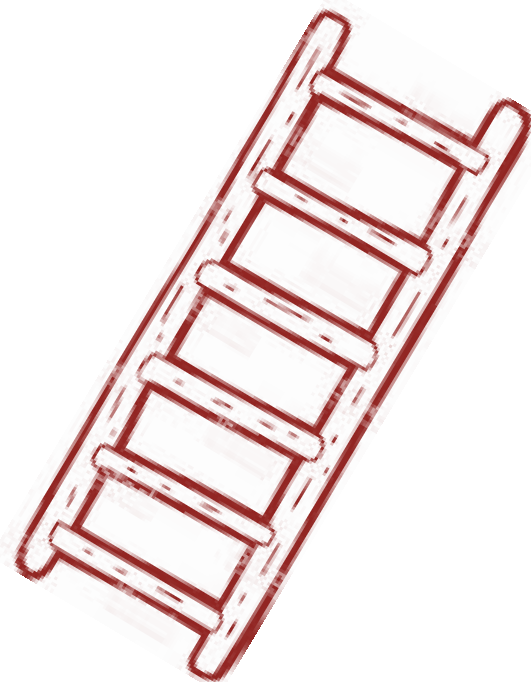
Come and discover more about S Mark's story of the Passion of Jesus.

The course is on the Passion narrative in S Mark's Gospel and led by the Reverend Roger Burne. It will take place after the Tuesday Mass in the Church Room, King's Sutton at about 10.15am and on Wednesday evenings at 7.45pm at the Burne's home: 43 Glebe Rise. Everyone welcome!!



The image of a ladder is a common one in Christian thinking. There was the one which Jacob saw rising to heaven which made him realise that although he was fleeing from the brother he had cheated, God was still present. And the idea of climbing a ladder as an image of spiritual growth was used by Benedict and several other writers. Lent is, of course, a time for reflection on how our lives are going – a time for deepening our penitence and faith through the traditional ways of fasting, almsgiving and prayer. John Short (1911-91) is a little-known poet who spent his whole life in Westmorland (part of Cumbria, these days!) and this poem is called 'Six Ladder-Steps for Lent'. As you will see it moves from ash and ends with jonquils dancing.

*From a furnace rake out ash
In those clinkers set thy feet
For whips of scorn they breast to slash
Tear up a pauper's winding sheet
Next beside a pit-shaft tread
Rise by crawling down and seam
Spin thy hope from cotton thread
And stretch prayer's weft upon that beam
Macerations feed the soul
Vow a means-test rule and see
Seven Easter jonquils snow-bright and tall
Dance in passion's cemetery.*



(From an Anthology of Religious Verse edited by Norman Nicholson, Pelican Books 1942)

Fr. Roger

Fr Roger: My last course of chemotherapy didn't have much effect, and so I have reached the stage where there is no more treatment and we will deal with symptoms as they arise. I shall continue to work as long as I can - pacing myself and dependent on energy levels.

I feel remarkably peaceful. I am in the Lord's hands whatever happens and I trust that all shall be well, as Julian of Norwich said. I am grateful for the prayers of people and I continue to pray for you.

From the Registers

Funerals:

January 12th Jayne Richards
January 16th Raymond Denis Smith

Celebration of Light

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

January 7th Betty Reid
January 15th Sara Charles-Jones

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.

HEALTH AND SAFETY NOTICE

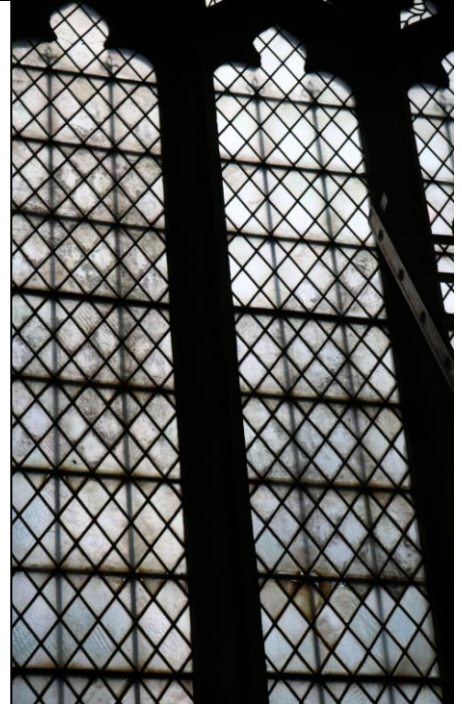


If you go into the church at any time in the next few months, please be aware that there are now contractors on site working on the windows. Please take care around the areas that are being worked on, and take care to avoid the working areas.

As reported in last month's newsletter Holywell Glass did start work on 11th January and are scheduled to complete the work by 31st May 2018. Please take the opportunity to visit and see skilled craftspeople at work. It will be easy to spot what has yet to be done but please do be careful with ladders, scaffolding and materials around the various parts of the Church. Services will continue as normal and any baptisms, weddings and funerals will take priority; do please contact Father Roger as normal. Your Church is still available for visits but on behalf of the Vicar, Warden and Parochial Church Council members **"Please take Care"**.



Work being carried out on the window on the west end of the north aisle. This entailed cleaning each pane with a mixture of purified water and acetone – normally associated with nail varnish remover! The pads used were soon coming away completely black. The picture on the right shows the top right hand side clean, the top left still to be treated.



Cleaning the outside of the window dedicated to a matron of Charterhouse (north aisle)



Re-attaching the metal grilles to protect the outside of the stained glass panel. The plain glass is now really clean, rather than being almost opaque.



Work on a window in the Lady Chapel in the south aisle.

Work is progressing well inside the church, and the windows are already letting in so much more light than before. The colours in the stained glass windows that have been cleaned on site are becoming vivid and bright. If you are passing the church, call in to see the difference that the conservators Holywell Glass have made. We have learned that they have just been awarded a commission to undertake work on the Queen's private chapel in Windsor Castle, so we are very fortunate to have such skilled craftsmen working in the village.

Not quite twelve of the clock, and all is not well!

The clock in the church spire is something which we all tend to take for granted, so we have perhaps been taken by surprise that over the last few months it has not been as reliable as usual and has actually stopped altogether several times.

As a light sleeper, I became aware of this through the lack of chimes in the small hours on some nights! Smiths of Derby, who are experts on tower clocks and undertake regular maintenance for us, have done a detailed examination of the clock which has revealed that certain parts have become worn.

To put this right, part of the mechanism needs to be removed and taken back to their workshop for fairly major repairs. We have asked them to proceed with this, as we feel the clock is vital to the village, but the cost of the work is going to be over £3,000. This will be on top of the church's budgeted expenditure for 2018, and the budget is already very tight. So we are asking everyone in the village to consider helping us with the cost of this repair – we would be very grateful indeed for any donations that people feel able to make.

If you would like to help, donations may be made to me, the Churchwarden (Dee Thobourne), or Father Roger. Please consider helping with this – thank you!

Douglas Hamilton (PCC Treasurer)
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King's Sutton
812810
douglas.hamilton@oriel.ox.ac.uk



The hands of the church clock are now still, and showing that it's not quite twelve o'clock!

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 SERVICES: Family Worship on 28th January.



Nativity on the 23rd December



The Parent and Toddler Worship children performed their first Nativity at Christmas, helped by three of our past members. Fr. Roger wrote the script but unfortunately was unable to attend, but the children did him proud.

The story was narrated wonderfully by Gracie Self who was once a member of our group but is now at school. The children acted out the story of the Nativity, not always to the script, but very much their way which was very moving and enjoyable to watch. One very small angel decided she wanted to do something different and danced in the nave to the joy and amusement of the people watching. There were people who were visitors to the village who came to watch and said that it made a very wonderful start to their Christmas. Their entry into the Visitors Book reads "Wonderful Nativity – wouldn't have missed it for the world. CHRISTMAS!!" Well done one and all!



After the performance the children had a very well deserved Christmas Party in the Church Room. A good time was had by all. We will do it again next year so why not come and join us then.

To think about.....

"Everything in life has its own time. There is time to celebrate and there is time to mourn. Lent is the time for reflection and transformation. Let us look within and change into what we ought to be."

(Aaron Saul)

The Parish Church Christmas Gold Quiz

Many thanks to all who took part in the Christmas Gold quiz. The quiz entries were submitted by January 6th and the results are as follows:

- 1st J. Hamilton, Souldern
- 2nd J. Riley, Middleton Cheney
- 3rd The Hermon family, King's Sutton

Copies of the quiz answer sheet can be seen at the Millennium Memorial Hall Coffee Shop and on the grey notice boards in the Church

Services at Newbottle:

February	4 th	2 nd before Lent	Sung Eucharist	9.30 am
February	11 th	Sunday before Lent	Matins	9.30 am
February	14 th	Ash Wednesday	Holy Communion	10 am
February	18 th	Lent 1	Sung Eucharist	9.30 am
February	25 th	Lent 2	Matins	9.30 am

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

Contacts:

Vicar: Fr. Roger 811364

Churchwarden: Dee Thobourne 811961

Website <http://kingsuttonchurch.weebly.com>

Proposed Calendar of Services for February 2018

Please check with notice board in church or contact the Warden

Thurs	1	<i>S Brigid</i>
Fri	2	<i>Candlemas</i> : Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	3	<i>S Anskar</i>
Sun	4	Candlemas : Sung Mass with procession 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	5	
Tues	6	<i>MM of Japan</i> : Mass 9.30am
Weds	7	
Thurs	8	
Fri	9	Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	10	<i>S Scholastica</i> : Mass 10am
Sun	11	Sunday before Lent : Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	12	
Tues	13	Mass 9.30am
Weds	14	ASH WEDNESDAY : Sung Mass with ashing 7.30pm
Thurs	15	
Fri	16	Mass 12 noon
Sat	17	<i>Janani Luwum</i>
Sun	18	Lent 1 : Sung Mass 11am; The Litany with homily 6pm
Mon	19	
Tues	20	Mass 9.30am
Weds	21	
Thurs	22	
Fri	23	<i>S Polycarp</i> : Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	24	Mass 10am SOLW
Sun	25	Lent 2 : Mass 8am; Family Worship 10am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	26	
Tues	27	<i>George Herbert</i> : Mass 9.30am
Weds	28	Mass 7pm at 43 Glebe Rise