

Are you unwell or do you know someone who is? I am sure almost all of us do, and when we are unwell naturally we seek medical advice, and we are all immensely grateful for the NHS and its dedicated staff, often working under great pressure. But prayer can help as well. It may not bring a "cure" but it can bring healing, helping us to be more at peace within ourselves. Obviously this is a key concern for me as I live with cancer. People have remarked on what they call my courage, but I just recognise that I am in the hands of God. I came from him and one day will return to him.

On Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March Evensong takes a shorter form and then there are prayers for healing: we pray for the sick and perhaps some special group of people, and then people may receive the Laying on of Hands. The priest stands and individuals come forward, one at a time, to be prayed for or to ask for prayer on behalf of others. The priest places his hands on your head and prays silently. I know those who come to this service find it beneficial, so why not give it a try? God loves you and through this ministry he acts to help.



Mothering Sunday falls on 11<sup>th</sup> March and we all know that families are busy on that day with trips for family get-togethers and special meals. So we are inviting families to celebrate on the day before - Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. There will be a short service and then some tea and cake. If you are a young

dad, get your wife or partner and children to come and celebrate. It may be you are a grown up and would still like to celebrate your mother, and we all have or had them!! So you might come too. Age is no barrier!!

Fr. Roger

#### From the Registers

#### **Baptisms:**

February 18<sup>th</sup> Olivia Williams

#### **Celebration of Light**

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

February1stBob ReidFebruary8thAlec LovellFebruary9thSue HallMarch13thAnne WiseMarch24thJill Hunter

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.

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# Something to look out for!

If you have visited the church, you may have noticed that at regular intervals around the walls there are plaster relief pictures, each with a cross above and numbers below. These are known as the 'Stations of the Cross'. The pictures depict the final hours in the life of Jesus, from his trial to his burial.

Images of the 14 Stations of the Cross will be displayed in 14 places in the village. Can you find them all? Write down the numbers and places and send your answers to the Vicarage by April 1<sup>st</sup>. A small prize for the winner!!







# We can't be there but!!!

S Francis was thinking that as Christmas approached in 1232, and so he created the first Crib at Greccio. Eric Milner-White in the Bidding for the Service of Readings and Carols for Christmas Eve, says: 'Let us go even in heart and mind to Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass'. And this is what we also do in Holy Week and Easter. We cannot usually be in Jerusalem but we can make a Jerusalem here.

On Palm Sunday we make a journey just as Jesus did: at Charlton this takes the form of a walk, usually with donkey, from the village to Church at Newbottle. In King's Sutton a procession within the church at the 11am Mass, but at Family Worship that day we will make the journey from the Green into church.

> Jesus and his disciples gathered in the Upper Room on the Thursday: we shall gather in church – Newbottle at 10am and King's Sutton at 8pm. After the Last Supper, Jesus went with his disciples to Gethsemane where they were to pray for him. After the 8pm Mass, the Blessed Sacrament is taken to the Altar of Repose, representing Gethsemane, and there people keep watch with the Lord till midnight.

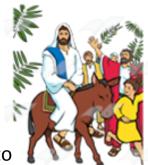
On Good Friday obviously we go in heart and mind to the Cross, but in the Liturgy at King's Sutton beginning at 3.15pm, we have a ceremony of Venerating the Cross: the priest holds a crucifix for us and we approach and may either just bow, or may kiss the cross.

Finally, like the women on the first Easter Day, we go to the empty tomb in the Easter Garden. We greet the Risen Lord, among us.

That sounds like a lot of services, and it is, but it is the high-point of the whole Christian year. To experience the whole sequence is deeply moving; from the crowds' cry of 'Hosanna' on Palm Sunday, to the 'Crucify him!' of Good Friday to the 'Alleluia. He is risen!' of Easter. But come to what you can.

Be there even when you can't be there!!





## Lent Bible Study - Mark's Gospel The Passion of our Lord

Mark is the shortest of the Gospels, as well as the first one to be written. Many of our Sunday Gospel readings this year are taken from Mark. The language is direct and urgent: it is easy to read right through in one go, and this is well worth doing before thinking about the individual passages.

These sessions will be held on Tuesday mornings in the Church Room, King's Sutton at 10.15am after 9.30am Eucharist in church. Then on Wednesday evenings, there will be a Eucharist held at 43 Glebe Rise, King's Sutton at 7.00pm, and the Bible Study will follow at 7.30pm.

Please bring a Bible in the translation of your own choice.

#### **Opening prayer**

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

| • | 6 & 7 March<br>The plot and the Passover         | Mark 14             |
|---|--|---------------------|
| • | 13 & 14 March<br>"Are you the King of the Jews?" | Mark 15:1-39        |
| • | 20 & 21 March<br>The Resurrection of Jesus       | Mark 15:40-16:1-end |

**LENT LUNCHES** continue to be served on Fridays during Lent in the Church room (the Oman room) usually at 12.30pm. The lunches will be of home-made soups and breads, and proceeds will be given to the charities below. There will also be a Cake Raffle.

| March 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | Helen & Douglas House (lunch at 1pm) |  |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| March 9 <sup>th</sup>  | Neuroblastoma Society                |  |
| March 16 <sup>th</sup> | Helen & Douglas House                |  |
| March 23 <sup>rd</sup> | Helen & Douglas House                |  |

# Pancake Races

Shrove Tuesday dawned cold and wet, windy and overcast. Not good weather for the planned Pancake Races. To our delight, around 20 children all warmly wrapped up came to Church Avenue in the morning together with a good number of parents, grandparents and friends. They were all ready to race and then eat pancakes.





Ian and Lee had generously allowed us to use their kitchen to cook the pancakes and so an enthusiastic team of volunteers were soon at work with their frying pans.

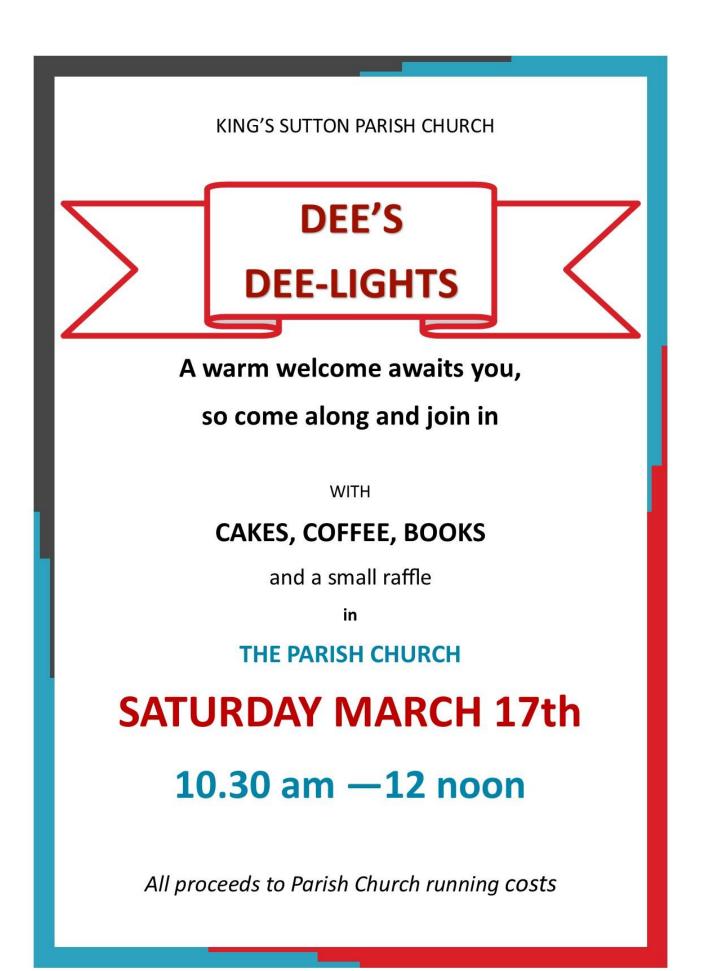
Races were run for all age groups following which there was a mass retreat to the welcoming warmth of the Church Room where hot pancakes

quickly arrived ready to eat. For some this turned into a pancake eating race with the record reputedly standing at eight pancakes!





The morning was much enjoyed by everyone and £72 was raised for Church Funds. As they left a number of people were heard to comment, "Let's hope we can do it again next year!"



#### To think about.....

"You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God; or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to." (C. S. Lewis)

#### **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: Please see the calendar overleaf and Fr. Roger's article.



Services at Newbottle: Contact David Morgan (811404 for confirmation)

| March | 4 <sup>th</sup>  | Lent 3          | Holy Communion               | 9.30 am |
|-------|------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---------|
| March | 11 <sup>th</sup> | Lent 4          | Matins                       | 9.30 am |
| March | 18 <sup>th</sup> | Lent 5          | Holy Communion               | 9.30 am |
| March | 25 <sup>th</sup> | Palm Sunday     | Procession from Village Hall | 11 am   |
| March | 29 <sup>th</sup> | Maundy Thursday | Holy Communion               | 10 am   |
| March | 30 <sup>th</sup> | Good Friday     | Meditation with hymns        | 2pm     |
| April | 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Easter Day      | Holy Communion               | 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 <u>www.sacredheart.btck.co.uk</u>

### Proposed Calendar of Services for March 2018 Please check with notice board in church or contact the Warden

| Thurs     | 1  | S David   |
|-----------|----|---|
| Fri       | 2  | S Chad: Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Funeral 12 noon   |
| Sat       | 3  |   |
| Sun       | 4  | Lent 3: Sung Mass 11am; Evensong with prayers for healing 6pm |
| Mon       | 5  |   |
| Tues      | 6  | Mass 9.30am   |
| Weds      | 7  | S Perpetua: Mass 7pm at 43 Glebe Rise                         |
| Thurs     | 8  | Edward King   |
| Fri       | 9  | Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon              |
| Sat       | 10 | Mothering Sunday Service 3pm                                  |
| Sun       | 11 | Lent 4: Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm                |
| Mon       | 12 |   |
| Tues      | 13 | Mass 9.30am   |
| Weds      | 14 | Mass 7pm at 43 Glebe Rise                                     |
| Thurs     | 15 |   |
| Fri       | 16 | Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon              |
| Sat       | 17 | S Patrick   |
| Sun       | 18 | Lent 5: Sung Mass 11am; Stations of the Cross 6pm             |
| Mon       | 19 | S Joseph  |
| Tues      | 20 | Mass 9.30am   |
| Weds      | 21 | Thomas Cranmer: Mass 7pm at 43 Glebe Rise                     |
| Thurs     | 22 |   |
| Fri       | 23 | Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon              |
| Sat       | 24 | Oscar Romero  |
| Sun       | 25 | Palm Sunday: Mass 8am; Family Worship 10am; Sung Mass with    |
|           |    | Procession 11am; Music for Holy Week 6pm                      |
| Mon       | 26 | A devotional talk and Compline 7pm                            |
| Tues      | 27 | Mass 9.30am; Stations of the Cross 7pm                        |
| Weds      | 28 | Mass 7pm  |
| Thurs     | 29 | Maundy Thursday: Sung Mass 8pm and Vigil begins               |
| Fri       | 30 | Good Friday: Family Worship 10am; The Liturgy 3.15pm          |
| Sat       | 31 | Easter Eve: First Mass of Easter and Paschal Ceremonies 9pm   |
| Sun       | 1  | Easter Day: Sung Mass 11am; Songs of Praise 6pm               |
| Contacts: |    | Vicar: Fr. Roger – via Churchwarden Dee Thobourne - 811961    |
|           |    |   |