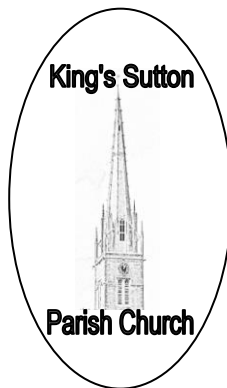


CHURCH NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2015



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

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Ash Wednesday this year is on 18th February and is, of course, the first day of Lent. Leaving out Sundays there are then 40 days to Easter.

Traditionally people follow three Lenten disciplines: almsgiving, fasting, and prayer.

Giving of alms is an old-fashioned sounding phrase but it is to do with giving away some of our wealth to those in need. There are many charities that deserve our support and no doubt there are ones you especially like to support.

Lent is a good time for making a special effort. And this may well be connected with the 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.

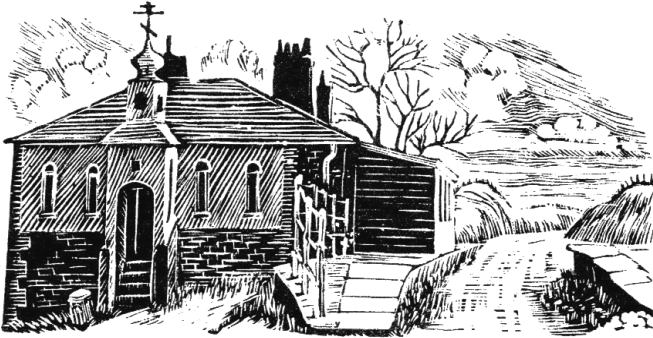
God desires our love and a bit more, or even some, praying will help us to show that.

In the Cathedral at Ely there is a tombstone which I reproduce below. It speaks for itself. With it is a wood engraving by Cordelia Jones of the former

railway station at Walsingham in Norfolk which is now S Seraphim's Orthodox Church.

Lent is a good time for getting on board the train!

Fr Roger



*The Line to Heaven by Christ was made.
With Heavenly Truth the Rails were laid.
From Earth to Heaven the Line extends,
To Life Eternal where it ends.
Repentance is the Station then
Where Passengers are taken in.
No Fee is there for them to pay
For Jesus is Himself the Way.
God's Word is the first Engineer,
It points the Way to Heaven so dear;
Through tunnels dark and dreary here
It does the way to Glory steer
God's Love the Fire, His truth the Steam
Which drives the Engine and the Train.
Come then poor Sinners, now's the time
At any Station on the Line
If you'll repent and turn from sin
The Train will stop and take you in.*

LENT COURSE

On my shelves I have a small book called *The Prodigal Son*. It is by G. F. Bullock, 'sometime Vicar of King's Sutton' and was published after his death by The Convent at Wantage.

The first sentence begins: "Another Lent has come... ", and I thought it would make the basis of our Lent Course this year.



Alongside Fr. Bullock's words we shall also use the Rembrandt painting of the same name that hangs in the Hermitage in S Petersburg.

Does anyone in the village know who either Mrs Mary Weaver, or Eileen Weaver were? Their names are written on the fly-leaf of the book.

The course will run on Tuesdays after the 9.30am service (c. 10am) in the church room, and on

Wednesday evenings after the 7pm Mass (c. 7.30pm).

Ash Wednesday is a Day of Prayer for the Parish.

There will be Morning and Evening Prayer together with a mid-day service and then the Sung Mass with ashing in the evening. Details are in the calendar on the back page. The church will, of course, be open all day and there will be resources for people to use.

It is a good way of getting Lent started and I hope many will make use of the opportunity for prayer, confession, adoration, intercession, thanksgiving.

LENT LUNCHES

Light soup lunches will be served in the Church Room on Fridays during Lent. The first one will be at 12.30pm on Friday 27th February, after the 12 noon Mass. Donations at these lunches will be sent to charity.





Children and families



SUNDAY SCHOOL meets in the Church Room on the second Sunday of the month during the 11am Mass. This month it will be held on Sunday 8th February.

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 WORSHIP takes place on the fourth Sunday of the month at 10am: this month on 22nd February.

KINGS KIDS is usually held in the Church Room one Thursday a month after school, and is on 12th February this month.

Fr. Roger

A Prayer for Lent

Dear Lord,
remind me to pray to You
To thank You
To love You
Each and every day in Lent
Amen.



From the Registers:

Baptisms

January 18th James William Carruthers

Funerals

January 12th Jeffery Judd

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

January 4th Betty Reid

January 18th Sara Charles-Jones

Calendar note: re: February 17th, remembering Janani Luwum, a 20th century martyr.

Janani Luwum was the Archbishop of the Church of Uganda from 1974 – 1977. His was a leading voice in criticising the excesses of the Idi Amin regime. In 1977, he delivered a note of protest to the dictator against the policies of arbitrary killings and unexplained disappearances; shortly afterwards, he and other leading churchmen were accused of treason and he was arrested.

In February 1977 Radio Uganda announced that he had been killed when the car transporting him to an interrogation centre had crashed. According to later witness accounts he had been taken to an army barracks, where he had been bullied, beaten and finally shot. *Time* magazine said "Some reports even had it that Amin himself had pulled the trigger, but Amin angrily denied the charge, and there were no first-hand witnesses".

Luwum said, "I do not know for how long I shall be occupying this chair. I live as though there will be no tomorrow. I face daily being picked up by the soldiers. While the opportunity is there, I preach the gospel with all my might, and my conscience is clear before God that I have not sided with the present government, which is utterly self-seeking. I have been threatened many times. Whenever I have the opportunity I have told the President the things the churches disapprove of. God is my witness."

A young lawyer named John Sentamu decided to become a priest on the day that Archbishop Luwum was martyred: he is now the Archbishop of York.

KEEPING A JOURNAL

One exercise that is quite simple, but which can become a useful habit, is to keep a record of words, phrases or prayers that you read or hear which have significant meaning for you. These can be returned to repeatedly for reflection or a 'pause for thought'.



Below is an extract from '*Spirituality to go*' by Olive. M. Fleming Drane.

'Choosing a book is the first thing. If you enjoy writing, then a lined book and a pen which gives you pleasure to hold will be part of the intentionality of your choice. Keep it in a special but handy place. If you are likely to write while in transit – in the bus or train while commuting, for instance – or in a spare moment, then choose a journal that is easily transportable. By definition, a journal should be filled in regularly – not necessarily every day, but if there is too long an interval between entries your enthusiasm, and memories of what you want to record, will fade. It is for your own personal use, so needs to be tidy enough to satisfy only yourself. But the care you invest will be an indication of how serious you are about this, and that can be a learning experience in itself. Providing yourself with a special book will put value on your work and give it more significance.

If you don't like writing, collages or photographs may accomplish the same end.'

One collected 'snippet'.....

God looks for us

'When adults play hide and seek with young children, the children can never lose. It would be a bad game if adults hid in some place where they could not be found. We make certain that we can be. If, by chance, the child still fails, then we go in search. Is there not something similar in God? He gives us any number of opportunities to find Him. And even if we become distracted and stop looking, He will take an initiative – a happy experience possibly, or one involving tragedy or sadness – and come looking for us. He wants us. Never doubt that.'

Basil Hume – 'To be a Pilgrim'



MUSIC EVENTS

We welcome a New Year and have arranged a brand new set of music events for 2015 to be held in the Church.

Bearing in mind what your research told us we have again organised events to cater for all tastes. I am sure that there will be something here for everyone. Any suggestions for different types of music would be welcomed; just come along to one of the concerts and let us know.

This is a taste of what is going to happen this year:

March 31st one of Haydn's best known works

A Music week-end is planned for **April 11th and 12th** with well known jazz music and piano music from Haydn and Beethoven.

A Music week-end is planned for **May 9th and 10th** with music from the 18th century, handbells and folk music.

On **June 28th** we are going "Back to Bach" with organ and choral works.

On **August 15th** we look forward to the return of The UK No 1. Barbershop Chorus

On **September 12th** an evening of Schubert music from an international pianist

On **October 10th** an evening of 17th century music by a well-known local group

These are confirmed dates for your diary and precise details of each event will be in future editions of this newsletter.

The music events organisers are looking forward to welcoming back old friends and hoping to see fresh faces throughout this next year.

Calendar of Services for February 2015

Sun	1	Epiphany 4/Candlemas: Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	2	
Tues	3	<i>S Anskar:</i> Mass 9.30am
Weds	4	<i>S Gilbert:</i> Mass 7pm
Thurs	5	
Fri	6	Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	7	Mass 10 am
Sun	8	2nd Sunday before Lent: Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong with prayer for healing 6pm
Mon	9	
Tues	10	<i>S Scholastica:</i> Mass 9.30am
Weds	11	Mass 7pm
Thurs	12	
Fri	13	Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	14	<i>SS Cyril & Methodius:</i> Mass 10 am
Sun	15	Sunday before Lent: Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	16	
Tues	17	<i>Janani Luwum:</i> Mass 9.30am
Weds	18	Ash Wednesday: Day of Prayer Morning Prayer 8.30am; Mid-day Prayer 12 noon; Evening Prayer 5pm; Sung Mass with ashing 7.30pm
Thurs	19	
Fri	20	Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	21	Mass 10 am
Sun	22	Lent 1: Mass 8am; Family Worship 10am; Sung Mass 11am; Litany 6pm
Mon	23	
Tues	24	Mass 9.30am
Weds	25	Mass 7pm
Thurs	26	
Fri	27	<i>George Herbert:</i> Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	28	Mass SOLW 10 am

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