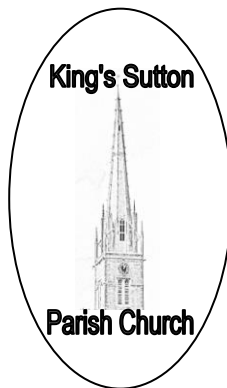


CHURCH NEWSLETTER JUNE 2015



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

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The Amazon is the largest river in the world, rising in Columbia, Ecuador and Peru and stretching across Brazil to the Atlantic Ocean. It varies in width from 1.6 to 10 km and in the wet season may reach 48 km. 6,591 cubic kilometres of water reach the Atlantic each year!

The Diocese of the Amazon in Brazil is led by Bishop Saulo Barros and the diocese is involved with SINTRAF - Union of Family Farmers. Thousands of acres of rainforest have been destroyed to make way for cattle farming. Multi-national companies have illegally claimed huge swathes of public land and there are some 700,000 families struggling to survive using traditional farming methods. SINTRAF campaigns for these people and has set up a food security programme.

The Bishop writes: "In their struggle for justice, social action groups in Brazil often call upon the presence and energy of the divine. This is how people find strength to combat capitalism. Our role as Christians is to encourage the people with a vision of a God who hears his people's cry and helps them, following the example of Moses and the people of God enslaved in Egypt (Exodus 3: 7-8)".

Our goal in the world should be the sharing of resources, instead we allow large corporations to generate profits at the expense of the poor. Poverty is not an accident. It is the result of wealth being concentrated in the hands of a few, and this is unjust. Surely we need a profound structural change in our world. Remember Mary's song? My soul glorifies the Lord... He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. (S Luke 1: 46 and 53).

A picture of Duca Castro from Maria Ribeira in Brazil.



Fr Roger

From the Registers:

Baptisms

April 19th Jimi Osenton

Weddings:

April 25th Mirka Kuckova & Paul Temple

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

April	30 th	Les Nutt
May	10 th	Edward William Smith
May	11 th	100 th Birthday of Alfred Robinson
May	23 rd	Bill Goldsby
June	30 th	Margaret 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.



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 14th June.

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 our Patronal Festival, Sunday 28th June.

Fr. Roger



Two characters

If we are honest with ourselves, there are some character traits in people that we try to avoid. We might not take to the man who acts impetuously and has a tendency to rush around, has a fear of suffering and a reluctance to forgive.

Who wouldn't want to avoid another man who works for an invasion force, enforcing rules and acting pitilessly in ousting Christians from a community and who assisted in killing? This same man who later became an annoying itinerant preacher – most of us would cross to the other side of the road to escape his attentions!

Unlikely characters to be saints? Well, yes, except that these two are the Patron saints of your Parish Church!



Peter was a humble fisherman when he encountered and was called by Jesus to be one of his disciples. He is no superhero – Jesus had to rescue him when he tried to walk on water (*Matthew 14:28*), rebuke him when he tried to dissuade him from the cross (*Matthew 17:23*) and forgive him for his threefold betrayal with his commission to look after his flock (*John 21:15ff*). Peter was, however, a steadfast follower: he is given the name 'Cephas' by Jesus – a name that means 'rock'. '...and on this rock I will build my church....I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven' (*Matthew 16:18ff*). You can read of his faith and courage in the accounts that appear in the Acts of the Apostles. There are also two short letters of his towards the end of the New Testament.

Paul emerges out of Saul, the lamb out of the wolf. At first he is an implacable enemy, striving to weed out the Christians from his community. He first appears in Acts 7:59 passively assisting at the stoning of Stephen by holding the coats of those who were actively involved. On his way to persecute the Christians at Damascus, however, Jesus appeared to him and redirected his

life (Acts 9). From that time onwards he spent his time preaching and spreading the Gospel. He embarked on three missionary journeys that took him to Syria, Cyprus, Asia Minor, Macedonia, Greece and elsewhere often at great cost to himself:

'Five times I have been given the thirty-nine lashes by the Jews; three times I have been beaten with sticks; once I was stoned; three times I have been shipwrecked, and once I have been in the open sea for a night and a day; continually travelling, I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from brigands, in danger from my own people and in danger from the gentiles, in danger in the towns and in danger in the open country, in danger at sea and in danger from people masquerading as brothers; I have worked with unsparing energy, for many nights without sleep; I have been hungry and thirsty, and often altogether without food or drink; I have been cold and lacked clothing. And, besides all the external things, there is, day in day out, the pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches.' (2 Corinthians 11:16ff)

He was a prolific writer: many of the books in the New Testament were written as letters to deal with specific concerns of his communities. Enthusiast, apostle, pastor, teacher – Paul was all of these.

Both saints were martyred around the year 64 A.D.

We celebrate St. Peter & St. Paul on Sunday June 28th. It is a Sunday full of activities in which to join. In addition to the services that day, we also have a concert in the afternoon (details elsewhere in this newsletter).



The two sculptures by the high altar are by the sculptor Peter Ball. St. Peter is shown holding the 'keys to the kingdom' and a shepherd's crook – because he was given the commission to look after the flock of Christians. He also has a bishop's mitre. St. Paul has a sword and a book – his weapons being his writings – the sword of the Spirit.



SOS

(Save Our Spire)

In a previous newsletter we reported that the Church needs to spend about £90,000+ on urgent repairs and that we were seeking community support. Father Roger received a number of letters from people pointing out why the Church and its Spire were important to them and why it was essential to retain such a focal point within the community. Thank you if you were one of those that sent letters. Having the Church open every day during daylight hours is a sign that the whole community is welcome into their building. Whatever organisation we apply to we have to show that the spire (and the Church) *matters* to our community; so we are inviting you to sign a petition to give our application the best possible chance of being successful. A large number of signatures have already been obtained but more are still needed. So if you have yet to 'sign up' please do so on the petition that can be found at the back of church.

Please answer this S.O.S. and help to
Save Our Spire. Thank you.



**SUNDAY, JUNE
28TH AT 3PM**

**Entry to this concert is
£10, with children free**

Last month we were entertained by two unique groups:

Immanuel's Ground are a costumed Quire from Warwickshire, who entertained us wonderfully singing and playing period instruments. We learned much about the 18th century, and they wove their sketches around our own village and church history. The group aims to reproduce the sounds of the West Gallery choirs of years ago. The audience joined in very enthusiastically with songs such as 'Rule Britannia', and proved that they could sing rounds quite well! There was also an invitation issued to try and play the serpent – and two brave volunteers had a go, producing fruity raspberry sounds!!

The Launton Handbell Ringers gave us the history of their unique set of bells dating back to 1696, and took us on a mystery tour with tunes from around the world. The audience had some guesswork to do with quizzes, and Lucy Kinch charmed us with her folk singing. Superb cakes were laid on by the ladies of the Baptist church. This second concert also raised funds for L.A.R.K., the charity for street children in Eldoret, Kenya.

Many thanks to those who supported these events.

Future date for your diary:

<p>Saturday, August 8th</p> <p>Entry £10 / Children free</p>	<p>7pm</p>	<p>SOLID GOLD SHOW</p> <p>Gold medal Barbershop chorus 'Hallmark of Harmony' return to give us another fantastic show, this time with gold medal quartet 'The Emerald Guard' – NOT TO BE MISSED!!</p>
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Calendar of Services for June 2015

Mon	1	
Tues	2	Mass 9.30am
Weds	3	<i>Eve of Corpus Christi: Mass 7pm</i>
Thurs	4	
Fri	5	<i>S Boniface: Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon</i>
Sat	6	Mass 10am
Sun	7	Trinity 1: Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong with healing prayers 6pm
Mon	8	
Tues	9	<i>S Columba: Mass 9.30am</i>
Weds	10	Mass 7pm
Thurs	11	
Fri	12	<i>Sacred Heart: Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon</i>
Sat	13	Mass 10am
Sun	14	Trinity 2: Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	15	
Tues	16	<i>S Richard of Chichester: Mass 9.30am</i>
Weds	17	Mass 7pm
Thurs	18	
Fri	19	Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	20	Mass 10am; Wedding 12.30pm
Sun	21	Trinity 3: Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong for the Eve of S Alban 6pm
Mon	22	
Tues	23	<i>S Ethedreda: Mass 9.30am</i>
Weds	24	<i>Birth of John the Baptist: Mass 7pm</i>
Thurs	25	
Fri	26	Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	27	<i>S Catherine of Alexandria: Mass 10am SOLW</i>
Sun	28	SS Peter & Paul / Patronal Festival: Mass 8am; Family Worship 10am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	29	
Tues	30	Pilgrimage to Walsingham
Weds	31	Pilgrimage to Walsingham

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