CHURCH NEWSLETTER JUNE 2016



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

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Near the sea front in Palma de Mallorca there is a large statue of Ramon Llull. He was a Mallorquin and died 700 years ago this year – on June 29th. There are special events to celebrate his anniversary on the island, but it won't surprise me if you have never heard of him. He was a remarkable man, and I wrote this poem whilst in Mallorca during Easter week this year.

Miramar

Heavily wooded steep
Slopes run to the sea
And there on the edge
Of this island but central to travels —
Iberian, France, North Africa, Ramon
Elects to found a school:
Philosophy, science,
Languages, theology,
A love for the
Franciscan way of
Simplicity and joy.

A love of learning
And exploration of
Geometry, of time, and
A love of the
Mystery of God
In whom all inheres.
Love the key
Drawing into
Unity mankind and
And the divine.

Amidst these trees,
Olive, oak, pine, a
Garden, a chapel
An Archduke's house, and
Always the sea, and
Reminders
Seven hundred years on of Ramon.
Away in the city,
High in a chapel
Of the Franciscan church, the mortal
Remains await
Resurrection.

That gives something of the flavour of the man and the foundation of his school on the north-west coast of the island. It was only three years after the conquest of Catalonia-Aragon by Jaume I, which included the Balearic Islands that Ramon was born and there were still sizeable populations of Jews and Muslims as well as the majority Christians on the island. He was a page at the royal court composing love lyrics and at the age of 25 he married Blanca Picany. Five years later he received a vision of Christ crucified and from then, his sole desire was to serve God and preach the Gospel.

Soon after he heard about S Francis of Assisi and became a follower in the Third Order – lay people seeking to follow the way of Franciscan spirituality. In 1276 he set up this school at Miramar (vision of the sea): it was a place where large numbers of disciplines were taught. Ramon himself was scientist, linguist, theologian, poet, the first literary writer in Catalan. Later he travelled not only across the western part of Europe but also to Tunis. In his eighties he continued his dialogue with the Moors in North Africa and died there in 1316. He is buried in the Franciscan Church in Palma and was beatified by Pope Pius IX in the 19th C.

His writings are extensive but little known outside the Catalan-speaking world. For me he is a rounded individual with love of God and neighbour at the heart of his life – a man of learning, of missionary zeal, of the search for truth. I end with some of his words. The Lover is the human soul and the Beloved is God.

"The Lover must be long-suffering, patient, humble, fearful, diligent and trustful: he must be ready to face great dangers for the honour of his Beloved. And his Beloved is pledged to be true and free, merciful and just, with his Lover." The Book of the Lover and the Beloved 33.

Fr. Roger

Celebration of Light

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

April	30"	Peter Heafield
April	30 th	Les Nutt
May	10 th	Edward David Smith
June	7 th	R. F. d'Erlanger
June	30 th	Margaret Nutt
June	30 th	Josephine Marston

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:

Baptism:

April 24th Ella Grace Fowler April 24th Layla Erin Fowler

PATRONAL FESTIVAL SUNG MASS

There will be a Sung Mass on Wednesday 29th June at 7pm, which is the day when we remember SS Peter and Paul. This is the Patronal Festival of this church, and the celebrant and preacher that day will be Fr. Darren Smith from the Additional Curates Society. Do come and celebrate with us. The service will be followed by light refreshments. (*See 'Party time with the Saints'*)

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

"A Royal Summer Fair"

Join us to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday

On Saturday 18th June 2 - 4pm in and around the Parish Church

Come and enjoy a traditional village afternoon with homemade cakes and teas.

There will be many exciting stalls, games and activities including Country Craft demonstrations

Fun for all the family

SPIRE UPDATE



Many of you will have seen on-line the fantastic 'selfie' picture that the steeplejack has taken from the very top of the spire — which can be found on the website for the main contractors Strachey Historic Conservation Ltd. For those of you who might have missed it, there is a hard copy on the 'Spire' grey notice board at the back of the church.

The steeplejack has now removed the corroded weathercock on the very top of the spire, and we can now see close-up what it looks like! (see picture below). The cock has a very proud appearance and one can just imagine him strutting about in charge of everything around him. This has now gone away to be restored and re-gilded; there will be a 'before and after' montage on that grey board when he comes back home.



The contractors are on target to complete the spire restoration work early July 2016.

CONCERTS IN AID OF RESTORATION FUND

As part of this year's Patronal Festival celebrations, we have two Sunday afternoon concerts coming up shortly.

Joe Cummings, a pianist at the Royal Academy of Music will be bringing a couple of friends to play music for piano, voice and clarinet. The date is **June 26**th at **3pm.** Entry will be free with a collection at the end for the Restoration Fund.

Kath Sharman will play Bach's six 'cello suites on 3rd July at 3pm. More details next month.

It's Party Time with the Saints

Firstly, this is not a reference to Northampton Rugby Union Club, St. Helens Rugby League Club or Southampton Football Club, but to those two Saints Peter and Paul who guided the early church just after the time of Jesus. Both died as martyrs for the faith in Rome thirty years after the death of Jesus. Each of these two saints is important for different reasons. Peter, because he is regarded as the first Pope and kept the church united, and Paul, for his preaching which was so successful that he brought huge numbers into the Church. As we look at the personalities of Peter and Paul, we see that God called them to spread the Gospel; Peter to use his impetuous love to look after the flock, and Paul to use his training and his strength of character to ensure that everyone would be welcomed into the church. It is a reminder to us that our talents and our weaknesses too can become God's means of helping others, if we allow. We don't have to be perfect for God to work through us; he can work through us, faults and all, as he did with Peter and Paul. It is quite significant that King's Sutton Parish Church is dedicated to these two really powerful and important figures. We remember them on June 29th which is when we celebrate their lives and works at our Patronal Festival. On that day at our Festival Sung Eucharist which starts at 7.00pm we are joined by Father Darren Smith, General Secretary of the Additional Curates Society (ACS) based in Birmingham. So do come along and hear what he has to say. This is also a special day for Father Darren who will be celebrating 30 years as an ordained minister on that day, so another good reason to party!

The **ACS**, amongst other things aims to ensure the Christian Faith is proclaimed in parishes by funding assistant priests and encouraging vocations to the priesthood. **ACS** is not a fund raising organisation and is not to be thought of as a 'society of priests'. It is run by lay people who value and cherish the ministry of priests to people in all areas of the country. Your Parish Church supports them by purchasing candles, altar wine and other church requisites from them and it is recognised that "every penny donated to **ACS** is used to put a priest in a parish".

So if you are:

• impetuous like Peter or controversial like Paul...... you need to come to the party. We can't guarantee jelly and ice cream but there will be other things to test the taste buds. See you there.........

To think about.....

"If God were small enough to be understood, He would not be big enough to be worshipped." (Evelyn Underhill – remembered June 15th)

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. During June, this service will be led by Anna Troupe and Carole Hill.

FAMILY SERVICE: this is normally held in the chancel of the church in the choir stalls. This will be on June 26th at 10am this month, and led by Stephen Connolly.



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

Services at Newbottle in June at 9.30am:

June	5 th	Trinity 2	Sung Eucharist
June	12 th	Trinity 3	Matins
June	19 th	Trinity 4	Sung Eucharist
June	26 th	Trinity 5	Matins

PROPOSED calendar of Services for June 2016 PLEASE CHECK FOR UPDATES! If in any doubt please ring 01295 810967.

		KING'S SUTTON
Weds	1	
Thurs	2	
Fri	3	Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	4	
Sun	5	Trinity 2: Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	6	
Tues	7	Mass 9.30am
Weds	8	
Thurs	9	
Fri	10	Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am
Sat	11	S Barnabas
Sun	12	Trinity 3: Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	13	
Tues	14	Mass 9.30am
Weds	15	Evelyn Underhill: Mass 7pm
Thurs	16	
Fri	17	Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Mass 12 noon
Sat	18	
Sun	19	Trinity 4: Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	20	
Tues	21	Mass 9.30am
Weds	22	
Thurs	23	
Fri	24	Nativity of S John Baptist: Parents & Toddlers' Worship 9.30am
Sat	25	Mass 10am SOLW
Sun	26	Trinity 5: Mass 8am; Family Worship 10am; Sung Mass 11am;
		Evensong 6pm
Mon	27	
Tues	28	S Irenaeus: Mass 9.30am
Weds	29	SS Peter & Paul: Sung Mass 7.00pm
Thurs	30	