

Church Drive July 2016



News from St. Giles Church, West Bridgford

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The Rector Writes.....

It has been an exhilarating time in the Diocese of Southwell recently. Bishop Paul Williams joined Southwell diocese from Kensington almost a year ago. He has made it his priority to get to know the diocese and familiarise himself with the region - its challenges and blessings.

At a recent Diocesan Synod Bishop Paul fed back some of his reflections on his first year in office and outlined what will be his priorities and the priorities of the diocese for the coming years. He has written to us as churches across the diocese sharing these reflection and challenges and I include some extracts from this correspondence below:

“The great challenge we face in the Church is not in understanding our purpose – the great challenge we face is realising that urgent action is required, because the harvest is plentiful...No more talking, no more reminiscing about previous harvests, no more arguing over which is your field and which is mine, no room for envy, suspicion or fear – it’s time for action.

There’s one goal that every worker shares age 7 and 97 – bring the harvest home!

What kind of action is required? Not feverish and uncoordinated rushing around, but prayerful and purposeful planning that is swiftly turned into action.

This is our Calling – Wherever I look in the diocese we do not lack for opportunities to love and serve people in Jesus’ name. We also live among 1.2m people most of whom have not yet encountered the true reality of God’s transforming love through the message of the gospel, yet are remarkably open to considering the deeper issues of life and faith. The harvest is plentiful and we are called and sent by the Lord of the harvest, compelled by the love of Christ because we are convinced that Christ died for all.

This is our Context – the workers are few - it is a challenge that should concern us deeply, numbers have been slowly and steadily declining, especially among the 15-45 age group, but I am full of hope because the Lord of the harvest is with us and you and I have seen what he’s already doing.

This is our Time – this is a Kairos moment for the Church in this diocese and around the nation and that’s why I believe that it’s time for more passionate prayer (the archbishops have asked us to join with a prayer initiative called *#thykingdomcome* to pray for our witness to Christ).



This is our Discipleship Challenge

As a diocese I am inviting us to pray that together we will welcome 7000 new disciples into the fellowship of Christ and his church over the next 7 years. Since we serve a God of abundance we may find that number is far too small. Then alongside our praying to be purposeful and bold in reviewing and developing a plan for growing new disciples in every parish in the diocese as well as reaching people in the new places and networks where they most naturally connect, including through social media.

But let's remember that it will not be altogether easy – quite the reverse. Harvesting is back-breaking work. I'm not anxious about that because I have met so many resilient hard workers in the churches of our diocese. But Jesus went further, warning the disciples: "I send you out like sheep among wolves."

Compelled by the love of Christ by 2023 we will seek to •

- Welcome 7000 new disciples into the fellowship of Christ and his church
- Commission 1000 Younger Leaders equipped and inspired to serve the purposes of God in the Church and Society
- Plant or graft 75 New Worshipping Communities to increase our reach in sharing the story of Jesus with all and growing new disciples
- Develop 25 Resource Churches in every part of the county, growing to give themselves away
- Serve as 1 Church prayerfully contending for the gospel in every community and sphere of public life in our city, county and region

Worship Evening

Sunday 10th July at 6.00pm

We will be welcoming Tim Chambers to St Giles at this informal worship service.

Tim will be sharing his story of coming to faith and how God has lead him so far as well as preaching.

There will space for private prayer and prayer ministry will be available.

Please note the change of time: the worship evening will start at 6pm and finish by 7.30pm.



Choral Evensong

Sunday 17th July at 5.30pm

At Evensong on 17th July we are pleased to welcome the Area Dean Rev. John Bentham. We hope that as well as those who normally come to Evensong we will be joined by others who would like to draw a feeling of peace and worship from this traditional service. Members of other local churches will be joining the service as John will be installing a number of local churchwardens to their office, including our own Alison Place.

The evening will start with tea/coffee/sandwiches/cake at 5.30pm. The service starts at 6pm and finishes at around 6.40pm. Please come and join with us.



Alpha

Like many of you, I am sure, I have many questions about life – like what direction will our country be taking in the next few weeks, months and years? Where was God in the referendum? Where is He in the political tsunami that is rocking our country? Does He exist? Why do we exist? What does it all mean?



Do you have questions about life?

If you do, then come along to our next Alpha course, which will be running this autumn. It's an opportunity to explore the Christian faith, to ask questions and make up your own mind. With the help of revamped Alpha talks and podcasts we'll explore the basis of what Christians believe from the existence of God, to evidence for the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus, other religions, suffering and so on.

Each week we will look at a different question around faith. We will listen to a talk and then there will be the chance to share thoughts and ideas. There's no obligation to say anything and there's nothing you can't say. It's an opportunity to hear from others and contribute your own perspective in an honest, friendly and open environment.

I would encourage anyone to attend the course as a way to explore Christianity, to ask questions, to make friends and hopefully to come to know more about Jesus and why Christians put their faith in Him.

Further details and dates will be available in the autumn, but if you are interested in attending please chat to me in church or contact the church office (admin@stgilesparish.com) and Claire will pass emails on to me.

Katie Conley

Seaside Rock

St Giles'
Holiday Club
2016



For children aged 4-11

Tues 30th Aug – Fri 2nd Sept, 10am – 12pm

St Giles – Church Drive W Bridgford

Contact admin@stgilesparish.com or 07948834250

Working with Children and Families at St Giles

It has been four months since I've started in the role of Children and Families Worker and it has flown by! I am really enjoying getting to know people and developing the groups. Tiddlers, our Thursday morning baby and toddler group is an especially exciting part of the churches outreach to the community. We regularly have 30 children plus their parent, grandparent, carers. There is a real sense of appreciation for the group and a real openness to hear about what is going on at church. I'm so grateful for the team of volunteers who help each week. We have had two new members to the team who are getting to know the families. We have started more messy and sensory play which the children seem to really enjoy!

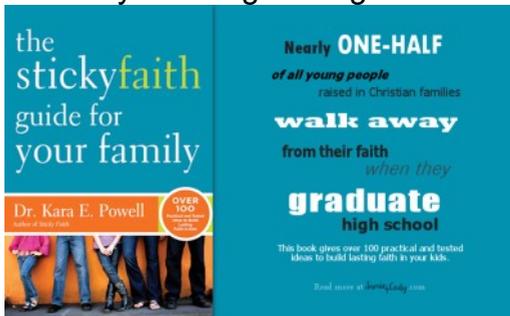


We have just had a Messy Church Summer Party! We were really pleased to see so many families come along. The rain held off so we were able to enjoy the bouncy castle, parachute games and picnic in the rectory garden. I big thank you to Lee and Sally for hosting it. We have started meeting to pray briefly at 3:15pm on a Messy Church Monday and we are hoping to build up the profile of Messy Church in the new school year.

Josh is a junior leader at Messy Church and is brilliant with the children. He leads our messy 'food' activity each month. This is him enjoying the bouncy castle with Will before the children arrive!



The 'Mum's Home Group' meets on a Friday morning with babies and toddlers in tow. We are currently working through a book called 'The Sticky Faith Guide'. It is full of ideas for nurturing faith in the home. We have talked about how to make prayer and conversations about faith a natural part of our family's rhythm. There are loads of creative ideas in the book for sharing the Bible with our little ones in ways that suit their personalities. We are discovering that there is definitely no 'one size fits all' approaches to family worship but it is exciting to try new things as our children grow and change. If you know of anyone who would like to join us on a Friday morning do let me know. We would love to have new people join the group.



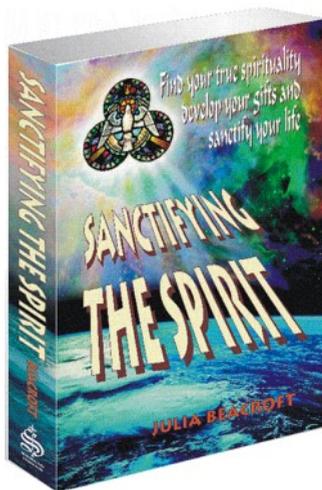
Sarah and Iain Moppet continue to do an amazing job with Junior Church. I have enjoyed joining them for a few sessions and finding out how things run. We had our first Safeguarding Meeting a few weeks ago. We really appreciate everyone who came to that. It was a really productive time with new ideas being shared. I'm looking forward to the new school year as some new leaders and helpers join the Junior Church team. If you felt that you could serve in this way, please do talk to me.



Ellen Dann , Children and Families Worker

Book Review: Sanctifying the Spirit

I would like to bring to your attention a book which has just been written by Julia Beacroft, a very good friend of mine. Julia and her husband Patrick, both originally from West Bridgford, live in Torquay, Devon. They have four children, all of whom are my Godchildren and who were christened in St. Giles Church by our former Rector, Canon Philip Humphreys. After their move to Devon Julia (who comes from a Catholic background) worshipped at a Catholic Church in Torquay and felt moved by the Holy Spirit over the last three years to put pen to paper.



The following review was written by Edwina Gillet and published in the May 2016 edition of the “Catholic Voice of Lancaster”

At Pentecost this year Julia launched her book Sanctifying the Spirit in which she takes everyday situations and finds God at the heart of them whether they are happy or sad, funny or fraught from the beginning of life to its closure. She writes in a straightforward style engaging the reader as if talking to them face to face. Julia explores how each one of us can have an impact, whether we think we can or not. She looks at the complete picture of Catholic teaching and how we all need to build our relationship with God but recognises that it is in our day to day experiences where the real evangelisation can take place and that we can become the hands of Christ in the unlikeliest of places and situations. By using her own experiences Julia invites the reader to journey with her to find and experience the effect of God in our lives.

A person of deep faith who believes that we all have something to offer Sanctifying the Spirit is the culmination of her early work of short stories with added Catechesis drawing on a wealth of renowned writers to provide a deeply spiritual book. It is a book that expresses the worth of each individual, explores our relationships with one another and how our words and actions impact on those around us. In Julia's words "It is only when we have regained our own strength that we can fulfil our mission to help others find hope and joy in the wonderful life Christ has to offer us.

I do hope you will feel inspired to read this book and if you would like to order a copy, please email your name and address to Cathcom@sanciobooks.com. The cost is £9.99 (+ £2.54 p&p).

Tony Vokes

Update from the Boys Brigade

The following boys have gained their badges Samuel Kerry – Target and Bronze, Cameron Keogh – Silver, Francis Cahill, Andy Galea and Xenis Antcliffe –Gold.

The Junior Section took part in a new competition Indoor Athletics and a team of 4 boys took part in 8 events based on normal Athletics events adapted for indoors. There were 14 teams entered and we came a very creditable 4th .

They also had the Bible Knowledge Competition and this year's passage was all about the life of Joseph from the book of Genesis. A new innovation was that the boys also had to do a storybook depicting in their own style this story and this was to be marked and would be half of the marks available. Eight Companies took part and there were four rounds of questions plus the storybook. The boys did extremely well and amassed 72 points out of 80, this

equates to 90%, an exceptional effort. They finished as winners. Well done to them and I was a proud Captain.



We entered one joint team with the 42nd in the Unihoc Competition. We were in a league of five teams—the boys did their best their but lost all four matches. _In the Swimming Gala 4 boys entered and we finished 4th overall and in the Cross Country at Wollaton Park and we had 2 boys competing who finished 15th and 22nd.

The Company Section have competed in the following events. Badminton the team lost both their group matches and failed to qualify for the later stages of the Competition. We had 3 boys enter the Junior Company Table Tennis event. Unfortunately none of them managed to get past the 2nd round.

In the 2nd round of the National Chess Competition we were up against the 32nd Nottingham and although we lost the boys had some close games.

In the First Aid Competition we had 2 boys, the syllabus was to cover bleeding, choking, broken bones, unconsciousness, epileptic fits, burns and scolds and head injuries. Eight Companies took part . The standard was very high but our boys did well.

The Bible Knowledge Competition had the same passage as the Juniors. They also had to do a storybook depicting in their own style this story and also they had to explain their storybook. The boys did extremely well and amassed 67 points to finish 3rd.

The Dodgeball Competition consisted of 6 teams. It was played as one league and of the five games that we played we won one. They did their best and have a few years ahead of them as other teams had three senior boys in their teams.

In the Pool and Snooker 4 boys entered and we had a semi finalist and a quarter finalist. In the Cross Country was held at Wollaton Park we combined with the 42nd and finished runners up in the Junior Company Team Competition, as well as a very creditable individual 5th place.

Keith Whittaker, Captain

Update from the PCC

Notes from the PCC 18th May 2016

1 Finance

Accounts for the year so far were presented, which showed a trend consistent with budget. Talk to Chris Lane if you want further information.

2 Staff pensions

A scheme for automatic pension enrolment for Andy, Claire and Ellen was agreed.

3 Children and Families Worker

Ellen outlined her aims, current activities and plans for the future. Speak to Ellen if you want to know more.

4 Bishop's vision for discipleship

Johanna, Roger and Lee outlined and explained the Bishop's vision. There is likely to be further discussion of this. Speak to any of them to learn more.

5 Mental Health Action plan

The work this represented was noted. Speak to Daphne Carter for more information.

6 Community Café

Johanna introduced this proposal. It was agreed to investigate associated issues further and plan for a three month trial. Speak to Johanna for further information.

7 Response to refugees

There was considerable discussion on potential plans, but more time was needed for reflection.

The next meeting of the PCC is on Wednesday 20th July.

Dizzy Prentice, PCC Secretary

Ordinations at Southwell

The first Sunday in July was a time of joy for nine deacon candidates and seven priest candidates as they were ordained in Southwell Minster by the Bishop of Southwell & Nottingham, the Rt Revd Paul Williams.



The Deacons, including our new curate Rev. Tim Chambers.

And can you spot a familiar face amongst the new priest below?



YOU DID NOT CHOOSE ME, BUT **I CHOSE YOU**
AND APPOINTED YOU SO THAT YOU MIGHT GO
AND **BEAR FRUIT** –FRUIT THAT WILL LAST.

JOHN 15:16

St Giles' Directory

Rector	Lee Proudlove rector@stgilesparish.com	Tel: 981 1112
Curate	Tim Chambers curate@stgilesparish.com	Tel: 07946 526569
Church Wardens	Alison Place Jude Hill	Tel: 07726117096 Tel: 989 9723
Administrator	Claire Sheard admin@stgilesparish.com	Tel: 07948 834250
Youth Worker	Andy Wright youthworker@stgilesparish.com	Tel: 07880 313884
Pastoral Care Co-ordinators	Daphne Carter pastoral@stgilesparish.com	Tel: 974 3749
Children & Families Worker	Ellen Dann families@stgilesparish.com	Tel: 07910 927427
House Groups	Katie Conley	Tel: 923 4721
Seniors	Doreen Ottway	Tel: 981 3689
PCC Secretary	Dizzy Prentice	Tel: 07951538670
PCC Treasurer	Chris Lane treasurer@stgilesparish.com	Tel: 07527462078
Sacristan	Maureen Swann	Tel: 859 0975
Junior Church	Sarah & Iain Moppett	Tel: 974 4442
Sunbeams	Claire Sheard	Tel: 07952247147
Tiddlers	Ellen Dann	Tel: 07910 27427
Weddings	Caroline Harper	Tel: 914 5650
Church Cleaning and Flower Rota	Helen Jarvis	Tel: 981 9947

Coming up @ St Giles

Sunday 17th July, 6pm

Choral Evensong led by the Area Dean Rev. John Bentham, to include the installation of a number of local churchwardens to their office, including our own Alison Place.

Thursday 21st July, 10am

Seniors' Summer Outing this year is to Renishaw Hall

Wednesday 5th July, 7th Sept, 7.45pm

Safe Space in church - self-help group for people living with anxiety and depression
(not in August due to holidays)

Wednesday 14th Sept, 8.00pm

Ladies' Evening at The Parlour
(not in July or August due to holidays)

Tuesday 12th July, 10th Aug, 13th Sept 10.30am

Seniors' Coffee Morning at Bradmore

Monday 11th July, 12th Sept, 8.00pm

First Priority Prayer Meeting in church.
(not in August due to holidays)

Thursday 12th September , 3.45pm

Messy Church
(no Messy Church in August during school holidays; Sept Messy Church on 2nd Monday of the month)

Monday 25th July, 25th Sept 8.00pm

Men's Social at the Willow Tree Pub.
(not in August due to holidays)

Tuesday 30th August—Friday 2nd September, 10.00am – 12.00pm

Holiday Club: Seaside Rock

Sunday 4th September - 12 noon

Family Picnic in the Rectory Garden