

# saints

Kettering All Saints  
Monthly Update

*Alive!*

## SERVICES AND EVENTS

**APRIL 2016**  
**Easter Season**

### CALENDAR FOR APRIL

2 Apr	8.30am	Car Boot & Table Top Sale
3 Apr	10.30am	<b>Parish Eucharist</b> – Easter 2
4 Apr	7.30pm	Holy Eucharist Feast of the Annunciation to the BVM
5 Apr	10.00am	Holy Eucharist - Hartley Room
7 Apr	11.00am	Holy Eucharist at Abbeyfield
8 Apr	7.30pm	Fun Quiz Night
10 Apr	10.30am	<b>Parish Eucharist</b> - Easter 3
	6-7.30	<b>TASTIE</b> at 131 Barton Road with Joel Bird - Ordinand
11 Apr	7.30pm	Holy Eucharist
	8.00pm	Meeting of the PCC
12 Apr	10.00am	Holy Eucharist - Hartley Room
	3.30pm	Confirmation Class at BSS
	7.30pm	Deanery Prayer Group at Christ the King.
14 Apr	11.00am	Holy Communion at Ashley Court
	8.00pm	Messy Church Team Planning
16 Apr	7.30pm	'Vintage Radio Comedy' with John Wood
17 Apr	10.30am	<b>All-age Communion Good Shepherd</b> with Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, TASTIE and Scramblers.
	12.00pm	<b>Annual Meeting to elect Church wardens followed by our Annual Parochial Church Meeting.</b>
	6.15pm	Joint Service with RRBC at RRBC <b>Café Church</b>

**CALENDAR CONTINUED**

18 Apr	7.30pm	Eucharist for Healing & Wholeness
19 Apr	10.00am	Holy Eucharist - Hartley Room
	3.30pm	Confirmation Class at BSS
20 Apr	7.30pm	Home Group - 58 Britannia Road
21 Apr	11.00am	Holy Eucharist at Abbeyfield
23 Apr	2.30pm	Tea Dance
24 Apr	10.30am	<b>Parish Eucharist and Holy Baptism</b>
		Easter 5
	3-4.30	<b>Messy Church</b>
		<b>St. George &amp; the Dragon</b>
25 Apr	7.30pm	Holy Eucharist
26 Apr	10.00am	Holy Eucharist - Hartley Room
	3.30pm	Confirmation Class at BSS
28 Apr	11.00am	Holy Communion at Thorndale
	12.00pm	All Saints Social Club - Hartley Room
	8.00pm	Messy Church Team Planning
29 Apr	7.30pm	'It Shouldn't Happen to a Pantomime Dame' with John Lillyman

**DEADLINE**

The deadline for the next edition of Saints Alive! is **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April**. The May edition of Saints Alive! will be available on **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May**.

**APRIL**

It is said that the swallows fly about thirty miles a day and take about two and a half months to reach southern England from the Cape. It is an amazing thought that even while the snow is laying on our gardens the swallows are on their way from the far south, following the old migration routes along the western coasts of Africa, Spain and France. Any day now we may expect the first arrivals, but because it happens every year we are apt to forget the wonder of it. What strange and irresistible impulse drives them north to nest? How do those tiny wings beat their way across such vast distances? How do they know the date to start and the way to come? It is surely another of the great mysteries which is beyond scientific explanation.

**THE VICTORY OF SPRING**

The rulers of this world for all their proud and vaunting words  
 Can't halt Spring's invasion or cry Silence! to the birds.  
 Nature presses on. Her great green armies take the field  
 Every living thing must now to her dominion yield.  
 The hosts of Spring victoriously with banners all unfurled  
 Move in triumph out across the unresisting world.

*PStrong*

## **MAKE SURE YOU KEEP YOUR BATTERY CHARGED**

In the book 'Lenten Adventure' David Rhodes describes how a lay assistant and retired builder called Big John was driving through a South African township when he gave a lift to a woman carrying a car battery. She was heading to a garage a mile away and would have to pay three rand to get the battery recharged. The battery powered the only source of light in the shack where she and her family lived.

Big John said he would recharge anyone's batteries for one and a half rand. He then helped them build a church and led its worship. Seventy nine baptisms took place, and soon the church had to be extended.

On Christmas Eve 1984 when staying at a remote convent in Somerset, I walked for over half an hour in pitch darkness to reach a village church. Above me were hundreds of stars, and I recalled God's promise to Abraham that he would have that amount of descendants. Being unmarried and childless, this could only mean in my case *spiritual* children - followers of Jesus through my writings. When I got back to the convent I wrote a poem which I read to the nuns after my final lunch with them. Then I spoke a parable which God had given me while strolling in the country lanes.

'When you are a new Christian, you are so excited by your faith that you are like a learner driver who travels with headlights blazing and pushes others off the road.

When you are a more balanced Christian, you dip your lights in recognition that Christ brings us to heaven via several different routes, and you give other cars space. But when you've been a Christian for a long time, sometimes your battery gets a bit flat and you drive on sidelights, so that you no longer encourage others on the road to the Kingdom of God.'

***'Look up at the heavens and count the stars - if indeed you can count them....So shall your offspring be.'***

**Genesis 15:5**

From 'Just a Thought' by Joy Hedges

## **SPECIAL WORSHIP EVENTS**

- 17<sup>th</sup> April 10.30am All-age Communion with the Ministry of Puppets, featuring Rev and Vera.
- 17<sup>th</sup> April 6.15pm Worship Café Church style. United service with Rockingham Road Baptist Church at RRBC.
- 24<sup>th</sup> April 3.00 - 4.30pm Messy Church featuring St George and the Dragon. Come along and learn how to slay your demons.

**COMMUNITY EVENTS AT ALL SAINTS  
FEBRUARY & MARCH**

Geoff Brown spoke about his time in Bungoma in Western Kenya and his charity work to store water in underground tanks.

The talented Weekley Singers entertained us with song, prose and light hearted jokes!

Barbara Lewis encouraged us to try some "vegetarian" foods - told us how to keep healthy and made us all aware that vegetarians do not eat fish! We learned about food labels and hidden non-vegetarian ingredients.

Who done it? performed by the Ham It Up Players - caused a stir in their village at the local elections. The vicar's wife (Desiree AKA Doris) did the dastardly deed and killed Miss Penelope (Penny) Black. An evening of great entertainment and a packed audience!

*Angela*

**A FEW THOUGHTS TO PONDER**

We, as Christians, need to stop telling God how big our mountains are and start telling our mountains how big our God is.

*John Osteen*

Do not ask, "What can I do?" but "What can He not do?"

*Corrie ten Boom*

When I hear somebody sigh 'Life is hard,' I am always tempted to ask, 'Compared to what?'

*Sydney J. Harris*

**FORTHCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS**

*A big thank you to Angela and the team for arranging these events. Please try to support as many as you can.*

- 8th April **Fun Quiz Night** £5 per team. Raffle.
- 16<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm. **'Vintage Comedy'** with John Wood £3
- **Tea Dance** - Ballroom & Sequence 2.30pm - 4.30pm. £3
- 29<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm **'It Shouldn't Happen to a Pantomime Dame'** with John Lillyman £3

**THIRD SUNDAY UNITED SERVICES WITH  
ROCKINGHAM ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH 6.15pm**

This month we have Café Style Church at Rockingham Road. The way in which this works is to dispense with a traditional sermon and discuss various questions on a particular topic in order to discover how these relate to our Christian Faith. The question on April 17<sup>th</sup> will be:

'How can I balance my life?'

It would be good to see you there.

**THE TRIDUUM**

We were privileged to welcome Father David Painter, formerly Archdeacon of Oakham, to preach at the principal services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. His sermons were illuminating and intriguing. Father David concentrated on three of the minor characters in the drama of the passion and resurrection, one from each of the synoptic Gospels.

On Maundy Thursday he spoke about the householder only mentioned in St Luke's Gospel. Jesus sent Peter and John to ask the man "Where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?" In the event, this un-named man provides a large upper room already furnished. Jesus would have been content with a humble guest room but the householder gives him the best room in the house. Jesus wants us to make a place for Him in our lives. Do we give him a small guest room or make ready the best we have available?

On Good Friday, Father David spoke of Pilate's wife, only mentioned in St Matthew's Gospel. While her husband was sitting on the judgement seat she sent word to him. "Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him." St Matthew includes a number of dreams in his Gospel: Joseph is told in a dream to take Mary as his wife, then to escape with his family to Egypt and finally to return to Galilee after Herod the Great had died. We may not have visions and dreams but do we speak up for what we believe?

Pilate's wife was convinced of Jesus' innocence and had the courage to interrupt her husband while he was at work on matters of high importance. What did he say to her when he got home that evening? Whatever it was it didn't deter her.

Finally, only in St Mark's Gospel, Father David spoke in the sermon on Holy Saturday of 'a certain young man wearing nothing but a linen cloth.' When Jesus was arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane the soldiers made a grab for the young man but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

In an intriguing departure from the usual explanations of this event, Father David referred to the second book of Esdras, part of the Apocryphal writings which were written after the completion of what we know as the Old Testament and may have been known to St Mark.

'I, Ezra, saw on Mount Zion a great multitude ... praising the Lord with songs. In their midst was a young man of great stature, taller than any of the others, and on the head of each of them he placed a crown ... these are they who have put off mortal clothing and have put on the immortal.' (2 Esdas Ch2)

Is this intriguing story of the young man in the garden about being able to cast off our mortal 'clothing' and put on the immortal as we share in all the benefits that Christ has won for us through his death and resurrection?



## CHURCH MEETINGS ARE BRILLIANT

We look forward to seeing you at our  
Annual Meeting to elect Churchwardens  
followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 12.00pm

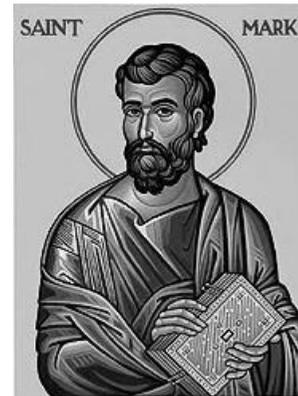
Do make a note of our Awayday this year.  
June 11<sup>th</sup> 2016 10am to 3pm  
St Edmund's Church, Warkton.

Open meeting: Too good just for the PCC!

## WORD OF THE MONTH THE UPPER ROOM

We heard from Father David on Maundy Thursday that Jesus told his disciples to ask his un-named host for the use of the *kataluma*, a small guest room opening from the courtyard, for their Passover meal. In fact, they were provided with the *anogeon*, a much larger upper room which would have given more privacy to our Lord and his disciples during their final meal together.

## SAINT OF THE MONTH ST MARK 25 APRIL



John Mark was a Jew. He accompanied his cousin Barnabas and Paul on their first missionary journey. Afterwards he went to Cyprus with Barnabas and to Rome with Paul and then Peter. Mark's Gospel was most likely written in Rome and was based largely on Peter's preaching of the good news. Mark's gospel has a real sharpness about it.

Mark uses the word 'immediately' many times in his narrative which gives a sense of drama. Mark does not spare the apostles in noting their weaknesses and lack of understanding about Jesus' teaching. St. Mark's Gospel is the shortest of the four and is generally considered to have been the first to have been written.

### PARISH PRIEST'S POSTSCRIPT

We celebrated our first hundred years as a parish on 30<sup>th</sup> March and we were very grateful to Bishop Donald for coming and sharing the occasion with us. It was a lovely occasion and, as ever, the occasion for a sumptuous supper after the service. I am very grateful to all those who worked so hard to organise this event.

Bishop Donald congratulated us for ensuring that our centenary fell during Easter which was the most appropriate season for celebration. He preached on the story of the two disciples who encountered Jesus on the road to Emmaus and pointed out that although Jesus accompanied them on their journey they did not recognise him.

It is often the case that we are so pre-occupied with our own problems that we do not realise that Jesus is always with us and that we only have to turn to Him.

The disciples recognised Jesus in the breaking of the bread and then everything changed and they were filled with a new strength and vitality.

I hope that this Easter has been a time for a revitalising encounter with the risen Christ as we broke bread together.

Every blessing,

**Father Andrew**

### SMILE PLEASE - CHRISTIAN CRACKERS

*Thank you, Lord, for giving us the ability to laugh at ourselves. To all who have received, pass this gift on to others.*

- While a male choir in St. Mawgan Cornwall was singing "When the stars begin to fall" part of the large pulpit on which the choir stood gave way, and the baritones and second tenors fell through. No-one was hurt, and within five minutes they were back in action with "My anchor holds".
- A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandments to 'honour' thy father and mother she asked "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" Without missing a beat one little boy, the oldest of the family, answered, "Thou shalt not kill".
- A small boy, seeing a funeral procession going **up** the street, asked his mother what it was. She told him: "It's someone who has died on their way to heaven". Sometime later the little lad saw a similar procession coming **down** the street. He said, "Hard luck on that one, Mum!".
- It was the minister's first Sunday after his induction. The steward giving out the notices said, "I am sorry to say that we have dry rot in the pews and floor, and as you can see we have got the worm in the pulpit."

**WHO'S WHO AT ALL SAINTS**

Priest in Charge:	The Reverend Andrew Dutton	392401
Readers:	John Stapleton	520342
	Jinny Wade (emeritus)	512638
Churchwardens:	Richard Lewis	791414
	Angela Brett	522158
Hall Manager:	Lyn Ridley	529426
Secretary:	John Sockett	501851
Treasurer:	Marie Morrison	725219
Administration:	Madeleine Moore	484279

**Parish Church of All Saints Kettering**

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Follow on Twitter @RevdADutton

*Join Kettering All Saints Church & Community Hall Events on FACEBOOK. We now have 100 members regularly checking our events and services during our Centenary Year!*

**Highlights for May**

5 <sup>th</sup> May Eucharist for the Feast Of the Ascension 7.30pm	8 <sup>th</sup> May TASTIE Youth Group At 131 Barton Road 6-7.30pm
14 <sup>th</sup> May Car Boot & Table Top Sale 8.30am	15 <sup>th</sup> May 10.30am Confirmation at Pentecost with Bishop John Flack
15 <sup>th</sup> May Prayer round the cross in the style of Taizé 6.15pm	20 <sup>th</sup> May Barn Dance Kev Prigmore 7.30-10pm Tickets £3 and £5. Admission by Ticket only!
22 <sup>nd</sup> May 3-4.30pm Messy Church The Good Samaritan £1 per child	26 <sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm Corpus Christi Eucharist 31 <sup>st</sup> May 10.00am Visitation of the BVM

*Saints Alive! For April is sponsored in loving memory of:*

**JOSEPH 'JOHN' ALLEN**

1<sup>st</sup> April 2010

