

SEVERN STOKE AND CROOME D'ABITOT

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2010

The Rector's Message Reverend Peter Holzapfel

40 Pence

Forthcoming Events

Severn Stoke & Environs

Friends of St Denys

Monday 3rd May
Bank Holiday
COFFEE MORNING
at Jean and Hugh Hanmer's,
Nutwood Bank,
Severn Stoke
from 10.30 a.m. To
Noon

Ponty's
Sponsored Walk
Sunday, 16th May
at 10.30 a.m. from
St Denys' Church
for a 6 mile tour
round the Parish.

Sunday, 6th June
at 7.45 p.m. in St Denys' Church
Jazz in Church
Following The Friends of St Denys Special Service at 6.30 p.m. with our favourite
Sauce City Jazz Band
See inside for details

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Please submit Copy by 2nd
Monday next month

Whilst the Rector is away on his Sabbatical, members of the Pastoral Team will take it in turns to provide this Letter.

Hello brothers and sisters in Christ,

What a fantastic few months of celebration we have all had in our Church! We celebrated new birth at Christmas with carols and candles and as much joy and light that we can get in those cold, short and dark December days. Then at Easter rejoicing really gets going as we celebrate Christ's resurrection with exhilarating hymns, bright flowers, choral processions and rousing services!

So, what now? Do we drift back to soporific routine and meander through our Christian life, paying lip service to God until we can have a bit of a knees up at the church fete?

I do hope not because in just a few days time we have a truly fantastic event to celebrate and put smiles on our faces. We celebrate the Ascension of Jesus. Information about this event is quite sparse, in fact the only information we have is at the end of Luke's gospel and his writings in the first chapter of Acts. The collect for the Ascension says; "we believe in the ascension of Christ so that WE IN HEART AND MIND MAY ALSO ASCEND". If we say those words AND believe them, then if that is not inspirational and exciting to us then we must be very dull people indeed. What did the ascension mean to the disciples and should still mean to us today? Surely that Jesus returned to glory, so that the Holy Spirit could be sent to earth at Pentecost, to live on in the hearts of Christians all over the world. This is the real miracle of the ascension! The disciples, through the intervention of God and his Son had received the blessing of the Holy Spirit and that this time they were not devastated by the loss of their dear friend but returned to Jerusalem absolutely infused with great joy, great courage and great determination to step forward in the faith and love of Christ and spread his word in establishing HIS CHURCH here on earth. That was surely resurrection inspired courage!

If there is something that God is saying to any one of us in our parish today that seems hard to understand—perhaps even illogical, unnecessary or unbelievable—if it's coming from God it's meant for our own good and the development of his church. If the ascension of Christ tells us anything at all then it is surely to trust that what God is doing is right.

If we let God be God in our lives then we make his business our business and if we develop it in FAITH and JOY then our happiness and that of others in our parish will be also a joy to see.

Continued over page

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So brothers and sisters lets all praise together with these inspirational words;

“Come on and celebrate! His gift of love we will celebrate - The Son of God who loved us and gave us life.

Come on and celebrate, celebrate, celebrate and sing, celebrate and sing to the King:

Come on and celebrate, celebrate, celebrate and sing, celebrate and sing to the King!”

Don't forget to smile—God bless you all.

Peter Fitzjohn - Lay Reader in the Team

St DENYS' CHURCHYARD

We apologise for the lack of mowing. The Badgers have made it too dangerous for our Contractor to operate safely. We are doing what we can to repair the damage and any volunteers would be welcome.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

The House to House Collection starts on 9th to 15th May. Please look out for the red envelopes delivered to your door and please give generously for Famine and Disaster Relief.

HAPPENINGS in SEVERN STOKE and environs

SEVERN STOKE WITH CROOME d'ABITOT PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

At the Annual General Meeting on 21st March, Bryan Hadley was again unanimously elected as Churchwarden, with Gail Brookes as Assistant to the Churchwarden. The following were re-elected:

Secretary: Joyce Westwood

Treasurer: Sally Linsey

Deanery Representatives: Doreen Ewins and Merab Opie

Electoral roll Officer: John Henderson.

The Rector expressed his appreciation for all those who helped in any way to make St Denys' a lively and beautiful church for worship and care.

Bryan Hadley, on behalf of us all, wished the Rector a happy, healthy, stimulating and well earned Sabbatical, away from the pressures which we impose upon him. He will take up his duties again in early July.

Your Church needs You!

New On-line Donation Facility for St Denys' Church, Severn Stoke and for St Mary's Church, Kempsey, now available via the Church website: www.stmaryskempsey.org.uk

It can be found on the Donations page where the “Donate Online Now” link will take you to the CharityGiving website (who help us with the on-line donations process).

See the new, updated look www.stmaryskempsey.org.uk, – Check out this website! Please do get in contact, via the Contacts page, if you have anything to contribute.

If you would like to help, have a word with Bryan Hadley, Churchwarden on W/ 371 383,

John Henderson W/ 371 218 or any member of the PCC.

CHURCH SERVICES at St MARY'S, KEMPSEY

Every Thursday 10.30 a.m.: Holy Communion in the Lady Chapel
 Every Friday 11.00 a.m.: "Little Angels" for Mothers, babes and toddlers.

MAY

Sunday 2nd Easter 5 8.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer BCP, 9.00 a.m.: Holy Communion BCP at Kerswell Green, 10.30 a.m.: Family Service, 6.00 p.m.: Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 9th Easter 6 8.00 a.m.: Holy Communion BCP, 10.30 a.m.: Informal Communion CW
 6.00 p.m.: Evensong BCP—CHRISTIAN AID WEEK BEGINS.

Sunday 16th Sunday after Ascension 8.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer BCP, 10.30am: Family Worship,
 6.00 p.m.: Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 23rd Pentecost 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion BCP, **10.30a.m.; United Benefice Communion followed by Bring and Share Lunch**, 6.00 p.m.; Service at The Firs.

Sunday 30th Trinity Sunday 8.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer BCP, 10.30am: Family Communion,
 6.00 p.m.: NO SERVICE.

JUNE

Sunday 6th First after Trinity 8.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer BCP, 9.00 a.m.: Holy Communion BCP at Kerswell Green, 10.30 a.m.: Family Service, 6.00 p.m.: Holy Communion BCP.

HAPPENINGS at KEMPSEY

The Cornflower Club meets every other Wednesday at 2.30 p.m., 12th and 26th May and 9th June in The Parish Hall. Everyone most welcome to come and join this very active and enjoyable club that meets every other week. A warm welcome assured and a good time promised.

Age Concern Coffee Morning - meets every Thursday at 11.30 a.m. at St Mary's House.

"Little Angels" for Babes & Toddlers meets at St Mary's Church each Friday at 11.00 a.m.

Women's Fellowship meets in St Mary's House on Wednesday, 12th May at 7.30 p.m.

Men's Group meets at St Mary's House on Monday 3rd May and 7th June at 7.30 p.m.

Rogationtide Walk and Pig Roast at Hanley Swan—Tuesday 11th at 7.00 p.m.

CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAUX

We have just moved into a new area, but our neighbours are really noisy, regularly having parties and playing loud music at all times of the day and night. It's affecting our quality of life and we are losing sleep. Is there anything we can do?

Start by trying to talk to your neighbours, or if you are worried about keeping things civil or are worried about how they might react you could consider writing to them instead. Your complaint to them might be more effective if there are more of you, chances are you aren't the only neighbours affected.

If this fails you might be able to contact a local mediator. See www.adrnow.org.uk for details. If your neighbours are in private rented property or social housing you could try contacting their landlord. Social landlords such as local authorities and housing associations have a range of powers to help tackle anti-social behaviour.

In cases where neighbours may be breaching public health or pollution laws, you could speak to your local authority environmental health department. An environmental health officer will usually contact the neighbour and attempt to resolve the matter informally. If this fails, a notice may be served on the neighbour, requiring the abatement of the nuisance. This means they are required to stop, or deal with, the nuisance.

If a criminal offence is being committed, such as a breach of the peace, assault or harassment because of your race or religion, you could call the police. Some behaviour by neighbours could amount to discrimination and may also be against the law.

For further information and advice, contact your local Citizens Advice Bureau or see www.adviceguide.org.uk.

Malvern CAB is open: Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 10 am - 4 pm Wed (Specialist Debt Advice - by appointment)

Tel: 01684 563611

United Benefice of Kempsey and Severn Stoke with Croome d'Abitot Church News

CONTACTS DURING PETER'S SABBATICAL
29th. March – 3rd. July

David Hassell (828096) has overall responsibility for the parishes during Peter's Sabbatical as well as specific responsibility for Weddings and Funerals: For Baptisms: Libby James 353935
 For Pastoral Matters please contact David or one of the Readers
 Sheila Cook 831829
 Peter Fitzjohn 820320
 Libby James 353935

For all other enquiries please contact Church Wardens
 St. Mary's: Alan Plowman 769214
 Libby James 353935
 St. Denys' Bryan Hadley 371383
 John Henderson 371218

For bookings of St. Mary's House please phone
 Julia Grant 820138
 Please contact us if we can help us in any way

United Benefice Prayer Meetings – Welcome to our meetings (usually every other Monday) for an hour, **from 8.00 p.m. on Monday, 3rd, 17th and 31st May and 14th June** . We meet each fortnight at the homes of those taking part. Contact John and Cara (W/ 371 218) for the next ensuing venue.

We give thought and prayer for people and projects around us and for the health and enhancement of the Churches' work. You don't have to say a word unless you wish, but just be with us.

St Denys' Bible Study and Fellowship Group: Thursday, 13th and 27th May and 10th and 24th June at 2.30 p.m.

All welcome. Please contact John Henderson (W 371 218) for the next venue.

Deanery Rogationtide Walk and Pig Roast—Tuesday 11th May at 7.00 p.m. at Hanley Swan.

Licensing of Eucharistic Assistants—Thursday 13th May at Upton Church at 7.30 p.m.

Licensing of Church Wardens— Thursday 27th May at Ripple Church at 7.30 p.m.

EARL'S CROOME WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Tuesday, 11th May — 'Resolutions, Quiz' and the Competition is "Your oddest resolution".

SEVERN STOKE SCOUT & GUIDE GROUP

The Brownies: Contact Mrs Angela Broadhead for details on joining the Group on 01684 296 349.

MOTHERS UNION – Upton Deanery

Thursday, 27th May, 7.30 p.m. at Upton Church — **To discuss the future of our Branch.**
 Also a talk on "Card making".

The National Trust - Croome Park

Until 31st October, the Park, tea-room and shop are open every day from 10.00a.m. to 5.30p.m.

Croome Court is open every day, except Tuesdays from 11.00a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Access to the Park and Court is only through the main Visitor Reception and Car Park.

May event—Evening Bird Walk on Wednesday, 12th from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. Booking in advance essential.

June Events—Croome Music Season—Elgar at Croome—Saturday, 5th and 26th June—Booking essential and other exciting family events.

For more details contact W/ 371 006 or e-mail: croomepark@nationaltrust.org.uk

