

SEVERN STOKE AND CROOME D'ABITOT

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2010

The Rector's Message Reverend Peter Holzapfel

40 Pence

Forthcoming Events

Severn Stoke & Environs

Friends of St Denys

SATURDAY

13th NOVEMBER

Severn Stoke Parish Hall
at 7.30 p.m.

**Peter's Talk entitled
"SABBATICAL
REVELATIONS"**
with light refreshments!

ALL WELCOME
See inside for details

Kempsey

SATURDAY

20th NOVEMBER

**"AMERICAN
PIE EVENING"**

At 7.30 p.m.

**Kempsey Primary
School.**

**Open to anyone and
everyone in our
United Parishes.**

Tickets available from
Church Wardens and
**proceeds will go to-
wards the support
and building work at
St Mary's.**
See inside for details

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**Please submit Copy by 2nd
Monday next month**

Dear Friends,

I always think of November as a month of Remembrance: firstly, there's the All Saints Service (this year on Sunday 7th November at 6.00 p.m.) when we remember and give thanks for all those who are no longer physically with us and who have touched our lives with love and then there's Remembrance Sunday itself (14th November) when we remember those who sacrificed their lives, so that we might live in peace and freedom. The season of Autumn is such an appropriate time to remember as the leaves change colour so beautifully and then fall gently and silently to the earth. I always see the falling leaves as souls going back to Father God. There is something so sad and yet so beautiful about this season and, therefore, so profound. It reminds me of the need to let go in order to move forward and receive more of what God has to give us. We tend to cling on so tenaciously to what we think we know and what we think we possess and so we often miss out on the tremendous blessing and fulfilment that God longs to give us. It is a time of remembering but it's also a time of letting go. The Beatles song "Let It Be" sums it up for me: "When I find myself in times of trouble, Mother Mary comes to me speaking words of wisdom "Let It Be" and, in my time of darkness, She is standing right in front of me speaking words of wisdom "Let It Be."

To let go and let God take charge of our lives is one of the greatest of God's challenges. I had the joy several years ago of visiting Niagara Falls and to see the mighty river plunge over the edge into the depths below. The river flows along following its course and then suddenly it disappears over the edge into a mighty roar of falling cascading water and spray that turns everything into a thick mist. I thought of myself in that river fighting for dear life trying to resist going over the edge but the water doesn't hesitate and that's what it means to give in to God. I think I spend so much of my life trying to resist where God wants to take me that I miss the blessings that He has in store.

And, because of this, it's so fitting that after the month of Remembrance we go into the month of looking forward and celebration and begin it with The Christingle Service when we celebrate Jesus, "The Light of God and the Light that lightens every person who comes into the world." The letting go leads to the coming of Light. (This year Christingle is on Sunday 5th December at 4.00 p.m. at St Mary's. It's for the whole family and children will love it, so do make a note of it on your calendar and come along). Jesus didn't die in vain and He didn't die for nothing. He died so that we might be surrounded by eternal light so that we might live and physically die as children of light and gain an eternal life of everlasting peace and bliss.

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The men and women who gave their lives for us died so that we might have the light of peace and freedom. The leaves don't fall from the trees for nothing, but so that they can be part of the process of regeneration and those who shared genuine love with us here on earth are still with us because love never dies.

There is a peace that God can give us, a peace that passes all our human understanding, but in order to receive it we must let go and let God take control. It doesn't mean forsaking or forgetting, but it does mean loosening the grip that so many of us have on the things of this world, so that we might be inheritors of all that God has for us in our heavenly home.

And so let us remember with thanksgiving and love and let us prepare ourselves to receive The Light of Jesus into this world and into our lives.

With each new day blessing

Peter Holzappel (Revd.)

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

United Benefice Prayer Meetings – Welcome to our meetings (usually every other Monday) for an hour, **from 8.00 p.m. on 1st, 15th and 29th November and 13th December**. 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, 11th and 25th November and 9th December at 2.30 p.m. All welcome. Please contact John Henderson (W 371 218) for the next venue.

“AMERICAN PIE EVENING” - SATURDAY 20th NOVEMBER

At 7.30 p.m. in Kempsey Primary School.

This is being organised by our Social Committee and is **open to anyone and everyone in our United Parishes**. It will be a great evening of really yummy food and entertainment and a great time is guaranteed for everyone young and older.

Tickets available from Church Wardens and **proceeds will go towards the support and building work at St Mary's**. Please do come along and have a great time!

“DEANERY AMERICAN COUNTRY SOCIAL” THURSDAY 25TH NOVEMBER

at 7.30 p.m. at Castlemorton Hall. Yes, folks, if you haven't had enough American Pie then here's your chance to get some more by coming along to this very enjoyable Deanery Social Event. **All proceeds will go to the support of Children's Education in Nigeria and Peru (our Deanery Project)**. Do you have a Cowgirl hat? Or do you fancy dressing up for the Range? Come and join us for Bangers & Beans & Apple Pie. Bring your own drink. The evening will include a Raffle & Entertainment.

Tickets £6 each. Please let Church Wardens or Peter or John Henderson know in advance if you'd like to attend. It will be another great ho-down!

HAPPENINGS in SEVERN STOKE and environs**POPPY APPEAL****REMEMBER THE WORK OF THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**

Please give generously to your local Poppy Collection to help Servicemen and their families.

**Come and support the Remembrance Sunday Service
at St Denys' Church, Severn Stoke at 10.45 a.m.**

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF CHRISTMAS EVENTS & SERVICES

In order to help you with your planning for services and events over Christmas here is a brief summary of what is happening.....

DECEMBER

Thursday 9th: 6.30pm: The Friends of St Denys—Carol Singing at Orchard House Rest Home, Kinnersley

Saturday 11th: 3.30pm: Walkers & Hikers Christmas Carol Service at St Denys' Church

Tuesday 14th: 7.30pm: The Friends of St Denys—Carols & Entertainment at The Nash

Saturday 18th: 7.30pm **Philomusica Christmas Concert** at St Mary's Church

Sunday 19th: 6.30pm: **St Denys' Christmas Carol Service**

Friday 24th: **CHRISTMAS EVE**: 11.30pm: Midnight Communion Service at St Denys'

Saturday 25th: **CHRISTMAS DAY** 9.15am: Christmas Day Communion Service at St Denys'

Sunday 26th: St Stephen's Day: 10.30am: United Benefice said Communion Service at St Mary's

(This will be the only service today in the United Benefice)

SEVERN STOKE SCOUT & GUIDE GROUP

Severn Stoke Brownies are currently full to capacity with 24 girls; we are operating a waiting list.

This term's focus is 'Back to Basics' with sessions on traditional Brownie activities such as outdoor cooking, nature trails and crafts, though we are taking part in the Cubs water sports evening with more modern activities such as Kayaking and Windsurfing.

Severn Stoke Guides (10 years plus) are in need of a **Second Leader** to enable them to extend the range of activities they offer. They meet Wednesdays 7-8.30 p.m.

Please contact Mrs Angela Broadhead on 01684 296 349.

EARL'S CROOME WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Tuesday, 9th November— The Annual Meeting. Come to the "Curling Evening".

MOTHERS UNION – Upton Deanery

Thursday, 25th November at 2.15 p.m. in the Upton Church Rooms. "Card ready for Schools."

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 begin again each Friday from 3rd September.

NOVEMBER

Sunday 7th 3rd before Advent 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.: UNITED BENEFICE COMMUNION SERVICE FOR ALL SAINTS

This is an opportunity to remember our loved ones who have now passed over to be with the Lord and to give thanks for their lives and how they touched our lives. There will be the opportunity during this service to light a candle in memory of loved ones.

Sunday 14th REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 8.00 a.m.: Holy Communion BCP,
10.45 a.m.: REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE, 6.00 p.m.: Evensong BCP.

Sunday 21st Christ the King 8.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer BCP, 10.30am: Family Service, 6.00 p.m.: Holy Communion BCP.

Sunday 28th Advent Sunday 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion BCP, 10.30 a.m. Family Communion CW, 6.00 p.m.: Service at The Firs.

DECEMBER

Sunday 5th Advent 2 8.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer BCP, 9.00 a.m.: Holy Communion BCP at Kerswell Green, 10.30 a.m.: Family Communion (PLEASE NOTE: that this is a Communion Service because of the Christingle Service in the afternoon) 4.00 p.m.: CHRISTINGLE SERVICE (see Pastoral Letter)

HAPPENINGS at KEMPSEY

The Cornflower Club meets every other Wednesday at 2.30 p.m., 10th and 24th November 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.

Women's Fellowship meets in St Mary's House on Wednesday, 10th November.

Men's Group meets at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 1st November in St Mary's House, Kempsey.

"Coming Together" - Monday 8th November at 10.30 a.m. in St Mary's House, Kempsey.

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Tickets available from Church Wardens and **proceeds will go towards the support and building work at St Mary's**. Please do come along and have a great time!

Advance Notice:

Saturday 18th December: Philomusica Christmas Concert at 7.30 p.m. At St Mary's Church.

