

May 2025

St Guthlac's Church



80th Anniversary of VE-Day May 1945

Rector
Rev'd Georgina Holding.

01778 342237.

 St Guthlac's, Market Deeping.

 www.stguthlacs.org.uk



For a Baptism, Wedding, or any general enquiry, please telephone the Parish Administrator Charlotte Bates who is available **Monday and Wednesday evenings** on 07972 839963. Beyond that time please leave a message. Alternatively email administrator@stguthlacs.org.uk

Churchwardens

Nick Evans
Roger Stokoe

Readers

Canon Nigel Bacon
Mrs Kate Brown

Director of Music

Peter Davies

PCC

Vice Chair
Hon Treasurer

James Ward
Mrs Julie Bacon

Children & Youth Worker

Andrew Mitchell

Other Parish Representatives are listed on a later page in this publication.

The Daily Office of Morning Prayer is said at 10.00am Monday to Saturday. The Evening Prayer is at 5.00pm Monday to Friday. All are welcome.

For details of our on-line services please refer to our website or facebook page.

If previously arranged any Baptisms will take place at 12noon on the first or third Sunday of the month.



Dear friends,

May: Among the Bluebells

As I write this article for the Thought for the Month, I think about what comes in May. Often, this is when the bluebells come into full flower, and you have a complete sense of awe and wonder when you walk through the woods.

There is something almost breathtaking about walking through a bluebell wood in spring. The quietness of the woodland and the trees standing tall above the carpet of blue stretching as far as the eye can see. It's as if creation is whispering a secret — a quiet, profound reminder of beauty, renewal, and the presence of God. It always reminds me of the well-known hymn *How Great Thou Art*:

"When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.
When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur
And see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze..."

There is a deep peace in these words — recognising how God speaks through His creation. In the rustle of leaves, the song of a robin, the shimmering light on a flowing stream, and the soft breeze that brushes our cheeks. It is in these quiet, unassuming moments that our souls find rest.

Springtime is a season of resurrection — of life breaking through the dark and the cold. Just as the bluebells return year after year, God's faithfulness and creativity never cease. He renews the earth, and He renews us. In the busyness of life, it's easy to miss these gentle signs of grace. But if we pause, even for a moment, we might catch a glimpse of the Creator's hand and hear the whisper of His love.

So this month, can I encourage you to take a walk — through wood if you can, or even a nearby park — and look for the beauty that is quietly blooming all around? Let it remind you that God is near and that His creation is not only good but glorious.

"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands." Psalm 19:1 (NIV)

Blessings,

Andrew Mitchell.

From the Church of England website, a prayer following the death of His Holiness Pope Francis, giving thanks for his life of ministry.

Father in heaven, we praise your name
for all who have finished this life loving and trusting you,
for the example of their lives,
the life and grace you gave them
and the peace in which they rest.
We praise you today for your servant Francis
and for all that you did through him.
Meet us in our sadness
and fill our hearts with praise and thanksgiving,
for the sake of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

Into your hands, O merciful Saviour,
we commend your servant Francis.
Acknowledge, we pray, a sheep of your own fold,
a lamb of your own flock,
a sinner of your own redeeming.
Enfold him in the arms of your mercy,
in the blessed rest of everlasting peace
and in the glorious company of the saints in light.

Amen.

Exploring the Book of Romans



Join on a Monday at 7pm for a coffee
7:30pm start - in the Green School



Using course material from the Bible Society-
The Romans Course - Ten video sessions

Course Dates & Themes:

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 28 Apr - Gospel | 23 Jun - Hope |
| 12 May - Sin | 30 Jun - Mystery |
| 19 May - Salvation | 7 Jul - Devotion |
| 9 Jun - Peace | 14 Jul - Community |
| 16 Jun - Freedom | 21 Jul - Mission |



Bible courses

Way back in January the ministry team decided to run a Bible course and we chose the Bible Course which the Bible Society had produced. We decided to purchase 10 copies of the booklet that went with the course. How pessimistic were we! On 10 February over 15 people turned up for the first of 8 sessions on how the Bible as a whole makes sense. Over the course of the 8 weeks nearly 20 people attended! We explored the Fall, the promises God made to Abraham, the deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt, the Judges, the Kings, the Prophets and the Poetry. How the Old Testament looked forward to Jesus, the promised Messiah. Then the course turned to the New Testament and how the 4 Gospels each give a different portrait of Jesus, depending upon who they were written for. Next came Acts and the birthday

of the Church when the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost. A brief touch on the Epistles and finishing with the book of Revelation as we saw how the circle that started in Genesis – humans might reach out and take also from the tree of life and live forever (Genesis 3: 22) – to Revelation 22: 2 “On either side of the river is the tree of life with its 12 fruits (12 tribes of Israel, 12 apostles), producing its fruit each month”.

Throughout the course we were encouraged to look at each passage and ask ourselves 2 questions – What? What was the original context of the passage? And then Now What? What does the passage mean for my life today?

The book of Acts finishes abruptly. Because the story of the Church has not finished. We, here at St Guthlac’s, are part of the story of the Church as it continues.

In session 7 we were encouraged to try reading a whole book – the book of Romans. And the Bible Society has produced a 10 week series looking at the message of Romans.

Romans is one of Paul’s epistles, probably written in AD 57, probably written while he was in Corinth, and written to the church in Rome. Paul’s primary theme is the basic Gospel, God’s plan of salvation and righteousness for all mankind alike: Jew and Gentile, slave and free, male and female.

When you read this, the first session will already have taken place and you may have received a flyer in church. It does matter whether you attended the Bible Course or not. No prior knowledge is required! It does not matter if you can’t make all 10 sessions as each one should stand alone.

So, if you want to know about the Bible, Kate Brown and I look forward to seeing you at the Green School at 7:00 pm (for coffee)for as many sessions as you can make

With best wishes

Nick Evans.

Prayer Stations

from Anne Guthrie

I hope that many other people came into church and spent time sitting and praying, thinking and enjoying the variety of activities to promote prayer and thought that Kate created as a culmination of the Lent themes on Sunday evenings. It was so calming to sit behind the font and just be still in Contemplation, to look up at the sky and see the reflections of clouds in a mirror and examine tiny natural items through Adoration and Thanksgiving. There were also more difficult stations - Lamentation feeling broken but finding wholeness again, Confession to admit regrets but know the love and forgiveness of Jesus and the need for Intercession to try and bring about change amidst a world of power and war where many are marginalised. Many of us comment on how calm and peaceful the church feels when we have time to just sit and reflect – a sense of the gathered prayers from centuries of worship and love of God. I love the fact that whenever I am pottering around on little jobs in church there will be visitors who come to search for relatives in the church yard, find comfort in sitting quietly in a pew, lighting a candle or exploring the history. A prayer group meet at 10.00 on the first Monday of each month to offer thanksgiving and to pray for the world , to ask for help and to bring those who are sick before God. If you wish to join us you would be very welcome.

Friday Crafting

The meeting on 25th April created bunting to celebrate VE Day and will decorate the Exhibition at the Community Centre over the weekend Sunday 11th May.

There will be meetings on Friday 9th and 23rd of May . The theme for the 23rd May will be creating tea light holders for your summer garden. Remember 9.30 to 11.30 in The Green school and a cost of £5- towards hire and refreshments. The Green School is looking really good with the refurbishment and the smart new decorating – a few teething difficulties, learning to use the new hot water tap and rather a loud noise whenever the hand dryers are used but so glad to be warm and comfortable during our crafting sessions.

St Guthlac's: a walk through faith and history

from Kate Brown

What makes St Guthlac's similar to other churches and what makes it different? I know many people, whether they are practising Christians, people of other faiths, agnostics or even outright atheists, like looking around churches and the more churches you visit the more you are struck by both the similarities and the differences.

Our themed evening service at 4pm on May 11th looks at St Guthlac's Church through the lens of faith and history. It is faith that accounts for many of the similarities such as the ground plan, the orientation, the interior structures such as the font and the decorative touches such as the stained-glass windows. History, the century the church was built in, the community it serves and the changing fashions and requirements of succeeding ages, accounts for many of the differences.

Why not join us on May 11th as we walk around the church, stopping for prayer and reflection at various places, to learn more about the forces of faith and history that have made St Guthlac's such an important building in Market Deeping from the Middle Ages until now.

The Magazine

Not complaining but there was so much material submitted for inclusion this month that even after adding four additional pages three articles will be carried over to the next issue.

Thank you to all contributors, especially to Liz Parkinson for the WW2 and VE Day information from her archives.



Copy for the June magazine is required please not later than Wednesday 21 May.

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THE UNSTOPPABLE POWER OF HOPE

actalliance

Christian Aid is a member of ACT Alliance.

Christian Aid Week: 18th – 24th May

Christian Aid Week is the UK's longest-running fundraising week, having been held every year since 1957. It's a special time when we come together to fight extreme poverty. This year the focus is on Guatemala, where the climate crisis is intensifying, harvests are failing, and families relying on their own farms to supply their daily food are hit hardest.

This is Aurelia. She says, "Climate change is getting worse every day. It's killing our plantations and it's killing us." But there is hope!

Aurelia joined the Christian Aid training programme and gained the skills and knowledge to cultivate native seeds that are better suited to the changing climate. She's producing her own organic fertiliser, creating nurseries, constructing rainwater collection systems, and making nutritious food and medicine for her chickens.

Thanks to Aurelia's ever-growing knowledge base, she's now cultivating cacao, sugarcane, cinnamon, corn, and pineapples. It's steady progress that holds promise. Aurelia's resolute hope has also inspired her to develop and lead other activities in her community, including producing chocolate, establishing a farmers' market, and fighting for women's rights.

Every gift makes a difference for people like Aurelia.

£6 could pay for the seed trays to kick start a plant nursery at someone's home.

£10 could pay for pruning scissors which mean a farmer can care for their cacao trees.

£20 could buy two pounds of climate resilient seeds to help diversify a family's crop.

Will you support us by making a donation this Christian Aid Week? Scan the QR code below and be taken to the fund-raising page of Deepings Churches Together.

Copy this link into your web browser to donate via the same page or find it on St Guthlac's Facebook page, Instagram page or website. <https://fundraise.christianaid.org.uk/fundraiser-2025/deepings-ca-group>

At St Guthlac's we have two events you can attend to help us raise money. The first is a ***Coffee Morning on Saturday 10th May from 10.30am in the Green School.*** We shall have books, jigsaws, and cakes for sale, a raffle, and a sales table. Delicious refreshments will compliment your conversations with friends or why not introduce yourself to someone you've not met before? Then we have a soup, bread, and cheese ***Lunch on Saturday 24th May from 12noon in the Green School.*** You are assured of a warm welcome at both of these gatherings.

In addition, this year Churches Together are holding a ***Bandless Barn Dance in the Priory Church Hall, 7pm-9pm, on Saturday 17th May,*** when the caller will be our own multi-talented Kate Brown and the music will be on CD. These events are always good fun, and watching others trying to keep up with the instructions is almost as entertaining as dancing yourself, if that's too difficult for you now.

Please bring your own drinks and nibbles; tickets now available, £5 each, contact Kate (ring 01778 343981 or email her on kabstg@btinternet.com) or Dorothy (ring 07587 691743).



Many Thanks.



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Ladies' Guild.

We welcomed Sharon Hall of Halls Theatre Trips to our March meeting. She told us how she started by organising family, then family and friends trips, to the Pantomime, followed by theatre trips to London for her children's drama group. This led to more theatre trips, day trips and visits and she now organises more than 150 trips annually. Sharon clearly loves what she does and her enthusiasm and attention to detail recently gained her the coveted Group Organiser Award 2025 from Groups for London.

We are looking forward to a fun evening on April 22nd when Spalding Ukulele Orchestra will be entertaining us and a summer outing to Moulton Windmill on June 24th. Our May meeting will be focusing on the 80th anniversary of World War II and the effect it had on people at home.

If you would like to try an evening with us then speak to one of the committee or just come along to one of our meetings, which are held on every fourth Tuesday of the month in the Green School at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

Julie Bacon 01778 342737, Jean Jones 07976810654,
Ann Lymburn 01778 703269, Carol Moore 01778 342979,
Liz Parkinson 01778 347020.

Church Flowers

from Anne Guthrie

Thank you everyone for bringing such a variety of lovely flowers, plants and arrangements to celebrate Easter. The church looked wonderful and I think that we successfully linked the traditional pedestals of lilies with eco friendly spring blooms that could be repurposed at home or as gifts. The addition of the Easter Garden under the Lady Chapel altar and the decorations on the wooden cross just completed the displays. Special thanks go to Kate and Pam for the pedestals and Easter Garden.

Our May weekly flower arrangers are Joanne Fowler, Jean Jones and Kay Bunn – we look forward to their different offerings.

Time for a Return to Nature

from Rob Gray.

After a fairly grey Winter, we've been relatively fortunate with the weather thus far, this Spring. A recent visit to the Isle of Wight has helped reinvigorate my lust for the great outdoors and all that nature has to offer us.

Early morning walks with our dog, who thinks that holidays are when you get up earlier than normal, took me along picturesque country lanes. I forgave Derek, our lurcher, when we realised that it was probably the dawn chorus that was waking him. I heard my first cuckoo of the year, together with several woodpeckers. A visit to a garlic farm, was our chance to see a red squirrel feeding outside the farm café.

I finally found out what a Chine is, by walking down one to the sea, at Shanklin. Apparently, Shanklin Chine was an inspiration to both Keats and Jane Austen, who declared the site as 'lovely'. Natural features such as this continue to be places where people like to visit and absorb the feelings that an unusual and attractive landscape can invoke.

Back at home, we have returned to tending our garden. Blossom is everywhere, and if it's a dependable guide, I should have plenty of Victoria plums and cooking apples this year. My rhubarb has taken off, leading to my seeking work colleagues interested in receiving some, gratis. Tidying, trimming and planting are the order of the day, with an intention to, once again, honour "No-mow May", allowing the plants and wildlife time to do their natural thing.

If you feel like being inspired by nature, as I was, there are plenty of local sites you can visit. I receive regular information from Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, whose website provides the following ideas:

Ancaster Valley is a narrow, steep-sided valley covered with limestone grassland, scrub and woodland. It is one of the finest sites for limestone flowers in the county. Recorded species include the rare and beautiful pasqueflower, bee and fragrant orchids, dyer's greenweed, dropwort, spring cinquefoil, rockrose, spring-sedge and many others.

There is an attractive woodland, consisting chiefly of beech, on the eastern slope of the valley, which has yew, box, wayfaring tree, barberry and wild clematis on its edge, and woodland plants such as violet and early purple orchid. Large numbers of butterflies and bumblebees may be seen on calm sunny days, as well as a wide variety of birds including green and great spotted woodpeckers. And, if you have a particular interest in birds:

Anderby Marsh is a reserve managed as a traditional coastal grazing marsh. It is hoped in future that this nature reserve will help support a range of conservation priority birds including lapwing, curlew, redshank, snipe, barn owl, starling and reed bunting. In recent years the marsh has attracted a couple of rare birds such as black-winged stilt and glossy ibis. Wigeon, teal and snipe are regular on the marsh in the winter months. The adjacent reedbed fringes attract numerous reed, sedge and cetti's warblers. Marsh harrier is a regular sight in the summer as is cuckoo.

At **Arnold's Meadow**, half of the area of this triangular-shaped reserve is taken up by a hay meadow, the centre of which is flooded in autumn and winter. The remaining half consists of three areas of water: a moat round an island and two shallow ponds. The reserve is bounded by mature hedgerows and trees, with a small, wooded area in the northern corner.

The variety of habitat attracts many birds. 73 species have been recorded including kingfisher, and 35 species have been known to breed including sparrowhawk and jay. 17 species of butterfly have also been recorded. There is a good population of water voles, toads, frogs and grass snakes. Plants are abundant on the reserve with 171 species recorded on the heavy clay. The wet area of the meadow has purple-loosestrife, brooklime, ragged-robin and butterbur.

Now, that's just the A's! Do get outside, if you are able, to experience nature's finest season, full of excitement and promise. As well as the sights and sounds, the smells and the feeling of a warm breeze can do much to raise the spirits and trigger memories.

Rhubarb, rhubarb...

<https://www.lincstrust.org.uk>

80th Anniversary of VE-Day May 1945

SO MUCH HISTORY IN JUST A FEW YARDS OF HALFLEET



This somewhat peaceful scene from the 1960s belies a tragedy that had happened some 20 years earlier - one that some residents still remember.

During the Second World War there was a lot of air activity over the Deepings. My mother remembered hearing the planes droning overhead as waves of German planes headed towards Coventry. There were dummy airfields close by to try to trick the enemy. As local airfields were targets as well as the industries of Peterborough.

However on April 15th 1945 the tragedy of the war was really brought directly to Halfleet.

80th Anniversary of VE-Day May 1945

It was a Sunday morning about 11 am when Mr Hazeldine (the local boot & shoemaker) was in his garden. He saw & heard a plane coming towards him from the east, flying very low & apparently damaged. Its wing struck the gutter of his house, crashed through the overhead cables & hit the house across the road. Everything burst into flames.



It was not an enemy plane but a British Oxford (sometimes nicknamed the "Ox-box") & was commonly used for training pilots.

The house belonged to the Bland family. Mrs Bland (a teacher at Newborough School) thought a bomb had dropped & took shelter under the kitchen table before being rescued by neighbours. Her husband was at work in Brotherhoods as a torpedo fitter. Their house was totally destroyed.

The local inhabitants did the best they could but sadly the two pilots in the plane did not survive. RAF officials & the National Fire Service from Bourne arrived quickly & their bodies were recovered from the wreckage just before the house collapsed.



Flt. Sgt. FISHBOURNE
R.A.F.V.R., A.F.U.
Market Deeping. 15.4.45.
Age 24. (Evevmonth)

This young RAF pilot instructor, Flight Sergeant Robert Dougal Fishbourne (1563017) from Eyemouth in the Scottish Borders, lost his life along with Pupil Pilot Sergeant Leslie Ward (1625186) aged 21 from Barnsley.

Like so many others they were so young & it was so close to the end of the war.

It seems fitting that we should remember as we go along Halfleet these two young men who gave their lives to the war effort.

80th Anniversary of VE-Day May 1945

THE VICTORY TEA PARTY:

September 1945



The tea party seems to have taken place just before the children returned to school after their summer break.



Coronation Hall

THE CHILDREN'S TREAT

It was very fitting that a Victory Party should have been arranged for the children. We are indebted to Sgt.-Mjr. Griffiths and Mrs. Mullingham for their leadership in organising the treat, which was held on September 13th. A party of some 112 children assembled in the Coronation Hall to tea. The tables displayed an amazing assortment of attractive pasties—the delight of every child. We suspect that for many weeks the ladies of the committee had sacrificed their rations in the interests of the children. Their affection was not unrequited. The children made the most of the opportunity to do themselves real well. After tea, which began at 5-0 p.m., a programme of games was followed with much enjoyment; Sgt.-Mjr. Griffiths being the M.C. When the party “broke up” at 8-0 p.m. each child received a present of 2s. 6d. We are asked to thank all those who so generously subscribed to make the event possible, and to congratulate the committee on the success of their effort. The committee was formed of the following ladies: Mesdames Allam, Carter, Starr, Scrimshaw, Reedman, Holdsworth, King, Labram, Beeken, Geeves, Griffiths, Casson, Jibb, Desmond, Gillett and the Misses M. Hayes and D. Griffiths.

S. Guthlac's Parish Church, Market Deeping PARISH MAGAZINE

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Two Pence

IN MEMORIAM

On October 14th, we laid to rest Mary Jane Leverage, who had attained the great age of 86 years. In an enfeebled condition she had been constrained to live in loneliness for a number of years. She must have been a great mother, and an inspiration to her family.

"I was glad when they said unto me, 'We will go into the house of the Lord,'" said the psalmist long ago. These words truly expressed the attitude of our departed friend. One of her sons, doubtless stimulated by her example, developed a vocation for Holy Orders—a very difficult aspiration in days when there was no free higher education. Notwithstanding, the reward came by perseverance. We know the joy that filled his mother's heart when, at last, he was ordained priest. She was a devoted member of the Mothers' Union. Its ideals were well sustained by her. May God receive her, and may peace and refreshment be her inheritance. May He console her bereaved!

FIRE GUARD

The Committee, under the leadership of Mr. J. S. Vergette, Head Fire Guard, has drawn up a new Rota of nightly "Fire Watchers." The Rota becomes operative from November 1st to June 19th, 1943. It is hoped that the Fire Watchers realize how difficult it is to draw up such a scheme of duty, and, at the same time, subject none who have volunteered for this service to greater inconvenience than is necessary. They can be assured that every care, and consideration have been given to the particular wishes of each by the Committee.

The Fire Guard has now been trained and organised into Fire Fighting Teams, and each team supplied with a stirrup pump. There are twelve teams. Four teams are to operate in the High Street and Stamford Road; four teams in Church Street, that is, from the Market Place to Towngate Cross Roads, and four teams in Towngate itself.

The War Agricultural Committee has issued stirrup pumps to each of the outlying farms in the parish, and the farmers are expected to make up teams from among their employees.

Moreover there are, at least, twenty privately owned stirrup pumps in the parish that we know of. If those who possess them could form teams among the members of their households, or neighbours, much strength would be added to the *fire fighting* potential of the town.

Instruction in the use of the stirrup pump, and method of attacking an *incendiary bomb*, will willingly be given, on request, by any member of the Fire Guard, or Wardens' Service.

It is interesting to note that the severest "Incendiary Blitz" on a built-up area is capable of setting on fire one building in every eight. There are 300 houses in Market Deeping, and with the stirrup pumps alone, we have 50 of them, we could deal with fires in a proportion of one in every *six buildings*. In addition, we have two big fire engines—one very modern and very effective—manned by well-equipped and very enthusiastic personnel—the N.F.S. Let it, therefore, never be said but that we have been very generously treated in the matter of fire fighting equipment!

80th Anniversary of VE-Day May 1945

The Longest Yarn

from Kate Brown

No not one of those interminable shaggy dog stories that used to be popular with village pub bores but an exhibition at Peterborough Cathedral that some of us attended a few weeks ago.

The title is a play on words. The Longest Day is a famous film telling the story of the D Day landings on the coast of Normandy on 6th June 1944 and The Longest Yarn exhibition recreates many of the events of that day, and the ones that led up to it and followed it, in knitted 80 tableaux. Some of the scenes are based on stills from the film, some on contemporary photographs and some are imagined scenes based on the memories of those who lived through it.

Some of the scenes were knitted by individuals and some by groups of friends cooperating either by knitting or by constructing the frameworks for buildings and other structures that were subsequently covered by knitted panels. All were a testament to the skill and ingenuity of the crafters who mostly worked without patterns on objects like armoured vehicles and bomb-damaged buildings that rarely get included in knitting and crochet magazines.

I loved the way only the top halves of soldiers wading through the waves as they disembarked were shown and some tiny details such as the small dog cocking its leg up on the municipal statue could easily have been missed. The nature of the exhibition, small scenes featuring a few individuals, focused attention on the human element rather than the grander strategic picture. One scene depicts part of a parade in Carentan with a small child presenting a posy of flowers to the soldiers. She was killed by an enemy shell moments after this event and died in the arms of a US medic.

The exhibition was first shown in Normandy last year and then has done a UK tour this year, finishing in Peterborough Cathedral before going from there to the US to be shown at a number of places there. I only heard about it by pure chance and was so pleased I saw it just a few days before it finished.

Two of the scenes are pictured inside the back cover.

Talk at Teatime

After a break during Lent and Easter, Talk at Teatime resumes on Sunday May 18th at 4 pm at Kate's House 17 St Guthlac Avenue. All are invited to come and listen to a talk recorded at last August's Greenbelt Festival and discussion afterwards. This will be of course accompanied by the usual tea, cheese scones and cake.

This month we will hear from Luke Harding giving a talk called "Invasion: Russia's bloody war and Ukraine's fight for survival" Luke is the Guardian's senior international correspondent and the author of eight non-fiction titles. In 2011 the Kremlin expelled him from Russia, where he was Moscow bureau chief, in the first case of its kind since the Cold War. He has been reporting from Ukraine since Putin's full-scale invasion and at the time of this talk was fresh from the frontline and an interview with president Volodymyr Zelenskiy. Although events have moved on since August when this was recorded it still promises to be an informative talk which will promote much discussion.

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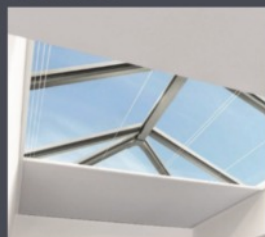
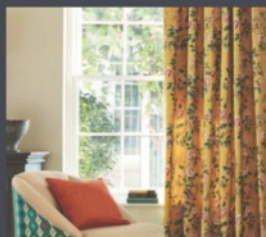


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This month we will be having a speaker on the charity Deep in Kindness. I'm sure many of you have seen the box in Tesco where people can put their unwanted items for distribution to those who can put them to good use but are you aware of the other things that this group does to support people in and around Deeping especially at Christmas?

Have you seen the hub that has recently opened on the parade of shops opposite the Coop in Deeping St James where people can meet for advice, assistance and fellowship? Why not come along on Thursday May 15th at 6:30 and find out?

Looking back at March we had a visit from Sharon Holmshaw who introduced us to the art of Nalbinding. This is sometimes called Viking knitting although it is a technique that has been used by many cultures across the world as far apart as Peru and ancient Egypt. The earliest fragment found by archaeologists dates from about 6,500 BC and was discovered in a cave in the Judean desert. Sharon brought along her collection of hats and other items and showed us how to knit using a single bone needle with a length of yarn threaded through it.

It was Market Deeping's turn to host the annual Lady Day Service on March 25th and we were pleased to welcome Rev Sylvia Rice-Oxley from Bourne who presided and preached. Members from Bourne and Thurlby joined us and we were delighted to enrol Nette Mitchell as a new member at this service. Our next joint event will be a Garden Party in Thurlby in June.

Kate Brown kabstg@btinternet.com 01778 343981

South Kesteven District Councillor for Market & West Deeping

ASHLEY BAXTER

If you have a problem, a question or a great idea regarding council services please get in touch, I will try to help.

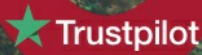
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07799 077090

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Promoted by **Ashley Baxter, 11 Kesteven Close, DSJ, PE6 8JW.**

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The Garden Fete

from Kate Brown

Members of the Garden Fete planning group have been hard at work planning for the Garden Fete on Saturday July 12th. Businesses who generously supply many raffle or tombola prizes are being contacted. Stall holders and those who organise games and other activities have been contacted and have begun to assemble their teams. Most of them would welcome extra help so if you are new to St Guthlac's and would like to help in this way please contact Nick Evans, Susanne Denton or myself Kate Brown and we will point you in the right direction. If you are fit and strong or have someone in your family who is and who would be able to help move stuff to the right place in the morning or help assemble gazebos or could help with disassembly at the end of the afternoon we would LOVE to hear from you.

I assume you all read last month's article and have been stockpiling books and jigsaws, looking out stuff that the Ladies Guild could sell and been enjoying the recent balmy spring weather sowing seeds and taking cuttings of plants. This month I want to talk about the children. Have your children or grandchildren outgrown last year's books and toys? If they can be persuaded to part with them, we will happily put them on our toy stall for some other lucky family to buy them and cherish them. We have lots of children's games that require small prizes either for winning or as consolation prizes. Little bags of sweets are good for this and so if you can buy one of those multi-packs this month or next we would be grateful. If you come across a large (or even very large) cuddly toy that we could offer as a prize for the "name the cuddly toy" draw we would like to hear from you.

And finally, if you have a totally new and brilliant idea for an attraction at the fete that you are really keen to try out do let us know. We are open to all your weird, wacky and wonderful ideas and will do our very best to find a way of using them, if not at this year's fete, then at subsequent fund-raising events.



Rose Lodge Care Home

**Residential, Dementia,
Respite Care**

Our care is the kind we'd all want our loved ones to receive. Our care home in Market Deeping has a warm and homely atmosphere. Our friendly staff take a family-led approach, providing person-centred care, tailored to each individual. Our residents enjoy a range of sociable activities, home-cooked meals and the comfort of 24-hour care on hand whenever they need it.



Call our Home Manager Nogi John on

01778 344 454

35a Church St, Market Deeping,
Lincolnshire, PE6 8AN

www.countrycourtcare.com



| when | sidespeople | readers | servers | offertory |
|----------|--|-----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | 4 May | | |
| 8.00am | | | | |
| 10.00 am | Dorothy Harriss Kay Bunn Keith Warren | Child Reader | N Bacon C Gaughan L Ward | Henry Roberts Kay Roberts |
| | | 11 May | | |
| 8.00am | Keith Warren | Keith Warren | | |
| 10.00 am | Joy Elliman Roger Clarke Di Wheatley | James Ward | A Gray C Gaughan J Johnson | Dorothy Harriss, Iris Newson |
| | | 18 May | | |
| 10.00 am | Kay Roberts Henry Roberts Chris Warren | Helen Evans | J Ward C Fowler J Johnson | Janice Hewitt Kay Bunn |
| | | 25 May | | |
| 8.00am | Peter Hilton | Kevin Dawson | | |
| 10.00 am | Janis Hewitt Lyll Seale Keith Warren | Julie Bacon | G Bacon D Fowler L Ward | Nettie Mitchell Linda Bates |
| 6.30pm | David Betts | Dorothy Harriss | | |

St Guthlac's Green School

The Green School offers a spacious and recently decorated premises with a brand new fitted kitchen, including a fully-functioning oven and hob, Quooker heated water tap and remodelled accessible toilet and baby changing facilities.

The premises have been updated into a larger open-plan area, offering a more inclusive and brighter environment for events.

Why not take advantage of our refurbished premises for your meetings, groups, and events (e.g. children's parties, wakes, Christenings and other life celebration events etc).

To hire the Green School costs just £12 per hour.

Please contact Roger Clarke on 07902 928782 or email greenschool@stguthlacs.org.uk for the Conditions of Hire and with any further questions you might have, and we would be happy to offer a free viewing if required.

Calendar of Services and Activities

May Year C

| | | |
|--------------|---------|-----------------------|
| Thursday 1st | 7:30 pm | Bell Ringing Practice |
| Friday 2nd | 6:30 pm | Choir Practice |

Sunday 4th May Third Sunday of Easter

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------|---|
| | 7:00 am | Lakeside Service, Deeping Nature Reserve |
| | 8:00 am | Said Holy Communion |
| | 10:00 am | All Age Holy Communion & Baptism 1 Cor 12.12-19 and 27, Matthew 28.16-20 |
| Monday 5th | 10:00 am | Prayer Meeting in Church |
| Wednesday 7th | 10:30 am | Funeral |
| Thursday 8th | 11:00 am | Said Holy Communion |
| | 7:30 pm | Bell Ringing Practice |
| Friday 9th | 9:30 am to 11:30 am | Craft Group in the Green School |
| | 6:30 pm | Choir Practice |
| Saturday 10th | 10:30 am | Coffee Morning for Christian Aid in the Green School |

Sunday 11th Fourth Sunday of Easter

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------|---|
| | 8:00 am | Said Holy Communion |
| | 9:45 am | Sunday Club in the Green School |
| | 10:00 am | Parish Holy Communion Micah 4:1-4, Luke 15.18-24 |
| | 4:00 pm | St Guthlac's: a Walk through Faith and History |
| Monday 12th | 7:00 pm for 7:30 pm | Bible Study on Romans in the Green School |
| Wednesday 14th | 10:30 am | Said Holy Communion |
| Thursday 15th | 6:30pm | Mothers' Union in the Green School |
| | 7:30 pm | Bell Ringing Practice |
| Friday 16th | 6:30 pm | Choir Practice |
| Saturday 17th | 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm | Messy Church in the Green School |
| | 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm | Churches Together Bandless Barndance at the Priory Church Hall |

Sunday 18th**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------|---|
| | 8:00 am | Said Holy Communion |
| | 9:45 am | Sunday Club in the Green School |
| | 10:00 am | Parish Holy Communion Acts 11: 1 – 8, John 13: 31 - 35 |
| | 4:00 pm | Talk at Teatime 17 St Guthlac Avenue |
| Monday 19th | 7:00 pm for 7:30 pm | Bible Study on Romans in the Green School |
| Wednesday 21st | 10:30 am | Said Holy Communion |
| | 2:30 pm | Rose Lodge |
| Thursday 22nd | 7:30 pm | Bell Ringing Practice |
| Friday 23rd | 9:30 am to 11:30 am | Craft Group in the Green School |
| | 6:30 pm | Choir Practice |
| Saturday 24th | 12:00 pm | Christian Aid Lunch in the Green School |

Sunday 25th**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---|
| | 8:00 am | Said Holy Communion |
| | 9:45 am | Sunday Club in the Green School |
| | 10:00 am | Parish Holy Communion Acts 16: 9 – 15, and John 14: 23-29. |
| | 6:30 pm | Evensong Zephaniah 3: 14 – end, Matthew 28: 1 – 10, 16 - end |
| Tuesday 27th | 7:30 pm | Ladies Guild in the Green School |
| Wednesday 28th | 10:30 am | Said Holy Communion |
| Thursday 29th | Ascension Day | |
| | 7:30 pm | Bell Ringing Practice |
| Friday 30th | No Choir Practice | |

Diary dates June 2025

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Sunday June 8th | Pentecost Churches Together United Service at the Roman Catholic Church at 6 pm |
| Tuesday June 17th | William Hildyard year 6 visit the Church to learn about bellringing |
| Sunday June 22nd | Pimms and Hymns in the Rectory Garden 4pm |

Parish Directory

Secretary of Bell Ringers
Eco Church Coordinator
Guthlac's Young Explorers
Safeguarding Officer

Wellbeing Group Co-ord
Friends of St Guthlac
Stewardship Coordinator
Convener of Sidespeople
Coordinator of Servers
Lesson Reading Rota
Flower Arranging Rota
Church Cleaning Rota
Newsletter

Mothers' Union

Ladies Guild

Floodlight Booking

Green School Cleaning

Magazine Distribution
 Advertising
 Production

Green School Booking

Dawn Richie
Liz Gray
Andrew Mitchell
Anne Guthrie
Keith Warren
Rev'd George Holdin
Carol Cooper
Keith Warren
Graeme Bacon
Kate Brown
Anne Guthrie
Kay Roberts
Dorothy Harriss
Kay Roberts
Kate Brown
Jean Jones
Kay Roberts
Chris Gaughan
Dorothy Harriss
Roger Clarke
Gordon Tyler

email gordonftyler@btinternet.com

email greenschool@stguthlacs.org.uk



Chuckle With Charlie

My grandad's got the heart of a lion and a
lifetime ban from the zoo.

I slept like a log last night. I woke up in the fireplace.

80th Anniversary of VE-Day May 1945



The Commemorative Tablet in St Guthlac's Church.



The Longest Yarn (page 19); The Signals Operators + + + + General Eisenhower makes the decision to Go!

Deepings Heritage

proudly presents an exhibition, **VE Day 80 On :**
The Deepings' Wartime Generation.

Sunday May 11th 2025, 11am to 4pm
in the Deepings Community Centre.

The Exhibition is all about the people of Market Deeping and how they were affected by the war. It is important to remember their hardships and triumphs, and also to remember that although the war in Europe ended in May 1945 the fighting in the Far East continued until the August.

Help us heat St. Guthlac's Church!



Our beautiful church is often colder inside than outside! The current heating system is outdated & beyond repair. To ensure a warm, welcoming environment for services, events & private prayer, we're raising funds for an efficient, more eco-friendly heating system.

Our goal: £50,000!



We plan to install:

- 6 infra-red, electrical chandeliers
- 10 wall heaters

These heat people directly (not the air), making them cleaner & more efficient lighting & heating.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?



Please consider donating. Every donation makes a difference & is greatly appreciated.

- If you are able to donate £50 or £100, you can be included in our list of sponsors.
- Or, you might be able to offer a £440 donation (gift-aided) which will fund a wall heater.
- A £4,800 donation (gift-aided) will fund one chandelier.

WAYS TO DONATE

- Cheque: Payable to *Market Deeping PCC*
- Bank transfer (contact us for details)
- Online: www.stguthlacs.org.uk ('Donate Now' on the 'Support Us' page)

If you're a UK taxpayer, please complete a Gift Aid form.

**Thank you
for your generous support.**