

Mar**Diary for March**

- 4th Holy Communion 10.30am at Laxton
4th Service 6.30pm at Ompton with Geoff Pickering
5th Zumba Class 7.30-8.15pm in Community Centre
11th Holy Communion 10.30am at Wellow
11th Service 6.30pm at Ompton with Rev Clare Burl
12th Zumba Class 7.30-8.15pm in Community Centre
18th Family Service 10.30am at Wellow
18th Service 6.30pm at Ompton with Barry Richmond
25th Holy Communion 10.30am at Kneesall
25th Service 6.30pm at Ompton with Rev Bob Jones
28th W.I. A Year of Garden Colour by Andrew Ward. Comp.: Photo of your garden & Your best bloom

Apr

- 1st Family Communion 10.30am at Laxton

Please see reverse side for the complete listing of services in the benefice.

Bill Hemsley Community Centre Notes.

Booking the hall. Tel: Kevin Gray 01623 863618, 07860 921431; email Kevin.gray@aesseal.co.uk before arranging a booking.

J Team. Fridays 5.30-6.30pm during term-time for 5 - 11 years. For more details contact Tessa Rolph 01777 872034.

Pre-School & Playgroup Please contact Jeanette Connolly 07984 265884, kneesallpreschool@googlemail.com, or drop in to a session located in St Bartholomew's Church Kneesall.

Church Services. Most Sunday Services in Kneesall Church are currently Holy Communion. The Parochial Church Council is asking to have Morning Prayer every other Service. Which Service would you and your family like? Please let me know on 01623 863712 ldpt@sky.com Ian Thorne, Churchwarden

Zumba Class Starting Monday 20th February until Monday 12th March from 7:30pm to 8:15pm. The first week will be free and the following three weeks £3 each. After that I am hoping to start the class running every Monday this is just a taster to see how it goes. My contact number is 07909118490. The class is suitable for any fitness level. Kirsty Watts Film: **The Ghost** (Thriller. UK. 2010) Certificate 15 Tuesday 6th March starting at 7.30 p.m. Maplebeck Village Hall Contact: Derek Sayer on 01636 636421

Laxton After Winter Sunday March 11th at 10.00am. Approx. 4 miles, 3 hours. The opening walk of the 2012 series with Stuart Rose, Laxton farmer & member of the Court Leet. The winter sown crops should be showing and starting to grow, while some of the second field crops will be making progress and others will still be newly sown. The third field will be in overwinter stubble and approaching the deadline date of 20th March by when it must have been broken up to provide a habitat for ground nesting creatures such as the skylark & brown hare. The events are free of charge & start at 10am at the Visitor Centre, in The Dovecote Inn car park, with a showing of the introductory film, beginning to walk around 10.30am. Everyone is welcome. For more information, please call Stuart on 07939 228353.

Country Fair with The Grove & Rufford Hunt. Laxton Saturday 17th March This is the last meet of the hunt calendar. The horses riders and hounds will meet on the Dovecote Car park and ride out at approx 11:30am. The day will then continue with a number of events: Laxton Open Field farming talks with S Rose; Tractor and trailer tours of Open Fields; Falcon display; Gun Dogs; Ferrets; Vintage tractors; Venison Butchery and sale of meat. Refreshments

Play: My Brilliant Divorce by Geraldine Aron Presented by: The Library Theatre Touring Group Saturday 24th March starting at 7.30pm. Maplebeck Village Hall Tickets: £7.50 Contact: 01636 838421 or 836533

Medieval Landscape and Village Saturday 31st March at 10.00am Approx. 3.6 miles, 3 hours On this second walk in the series Stuart will introduce walkers to the medieval architecture and landscape of this 18th century village. He will explain how the open field farming system shaped the development of the village with its central farm buildings surrounded by fields. The walk will include a visit to the castle – known as the best preserved motte & bailey castle in the county, the open fields & other key features.

Spot the Scam WATCH OUT for these common scams and frauds: Building work scams – where they take your money but never actually fix your roof or driveway; Debt advice firms* – who claim they can give debt advice but take huge amounts in fees and don't sort out your debts; Switching – people who offer to save you money by switching gas, electricity or phone suppliers, but you end up paying more; Loan offers – where they use your bank details to take money from you, but you don't get a loan. Prizes – people who pretend you've won a lottery prize and take your money for admin fees, tax etc ...but there's no prize; On-line tickets – for sports events or concerts, but you never receive them or they're fakes; Accommodation – adverts for flats where you pay a deposit and rent upfront, but there's no flat and you can't get your money back; Job offers – where you have to pay upfront fees and there's no actual work. Loans for training courses – that don't happen or are completely unsuitable, then you're saddled with the loan; Bogus meter keys – pay as you go electricity meter keys that don't work and you still have to pay. GENERAL ADVICE – do not hand over money unless you are sure that you are dealing with a reputable trader.* Citizens Advice Bureaux do NOT charge for debt advice and help. For further information and advice, contact North Notts Advice Line (0844) 856 3411 Monday to Friday 10.00am – 2.00pm Or visit your local Citizens Advice Bureau at 5 Forest Court, New Ollerton, Mon/Wed/Fri 9.30am – 2.30pm

Safer Neighborhood Team I am still receiving phone calls from members of the public who have received unsolicited mail, phone calls or e mails which cause them concern. Your bank, building society, Tax Man, Council will NOT e mail you or phone you (unless YOU ask them to) they will always write. If you do receive any letters that you are suspicious of promising you untold riches SEEK advice before you respond. As soon as you respond you will be asked for money up front; secondly your details will be sold on and you will be bombarded by criminals intent on taking your money. Do not feel embarrassed if you do receive one of the above they are very convincing. The Police are still interested in anyone you feel may be acting suspiciously, take the vehicle number & description and ring 101; if however you witness a crime in progress please dial 999. We are in the process of rolling out the new Nottinghamshire Alert system: you can register online at www.nottinghamshirealert.co.uk or obtain a form from Southwell Police Station Monday to Friday 9-1pm and 2-5pm. PC 33 Tony Hayes Southwell Police Station Tel Mob 07813 550212

The Hay Barn Café @ Old Hall Farm Shop, Kneesall Have you been to the new café at the farm shop yet? It is well worth a visit for delicious cooked breakfasts using farm produce, lunches and afternoon teas including a very tempting selection of home baked cakes and scones. Open every day except Monday. We look forward to welcoming you.

Make a date for your calendar or diary - Deadline for entries in April 2012 Knatter is 25th March.

LETTER FROM THE REV CHRIS LEVY

Dear All,

The whole of March is taken up with the period of the year known in the Church's calendar as Lent. For many people this will immediately remind them of the forty days and forty nights Jesus spent in the wilderness as He prepared himself for the start of His ministry. During that time he was tempted by the Devil to seek a quick fix way of achieving his goals. The three temptations are in effect ways of winning over the crowds as they admire what one is doing. But each also raises the question, 'How long will people be satisfied before they move on?' What Jesus required was that people should get to know Him for who He is; His teaching and what all this might mean for their own lives.

Magic tricks might hold peoples' attention for a short while but soon we work out how it was carried out and it loses its fascination. In the short term to have someone who can change stones into bread might seem a good idea. This would have not only satisfied Jesus' own hunger but would have people queuing up to receive their daily allowance of bread. But what good would this do them in terms of their relationship with God? There is a danger that people would become dependent rather than independent. Jesus teaches us that God is aware of our daily needs. Hence He will provide for them and we for our part can study His word and then be active in proclaiming the Gospel. There is more to a full and eternal life than bread alone.

In the same way everyone would be impressed by a person jumping from a high building and arriving on the ground unscathed. After all the applause and back slapping what next? How often can this feat be repeated before people become bored and move on to the next attraction in town? If our faith in God is only built on what Jesus is able to do just because He is the son of God then our faith will not prosper. Faith needs more than this. It needs to experience all that God has to offer. And mixed in with this there will be, sometimes, truths that often we would rather not hear. We need to hear and see the whole picture before making up our minds.

The Devil wanted Jesus to bow down and worship him instead of God. He made promises in effect that he could not keep. It is God who controls the world not the devil. To have made the wrong choice would have been the end for Jesus even before he had begun. We too are faced with choices. God does not force us to believe in Him. Jesus did not threaten people by saying, 'if you do not follow me such and such will happen.' No instead people were given teaching and an example of a way of living that enabled them to make an informed decision. We too can read in our Bibles all that God has said and done. The teachings of the Church are there to help us in our quest for the truth. By studying the word of God we can make that decision to either be part of His body or not. We need to listen to the voice of God and not that voice which would seek to offer an easier and quicker way to our destination. Faith is a long journey not a short ride.

"I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy word."

Christopher

LENT 2012

It is time to start thinking what are we going to in Lent to improve our own spiritual well-being. Traditionally people try to give up something for Lent and make a donation to a good cause. A few years ago we supported the UNICEF Jar of Grace appeal. There will be material available if people wish to do so this Lent.

In addition we need to ask can we set aside more time to spend with God? Last year instead of having a weekly service at night we met during the day. Those who came appreciated the opportunity to take time out from everything else and try to draw nearer to God. Could this be something you would like to do this Lent?

Last year we had time to talk about the readings. This appeals to some but not all. Sometimes we just need the silence to think upon what we hear. Hence this year we will set aside time on a Friday for a short service which will include a meditation for us to think on. There will be a service on each Friday in March at 12.00 noon in St Edmund's Church.

Sunday 4th March

8.00am Walesby
9.00am Rufford
10.30am Laxton
4.00pm Walesby

Lent 2

Holy Communion
Holy Communion
Holy Communion
Evening Prayer

Sunday 11th March

9.00am Walesby
10.30am Wellqw
6.00pm Egmonton

Lent 3

Holy Communion
Holy Communion
Evening Prayer

Sunday 18th March

8.00am Walesby
10.30am Wellow

Mothering Sunday

Holy Communion
Family Service

Sunday 25th March

8.00am Egmonton
9.00am Walesby
10.30am Kneesall
6.00pm Laxton

Lent 5

Holy Communion
Holy Communion
Holy Communion
Holy Communion

Monday 26th March

9.00am Wellow

Morning Prayer

Sunday 1st April

8.00am Walesby
9.00am Rufford
10.30am Laxton
6.00pm Walesby

Palm Sunday

Holy Communion
Holy Communion
Family Communion
Evening Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)