

# Holy Cross Church

## Pew notes January 2013

<http://www.facebook.com/HolyCrossAshtonKeynes>

### Pause to reflect

on the number of people who came to all the Holy Cross Christmas services and events, (Christingle, Beer & Carols, Carol Service, School Christmas Service, Pre-school Nativity, Christmas Communion, Crib Service, Midnight Mass, Family Service). It shows the great things God is doing and we can celebrate joining in. The number who heard the story of how God came to be with us and live as one of us is fantastic.

### Vacancy Process

#### Open Meeting in Jenner Hall Cricklade Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm

The first stage of the vacancy process involved Canon Douglas Holt from the Diocese talking to Churchwardens & others from all parishes and compiling a report which has been reviewed by Bishop Mike of Bristol and the Strategy Delivery Team. They've agreed that we go to Stage 2 which looks at growth & leadership development. Douglas knows many people have questions about the time ahead and that more people would like to talk to him so he's holding an open meeting so **ANYONE** can come & ask questions.

**Messy Church**  
4-5.30 pm  
January 20<sup>th</sup>  
3<sup>rd</sup> sunday  
School Hall



We'll discover through the story of Joseph, (of the technicolour dreamcoat!) more about trusting God in bad times, family quarrels and the theme of God's rescue. Story, activities, games, a song & a cooked tea together. Great for all the family.

### Our staff ....

Curate: Revd. Shirley Danby

Tel 01793 751463 [shirleydanby@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:shirleydanby@tiscali.co.uk)

Licensed Lay Minister: Peter Tuck

Tel 01285 861466 [tuckpeter@aol.com](mailto:tuckpeter@aol.com)

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### Holy Cross Church: 'Creating opportunities for everyone to experience God's love'

(thanks to Gilly for the photo)

### Friends of Holy Cross

Richard Sutcliffe's organ recital was a wonderful evening & raised funds for FoHC. We are ¼ of the way to a target £7000 pa for the maintenance and enhancement of Holy Cross Church.

Do please encourage people you know who might look to support our village church, to consider joining the Friends.

Thankyou to those who have been "tidying up" the church yard as well as all those who regularly keep the churchyard in good shape.

Thankyou to all of you.

### January Services at a glance

- Jan 6<sup>th</sup>** Epiphany  
8 am BCP Communion  
10 am Family Service
- Jan 13<sup>th</sup>** 10 am Upper Thames Group  
Communion Service *St Sampson's*:  
Shirley will share some readings & hymns that have helped in her journey of faith  
6.30 pm Evening Service
- Jan 20<sup>th</sup>** 10 am Morning Prayer  
4 pm Messy Church *in school*
- Jan 27<sup>th</sup>** 10 am Iona Communion  
6.30 pm Upper Thames Service  
at Holy Cross with Bishop Lee preaching and licensing Shirley as a minister in Upper Thames.
- Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>** 8 am BCP communion  
10 am Family Service

**Churches Together in Ashton Keynes, Cricklade,  
Latton, & The Leigh**

**'Any Questions' to ask of our panel:**

Dr. L de Silva, David Tetlow (chair Cricklade Town Council), PC Lee Kuklinski, Revd. Trudie Wigley (a former investment banker), Ann Lambert (special needs teacher). If you have a question you'd like to ask please contact Peter Tuck 861466.

**PCC meeting:** Thursday Jan 24<sup>th</sup> 8 pm at Jo and Nick's home.

**Leadership Team** meets for breakfast on Sat Jan 19<sup>th</sup>. If you have items you'd like to raise for consideration at either meeting, please contact David Clover.

**Agnostics Anonymous**

It's always good to explore more about faith (and not only the Christian faith) in small groups.

**Agnostics Anonymous** meets Mon Jan 7<sup>th</sup> 7.30 pm in the White Hart.

**My time as curate is ending & I will soon be licensed as a minister in Upper Thames. I'd like to say a big thankyou for your positive response to my licensing and for your support and encouragement over the last 2 years when I've had oversight of Ashton. I will continue to be involved closely with Ashton & I'd love it if many of you are able to come on 27<sup>th</sup> Shirley**

**rYico & Centre Marembo**

Some of you came to our December Upper Thames Service and heard Nicky tell us of the charity she and a Rwandan friend Viv founded. Nicky's sent a summary: in 2012 the rYico and Centre Marembo

\* Paid school fees for 115 children & young people

\* Gave shelter to 22 boys through the Umugongo House Project; 14 will be reintegrated into their families on Dec 21<sup>st</sup>

\* Provided a place of refuge to 8 women escaping abuse or violence in the home or community.

\* Trained 153 young people in vocational & professional skills.

\* Founded a new sewing co-operative for 9 young women trained at the centre.

\* Made provision for sexual health and education services to 900 people in Kigali, throughout Rwanda and beyond.

**From Judy - in her card to Holy Cross & All Saints Judy wrote ... "I just wanted to say again thankyou for everything. In case you don't know the details: as well as the beautiful flower arrangement in my favourite colours (it lasted brilliantly & was so welcoming in the new home) I also had a fortune in garden vouchers which will be extremely useful as our garden is very neglected & will need a lot of work in the spring. You heard about the cookery course which can be taken as individual days or a 2-day residential. I am waiting to find out which courses are available in 2013 and I know I'll enjoy it whatever they are. I also got a very useful M&S voucher so you see it really is thankyou for everything. It was all very kind & extremely generous and I am very grateful!! I think of you often & pray you will have a peaceful and blessed Christmas. Lots of love Judy"**

*With some further donations, we've also given her 6 bottles of red wine. We continue to pray for her.*

**Our Wednesday Prayer Lunches**

Jan 9<sup>th</sup> at Jan Hall's home & 23<sup>rd</sup> at Anne Barnes' home 12.40 - 1.40 pm

Ring Peter Hartland 861221 for more

**Big Questions for Seniors**

Thurs Jan 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> 4- 5.15 pm in Cricklade Jenner Hall. It's friendly, starts with a cuppa & we share how faith impacts our lives. Transport from Ashton. Contact Shirley for more.

Do join us.

Three **Mother's Union branches** in our deanery, one of which is the Ashton Keynes branch, will join to form one large branch on Thursday Jan 10<sup>th</sup> with a service at Hankerton. Please pray for them and for the very valuable work of the MU worldwide in their focus on family life. We wish them every blessing for this new venture.

**Over the last 2 years, our two priorities .....**

\* Making connections with the village.

\* Growing the faith of all.

New Year & New Beginnings.... How might we nurture and grow our faith in the coming months? Please let me know your thoughts.

*Shirley*