

Holy Cross Church

'Pew notes' August 2012

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

2nd Sunday services

All PCCs have agreed that our 2nd Sunday Upper Thames Joint services won't continue alternating between Cricklade and Ashton after August. Joint Services will be held on 5th Sundays in Ashton, Latton or Leigh.

Holy Cross PCC have agreed that on 2nd Sundays we will try joining the St Sampson's 10 am service and we'll usually hold an evening service starting in October. We could consider having a 10 am service in AK on the 2nd Sunday. We could review the full pattern of services at Holy Cross if some changes would be helpful. Please let Shirley or Judy know your views.

Notes from the PCC meeting

- Gift Aid envelopes, pens and holders will be available in the pews soon.
- Alison has checked over the kneelers and removed any in poor order beyond repair.
- A church diary is pinned inside church on the notice board to note activities. Please add any church events known to you.
- We will be considering our 2012 financial support for charities at the next PCC meeting. Suggestions have been CMS, Help for Heroes, Christian Aid,
- We'll look in the autumn to encouraging all of us to reflect on our "Giving" in response to God's generosity - in time, skills and talents as well as financial giving for mission & ministry.

Thank You

When I was ordained priest 2 years ago you all contributed to a lovely chalice & paten. There was also a gift of some money. I've recently obtained a white stole from 'African Praise' based in Cape Town and the cost was exactly the amount you gave me! When I wear it, you will know that it's a gift from you all; please think of it as 'your stole'. *Shirley*



“Creating opportunities for everyone to experience God's love”

August Services at a glance

Sunday August 5th

8 am BCP Communion

10 am Family Service – “Olympic sports”

Sunday August 12th

10 am Upper Thames Group service at Holy Cross

Sunday Aug 19th

10 am Morning Worship (*see notice page2*)

No Messy Church

Sun August 26th

10 am Holy Communion

Sunday Sept 2nd

8 am BCP Communion

10 am Family Service

6.30 pm Compline sung by the chamber choir “Schola”

Events and Outreach Group: Monday Aug 6th at Melton Lodge 8pm to plan *Friends of Holy Cross Church*. Alison.

Our staff

Priest-in-charge: Revd. Judy Ashby

Tel 01793 750300 judith.ashby@tiscali.co.uk

Curate: Revd. Shirley Danby

Tel 01793 751463 shirleydanby@tiscali.co.uk

Licensed Lay Minister: Peter Tuck

Tel 01285 861466 tuckpeter@aol.com

Administrative enquiries to Sue Clover:

sueclover.clover@googlemail.co.uk

"Questions of Faith"

Judy writes: I'm going to run a group exploring "Questions of Faith" for those who'd like to be confirmed and those who may have been confirmed a long time but would like an opportunity to ask questions about Christianity and what we believe.

We'll meet six times to begin with and timing can be arranged to suit those who'd like to come. These groups are enjoyable, relaxed and always much more fun than people expect!

Please let me or Shirley know as soon as possible if you're interested. We need to start at the beginning of September so we complete before the **Deanery Confirmation on October 10th**.

Friends of Holy Cross Church

We're going to set up **Friends of Holy Cross Church**, its aim being to help maintain, preserve & improve our Grade 1 church building & its surroundings. Providing resources to do this will allow us the clergy, PCC & congregation to develop our community work in the parish. Many in the village value the building, its history and traditions as well as the part it plays in weddings, funerals, christenings and services important in the life of the community such as Remembrance Sunday, Harvest or Christmas.

Friends of Holy Cross will help ensure that our Church and its churchyard are there for future generations to enjoy. It'll reduce the burden of supporting the building, allowing us to focus on our ministry and mission in the community.

We have the support of PCC and Parish Council in this so please consider whether there is anyone you know who might be approached to serve on such a group. Our launch will be on Saturday Sept 15th as part of our Holy Cross Day weekend. More next month.

Ashton Keynes & Leigh village newsletter.

Please remember the **new email address**
aknewsletter@gmail.com

Agnostics Anonymous or Alpha ?

It's always good to explore more about our faith in small groups. People's experience is that it's those small home groups that enables them to grow most in faith. Please consider joining one. I've been asked about **Agnostics Anonymous** and **Alpha**. PLEASE get in touch if you're interested with Shirley or Pete Tuck.

Exploring Christianity is a 2 year modular 'course' (makes it sound very formal and it isn't) produced by our Diocese for anyone to learn more. You can dip into any module and each one runs for 10 weeks, 7.30 - 9.30pm. Groups will start in Sept in Chippenham (Wed) or Swindon (Thur) or if there's enough interest we could run a local group. Those who've just followed modules in Cricklade say it's made a big difference to them and their faith. (& I've thoroughly enjoyed tutoring them!) All you need is enthusiasm. There's a study guide for each module & flyers about it in church. Bridget Arregger & Lesley Gardner have taken part; please talk to them or to me if you're interested. First 3 modules are Spirituality and Prayer; New Testament; Questions of Faith (what we believe). *Shirley*



Please continue to support **SWINDON FOOD BANK** - sharing what we have to help those who don't have enough. There's a box in the shop and at the back of church.

Morning Worship August 19th

A service on the theme "The Lord's my shepherd" with a variety of "sheep stories" from a real shepherd illustrating what that means for us today. Some stories are challenging, some encouraging and some will make you smile and we see how the image of sheep and shepherd is still very relevant. *Judy*.

God did not say "You will not be tempest tossed" but "You will never be overcome"
Julian of Norwich.