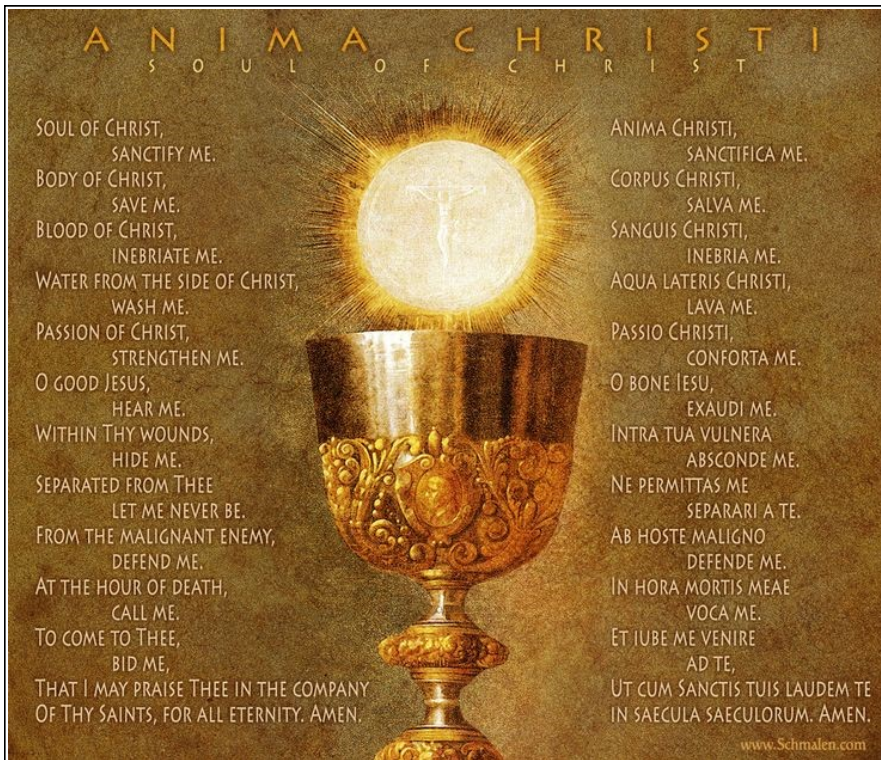


The Parish of  
**STONY STRATFORD**  
 with  
**CALVERTON**



**THE PARISH NEWSLETTER**  
**CORPUS ET SSANGUIS CHRISTI**  
**SUNDAY 18th June AD 2017**



"How inestimable a dignity, beloved brethren, divine bounty has bestowed upon us Christians from the treasury of its infinite goodness! For there neither is nor ever has been a people to whom the gods were so nigh as our Lord and God is nigh unto us.

"Desirous that we be made partakers of His divinity, the only-begotten Son of God has taken to Himself our nature so that having become man, He would be enabled to make men gods. Whatever He assumed of our nature He wrought unto our salvation. For on the altar of the Cross He immolated to the Father His own Body as victim for our reconciliation and shed His blood both for our ransom and for our regeneration. Moreover, in order that a remembrance of so great benefits may always be with us, He has left us His Body as food and His Blood as drink under appearances of bread and wine.

"O banquet most precious! O banquet most admirable! O banquet overflowing with every spiritual delicacy! Can anything be more excellent than this repast, in which not the flesh of goats and heifers, as of old, but Christ the true God is given us for nourishment? What more wondrous than this holy sacrament! In it bread and wine are changed substantially, and under the appearance of a little bread and wine is had Christ Jesus, God and perfect Man. In this sacrament sins are purged away, virtues are increased, the soul is satiated with an abundance of every spiritual gift. No other sacrament is so beneficial. Since it was instituted unto the salvation of all, it is offered by Holy Church for the living and for the dead, that all may share in its treasures.

"My dearly beloved, is it not beyond human power to express the ineffable delicacy of this sacrament in which spiritual sweetness is tasted in its very source, in which is brought to mind the remembrance of that all-excelling charity which Christ showed in His sacred passion? Surely it was to impress more profoundly upon the hearts of the faithful the immensity of this charity that our loving Saviour instituted this sacrament at the last supper when, having celebrated the Pasch with His disciples, He was about to leave the world and return to the Father. It was to serve as an unending remembrance of His passion, as the fulfilment of ancient types — this the greatest of His miracles. To those who sorrow over His departure He has given a unique solace." *St Thomas Aquinas*

**THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

**TODAY:** **CORPUS ET SANGUIS CHRISTI**  
**9:30am** **PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles**  
**11:00am** **FAMILY MASS at All Saints**  
*Pray for: Our Parish*

**Tuesday:** **Feria**  
**10:30am** **Mass at All Saints + 'Elevenses'**  
*Pray that: we may live with Christ*

**Wednesday Feria**  
**7:30pm** **Mass at St Mary & St Giles**  
*Pray for: we may share Christ's life with others*

**Thursday St Alban, Martyr**  
*No Mass today*  
*Pray for: the Diocese, Cathedral & City of St Albans*

**Friday: The Sacred Heart of Jesus**  
*No Mass today*  
**7:30pm** Parish Singers Rehearsal  
*Pray that: we may share the joy of Easter*

**Saturday: Birth of St John Baptist**  
*No Mass today*  
*Pray for: All Visitors to our Parish Churches*

**Next Sunday: 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**9:30am** **PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles**  
**11:00am** **FAMILY MASS at All Saints**  
*Pray for: Our Parish*

**READINGS NEXT SUNDAY 12th In Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Jeremiah 20: 10-13  
 Psalm: 69 (part)  
 2nd Reading: Romans 5: 12-15  
 Gospel: Matthew 10: 26-33

**This Week:**  
*Readers at SMSG* Matthew Lucas  
 David Scrutton  
*Reader at All Saints* Jonathan Dunn  
*Prayer of the Faithful* Fr Tunji  
*Sidesmen* Team 4  
*Altar Servers* Team 3  
*Offertory* Richard & Andrea Hearne  
*Cleaning Team* 3  
*Gardening Team* 4

**Rector:** Fr Ross Northing SSC - Tel: 01908 562148  
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**Associate Minister:** Fr Tunji Adebisi Tel: 01525 790954  
**Hon Asst Priest:** Fr Joseph Loveday Tel: 01327 351511

**Parish Website:** <http://parishstonystratfordcalverton.com>

# PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

## ***Please pray for the Sick....***

Fiddy Abraham, Polly Barclay, Doreen Brooks, Shirley Brown, Steve Cooper, Russell Herbert, Jane Holman, Terry Mason, Sue Maton, Rosalie Osbourne, Pete, Susan, Tony Oakley, Wendy

## ***Please pray for those who have died....***

Babies: Neron, Neriah & Jesse, and Stuart Booden, Terry Crook, & Pamela Tulloch.....and for those whose anniversaries of death occur during this week, amongst them...**19th** Anthony Cave, Philip Stock, David Chittenden; **20th** Agnes Broughton, Percy Edwards, Jean Bates; **21st** Bertram Holman, Alfred Reynolds; **24th** Doris Rodwell, Rene Phillips...

***Lent Appeal for the 'Additional Curates' Society'*** Thank you to all those who collected through the Lent Boxes, or who supported our Young Christians efforts and the Lent Lunches. Our Treasurer has been able to send the Additional Curates' Society the sum of: £11.58, which is a marvellous result.

***Sainsbury's 'Active Kids' Vouchers:*** If you shop regularly at Sainsbury's then please do collect the 'Active Kids' vouchers and hand them to Kieran or Lesley Salter as they will help our Church School obtain sports equipment. If the person in front of you in the queue declines them...please don't be shy in speaking up and saying that you know of a school that would appreciate them and asking if they mind letting you have them. *Thank you.*

***'Cover to Cover' Bibles:*** The third order has now been placed, and will be available once they have arrived. .

***Thank you:*** to all those involved with organising and running the various concerts and events throughout 'Stony Live Week' at St Mary & St Giles. As usual there was a wide variety of music and some wonderful involvement from the children at our Church School.

***Planned Giving:*** If anyone not currently giving through the envelope scheme would like to do so please see David Williams, Our Treasurer for further details. Similarly, if anyone would prefer to give by Standing Order, David would be happy to talk this through with you.

The Rector, Churchwardens and PCC are very grateful to everyone who gives to the continuing mission of the Church within our parish. While the amount asked of the Parish by the Diocese continues to rise, it is good to be able to report that in 2016 we were able send £1000 more to the Diocese than we had in 2015. There are leaflets (Giving in Grace) recommended by the Archdeacon in both of our churches to enable us all to prayerfully consider our giving to the mission of the Church *Thank you.*

***Sea Sunday:*** On Sunday 9th July the entire Church is committed to praying and promoting the work of its mission amongst sailors.

Most denominations support some form of mission amongst sailors or a particular charity. In the Church of England our Charity is the 'Missions to Seafarers', while the Roman Catholic Church's Mission is called 'The Apostleship of the Sea.' What matters is that we care about those who lead an often very hard working life, away from home and loved ones; not forgetting the many seafarers that, when they return to their home port, have no loved ones to share their lives with.

*Please read more about the work of the Mission to Seafarers issued in last Sunday's Newsletter (there are a few spare copies on the oak table at the rear of the nave in St Mary & St Giles and on the table by the south door at All Saints); and, if you are able to, make a donation to its mission by placing it in the envelope provided - filling in the Gift Aid section if you pay tax. Please return the envelopes to either of our churches on 9th July. Thank you.*

***Churchyard Plans:*** Both of our Parish Churches are required to produce plans of the churchyards with known burial plots marked upon them. These plans, when compiled are not going to be complete, as many of the graves are either unmarked or the memorial inscriptions are so worn as to be illegible.

The Rector and Churchwardens would be delighted to hear of those who would like to take on this task - ideally a small team for each churchyard.

At St Mary & St Giles the task is somewhat simpler in that the churchyard is closed for burials, is much smaller, and the memorials are mostly illegible.

It will involve producing a to scale plan of the churchyard and a numbered marker upon it for every memorial, whatever its condition. An index will need to be provided with the numbers of each memorial and indicating to whom it pertains, or whether it is unknown due to illegibility.

Accompanying that plan will need to be a numbered photograph of each memorial pertaining to the numbered marker on the plan. This will enable the Parochial Church Council to begin the process of applying for the faculty to remove the most worn and broken memorials.

One of our long term aims as part of our regeneration project has been to make the churchyard at St Mary & St Giles more welcoming by clearing shrubs, felling diseased or problem trees, as well as the crown reduction of the remaining trees. Ease of maintenance of the churchyard can then be improved by sewing grass on the south side of the church. It then may be possible to introduce a very small number of strategically placed benches securely fixed in place.

At All Saints, while the task is bigger - given the size of the churchyard - much clearance work has already been undertaken, and most of the existing memorials are legible.

However, because the Churchyard is still open for burials, the plan will need to divide the whole of the churchyard into row numbers and plot numbers. This is because there is a requirement by the Diocesan Authorities that when an application to introduce a memorial is made, it must be for a specific plot number indicated on the application.

Therefore, 'Row A Plot Number 1' will need to be in north east corner of the churchyard. The Rows will run from east to west, and the number of the Plots in each row will run from north to south.

Due to the position recent burials have taken place in the churchyard, once the plan is compiled it will look as if we have not started at the beginning, namely: A1. However, that cannot be helped and is the way the plan is to be compiled. It will not be necessary to photograph the memorials, as there are no plans to remove any of them. However, there will need to be an index accompanying the plan and this will need to indicate whether a memorial has been erected on that plot, and its type, e.g. headstone, ledger, tablet etc.

Both of these plans will be invaluable documents for our Parish Churches as they will form part of our historical archives, and, in the case of St Mary & St Giles assist in future enhancement of the churchyard; and, in the case of All Saints, help us to maintain an accurate record of existing and further burials as they occur.

## ***All Saints Property Register***

At St Mary & St Giles the Property Register was compiled by Kieran Salter some years ago. Unfortunately, this has not been completed at All Saints, and the Rector and Churchwardens would be delighted if a small group wished to take up this important project.

Again it makes for an interesting project compiling a register of all the contents of the church: its furniture and fittings, plus its ornaments, liturgical vessels and vestments. The entries are all accompanied by digital photographs, except in the case of the silverware, brassware and other valuable objects, for which there needs to be an additional set of actual printed photographs kept separately for insurance purposes.

If you have any further questions or would like to be part of one of these three project groups, then please do have a word with Fr Ross or the Churchwardens:

Louise Brown and Kieran Salter - at St Mary & St Giles  
Jill Barby and Jonathan Dunn - at All Saints

Thank You.