

THE VACANT LOOK

ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH VACANCY NEWS LETTER - JULY 2011

This newsletter is intended to keep the congregation informed of all aspects of the vacancy. It will be issued whenever we have news but we will always tell you straight away of any important developments.

What's happened since Tony announced his Resignation?

Since Tony announced his resignation, a series of meetings have taken place to ensure the role of vicar is covered by either a visiting vicar, the Rural Dean, Archdeacon or Lay leaders (i.e. The congregation. These areas include following through on the mediation process, planning for the services during the vacancy and looking forward to Christmas. We also need to have plans in place for baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Prayer needs

Through out the vacancy it is planned to use homegroups to provide for most pastoral needs. For more personal requirements, please speak to Kate Harris, Paul Cordell or John Griffiths. You may also speak to Carole Selby, the Rural Dean as well. It doesn't matter if you are not a member of a home group. All would be willing to pray for your particular need or help as required. A list of leaders is on the back of this newsletter.

Timetable

23rd June PCC to discuss vacancy with the Archdeacon Trevor Jones

24th July Tony's institution as the vicar of St John and St Matthew's Church.

6th September - Charles Hudson instituted as Vicar of Broxbourne.

Early September - PCC

Late September - Day of reflection

Early October - Vacancy meeting

November - John Kiddle leading a day for Mission, Action and Planning



Baptisms at noon

It is planned to hold baptism on a Sunday at noon throughout the vacancy. This is to both tailor the service to the families need and to enable us to welcome them without it over burdening the churchwardens.

Deanery Review

The church is required to respond to a set of questions about St Cuthbert's church and the parish of Rye Park. We would like your help in answering these questions.

The information from these questions will also feed into the Parish Profile that we will be producing in the autumn and which is sent out to prospective vicars. Not all of the questions relate to both areas and all the returns will be compiled into a collective view of the church rather than that of individuals. The questionnaire will be available before we break for the summer and should be returned during September.

How can I help?

Obviously a vacancy is a busy time for churchwardens and this lasts all week! It would be great if they can concentrate on welcoming the visiting vicar or just spend some time with God on a Sunday, knowing that everyone has turned up for their rota. Please check if you are meant to be on each Sunday and give the churchwardens one less job!



Visiting clergy

During the vacancy we will be welcoming many visiting vicars including some [hopefully] old friends. I'm sure you will give them a warm welcome.

Where vicars within the group ministry are helping they may have to rush back to their own churches to take the services there. Please be understanding as they rush past you and out of the door!

Homegroups

Murchison Rd - Stephen Brent and Philip Dant.

Friday Afternoon - Anne Dunning and Nicola Dant.

B&B - Tish Bloomfield and Fiona Brewster

Rumbold Road - Dorothy Ayre

Who's who during the vacancy?

Kate Harris and Paul Cordell our Churchwardens are the first step for all enquiries

John Griffiths, Lay Reader - Able to lead services, preach and perform funerals.

Stephen Brent, Deputy Churchwarden. Please direct all maintenance issues to him.

Linda Cowan - Church Administrator - Until further notice all admin enquiries should be forwarded to Kate or Paul

Filling the gaps

Weddings - Any enquiries for Banns should be passed to the churchwardens who will ensure all the correct forms are filled in.

Funerals - Usually Funeral Directors will contact the church to arrange funerals. If you do get asked then please direct them to Kate, Paul or John who can assist them

Baptisms - Anybody asking for information on baptism should be directed to Dorothy Ayre who can arrange visits and the service.



Next issue - September 2011

The next issue will follow the vacancy meeting and include any information and comments from that. If you have any questions please email them to Kate and Paul at churchwarden@ryepark.com



Editor

The Vacant Look is edited by Stephen Brent. Please send any comments to stephen@ryepark.com