

Rota of Services in the 6 Parishes –February 2017

	Badger	Beckbury	Ryton	Kemberton	Stockton	Sutton Maddock
Jan 29 th			9.30am Communion New (KH)		11.00am PLOUGH SERVICE & the Choir	
Feb 5 th	9.30am Communion Trad (KH)	9.30am Matins (TD)				11.00am Communion Trad (KH)
12 th			9.30am Morning Worship (KH)	11.00am Communion New (KH)		
19 th	9.30am Matins (TD)	9.30am Communion New (KH)				11.00am Morning Worship (KH)
26 th			9.30am Communion Trad (KH)	11.00am Morning Worship (KH)		

Abbreviations: KH=Rev Keith Hodson; TD=Tina Dalton;

FLOWERS FOR THE LORD'S TABLE

February Mrs Norma Walker

ST.MARY'S SUTTON MADDOCK CHURCH LOTTERY

"Congratulations

The three lucky winners of cash prizes in **December** were:

1st Prize of £25 – Number 1 and 2nd Prize of £15 – Number 18

EXTRA BONUS PRIZE of £50 Number 88

& the two lucky winners in **January** were :

1st Prize of £25 – Number 93 and 2nd Prize of £15 – Number 78

The next draw is on **Sunday 26^h February** in church

Contacts: Angela Chatham 01952581857 or Chris Walker 01952730666

Note: If you have anything to put in the next Newsletter, please let Angela Chatham have it in writing by the 14th of this month-Oak Tree Cottage, Mill Lane, Kemberton, Shifnal, TF11 9LU – 01952581857, email angiechatham@hotmail.com - The Rev'd Keith Hodson: 01952750774 - email: keithhodson@talk21.com

Thank you

SUTTON MADDOCK GOOD NEWSLETTER

SIX PARISHES

Badger, Beckbury, Kemberton, Ryton, Stockton, Sutton Maddock

DIARY DATES for FEBRUARY 2017

Jan

Sun 29th 11.00am Plough Sunday at Stockton Church

Feb

Thur 2nd 7.30pm Kemberton WI Kemberton Village Hall

Tues 14th 2.00pm Six Parishes Friendship Club, Beckbury Village Hall

Thur 16th 2.30pm Norton Over 60's Club Norton Village Hall

Sun 26th 6.00pm Taize style Candlemas Service, St. Andrew's Church Shifnal

Mar

Wed 1st 6.30pm Ash Wednesday Service Beckbury Church

Fri 31st 7.30pm A Musical Treat with Refreshments Sutton Maddock Church

St. Mary's, Sutton Maddock Church are delighted to invite you to a Musical Treat with the Abraham Darby Academy star musicians

on Friday 31st March 2017 at 7.30pm

we do hope you can join us

Tickets £10 adults : £2 Under 16's

to include wine/soft drinks and refreshments

Sale of tickets to be shared with

St Mary's Church and the Abraham Darby Academy musicians

*****DON'T FORGET TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS*****

Contacts - Shiona 01952730313 or Norma 01952730666

SUTTON MADDOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Contact – Clerk: Samantha Young

Tel: 01952730216

Email: clerk3smpc@outlook.com

Link to website: [http://www. www.suttonmaddockpc.co.uk](http://www.www.suttonmaddockpc.co.uk)

SHROPDOC - 03332226655

CHURCH NEWS

....**Christmas Wreathes** and flowers on church yard graves should be removed by Candlemas (February 2nd). Our church yard volunteer teams will assist with this where families are unable to visit till the spring.

....St Andrew's Church Shifnal mark '**Candlemas**' on **29th January** with a Taize style service at **6pm** in candlelight.

....Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday** on **March 1st**. There will be a communion service at **6.30pm at Beckbury Church**

....Many of you will remember **Revd Aleck Melly** who was the vicar of Kemberton and Sutton Maddock, and then later also Stockton until 1988 when he retired but still continued to assist Revd David Chantrey in the newly formed Six Parishes. Revd Melly was a conscientious visitor in the three villages, and so is well remembered by his parishioners. He retired to Bridgnorth but for the past few years stayed at a nursing home in Ditton Priors.

BAPTISMS

Congratulations to Phoebe Rose Paterson, daughter of Ashley and Katie, who was baptised at Badger Church on 11th December. Please pray for her that with help and encouragement she may grow in the knowledge and love of Jesus.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathies to the family of the late Mal Williams age 82 of Sutton Maddock, whose service was held on 23rd December at Telford Crematorium.

....Also to the family of the late Robin Watson age 85 formerly of Norton, whose service was held on 6th January at Telford Crematorium

....Also to the family of the late Revd Aleck Melly age 92 formerly vicar of Kemberton, Sutton Maddock and Stockton whose service was held on January 30th at Kemberton Church

NORTON OVER 60's CLUB

We restart on **Thursday 16th February 2.30pm Norton Village Hall**

Rene

Contact Rene Davies 01952279171

KEMBERTON WI

on Thursday 2nd February at 7.30pm Kemberton Village Hall
the speaker will be Lajina Leal
with an Indian cookery demonstration and tasting

contact - Jackie Chambers on 07941126839

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX APPEAL 2016

On 28 November, a container lorry filled with shoe boxes full of toys, sweets and cuddly toys, set off from Telford, on its' long journey to reach boys and girls in Kyrgyzstan, in Central Asia. A further vanload (1000+) went to join those collected by the Dudley warehouse, and would likely be sent out to Romania.

Volunteers at the Telford warehouse processed a brilliant **5,712** shoeboxes and at the Shrewsbury warehouse, a fabulous **3,685**. This year OCC have purchased the container which will stay in Kyrgyzstan – and it will probably be used to provide shelter for three or four families.

I don't know who wrote the following piece but it reminds me why so many of us are involved with shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child ...

Imagine a child, for who there is no hope, for who life has very little joy. Imagine the child who has had her home torn away and whose childhood is forgotten in the desperate need for the family to find shelter, food, and to stay alive. Imagine the child who lives in poverty, orphaned or alone, or the child in an institution, fed and clothed but without personal possessions and no family to call their own. It is these children that Operation Christmas Child exists for, it is these children that you stand in the cold, or drive vans, count money and cheques or scour the shop sales for. It is for these children that God sent Jesus. If our hearts break for these children, God's heart breaks all the more. What you do is bring hope, you allow a child to be a child for a few moments, to feel loved, treasured, remembered.

On behalf of the Telford Team, thank you to everyone who joined in this years' appeal and I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Shiona Ferriday

SIX PARISHES FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 14th at 2.00pm in Beckbury Village Hall**
(please check time and venue)

Contact: David and Beryl Tooth 01952750324

.....FROM the RECTORY

Dear Friends

As I write this in the third week in January, it is a damp grey "murky" week without any glimpses of the sun or patches of blue sky (*not even enough to make a pair of sailor's breeches* as my parents in Warwickshire used to say). And the month "February fill dyke" - another Warwickshire saying? - is still to come. So there may be more grey clouds and drizzle ahead.

But with the cloud comes milder weather, and now that we are past the winter solstice in December, the days are getting a little longer as the weeks go by. Snowdrops are already showing in some of our church yards. They used to be called *Candlemas bells* as they flower around the feast of Candlemas on 2nd February, and are one of the first signs of spring : indeed in the old Celtic calendar 1st February was the first day of spring.

With this present mild weather some of our local song birds are beginning to sing.

Thomas Hardy, a rather pessimistic poet and novelist who died in 1928, wrote *The Darkling Thrush* describing a drab, dismal winter scene (*and winter's dregs made desolate the weakening eye of day*) where he is suddenly surprised

*At once a voice arose among the bleak twigs overhead
In a full-hearted evensong of joy illimited;
An aged thrush, frail, gaunt, and small, in blast-beruffled plume,
Had chosen thus to fling his soul upon the growing gloom.*

This stark contrast of the bird's joyful song and the bleak landscape makes Hardy wonder what is beyond and unseen that makes the thrush burst into song

*So little cause for carolings of such ecstatic sound
Was written on terrestrial things afar or nigh around,
That I could think there trembled through his happy good-night air
Some blessed Hope, whereof he knew ... and I was unaware.*

St Paul had difficult dark times in his life, but wrote
we do not lose heart;

*we look not to the things that are seen, but to the things that are unseen.
For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.*

Paul's experience of God gave him reason for faith that, even in the most difficult of situations, the ultimate reality was good and creative for those who follow Christ. That reality was hard to see on Good Friday, but Easter was only three days away.

There are plenty of things which depress us, including this winter drabness. But let's learn to look to the things of God which are unseen and eternal, and also to sing cheerfully like Thomas Hardy's thrush
With Celtic spring wishes

Keith Hodson

PRAYER OF THE MONTH (from a hymn by William Cowper died 1800)

Sometimes a light surprises the Christian while he sings
It is the Lord who rises with healing in his wings;
When comforts are declining, he grants the soul again
A season of clear shining to cheer it after rain. **Amen**

Ministry Team; Rector – Six Parishes, The Rev'd Keith Hodson: 01952750774

Email: keithhodson@talk21.com

Church wardens: Allan Chatham 01952581857, John Webb 01952750870 in Sutton Maddock.

THANK YOU from St. Mary's

Thank you to everyone who kindly loaned nativity scenes for our fantastic display at Christmas time. Having all 41 of them together in church made our carol service a very special occasion. Also thanks to Sandra, Chris and Norma for your special help, especially with flowers and refreshments.
Shiona Ferriday
... and to Shiona for co-ordinating the whole event. Well done everybody!

I'm only joking!

Q: How do trees access the internet?

A: They log in

Mutton Saddock

SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO and
a lovely way to support young musicians and the local church

on Friday 31st March 2017 at 7.30pm

we do hope you can join us

Tickets £10 adults : £2 Under 16's

to include wine/soft drinks and refreshments

Tickets from Shiona 01952730313 or Norma 01952730666

Please send us your news

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