

SPIRIT OF SUTTERBY

Rogationtide, 1500Hrs Wednesday 4th May 2016, Sutterby Church.

This being the time of Rogation, Denise had a word with Father Peter Coates and managed to get “a bargain bundle”, consisting of Blessing the new hedge around the Churchyard, beating the bounds and a Rogation Day Liturgy.

It was really nice of Father Peter to perform the ceremony around the little church at Sutterby.



Father Peter arriving at the Church



Father Peter leads the singing in the Church



After the people had gathered in the Church, sung and said prayers, we all began the First Procession to the West side of the Churchyard

At the West, a Litany for Rogation Days was read, the hedge was blessed after which the west boundary was beaten by Julia using Father Peter's walking stick





We then processed to the North and took shelter from the wind against the Church wall. Again a Litany was read and the bounds beaten. Here Father Peter told us the history of his stick and introduced us

to the phrase “about as much chance as striking a match on wet tripe” .





From the North we set off for the East boundary, here again a Litany was read with responses from the congregation, and the bounds beaten again by Julia.





From the East we processed to the South, and again a Litany read, responses from the congregation and the bounds beaten. Father Peter created a wonderful figure facing the bounds marked by the new hedge, with his white vestments and hair flowing in the strong breeze that is constant at Sutterby.





We ended our procession back at the Church Door where, with a hymn, a short passage of Scripture followed by a Blessing, we reached Dismissal.

We re-entered the Church where Denise and Geoff supplied us with a welcome warm drink.

Thank you again Father Peter for a very memorable day bringing us closer to the people of Sutterby gone by.