



**St Mary Magdalen  
Church of England,  
Knighton**



**Newsletter for  
Sunday 17th March 2024  
5th Sunday of Lent**

**Collects for this week**

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.

Gracious Father,  
you gave up your Son  
out of love for the world:  
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,  
that we may know eternal peace  
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## The week ahead...

<b>Sunday 17th March</b>	9.00am Eucharist <b>10.30am Morning Worship</b> 10.30am Eucharist at St Guthlacs
Monday 18th March	7.30pm Bell Ringing practice
Tuesday 19th March	9.30am Holy Communion (St Mary's)
Wednesday 20th March	10.30am Lent Group (Warm Room) 8.00pm Compline (Zoom)
Thursday 21st March	9.30am Holy Communion (St Guthlacs)
Friday 22nd March	11.00am Service of Healing with Holy Communion 7.00pm Choir Practice
Saturday 23rd March	
<b>Sunday 24th March</b>	9.00am Eucharist (trad) <b>10.30am Sung Eucharist</b> 10.30am Morning Prayer at St Guthlacs 3.30pm Inside Out

**Sunday Club**, for children at primary and secondary school, meets during the 10.30am service on both the second and third Sundays of each month. Everyone is welcome even if it's your first time here! Just ask one of the Welcome Team to point out our leaders, and then say hello :) On the first Sunday we all stay together for All Age Worship, and on the fourth Sunday why not join us at 10.30 for the relaxed, cafe- style Church Club at St Guthlac's, Holbrook Road?

### Listening to God's Word:

The set readings for Sunday 17th March are **Jeremiah 31.31-34** and **John 12.20-33**. In our 10.30am service, our theme is 'Where can I find hope for my future?' and the readings are **Lamentations 3.19-26** and **Colossians 1.3-6, 21-23**.

## **Church Family News**

### **New Pastures for Michael Relph**

Since Christmas our Music Co-ordinator and Choir Director, Michael Relph, has been unwell, and although now somewhat recovered, the time he has had to reflect on the future has led him to decide to move on to 'new pastures'. Michael writes of his gratitude for the commitment and dedication of both choir and band in the last few years, and the support and encouragement he has received in leading the provision of music for our worship at St Mary's.

Whilst understanding Michael's decision, many of you will share my sadness at this news, and recognise that our music will be distinctly different without his contribution. Personally I have appreciated his professionalism and hard work on our behalf, and his concern for all the individuals who have been part of both the choir and the band. He has always sought the best musically so that our worship would be enhanced for everyone, and that has been a significant contribution to our church life - he deserves our sincere thanks.

I hope that we will have an opportunity to say a public thanks and farewell to Michael on a Sunday, but in the meantime if you would like to make a contribution to his farewell gift, then do please place it in a sealed and labelled envelope and pass it to one of the Wardens or to myself.

Please also do be assured of my commitment, and that of the PCC, to maintaining music at the centre of our worship together as a church - there will be time for discussion about what exactly this looks like in the future during the weeks to come. I continue to be immensely grateful to our choir members, organist Andrew Painter and our band musicians for their continuing hard work and dedication to supporting our Sunday services.

*Revd Adrian*

## COMING UP ..... What's happening at St Mary's on Sundays in March and April 2024

Sunday services at St Mary's vary, week by week – we hope that this provides different types of worship that appeal in different ways and, perhaps, are appreciated by different groups of people. Everyone is welcome every week!

- The third Sunday of the month is **17<sup>th</sup> March**, and our service of Morning Worship takes the theme of *"Hope for the future – where can I find hope for myself?"*
- We celebrate Palm Sunday on **24<sup>th</sup> March** with a Sung Eucharist and *"Who is Jesus?"* special, that takes a focus on Jesus, the son of David.
- The fifth Sunday of the month is **Easter Day, 31<sup>st</sup> March**. We will mark the greatest festival of the Christian year with a Sung Eucharist that looks at *"Who is Jesus? – the Resurrection and the Life."*
- On the first **Sunday of April, 7<sup>th</sup>**, we will share All Age Worship on an Easter resurrection theme.
- **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April** we will worship together through a service of Sung Eucharist, as usual on the second week of the month, looking at one of the resurrection appearances of Jesus.
- On the third **Sunday of April, 21<sup>st</sup>**, our Morning Worship will take the theme of *'Hope for the future ... of our nation'* as we look at the way our faith might have an impact on the forthcoming General Election.
- The month ends with Sung Eucharist on **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April**, again looking at the resurrection appearances of Jesus. This service will be followed by our Annual Church Meeting (APCM) – more about that

closer to the time.

- As usual, **each Sunday** our quieter, **Weekly Eucharist**, takes place at 9am, with 'traditional language' on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Our weekly midweek Communion is on Tuesdays at 9.30am, and on the last Friday of each month, at 11am, we hold a Service of Prayer for Healing, with Holy Communion.

## Passiontide

Music Composed by Simon Mold

**A Meditation on the Sacred Passion of the Holy Redeemer**

**Holy Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**7.30 pm**

**St Denys Church, Evington, Leicester LE5 6FA**

**Sung by members of choirs from across the city and county**

*Mary: Erica Lees-Smith*

*Narrator: Revd Anthony Lees-Smith*

*Pilate: Qyan Arnachellum*

*Jesus: Stephen Cooper*

*Organ: Philip Millward*

Mark with us Holy Week, the most important period in the Christian calendar

All welcome, refreshments provided



### **EASTER LILIES**

Donations are welcomed in the named basket at the back of Church.

Many thanks in anticipation.  
St Mary's Flower Guild

## **Lent and Holy Week at St Mary's**

As Easter is early this year, so we start Lent much earlier than we are used to. As we move through the weeks leading up to the great celebration of the Resurrection there are a number of opportunities in the benefice to reflect on our faith and prepare:

**Lent Study Group** – every Wednesday morning, from 10.30am to 12 noon, in the 'Warm & Welcome Room' (the Cottage Room) at the Parish Centre, on the corner of Brinsmead Road and Church Lane. Rev'd Cecilia will be leading us in looking at '*A Letter for Lent*' – group discussions with a focus on St Paul's Letter to the Colossians. Meetings begin on

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February up to and including 27<sup>th</sup> March.** Everyone welcome, even if you can't make every week. There'll also be tea, coffee and refreshments each week.

**Palm Sunday** this year is **24<sup>th</sup> March** – at St Mary's there will be a Sung Eucharist and at St Guthlac's Morning Prayer.

**Wednesday of Holy Week, 27<sup>th</sup> March**, will be marked with a service of Choral Evensong at St Guthlac's. at 7.30pm.

On **Maundy Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> March**, we will remember the Last Supper of Jesus, and the events that followed that evening before his execution, in a special service at St Guthlac's. We will share Communion within a service of prayers, readings and music. Everyone welcome from both churches (or neither!).

**Good Friday is 29<sup>th</sup> March**, and begins with a service for All Ages at St Guthlac's, at 10.30am. In the afternoon, beginning at 2pm, there will be a service of Meditations at the Cross, at St Mary's, including hymns, readings, quietness and reflections on the crucifixion, leading up to the hour of Jesus's death at 3pm.

**Easter Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> March** is celebrated at both churches with a Sung Eucharist at 10.30am.

Please note the dates now and join us when you can. *Adrian*



## Run The Wall 2024

Thank you so much to everyone who has supported my participation in "Run The Wall" this year, as an act of solidarity with the Palestinian people, as a call for Palestinian rights, and to demand an end to the war on Gaza. My run raised nearly £400 for the work of the Christian human rights organisation the Amos Trust. Thousands of people took part across the world, enabling Amos Trust to exceed the £60,000 target they had set, for rebuilding Palestinian homes in the West Bank and for emergency relief in Gaza. Truly inspiring! Thank you. *Adrian*

**Easter Eggs** - Please buy and donate an Easter egg for the Church to give to the children whose parents attend the Goldhill Food Bank. This will be a lovely surprise for them. The box is in the Lady Chapel. Thank you. *Beryl Bonfield*

**FOR THE NEWSLETTER** Please send material to be included in the next newsletter by noon next Thursday to [office@knightonparish.co.uk](mailto:office@knightonparish.co.uk)

### **Virtual Compline 8.00pm Wednesday evenings**

There is an online Compline every Wednesday 8.00 pm, **all are welcome**. You can also join using a phone. You can join the meeting from 7.50 pm.

**On the computer** click: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81118183080>

**On the phone** dial: 0203 481 5240 and follow the instructions.

You will be asked for a meeting ID. Put **811 1818 3080** followed by #

## **Concerned about Minster Communities? Here's how you can learn more and help our PCC make wise decisions...**

As we move towards a new framework for the mission and ministry of the Church of England in our city, centred on the formation of new "Minster Communities", St Mary's now needs people with questions and concerns!

The journey towards forming Minster Communities in the City of Leicester and its suburbs will take some time, and at each step we should be asking critical questions and voicing the concerns of ordinary church members. **This is where you can help.**

St Mary's is asked to send two lay representatives to each of the various meetings – and so we are drawing together a 'pool' of people who might be able to attend one or more meetings on our behalf – to listen, question and report back to the PCC. There is no commitment to attend more meetings than you are able, and no responsibility to carry, other than giving some feedback to the PCC - *all decisions remain in the hands of the PCC itself.*

Whilst we have a few volunteers already, we need more from the 'concerned congregation' so that we can share the load of meetings and also bring more wisdom and experience to bear on the big questions. The first *Information Event* is on the evening of 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

If you can help with this important role then please do talk to any PCC member, to Adrian or to Cecilia. Please do encourage the PCC as well, and support all of us in your prayers. Thank you!

*Revd Adrian*



## Decorating the church for Easter

We will be decorating the church for Easter on Saturday morning, 8th April from 9.30am. Everyone is welcome and no experience necessary. As well as our usual types of arrangements with lilies and white/yellow and Spring flowers, it would be lovely to have some new ideas for the window sills etc. Perhaps you have a vase to use, instead of oasis, or other ideas that reflect the idea of Easter and Spring.

Please sign up at the back of the church or let Deborah (0116 2707525) know if you can help or would like more information.

Gifts of greenery and flowers will be welcome. Please bring these to the church on the Saturday morning.

Thank you. *Deborah. Martin*



**MAY FESTIVAL**  
Mass with procession in honour of Our Lady.

**Celebrant and Preacher:**  
The Most Revd Rowan Williams,  
former Archbishop of Canterbury

<b>13th MAY 7pm</b>	<b>St Andrew's Church, Jarrom Street, Leicester, LE2 7DH.</b> followed by refreshments
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Free parking at St Andrew's  
[standrewsjarromstreet.org](http://standrewsjarromstreet.org)



## LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

### FAREWELL TO THE LAND OF MY CHILDHOOD

Emigration from Britain in the Victorian period



Why did people migrate from Britain in the Victorian period? Where did they go? How did they fare in their new lands and how did some of them maintain their links with their 'Mother Country'? These questions form the basis of a talk by Cynthia Brown, a popular local historian with a special interest in oral history.

*This sculpture of an emigrant family, titled Legacy, was created by Mark DeGraffenried and presented to the people of Liverpool in 2001 by the Mormon Church.*

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 7.30pm**

**Venue:** Oadby Granville Tennis Club,  
Leicester Road, Oadby LE2 4AB

Refreshments from 7pm and CD/book stall  
Free to members, non-members a small donation (£3) is appreciated  
Any queries to [leicester@lrfhs.org.uk](mailto:leicester@lrfhs.org.uk)

*Registered Charity No. 518870*

## **A different way of giving towards the work of our church.....**

Please scan the QR code to support the life and work of St Mary's.



If you are a UK tax payer, you may like to gift aid your donation.

## Contact details:

**Vicar: Revd Adrian Jones**

Email: [adrian.jones@zoho.com](mailto:adrian.jones@zoho.com)

0116 270 4268 or 07919 262399

(rest day normally Friday)

**Curate: Revd Cecilia Adjadje**

[revdcecilia@gmail.com](mailto:revdcecilia@gmail.com)

07587 772828

(rest day normally Friday)

**Revd Aphro McCullough**

[aphro.mccullough@btinternet.com](mailto:aphro.mccullough@btinternet.com)

0116 283 7887

**Revd Janet Gasper**

[jgasper925@gmail.com](mailto:jgasper925@gmail.com)

0116 288 9646

**Lay Reader: Fiona Wingate**

[fiona.wingate@talktalk.net](mailto:fiona.wingate@talktalk.net)

**Churchwarden: Sian Howard**

[sian.howard@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:sian.howard@tiscali.co.uk)

07932 557646

**Churchwarden: Beryl Bonfield**

[berylbonfield1945@gmail.com](mailto:berylbonfield1945@gmail.com)

0116 2702202

**Parish Administrator: James Gutteridge**

[office@knightonparish.co.uk](mailto:office@knightonparish.co.uk)

0116 270 2705

**Music Co-ordinator and Choir Director: Michael Relph**

[michael.relph@icloud.com](mailto:michael.relph@icloud.com)

07854 306 917

## PLANNED GIVING SCHEME

Regular giving is an integral part of our church life supporting our day to day costs, ministry and mission. A good way to achieve this is through a monthly bank standing order as part of our Planned Giving Scheme. Scheme details can be obtained from Simon Britton, Planned Giving Scheme Secretary: email: [stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com) or phone 07710 975272. If you are a taxpayer and gift aid your giving, our church can claim an additional 25%. Cheques to **Knighton PCC** please.

## Prayers for this week

***“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.”***

(Colossians 4.2)

**Praying for the World:** Please pray for peace and justice in the continuing conflict between Russia and Ukraine. Pray for the imagination and commitment of leaders on both sides, that they would grasp the possibility of a peaceful future and that an end to the war might come soon. Pray for the Leicester Ukrainian Club, 'Kalyna', and for all those here who are anxious for those back home.

**Praying for the Church:** Pray for the national House of Bishops meeting this week, and for the wisdom of both our Deanery Synod and Diocesan Synod that meet this week. With others across our diocese please also pray for the people and leaders of all the churches in the Framland Deanery, and for the 'Roots' Intercultural Worshipping Community in Leicester.

**Praying for the Parish:** Please pray for the peace and well-being of all those who live on of **Kingsmead Road, Northfold Road, Eastcourt Road, Westgate Road, Lynholme Road, Deancourt Road.**

**Praying for those in need:** Please pray for all those who are in need at the moment, those who are unwell in body, mind or spirit, and those who are anxious and worried. In particular this week, please pray for **Rosemary Herbert, Beryl Gutteridge, Doreen M, Irvine Byer, David Holland, Neill, and John Orme.**

Pray also for those on our 'Continuing Prayer' list, that they may know the power of God's healing love at work in their lives today - and give thanks for those who are recovering and who know God's peace.

**Please remember** in your prayers the families and friends of all those who have died recently.

Remember too, all those whose anniversaries fall at this time.