



St Mary Magdalen Church of England, Knighton

Vicar - Revd Adrian Jones
Curate - Revd Neil Bullen

11th February 2018
Sunday before Lent

Welcome to our Sunday Services

A warm welcome to everyone joining us at St Mary Magdalen this week, especially if you are here for the first time or visiting. We also extend a warm welcome to the **Archdeacon of Leicester, the Ven. Tim Stratford**, who will preside and preach at our 10am service today.

- Our worship follows the printed order of service and the readings and hymns are on an additional sheet. Large print versions are available from the sidespersons (the welcomers at the door).
- If you are using a hearing aid, please switch it to the T position so as to make best use of the hearing loop system.
- It is traditional to stand for the hymns and some of the prayers and readings, but if this is difficult for you then please do remain seated and comfortable.
- In the entrance area are toilets, and there is a crèche area at the back of the church.
- During the service there are activities in the entrance area for children of all ages, at Sunday Club.
- As part of each service we share Communion together and everyone is invited to come forwards to receive bread and wine as we remember the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. If you would prefer to come for a blessing then simply carry the service booklet with you.
- At 10.00am, non-alcoholic communion wine is available on request in the Lady Chapel (to the left) and gluten free wafers on request at the main Communion rail.
- Please talk to the sidespersons if you have any other questions and do please stay after the 10.00 am service for tea or coffee and introduce yourself to some of us.

Diary for the Week

Sunday 11th February Sunday next before Lent	8.00am 10.00am	Eucharist Sung Eucharist with the Archdeacon of Leicester, Ven Tim Stratford
Monday 12th February	7.30pm	Bell Ringing Practice
Tuesday 13th February	9.30am	Eucharist
Wednesday 14th February Parish Office Closed	1.00pm 7.30pm	Tiny Tots (Narthex) Ash Wednesday Service (St Guthlacs)
Thursday 15th February	10.00am	Thursday Morning Club (Centre)
Friday 16th February		
Saturday 17th February		
Sunday 18th February 1st Sunday of Lent	8.00am 10.00am	Eucharist Sung Eucharist

The next Service of Prayer for Healing with Communion will be held on **Friday 23rd February 2018**.

Listening to God's Word , Sunday 11th February 2018

Our Bible readings today are:

2 Kings 5.1, 9-14

John 5.1-15

The sermon title today is **"Meeting Jesus: A Hopeful Invalid"**

Contact details:

Adrian 0116 270 4268 / adrian.jones@zoho.com
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Email: office@knightonparish.co.uk

(Office open 9.30am - 2.30pm,

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday).

The Office is closed on Wednesdays.

CHERISHING THE PAST, SHAPING THE PRESENT AND PLANTING FOR TOMORROW

Many thanks to all of you who have responded so far to my letter about how we might together discover God's direction for us in the next stage of our life together as St Mary's. There are still copies of the letter and the response form at the back of church, next to the box for responses. If it is easier then do please email a response. I'd like to stress again how important it is that each of us who feels part of our church family here should make a contribution to this process. I believe that God speaks to all of us and shapes our thoughts and understandings, and that it is together that we hear his voice, through sharing these understandings.

Please don't feel that you have to have 'all the answers' or anything very complicated to write down or to tell me. What we are seeking is God's direction rather than a blueprint made up of specific action points (although these will be important later). The responses that have come in so far are very varied, so we really need to hear every voice in order to make sure that God's call comes through clearly. Please do continue to talk with each other about your own understandings of the past, present and future, as this conversation too will help us discern the way forward.

Adrian

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - Women's World Day of Prayer The service is on **Friday, 2nd March** and this year has been prepared by Christian women of Suriname with the theme "All God's Creation is Very Good!" There are two services in our neck of the woods: 2pm at Christchurch, Clarendon Park Road and 7.30pm at Clarendon Park Congregational Church on the corner of Springfield Road and London Road. Despite the name the service has been prepared by women for everyone – central committee is, in fact considering changing the name to "World Day of Prayer". Do come and join us for one of the services.

BOOKS - there are 15 new titles in the bookcase for you to buy/ borrow (suggested donation 50p.) Everything from romance to spy thrillers. Thank you to everyone who kindly donated them. All monies raised go towards church funds. S.H.



THE EUCHARIST EXPLAINED

What is the Collect?

The Collect is a short general prayer used in many traditional Christian services since as early as the 5th century. The Latin word 'collecta' means the gathering of the people together, and this is exactly what the Collect does when used near the beginning of the service.

Collects normally follow the same structure and pattern of five parts. First there is an address to God, then a description of some aspect of God's being, followed by a request, then a hope or aspiration, and then finally the 'pleading' through the work of Jesus. The original Latin collects were usually written as a single flowing sentence, and modern versions often try to retain this structure and form.

In the Church of England the Collect is different each week but the same prayer is used across the whole church and so it really does 'gather the people together' before we celebrate the Eucharist.

Adrian

CONFIRMATION SERVICE

Is this your next step on the journey of faith? It may be that for a while now you've been thinking about our Christian faith and have a feeling that you should take another step forwards....and that step could be 'confirmation.' In the Church of England, the service of confirmation is a chance to 'confirm' that the promises made on your behalf at baptism (often when you were a baby) are now your promises too - a clear intention to follow Jesus in a life of faith.

A confirmation service is always taken by a Bishop and often includes 'candidates' from several churches. You can be confirmed at any age, as long as your supporting Minister has spent some time with you first talking about the basics of Christianity and your faith. Our next local confirmation service is at the Cathedral on Easter Saturday (31st March) at 6pm so if you'd like to join others in thinking more about this next step on your journey of faith do please let Adrian know as soon as you can (0116 270 4268 adrian.jones@zoho.com).

LENT LUNCH A simple meal of soup, bread, cheese, biscuits and pickle, followed by tea or coffee. **Saturday 24th February 2018** 12 noon in the Parish Centre. Tickets £6 - Available from Bernard and Judi.

WISDOM FROM THE WORLD CHURCH

"There is in God - some say- a deep but dazzling darkness."

Henry Vaughan (1621-1695) - Welsh poet and physician.

Lent



ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT:

This year Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine's Day, **14th February**. As usual we will be having an evening service for the whole Benefice, this year at St Guthlac's. Please do think about coming - as well as marking the start of Lent, this service is a time for being honest with God and ourselves, a time for facing our weaknesses and frailties but also for receiving the assurance that God is with us within our struggles to give us strength and bring change.

Lent is often a time for Christians to take up a spiritual or practical challenge for 40 days until Easter - you can do this for example, through the Christian Aid 'Count Your Blessings' booklet (available at the back of church), the Tearfund Lent Devotional (found here www.tearfund.org/en/lent_2018/) or the 40Acts Generosity Challenge (at www.40Acts.org.uk). Some people prefer to read a Christian book divided into 40 short sections, such as the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2018, 'Say it to God: In Search of Prayer' by Luigi Gioia. If you'd like a copy for just £5 please let me know before 7th February.

Our Lent Group this year begins on **Wednesday 21st February**, in the morning 10-11.30am at the home of Doreen White, 2 Shanklin Gardens, and in the evening 7.30-9pm at the Vicarage, 5 Church Lane. Our theme is 'Singing the Faith' and we'll be exploring five great hymns and how they help us understand the events leading to Easter. Please sign up on the list at the back of the church if you'd like to come.

*The South Leicester Christian Partnership Lent Group for 2018 begins on **Thursday 15th February** at 7.30pm - at Christchurch, Clarendon Park Road. This year the course is called 'The Art of the Possible'.*



Have you got a bright idea to raise funds for St. Mary's Church and Parish?
The Social & Fundraising Group would like suggestions for new and innovative ways of raising money. Can you help us to involve as many parishioners as possible in supporting our Church and its work? Please speak to the Chair (Michael Kirk) or Secretary (Cora Paul).
They are waiting to hear from you.



The next *Messy Church* will be on **Friday 2nd March**
Stoneygate Baptist Church
3.15pm until 5.45pm.
A hot meal will be served.



"We will remember them"

These are words we say every year. This year is the centenary of Armistice Day. St Mary's will be hosting a number of events from 7th - 11th November.

From poppies, both real and knitted, to displays of photographs and the printed histories of some of the men whose names are on the memorial in the Lady Chapel. During the year the names of those who fell during 1918 will be read out at a Sunday service, nearest their death.

There will an invited speaker on the morning of the 8th November, educational visits will be offered plus an Open Church weekend where light refreshments will be available. The week will culminate with a combined service with St Guthlac at St Mary's at 5pm 11th November.

How can you help? In lots of ways. Knit poppies or scour your loft for any artefacts or photographs of people who had an association with Knighton during 1914 -1918. There is a list at the back of church of who is doing what to make this joint event with St Guthlac something we will remember for a long time.

THANK YOU Ann and Virginia Beams send heartfelt thanks for all the support and sympathy they have received since Peter's death in November. Every message, card, letter, kindness and thoughtful remembrance has been a great comfort to them and will continue to be so in the months yet to come.

PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS You may like to look on the Church website, where a new page called 'Previous Newsletters' has been created. Several months of newsletters have already been added. The plan is to hold a years worth. It's very interesting to look back and see what we did. You'll find these by clicking on 'Resources', and then clicking 'Previous Newsletters' on the drop down menu.

Bishop Martyn's School of Prayer 2018

All Christians know that prayer is a vitally important aspect of discipleship, and that is both a discipline and a joy. In prayer we open ourselves to God, and are drawn into relationship with Him, into peace and joy. But despite knowing all that, prayer sometimes seems difficult.

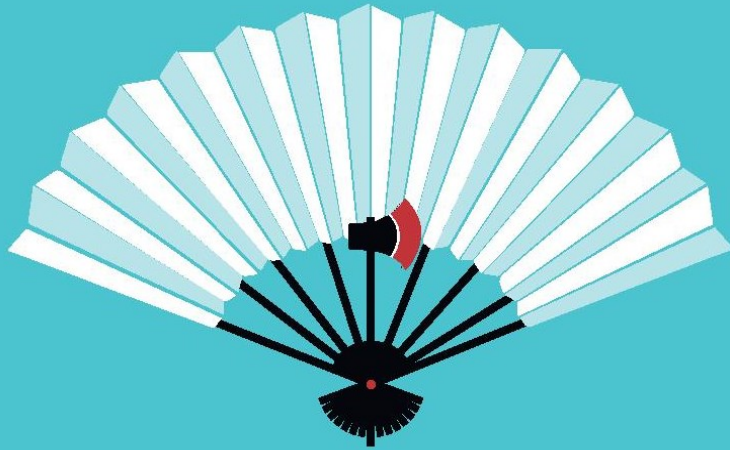
Bishop Martyn will be leading a School of Prayer at Launde Abbey, from **9th-13th May**, with worship, teaching, conversation, and workshops around the themes of Prayer and Scripture, Prayer and Silence, and Prayer and Social Action. He will be assisted by a team that includes David Newman (Warden, Launde Abbey), Helen Newman (Chaplain, Launde Abbey), Chris Webb (Spirituality Advisor to the Diocese and author, as well as a resident artist and a resident musician).

Bishop Martyn, who describes prayer as 'a foretaste of heaven' says: "I hope this School of Prayer will help people grow and develop in their own prayer lives. This is an open invitation for anyone at all, whether you're experienced in prayer or feel yourself to be a complete novice: come and join us."

Although anyone can book for all five days and stay residentially at Launde, we are hoping to organise a group of day visitors from St Mary's and St Guthlac's to attend together, probably on **Thursday 10th May**. The cost of £37.50 includes coffee, lunch and tea, but if this feels beyond your pocket then please do mention this to me. As we'll need to book well in advance, please let me know if you'd like to come as part of our group by Sunday **25th February**. I'll collect money closer to the time.

Adrian





LEICESTER GILBERT AND SULLIVAN
MUSICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

THE MIKADO

Tuesday 6 – Saturday 10 March 2018

Evening 7.30pm | Matin e 2.30pm
Tickets: Evening £15.00, Sat Matin e £14.00

PARKINSON'S^{UK}
CHANGE ATTITUDES.
FIND A CURE.
JOIN US.

Dover Street, Leicester, LE1 6PW
Box Office - 0116 255 1302 / www.thelittletheatre.net

If you fancy a really good night out, then why not get tickets for this performance of Gilbert & Sullivan's 'The Mikado'?

Dates: Tuesday 6th March until Saturday 10th March.

This promises to be an excellent performance with **The Mikado played by none other than our very own Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster!**

It would be great to support Stephen. A party of 11+ from church are already booked to go on the Friday night.

Please call the box office on 0116 255 1302.

Tea & Talk: Monthly Meetings St Guthlac's Church

Come and join us for our next monthly social meetings where we can share a talk, film, book or music over tea, coffee and cake. Admission is free.

Tuesday 27th February 7.00pm Film: Housewife 49 (Cert PG, 92 mins)

Housewife 49 was written by and stars Victoria Wood. It is set in Northern England and based on a true story about Nella Last's 'Mass Observation' diary. Trapped in a difficult marriage and dreading the departure of her beloved son who leaves to fight in the Second World War, Nella (Victoria Wood) draws strength from the diary, writing down all the things she cannot say to her controlling husband (David Threlfall). Meanwhile, the support and companionship she finds at the Women's Voluntary Service - in particular from the formidable Mrs Waite (Stephanie Cole) - brings her joy and liberation during the difficult years of the war.

There will be the chance to discuss the film informally after the showing.

GET PLANNING FOR THE SUMMER! The spectacular Yorkshire Dales are home to Scargill House and it's Christian community, who welcome guests for holidays, conferences and retreats. For four summers now we have been to Scargill for a short holiday week called 'Summerfest', sharing their hospitality, creativity, learning, worship, fun and really good food together, as well as enjoying the dales countryside. It is a great opportunity to rest and to be refreshed, and so we would love to introduce some of our Christian family at St Mary's to Scargill in 2018. The holiday weeks are suitable for people of all ages, and although most people stay in the house, a camping option is available too. This year as a family we are booked into the week called 'Summerfest 2' which is 11th-16th August - perhaps you'd like to join us? We have put together a small display board at the back of church, with some Scargill brochures for you to take if you might be interested, but please do talk to us and we'll do our best to persuade you what a great break you could have! Reduced prices are sometimes available for those who might find the cost beyond their reach.

Adrian and Alison

RINGING FOR PEACE - ARMISTICE 100: On 11th November 2018, one hundred years after the Armistice was declared at the end of World War One, church bells will ring out all over the country in special peals, 'Ringing for Peace'. More than 1,400 of the casualties in the war were bell ringers and so the Council of Church Bell Ringers has set an ambitious target to recruit and train 1,400 new ringers in this centenary year, ready for supported ringing on Armistice Day. You might be one of them! If you would like an introduction to bell ringing at St Mary's and to talk about what is involved in being a ringer then please do talk to Jane Salt (Tower Captain) or Beverley Jarrom (Ringing Master).

MEMORY CAFÉ ST GUTHLAC'S KNIGHTON

This informal cafe is for people, living at home, with dementia and memory loss with their families/carers. The cafe provides an opportunity to meet up, share experiences and learn in a socially supportive and friendly environment.

There are a variety of activities such as talks, quizzes, craft and simple exercises. Refreshments are provided. The cafe is supported by the Alzheimer's Society. Meetings are on the second Friday of the month 1.30-3.00pm. If you know someone who would be helped by this cafe please let them know. For further information please call Nita Devabhai on 0116 231 6926

The next sessions will be

9 th March	Nisha Popat - Seated exercise and laughter
13 th April	Deirdra and Stephen Cusack - Group Singing
11 th May	Clare King from the British Red Cross



KNIGHTON PLAYERS will be performing

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat

Friday 16th March 7.30pm

Saturday 17th March 2.30pm and & 7.30pm

Parish Centre.

Tickets (adults £7, children £5)

Available from Jane Wright 2925220 (St. Guthlac's), Tanya Willis 2103580 (St. Mary's), or
knightonplayers@ntlworld.com.

There will be a raffle at each performance.

Do you have anything to donate as a prize?

Judi and Bernard will be happy to receive your donation.

REF: £10 NOTES

Please note the last Sunday for old £10 notes is **Sunday 25th February.**

CAR PARKING On Sunday mornings, please do not park in front of the church or on the church path unless you need to do so for mobility reasons. Also, please do not block the paths.

GIVING SCHEME Regular giving can be made either by weekly envelope, periodic cheque or bank standing order. Details of the Scheme can be obtained from Lorna Pollard, Giving Scheme Secretary : telephone 0116 2704272 or e-mail: stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com If you are a tax payer and gift aid your giving, our Church can claim an additional 25%.

CHEQUES FOR ST MARY'S Please note that any cheques for St Mary's must be made out to Knighton PCC.

Please send items for inclusion in the diary or notice sheet to James Gutteridge by **Thursday 12.00 noon.**

Contact James on office@knightonparish.co.uk or 0116 2702705. Knighton Parish Office, Church Lane, Knighton, Leicester LE2 3WG

Please pray.....

"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people..." **1 Timothy 2.1**

Praying for the world: Pray for those who continue to suffer in places that have fallen out of the news - South Sudan (civil war), the Caribbean and Philippines (hurricanes), Myanmar and Bangladesh (the Rohingya refugees).

Praying for the Church: pray for **Bishop John Smylie** and the people of our link Diocese of Wyoming in the United States. Pray for the work of our own **Archdeacons: Ven. Tim Stratford, Archdeacon of Leicester, and Ven. Claire Woods, Archdeacon of Loughborough, and their P.A. Wendy Dunnington.**

Praying for the Parish : This week please pray for all those who live in **Carisbrooke Road, Stockwell Road, Ashclose Avenue, Meadvale Road, Overdale Road.**

We pray for those who are unwell at the moment.

Gracious God, who journeys alongside us when we are sick, anxious or troubled, we pray today for

**Joyce Garland
Helen**

**Roger
Catherine**

**Doris
Laurie Jarvis**

Audrey Griffiths

May they know the power of your healing love, at work in body, mind and spirit. In the name of Christ the healer, hear us now. Amen

Please pray for those with ongoing illness, and for those whose names are on the prayer board in the Requiem Chapel.

Give thanks for those who have been healed and restored.

We remember those who have died recently and pray for their families and friends:

Janet Wayne

Doug Ardington



Please advise Adrian or Neil of anyone who needs to be added to our prayer list.