

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

**Sunday 12th January 2020**

The presiding minister this morning is the Revd Adrian Jones  
and our preacher is the Revd Matthew Gough

**Welcome to our Eucharist today**

A warm welcome to everyone joining us at St Mary Magdalen this week, especially if you are here for the first time or visiting. On the next page of this newsletter you'll find all the essential information you might need for this morning's service.



***'Faith for Life'***

***- following the way of Jesus***

Today we begin a new series of services and sermons based around the teaching of Jesus in the 'Sermon on the Mount' from Matthew's Gospel.

In these familiar passages (and some not so familiar) Jesus maps out what it means to live the life of faith and to follow in his way daily.

Each time we share the Eucharist at our main 10am service we will remember the sacrifice that Jesus made for us, and also remember the pattern he gave us for a life that reflects the love and commitment to others that led him to that sacrifice.

Today we begin with the Beatitudes.

## **ABOUT OUR SERVICES**

- 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. Sunday Club meets in the Narthex for primary school age children.
- 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.
- You are welcome to join Adrian for a short time of prayer before the main service: 9.30-9.45am at the front of the Lady Chapel (the chapel on the left).
- 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

<b>Sunday 12th January</b> 1st Sunday of Epiphany	8.00am <b>10.00am</b>	Said Eucharist <b>Sung Eucharist</b>
Monday 13th January	2.00pm 7.30pm	Funeral - John Wortley Bell Ringing Practice
Tuesday 14th January	9.30am 10.15am	Eucharist (St Mary's) Church cleaning
Wednesday 15th January		
Thursday 16th January	9.30am	Eucharist (St Guthlacs)
Friday 17th January		
Saturday 18th January		
<b>Sunday 19th January</b> 2nd Sunday of Epiphany	8.00am <b>10.00am</b> 6.30pm	Said Eucharist <b>Morning Worship</b> Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service (Stoneygate Baptist Church)

The next monthly service of Prayer for Healing with Communion will be held on **Friday 31st January** at 11am.

### Listening to God's Word

Our Bible readings today are:

**Isaiah 42.1-9 & Matthew 5.1-12**

**Today's title is "Grace-the Upside Down Kingdom"**

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](mailto:office@knightonparish.co.uk) or 0116 2702705. Knighton Parish Office, Church Lane, Knighton, Leicester LE2 3WG

# InSPIREd

## The campaign to save our spire

### InSpired - our appeal for the spire

The Spire Group is continuing to work on an exciting programme of events which we hope will attract people from all over the community. Please tell your friends and neighbours about all our events as they are announced.

### InSpired News

#### Online giving

It is now possible to donate to the appeal online. Just go to the parish website and follow the link. This is an easy, efficient way for people who live further away to contribute, so please pass this information on to any of your friends who care about the future of St Mary's.

Your Spire Fund-raising Group are: Nigel Siesage, Adrian Jones, Sue Holligan, Sian Howard, Lorna Kirk, Michael Kirk.

#### Donations for the Spire Fund

We continue to receive some very generous donations. Cheques for the Spire should be made out to Knighton PCC, but make it clear that they are for the Spire, by writing 'Spire Fund' on the back of the cheque.

If you already give to the church with Gift Aid, it will be possible to claim it on spire donations. Please speak to Lorna Pollard for advice if you have any questions about this.

Also, there are Spire Fund Appeal blue envelopes available for you to use in the pews, if you wish to use this method in addition to your regular giving in the unmarked envelopes. If you are a tax payer and complete the envelope, your gift will increase by 25%. Many thanks. *Nigel*

**CHRISTIAN AID CHRISTMAS APPEAL:** donations for this appeal amounted to £477.28. With £76.25 Gift Aid added, the total raised was £553.53. Many thanks for your generosity.

**THURSDAY DROP-IN** On 2nd January we gathered for the last time at the Thursday Drop-In. After 46 years it was a slightly sad occasion, but with many happy memories and much gratitude for the friendship and support shared between so many. The current Committee were warmly thanked and presented with gifts - and of course we had cake and bingo! Do thank God this week for such a wonderful fellowship of people across the years and pray for continued friendships. *Adrian*

**CHILDREN'S SOCIETY** £658.35 was raised this year for the Children's Society. Thank you.

**COMMUNITY OF GRACE CHRISTMAS DAY BREAKFAST APPEAL**

A big thank you to everyone who brought in items for the Community of Grace Christmas Day Breakfast Appeal. As a Parish we managed to take 12 very large shopping bags of food for the gentlemen's breakfasts plus additional items that will make their Christmas that little bit special.. Thank you all again for your support with this appeal. *Sue Bonnett*

**'SHARING CHRISTMAS GREETINGS'** Your kind donations raised £40.40 for the Children's Society. Thank you.

**QUESTIONS, CAKE AND COMPLINE** Sunday 2nd February 4pm  
St Guthlac's Church Holbrook Rd LE2 3LF. Our topic will be Faith & Politics: Speaking out and saying silent.

Please join us to discuss questions around the topic of Faith and Politics as well as to enjoy refreshments and companionship. You are invited to stay for a service of Compline (a short service of prayer) afterwards.



*Third Sunday:*  
**TOUGH TIMES &  
HARD QUESTIONS**

As we begin a new decade, our world faces unparalleled challenges.

How can we find a way to tackle together the major issues that are shaping our future, despite the deep disagreements that divide us?

Does the ancient Christian faith have anything to say about our contemporary challenges?

On the **Third Sunday** of each month at St Mary's, Knighton, we will take one of these hard questions and consider a range of views and responses. In particular, we will ask how the Bible, and our Christian tradition and experience, might inform and shape our thinking and our action.

Our 10am service on the **Third Sunday** will introduce the theme. Then there will be an evening opportunity for discussion and learning from each other, reflection and simple shared Night Prayer, in the Parish Centre from 7.30-9pm. You are welcome to either or both.

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January – *“Can we disagree well?”* (but no evening meeting)

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February – *“Climate Emergency? What shall we do?”*

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March – *“Fake News or False Truths? Does it matter?”*

## **CHALKING THE DOOR: AN EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING.**

"Chalking the door" is an ancient Christian tradition that is once again becoming popular. It is a way to celebrate and literally mark the occasion of the Epiphany and God's blessing of our lives and home. Remembering how the Three Kings sought out Jesus at home and in his family, we ask for God's blessing on our own homes, families and all who visit us, as we start a New Year.

This year, our prayers are symbolised by using the markings 20+C+M+B+20. The numbers remind us of the year and the letters stand for the Latin phrase '*Christus mansionem benedictat*' or "*May Christ bless the house.*" They could also stand for the legendary names of the Three Kings (Caspar, Melchior and Belthazar).

To 'Chalk the Door' this Epiphany, follow these simple steps: First gather your 'household' outside, by the door - all who want to share what you are doing. If you live alone, consider asking a friend or neighbour to join you. Then pray- using the prayer below, or something similar.

*Peace be to this house and to all who enter here.*

***Amen***

*Loving God, bless this household we pray,  
with faith, compassion and generosity;  
with health, peace, love and joy.*

*May everyone who comes to our home this year  
know that they are truly welcome,  
And, as we share with both friends and strangers,  
may we also know that Jesus is with us,  
revealed to the world as your Son and our Saviour.*

***Amen.***

Write the inscription - with a piece of chalk, mark the lintel of the door or porch, or a wall close to the door, with 20+C+M+B+20, as you do so saying 'May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year.'

To encourage you, there is a basket of free chalk at the back of the church! Do please take a piece on your way home today. Although the chalk will fade over the course of the year, God's presence and blessing will stay with us. *Adrian*

**A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY** Quiet Day. Saturday 26th September at the Stable House, North Kilworth. Further details later. *Doreen White*

**You are invited to come along to St Guthlac's Tea and Talk monthly meeting for January: BEES AND BEEKEEPING**

Tuesday 21st January at 7pm in St Guthlac's Church.

John Bogumsky from the choir will give an interactive talk about his experience of keeping bees which will include: Why we need bees, a beehive tour, honey bee identification, honey tasting, beekeeping equipment, interesting facts about the honeybee and a Q &A session. Free talk and refreshments. Do join us!

**South Leicester Christian Partnership –  
An Evening Service To Launch:-  
'A Week Of Prayer For Christian Unity'**

Stoneygate Baptist Church, London Road, Leicester.

6.30 pm 19<sup>th</sup> January 2020

This service is being co-ordinated by Stoneygate Baptist Minister, Revd Leigh Greenwood with many of the St Mary's Music Group taking part. This is an annual initiative whereby Christian communities throughout the world are invited to pray for one another and for greater Christian Unity.

The theme for 2020 is "They showed an unusual kindness", which finds its origins in Acts 27:18 - 28:10.

Please support this service, if you are able, to bring Christian Unity, not just to South Leicestershire, but with the world!



**WELCOME TO OUR NEIGHBOURS!** Many of you will already know that our (very) near neighbours at Knighton Free Church are having internal building works through the next few months, probably up to Easter, and meanwhile their congregation will need to meet elsewhere. I'm very pleased to say that the St Mary's PCC has offered to provide our building for the Free Church to use for services on Sunday afternoons (3pm) and evenings (7pm) while the building work continues. It will be very good to have our neighbours share our space, and we're looking forward to learning more about each other and building even better relationships as we work together. We hope to prepare for all the practical issues but if you think of something that appears to have been forgotten, do please let me know! *Adrian*

**THANKS** The Community of Grace were delighted to receive a large delivery of breakfast items from St. Mary's congregation. They were looking forward to several memorable breakfasts over the Christmas period.

**LEE** We are very pleased to tell everybody that Lee is now home and making a good recovery. It is early days and progress will inevitably be slow but he feels so much better and enjoying being home with Angela, his wife, and Milo, their dog, who have missed Lee tremendously over the last 8 weeks that he has been in hospital. Thank you for all your prayers that have sustained both Lee and the wider family. The power of prayer is so wonderful. *Judi & Bernard*

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

### TOM SKINNER

Sadly we need to announce the death of Tom Skinner. Tom and his wife Esther were, many years ago, attendees at the both churches and were well known within the Parish of Knighton and are still remembered to this day by some. Tom has spent the last few months in Leaholme Residential Home, but became ill recently and passed away quietly on Friday morning. We think of Michael Relph and his family at this sad time.

### VALERIE DUDLEY

Very sadly, Valerie passed away on Monday 23rd December at Shockerwick House Care Home in Bath. It was very peaceful and Angela was with her. Valerie was involved in the life at Shockerwick House until her final week. "Thank you for all the cards and letters you sent. Mum really enjoyed them, and for the kind messages of support to the family". Valerie's funeral will be on Friday 17th January. A family cremation at Canford in Bristol at 10.00am, and a service to celebrate her life at 11.30am at St Nicholas Church, Nore Road, Portishead, BS20 7HN, followed by refreshments.



Many thanks to all who came and supported the wonderful Faith Tucker concert.

An amazing total of £2319 was raised for the Spire Appeal.

Thank you to everyone involved, but special thanks must go to Aileen and John Orme who masterminded the whole thing. A tremendous success!

### Contact details:

**Vicar: Adrian Jones** 0116 270 4268 or 07584 954414

Email: [adrian.jones@zoho.com](mailto:adrian.jones@zoho.com) (day off normally Friday)

**Assistant Curate: Revd Matthew Gough** 07754 961997

Email: [revgough@gmail.com](mailto:revgough@gmail.com) (day off normally Friday)

**Revd Aphro McCullough:** 0116 283 7887

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**Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster**

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**Reader: Fiona Wingate**

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**Churchwarden: Rosalind Matthew**

**Parish Administrator: James Gutteridge** 0116 270 2705

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

(The Parish Office is open **Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday** and **Friday** from 9.30am until 2.30pm, unless stated differently in the diary)

The office is closed on **Mondays**.

### 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 weekly envelope or a monthly bank standing order as part of our Planned Giving Scheme. *If you are giving by bank standing order, yellow tokens are available at services to put on the plate, should you wish.*

Scheme details can be obtained from Lorna Pollard, Planned Giving Scheme Secretary: telephone 0116 2704272 or e mail: [stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com). If you are a taxpayer and gift aid your giving, our church can claim an additional 25%.

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**CHEQUES FOR ST MARY'S** Please make cheques for St Mary's payable to **Knighton PCC**.

## **Please pray.....**

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5.16-18)

**Give thanks:** for the promise of new life that we see in the natural world around us, despite the cold and darkness.

**Praying for the World:** please pray for peaceful dialogue between the USA and the countries of the Middle East, for growing understanding and a willingness to step away from conflict.

**Praying for the Church:** please pray for a new vision across the church worldwide as we start a new year - a vision of unity and co-operation in the face of the many problems and issues that our world faces in this new decade.

**Praying for the Parish :** This week please pray for those who live on:  
**Elms Road, Knighton Drive, Knighton Road, Northcote Road,  
Newstead Road.**

We pray for all those who are unwell at the moment, whether in body, mind or spirit, and all those with troubling investigations and diagnoses. In particular we pray for **Edward Groves**, and all those on our parish 'Continuing Prayer' list. May they know the power of God's healing love at work in their lives today.

Give thanks for those who have been healed and restored.

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

**Mary Bristow**

**Charlie Borg**

**Helen Hutton**

**Rod Wortley**

**Tom Skinner**

**Valerie Dudley**

*Names will remain on the prayer list usually for three weeks - please let us know if they should then be moved to the 'Continuing Prayer' list used for Intercessions during the week.*