



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

**ECO CHURCH**  
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## **Newsletter for Sunday 31st May 2026 Trinity Sunday**

### **Collects for this week**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you have given us your servants grace,  
by the confession of a true faith,  
to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity  
and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity:  
keep us steadfast in this faith,  
that we may evermore be defended from all adversities;  
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.

Holy God,  
faithful and unchanging:  
enlarge our minds with the  
knowledge of your truth,  
and draw us more deeply into the  
mystery of your love,  
that we may truly worship you,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.



## The Week Ahead..

Sunday 31st May <i>Trinity Sunday</i>	<b>10.30am Joint Communion Service at St Guthlac's for Trinity Sunday</b>
Monday 1st June	2.00pm-4.00pm Drop-In (Parish Centre) 7.30pm Bell Ringing practice
Tuesday 2nd June	9.30am Holy Communion (St Mary's)
Wednesday 3rd June	
Thursday 4th June	9.30am Holy Communion (St Guthlac's)
Friday 5th June	
Saturday 6th June	
Sunday 7th June <i>1st Sunday after Trinity</i>	9.00am Eucharist <b>10.30am Worship for the Whole Church</b> 10.30am Eucharist at St Guthlac's

**SUNDAY CLUB** for children at primary and secondary school, meets during the 10.30am service twice a month. Every child of school age is welcome! Ask the Welcome Team to point out our leaders Alison Roche or Luke Fogg for a hello and a consent form if it's your child's first time. Here's what happens during each month:

1st Sunday - Worship for the Whole Church (children stay in the service for all ages)

2nd Sunday - Sunday Club      3rd Sunday - Sunday Club

4th Sunday - no Sunday Club but all are welcome to join us at the relaxed, cafe- style Church Club at 10.30am at St Guthlac's, Holbrook Road. [and if there's a 5th Sunday - a variety of things happen - check the newsletter or website]

### Listening to God's Word:

The readings on **Sunday 31st May** are:

**Isaiah 40.12-17, 27-end** and **Matthew 28.16-end.**

## Church Family News

**Ali Simpson-Smith** Some of you will remember Ali Simpson-Smith who was the detached youth worker for the Edge Project - a part of the Southern Edge Mission Partnership (SEMP) that St Mary's and St Guthlac's was a part of and began in about 2009. Ali was ordained a few years' ago, has completed her Pioneer Curacy and is about to start as a Pioneer clergyperson within the Oadby + Great Glen Minster Community and based at St Peter's Oadby as their vicar. Please uphold her in your prayers as she approaches her licensing service on Thursday 4th June.

*Alison Roche*

### **Overdale School Summer Fair 2026, Saturday 27th June**

This year, the fair will take place from 12-2.30pm.

It is a great annual outreach opportunity for the church and, as usual, we have been asked to run a little 'stall' there. This takes the form of some fun activities for children; handing out various freebies; and just generally chatting with people. We would like to put a small team of volunteers together so, if you will be available and would like to help out, please let Sian know via her usual contact details at the end of the newsletter - or just mention it to her on a Sunday. *Sian Howard*

### **COFFEE MORNING SATURDAY 9TH MAY.**

Another successful coffee morning was held in St. Mary's Church and raised a total of **£581.00** towards the expense of running our Parish Church.

The Social Committee thank all who came, enjoying the coffee/tea cakes, the music, the tables displaying many interesting items for sale and the raffle.

I personally thank all the helpers. Without them, this event could not happen.

The next event to be held in the Church will be on **Sunday 28th June** in the afternoon look out for the details on the Posters. *Beryl*

## **COMING UP ..... What's happening at St Mary's on Sundays in May and June 2026**

Our 10.30am 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!

- There is also a fifth Sunday in May – we join together for a joint benefice Eucharist on **Trinity Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> May** – this time we are hosted at St Guthlac's at 10.30am.
- After Trinity we begin a short series of six Sundays reflecting on ***"Lessons from the Desert"*** as we look at the account of the Exodus in the Old Testament. On **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June** we share Worship for the Whole Church (All Ages) and think about Moses.
- The service on the second Sunday of the month, **14<sup>th</sup> June**, is a Sung Eucharist, and our focus in Exodus is the crossing of the Red Sea.
- Our Morning Worship on **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June** will help us to reflect on what we can learn today from the experience of God's ancient people in the desert: *"Water, manna and quail"*.
- The final **Sunday of June, 28<sup>th</sup>**, is again a service of Sung Eucharist, and we'll recall the meeting of Moses and Jethro, in the Book of the Exodus.

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 (see Revd Janet Gasper for details).

# LESSONS FROM THE DESERT



## ***Lessons from the Desert***

Moses emerged from the desert to confront Pharaoh and to lead God's ancient people to the Promised Land – but only after 40 years in the desert once again! Sometimes life today can feel as if we're wandering in a desert, weary and with far to go – but just as God stayed with his people long ago, so he stays with us today and even uses the desert experience to teach us and to shape us.

On each of the six Sundays following Trinity Sunday we'll be looking at some of these '*Lessons from the Desert*' as we follow God's people in their escape from Egypt and into the wilderness, as it's described in the Bible's book of the Exodus. Join us each week at 10.30am for the whole adventure! *Adrian*

Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	<i>"Let my people go!"</i>
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	<i>"Crossing the Sea"</i>
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	<i>"Water, Manna and quail"</i>
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	<i>"Moses and Jethro"</i>
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	<i>"Fire on the mountain"</i>
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	<i>"The Golden Calf"</i>

## ***Arrangements for Holy Communion at our 10.30am services***

At the recent PCC meeting we had a helpful discussion about the best way in which to administer the elements at Holy Communion, within our 10.30am Sung Eucharist. We wanted to address two sets of concerns.

Firstly some folk prefer to dip their wafer into the wine once received, because they are concerned about picking up or passing on infections through sharing the Common Cup. This is called 'intinction'.

Other people are concerned that the practice of intinction might be contaminating the Common Cup with viruses or bacteria from hands, and is almost certainly adding gluten to the wine, causing problems for those who are gluten-intolerant.

At the PCC we heard the views from both perspectives and also the official Church of England position (that intinction be discouraged for health reasons). The PCC decided that we should try administering the bread and wine at Communion in a slightly different way for a few months.

We will continue to have the priest stand centrally to give out wafers (including gluten-free) and the chalice assistant standing to their left (that is, the south side) to offer the Common Cup (including the option of non-alcoholic wine).

### ***IN ADDITION:***

There will also be a small table just in front of the priest, covered with a cloth and positioned so as not to get in the way. On the table will be standing an additional chalice of consecrated wine. **Anyone who wishes to dip their wafer will be asked to use this chalice and the other will be kept for standard sharing.**

After a trial period, the PCC will review these arrangements and your feedback will be appreciated. In the meantime, please think about how you wish to receive the bread and the wine at Communion before we start our new arrangements on **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June**. *Adrian*

## BENEFICE MAGAZINE

The next issue of the magazine will appear in mid-June. The closing date for copy will be Friday 5 June. Please make sure I have information about any forthcoming church events which could helpfully be advertised in this edition. And of course I continue to welcome any articles, thoughts, reminiscences which may be of interest to our readership. The email address is [stmaryknighton.magazine@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryknighton.magazine@gmail.com). (Readers from St Guthlac's shouldn't be discouraged by this address).

Editor Nigel

### Celebrating 150 Years of Mothers' Union:

#### Join Us, Join In – Lighting the Way for Generations to Come



2026 marks 150 years since Mothers' Union was founded and here are some of the events taking place nationally and locally that you might be interested in:

- ✚ There are still tickets available for the **National MU Anniversary Service at St. Paul's Cathedral** in London on the **10<sup>th</sup> June** – *they are hoping to live-stream this service and we will endeavour to put the link in the church newsletter nearer the time.*
- ✚ Within the diocese we are holding a **Teddy bear's Picnic on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June in Coalville**, where we have both an outside and inside option available to allow for the British weather! Drinks will be provided, but please bring your own picnic.
- ✚ On the **5<sup>th</sup> of June**, we are going to meet at Christ Church Coalville to cheer on Deb Lee, a Trustee from York diocese, who is cycling from York to St Paul's Cathedral.
- ✚ **Diocesan 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service at Leicester Cathedral – 3.30pm Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August – all welcome!**

To find out more about what's happening near you or how to become a member, visit

[www.mothersunionleicester.org.uk](http://www.mothersunionleicester.org.uk) or [www.mothersunion.org](http://www.mothersunion.org);

Speak to Lorna Pollard or Alison Roche after church

or contact our Diocesan Administrator - Kate Cooper: [kate.cooper@leicestercofe.org](mailto:kate.cooper@leicestercofe.org)

# **Virtual Compline 8.00pm Wednesday evenings**

## **There will be NO Compline on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

There will be virtual Compline services on all other Wednesdays in May and June at 8.00pm as usual.

### **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 #

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### **Easter Lily Collection**

A belated thank you to all who contributed to the Easter Lily Collection. As expected the price of the lilies had risen again this year, but thanks to your generous donations, totalling **£106**, we were able to cover the cost of this year's flowers. *Deborah*



Tea and Talk meeting for June...

## NatureSpot and Knighton Wild

Simon Bennett & Alan Cann

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm

St Guthlac's Church, Holbrook Rd LE2 3LF



NatureSpot is a local charity in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. Through its website it encourages people to discover wildlife, identify what they see and hear and record the species that they have found. Simon and Alan are both trustees of NatureSpot and live in Knighton. They will talk about NatureSpot, how it is used by the local wildlife group Knighton Wild, and what it tells us about local wildlife.

**Free talk and refreshments. Do join us!**

## *A Summer Cream Tea Event*



*On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2026*

*From 2.30pm - 4.30pm*

*In St. Mary Magdalen Church*

*Cream Tea or Cake, Tea or Coffee*

*Tickets £3*

*Available from Beryl Bonfield*

*0116 2702202*

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## Easy Fundraising

Did you know that we're registered on #easyfundraising? This means you can raise free donations for us in 2026 when you shop online! Over 8,000 retailers will make a donation to St Mary Magdalen - Knighton PCC on your behalf when you shop with them. We have raised over £500 so far - Please sign up today. All the big names like Sainsbury's, Argos and Just Eat are ready to donate at no extra cost to you. Plus, sign up today and we could win a £500 donation: <https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/st-mary-magdalen-knighton-pcc/h2y5ev/c2s/ahT9IaEN/CE945/facebook/>

## Contact details:

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**Churchwarden: Michael Gasper** c/o 0116 270 2705  
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**Parish Administrator: James Gutteridge** 0116 270 2705  
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## 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 donation through the Parish Giving Scheme, details of which can be obtained from Simon Britton, Planned Giving Scheme Secretary, email: [stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com) or phone 07710 975 272. If you are a taxpayer and willing to gift aid your giving, our church can claim an additional 25% at no extra cost to yourself. Any donations by cheque should be to **Knighton PCC** please.



## Praying through this week

**Praying for each other this month:** In the month of May please do pray for all those within our congregation and our wider church community whose surnames begin with the letters Q, R, S and T. Pray that they will know the Holy Spirit as their guide in all of life, inspiring them to the love and service of others.

**Praying for the World:** On Trinity Sunday we celebrate the essential unity of our God who is in essence also distinct 'persons'. Please pray that despite the serious divisions we see across the world just now, there will also be a grassroots move in every country and between all peoples, towards a deeper unity and recognition of a common shared humanity. Pray for generosity and gentleness, as we learn about each other and help each other across artificial divides.

**Praying for the Church:** This week please pray for the meeting of the Diocesan Synod on Saturday 6th. For the Diocese to thrive, those who make decisions need calm, clear heads and compassionate, caring hearts in equal measure. As always there are different opinions about the hard questions, and so everyone needs to approach the discussions prayerfully and ready to listen. Please pray for these qualities in all Synod members. Please pray also this week for the people and leaders of all the churches in the Market Harborough group:  
All Saints, Lubenham; Great Bowden St Peter & St Paul; Transfiguration, St Hugh & St Nicholas; St Dionysius; Little Bowden with Lubenham and Great Bowden.

**Praying for the Parish, our neighbours and friends:** Please pray for the peace and well-being of all those who live on **Elms Road, Knighton Drive, Knighton Road, Northcote Road, Newstead Road.**

### **Praying for those in need this week**

Please pray for all those who are in particular need at the moment, those who are unwell in body, mind or spirit, and those anxious and worried. We especially pray for **Valerie Thompson, Neill Addison-Gutteridge and Greta Day.**

Please remember all those who have died in recent days. Ask God to bring comfort and peace to their family and friends, even in their sadness. We especially pray for the family and friends of **Mark Newell.**