

PLEASE TAKE THIS HOME FOR YOUR INFORMATION



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

**Sunday 15th March 2020
3rd Sunday of Lent**

Welcome to Morning Worship on the Third Sunday

At 8am the Revd Adrian Jones is presiding and Revd Matthew Gough preaching.

At 10am the Revd Adrian Jones is leading our service looking at 'Tough Times and Hard Questions'

A prayer for the Coronavirus outbreak

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy,
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

Please see inside on page four for some important guidance,
and also our information leaflets on the back table.

WELCOME

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

- Our worship follows the printed order of service 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 main 10am service, Sunday Club for children meets in the Narthex as usual; the children go to their Club after 'A Word for the Children'.
- As part of the 8.00am 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.
- 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

Sunday 15th March 3rd Sunday of Lent	8.00am 10.00am	Eucharist Morning Worship
Monday 16th March Parish Office Closed	7.30pm	Bell Ringing Practice
Tuesday 17th March	9.30am 10.00am	Eucharist (St Mary's) Church Cleaning
Wednesday 18th March		
Thursday 19th March	9.30am	Eucharist (St Guthlac's)
Friday 20th March		
Saturday 21st March	9.30am	MU Posie making
Sunday 22nd March Mothering Sunday	8.00am 10.00am	Eucharist Mothering Sunday Eucharist for everyone

The next monthly service of Prayer for Healing with Communion will be held on **Friday 27th March** at 11am.

Listening to God's Word

Our Bible readings today are:

8am - Exodus 17.1-7 & John 4.5-42

**10am - Jeremiah 5. 1-3, 7. 22-28, John 8. 31- 32, 42-47,
John 14. 1-7**

Title for 10am is "Fake News or False Truths? Does it matter?"

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

Corona Virus – our Christian response

The spread of the Coronavirus is proving to be a challenge for countries across the world, and although the number of cases in the UK (and Leicester) is relatively small so far, there seems little doubt that the virus will have a significant impact on all our lives, one way or the other.

As Christians we are called first, in every circumstance, to love our neighbour as ourselves. What exactly might this mean as we face the Coronavirus?

As a start we must take the official advice about handwashing and other health precautions. This will help to protect ourselves but will also reduce the chance of unknowing transmission of the virus to others.

The Archbishops have also recently issued new guidance to churches. As well as avoiding physical contact when we share the Peace, we are now to receive Communion in one kind only, that is, to receive the bread/wafers but not the wine. You will see the Priest consecrating wine but it will not be shared with the congregation.

Please don't let this concern you, as the historical Christian understanding is that receiving just the bread is still a valid and effective Holy Communion.

What we do *outside* of the church is even more important, as we seek to love our neighbours in this time. In the coming weeks we may find that our movement around the local community is restricted, and people we know may have to 'self-isolate' or be taken ill. Please have an early conversation with friends, near neighbours and those whom you know to be frail and more vulnerable, about how they can get in touch with you should they need help or be anxious. Be ready to offer assistance with shopping for instance, or with the NHS 111 telephone helpline. Be ready also, to allow *others* to help *you* – this may be their gift at this time and we should not, through pride or a sense of self-sufficiency, turn it away.

Above all, remember that we are a people of faith and hope – faith in a good God who walks close to us and helps us in times of trial, and hope

that He will bring good things out of bad times. This season of Coronavirus is an opportunity for us to demonstrate to our neighbours the same practical love that Jesus himself gave us, as the pattern and shape of our lives.

Adrian

InSPIREd

The campaign to save our spire

InSpired - our appeal for the spire

InSpired – a progress report

Thanks to your efforts and generosity, the amount raised had risen by the end of February to £33,400, of which £25,000 is attributable to donations or gift aid.

Paul Bonnett has now submitted the first of a number of applications to funding bodies and we hope these will be successful in raising the £60,000 we have assumed may be attainable from such sources. But as I have said before, these contributions are by no means guaranteed. The outcome will not be known until some time in the summer.

The InSpired Group met recently and agreed that we should continue our efforts to raise funds locally, both from donations and events, throughout the year, as originally planned.

I shall provide more information about the activities planned in the next newsletter. Meanwhile, thank you for everything you have done so far, and please keep up your efforts.

Nigel Siesage

LOOKING AHEAD TO MOTHERING SUNDAY

This year, Mothering Sunday falls on 22nd March and at St Mary's we will mark the day with a Eucharistic service that is 'family friendly' and welcoming to all ages. Do spread the news and invite friends and family to join us. *Adrian.*

SPRING SING

Many thanks to the singers and musicians of the Knighton Parish Singers, who gave us such a splendid concert on Wednesday - a real treat for a dark evening. The concert raised £462, which will be split equally between Parkinsons UK and the InSpired Appeal. Thank you.

FAIRTRADE THANKS

Many thanks to everyone who supported Fairtrade Fortnight through our coffee morning and the cake donations plus stall at last week's morning service, and to those who did the baking! We raised over £130 for the Fairtrade Foundation and generated more than £300 of Fairtrade sales. Now just keep buying Fairtrade please! *Eileen, Alison and Adrian*

CHURCHYARD FOOTPATH

I'm glad to say that the City Council have been able to start work on renewing the footpath to the Garden of Remembrance. The first section should be complete in about a week or so, but the second section may have to wait until the new financial year. I'm sorry for any inconvenience but the new footpath will be much safer and cleaner. *Adrian*

MOTHERS UNION

We shall be assembling the Mothering Sunday posies on the morning of Saturday, 21st March, in the Narthex. Any help would be greatly appreciated, and donations of foliage are very much needed.

TEA AND TALK, A TASTE OF FAITH: BUDDHISM

The tea and talk planned for Tuesday 17th March has been postponed until later in the year.

"NEITHER RASHLY NOR TIMIDLY" - BUILDING ON OUR VISION FOR ST MARY'S

Every living thing needs to grow and develop, and our Church Council recently agreed to consider seven significant ideas that will nurture growth in the Kingdom of God through the life of St Mary's. There will be more detail in the next Benefice Magazine, but briefly the ideas are:

- to use a large portable screen for the projection of words, songs and images in some of our services;
- to establish a new community garden on the site of the former 'gardener's hut' in the churchyard;
- to employ a part-time worker to initiate and develop new ways for local children and families to explore the way of Jesus, both within and outside of traditional church life;
- to create a flexible, comfortable space for prayer and small services by changing the All Souls Chapel;
- to create a larger more flexible space at the west end of the church that can be used in a variety of ways;
- to take up the Diocesan challenge to become an 'Eco-Church' by changes to our policies and everyday practices;
- to take a fresh approach to our giving and support as a church for charities, mission groups and development agencies.

At our Church Annual Meeting (APCM) on Sunday 26th April we need to elect two Church Wardens and new members of the PCC (Church Council) to help us consider each idea carefully and wisely. If you feel strongly about any of them, please do consider standing for the PCC and making your contribution to our plans. More details of the elections soon. *Adrian*

EXTERNAL LIGHTING

Planning permission has been granted for replacement lamp posts, new security lighting, lighting of the statue of Mary Magdalen on the tower and refurbishment of the west and south flood lights. Further details can be found on the PCC notice board at the back of church. An application has now been submitted for a faculty. *Simon Britton*

MUSICATHON : 18 April - 10am – 4pm

15 people have offered their musical skills and are gathering sponsors. More are required and we have 36 days to find them!

Please contact : lorna.kirk@btopenworld.com.

CAN YOU HELP WITH A LIFT?

Veronica Brown needs a lift to church and back home on Sunday 29th March for the 8.00am service. If you could help, please call Veronica on 2889284. Lunchtime is the best time to call. Thank you.

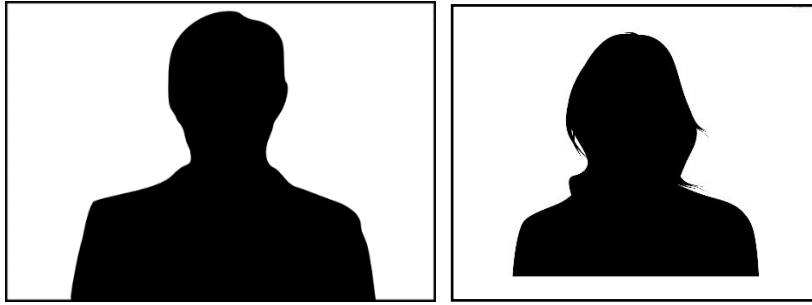
KNIGHTON PLAYERS

This year's production from Knighton Players is 'The Sword In The Stone' by Ian Jones. The performances are on **Friday 27th March** at 7.30pm and **Saturday 28th March** at 2.30pm & 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. Tickets are priced at £7 for adults and £5 for children Available from Tanya Willis and Jane Wright or contact knightonplayers@ntlworld.com Profits in aid of MENPHYS (supporting Leicestershire children and young people with disabilities for 50 years). Raffle Prizes: There will be a raffle at each of the performances. Could you provide a prize please? Judi & Bernard Tel: 288 1306 or E-mail: judiandbernard@talktalk.net

MARIE CURIE ANNUAL SPRING LUNCH

The Oadby & Wigston Fundraising Group are having their Annual Spring Lunch on **Thursday 26th March** 12 noon for 1.00pm, at the Taste Restaurant, Leicester College. This is a 4 course lunch and tickets are £19 per head. There will be a bar and a raffle. Please support this charity. For more information, call Shirley Wills on 0116 281 1401.

Wanted!



New Church Wardens

Essential Qualities

- a heart for St Mary's Church – the people and the building – and our community
- a belief that God's future for us is bright
- the ability to work with others (inc. the Vicar!)
- a commitment for 1-3 years.

It could be YOU!

Don't be put off by:

- your age or gender
- being a 'newcomer'
- being an 'old hand'
- not being 'practical'
- not being 'spiritual'.

What to do next

- talk to God
- talk to your friends
- talk to Ros Matthew or to Adrian.

"It's alright to
ask for help"

SAMARITANS



116 123

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

A charity dinner (for the **Leicester Samaritans**) has been organised on **Wednesday 14th October**, 7.00pm for 7.30pm at the Taste Restaurant, Leicester College. More details to follow. *Molly Clarke*

Sir John Stainer's

'The Crucifixion'

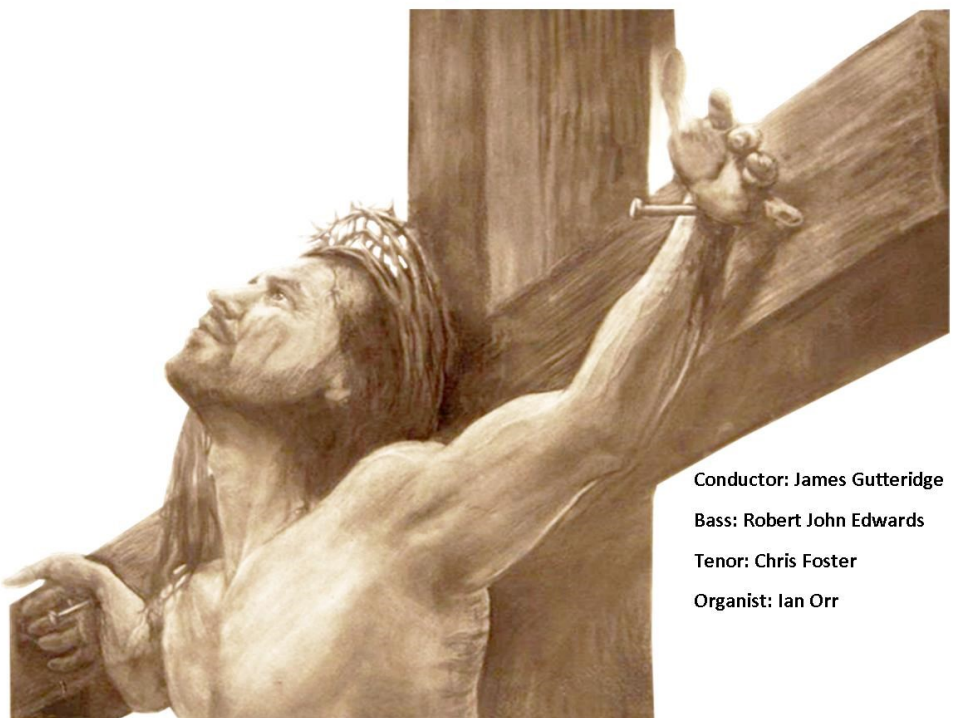
**Sunday 29th
March**

4.00 pm

**St. Mary's
Church, Melton
Mowbray**

St. Mary's Choir
&
Melton Mowbray
Choral Society

Free admission



Conductor: James Gutteridge
Bass: Robert John Edwards
Tenor: Chris Foster
Organist: Ian Orr

Contact details:

Vicar: Adrian Jones 0116 270 4268 or 07584 954414

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

Assistant Curate: Revd Matthew Gough 07754 961997

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

Revd Aphro McCullough: 0116 283 7887

Email: aphro.mccullough@btinternet.com

Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster

Email: safpta6@gmail.com 07966 376905

Revd Janet Gasper

Email: janet.gasper@hotmail.co.uk 0116 288 9646

Reader: Fiona Wingate

Email: Fiona.wingate@talktalk.net 07515 752954

Churchwarden: Rosalind Matthew

Parish Administrator: James Gutteridge 0116 270 2705

Email: 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. If you are a taxpayer and gift aid your giving, our church can claim an additional 25%.

giftaid it

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 all medical staff in our hospitals, health centres and GP practices.

Praying for the World: pray for all those who face losing their jobs and livelihoods because of the economic effects of the Coronavirus. Pray for the protection of those who live in countries without robust health services.

Praying for the Church: Pray for wise and godly leadership in all our churches, for PCCs and Church Wardens of faith, vision and purpose.

Praying for the Parish : This week please pray for those who live on:
Kew Drive, Highgate Drive, Hillcrest Road, South Kingsmead Road, Woodbank Road, Palmerstone Boulevard.

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 **Aruna and Ed 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. **Ann Hull**