



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



**Newsletter for
Sunday 26th February
1st Sunday of Lent**

Collect for this week

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
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.



DIARY

Sunday 26th February <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>	9.00am Weekly Eucharist (trad) 10.30am Sung Eucharist 10.30am Morning Prayer at St Guthlacs
Monday 27th February	7.00pm Bell ringing practice
Tuesday 28th February	9.30am Holy Communion (St Mary's) 11.00am Funeral - Vic Ironmonger 2.00pm MU Fellowship (Parish Centre)
Wednesday 1st March	10.30m Wednesday Small Group (Centre) 8.00pm Compline (Zoom)
Thursday 2nd March	9.30am Holy Communion (St Guthlacs)
Friday 3rd March	7.00pm Choir Practice
Saturday 4th March	10am - 12 noon Fairtrade Open Church Coffee Morning
Sunday 5th March <i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i>	9.00am Weekly Eucharist 10.30am All Age Worship 10.30am Eucharist at St Guthlacs

Please check the online diary for updates and beyond the week ahead: www.stmarysknighton.co.uk

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 Bible readings for **Sunday 26th February** are:
Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7 and Matthew 4.1-11

Church Family News

Vic Ironmonger - We now have details of Vic's funeral, which will be held at St Mary's on Tuesday 28th February at 11am and then at Great Glen Crematorium. Everyone is welcome to come and pay their respects of course. Please do continue to support Margaret and Lesley, and remember them in your prayers.

Wednesday Morning Group: Our small Wednesday Morning Group continues to meet each week at 10.30am in the small lounge (or 'Cottage Room') in the parish centre. During Lent we'll be looking at a series of Bible studies called "Exploring God's Mercy", by Steven Croft, the Bishop of Oxford. Everyone is welcome to join us for coffee/tea, discussion and prayers. *Adrian*

Fairtrade Fortnight:

Easter Eggs - It's time once more to order your Fairtrade Easter Eggs again, ready to give to your friends and family. They are plastic and palm oil free, and have a new design and activity booklet for 2023. Please sign up by Sunday 5th March either with me or on the form at the back of the church. They are £4.50 each but I don't need the payment until I give you the eggs nearer to Easter. Thank you. *Alison Roche*

Fairtrade Open Church Coffee Morning - on Saturday 4th March we are holding an 'Open Church' coffee morning from 10am - 12 noon, in the church. As it is Lent, this will be a rather slimmer version of our usual Coffee Mornings, but nevertheless as it is also Fairtrade Fortnight we will have a stall of Fairtrade goods (tea, coffee, snacks, ornaments and gifts for example) as well. Please do come along and support both the church and Fairtrade! *Adrian*

Mothers' Union Fellowship Our next meeting is on Tuesday, 28th February when Valerie Thomson will talk to us about her life in Jordan. We'll gather in the Parish Centre Lounge at 1.30 for a 2.00pm start. As always, non-members are very welcome to join us. LP

A Place of Peace - I'm pleased to say that the first part of our project to enhance the churchyard grounds as a 'Place of Peace' has begun this week. Tanya Willis has begun a planting programme in the borders at the Brinsmead Road end of the Garden of Remembrance, that will make this an even better spot to sit quietly and reflect. We have taken into consideration all your feedback about the original plans, so there will not be any hard surface or features that would prevent this grassed area being used for the future interment of ashes. Do please talk to me if you'd like any more information. *Adrian*

A MESSAGE FROM THE FAIRTRADE FOUNDATION:

"Did you know coffee, bananas and chocolate could soon be much more difficult to find on our shelves?

Climate Change is making crops like these harder and harder to grow. Combined with deeply unfair trade, communities growing these crops are being pushed to the brink.

The current financial crisis is taking a heavy toll on smallholder farmers and workers, with the costs of fuel, fertiliser and food all increasing beyond what is affordable. If they aren't getting a fair price to cover their costs at this critical time. it means they won't be able to grow food in the future.

Whatever your budget and wherever you shop, consumers can change Fairtrade products today to support farmers by ensuring they have fairer pay to face the climate crisis and continue producing the foods we love. By choosing Fairtrade now, you're taking a stand with farmers and workers worldwide for fairer incomes, so together we can protect the future of our food."

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT this year runs from Monday 27th February to Sunday 12th March.

As usual, we shall have Fairtrade cakes with our coffee on Sunday 5th March, with donations going to the Fairtrade Foundation.

Your Benefice Magazine

I shall start compiling the next magazine in the first week of March, with a view to publishing in mid-March. I do my best to cover the full range of activities, plans and thoughts at both our churches, but I depend on hearing about these things from you, the readers. I can't, for instance, attend every event, so a paragraph or two, plus a picture, would be very welcome. So would advance notice of events planned for the rest of the year.

All contributions are appreciated. Don't be shy. Please send your contributions, preferably in Word, to stmaryknighton.magazine@gmail.com.

News of Brenda Carlisle

Brenda lived in Hylion Road for many years. She joined us at St Mary's and worshipped with us until her health and confusion made her housebound. Recently she has moved into a Care Home in Evington, an area she knows well. Her son is pleased to report that she has settled in well and is really happy. She now remembers her son and looks forward to his visits. Many of you may also remember her from Sir Jonathan North Girls School where she was the Matron for many years.



THE BRITISH RED CROSS acknowledges with grateful thanks the recent generous donations given in the bucket collections for the TURKEY / SYRIA EARTHQUAKE DISASTER on Sundays 12th and 19th February 2023:
ST. MARY'S CHURCH £423.04. and ST. GUTHLAC'S CHURCH £153.00.

Lent 2023

Lent is the traditional part of the Christian year that covers the weeks before Easter, and acts as a preparation for the sombre reflection of Good Friday and the joyful celebration of Easter Day.

This year the start of Lent, **Ash Wednesday**, is 22nd February, and as usual, everyone is encouraged to come to our special benefice Communion service at 7.30pm, at St Guthlac's Church. The choir will lead us in a reflective service with traditional hymns, and we will offer 'ashing' if you wish - the marking of a small cross in ashes on your forehead, symbolising repentance and a turning back towards God.

Lent is also a time for growing in faith through spiritual 'disciplines' – perhaps you will give up some luxury and keep the money for charity, or take up a special practice for these six weeks, such as a weekly donation to the foodbank or reading a Christian book.

There are two opportunities for you to join other members of our benefice churches in a weekly discussion group during Lent as well. We shall be using a booklet called ***“Exploring God's Mercy: five images of salvation”***, written by the Bishop of Oxford, the Rt Revd Steven Croft. You can join a group on Wednesday mornings, at 10.30am in the small Meeting Room (the Cottage Room) in the St Mary's Parish Centre, OR at 2.30pm on Thursday afternoons, at the home of Janet Edwards. Please sign up on the list at the back of the church so that we have an idea of numbers coming. I'll be in touch with everyone to make sure that you know where to go! Our Lent discussion groups begin on Wednesday 1st March and Thursday 2nd March.

Let's pray that Lent will be a time that God speaks to us all, and that, as he helps us understand our weaknesses afresh, we might also find more loving understanding of each other.



World Day of Prayer Friday 3rd March

A service for everyone

prepared by Christian Women of Taiwan

2.00pm at St Thomas More Church

7.30pm at Clarendon Park Congregational Church

QUIZ EVENING FRIDAY 17th MARCH at 7pm

AT ST GUTHLAC'S CHURCH

Please join us for our relaxed quiz evening with a 2 course buffet supper. Do invite family and friends to come along and make up a team with you, but couples and people on their own can team up on the evening (maximum team size 4) Tickets £8 Tickets from Lesley Meakin

l.c.meakin@ntlworld.com 0116 2103690

Bring your own alcoholic drinks. Tea and coffee on sale. Raffle. Proceeds to church funds

**You are invited to come along to our Tea and
Talk evening for March.....**

**“FROM CLASSICAL TO
STAGE AND SCREEN”**



**AN ORGAN RECITAL BY
GEOFFREY HAMES
DIPL.CM**

Tuesday 14th March at 7pm

St Guthlac's Church, Holbrook Rd LE2 3LF

Free event and refreshments: Do join us!

LENT BOOKS

SEVEN DEADLY SINS



SLOTH



GREED



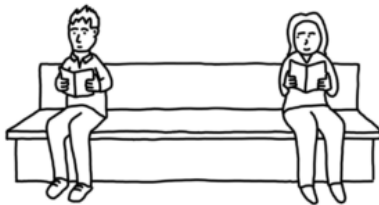
ENVY



GLUTTONY



PRIDE



LUST



WRATH

CartoonChurch.com

Online Compline on Wednesdays—8.00pm

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81118183080>

Meeting ID: 811 1818 3080

Dial by your location **0203 481 5240**



Another first for Women at Leicester Cathedral

Leicester Cathedral is celebrating having a fully female clergy team comprising: Acting Dean, Revd Canon Karen Rooms, also a residentiary canon of the Cathedral; Canon Precentor Revd Canon Emma Davies; Canon Pastor Revd Canon Alison Adams and curates Revds Manuela Schmucki and Julia Bradshaw and we believe this might be a first in an English Cathedral.

This continues a tradition of female firsts for Leicester Cathedral. In 1974 Leicester Cathedral was the first to admit girls to its choir.

When Viv Faull (now Bishop of Bristol) was appointed Provost in 2000 she was the first woman to hold the role, before becoming the first female Cathedral Dean, the Dean of Leicester, in 2002. The Bishop of Leicester, Martyn Snow said: *It is a delight to work alongside Karen as Acting Dean and I hope very much that celebrating this landmark moment for the Cathedral community and the wider diocese will encourage and inspire others to explore their vocation and contribute to the flourishing of the ministry of women."*

Contact details:

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

Ordinand: Cecilia Adjadje 07425 705221
cadjadje@yahoo.com (Wed, Thurs, Sat, Sun)

Revd Aphro McCullough 0116 283 7887
aphro.mccullough@btinternet.com

Revd Janet Gasper 0116 288 9646
jgasper925@gmail.com

Lay Reader: Fiona Wingate 07515 752954
fiona.wingate@talktalk.net

Churchwarden: Sian Howard 07932 557646
sian.howard@tiscali.co.uk

Churchwarden: Beryl Bonfield 0116 2702202
berylbonfield1945@gmail.com

Parish Administrator: James Gutteridge 0116 270 2705
office@knightonparish.co.uk

Music Co-ordinator and Choir Director: Michael Relph
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 Lorna Pollard, Planned Giving Scheme Secretary: email: stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com or phone 01162704272. If you are a taxpayer and gift aid your giving, our church can claim an additional 25%. Cheques to **Knighthon PCC** please.

Prayers for this week

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

(Colossians 4.2)

Praying for the world: Please pray for a renewed effort amongst all world leaders and those in key decision-making roles, towards achieving a just peace in Ukraine and an end to the suffering of the civilian population. Pray for the restraint of violence and the provision of support and help for those in most need.

Praying for the Church: Please pray for Bishop Martyn as he undertakes a Lent Pilgrimage to several parts of the Diocese - beginning at Matthew Gough's parishes in Anstey, Thurstaston and Cropston. Pray for wisdom, insight and strength for both Bishop Martyn and Bishop Saju as they lead our diocese in these challenging times.

Praying for the Parish: Please pray for the peace and well-being of all those who live on **Palmerstone Way, Link Road, Ryde Avenue, Shanklin Drive, Shanklin Gardens, Shanklin Avenue.**

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 **Bernard Stone 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. We especially remember **Vic Ironmonger** and **Brian Martin** .

Remember too, all those whose anniversaries fall at this time