St Mary Magdalen Church of England, Knighton

Newsletter for Sunday 8th November 2026 Remembrance Sunday

Collects for this week

Almighty God,
you have knit together your elect
in one communion and fellowship
in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord:
grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints
in all virtuous and godly living
that we may come to those inexpressible joys
that you have prepared for those who truly love you;
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.



God of holiness,
your glory is proclaimed in every age:
as we rejoice in the faith of your saints,
inspire us to follow their example
with boldness and joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Week Ahead..

Sunday 8th November *Remembrance Sunday*	9.00am Eucharist (trad. language) 10.30am Remembrance Day Eucharist 10.30am Remembrance All Age Worship at St Guthlac's
Monday 9th November	2.00pm-4.00pm Drop-In (Parish Centre) 7.30pm Bell Ringing practice
Tuesday 10th November	9.30am Holy Communion (St Mary's) 10.30am CTF Team Meeting
Wednesday 11th November	8.00pm Online Compline
Thursday 12th November	9.30am Holy Communion (St Guthlac's) 11.30am Church Cleaning
Friday 13th November	
Saturday 14th November	
Sunday 15th November *2nd Sunday before Advent*	9.00am Eucharist 10.30am Morning Worship 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]

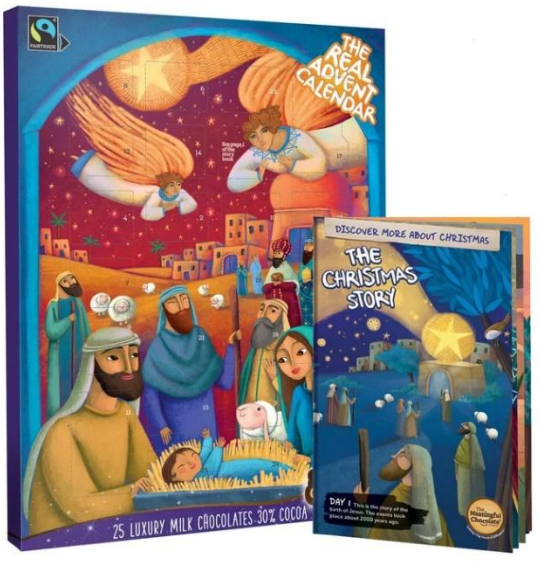
Listening to God's Word this Sunday :

The readings for Remembrance Sunday,
Sunday 8th November, are
Micah 4.1-5 and **John 15.9-17**.

Church Family News

"The Difference We Made" is the title of the special leaflet given to everyone at church and online with the newsletter last week. It gives information about all the activities of our church in 2025, and reminds us to be attentive to all that God is doing, even when we have our attention elsewhere or are too tired to notice! It is also a challenge to us all – the money we receive as a church each year falls seriously below what we need to run the church in its present form. Looking ahead to 2027, will we meet the twin targets of £10,000 in special gifts to fund the refurbishment of the Parish Centre toilets and roof, alongside an increase of 10% in regular monthly giving?? Please read your copy of the leaflet carefully and pray about your own response. Thank you in anticipation! *Adrian*

Advent is coming! It's time to let me have your orders for Fairtrade Advent Calendars. Please sign up by Sunday 8th November either with me, or on the list at the back of church. They are £4.95 - a whole pound cheaper than if bought individually - and contain no palm oil, and as little plastic as possible. They have a new activity booklet too. No need to pay until you receive them. Thank you for helping us be a Fairtrade Church.
Alison Roche



Vases in memory of Adri Cook

Those who remember Adri Cook will know she loved flowers, her garden and how much the church meant to her. After she died, a year ago now, I was asked by the family to find a vase for the church in her memory. It was no easy task to find something I felt suitable and that Adri would have approved of.



However, I'm pleased to say that we now have not just one, but four new vases for the church. One will live permanently in the Lady Chapel and the other three put to good use in other parts of the church. On behalf of the Flower Guild, my thanks go to the family for this fitting gesture in memory of Adri and hope that using the vases will bring pleasure to the congregation for years to come.
Deborah Martin

Remembrance Sunday



Next Sunday, 8th November, is Remembrance Sunday, and as usual we will be remembering all those killed and injured in conflicts since World War One in our morning Eucharist, beginning at 10.30am. We will mark the two-minute silence at 11am and present wreaths of poppies in an act of commemoration.
We are very grateful to Cherry Rae-Smith and Lorna Kirk for making British Legion poppies available at church as we have approached Remembrance Sunday.

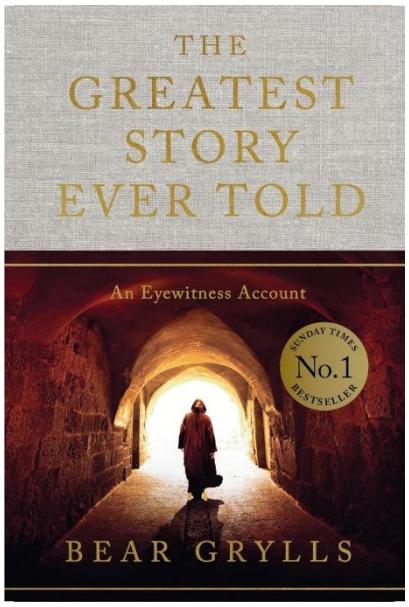
COMING UP ……. What's happening at St Mary's on Sundays in November 2026

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!

- On **Sunday 8th November** we worship together in a service of Sung Eucharist for Remembrance Sunday, with the traditional two minutes silence at 11am.
- **Sunday 15th November** is the third of the month, and so we share Morning Worship marking **Safeguarding Sunday**.
- We join together for Sung Eucharist on **Sunday 22nd November**, the last Sunday of the Church's year as we remember **Christ the King**.
- This month we have a fifth Sunday as well, **29th November**, and we will be joining the congregation at St Guthlac's for a joint benefice Sung Eucharist to mark **Advent Sunday**.

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).

A modern-day adventurer recounts “The Greatest Story Ever Told”



Bear Grylls is a world-famous British adventurer, television presenter, author, and former Special Forces soldier. He is best known for hosting high-adrenaline wilderness survival television shows, but has also authored over 90 books, held the role of Chief Scout for over 15 years and was one of the youngest people ever to climb Mount Everest, at the age of 23. He is also clear about his Christian faith, calling it the "backbone" of his life and marriage, and has described his relationship with Jesus as his "north star" and "compass". He claims a "A wild, not Churchy" faith, and is candid about his own doubts and vulnerabilities. Now he has written **“The Greatest Story Ever Told**”.

The subtitle of the book is ‘An eyewitness account’ and it is the life, death and resurrection of Jesus told through several eyes: Mary Jesus’ mother, Thomas, Simon, John and Mary of Magdalene. Bear has drawn heavily on the gospels, using the words of Jesus as found in the Bible but also adding imaginative dialogue. He uses historical information, for example around the nativity stories, to bring an authenticity to the whole account.

The “Greatest Story” has become a number 1 best-seller and won the Christian Book of the Year Award 2026. It has been described as *“A vivid, immersive retelling that makes the Gospel feel immediate and real…an immersive biography of Jesus for believers and sceptics alike.”*

Beautifully bound in a hardback edition it would make a good gift for someone who enjoys a good story well told and might like to think afresh about who Jesus actually was and his importance today. At the end of the book there are sources where the reader can find out more about Jesus.

If you would like to order a copy as a gift for Christmas, please sign the list at the back of the church by 15th November or get in touch with me directly – each copy costs £10 and payment can be made on delivery. There is a copy at the back of church that you can look at before ordering.

It can be hard to find our own words to explain just how unique and special Jesus is, but this book could be a significant step in anyone’s journey of faith. Who do you know who needs this gift at Christmas? (It could be you!)
Adrian



Knighton Christmas Tree Festival

Saturday 28th November 10am – 5pm

Sunday 29th November 11am – 5pm

St Mary's Church, Brinsmead Road, Leicester LE2 3WD
Admission £2.50 - Children free - Assistance dogs only
All proceeds to LOROS and the Church Community Projects

Leicester City Council

Light refreshments, raffle and children's activities
Event supported by Knighton Ward Community Fund

Knighton Christmas Tree Festival
Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th November 2026

Hamper, Help and Cakes!

Hampers

We would like donations to include in our luxury hampers, which will be raffled during the weekend. A list of suggested items is on the noticeboard at the back of the church. No homemade items and please check the sell-by dates.

Help

We need your help during course of the weekend. We have more trees than ever before and we hope that this means more paying visitors and more proceeds for charity.

If you can help for one, two or three sessions during the weekend please sign up at the back of the church.

Cake

If you could help by providing a cake or cakes to sell at our *Christmas Café,* that would be amazing. The cakes can be homemade or shop bought. Both really help and you would be surprised how many cakes are eaten during the weekend!

Please note:

- Easy to handle cakes are best as they are served on paper napkins
- No nuts
- For homemade cakes, please list your ingredients as we are often asked because of allergies and intolerances

Again there is a sign-up at the back of the church.

If you are not in church please email; knightonctf24@gmail.com with your cake or hamper promises and/ or your availability to help during the weekend.

Thank you all for your continuing support for the Festival .

The Festival Team

Music at the Knighton Christmas Tree Festival

Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th November 2026

Saturday 28th November

10-11 **St. Mary's Bellringers** ring in the festival
11-12 **Semper Singers**
1 – 2pm **Laura Choir,** will sing carols to join in with
2-5pm **The Titanic Boys,** a local Jazz group

Sunday 29th November

12.00-1.00 **Recorder Group**
1 - 3 **Knighton Quartet**
3.30 - 4.30 **St Mary's TreeO**
5pm **Carols around the Trees**

All times approximate.



KNIGHTON CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2026

Christmas Card

A unique card, specially commissioned from local artist
Helen Newton



Packs of 10 cards (6 ins x 4 ins with envelopes) **£8**

Message inside reads

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year

Cards will be available from the beginning of November. There is a limited print run. To order your cards, there will be a list at the back of St Mary's; or email knightonctf24@gmail.com, saying how many packs you require. (Please put 'Christmas Cards' in the subject line of your email).

All proceeds from sales go to the Festival's local charity this year, LOROS, and St Mary's community projects.

SAFEGUARDING.

IT'S EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.



We'll be holding our Safeguarding Sunday service on:

Sunday 15th November,
10.30am

Our theme is
"LOVE PROTECTS"

All welcome!



Find out more
safeguardingsunday.org

Safeguarding Sunday is a campaign by the charity Thirtyone:eight. Registered in England and Wales No. 100449 and Scotland No. SC040578

Free Film Night

at St Guthlac's Church

Holbrook Rd

LE2 3LF





All welcome!



The Terminal

(Cert 12, 128 mins)

Tues 10th November 7.00pm

In this comedy drama, an Eastern European visitor (Tom Hanks) becomes trapped in a New York airport terminal when a war breaks out and erases his country from the map, voiding his passport. To survive he needs to make friends with the airport staff including a flight attendant. (Catherine Zeta-Jones)

Free refreshments and the chance to socialise

Everything we do is made possible by the generous giving of our church community.

HOW TO GIVE

BANK TRANSFER

Make a one-off donation or set up a standing order to give regularly.
Account Name: *Knighton PCC*
Account Number: *43592286*
Sort Code: *20-49-17*
Reference: 'One-Off' / 'Regular'

VIA PGS

Make a regular donation via the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) by visiting our parish page at **parishgiving.org.uk**
Parish Code: 190619025

ONLINE

Scan this QR code to give online.

CASH OR CHEQUE

You can place cheques or cash in the envelopes provided. Please make cheques payable to **'Knighton PCC'** and fill in the Gift Aid form if you are eligible.

GIFT AID

If you're a UK taxpayer by filling out a Gift Aid Declaration, we can claim an extra 25% of your gift from the government (at no extra cost to you!) which means your gift goes even further! Complete the form on your giving envelope or email:
stmarysknightongiving@gmail.com

St Mary Magdalen, Brinsmead Road, Leicester. LE2 3WD
www.stmarysknighton.co.uk Charity No. 1130923

Contact details:

Vicar: Revd Adrian Jones 07919 262399 adrian.jones@zoho.com
(rest day normally Friday)

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

Revd Janet Gasper 0116 288 9646 jgasper925@gmail.com

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

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

Churchwarden: VACANCY

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

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 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.

Virtual Compline 8.00pm Wednesday evenings

Our Virtual Compline services continue on Wednesdays in October and November 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 080 followed by #
Do join us!

Praying through this week

A prayer for peacemakers
History can inspire or trap.
Walls can protect or divide.
Words can encourage or inflame.
Power can free or destroy.
Touch can comfort or violate.
Peace can be shared or withheld.
Gracious God, on this day,
when we remember past and present conflicts,
we pray for the divided peoples of the world,
that leaders, governments and each one of us
may use our resources,
our opportunities and our lives
in the service of reconciliation,
for the sake of future generations
and to the glory of your name.
Amen.

Prayer in a time of hopelessness
We entrust to you, eternal God,
those times when we can see only shadows
and lose sight of the hope to come;
the times when suffering seems so senseless,
life so fragile, war so unstoppable and death so permanent.
Bless us with the assurance that you are in all things,
the tragic and the beautiful,
the nightmare and the dream,
the light and the darkness.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ
the peace of the world, today, tomorrow and forever.
Amen.

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 **Veronica Brown and Valerie Thompson.**

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.