



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

ECO CHURCH
AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT

**We are a
Fairtrade
Church**



**Newsletter for
Sunday 26th April 2026
4th Sunday of Easter**

Collects for this week

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your
Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be
gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.



The Week Ahead..

Sunday 26th April <i>4th Sunday of Easter</i>	9.00am Eucharist (trad) 10.30am Sung Eucharist 11.45am Annual Church Meeting 10.30am Morning Prayer at St Guthlac's
Monday 27th April	2.00pm-4.00pm Drop-In (Parish Centre) 7.30pm Bell Ringing practice
Tuesday 28th April	9.30am Holy Communion (St Mary's) 2.00pm Mothers' Union Fellowship
Wednesday 29th April	8.00pm Online Compline
Thursday 30th April	9.30am Holy Communion (St Guthlac's) 11.30am Church cleaning
Friday 1st May <i>Philip and James, Apostles</i>	11.00am Thanksgiving Service for the lives of Peter and Mary Smith
Saturday 2nd May	
Sunday 3rd May <i>5th Sunday of Easter</i>	9.00am Eucharist 10.30am Worship for the Whole Church 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]

Church Family News

A Service of Thanksgiving for the lives of Peter and Mary Smith

Back in March we received the sad news that our friends and long-time members of St Mary's, Peter and Mary Smith had died; Mary in February and Peter last summer.

Although they were living in the Isle of Wight recently, Peter and Mary had been part of St Mary's for 63 years and so we're very glad to be remembering them at a Service of Thanksgiving here on Friday 1st May at 11am.

Do please join us to give thanks for their lives and friendship, and stay on for some refreshments in church afterwards.

Adrian

Sad news—Brian Arnold

"Easter Weekend I had a phone call from my nephew to say my brother had died. Although this was expected I was still very upset. Brian was a true Christian. We were good friends and I loved him. For all friends at St Mary's who remember Brian, his funeral service is on Thursday 7th May, 11.30am, in Stoneygate Baptist Church. Everyone is warmly invited."

Molly Clarke

Mothers' Union Fellowship Our next meeting is on Tuesday, 28th April in the Parish Centre at our usual 1.30 for a 2pm start. Helen Long will be our speaker and she will tell us about Owston Church. As always, non-members are very welcome to join us. LP

Listening to God's Word:

The readings on **Sunday 26th April** are:

Acts 2.42-end and **John 10.1-10.**

Everybody is Somebody in the Body of Christ! – *and the body needs all its parts to work well.....*

At our Annual Meeting on Sunday (APCM) we have the opportunity to hear from our Church Council (PCC) about all that we did together last year, 2025. The PCC guides and directs the life of the church in partnership with the Ministry Team, and makes the important decisions about how we order our worship, how we support outreach to the community, how we use our buildings and what we will spend our money on. The PCC meets about eight times a year, for a two hour evening meeting.

PCC members are elected at the Annual Meeting and usually have a place for three years. This year we have **five** spaces to fill, as three people come to the end of their terms, we have a one year vacancy still unfilled, and one person is stepping down early for personal reasons.

As the Body of Christ we do need to have all our parts to work well! Without a full PCC we miss out on the necessary wisdom and experience to make good decisions – we need a variety of viewpoints too and the different questions that different thinking brings.

Please do consider if this role might be one way that YOU can play a full part as a member of the Body of Christ here.

Nomination forms will be available in church on Sunday and at the meeting, and are attached here too. Please do talk to me for more information. *Adrian*

APCM
Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Annual Church Meeting 2026: Our Annual Meeting (APCM) this year is on Sunday 26th April, beginning at 11.45am with the Vestry Meeting to elect Church Wardens, and then at noon the meeting that considers our Annual Report and Financial Statements. The papers for the meeting are all available in Church this weekend and are also being sent by email to our contacts list.

Our Annual Meeting is an important moment in our church life together - an opportunity to take stock, raise questions, review the past and look forwards. It's also the time to elect Church Wardens and PCC members - we have need several new PCC members this year so please consider carefully if this might be a way in which *you* can support St Mary's, and take a nomination form from the back of church or from me.

Please do make the effort to stay after church on 26th for an hour extra (we should be finished by 12.45pm) - the Church is the Body of Christ and it needs all its parts to work properly!

yours - *Adrian*



A poster for an organ recital. The background features a stylized organ console with blue and yellow vertical stripes. A blue tag with the word 'FREE' is pinned to the left, and a yellow tag with 'WELCOME TO ALL' is pinned to the right. The text is centered and reads: 'ORGAN RECITAL BY GEOFFREY HAMES'. Below this, it says 'FROM CLASSICAL AND ROMANTIC, TO POP, AND A DASH OF LADY GAGA'. At the bottom, it provides the date and location: 'TUESDAY 12TH MAY 2026 7PM ST GUTHLAC'S CHURCH, HOLBROOK ROAD, KNIGHTON, LE2 3LF'.

FREE

WELCOME TO ALL

**ORGAN RECITAL
BY
GEOFFREY HAMES**

FROM CLASSICAL AND ROMANTIC, TO POP,
AND A DASH OF LADY GAGA

**TUESDAY 12TH MAY 2026 7PM
ST GUTHLAC'S CHURCH, HOLBROOK
ROAD, KNIGHTON, LE2 3LF**

COFFEE MORNING

On Saturday 9th May 2026

From 10 am - 12 noon

*In St Mary Magdalen Church,
Brinsmead Road, Knighton,
Leicester LE2 3WG*

Stalls to include

*Plants, Cakes,
Books, Jigsaws,
Gifts & a Raffle*

*Just come along
Everyone welcome*

COMING UP What's happening at St Mary's on Sundays in April and May 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 the fourth **Sunday, 26th April**, we'll share a Sung Eucharist once again and reflect on the life of the church over the last year and looking ahead (with our Annual Meeting after the service, at 11.45am).
- **Sunday 3rd May** begins a new month with Worship for the Whole Church (our new name for All Age Worship – expressing the value we give to everyone and their participation in worship).
- **Sunday 10th May**, is the first second Sunday and our service today is a Sung Eucharist.
- Our Morning Worship on **Sunday 17th May** is a service without Communion, that gives space for doing things slightly differently.
- The fourth **Sunday of May is 24th**, and we come together for a service of Sung Eucharist as we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit at **Pentecost**.
- There is also a fifth Sunday in May – we join together for a joint Benefice Eucharist on **Trinity Sunday, 31st May** – this time we are hosted at St Guthlac's at 10.30am.

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).



ST. GUTHLAC'S CHURCH MAY FAYRE
Saturday 16th May 2026

11:00am – 2:00pm

Holbrook Road, Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

PLANTS & GARDENING

Summer Bedding Plants
Vegetables & Herbs
Annuals & Perennials

FOOD & REFRESHMENTS

Coffee, Tea & Cakes
Lunches
Popcorn & Soft Drinks

STALLS & ACTIVITIES

Cakes & Preserves
Knitted Goods
Jigsaws & Games
Jewellery
Tombola
Craft
Leicestershire Family History Society

FREE ADMISSION – ALL WELCOME!

Knighton Wild



Reminders:

Talk about House Sparrows

22nd April 7.30 pm

Walk at Knighton Park

2nd May 2.00 pm

Come and hear about House Sparrows and the 2025 Survey in
Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Wednesday 22nd April 2026, 7.30pm

Knighton Parish Centre, Church Lane, Knighton LE2 3WG

Admission: £3.00 cash on the door.

House Sparrows are cheeky, small birds that people often see in their gardens and that come to bird feeders year round for seeds.

It's a surprise to many people, but the population of House Sparrows in the UK is in decline. Like so many British birds, their numbers have gone down over recent years, and they are now on the Red List of Birds of Conservation Concern in the UK, meaning they are threatened with extinction as breeding birds in the UK. If you live in West Knighton or Clarendon Park you may still have House Sparrows chirping in the hedges and nesting where they can, but they have largely disappeared from South Knighton.

In 2025 the Leicestershire and Rutland Ornithological Society (LROS) engaged its members and other volunteers in a survey of House Sparrows across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. Come along on 22nd April to hear Richard Garnett, the Chair of LROS, talking about House Sparrows, their habits and what they have found out from the survey.

Walk in Knighton Park, 2nd May 2026

Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Nature Recovery Strategy has produced a list of 100 indicator species that they want people to record to help provide a baseline of what is in the area now, so that they will be able to measure the effects of the strategy in the future.

Join us for the first of three walks that we are planning this year to look for some of these indicator species and record them in Knighton. The first walk will be in Knighton Park on Saturday 2nd May 2026 at 2.00pm. The walk will take no more than two hours. We shall meet in the Park next to the main car park on Palmerston Way. For safety, please don't stand waiting in the car park, but move into the park.

If you are interested in joining us, please email Knighton Wild by clicking [here](#) or emailing info@knightonwild.org.uk, giving us your name, how many people are coming, and contact details such as a mobile number so that we can contact you if we need to cancel due to bad weather.

Virtual Compline 8.00pm Wednesday evenings

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 #

JOIN US FOR A

QUIZ NIGHT

FOR CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Friday 8 May
Stoneygate Baptist Church
7pm for 7.30pm start

SUGGESTED DONATION
£3 PER PERSON

REFRESHMENTS AND RAFFLE

COME AS A TEAM
OR JOIN ONE ON THE NIGHT



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: Sian Howard 07932 557646
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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 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: During the month of April please continue to pray for our fellow members of the congregation and church family, especially this month those whose surnames begin with the letters M, N, O and P. Pray that they will know the presence of Jesus walking alongside them and that they will feel warmed by the encouragement of his story told throughout the Bible.

Praying for the World: Please pray for the leaders of key nations in the world at the moment - those who are caught up in conflict and may not want or see a way to peace. Pray for Mojtaba Khamenei (Supreme Leader of Iran), Vladimir Putin (President of Russia), Donald Trump (President of the USA) and Volodymyr Zelenskyy (President of Ukraine). Please pray that as individuals they will be touched by the Holy Spirit of God and turn towards the way that will bring lasting peace for their people.

Praying for the Church: Please pray for our PCC, Church Wardens and Ministry Team now that the Annual Meeting has taken place. Pray for wisdom in leadership and decision making, especially when we need to consider proposals for our emerging Minster Community. Give thanks for everyone who has already found their part in building a healthy church here, and pray that we will all be able to see how we too can be part of the Body of Christ on Earth today.

Praying for the Parish, our neighbours and friends: 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 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 **John Matthews and Neill Addison-Gutteridge.** 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 **Robert (Bob) Hattersley, Andrew Willis (Snr) and Brian Arnold.**