



**St Mary Magdalen Church,
Knighton**
Sunday 16th January 2022
2nd Sunday of Epiphany

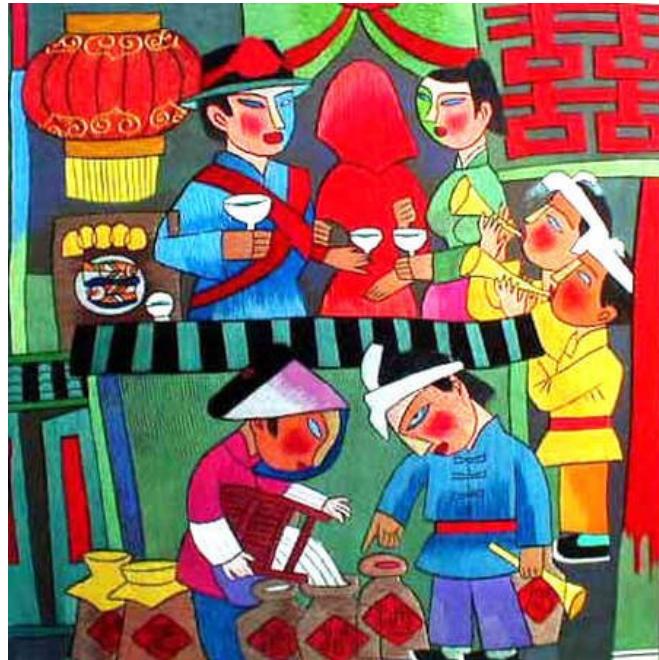
ECO CHURCH
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**Join us in prayer, worship and life together,
this Sunday and through the week**

Collect

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
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.



Wedding at Cana' by He Qi

DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

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|------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Sunday 16th January | 9.00am 10.30am 10.30am | Weekly Eucharist 'Fresh' Eucharist at St Guthlac's |
| Monday 17th January | 1.15pm | Funeral |
| Tuesday 18th January | 9.30am | Eucharist |
| Wednesday 19th January | 7.00pm 8.00 pm | Choir Practice Compline on Zoom |
| Thursday 20th January | 9.30am 7.30pm | Eucharist at St Guthlac's PCC (Narthex) |
| Friday 21st January | 7.00pm | Choir Practice |
| Saturday 22nd January | | |
| Sunday 23rd January | 9.00am 10.30am 10.30am | Weekly Eucharist (trad) Sung Eucharist Morning Prayer at St Guthlac's |

Sunday Club, for children at primary 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?

Mothers' Union Fellowship

A reminder of the next meeting on our usual fourth Tuesday of the month - **25th January at 2.30pm in St Mary's**. Our speaker will be the Rev Alison Roche. All are welcome – not just MU members. LP

Christian Aid Christmas Appeal Donations to this appeal totalled £265, to which will be added £47.50 in Gift Aid. Many thanks for your generosity. Eileen McKellican

Precautions against the spread of Corona Virus

During the on-going pandemic it is right and good that we take some sensible precautions when we meet together for worship in church.

Can I ask you once more to be careful about **sanitising** your hands as you arrive and as you leave?

We are now required to wear a **face mask** in church.

Please keep the side chapels available as spaces for those who would prefer to continue **sitting 2m apart**, and please ensure that you leave space in the pews whenever you can.

We will continue to offer **communion** as wafers only and will not use the altar rail as yet. Please keep your mask on as you wait to receive.

Please remember to give each other **space at coffee time**, particularly if you take your mask off to drink – please spread out in the building rather than bunch together in the Narthex.

In summary, please do continue to act kindly towards each other, try not to take offence easily and to make allowances for others who may be more or less cautious than yourself. Our fellowship together is much more important than getting everyone to agree with us!

Revd Adrian Jones

Parish Office

Please note that James will be following Government guidance and working mostly from home, but he will be in the Parish Office once per week. Please continue to email the office as usual and if you need to call James at home, please call **01664 569556**. You can also still leave messages on the office phone **0116 270 2705** and these will be dealt with as soon as possible.

Listening to God's Word

Our Bible readings for **Sunday 16th January** are:

Isaiah 62.1-5

Zion's new name

62 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet,
till her vindication shines out like the dawn,
her salvation like a blazing torch.

2 The nations will see your vindication,
and all kings your glory;
you will be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will bestow.

3 You will be a crown of splendour in the LORD's hand,
a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

4 No longer will they call you Deserted,
or name your land Desolate.

But you will be called Hephzibah,
and your land Beulah;
for the LORD will take delight in you,
and your land will be married.

5 As a young man marries a young woman,
so will your Builder marry you;
as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride,
so will your God rejoice over you.

John 2.1-11

Jesus changes water into wine

2 On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there,² and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.³ When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, 'They have no more wine.'

4 'Woman, why do you involve me?' Jesus replied. 'My hour has not yet come.'

5 His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.'

6 Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from eighty to a hundred and twenty litres.

7 Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water'; so they filled them to the brim.

8 Then he told them, 'Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.'

They did so,⁹ and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realise where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside¹⁰ and said, 'Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now.'

11 What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Sundays in January and February: “*Women of the Bible*”

As we move from Epiphany towards Lent our 10.30am Sunday morning services are going to look more closely at some of the women of the Bible -often overlooked or under-appreciated.

Each week we will hear what the Bible says about one individual, and listen to a sermon that unpacks what we can learn for our own Christian lives today from the story and example of this specific woman; examples include Anna, Phoebe and Miriam.

All the members of our Ministry Team will contribute, and no doubt the different perspectives will be both interesting and inspiring.

During February we will also have the opportunity to hear about a recent report presented to our Diocesan Synod, called “*Women: the state of play*”. The report explores how women’s ministry has been received and appreciated in the Diocese of Leicester over recent years, and has some challenging conclusions for us all. In discussion together, we may begin to see some ways our own attitudes or approaches might need to change.

I’m sure that every Sunday will offer something valuable, so please do take this chance to fill in some gaps in our appreciation of all God’s (Bible) people!

We begin this Sunday (16th), with a service that celebrates and remembers ‘*God and her girls*’.

Adrian



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2022, 18th – 25th January

'We Saw His Star in the East...'

The story of the Magi visiting the Holy Family in Bethlehem is one very familiar to us. Indeed, we have recently celebrated Christmas; the Feast of Incarnation and Epiphany. The Magi have sometimes been seen as a symbol of the world's diversity – different religions and cultures – that comes to pay homage to the Christ-child. The story might therefore represent the unity of all created that God desires. The Magi travel from far-off countries, and represent diverse cultures, yet they are driven by the same hunger to see and know the new-born king and are gathered into the little house in Bethlehem in the simple act of giving homage. In this we can find a metaphor for Christian unity: that is, of different Christian peoples drawn together in their common search to recognise Christ, to know him and to worship him and witnessing to wider need for unity and to overcome injustice.

This text has been chosen by the churches of the Middle East, the history of which was, and still is, characterized by conflict and strife, tainted with blood and darkened by injustice and oppression. Since the Palestinian Nakba (the exodus of Palestine's Arab population during the 1948 war) the region has seen a series of bloody wars and revolutions and the rise of Islamic extremism. The story of the Magi also contains many dark elements, most particularly Herod's despotic orders to massacre all the children around Bethlehem who were two years old or under (Matt 2:16-18). The cruelty of these narratives resonates with the long history and difficult present of the Middle East.

After encountering the Saviour and worshipping him together, the Magi return to their countries by a different way, having been warned in a dream. The communion we share in our prayer together must inspire us to return to ourselves, our churches and our world by new ways. But what does this mean in practice? Serving the Gospel today requires a commitment to humankind, especially the poorest, the weakest and those marginalized. It requires from the churches transparency and accountability in dealing with the world, and with each other. This means churches need to cooperate to provide relief to the afflicted, to welcome the displaced, to relieve the burdened, and to build a just and honest

society. This is a call for churches to work together so that we can all build a good future according to God's heart, a future in which all human beings can experience life, peace, justice, and love.

Our partner churches in the South Leicester Christian Partnership are St Guthlac's, Christchurch, Stoneygate Baptist, St Thomas More RC, Leicester Quakers, Clarendon Park Congregational and St John the Baptist.



United Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

St John the Baptist Church, 4a Clarendon Park Rd, LE2 3AD

on Sunday 23rd January at 6.30pm

Lunchtime Pilgrimage (17-21 January)

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| Day 1 'in person' | Mon 17th | Noon | Stoneygate Baptist Church 315 London Road, LE2 3ND |
| Day 2 'in person' | Tue 18th | Noon | Christchurch 105A Clarendon Park Rd, LE2 3AH |
| Day 3 'in person' | Wed 19th | 12:30 | Leicester Quakers 16 Queens Road Leicester, LE2 1WP |
| Day 4 'in person' & Zoom | Thur 20th | Noon | St Mary Magdalen Church Brinsmead Rd, Leicester LE2 3WD Zoom: Meeting ID: 990 5466 4809 Passcode: unity |
| Day 5 Zoom | Fri 21st | Noon | Hosted by St Thomas More Church Zoom: Meeting ID: 826 7479 3441 Passcode: magi |

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. Scheme details can be obtained from Lorna Pollard, Planned Giving Scheme Secretary: telephone 01162704272 or email: stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com. If you are a taxpayer and gift aid your giving, our church can claim an additional 25%.

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BEATITUDES FOR A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO STAY INDOORS



FOR THEY HAVE PROTECTED OTHERS

BLESSED ARE THE UNEMPLOYED AND THE SELF-EMPLOYED



FOR THEIR NEED OF GOD IS GREAT

BLESSED ARE THE CORNER SHOPKEEPERS



FOR THEY ARE THE PURVEYORS OF SCARCE THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE DELIVERY DRIVERS AND THE POSTAL WORKERS



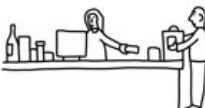
FOR THEY ARE THE BRINGERS OF ESSENTIAL THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE HOSPITAL WORKERS; THE AMBULANCE CREWS, THE DOCTORS, THE NURSES, THE CARE ASSISTANTS, AND THE CLEANERS



FOR THEY STAND BETWEEN US AND THE GRAVE, AND THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS SURELY THEIRS

BLESSED ARE THE CHECKOUT WORKERS



FOR THEY HAVE PATIENCE AND FORTITUDE IN THE FACE OF OVERWORK AND FRUSTRATION

BLESSED ARE THE REFUSE COLLECTORS



FOR THEY WILL SEE GOD DESPITE THE MOUNTAINS OF WASTE

BLESSED ARE THE TEACHERS



FOR THEY REMAIN STEADFAST AND CONSTANT IN DISTURBING TIMES

BLESSED ARE THE CHURCH WORKERS; THE DEACONS, PRIESTS AND BISHOPS



FOR THEY ARE A COMFORTING PRESENCE IN A HURTING WORLD AS THEY CONTINUE TO SIGNPOST TOWARDS GOD

BLESSED ARE THE SINGLE PARENTS.



FOR THEY ARE COPING ALONE WITH THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND THERE IS NO RESPITE

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ALONE.



FOR THEY ARE CHILDREN OF GOD AND WITH HIM THEY WILL NEVER BE LONELY

BLESSED ARE THE BEREAVED.



FOR WHOM THE WORST HAS ALREADY HAPPENED. THEY SHALL BE COMFORTED

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ISOLATED WITH THEIR ABUSERS



FOR ONE DAY WE PRAY THEY WILL KNOW SAFETY

BLESSED ARE ALL DURING THIS TIME WHO HAVE PURE HEARTS; ALL WHO STILL HUNGER AND THIRST FOR JUSTICE; ALL WHO WORK FOR PEACE AND WHO MODEL MERCY



MAY YOU KNOW COMFORT. MAY YOU KNOW CALM. AND MAY THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THE LOVE OF GOD, AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, BE WITH US ALL. AMEN

TEXT: JAYNE MANFREDI

CartoonChurch.com

Contact details:

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Vicar: Adrian Jones | 0116 270 4268 or 07919 262399 |
| adrian.jones@zoho.com (rest day normally Friday) | |
| Curate: Revd Matthew Gough | 07754 961997 |
| revgough@gmail.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 | |

Please pray..... "but you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life. " (Jude, 20-21)

Praying for the World: In this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, please pray for all our partner churches in South Leicester (see elsewhere in this newsletter). Pray that our unity may be revealed and strengthened, and that we may be able to do more together.

Praying for the Church: Pray for those at the heart of our Government - our MPs, leaders and civil servants, as well as local councillors and officials. Pray for their integrity, wisdom and compassion as they seek to tackle the big issues facing our country. Pray for these qualities across all nations too, and for real, practical co-operation around the world.

Praying for the Parish: Please pray for the peace and well-being of all those who live on **Craighill Road, Craighill Walk, Milford Road, Welford Road, Houlditch Road.**

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 please pray this week for **Judi Stone, R, Jason Griffin, Rod Bowditch, Andrew, and Helen.**

We pray for all those on our parish 'Continuing Prayer' list. May they know the power of God's healing love at work in their lives today.
We give thanks for those who have been healed and restored.

We remember those who have died recently and pray for their families and friends. **Debbie Gaskin, Eileen Jennison, Noel Freer, Jenny C and Jim Quigley**

We remember all those whose anniversaries fall at this time.