



**Newsletter for  
Sunday 25th January 2026  
3rd Sunday of Epiphany /  
Collects for this week**

Almighty God,  
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles  
the wonder of your saving presence:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness  
sustain us by your mighty power;  
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 all mercy,  
your Son proclaimed good  
news to the poor,  
release to the captives,  
and freedom to the oppressed:  
anoint us with your Holy Spirit  
and set all your people free  
to praise you in Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



*"Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him." (Jeremiah 17.7)*

## The Week Ahead..

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Sunday 25th January<br><i>3rd Sunday of Epiphany</i>                   | 9.00am Eucharist (trad)<br><b>10.30am Sung Eucharist</b><br>10.30am Morning Prayer at St Guthlac's          |
| Monday 26th January  | 2.00pm-4.00pm Drop-In (Parish Centre)<br>7.30pm Bell Ringing practice                                       |
| Tuesday 27th January   | 9.30am Holy Communion<br>2.00pm Mothers' Union Fellowship   |
| Wednesday 28th January   | 8.00pm Online Compline  |
| Thursday 29th January  | 9.30am Eucharist (St Guthlac's)   |
| Friday 30th January  | 11.00am Healing Prayer with Communion   |
| Saturday 31st January  | 9am-5pm Association of Bell Ringer<br>Teachers Course   |
| Sunday 1st February<br><i>Presentation of Christ<br/>in the Temple</i> | 9.00am Eucharist (trad)<br><b>10.30am Worship for the Whole Church</b><br>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:

The set readings on **Sunday 25th January** are  
Isaiah 9.1-4 and Matthew 4.12-23.

## Church Family News

**Laurie Jarvis:** I'm sad to have to tell you that our old friend and church member Laurie Jarvis died some days ago. Many of you will remember Laurie in her usual place on a Sunday morning with her good friend Audrey, as she was such a fixture, until the Covid pandemic kept so many of us at home for such a long time. After a time in hospital last year, Laurie had moved to the Nightingales care home in Wigston, and continued to remember her many friends at St Mary's and the faith she shared with us all. Our condolences and best wishes go out to her family and friends who meant so much. *Adrian*

**Mothers' Union Fellowship** Our next meeting is on Tuesday, 27th January in the Parish Centre at our usual 1.30pm for a 2pm start. LP

### Appeal for a weekday lift to/from the shops

Veronica Brown asks if anyone might be kind enough to help out with an occasional lift from her home in Wigston to and from the shops in Queens Rd Clarendon Park between 9 -11 am on any weekday except Monday. Please ring her around lunchtime on a Monday if you feel able to help: 0116 2889284

### Thank you

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal acknowledges with grateful thanks the **£176.74**. which was collected by St Mary Magdalen Church on Sundays 2nd and 9th November 2025.



## **COMING UP ..... What's happening at St Mary's on Sundays in January and February 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 last **Sunday of January, 25<sup>th</sup>**, we again worship together in a service of Sung Eucharist, that returns to the Way of Jesus "... *according to Matthew*."
- At St Mary's we begin every month with a service of Worship for the Whole Church (formerly known as 'All Age Worship'). On **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February** our theme is "Mind the gap!" as we remember the coming together of both old and young generations when the infant Jesus was presented at the Temple.
- **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February**, in our service of Sung Eucharist, sees us return again to the story of Jesus "*According to Matthew*", as we consider words from the Sermon on the Mount.
- The third **Sunday of February, 15<sup>th</sup>**, falls just after Valentine's day so our theme for Morning Worship is '*Love ...Actually*'.
- **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** is the first Sunday of Lent and we begin a new Sunday series to help us prepare for the celebration of Easter – look out for more details to come! Our service today is a Sung Eucharist.
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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).

# Coffee Morning



*On Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2026*

*From 10 - 12 noon*

*In St. Mary Magdalen Church*

*Stalls to include*

*Unwanted Christmas Gifts,*

*Cakes, Books, Jigsaws,*

*and a Raffle*

*Just come along*

*Everyone Welcome*

## **Christian Unity and Diversity – questions for all of us.**

Last Sunday, as we began the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we explored in my sermon the way in which Christian Unity and Christian Diversity are bound together – if one flourishes then so does the other.

I left the congregation with two important questions to consider, in the light of both our emerging Minster Community partnership and also the Church of England's continuing debate about the place of gay and lesbian Christians.

Together with the other churches in our Minster Community, **what are the key things that we at St Mary's should do to help our churches be more united?**

Remembering that our society has a rich diversity of people of different ages, abilities, cultures, nationalities, languages, race, faith, sexual identity and much more, **what are the key things we need to change at St Mary's to show everyone that they are welcome?**

Whether you heard the sermon or not, I'd really like to know your views on these questions – in confidence and/or anonymously, your views will help the PCC in some important discussions over the coming months. Please send me an email, catch me for a conversation or write your responses on paper, put them in a sealed envelope and drop it into the collection plate or the Vicarage letterbox.

Many thanks in anticipation.

Yours

*Adrian*

## In the spotlight: *Embrace the Middle East*

One of the charities that we have supported over recent years is Embrace the Middle East, or just 'Embrace' for short. Formerly called *Bible Lands*, Embrace is a Christian development charity that seeks to tackle poverty and injustice across the Middle East. Embrace works with local partner organisations to bring about real change on the ground through local, small-scale projects. To help Christians in the UK connect with the real lives of our neighbours in Gaza, Egypt, Lebanon and Syria, Embrace produces the widely used 'Bethlehem Carol Sheets', Lent and Advent devotional materials, a regular magazine and 'shop' catalogue, and an up-to-date website, [embraceme.org](http://embraceme.org)



At St Mary's we regularly use Embrace's prayer and study ideas, news reports and fairtrade products – and the *Bethlehem Carol Sheets* every year! Supporting Embrace is a way in which we can make a practical difference as Christians and help change lives in the lands that we still call 'Holy'.

To find out more please visit the website or pick up a copy of the Prayer Guide at the back of church.

*Adrian*

## Call out to anyone interested in community growing!

You are invited to a meeting to discuss setting up  
an **Incredible Edible** group in Leicester

Wednesday 28 January 2026 7:30 – 9pm  
at Friends Meeting House, 16 Queens Road, Leicester LE2 1WP

The **Incredible Edible** project is an urban gardening project started in 2008 in Todmorden, West Yorkshire which has grown to include over 170 groups across the country.

**Incredible Edible** aims to bring people together through actions around local food and community allotments, helping to change behaviour towards the environment and to build a kinder and more resilient world. Many groups focus on growing food in public spaces which is then available to all.

For further information contact:  
Helen Abeles hpsauce@phonecoop.coop 07807 937167

For more information about **Incredible Edible**  
<https://www.incredibleedible.org.uk>

## **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 #

**St. Guthlac's Church**

Holbrook Road, Leicester. LE2 3LF



# **Musical Connections**



*An evening of well-known organ music,  
with stories of the composers, their inspiration  
and the musical links between them, presented by...*

# **David Beeby**

**Assistant Director of Music  
Christchurch Priory**

*Music to include:*

*J. S. Bach - Toccata & Fugue in D minor, Elgar - 'Nimrod'*

*Walton - Music for 'Richard III', Mendelssohn - Organ Sonata No. 3*

**'Tea & Talk'**

**ALL WELCOME**

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00pm**

**FREE Admission & Refreshments**

<https://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk>

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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:

|   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| <b>Vicar: Revd Adrian Jones</b>               | 07919 262399               |
| Email: adrian.jones@zoho.com                  | (rest day normally Friday) |
| <b>Curate: Revd Cecilia Adjadje</b>           | 07587 772828               |
| revdcecilia@gmail.com                         | (rest day normally Friday) |
| <b>Revd Aphro McCullough</b>                  | 0116 283 7887              |
| aphro.mccullough@btinternet.com               |                            |
| <b>Revd Janet Gasper</b>                      | 0116 288 9646              |
| jgasper925@gmail.com                          |                            |
| <b>Lay Reader: Fiona Wingate</b>              |                            |
| fiona.wingate@talktalk.net                    |                            |
| <b>Churchwarden: Sian Howard</b>              | 07932 557646               |
| sian.howard@tiscali.co.uk                     |                            |
| <b>Churchwarden: Michael Gasper</b>           | c/o 0116 270 2705          |
| gaspermick@gmail.com                          |                            |
| <b>Parish Administrator: James Gutteridge</b> | 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](mailto: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.

**"No time for prayer? I do not understand how you can live such a careless life as that."** *Charles Spurgeon*

**Praying for each other this month** As we enter January please begin afresh our cycle of prayers for each other by praying for all those in our church family and community whose surnames begin with A, B, C and D. Pray that a New Year will mean a growth in faith, hope and love for our friends.

**Praying for the World:** Please pray for all our leaders and governments. Pray that they will understand in a fresh way, how each of them stands as a human being before God - deeply loved but also deeply flawed and needing redemption. Pray that this realisation will bring them humility and compassion for others, and they will leave aside personal ambition and satisfaction, and strive for the common good and the protection of the most vulnerable.

**Praying for the Church:** With others across our Diocese, please pray for the new beginning at St Mary's & St Barnabas, Humberstone and Christchurch, Thurnby Lodge, Leicester as Revd Riffat Zamurad begins her ministry. Pray also for the people and leaders of the Parish of the Resurrection in Belgrave, for enthusiasm and energy for their challenging missionary task.

**Praying for the Parish, our neighbours and friends:** Please pray for the peace and well-being of all those who live on **Balmoral Close, Carisbrook Park, Kenwood Road, Arreton Close, Carisbrook Avenue, Carisbrook Gardens.**

### **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 **Marion Seaman, Eileen McKellican, June Rich, Ruth Smith, Neill Addison-Gutteridge, and Kate Adams.**

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 remember the family and friends of **Andy Sharpe and Laurie Jarvis**