



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

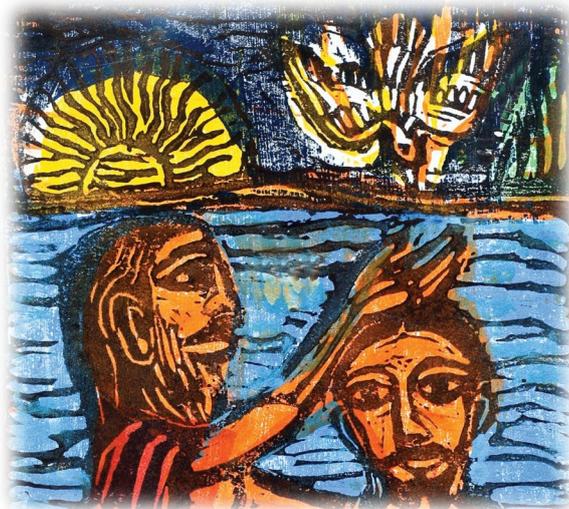


Newsletter for Sunday 11th January 2026 Baptism of Christ

Collects for this week

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;
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

Heavenly Father,
at the Jordan you
revealed Jesus as your Son:
may we recognize him as our Lord
and know ourselves to be your beloved
children;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.



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

The Week Ahead..

Sunday 11th January <i>Baptism of Christ</i>	9.00am Eucharist (trad) 10.30am Sung Eucharist 10.30am All Age Worship at St Guthlac's
Monday 12th January	2.00pm-4.00pm Drop-In (Parish Centre) 7.30pm Bell Ringing practice
Tuesday 13th January	9.30am Holy Communion
Wednesday 14th January	8.00pm Online Compline
Thursday 15th January	9.30am Eucharist (St Guthlac's)
Friday 16th January	
Saturday 17th January	10.00am Coffee Morning
Sunday 18th January <i>2nd Sunday of Epiphany</i>	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:

The set readings on **Sunday 11th January** are
Isaiah 42.1-9 and Matthew 3.13-end.

Church Family News

"Chalking the Door" - an ancient Christian practice for Epiphany. When Christmas is over, Epiphany is a significant festival in its own right for many Christians around the world. One ancient tradition for Epiphany is "Chalking the Door". To find out more, read the information sheet that accompanies this newsletter, and pick up a piece of chalk from the back of the church - and then join in! Adrian

Embrace the Difference: Unconscious Bias Training

Wednesday 14 January, 6pm-9pm – St Martins House

A training workshop to help us examine our biases, understand how they become embedded, and explore God's design in diversity. Come and be equipped with knowledge and skills to help you better engage with people from all cultures.

This training is free and a meal will be provided.

Sign up by emailing the Intercultural Worshipping Communities project administrator: Dinta.Chauhan@LeicesterCofE.org

Bishop's Chaplaincy Lecture - Lord Alan Beith

Wednesday January 28, 5.30pm-8pm – St Andrew's, 53 Jarrom Street, Leicester

Law lies at the heart of the Christian and Jewish traditions, and underpins the British constitution itself. Yet today, critics call it 'rule by judges' and others argue that unjust laws need not be obeyed. In a world of shifting values and contested authority, does law still matter?

Join us for the Bishop's Chaplaincy Lecture, delivered by Lord Alan Beith, who will explore the place of law in public life, the tensions it now faces, and why it continues to matter.

Lord Alan Beith served as the Liberal Democrat MP for Berwick-upon-Tweed from 1973 until 2015, when he entered the House of Lords.

He was the Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrats for 17 years and served variously as the Party's spokesperson for Constitutional Affairs, Treasury Affairs, and for the Lord Chancellor's Department. He has been a Methodist circuit lay preacher for 60 years, and founded the Historic

Chapels Trust, which cares for Nonconformist and Roman Catholic churches and chapels which are no longer used for worship.

Open to all, the lecture is followed by a Q&A session. Book a free spot here: [Bishop's University Lecture 2026 Tickets, Wed, Jan 28, 2026 at 5:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Christian Aid Christmas Appeal: there is still time to make your donation to our annual Christmas Appeal. Envelopes are available at the back of church and donations can be returned via the offertory plate in the next two weeks, Gift Aided, if possible.

Many *thanks*,

Eileen McKellican

Are you ready to confirm your faith in 2026?

As the New Year arrives on the horizon, you may be feeling that you'd like to take another step on your own journey in faith, or perhaps mark a return to a deeper experience of Christian faith and life in recent times. In the Anglican tradition, one way to confirm your faith in this way is a service of 'Confirmation', in which the Bishop asks for God's Holy Spirit to bring a special blessing to each person now moving forward in their Christian belief.

Towards the end of April, a Confirmation service will be held at Leicester Cathedral, and so now is the time to consider if 'being confirmed' is something you would like to do. Preparing for confirmation takes a few regular meetings with one of the clergy, as part of a small group, to consider the essentials of Christian belief and, in particular, how they have an impact on the way we live our daily lives – these meetings are based on discussion and friendship and there are no tests!

If you think that confirmation may be for you in 2026, then please have a word and find out more from Adrian, Cecilia, Janet or Aphro.

Latest St Mary's foodbank donation

The food collected during December was taken to the Leicester South foodbank distribution centre on Clarkes Rd, Wigston shortly before Christmas. It weighed in at 35.5kg. Many thanks for all your generous donations.

Sian Howard



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



COMING UP What's happening at St Mary's on Sundays in January 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!

- The second **January Sunday, 11th**, will be a Sung Eucharist as usual. The Lectionary this year offers us Matthew's Gospel so we begin a theme called *"The Way of Jesus ...according to Matthew"*.
- Our third **Sunday, 18th January**, gives us the opportunity to consider and celebrate the diversity and unity of the whole global Church, as we begin the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in our Morning Worship.
- On the last **Sunday, 25th January**, we again worship together in a service of Sung Eucharist, that returns to the Way of Jesus *"... according to Matthew."*

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.

Coffee Morning



On Saturday 24th 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



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](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 #

Not so Blue Monday at A.J. Adkinson & Son
Oadby

Board Game Social!

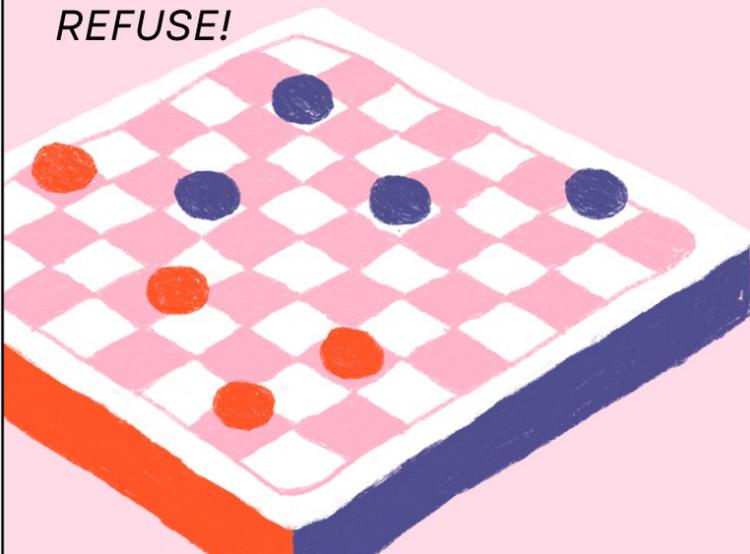
*An afternoon of
chat, games & cake*



Beating the January blues one
board game at a time.

**Monday 19th
January 1-3pm**

*BOARD GAMES ARE OPTIONAL,
TEA & CAKE ARE TOO GOOD TO
REFUSE!*



**DROP INS ARE WELCOME
OR CALL/EMAIL TO BOOK
YOUR SPACE**

*A.J. Adkinson & Son
12 London Road. Oadby. Leicester.*

LE2 5DG

0116 2712340

victoria@ajadkinson.com

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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:

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

Churchwarden: Sian Howard 07932 557646
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Churchwarden: Michael Gasper c/o 0116 270 2705
gaspermick@gmail.com

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.

“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: Following the unprecedented events in South America, please pray for peace and stability across the world. Pray that leaders everywhere will choose the path of peace and concern for others, above the voices of power and control.

Praying for the Church: This week please give thanks to God for all the retired ministers and those in other work too - thanks for all that they give to the life of our churches through their wisdom and experience. Pray that God will continue to give them a sense of calling and the strength to serve. Pray too, with others across our diocese, for the people and leaders of St Chad's (Scraptoft), St Peter, Highfields and St Philip, Leicester, as well as St Denys in Evington.

Praying for the Parish, our neighbours and friends: Please pray for the peace and well-being of all those who live on **Carisbrooke Road, Stockwell Road, Ashclose Avenue, Meadvale Road, Overdale Road.**

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 **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.