



**St Mary Magdalen Church,
Knighton**



Sunday 23rd January 2022

3rd Sunday of Epiphany

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

Collect

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.



DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday 23rd January	9.00am	Weekly Eucharist (trad)
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist
	10.30am	Morning Prayer at St Guthlac's
Monday 24th January		
Tuesday 25th January	9.30am	Eucharist
Parish Office Closed	2.30pm	Mothers' Union Fellowship
Wednesday 26th January	10.00am	Interment of Ashes
	1.30pm	Christmas Tree Festival meeting
	7.00pm	Choir Practice
	8.00 pm	Compline on Zoom
Thursday 27th January	9.30am	Eucharist at St Guthlac's
Friday 28th January	11.00am	Service of Prayer for Healing with Holy Communion
	7.00pm	Choir Practice
Saturday 29th January		
Sunday 30th January	9.00am	Weekly Eucharist
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist
	10.30am	Eucharist 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

The Parish Office is now open as usual. The phone number remains 0116 270 2705 and the email is office@knightonparish.co.uk

Listening to God's Word

Our Bible readings for **Sunday 23rd January** are:

Psalm 122

Song of Praise and Prayer for Jerusalem

A Song of Ascents. Of David.

¹ I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"

² Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

³ Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together.

⁴ To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD.

⁵ For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David.

⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

⁷ Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers."

⁸ For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you."

⁹ For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.

Luke 2.36-38

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage,³⁷ then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day.³⁸ At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Benefice Magazine - an opportunity!

I am sorry that pressure of other business has led me to delay the issue of the January/February edition. But this gives readers a further opportunity to contribute! Copy should now reach me by 25 January.

I hope to get the magazine out in the first week of February.

Nigel Siesage (stmaryknighton.magazine@gmail.com)

PLEASE CAN YOU HELP? - Dust and cobwebs are building up in church., The Church needs your help on a regular basis. All willing hands please contact Sian or Beryl, Churchwardens. Contact details are at the back of this newsletter. Thank you.



Looking ahead – baptism on 6th February

Congratulations and best wishes to our own Skye and Derry Roche who have both asked to be baptised in our All Age Worship at St Mary's on 6th February. It would be lovely to have lots of their friends from our church family with them for this special time, so do please join us if you can!

It will also be the first time we can use our new moveable font, bought recently with a bequest from the late Bill Ibbs.

Adrian & Alison

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!

Adrian

Thursday 3rd Feb 7.30 pm book via the Comedy festival website.

The First Broadcast: The Battle for the Beeb in 1922

A one-man play written and performed by Paul Kerensa

British Comedy Award-winning writer (Miranda, Not Going Out, TFI Friday)

100 years ago: Two rival voices in The Marconi Company unite art and science to create British broadcasting. Arthur Burrows seeks to inform and educate. Peter Eckersley just wants to entertain. Before Reith, this 'BBC two' duel for the soul of British broadcasting – but who will give The First Broadcast?

Based on the podcast The British Broadcasting Century (podfollow.com/bbcentury)

“Ingenious” Evening Standard

The link to the comedy festival website to book is here:

<https://comedy-festival.co.uk/event/aunties-birth-100-years-of-british-broadcasting-by-paul-kerensa/>

Looking ahead – *Adrian's forthcoming 'Extended Study Leave'*

I'm pleased to say that Bishop Martyn has given me his permission for a period of Extended Study Leave (or 'Sabbatical' as it used to be called) in 2022, between 25th April and 25th July.

This will give me a break from normal parish responsibilities for a while, and the opportunity to reflect, read, research and come back renewed! Please don't imagine that it's a sign I'm leaving... quite the opposite in fact! - I'm hoping that this time will give me lots of ideas and material to use back in our churches to refresh our worshipping life for a long time to come.

During my extended study leave I'll be looking at ways in which spirituality and discipleship 'on the margins' can nurture and support the life of Christian communities in more 'mainstream' urban and suburban areas. They're should be lots for me to tell you about, and plenty of ideas to try.

On a practical note, although I'll still be at home with the family in the vicarage most of the time, the aim is to break from normal parish responsibilities such as visiting, taking services, and being part of meeting. Thankfully, Matthew will be able to pick up the reins, with assistance from the other members of the Ministry Team, during this time.

I've discussed my Study Leave with both PCCs in the benefice and I'm grateful for their support. As you would imagine, we will plan carefully to ensure that all aspects of church life are maintained while I'm on my sabbatical.

Although we've some time to go yet, do please ask me any questions you may have about what I'll be doing, or about the arrangements for the churches here.

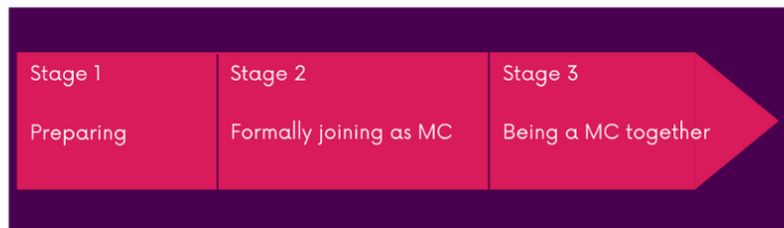
Adrian

Shaped by God Together - update



SBGT JOURNEY TO MINSTER COMMUNITIES

In October 2021 our diocesan Synod agreed the new minister communities framework for our diocese. This is a journey that we will all take and by 2026 we hope that new framework will be fully implemented across the diocese. But this will happen differently for each area and context, all with support from the diocese.



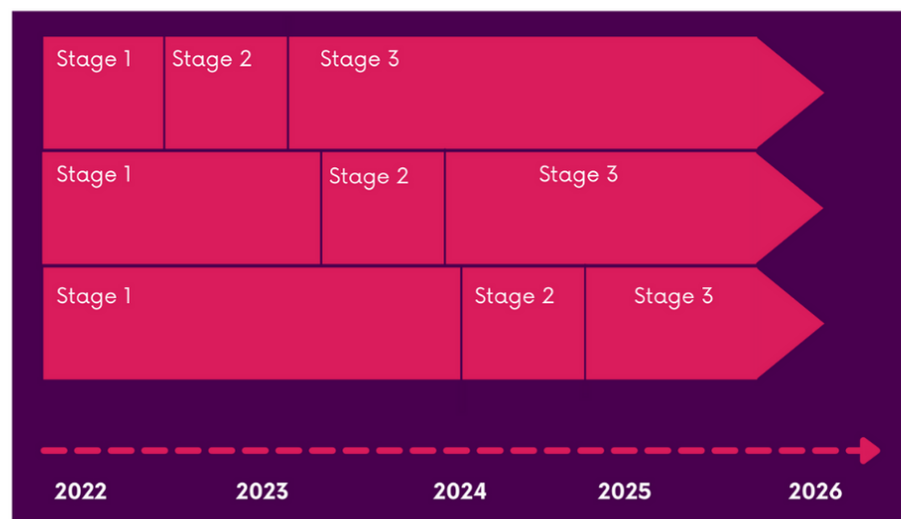
There are three main 'stages' to this journey and the formal creation and move into a minister community is only one part.

Stage One – We are asking communities to think and pray about where God has placed you. Think about what you can offer to and gain from a Minister Community. Alongside this continue to promote vocations, work with schools and children and young people and partner with others locally.

Stage Two – this is the formal part of the process in which your Minister Community will form.

Stage Three – Now you are in your new Minister Community you can continue your conversations and start working together.

These three stages will happen at different points for different parishes and communities. For some, particularly those in the pilot areas, they will be entering stage two fairly early in 2022



giving them more time in stage three. For others stage one will be their focus until implementation of their minister community can take place. But we are all on this same trajectory, all following the same journey of change. Shaped By God, together

Shaped by God Together - update. *Adrian writes.* "This update, and the diagram opposite, describe the next stages in the Shaped by God Together process that will change how all local churches in the Diocese of Leicester are grouped together in coming years, as 'Minster Communities'. You will see that nothing is planned quickly for most churches in 2022, while the pilot projects get underway. It'll be the autumn before we have any indication of proposals for St Guthlac and St Mary Magdalen. In the meantime we are all encouraged to look for ways in which we can work more closely with all our neighbouring churches."

Churchyard update:

You'll no doubt notice when you're at the church that there are now two things needing attention in the churchyard

The first is that the notice board at the Brinsmead Rd entrance has come apart and one side has come off - the wood has swollen, cracked and is irreparable. Although it doesn't look good at the moment, the PCC are in the process of ordering a replacement, probably made of aluminium but very similar in design.

The second thing is that some stones have come down from the wall near the lychgate. I'm glad to tell you that we have been in touch with the Church Architect and stonemasons in order to get repairs underway as quickly as possible.

Adrian

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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Food for thought?

Find out more about the Christian faith

pilgrim

A COURSE FOR THE CHRISTIAN JOURNEY

Interested in building your faith?

We are hosting a four week Pilgrim course for small groups.

Starting Monday 31st January from 7pm at St Mary's.

If you are interested please contact Matthew or Janet before we confirm final details

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: Please pray that God will call a new generation of leaders for all nations, and that they will be blessed with integrity, wisdom, compassion and a heart to protect creation and the weakest members of our societies.

Praying for the Church: Give thanks to God for the diversity of Christian Churches around the world and within our own diocese. Pray that this diversity will mean there is a comfortable Christian home for everyone who seeks God's purpose in their life. Pray for all those who form part of the new Diocesan Catholic Fellowship, as well as more established groups such as the New Wine Network, Inclusive Church, the Diocesan Evangelical Fellowship, and The Society (of Saint Wilfred and St Hilda).

Praying for the Parish: Please pray for the peace and well-being of all those who live on **Welford Court, The Cedars, Muston Gardens, Wyndale Road, Brinsmead 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, 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.