



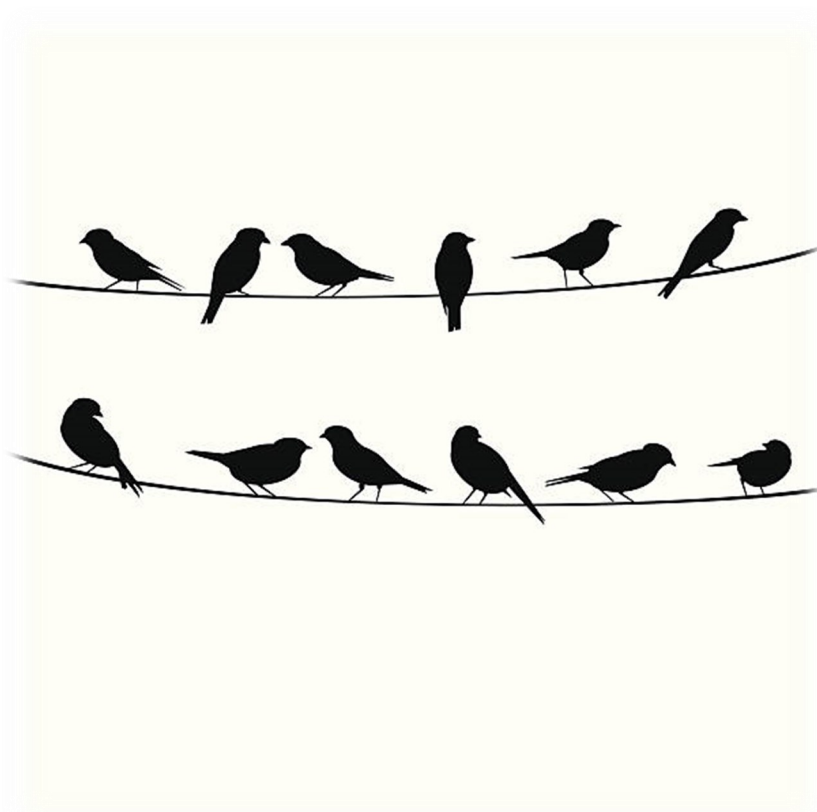
**St Mary Magdalen  
Church of England,  
Knighton**



**Newsletter for  
Sunday 12th February  
2nd Sunday before Lent**

**Collect for this week**

Almighty God,  
you have created the heavens and the earth  
and made us in your own image:  
teach us to discern your hand in all your works  
and your likeness in all your children;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things,  
now and for ever.  
Amen.



## DIARY

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Sunday 12th February</b><br><i>2nd Sunday before Lent</i>  | 9.00am Weekly Eucharist (trad)<br><b>10.30am Sung Eucharist</b><br>10.30am All Age worship at St Guthlac's |
| Monday 13th February  | 10.30am Social Committee Meeting<br>7.00pm Bell ringing practice   |
| Tuesday 14th February   | 9.30am Holy Communion (St Mary's)  |
| Wednesday 15th February                                       | 10.30m Wednesday Small Group (Centre)<br>12.30pm Church cleaning<br>8.00pm Compline (Zoom)                 |
| Thursday 16th February  | 9.30am Holy Communion (St Guthlacs)  |
| Friday 17th February  | 9.30am Organ tuning<br>7.00pm Choir Practice   |
| Saturday 18th February  | 10.00am Bell ringing practice  |
| <b>Sunday 19th February</b><br><i>Sunday next before Lent</i> | 9.00am Weekly Eucharist<br><b>10.30am "Amazing Grace 250"</b><br>10.30am Eucharist at St Guthlac's         |

**Please check the online diary for updates and beyond the week ahead: [www.stmarysknighton.co.uk](http://www.stmarysknighton.co.uk)**

***Sunday Club***, for children at primary and secondary 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?

### Listening to God's Word

The lectionary Bible readings for the Second Sunday before Lent are:

**Genesis 1.1-2,3 and Matthew 6.25-end**

## Church Family News

**Vic Ironmonger** - We now have details of Vic's funeral, which will be held at St Mary's on Tuesday 28th February at 11am and then at Great Glen Crematorium. Everyone is welcome to come and pay their respects of course. Please do continue to support Margaret and Lesley, and remember them in your prayers.

**Maurice Allen** - following Maurice's recent death, we can confirm that his funeral will be at South Leicestershire Crematorium, Countesthorpe, on Thursday 16th February at 12 noon. Please pray for his cousin Amanda and their family.

**Advance notice about Evensong:** The revival of a monthly Evensong service last year, beginning with the week of celebrations for HM the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, got off to a good start. However, as autumn and winter progressed, we saw how difficult it was for many people, including some choir members, to make a late afternoon/evening service at church. Therefore, after discussion with the choir, Michael Relph (Choir Director) and I have agreed that instead of a regular monthly Evensong, we should instead have a number of special services across the year. These can be tied to the Church seasons or to other special occasions, and so are likely to attract more people. We will advertise these services in the newsletter of course so that everyone can plan ahead. Thank you for your understanding, and apologies to those who feel disappointed by this news.. *Adrian*

**Join us as we explore**

**'the Art of Living'**



Our new Wednesday morning small group continues to meet weekly in the Cottage Room of the Parish Centre at 10.30am for coffee, prayer, support and a closer look at the wisdom of the Bible. For the next few weeks we'll be discussing 'The Art of Living' as described in the Book of Proverbs, so why not join us when you can, and nurture your Christian faith as the new year unfolds? *Adrian & Cecilia*

**Online Compline on Wednesdays—8.00pm**

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81118183080>

**Meeting ID: 811 1818 3080**

Dial by your location **0203 481 5240**

**The Church of England and Same-Sex Relationships:** This week has seen the General Synod of the Church of England (the representative and governing body) debating the Bishops' proposals for the blessing of same-sex relationships by ordained clergy, in church. You may well have seen reporting in the media on the rather heated exchanges and the deep divisions that exist between Christians on this issue.

Some of us can watch the arguments in a slightly detached way, as other people getting worked up about something that seems clear to us, or is not that significant. Others of us, though, may feel bewilderment and confusion in the face of complex arguments about reason, tradition, compassion, inclusion and Biblical faithfulness. Others, again, may feel deep pain and hurt, because the debate actually touches on real life experience - our own, our friend's, or perhaps that of someone in the family - and what for some is doctrinal or theoretical is, for us, personal and every-day. Any one of us might benefit from a quiet, considered conversation about the issues and, perhaps, our own experience and concerns.

If such a confidential conversation would help you, then do please let me know - over the next few weeks I'll be keeping time aside specifically for this. Alternatively, you might prefer to talk to my wife, Revd Alison Roche, who also has previous direct experience talking through these matters.

On our part, there's no agenda, apart from the questions or experiences that you might like to talk over, and the support that either of us might be able to give you in confidence. If you think this might help, please don't hesitate - you can catch us after church, on the phone or by email: Adrian 07919 262399 or [adrian.jones@zoho.com](mailto:adrian.jones@zoho.com) and Alison 0116 270 4268 or [a.m.roche@btinternet.com](mailto:a.m.roche@btinternet.com)

If you'd prefer a confidential small group to discuss some of the background issues, Biblical evidence and where the Church of England is going on these matters, then, again, please let me know and I'll certainly organise something at a convenient time for everyone.

*Adrian*

# Amazing Grace 250

Join us at St Mary's, Knighton, for a celebration of 250 years of the famous hymn "Amazing Grace".



Using hymns and songs, story , preaching and the words of John Newton himself, we will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the world's most popular hymn, **"Amazing Grace"**.

Do join us at 10.30am on Sunday 19th February.

## EVERYDAY FAITH

Christian growth means moving from a 'Sunday Faith', limited to church on just one day, to 'Everyday Faith', shaping our whole lives and all our relationships.

To help us grow we need to take the Bible seriously, seeking good understanding of these ancient words and how to apply them to life today.

There are many translations of the Bible available:

- some are more traditional in their use of language, others more like the way that we speak and write today;
- some are more literal in their translation of the original languages (taking each word one by one), while others are more concerned to give a sense of the meaning of the original;
- other versions try for a balance between both of these.

Whilst traditional language may be beautiful and familiar, my recommendation for everyday use is the New International Version (NIV), which is known for accuracy but also feels up to date. If you'd like to try it out, then do please take one of our free Gospels from the back of the Church – perhaps you could read a chapter a day over the next week or two.

As we become familiar with the stories and teaching of the whole Bible, God will guide us, whatever challenges we face. So do please make sure you have a Bible to hand, and try to stick to a pattern of reading a small amount daily.

*"Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path." Psalm 119 v.105*  
*Adrian*





**Some of the 2022 Christmas Tree Festival Team and volunteers presenting a cheque for £2,277.83 to the Vicar for St. Mary's Church Community Garden Project.**



**Half the profits from the 2022 Christmas Tree Festival, £2,277, were presented to members of LAMP, a local community mental health charity.**

YOU ARE INVITED TO A

# LENT LUNCH

SOUP, BREAD ROLL, CHEESE AND BISCUITS

TEA AND COFFEE



ON SATURDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2023

FROM 12 NOON TO 2 PM

IN THE LOUNGE ROOM AT THE PARISH CENTRE

TICKETS £5

AVAILABLE FROM

BERYL BONFIELD 0116 2702202 OR

CORA PAUL 07933 318153





## **World Day of Prayer Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

A service for everyone

prepared by Christian Women of Taiwan

2.00pm at St Thomas More Church

7.30pm at Clarendon Park Congregational Church

You are invited to come along to our Tea and  
Talk evening for February.....

## **KNIGHTON HOUSES AND STREETS IN TIME**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm**

**St Guthlac's Church, Holbrook Rd LE2 3LF**



A meander through late 19<sup>th</sup> century to mid-  
20<sup>th</sup> century Knighton

Presented by Margaret Bonney and Anne  
Hunt



**Free talk and refreshments**

**Do join us!**



**BritishRedCross**

**Following the earthquake disaster in Turkey & Syria, we will have British Red Cross Disaster Relief Buckets outside church this Sunday and next Sunday. Please do give generously. Thank you. Lorna K**

**Fairtrade Fortnight** Hi all. As we approach Fairtrade Fortnight, it is time to order your Fairtrade Easter Eggs again, ready to give to your friends and family. They are plastic & palm-oil free, and have a new design and activity booklet for 2023. Please sign up by Sunday 5th March either with me or on the form on the noticeboard at the back of church. They are £4.50 but I don't need the payment until I give you the eggs nearer to Easter. Thank you. Alison Roche.

**A date for your diary:** Friday 3rd March the World Day of Prayer. The service this year has been prepared by Christian women of Taiwan with the theme "I have heard about your faith". Our afternoon service will be held at St Thomas More church and the evening service at Clarendon Park Congregational church.

**QUIZ EVENING FRIDAY 17th MARCH at 7pm AT ST GUTHLAC'S CHURCH** Please join us for our relaxed quiz evening with a 2 course buffet supper. Do invite family and friends to come along and make up a team with you, but couples and people on their own can team up on the evening (maximum team size 4) Tickets £8 Tickets from Lesley Meakin

**[l.c.meakin@ntlworld.com](mailto:l.c.meakin@ntlworld.com) 0116 2103690**

Bring your own alcoholic drinks. Tea and coffee on sale. Raffle.  
Proceeds to church funds

## Contact details:

**Vicar: Adrian Jones** 0116 270 4268 or 07919 262399  
Email: adrian.jones@zoho.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

**Music Co-ordinator and Choir Director: Michael Relph**  
michael.relph@icloud.com 07854 306 917

## 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 bank standing order as part of our Planned Giving Scheme. Scheme details can be obtained from Lorna Pollard, Planned Giving Scheme Secretary: email: [stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com) or phone 01162704272. If you are a taxpayer and gift aid your giving, our church can claim an additional 25%. Cheques to **Knighton PCC** please.

## Prayers for this week

***“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.”***

(Colossians 4.2)

**Praying for the world:** On Racial Justice Sunday, 12th, and the days that follow, please pray that as well as treating everyone equally, we would be moved to find ways in which to ensure that everyone has an equal opportunity to use their God-given gifts and skills. Pray also that our government and authorities would seek ways in which to put right the wrongs, past and present, that have been committed against others because of their race or ethnic background. Pray that the Church will face up to these issues too.

**Praying for the Church:** Pray for all those who feel hurt, distressed, angry or sad following the General Synod meeting this last week, and the debates on the blessing of same-sex relationships. Pray for healing and reconciliation wherever it is needed, and for good pastoral care within our churches. Pray for the continued unity of the Church of England despite these controversies.

**Praying for the Parish:** Please pray for the peace and well-being of all those who live on **Kew Drive, Highgate Drive, Hillcrest Road, South Kingsmead Road, Woodbank Road, Palmerstone Boulevard.**

**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 this week, please pray for **Michael Gasper, John Orme**. Pray also for those on our 'Continuing Prayer' list, that they may know the power of God's healing love at work in their lives today - and give thanks for those who are recovering and who know God's peace.

*NB: a note of explanation - Our prayer focus in the newsletter is on those people in immediate and pressing need, and so you will notice that names are taken off when an illness or condition stabilises. Please continue to pray for these friends, even when they are 'moved' to our 'Continuing Prayer' list. If you would like to be one of those people using this Continuing Prayer list, then please have a conversation with Revd Janet Gasper.*

**Please remember** in your prayers the families and friends of all those who have died recently. We especially remember **Brian Martin, Vic Ironmonger, Maurice Allen, Iona Maynard**. Remember too, all those whose anniversaries fall at this time.