

# St Mary Magdalen Church, Knighton

## Sunday 4th October 2020

### Harvest Festival

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

#### *Collect*

Eternal God,  
you crown the year with your goodness  
and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season:  
grant that we may use them to your glory,  
for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being;  
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.



**Welcome to our service –  
and please take care of yourself and each other!**

You are very welcome to our service today – but please remember some simple precautions in order to protect yourself and others too:

- Please arrive early and be ready to queue as you maintain a distance of 2m from others.
- Please wear a face covering as you queue and all the time you are in the church - we have some extras for those who cannot obtain their own.
- When you are welcomed please sanitise your hands and then pick up a service sheet.
- We have calculated the number of places that we can use in the church building safely whilst distanced from each other. Please only use one of the seats marked with a cushion and green tick.
- We are using recorded music to help us praise God and reflect on what we are doing together. The words of the hymns are printed for you but please don't sing (humming is fine!)
- To receive Communion you will be asked to come towards the nave altar (at the moment only the bread) -please keep 2m spacing and keep your face mask on until you have your wafer. Then please consume the wafer as you move away, moving your mask as little as possible.
- After the service please keep your distance from others as you leave and do not linger in the building - sadly we can't offer refreshments.
- Please take your service sheet home with you and sanitise your hands as you leave.
- If you should feel unwell with any of the symptoms of coronavirus in

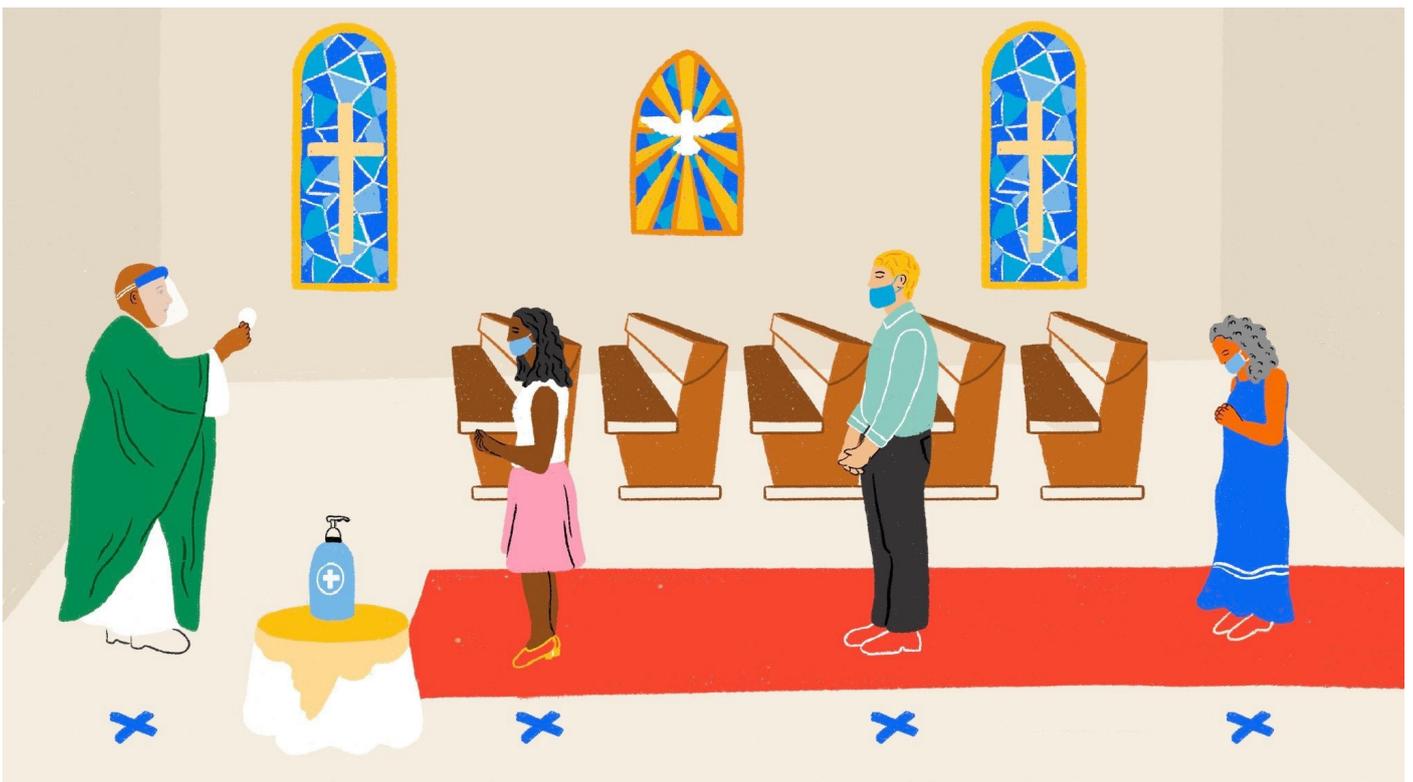
the two weeks following the service, as well as seeking medical advice, please leave a message at the Parish Office so that we can inform others if need be.

Please don't feel too put off by these necessary precautions – God is simply pleased that we are here together, worshipping and being shaped by the Holy Spirit.

If you would like to attend on Sunday 11th October or the Eucharist on Sunday 18th October then please do phone the parish office (0116 270 2705) and leave a message which includes the names of any other people who will sit with you because you are in the same household or bubble. If you find that you can no longer attend, please let James in the Office know so that we can release this place to someone else.

Best wishes,

Adrian



**Coming Soon! Our Annual Church Meeting (APCM):** Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) this year will be on SUNDAY 11th OCTOBER at 11am, after the morning service, in the church building. This is an important occasion when we review together the year that has passed (2019!) and elect our PCC and Church Wardens for the next year – obviously, the meeting was postponed much earlier in the year.

In order to make our Annual Meeting open to as many people as possible, you can take part through the internet by clicking on this link to a **Zoom meeting**, or cut and paste into the address bar on your computer. <https://leccofe.zoom.us/j/95860463416?pwd=dzUxdG10QzFDZVpDMkFXYjExRTBYUT09>

Alternatively you can join in by telephone, paying only your standard rate (which may be free). Call 03380 088 5830 and when requested key in the Meeting ID as 958 6046 3416 and the Passcode as 413951.

It is important to leave a message at the Church Office if you would like to come to the service on 11th (Eucharist) AND/OR if you would like to come to the Annual Meeting in the building rather than online.

**IMPORTANT!** The first part of our meeting will elect two **Church Wardens** – technically to serve until just after the next APCM (which should be in April or May 2021) but I would hope they could stay in post at least until the APCM in 2022.

Many people don't really understand the role of a Church Warden – it certainly is not all about going up ladders and cleaning gutters! Many people are also concerned that to be a Warden is to be responsible for everything and therefore to be criticised for everything! Certainly the role involves hearing different views and being part of decision making, but as the church is the body of Christ and needs all its parts working together in harmony, we will always want to be supportive and encouraging of each other rather than looking for disagreements.

In essence **the key tasks** of Church Wardens, working together and in a team with the clergy and PCC, are to:

- care for and support the parish priest, providing feedback, as a 'critical friend', as well as advice and support;
- care for the congregation and encourage people in their Christian faith;
- ensure that the routine 'work and life' of the church happens smoothly and as efficiently as possible;
- act as points of connection between the congregation, clergy and the local community.

These are important tasks but all are best done by several people working as a team. I hope therefore to have a team of Wardens and Assistant Wardens who can share responsibilities according to their skills and experience. One person has already said that they would join such a 'Warden Team' if others would too.

Please consider prayerfully if *you* might be the person to join this team, or perhaps there is someone else you can see has the right sort of qualities - a good sense of humour and a willingness to bear with each others weaknesses and foibles are very useful! We have a useful leaflet for anyone thinking this through, called "Support and Caring – being a Church Warden at St Mary Magdalen". Please do ask me for a copy.

At the APCM we also hope to fill some of the vacancies for Church Council (PCC) members – please see the 'advert' for further information and ask James in the Church Office for a nomination form.

*Adrian*

# Listening to God's Word

Our Bible readings for Sunday 4th October are:

## Psalm 65

<sup>1</sup> Praise awaits you, our God, in Zion;  
to you our vows will be fulfilled.

<sup>2</sup> You who answer prayer,  
to you all people will come.

<sup>3</sup> When we were overwhelmed by sins,  
you forgave our transgressions.

<sup>4</sup> Blessed are those you choose  
and bring near to live in your courts!

We are filled with the good things of your house,  
of your holy temple.

<sup>5</sup> You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds,  
God our Saviour,

the hope of all the ends of the earth  
and of the farthest seas,

<sup>6</sup> who formed the mountains by your power,  
having armed yourself with strength,

<sup>7</sup> who stilled the roaring of the seas,  
the roaring of their waves,  
and the turmoil of the nations.

<sup>8</sup> The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders;  
where morning dawns, where evening fades,  
you call forth songs of joy.

<sup>9</sup> You care for the land and water it;  
you enrich it abundantly.

The streams of God are filled with water  
to provide the people with corn,  
for so you have ordained it.

<sup>10</sup> You drench its furrows and level its ridges;

you soften it with showers and bless its crops.

<sup>11</sup> You crown the year with your bounty,  
and your carts overflow with abundance.

<sup>12</sup> The grasslands of the wilderness overflow;  
the hills are clothed with gladness.

<sup>13</sup> The meadows are covered with flocks  
and the valleys are mantled with corn;  
they shout for joy and sing.

## **Matthew 25.31-40**

### **The sheep and the goats**

<sup>31</sup> 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup> He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

<sup>34</sup> 'Then the King will say to those on his right, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. <sup>35</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, <sup>36</sup> I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was ill and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

<sup>37</sup> 'Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? <sup>38</sup> When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? <sup>39</sup> When did we see you ill or in prison and go to visit you?"

<sup>40</sup> 'The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

## **Our Harvest Festival - Growing Hope in Egypt**

For the Zabaleen community of Cairo, one person's rubbish really is another person's treasure. Each day the Zabaleen (which translated from Egyptian Arabic literally means 'garbage people') workers visit the homes and businesses of Egypt's bustling capital by horse and cart collecting the rubbish and taking it back to their communities for sorting, re-using and re-selling.

The collecting of the rubbish – everything from domestic garbage to toxic hospital waste – is generally done by the men of the community while the women, children and elderly wait for the rubbish to be brought back for sorting. Recyclable materials will be collected together to be sold, food waste given to the community's pigs, and other materials burnt. It is back-breaking, dirty, dangerous work that provides a meagre existence.

It's almost impossible to describe Ezbet el Nakhl, the home of one of the Zabaleen communities. One million people squeezed together in unsanitary slums, interspersed with rubbish dumps divided by litter-strewn earthen streets. Life is unforgiving and short in this part of town, with an average life expectancy of 57. Industrial accidents, poor diet and drug and alcohol dependency all contribute to early deaths, particularly in men. Type-2 diabetes is rife as is anaemia, particularly in children. Literacy rates are low and violence and exploitation are common.

In the midst of the chaos and filth sits The Salaam Centre run by the Sisters of The Daughters of St Mary, a Coptic Orthodox order. The centre offers two kindergartens, a school, a children's health clinic, vocational workshops, a hospital, a home for the elderly and a rehabilitation centre for those with physical disabilities. There's even a garden growing cabbages, tomatoes and spinach. The sisters, alongside a growing band of volunteers, also run women's empowerment workshops, which include child health, nutrition, literacy and numeracy, abuse awareness and

support and drug rehabilitation.

The Salaam Centre offers Christian hope to those who live in terrible poverty and hardship; it's a life that the vast majority of us in Knighton will never have experienced or even witnessed. Growing hope in such circumstances is not easy, simple or cheap however. Thankfully the Salaam Centre is supported by a UK partner - Christian charity Embrace the Middle East , formerly 'Biblelands' – and this gives us the chance to help as well.

At our Harvest Festival we remember and give thanks for God's goodness to us, his generosity and abundance, and the relative comfort, peace and health that we live in as our daily experience. But we should also feel challenged to consider how we use and share God's generous gifts to us. Even a superficial reading of the Gospels shows us that the key theme of Jesus' teaching and way of life was love for others, even when that comes at a cost to ourselves. True riches are found in the extent to which we help others, especially those in need, as our Gospel passage today reminds us so vividly.

We may feel that our personal opportunities to feed those who are hungry, clothe those who are destitute or support those in trouble, are very limited – but we can provide the means for others to do that on our behalf. We can make our gifts from God, our money, work for the good of others.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you'll read exactly how to do this by supporting the Salaam Centre through Embrace. Please do support our Harvest Appeal this year, and by your actions defiantly proclaim the reality of our Christian hope - in the face of poverty, illness, and deprivation in Ezbet el Nakhl, and in the face of a global pandemic that threatens to cut us off from ourselves and our neighbours across the world. *Adrian*

## How you can help to Grow Hope in Egypt

I very much hope that you would like to respond to God's generosity by supporting our Harvest Appeal this year, **Growing Hope in Egypt**, and so supporting *Embrace* and the Salaam Centre. God promises to bless and use even the smallest act of giving on our part, and there are several ways that you might give.

- If you feel inspired to create your own Harvest Supper (as described in the additional Growing Hope ideas sheets) then you might like to take it one step further and invite an Egyptian family to share it with you... almost. Simply work out how much it would have cost you to make four more helpings of your meal and then donate that amount to Embrace.
- There are a least 6,000 garbage dump workers in Ezbet el Nakhl all seeking to transform their rubbish into treasure. One 50p coin of 'treasure' for each worker would equal a £30 donation.
- The Zabaleen people are at the heart of Cairo's recycling. You might think about how many bags of recycling you put out each week or month, and make a one pound donation for each.

However you choose to settle on a donation, please do respond to God's goodness and the poverty of the Zabaleen, with a glad and cheerful heart.

You can drop an envelope into the collection at the back of the church marked simply 'Harvest', or you can drop an envelope in at the Vicarage if you pass (5 Church Lane) or at the St Mary's Church Office (in the Parish Centre). Please make cheques payable to 'Embrace the Middle East', writing your name and address on the back and 'Gift Aid please' if appropriate.

Alternatively you can send a donation directly to Embrace at 24 London Road West, Amersham, HP7 0LZ, or make a bank transfer to 'Embrace the Middle East', sort code 60-11-01, account 1554064. If donating directly, do think about emailing [info@embraceme.org](mailto:info@embraceme.org) with your name and address so that Gift Aid can be claimed.

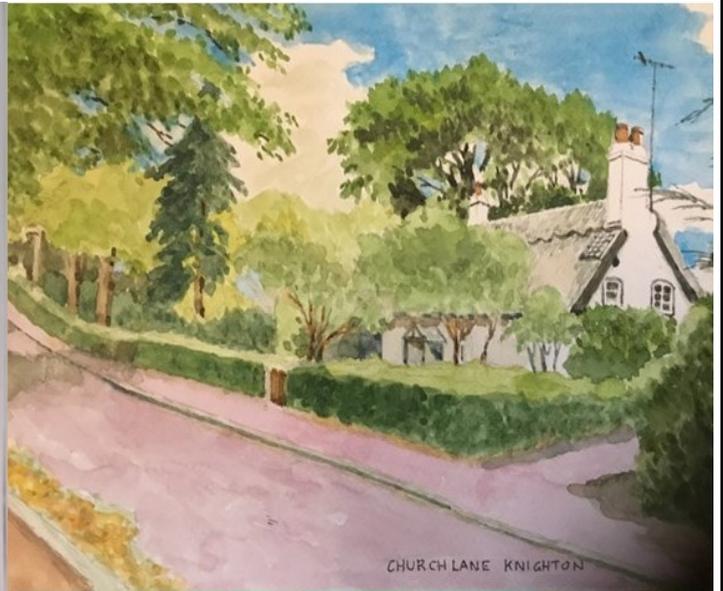
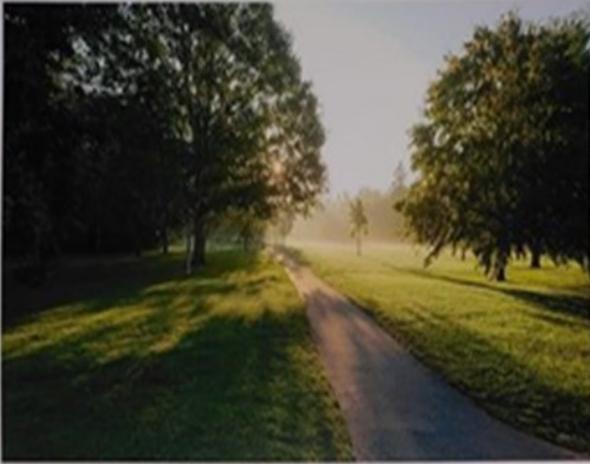
Thank you – and may God bless your generosity.

Adrian

### **A thankyou from your new priest!**

Counter-intuitively, being ordained in a time of pandemic has felt more precious. Having a stripped back occasion has meant more focus on meaningful commitment than the pomp and celebration of the ceremony. The delay and eventual ordination has been intense and I have physically sensed the power of prayer supporting me. I have been so blessed by the countless number of cards and I am so grateful for your kind words and tokens of support. It is humbling and I am looking forward to using your generous financial gift to getting a couple of seasonal stoles designed and a visiting communion set for me to use in my ministry going forward which will always remind me of my time in Knighton. *Matthew*





## Images of Knighton

### 2021 Calendar



**Images of Knighton 2021** Calendar raising funds for Spire Appeal now available!

Local artists from the churches and wider community have contributed to make a beautiful and varied A3 size calendar celebrating life in Knighton.

Will make great gifts and appeal to anyone in the Knighton area.

**£7.50 each or 3 for £20.**

Quotes from satisfied customers 'Oh these are lovely' Mrs L Kirk, Stoneygate; 'They'll sell like hot-cakes', Mr N Siesage, South Knighton; 'Have you ordered enough?', Mr D Stanyer, South Knighton.

Available from Londis (Knighton Church Rd), Rev. Matthew, Lorna & Michael Kirk, Nigel Siesage, Aileen Orme and Rev. Janet.

# St Mary's Alternative Christmas Fayre



**Marmalade**  
**All varieties**



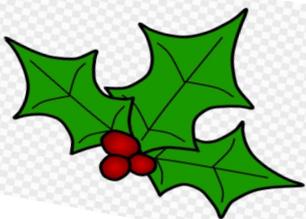
**Jams &  
Chutneys**



**Small hand  
knitted toys**



**Fully iced  
Christmas  
Cakes**



Sadly it is impossible to hold the usual Fayre in November. But if you would like to order any of these goodies - please contact either Cora Paul 3678954 or Judi Stone 2881306.

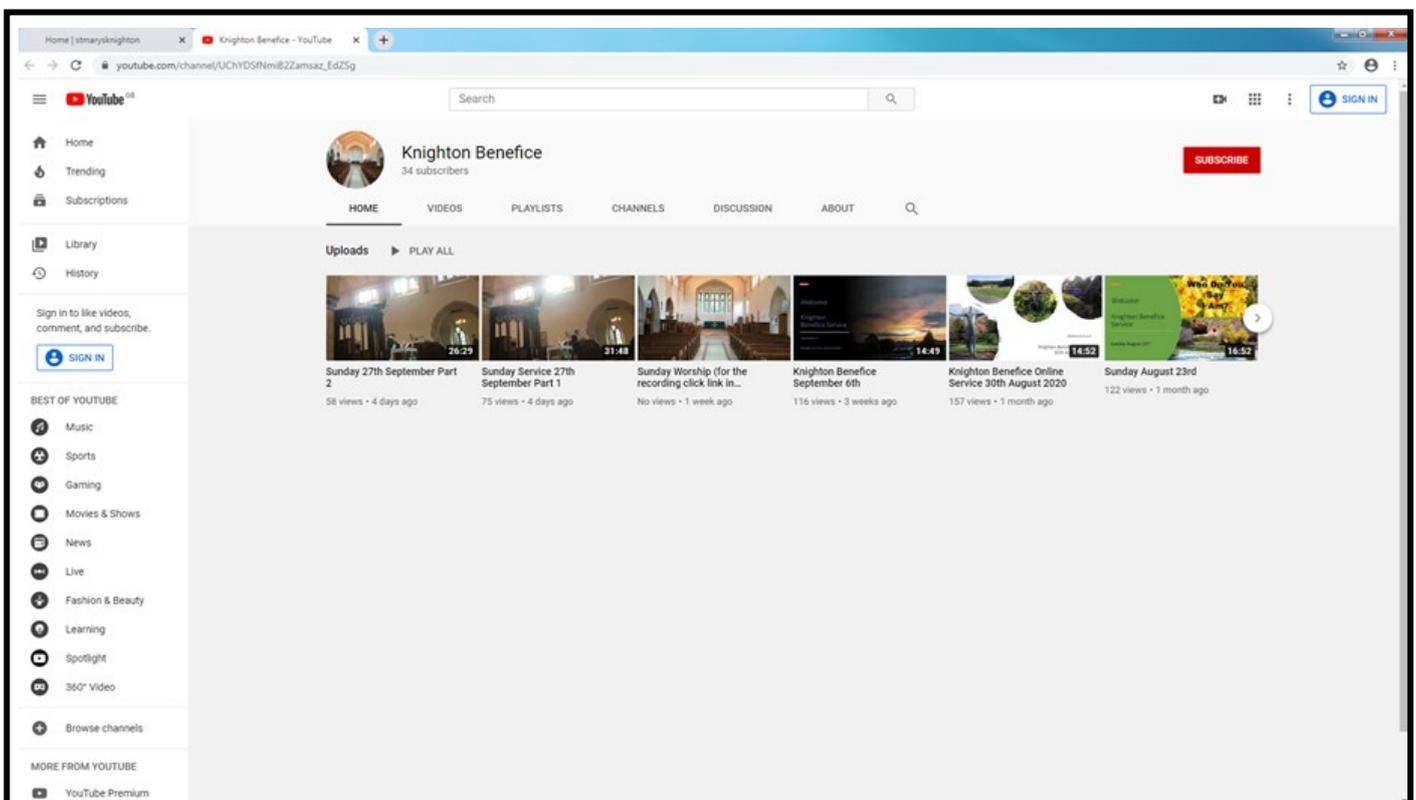
All items can be delivered to your door in time for Christmas.

**ELECTORAL ROLL:** the revised Roll (showing names only) which is now closed until after the APCM on 11th October, is on display on the notice board at the back of the church, so that any inaccuracies can be corrected. Please let me know [Tel. 2700714 eileenmckellican@tiscali.co.uk] of any necessary amendments. Many thanks, Eileen McKellican Electoral Roll Officer.

**RIDE AND STRIDE UPDATE:** Flick thanks her generous sponsors who have helped her raise £95 so far. There is still time to contribute if you wish - even if she did only manage 12 churches! Half the money raised comes back to St Mary's, the other half goes to Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust. Flick (2702810)

## **ACCESS TO WEEKLY RECORDED SERVICES**

Each week we will now usually upload a recording of the Sunday service from St Mary's or St Guthlacs onto the Knighton Benefice You Tube channel. This should happen by 1pm each Sunday. Please go direct to [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChYDSfNmIB2Zamsaz\\_EdZSg?](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChYDSfNmIB2Zamsaz_EdZSg?) or via the website or Facebook page.



The image shows a screenshot of a web browser displaying the YouTube channel page for 'Knighton Benefice'. The channel has 34 subscribers and a red 'SUBSCRIBE' button. The page features a navigation menu on the left with options like Home, Trending, Subscriptions, Library, and History. The main content area shows a list of uploads under the 'Uploads' tab, including videos such as 'Sunday 27th September Part 2', 'Sunday Service 27th September Part 1', 'Sunday Worship (for the recording click link in...', 'Knighton Benefice September 6th', 'Knighton Benefice Online Service 30th August 2020', and 'Sunday August 23rd'. Each video thumbnail includes a duration and view count. The bottom of the page shows 'BEST OF YOUTUBE' categories and 'MORE FROM YOUTUBE' options.

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

**Congratulations** to the Very Revd Canon Derek Hole who recently celebrated the 60th anniversary of his ordination. Derek was a curate in Knighton and remembers his time here with Canon Fielder very fondly.



**My sincere thanks** for your continuing concern and prayers over the past months for my grandson, Ed Groves, who, as many of you know, just over half-way through his Master's Degree course in Copenhagen, was diagnosed with leukaemia on New Year's Eve. He has undergone gruelling and debilitating (for some time, a real sportsman, who represented his university at football, he was confined to a wheelchair) chemotherapy and radiotherapy, culminating in August in bone marrow / stem cell transplants, followed by five weeks' isolation. Thankfully, three weeks ago, he was discharged from isolation and is now an outpatient, on the road to recovery, with up to six months' further treatment and physiotherapy ahead. *Eileen McKellican*



# Wanted!



## ***New PCC members***

Our Annual Meeting to elect Church Wardens and Church Council (PCC) members is scheduled for Sunday 11th October at 11.00am in the Church—God willing!

The PCC is the main decision making body in the parish and a portion of it's members are elected every year, usually for a three year term. It's chief responsibility, along with the minister, is to promote the mission of God in our community, through outreach, service, worship and care for the buildings and resources entrusted to us.

At this point in the growth and development of St Mary's, with the challenges that we face following the pandemic, it is important that we have Church Council members who can reflect all the views and experiences of our congregation and wider church family. You do not need to be an expert in anything but you do need to have the best interests of the church and the community at heart, being willing to listen, discuss and make key decisions.

Please consider if this might be God's calling to you, or to someone you know. To stand for the PCC you will need to be nominated and seconded by two other church members – forms are available from James in the Church Office. If you haven't been on the Electoral Roll for six months yet then speak to Adrian about the possibility of being co-opted rather than elected.

# Wanted!



## ***New Church Wardens***

### **Essential Qualities**

- a heart for St Mary's Church – the people and the building – and our community
- a belief that God's future for us is bright
- the ability to work with others (inc. the Vicar!)
- a commitment for 1-3 years.

### **It could be YOU!**

*Don't be put off by:*

- your age or gender
- being a 'newcomer'
- being an 'old hand'
- not being 'practical'
- not being 'spiritual'.

### **What to do next**

- talk to God
- talk to your friends
- talk to any previous Warden or to Adrian.

## **Contact details:**

**Vicar: Adrian Jones** 0116 270 4268 or 07584 954414

Email: [adrian.jones@zoho.com](mailto:adrian.jones@zoho.com) (day off normally Friday)

**Assistant Curate: Revd Matthew Gough** 07754 961997

Email: [revgough@gmail.com](mailto:revgough@gmail.com) (day off normally Friday)

**Revd Aphro McCullough:** 0116 283 7887

Email: [aphro.mccullough@btinternet.com](mailto:aphro.mccullough@btinternet.com)

**Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster**

Email: [safpta6@gmail.com](mailto:safpta6@gmail.com) 07966 376905

**Revd Janet Gasper**

Email: [janet.gasper@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:janet.gasper@hotmail.co.uk) 0116 288 9646

**Reader: Fiona Wingate**

Email: [Fiona.wingate@talktalk.net](mailto:Fiona.wingate@talktalk.net) 07515 752954

**Churchwarden: Rosalind Matthew**

**Parish Administrator: James Gutteridge** 0116 270 2705

Email: [office@knightonparish.co.uk](mailto:office@knightonparish.co.uk)

The Parish Office is now open again from 9.30am until 2.30pm, Tuesday to Friday. Please feel free to phone James or to email. If you need to visit the Office, please let James know you're coming and wear face coverings as per the Government guidelines. Thank you.

## **Keeping in touch and sharing worship together remotely.**

**Wednesday Compline (Night Prayer)** - Each week we are meeting virtually for Compline at 8pm on Wednesday. It has proven to be a meaningful way to have fellowship and prayer together as well as being quite good fun, especially as we find our feet with the technology and with more people joining us every week.

You can join by just phoning up and inputting the code or using 'Zoom' online. It has been democratic with several voices joining in with a line of liturgy each. If you would like to participate with a speaking part, please do contact Matthew by 4pm on Wednesday.

To join by phone only, call this number **0131 460 1196** and when prompted input Meeting ID: 746 767 4408

To join by Zoom on the internet, go to this address and click 'Open Zoom' <https://leccofe.zoom.us/j/7467674408>

## **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](mailto:stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com). If you are a taxpayer and gift aid your giving, our church can claim an additional 25%.

**During the current Coronavirus pandemic please put aside your weekly offerings ready to bring to church when things return to something like normal. The costs of the church are largely unchanged even though we cannot meet, so your regular giving is extremely important to our collective 'health' and the mission of God here.**



*giftaid it*

**Please pray.....** *"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. "* (Ephesians 6.18)

**Praying for the World:** As we celebrate our Harvest Festival, pray for a more equal distribution of the world's resources, and a greater willingness to share the fruits of human endeavour and discovery freely across all nations.

**Praying for the Church:** Pray for our Bishops and other leaders in the Diocese of Leicester as they face difficult decisions about our financial future. Pray that they would seek always to be attentive to God's voice and obedient to his calling.

**Praying for the Parish:** Please pray for the peace and well-being of all those who live on Palmerstone Way, Link Road, Ryde Avenue, Shanklin Drive, Shanklin Gardens, Shanklin Avenue.

**Praying for those in need:**

We pray for all those who are unwell at the moment, whether in body, mind or spirit, and all those with troubling investigations and diagnoses. Please do continue to pray for **Gil Parsons, Charlotte Muddimer, Anne Squires, Bob Newell** and their families. 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, in particular we remember **Barbara Green**. We also remember all those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

*Jesus said "Come to me, all you who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11.28.*