

## St Mary Magdalen Church of England, Knighton

**Vicar - Revd Adrian Jones**

Sunday 17th February 2019

3rd Sunday before Lent

### Welcome to our Morning Worship

A warm welcome to everyone joining us at St Mary Magdalen this week, especially if you are here for the first time or visiting. On the next page of this newsletter you'll find all the essential information you might need for this morning's service.

**PANCAKES, ASHES, SOUL SEARCHING... AND A GOOD NATTER.** It won't be long now before we begin that season in the Church's life that we call Lent. Through these weeks until Easter we consider the final days of Jesus's life before the crucifixion and we live with a greater awareness of our own need to turn away from the wrong in our life and turn back to God. Although many of us mark Shrove Tuesday or Pancake day, the first day of Lent is Ash Wednesday, which this year falls on **6th March**. As usual we have a benefice service that evening, at 7.30pm in St Mary's. This gives us an important opportunity to start our own reflections on what God might want to change in our lives and our own part in making that happen. The service includes the traditional 'ashing' when the minister marks the sign of the cross on each forehead as a symbol of our penitent turning towards a crucified Saviour. Ash Wednesday is also a traditional day for Christians to practice fasting (going without food for some time), again as a symbol of our repentance. More about this in weeks to come!

We will also be having our Lent Discussion Groups once again. This year we will be discussing and debating our Lent series of Sunday sermons that focus on what it means to have 'Faith For Life'. Our Wednesday morning group will meet at 10am, beginning on 13th March, at Doreen White's house, 2 Shanklin Gardens. Our Thursday evening group will meet at the Vicarage at 7.45pm, beginning on 14th March. Please think about joining us even if this sort of group is new to you - everyone is very friendly and relaxed and you won't be put on the spot at all! Do sign up on the list at the back of the church on the green boards. *Adrian*

## ABOUT OUR SERVICES

- Our worship follows the printed order of service Large print versions are available from the sidespersons (the welcomers at the door). If you are using a hearing aid, please switch it to the T position so as to make best use of the hearing loop system.
- It is traditional to stand for the hymns and some of the prayers and readings, but if this is difficult for you then please do remain seated and comfortable.
- In the entrance area are toilets, and there is a crèche area at the back of the church.
- During the main 10am service, Sunday Club for children meets in the Narthex as usual; the children go to their Club after 'A Word for the Children'.
- As part of the 8.00am service we share Communion together and everyone is invited to come forwards to receive bread and wine as we remember the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. If you would prefer to come for a blessing then simply carry the service booklet with you.
- You are welcome to join Adrian for a short time of prayer before the main service: 9.30-9.45am at the front of the Lady Chapel (the chapel on the left).
- Please talk to the sidespersons if you have any other questions and do please stay after the 10.00 am service for tea or coffee and introduce yourself to some of us.

Please send items for inclusion in the diary or notice sheet to James Gutteridge by **Thursday 12.00 noon**. Contact James on [office@knightonparish.co.uk](mailto:office@knightonparish.co.uk) or 0116 2702705. Knighton Parish Office, Church Lane, Knighton, Leicester LE2 3WG

## DIARY FOR THE WEEK

<b>Sunday 17th February</b> 3rd Sunday before Lent	8.00am 10.00am	Eucharist Morning Worship
Monday 18th February <b>Parish Office Closed</b>	7.30pm	Bell Ringing Practice
Tuesday 19th February	9.30am	Eucharist, St Mary's
Wednesday 20th February		
Thursday 21st February	9.30am	Eucharist, St Guthlac's
Friday 22nd February	11.00am	Service of Prayer for Healing with Communion
Saturday 23rd February		
<b>Sunday 24th February</b> 2nd Sunday before Lent	8.00am 10.00am	Eucharist Sung Eucharist

The next monthly Service of Prayer for Healing with Communion will be held on **Friday 22nd February** at 11.00am.

### **PRAYING FOR ST MARY'S - SEEKING AND LISTENING TO GOD:**

It is always a good idea to pray! And so we are hoping to start up a small group meeting monthly to pray for our church and community as we look for the next steps in our life together. We will normally meet on the first Thursday of each month, around 10.30am, in a local home. If you would like to join us please do let me know. *Adrian*

## **Listening to God's Word**

Our Bible readings today are:

**Philippians 2.1-12 and Luke 5.12-16**

Today's theme is:

**Jesus begins: "If you choose...."**

**ADVANCE NOTICE!** This year our Church Annual Meeting (APCM) will be on Sunday 7th April at 11.30am, after the morning service. We will have coffee and cakes to keep us going! Everyone who thinks of themselves as part of our church family ought to be there, if at all possible, to hear reports and questions on our life together last year and to take part in the election of Church Wardens and Church Council (PCC) members. Sadly this date, which was determined by Easter and our planning and accounting timetables, means that we will not be able to have the regular 11.30am Communion service that morning - my apologies. Our Annual Report will be available for everyone sometime before the meeting as usual. *Adrian*

**IT'S FOR YOU!** In last week's service we thought about God's calling of all of us, and together, to follow Jesus and to live out our faith every day. There are plenty of ways in which each of us can live out that calling by being part of the life of the church here at St Marys. Here are a few to inspire you:

- Make time regularly (each week?) to pray for the world, the church, our neighbourhood and for the sick and bereaved. The back page of the newsletter gives ideas and prayer points every week.
- Join one of the cleaning teams and help to make the building sparkle once a month. Contact Doreen White for details (phone 0116 270 4744).
- Stand for the Church Council (PCC) and once a month or so give your ideas and insights as part of a meeting that directs and shapes the life of the church and makes formal decisions about policy and practice. Elections take place in April at the Annual Meeting. See Ros Matthew or Adrian Jones for information.
- Volunteer to read the Bible passage in our Sunday worship or to lead the prayers - the rota will give you a turn every 6-8 weeks. Contact James in the Office to add your name (phone 0116 270 2705).

**THANK YOU** to Flick and her team of volunteers for welcoming to St Mary's all 120 Year One children from Overdale Infants School last week. The children shared a range of fun activities that gave them a taste of what the church family here believes and does together in this great building.

**MOTHERS UNION** - a reminder that our Annual General Meeting takes place on **Tuesday 26th February**, at 2.15 p.m. in the Parish Centre Lounge. Subs are due.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday, 1st March.** Our local services are at 2pm at St James the Greater and 7.30pm at St Guthlac's. Please note this means there will be no 'First Friday Prayers' in March.

**PARISH MAGAZINE** The copy deadline for the March issue of the Parish Magazine is **Friday 1 March** (St David's Day). I hope to have it issued by 15/16 March. This will be the last magazine before Easter, so please bear that in mind if you have events for that period to publicise. Copy should be sent to [stmaryknighton.magazine@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryknighton.magazine@gmail.com). Thank you. Nigel Siesage

**'TIME FOR A CUPPA '** - On **Sunday 3rd March 2019** after the Family Service homemade cake will be served with your coffee and tea. The money donated that day will be sent to Dementia UK to help fund people with dementia or their carers whilst still living at home. Care can be provided by Admiral Nurses but training costs are high and as more people are living longer dementia is more of an issue. Please help this very worthwhile cause. Thank you in advance for your support. Sue Bonnett.

**VISIT MY MOSQUE, SUNDAY 3RD MARCH** - Following on from the success of previous years, over 200 mosques in the UK will be holding open days on **3rd March** and inviting those from all faiths and none to visit, look around and talk to local muslims. The aim is that such meetings will help us all to come together to build more cohesive and stronger relationships in our local communities. In Leicester five of the city's mosques are taking part - more details can be found at [visitmymosque.org](http://visitmymosque.org) If you would like to visit as part of a St Mary's group then do please let Adrian know and we'll get something organised!

**LENT LUNCH** - a simple meal of soup, bread, cheese and biscuits, with tea or coffee. **Saturday 9th March At 12 noon** in the Parish Centre. Tickets [Essential for this event] £6 From Judi Stone [0116 2881306] or Cora Paul [0116 3678954]. Proceeds in aid of Behala Children's Home, India

**DON'T MISS OUT!** Christians rightly remember that the church is the people of God rather than a building, and that we are called together to share a common life and support each other, as well as to worship and strengthen our faith together. This means that we all have a calling and a responsibility to share in the way that the church as a family and community is organised and works. One important way to do that is to join the Church Electoral Roll so that we can take part in formal decision making and elections. This year a new Electoral Roll is being prepared and everyone has to fill in a form to join, even if you are a long-term member of the church.

At the same time we want to make sure that we have accurate contact details for everyone who is part of our church community so that you can all be contacted quickly with news and in times of personal or pastoral need. There are therefore two forms that we are asking you to complete and return, as soon as possible but certainly **before the 10th March**: one is the Electoral Roll form and the other is our new 'Keeping in Touch' form. Please pick up the forms from the back of church after the service today and simply follow the guidance as it's written.

Please do remember! These are important forms and, because of C of E rules and new Data Protection rules, unless we have these details and your signature you will not be able to take part in our Annual Meeting or stand for election, and there may be delays in communication from the church and the clergy. We want everyone to feel and know that they are part of St Mary Magdalen and to have their say when decisions are needed - so please do sign up! *Adrian*

**KNIGHTON PLAYERS**

will be performing

***Snow White and the Seven Dwarves***

on Friday 22nd March 7.30pm

and Saturday 23rd March 2.30pm and & 7.30pm

in the Parish Centre.

Tickets (adults £7, children £5) are available from Jane Wright 2925220, David Hunt 2716991 (St. Guthlac's), Tanya Willis 2103580 (St. Mary's), or knightonplayers@ntlworld.com.

### **Contact details:**

**Vicar: Adrian Jones** 0116 270 4268 / [adrian.jones@zoho.com](mailto:adrian.jones@zoho.com)  
(day off normally Friday)

**Churchwarden: Rosalind Matthew** 07531 505637

**Parish Administrator: James Gutteridge** 0116 270 2705  
Email: [office@knightonparish.co.uk](mailto:office@knightonparish.co.uk)

(The Parish Office is open **Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday** and **Friday** from 9.30am until 2.30pm, unless stated differently in the diary)  
The office is closed on **Mondays**.

### **Camino de Santiago (The Way of St James)**

You are invited to join us on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 7pm**  
**in St Guthlac's Church, Holbrook Rd LE2 2LN**

The Camino do Santiago (The Way of St James) is a historic pilgrimage route of 480 miles from southern France to Santiago de Compostela in northwest Spain mainly through rural communities and mountain regions. A pilgrimage offers an opportunity to slow down and allow time for peace and reflection. Come with us from your seat as four friends (Margaret, Karen, Mary and Simon) recount their journey through a selection of photographs, sounds and experiences.

Free talk and refreshments with the chance to socialise!

### **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 standing order as part of our Planned Giving Scheme. Details can be obtained from Lorna Pollard, Planned Giving Scheme Secretary: telephone 0116 2704272 or e mail: [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%.



**CHEQUES FOR ST MARY'S** Please makes cheques for St Mary's payable to **Knighton PCC**.

## **Please pray.....**

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5.16-18)

**Praying for the World:** please pray for all those who make decisions about the way in which new science and technology is used, particularly that they would be more concerned for human good than for profit.

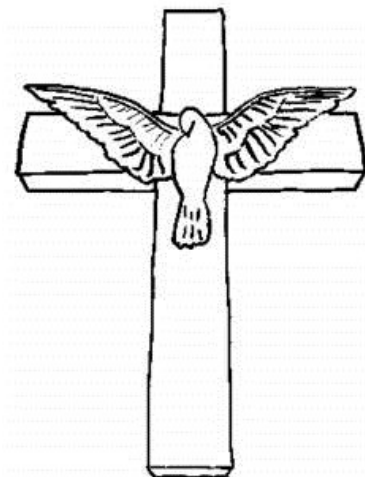
**Praying for the Church:** please pray for our partner diocese of Kiteto in Tanzania, for Bishop Isaiah Chambala and all the people in his care. Pray for a new nurse for the diocesan eye clinic, where sister Sara is stepping down through ill health; and for the clinic's witness to the healing power of Christ

**Praying for the Parish :** This week please pray for all those who live in **Kew Drive, Highgate Drive, Hillcrest Road, South Kingsmead Road, Woodbank Road, Palmerstone Boulevard.**

We pray for all those who are unwell at the moment, whether in body, mind or spirit. In particular we pray for: **Charlotte Muddimer, Maurice Allen** and all those on our parish 'Continuing Prayer' list. May they know the power of God's healing love at work in their lives today.

Give thanks for those who have been healed and restored.

We remember those who have died recently and pray for their families and friends: **Peter Adamson Renee Duncan**



*Names will remain on the prayer list here for three weeks - please let us know if they should then be moved to the 'Continuing Prayer' list used for intercessions during the week.*