



St Mary Magdalen Church Church of England, Knighton

**Sunday 1st December 2019
Advent Sunday**

**Our service leaders today are the Revd Adrian Jones
and the Revd Matthew Gough**

Welcome to All Age 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. A particular welcome to the family and friends of Joseph , who will be baptised this morning.

A PRAYER FOR THE 2019 GENERAL ELECTION

God of grace and truth,
send your Spirit to guide us
as we discover your will for our country.
Help us to discuss the issues before us
with courtesy, truth and mutual respect,
and grant that all who stand for parliament
will seek to serve the common good,
through him who came not to be served but to serve,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



ABOUT OUR SERVICES

- Our worship follows the printed order of service and the readings and hymns are included in the booklet.
- 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. As the main 10am service is for all ages, there is no Sunday Club for the children this week.
- As part of the 8.00am and 11.30am services 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.

Listening to God's Word

Our Bible story today is from

Isaiah 7-9

Today's title is **"Fame, Blame - and names!"**

DIARY FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 1st December Advent Sunday	8.00am Said Eucharist 10.00am All Age Worship and Baptism 11.30am Said Eucharist 6.30pm Advent Evening Service
Monday 2nd December Parish Office Closed	7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice
Tuesday 3rd December	9.30am Eucharist, St Mary's 6.00pm Visit by the Beavers
Wednesday 4th December	10.00am Advent Group meets 11.00am-7.00pm Christmas Tree Festival set up
Thursday 5th December	9.30am Eucharist, St Guthlac's 11.00am-7.00pm Christmas Tree Festival set up
Friday 6th December	11.00am-7.00pm Christmas Tree Festival set up
Saturday 7th December	10.00am-5.00pm Christmas Tree Festival
Sunday 8th December 2nd Sunday of Advent	8.00am Said Eucharist 10.00am Sung Eucharist 12 noon Christmas Tree Festival 5.00pm Carols amongst the trees 6.00pm Removal of Christmas trees

The next monthly service of Prayer for Healing with Communion will be held on **Friday 31st January** at 11am.

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 or 0116 2702705. Knighton Parish Office, Church Lane, Knighton, Leicester LE2 3WG

InSPIREd

The campaign to save our spire

InSpired - our appeal for the spire

The Spire Group is continuing to work on an exciting programme of events which we hope will attract people from all over the community. Please tell your friends and neighbours about all our events as they are announced.

InSpired News

Online giving

It is now possible to donate to the appeal online. Just go to the parish website and follow the link. This is an easy, efficient way for people who live further away to contribute, so please pass this information on to any of your friends who care about the future of St Mary's.

Your Spire Fund-raising Group are: Nigel Siesage, Adrian Jones, Sue Holligan, Sian Howard, Lorna Kirk, Michael Kirk.

Donations for the Spire Fund

We continue to receive some very generous donations. Cheques for the Spire should be made out to Knighton PCC, but make it clear that they are for the Spire, by writing 'Spire Fund' on the back of the cheque.

If you already give to the church with Gift Aid, it will be possible to claim it on spire donations. Please speak to Lorna Pollard for advice if you have any questions about this.

Also, there are Spire Fund Appeal blue envelopes available for you to use in the pews, if you wish to use this method in addition to your regular giving in the unmarked envelopes. If you are a tax payer and complete the envelope, your gift will increase by 25%. Many thanks. *Nigel*

THURSDAY DROP-IN

After 46 years, the Thursday Drop-In club have sadly decided that the time has come for us to close. Our last meeting will be on Thursday 2nd January. We've had a lovely time over the years and shall miss the friends and fellowship. (and the bingo!). *Mavis*

MARY BRISTOW

News of Mrs Mary Bristow (from her daughter). After having had a stroke, Mary has moved to Autumn Grange, Linden Road, Creswell, Chesterfield S86 4TI. She is content and being well looked after. It would give her great pleasure to receive a Christmas card from friends of the church she had been a member for many years.

CHRISTMAS CARD BOARD

Once again we hope to have a 'space' on the notice board at the back of church, where we can share Christmas Greetings. As in the past, a contribution to the Children's Society can be placed in the box provided. We hope the 'space' will be available immediately after the Christmas Tree Festival.

CHURCH CLEANING

The current team would value more help to lighten their load. Duties are light! Cleaning takes place on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 10.15am until 12.15pm. Volunteers are asked to come every other month. Coffee and biscuits. Men very welcome! Please speak to Doreen White after the service or 270 4744.



ONE NIGHT ONLY!

Don't forget to buy your tickets for Faith Tucker's concert in church on Friday 13th December. The concert starts at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 and £5 for children. Tickets are available from :

Aileen Orme 0116 2745221 Judi & Bernard Stone 0116 2881306

Lorna & Michael Kirk 0116 2707843

Andrew & Carolyn Oldershaw 0116 2889925

Christmas Tree Festival 2019

MEETING If you have offered to help at the Christmas Tree Festival please come to a short briefing meeting after the 10 am service in the Requiem Chapel on Sunday 1st December. This will be an opportunity to ask any questions you may have. If you are unable to attend do not hesitate to contact me. Many thanks for volunteering at this busy time of the year. *Sue Holligan*

RAFFLE TICKETS 6 super prizes . Tickets are available from either Anne Squires or Sue Holligan. Please return all sold ticket stubs and money to Sue Holligan by Friday 6th December. Thank you.

HELP NEEDED Can you offer to help on **Saturday 7th December** from 9.30am until 10.30am or **Sunday 8th December** from 1.30pm until 2.30pm? Please contact Sue Holligan.

CAKE Sue Holligan has been loaned a Christmas tree shaped cake tin. Her cake turned out like a scone! Are you a good baker? Can you make a cake for the Christmas tree weekend? Please contact Sue if you can help.

WOODEN DECORATIONS A number of ordered woodcut decorations are finished. They have been placed at the back of the church with your name attached. Please take. Thank you for your support. SH

ADVENT STUDY GROUP - "Humbug and Happiness"

This year, our Advent Study Group takes the theme of 'Humbug and Happiness' from 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens. Each week we will explore different aspects of Advent by watching clips from the 1953 classic film *A Christmas Carol* starring Alistair Sim, and discussing some questions that link to our Christian faith. Everybody is welcome to join us on Wednesday mornings (4th , 11th , 18th Dec), 10.00am until 11.30am. Please ask me for further information *Adrian*

SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER - SITTING COMFORTABLY! You will have seen the publicity for the Christmas Tree Festival which is happening in the church on 7th and 8th December... you may be wondering "How will be able to worship on Sunday 8th?" The organising group and myself have thought this through carefully as this is the first time we have had a Christmas Tree Festival and we have tried to anticipate the issues. There will be less space to sit in church on Sunday 8th of course, and we will all need to be flexible about our favourite seats and neighbours.

At those moments when this all feels rather a nuisance, please do remember that the Festival is all about welcoming our community into the church building, for a special event that we hope will help them connect with the message of Christmas in a new way. To do this we need to make some sacrifices for one Sunday, but I'm convinced that God will lovingly receive our worship even if we feel the trees to be distracting - on the other hand we might find that we all gain something from 'forest church' indoors. If there are unforeseen issues on 8th then please do mention them to myself or Matthew and we'll do our best to make things better. *Adrian*

THANKS Thanks to those who kindly donated their small change, some of which was in the plastic bottle at the back of the Church and some handed to me, as a donation to "Grifaid", which is the name of the Safe Water Trust. You generously donated £13.46 *C.A.J.M.*

INSPIRED CHRISTMAS CARDS. The special Christmas cards will be delivered from the printer next week and we will be able to issue them (in exchange for payment of £5 per pack of 8 of course) on **Sunday 1st December**. We will be able to take payment in cash, by cheque (payable to Knighton PCC) or by credit card. If you are unable to collect your order on 1 December, let me know by email (nigel.siesage@gmail.com) and we'll make an alternative arrangement. If you did not order cards in advance, they will be available at the Christmas bazaar and the Christmas Tree Festival at £6.50 for 10 and 70p per card. *Nigel Siesage*

ST. GUTHLAC'S CHRISTMAS FAYRE Sat 7th December 10am-1pm in church. Your chance to shop locally for Christmas decorations and paper, bulb bowls, cakes and handmade preserves, jewellery, as well as items made from hand spun sheep's wool. Further attractions include games, raffle, tombola, and refreshments. Free admission – Do drop in!

CAROLS AT THE CORNERS On Tuesday 10th December St. Guthlac's and the South Knighton community will be holding a carol singing walk around three corners of Knighton. Meeting at 6.30pm outside Londis (Flynn's) and walking along Knighton Church Road to Whitters. We will finish with mulled wine or soft drink in St. Guthlac's at about 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome to join us.

'PEACE ON EARTH' - THE AMOS TRUST

BETHLEHEM CAROL SERVICE: Join us when the Amos Trust Bethlehem Christmas Carol Service tour stops off at Trinity Methodist in Oadby on Monday 9th December at 7pm, where we'll be joined by Sami Awad from Holy Land Trust in Bethlehem, plus special guest performers. Sami is a leading Palestinian peace activist who will be explaining why non-violence is at the heart of the Christmas message and of his family life in Gaza. There will be a collection for the Amos 2019 Christmas appeal supporting our partners in Gaza, and the home and peace-building work of Holy Land Trust. If you'd like to travel with friends, Alison Roche has spaces in the car! Please join us. *Adrian*



MOLLY'S GIFTS

Molly Clarke is having a stall at St Guthlacs Christmas Fayre on Saturday 7th December. She has knitted little gifts including baby shoes and gloves, baby jumpers, bonnets and rabbits... All proceeds to St Mary's Spire Appeal.

DING DONG MERRILY ON HIGH

St Mary's bellringers will be displaying a tree at the forthcoming Christmas Tree Festival and would very much appreciate your help with its decoration. We need a few more BELL baubles - no prizes for guessing the theme of our tree! If any of you have this shape of bauble and would be willing to get them out of the loft early and lend them to us for this occasion please speak to me, Simon Britton or Ros Astles.

Many thanks. *Beverley Jarrom*

SCARGILL SUMMERFEST 2020 - YOUR SUMMER HOLIDAY?


Scargill House in the beautiful Yorkshire Dales, is home to a Christian community that hosts courses, retreats and holidays throughout the year. In the school summer holidays there are three special weeks set aside for Summerfest - a special time of fun, worship, countryside, learning and entertainment for people of all ages, in groups or families, with friends or alone. In 2020, for the third time, we will be taking a group from St Mary's and we would love you to come with us! The dates are Saturday 8th - Thursday 13th August, and as usual there are a variety of accommodation options to choose from: full board and ensuite, through to self-catering camping. If you'd like to know more please talk to one of us or the group from 2019, and see the notice board for more details. There are also plenty of Scargill programme booklets at the back of the church. If cost feels like an issue then we might be able to help so have a quiet talk to Adrian. But don't delay- places go quickly! Adrian and Alison PS - ask us about our short video of Summerfest 2018!



Scargill Movement

Lives shared, lives transformed

COMMUNITY OF GRACE CHRISTMAS DAY BREAKFAST APPEAL. This year, as in previous years, we are looking to make the men at the Community of Grace have a better Christmas. To that end I would ask if you could add an extra item or two into your supermarket trolleys and bring them to church on one of the following Sundays up to and including Sunday 22nd of December. A box will be marked at the back of church for your groceries. The items we are looking for are: Fruit Juice, Bacon, Sausage, Eggs, Tinned Tomatoes, Baked Beans, Thick Sliced Bread, Marmalade, Jam, Butter or Spread, Tea, Coffee, Sugar etc., Please make sure that any perishable items have a date after the 26th of December. Thank you in advance for your donation and let's make the Community of Grace Residents have the best Christmas Day and hopefully Boxing Day Breakfast ever. *Sue Bonnett.*



Lights to Remember
Celebrate the life of a loved one this Christmas.

Sunday 1st December, 6:30pm Oadby Baptist Church
Leicester Road, Oadby. LE2 5BD

Remembering loved ones.
Service with carols, poems and reading.
Refreshments served at the end.
Light a candle in their memory and tie a message to the Christmas tree.

For further information call: Elizabeth Keywood 0116 271 5768
A collection Will be held for Marie Curie

Registered with Charity Commission

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Find us on:
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Contact details:

Vicar: Adrian Jones 0116 270 4268 or 07584 954414

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

Assistant Curate: Revd Matthew Gough 07754 961997

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

Revd Aphro McCullough: 0116 283 7887

Email: aphro.mccullough@btinternet.com

Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster

Email: safpta6@gmail.com 07966 376905

Revd Janet Gasper

Email: janet.gasper@hotmail.co.uk 0116 288 9646

Reader: Fiona Wingate

Email: Fiona.wingate@talktalk.net 07515 752954

Churchwarden: Rosalind Matthew 07531 505637

Parish Administrator: James Gutteridge 0116 270 2705

Email: 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**.

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. *If you are giving by bank standing order, yellow tokens are available at services to put on the plate, should you wish.*

Scheme details can be obtained from Lorna Pollard, Planned Giving Scheme Secretary: telephone 0116 2704272 or e mail:

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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CHEQUES FOR ST MARY'S Please make 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)

Give thanks: for all those who carry out the 'unseen' tasks that support our worship and church life together - especially this week those who do maintenance work and minor repairs on the church.

Praying for the World: Please pray for all those living in the area of the recent earthquake in Albania. Pray as well for those experiencing severe drought in Southern Africa and in Australia.

Praying for the Church: Please pray for carol services, concerts, events and celebrations at churches throughout our diocese. Pray that in all our busy-ness we will remember 'the reason for the season' and point people to the person of Jesus.

Praying for the Parish : This week please pray for those who live on:
Carisbrooke Road, Stockwell Road, Ashclose Avenue, Meadvale Road, Overdale Road.

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.

In particular we pray for **Lee Elkington, Maurice Allen, "a friend", Jane Mee, Paul,** 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. **Beryl Holman**

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.