



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



## **Newsletter for Sunday 24th May 2026 Pentecost**

### **Collects for this week**

God, who as at this time  
taught the hearts of your faithful people  
by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit:  
grant us by the same Spirit  
to have a right judgement in all things  
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;  
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father,  
ignite in us your holy fire;  
strengthen your children  
with the gift of faith,  
revive your Church  
with the breath of love,  
and renew the face of the earth,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## The Week Ahead..

Sunday 24th May <i>Pentecost</i>	9.00am Eucharist (trad) <b>10.30am Sung Eucharist</b> 10.30am Morning Prayer at St Guthlac's
Monday 25th May	2.00pm-4.00pm Drop-In (Parish Centre) 7.30pm Bell Ringing practice
Tuesday 26th May	9.30am Holy Communion (St Mary's) 2.00pm Mothers' Union Fellowship 4.00pm Funeral
Wednesday 27th May	8.00pm Online Compline
Thursday 28th May	9.30am Holy Communion (St Guthlac's) 11.30am Church cleaning
Friday 29th May	11.00am Healing Prayer with Communion
Saturday 30th May	
Sunday 31st May <i>Trinity Sunday</i>	<b>10.30am Joint Communion Service at St Guthlac's for Trinity Sunday</b>

**SUNDAY CLUB** for children at primary and secondary school, meets during the 10.30am service twice a month. Every child of school age is welcome! Ask the Welcome Team to point out our leaders Alison Roche or Luke Fogg for a hello and a consent form if it's your child's first time. Here's what happens during each month:

1st Sunday - Worship for the Whole Church (children stay in the service for all ages)

2nd Sunday - Sunday Club            3rd Sunday - Sunday Club

4th Sunday - no Sunday Club but all are welcome to join us at the relaxed, cafe- style Church Club at 10.30am at St Guthlac's, Holbrook Road. [and if there's a 5th Sunday - a variety of things happen - check the newsletter or website]

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

The readings on **Sunday 24th May** are:

**Acts 2.1-21 and John 20.19-23.**

## Church Family News

### **Sad news- Mark Newell**

I was greatly saddened to hear this week that Mark Newell has died. As the son of Bob and Jan Newell, Mark was well known to many of us and would come to services at St Mary's whenever work and health allowed. Although he faced significant personal challenges, Mark had a deep and sincere faith, and trusted in God's goodness and care - I'm also going to miss his good sense of humour and real concern for others. Please remember his sisters, Debbie and Jen, in your prayers over these difficult days. *Adrian*

**Ali Simpson-Smith** Some of you will remember Ali Simpson-Smith who was the detached youth worker for the Edge Project - a part of the Southern Edge Mission Partnership (SEMP) that St Mary's and St Guthlac's was a part of and began in about 2009. Ali was ordained a few years' ago, has completed her Pioneer Curacy and is about to start as a Pioneer clergyperson within the Oadby + Great Glen Minster Community and based at St Peter's Oadby as their vicar. Please uphold her in your prayers as she approaches her licensing service on Thursday 4th June.

*Alison Roche*

**A lift to church?** Sometimes older cars can't be fixed, and Valerie Thompson now finds that hers needs to retire. She would very much like to continue worshipping with us at St Mary's on Sundays, so if anyone might be able to occasionally offer a lift from the LE5 area please do let me know. Thank you. *Adrian*

### **Overdale School Summer Fair 2026, Saturday 27th June**

This year, the fair will take place from 12-2.30pm.

It is a great annual outreach opportunity for the church and, as usual, we have been asked to run a little 'stall' there. This takes the form of some fun activities for children; handing out various freebies; and just generally chatting with people. We would like to put a small team of volunteers together so, if you will be available and would like to help out, please let Sian know via her usual contact details at the end of the newsletter - or just mention it to her on a Sunday. *Sian Howard*

## **COMING UP ..... What's happening at St Mary's on Sundays in May and June 2026**

Our 10.30am Sunday services at St Mary's vary, week by week – we hope that this provides different types of worship that appeal in different ways and, perhaps, are appreciated by different groups of people. Everyone is welcome every week!

- The fourth **Sunday of May is 24<sup>th</sup>**, and we come together for a service of Sung Eucharist as we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit at **Pentecost**.
- There is also a fifth Sunday in May – we join together for a joint benefice Eucharist on **Trinity Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> May** – this time we are hosted at St Guthlac's at 10.30am.
- After Trinity we begin a short series of six Sundays reflecting on ***"Lessons from the Desert"*** as we look at the account of the Exodus in the Old Testament. On **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June** we share Worship for the Whole Church (All Ages) and think about Moses.
- The service on the second Sunday of the month, **14<sup>th</sup> June**, is a Sung Eucharist, and our focus in Exodus is the crossing of the Red Sea.
- Our Morning Worship on **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June** will help us to reflect on what we can learn today from the experience of God's ancient people in the desert: *"Water, manna and quail"*.
- The final **Sunday of June, 28<sup>th</sup>**, is again a service of Sung Eucharist, and we'll recall the meeting of Moses and Jethro, in the Book of the Exodus.

As usual, **each Sunday** our quieter, **Weekly Eucharist**, takes place at 9am, with 'traditional language' on the second and fourth Sundays of the

month. Our weekly midweek Communion is on Tuesdays at 9.30am, and on the last Friday of each month, at 11am, we hold a Service of Prayer for Healing, with Holy Communion (see Revd Janet Gasper for details).

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### **COFFEE MORNING SATURDAY 9TH MAY.**

Another successful coffee morning was held in St. Mary's Church and raised a total of **£581.00** towards the expense of running our Parish Church.

The Social Committee thank all who came, enjoying the coffee/tea cakes, the music, the tables displaying many interesting items for sale and the raffle.

I personally thank all the helpers. Without them, this event could not happen.

The next event to be held in the Church will be on **Sunday 28th June** in the afternoon look out for the details on the Posters. *Beryl*



## **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 10-16 MAY**

Since we are no longer able to conduct a house-to-house collection, envelopes will be available in church for your donation. If you are a UK taxpayer, please consider taking an extra couple of minutes to complete the Gift Aid declaration and enclose it in the envelope: this will increase the value of your gift by 25%, at no extra cost to yourself. **Envelopes can be returned via the collection plate in the next 2-3 weeks'.**

### **What is Christian Aid Week?**

Christian Aid Week is a powerful expression of what can happen when compassion leads to action.

It's our shared moment to come together – across churches, communities and households – to stand alongside people living in poverty around the world.

For one week each year, thousands of people across Britain and Ireland give, fundraise, pray and act together. Together, those actions make change possible.



## **BENEFICE MAGAZINE**

The next issue of the magazine will appear in mid-June. The closing date for copy will be Friday 5 June. Please make sure I have information about any forthcoming church events which could helpfully be advertised in this edition. And of course I continue to welcome any articles, thoughts, reminiscences which may be of interest to our readership. The email address is [stmaryknighton.magazine@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryknighton.magazine@gmail.com). (Readers from St Guthlac's shouldn't be discouraged by this address).

Editor Nigel



### **Mothers' Union Fellowship**

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> May** at our usual 1.30 for a 2pm start, in the Parish Centre.

We want to thank Marlene Bland who has knitted another 60+ teddy bears which will go to children supported by MU causes such as AFIA holidays, Women's Aid, Women's Refuges, PACT (the prison charity) where they are given to children either at their family fun days or on regular visit days. LP

# Virtual Compline 8.00pm Wednesday evenings

## There will be NO Compline on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

There will be virtual Compline services on all other Wednesdays in May and June at 8.00pm as usual.

### All are welcome!

You can also join using a phone. You can join the meeting from 7.50 pm.

**On the computer click:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81118183080>

**On the phone dial:** 0203 481 5240 and follow the instructions.

You will be asked for a meeting ID. Put 811 1818 3080 followed by #

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## Easter Lily Collection

A belated thank you to all who contributed to the Easter Lily Collection. As expected the price of the lilies had risen again this year, but thanks to your generous donations, totalling **£106**, we were able to cover the cost of this year's flowers. *Deborah*



Tea and Talk meeting for June...

## **NatureSpot and Knighton Wild**

### **Simon Bennett & Alan Cann**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm

St Guthlac's Church, Holbrook Rd LE2 3LF



**NatureSpot** is a local charity in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. Through its website it encourages people to discover wildlife, identify what they see and hear and record the species that they have found. Simon and Alan are both trustees of **NatureSpot** and live in Knighton. They will talk about **NatureSpot**, how it is used by the local wildlife group Knighton Wild, and what it tells us about local wildlife.

**Free talk and refreshments. Do join us!**

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## Easy Fundraising

Did you know that we're registered on #easyfundraising? This means you can raise free donations for us in 2026 when you shop online! Over 8,000 retailers will make a donation to St Mary Magdalen - Knighton PCC on your behalf when you shop with them. We have raised over £500 so far - Please sign up today. All the big names like Sainsbury's, Argos and Just Eat are ready to donate at no extra cost to you. Plus, sign up today and we could win a £500 donation: <https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/st-mary-magdalen-knighton-pcc/h2y5ev/c2s/ahT9IaEN/CE945/facebook/>

## Contact details:

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**Churchwarden: Michael Gasper** c/o 0116 270 2705  
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**Parish Administrator: James Gutteridge** 0116 270 2705  
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## 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 donation through the Parish Giving Scheme, details of which can be obtained from Simon Britton, Planned Giving Scheme Secretary, email: [stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com) or phone 07710 975 272. If you are a taxpayer and willing to gift aid your giving, our church can claim an additional 25% at no extra cost to yourself. Any donations by cheque should be to **Knighton PCC** please.



## Praying through this week

**Praying for each other this month:** In the month of May please do pray for all those within our congregation and our wider church community whose surnames begin with the letters Q, R, S and T. Pray that they will know the Holy Spirit as their guide in all of life, inspiring them to the love and service of others.

**Praying for the World:** The Spirit of God blows where she will and in ways we might not understand at first...please pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to work quietly but effectively in the hearts of many people across the world, so that all our lives might be enriched and deepened by many many small acts of loving kindness and generosity. Pray that the big challenges of the world would be answered by ordinary, everyday faithfulness.

**Praying for the Church:** With others across our Diocese please pray for the people and leaders of the churches in Foxton with Gumley & Laughton, Wistow, Fleckney & Kilby, Market Harborough and Little Bowden with Lubenham and Great Bowden. Pray for all the events that connect these churches with their schools and communities, and that sharing the Good News will be at the heart.

**Praying for the Parish, our neighbours and friends:** Please pray for the peace and well-being of all those who live on **Southernhay Rd, Southernhay Close, Southern Hay Avenue, Cara Close, Estima Close, Westernhay Road.**

### **Praying for those in need this week**

Please pray for all those who are in particular need at the moment, those who are unwell in body, mind or spirit, and those anxious and worried. We especially pray for **Neill Addison-Gutteridge and Greta Day.**

Please remember all those who have died in recent days. Ask God to bring comfort and peace to their family and friends, even in their sadness. We especially pray for the family and friends of **Mark Newell.**