



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



**Newsletter for  
Sunday 14th April 2024  
3rd Sunday of Easter**

**Collects for this week**

Almighty Father,  
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples  
with the sight of the risen Lord:  
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,  
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life  
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;  
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.

Risen Christ,  
you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:  
strengthen us to proclaim your risen life  
and fill us with your peace,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.



## The week ahead...

<b>Sunday 14th April</b>	9.00am Eucharist (trad) <b>10.30am Sung Eucharist</b> 10.30am All Age Worship at St Guthlacs
Monday 15th April	7.30pm Bell Ringing practice
Tuesday 16th April	9.30am Holy Communion (St Mary's)
Wednesday 17th April	
Thursday 18th April	9.30am Holy Communion (St Guthlac's)
Friday 19th April	
Saturday 20th April	
<b>Sunday 21st April</b>	9.00am Eucharist <b>10.30am All Age Worship</b> 10.30am Eucharist at St Guthlacs

**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 set readings for Sunday 14th April are Acts 3.12-19, 1 John 3.1-7 and Luke 24.36-49. Our sermon is titled "Witness and Wonder".

## Church Family News

**With sadness:** It's with great sadness that I have to tell you of the recent death of two of our friends and church members.

Beryl Gutteridge died just before Easter, having had cancer for some time and, more recently, becoming very ill and spending time in hospital. Beryl always brought a cheery approach to church with her on Sundays, and a down-to-earth approach to faith and life which I much appreciated. Please remember Beryl's son John, and her good friends and neighbours, in your prayers.

I'm also very sad to pass on news that Doreen Macafee also died, on Monday last. Although Doreen's life had been much restricted in recent years and it was very difficult for her to get out to church, she retained her sharp mind, warm kindness and great good humour. She had a spell in hospital a few weeks ago but Doreen's last days came rather rapidly - please pray for her family and friends as they adjust to this sad new reality.

Adrian

**Thank you** The Social Committee thank all who donated the easter eggs for Goldhill Foodbank. 118 easter eggs were donated and Age Uk Bookshop Oadby donated early reading books for those children who could not eat chocolate or had allergies.

**St Mary's Wateraid charity contribution** Thanks so much for all your generous gifts of coins which you have placed in the Wateraid (Grifaid) jar over the last 6 months. The amount collected in the very full jar was £49.11 and this has been paid to the charity. The jar is once again on the table at the back of the Lady Chapel so we can start collecting again!

*Sian Howard*

## **COMING UP ..... What's happening at St Mary's on Sundays in April 2024**

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!

- Sunday 14th April we will worship together through a service of Sung Eucharist, as usual on the second week of the month, looking at one of the resurrection appearances of Jesus.
- On the third Sunday of April, 21st, our Morning Worship will take the theme of 'Hope for the future ... of our nation" as we look at the way our faith might have an impact on the forthcoming General Election.
- The month ends with Sung Eucharist on Sunday 28th April, again looking at the resurrection appearances of Jesus. This service will be followed by our Annual Church Meeting (APCM) – more about that closer to the time.
- 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.

## **Join us for “Hymns We Love” on Wednesday mornings**

Our Wednesday morning small group meets every week at 10.30am in the Welcome Space (Cottage Room) of the Parish Centre, on the corner of Brinsmead Rd and Church Lane. We enjoy discussion and Bible Study, and share friendship, drinks and cakes. Starting on 1<sup>st</sup> May we'll be starting a new series of five meetings celebrating “Hymns We Love”, when we'll be listening to and talking about a selection of well-known and popular hymns – exploring the stories behind the writers and the meaning behind the words.

Everyone is welcome, and this is an ideal opportunity to invite your friends and neighbours who might otherwise have no connection with the church or seldom think about the Christian faith. Publicity leaflets will be available soon and please do book the dates in your diary! *Adrian*

## **Our Annual Church Meeting 2024**

On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April we meet straight after the morning service (11.45am) for our Annual Church Meeting (APCM). This is an important time to gather and think together about the previous year, 2023. There is the opportunity to review our finances and all that we have been doing as a church, to elect Church Wardens and members of the Church Council (PCC), and of course to ask questions and give views.

Please do take a copy of the Annual Report and the meeting papers from the back of the church (or print your own if you have received them by email) and pray about who would serve us well on the PCC – there are several vacancies. Please talk to those people who come to mind and see Adrian or the Church Wardens for a nomination form.

I do hope you'll make this important meeting a priority and play your part in shaping our church's future. *Adrian*



## **Our friend and church member, John Astles, retires after 42 years of exceptional service in the NHS**

NHS colleagues have praised his "significant" contributions to healthcare.

Colleagues have paid tribute to one of Leicester's longest-serving GPs who has retired after 42 years. Dr John Astles joined Willowbrook Medical Practice, which is now part of Willows Health, in Thurncourt in 1982.

The University of Liverpool graduate has been called a "cornerstone of support and guidance" for the local community. NHS colleagues have praised his "significant" contributions to healthcare as well as his "steadfast commitment" to the job.

As Dr Astles prepares to hang up his stethoscope for good, fellow GPs and the wider patient community pause to pay tribute to his career. One colleague said his influence "shaped the culture" at the surgery and his presence will leave an "indelible mark" on all who have met him.

Professor Rishabh Prasad, Chairman of Willows Health, added: "Dr Astles' dedication to improving the lives of patients, averaging one every 10 minutes for over four decades, is a remarkable achievement in itself. But what truly sets him apart is his unique approach and demeanour with patients - a kind of empathy that cannot be taught but is innate to his character.

A spokesperson for the NHS described Dr. Astles' approach to medicine as being characterized by his "unwavering professionalism and dedication to his patients". His ability to provide both medical expertise and a listening ear has earned him the respect and admiration of all who have sought his care, a statement said.

Dr Astles said: "When I started working as a GP things seemed to be much simpler. No computers on desks and hand-written notes. Times have changed for sure, but what is undoubtedly the same is the hard work and dedication of the staff who turn up every working day to do their best for the good of the patients.

"I have loved working as a GP, I couldn't imagine a better way of spending over 40 years. It is a job with huge responsibilities but great privilege and I will be forever grateful for the life it has given me."

Throughout his career, Dr Astles has been supported by his devoted wife, Ros, and their children, Elizabeth and Tom. He says that their encouragement and understanding have undoubtedly played a vital role in his ability to "serve the community with excellence."

(text taken from Leicestershire Live)

We wish John all the very best for his retirement.

### **A different way of giving towards the work of our church.....**

Please scan the QR code to support the life and work of St Mary's.



If you are a UK tax payer, you may like to gift aid your donation.

**ELECTORAL ROLL:** the Electoral Roll has been revised and no more names can be added until after the APCM on 28th April. There is a copy of the Roll (showing names only) on the PCC notice board at the back of church, to enable any corrections to be made. Please let me know of any errors as soon as possible before the APCM.

Eileen McKellican (Electoral Roll Officer) 0116 2700302 / 07487814895 / eileenmckellican@tiscali.co.uk



**FOR THE NEWSLETTER** Please send material to be included in the next newsletter by noon next Thursday to office@knightonparish.co.uk

### **Virtual Compline 8.00pm Wednesday evenings**

There is an online Compline every Wednesday 8.00 pm, **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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## 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 Simon Britton, Planned Giving Scheme Secretary: email: [stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com) or phone 07710 975272. If you are a taxpayer and gift aid your giving, our church can claim an additional 25%. Cheques to **Knighton PCC** please.

# *Coffee Morning*



*On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2024*

*From 10 - 12 noon*

*In St. Mary Magdalen Church*

*Stalls to include*

*Plants, Cakes, Books, Jigsaws,*

*Gifts and a Raffle*

*Just come along*

*Everyone Welcome*



# MAY FESTIVAL

Mass with procession in honour of Our Lady.

## Celebrant and Preacher:

The Most Revd Rowan Williams,  
former Archbishop of Canterbury

**13th  
MAY**

**7pm**

**St Andrew's Church,  
Jarrom Street,  
Leicester, LE2 7DH.**

followed by refreshments

Free parking at St Andrew's

[standrewsjarromstreet.org](http://standrewsjarromstreet.org)

## Prayers for this week

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

(Colossians 4.2)

**Praying for the World:** This week please pray for all those communities and families, both in the UK and across the world, who are blighted by the epidemic of drug addiction and the crime that follows. Pray for all those caught in the web of addiction and for those supporting them - that they may know the peace, presence and power of God to heal and transform lives.

**Praying for the Church:** As we approach the first meeting of churches invited to join the discussion about Minster Communities in the City and suburbs, please pray that we will all have deep wisdom and discernment about God's purposes. With others across our diocese please pray for the people and leaders of the Benefice of South Framland and for the Parishes of High Framland - particularly for a flourishing relationship with local schools.

**Praying for the Parish:** Please pray for the peace and well-being of all those who live on of **Elms Road, Knighton Drive, Knighton Road, Northcote Road, Newstead Road.**

**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 **Brian Arnold, Rosemary Herbert, Irvine Byer, David Holland, Neill, and 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.

**Please remember** in your prayers the families and friends of all those who have died recently. We especially remember **Beryl Gutteridge, Doreen Macafee and Shirley Gibson.**

Remember too, all those whose anniversaries fall at this time.