

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

<http://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk/>

Churchwardens:
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Sunday 25 February 2018 Second Sunday of Lent
10.30 am Communion for All
President & Preacher: Canon Dr Stephen Foster

WELCOME TO ANY OF YOU VISITING US FOR THE FIRST TIME!

Please announce yourself to one of our welcomers and sign in the welcome book so that we get to know you by name! Also, please introduce yourself to one of the Churchwardens. St Guthlac's is YOUR local church. We feel part of the local community and we hope that you will feel part of the church community. **We have a welcome sheet:** please ask for one if it is not handed to you on arrival.

Newsletter No 291

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

February

Sunday 25 th	2.00pm	Knighton Players rehearsal in the Parish Centre
Tuesday 27 th	7.00pm	Tea & Talk: Film, Housewife 49
Wednesday 28 th	2.00pm	WW1 planning meeting
Wednesday 28 th	7.30pm	Choir practice

March

Thursday 1 st	9.30am	Holy Communion, Celebrant: Revd. Adrian Jones
Thursday 1 st	10.00am	Benefice WW1 planning group meeting
Thursday 1 st	6.45pm	Knighton Players rehearsal
Friday 2 nd	8.00am	SLCP First Friday Prayers at St. Mary's
Sunday 4 th	10.30am	Communion for All, Revd. Neil Bullen
Sunday 4 th	2.00pm	Knighton Players rehearsal in the Parish Centre

THANK YOU Very many thanks to all the clergy who are generously giving their time to officiate at our services.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS We have been asked to keep **Vivienne Freeman, Susan Ellson, Chanchal Barber and her daughter Nita, Chris Ellis, Ann Spring, Alison Prior and Bill & Ann Ibbs** in our prayers. For other prayer requests, please speak to a churchwarden.

BISHOP MARTYN'S SCHOOL OF PRAYER 2018

All Christians know that prayer is a vitally important aspect of discipleship, and that is both a discipline and a joy. In prayer we open ourselves to God, and are drawn into relationship with Him, into peace and joy. But despite knowing all that, prayer sometimes seems difficult.

Bishop Martyn will be leading a School of Prayer at Launde Abbey, from **9th-13th May**, with worship, teaching, conversation, and workshops around the themes of Prayer and Scripture, Prayer and Silence, and Prayer and Social Action. He will be assisted by a team that includes David Newman (Warden, Launde Abbey), Helen Newman (Chaplain, Launde Abbey), Chris Webb (Spirituality Advisor to the Diocese and author), as well as a resident artist and a resident musician.

Bishop Martyn, who describes prayer as 'a foretaste of heaven' says: "I hope this School of Prayer will help people grow and develop in their own prayer lives. This is an open invitation for anyone at all, whether you're experienced in prayer or feel yourself to be a complete novice: come and join us."

Although anyone can book for all five days and stay residentially at Launde, we are hoping to organise a group of day visitors from St Mary's and St Guthlac's to attend together, probably on **Thursday 10th May**. The cost of £37.50 includes coffee, lunch and tea, but if this feels beyond your pocket then please do mention this to me. As we'll need to book well in advance, please let me know if you'd like to come as part of our group by Sunday 25th February. I'll collect money closer to the time. Adrian Jones (0116 270 4268, adrian.jones@zoho.com)

Update on future leadership at St Guthlac's

Every voice is important: Please help through your prayers & your views.

David, Tina, Jane and Lesley (the Standing Committee of the PCC) and Adrian have now met several times. Thank you to all who gave their comments on the SWOT analysis. We produced a draft Parish Profile to use at initial discussions with the Archdeacon on 5th February.

The Archdeacon agreed that he would help us look for a Non Stipendiary Priest – or 'Associate Vicar' who would work with / under Adrian in the Benefice with special responsibility for St Guthlac's. Following his advice we now have to make some additions as well as prepare a concise attractive document with photographs. The aim is to achieve this by Easter.

If you have good recent photographs of activities at St Guthlac's that can be used in an on-line document please let us have them. Churchwardens

IS THIS YOUR NEXT STEP ON THE JOURNEY OF FAITH? It may be that for a while now you've been thinking about our Christian faith and have a feeling that you should take another step forwards....and that step could be 'confirmation.' In the Church of England, the service of confirmation is a chance to 'confirm' that the promises made on your behalf at baptism (often when you were a baby) are now your promises too - a clear intention to follow Jesus in a life of faith.

A confirmation service is always taken by a Bishop and often includes 'candidates' from several churches. You can be confirmed at any age, as long as your supporting Minister has spent some time with you first talking about the basics of Christianity and your faith. Our next local confirmation service is at the Cathedral on Easter Saturday (31st March) at 6pm so if you'd like to join others in thinking more about this next step on your journey of faith do please let Adrian know as soon as you can (0116 270 4268 adrian.jones@zoho.com).

BISHOPS' LENT APPEAL 2018: HURRICANE RELIEF Last year the islands of Anguilla, Barbuda and Dominica were devastated by hurricanes Irma and Maria.

The storms left an unprecedented trails of destruction which is still affecting the lives of hundreds of families. The Bishop of Leicester, the Rt. Revd Martyn's Snow, is raising funds to support the rebuilding of the homes and lives of thousands of adults and children hit by the storms. The Diocese of Leicester is partnering with the Diocese of North Eastern Caribbean and Aruba in their efforts to help to restore these islands to the places they know and love. Here's how to donate: **Online at** www.uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charities/DiocesefofLeicester

By cheque. Make your cheque payable to Leicester Diocesan Board of Finance and marked 'Lent Appeal 2018'. Send with a covering note to Finance, St Martin's House, 7 Peacock Lane, Leicester LE1 5PZ. You can add **Gift Aid** by completing a Gift Aid form available at www.leicester.anglican.org/gift-aid. Please mark them 'Leicester DBF Bishop's Lent Appeal 2018'

FOR THE NEWSLETTER Please send material to be included in the next newsletter by **Thursday 10pm** to administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

TEA AND TALK Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday 27 Feb**, when the film **'Housewife 49'** (Cert PG, 92 mins) will be shown and the wonderful much-missed Victoria Wood gives her excellent insight into the lives of 'ordinary' women after WWII. Free and open to all – including men!!

MOTHERS UNION At our February meeting we look forward to welcoming Flick, our "Parish Poet", who will share with us some of her poems and other (interactive) entertainments! Please bring along your good as new items for a sales table too. **Tuesday 27th February, 2.00 p.m.** in the Parish Centre Lounge.

SLCP LENT GROUPS are being held on **Thursday's 7.30pm** - at Christchurch. The course is called 'The Art of the Possible'; at a time when a lot of people say they are turned off by politics, many in our churches say they are concerned about what is going on in the world. What does politics mean for our faith - and what should faith mean for our politics? Please join us for a course that will be both thought provoking and enjoyable. Annette Brindle

1 March: Change-makers 8 March: Church and state
15 March: Parliament 22 March: Politics of the here and now

WOMEN'S WORLD OF PRAYER **Friday 2nd March, 2pm** at Christchurch, Clarendon Park Road and **7.30pm** **Clarendon Park Congregational Church**, London Road/Springfield Road.

MESSY CHURCH **Friday 2nd March 3.30-5.45pm** at Stoneygate Baptist Church
Theme: All God's Creation is Very Good. Craft activities, worship and delicious food (with veggie option), especially for primary age children and their parents/carers. Free (donations welcome to help cover costs). Tell us you're coming if you can. We need to know of any special dietary needs (contact Jane). All welcome. Next Messy Church: 27th April 2018.

MEMORY CAFÉ ST GUTHLAC'S This informal cafe is for people, living at home, with dementia and memory loss with their families/carers and is supported by the Alzheimer's Society. The next session is on **9th March 1.30-3.00pm**, seated exercise and laughter. For further information please call Nita Devabhai 231 6926

KNIGHTON PLAYERS will be performing Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat on **Friday 16th March 7.30pm** and **Saturday 17th March 2.30pm and & 7.30pm** in the Parish Centre. Tickets (adults £7, children £5) are available from Jane Wright (St. Guthlac's), Tanya Willis (St. Mary's), or knightonplayers@ntlworld.com.

KNIGHTON PLAYERS RAFFLE Could you provide a **raffle prize**? If so, please contact Jane Wright, Tanya Willis or Bernard Stone. Thank you

DIARY NOTE The annual parochial church meeting will take place in church at **12 noon** on **Sunday April 22nd** in church.