

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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

Vicar: Revd. Adrian Jones 0116 2704268

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Churchwardens:

David Hunt

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Sunday 9 December 2018

Second Sunday of Advent

10.30 am Communion for All

President & preacher: Revd Canon Dr Johannes Arens

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

Please introduce yourself to one of our welcomers and/or a Churchwarden and sign in the welcome book so that we can get to know you by name! 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.

Newsletter No 332

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

Sunday 9th	5.00pm	Christingle
Monday 10 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer at St. Guthlac's
Tuesday 11 th	9.30am	Holy Communion at St. Mary's
Wednesday 12 th	9.00pm	Morning Prayer at St. Mary's
Wednesday 12 th	7.30pm	Choir practice
Thursday 13 th	9.30am	Holy Communion: Revd. Adrian Jones
Thursday 13 th	12.30pm	Holbrook Hall lunch club
Friday 14 th	9.30am	Advent Reflections, Fiona Wingate
Friday 14 th	1.30pm	Memory Café
Friday 14 th	7.30pm	Choir practice at St. Mary's
Sunday 16 th	10.30am	Nativity Gift Service
Sunday 16 th	6.30pm	Service of Nine Lessons & Carols at St. Mary's
Monday 17 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer at St. Guthlac's
Tuesday 18 th	9.30am	Holy Communion at St. Mary's
Wednesday 19 th	9.00pm	Morning Prayer at St. Mary's
Wednesday 19 th	7.30pm	Service of Nine Lessons & Carols at St. Guthlac's
Thursday 20 th	9.30am	Holy Communion: Revd. Adrian Jones
Friday 21 st	9.30pm	Advent Reflections, Fiona Wingate

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

FOR YOUR PRAYERS Please remember all those whom we have been asked to keep in our prayers. Please remember those who have died recently and pray for their families and friends. For other prayer requests, please speak to a churchwarden.

THANK YOU

My family and I wish to express our thanks to all our friends at St. Guthlac's, who have helped us through this difficult period with their prayers for our beloved Maisie. Bryan Harpin

ADVENT REFLECTIONS: 9:30am Friday 14th, 21st December. The season of Advent gives us a time to pause and prepare ourselves for the coming of the Kingdom of God. It allows us time, once again to consider what that means for each of us in our lives. Advent reflections provide a space and time for reflection and prayer; using the opening part of John's Gospel as the basis for our reflection. It should last no longer than 30 minutes. Fiona

CONTACT DETAILS Cards for new people to leave their contact details have been produced and are available in the Welcome Area. Please could members of the congregation give cards to visitors. If you are new to the church please fill in a card so we can make sure you are informed about the activities at the church.

AN OFFICIAL WELCOME TO A FAMILIAR FACE! Many of you have told me how much you appreciate the ministry of the Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster in leading and presiding at services and also in providing pastoral support. I'm pleased to say that Bishop Martyn has agreed to give Stephen his Permission to Officiate in the diocese, with immediate effect once Stephen retires from the University Chaplaincy in February.

I'm also very pleased to report that Stephen has agreed to make our benefice the focus of his ministry after retirement. This means that he will work alongside me (and Fiona Wingate when she is licensed as a Reader in the autumn of 2019) in a Benefice Ministry Team. Stephen, like Fiona, will have a focus on St Guthlac's but will also be ready to lead worship at St Mary's, whilst my focus will be on St Mary's but also supporting St Guthlac's. Our new arrangement will give us the benefits of team ministry as well as ensuring on-going support for the life of both churches. Both our PCCs have discussed and enthusiastically supported Stephen's new role and our thinking about ministry across the benefice, which will help our partnership in mission to grow whilst still maintaining the character and independence of the two churches. *Adrian*

CHOIR NEWS After many years of faithful and committed service our Choir Leader, Margaret Bonney has announced that she will be standing down after Christmas. We have all appreciated the dedicated way that she has co-ordinated and guided our choral music and so her input will be sadly missed. We will say a proper 'thank you' to Margaret later in the year, and also to Mary Britton who is standing down as the Choir Leader of St Mary's at the same time. In the meantime I very much hope that the choir will continue, and the PCC and I will quickly start the process of reviewing how we find the right leadership for them in the future. *Adrian*

FUTURE SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT OF OUR CHOIRS: Thanks to all those who have already talked to me about the possible ways we can support and develop our two benefice choirs in 2019. You'll be glad to know that the Standing Committees of both churches are holding meetings in the first half of December to discuss possibilities. Do continue to pass ideas on to PCC members or to me in the meantime - I'll keep you updated on our progress. *Adrian*

CHRISTMAS FAYRE A big thank you to all who helped at or supported the Christmas Fayre. We have raised **£1015** so far, in addition to the raffle which raised £67 for the mobile health clinic in Malawi. There are still a few things left in the welcome area for sale.

THANK YOU to everyone who supported the Parkinson's concert at St. Mary's last Saturday. We raised over £1200 to aid the work of Parkinson's UK, in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. *Jane*

CHRISTINGLE TONIGHT AT 5PM. Collecting candles are available at the back of church for you to take home and fill in aid of the Children's Society. If you wish to gift aid, please use one of the envelopes provided. The candles and envelopes can be returned at the service or to church any time before Christmas.

MOTHERS UNION - just a reminder that our Christmas Luncheon takes place this Tuesday, **11th December**, at the Holiday Inn Hotel (ex-Stage Hotel) Wigston Fields. Arrival time is **12.00 for 12.30 p.m.**

WHITE CHRISTMAS CHARITY CONCERT Suzie Christie and Grace Pepper, are hosting a concert on the **9th December** at St Mary's, at 7pm. Tickets are on the door at £6 an adult and £3.50 for children. Refreshments will be provided. We are raising money, for a Leicester based charity called FreeVA which helps women who have been subject to violence. It will be nice to see people there!

MEMORY CAFÉ ST. GUTHLAC'S KNIGHTON

This informal cafe is for people, living at home, with dementia and memory loss with their families/carers. The cafe provides an opportunity to meet up, share experiences and learn in a socially supportive and friendly environment. Usually a variety of activities are provided as well as a short talk. Refreshments are provided. The cafe is supported by the Alzheimer's Society. The next sessions will include:

14th December – Christmas party

11th January - Laura Foley from Nat West on 'Scams and how to avoid them'

8th February - Mike Greenwood from Leicester Transport Heritage Trust with memorabilia of transport from the past.

For further information please call Nita Devabhai on 0116 231 6926

ALL AGE MESSY CHURCH at Stoneygate Baptist Church. The next session will be on **14th December 2018, 3.30-5.45pm.**

NATIVITY GIFT SERVICE 16TH DEC: FOOD COLLECTION FOR OPEN

HANDS: the Nativity Gift service on **16th Dec** will be the focus for donating food to Open Hands, but you are welcome to bring donations along before then. As usual, staples of cereals, long life milk, tea, coffee, cooking oil and tinned meat/fish are particularly needed, but if you would prefer to bring something else, please do so (but no perishables please). Thank you.

MAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS GO FURTHER. As in previous years, members of the congregation may like to make a donation to Bishop Christopher's Malawi charity instead of exchanging Christmas cards with one another. **A large card for everyone to sign is in the welcome area together with a box for donations.** Thank you.

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