

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



Sunday 9 August 2020
Sunday 16 August 2020

Ninth Sunday after Trinity
Tenth Sunday after Trinity

Holiday changes: Now that Leicester is free from the extra lockdown restrictions many of us are thinking about a holiday or time off at home, and this means a few changes in the next two weeks:

- this newsletter is a special 'double issue' to cover both Sunday 9th and 16th August;
- our website includes some links to Sunday Worship from a selection of churches, as we will have no Virtual Worship from the Benefice on 9th August;
- please contact others in the Ministry Team in case of urgent pastoral need when both Adrian and Matthew are on holiday;
- Compline online on Wednesdays continues as normal however.

Thank you in advance for your understanding. *Adrian*

A PRAYER FOR THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy,
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS Please remember those whom we have been asked to keep in our prayers. Please remember those who have died recently and keep their family and friends in your prayers. For other prayer requests, please contact a churchwarden.

Brian Small: Last week we heard from his family that Brian Small had died, just six weeks after his wife Veronica. Brian, like Veronica, was a real fixture of the life of St Mary's and his contribution over the years was inestimable - he was a member of the PCC until just two years ago and his wise and perceptive counsel, mixed with a hint of mischief, was valued by all the recent vicars.

Brian had been unwell for a long time but seemed to have been successfully adjusting to a different life after a move to a local care home. After a short spell in hospital, Brian died at home surrounded by his family, just as he had wanted. Please remember Helen, Stephen and Judith in your prayers this week. Brian's funeral will be on Friday 14th August and we hope to hold a joint service of thanksgiving for him and Veronica in October. *Adrian*

PRAYERS FOR BEIRUT Please remember in your prayers the people of Beirut and all Aid Workers and Charities working in the capital and throughout Lebanon.

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH CARE WORKERS Please pray for all our local doctors, nurses, care workers and support staff, especially **Amy and Dan Barnes** and **Katherine Swanson**.

MALAWI In your prayers, please take time to remember the people of South America, the Middle East and Africa as cases of Covid-19 start to soar in all three areas. Thank you. *Fiona*

JOSIE CHILDS: news of Josie, who is very unwell, comes from Gill Tordoff, who writes:

"I met Josie in 1973 and we have been good friends ever since. She was in the choir at St James Aylestone Park - since demolished. Josie became involved with St Mary's producing and helping put on productions with the children for many

years. Josie moved to Groby and being a non- driver found it difficult to keep up her connection with St Mary's. However, there are still members of the congregation who will remember her... Josie has lung cancer and has been in Glenfield hospital. She is now very unwell and is due to go home soon as no more treatment is viable.

The Leicester Lockdown - When will we start to re-open the church building?

Now that we can think again about re-opening our buildings, I thought it would be helpful for you to have some idea of the necessary steps in the process, even though putting dates to each is not very straightforward as it depends on the progress of the pandemic and on another discussion by the PCC:

- PCC meet to review risk assessments , agree dates and provisional pattern of services - *completed*
- spring clean the church ready for use - *Wednesday 2nd September (see below)*
- open the church building for private prayer – *Sundays 6th and 13th September*
- PCC review re-opening so far – *15th September*
- open the church for Morning Prayer – *Sundays 20th and 27th September, 4th October*
- PCC review re-opening so far – *29th September*
- provisionally set to open the church building for a service of Holy Communion on *Sunday 11th October*

Meanwhile we will continue to produce our Virtual Worship each week and of course the Newsletter will be emailed or posted out to everyone for whom we have contact details and permission.

Can you help with spring cleaning? As you'll see we are aiming to smarten up the inside of the building on the morning of **Wednesday 2nd September**, starting about 9.30am. Everyone is welcome to join me! Volunteers should bring a face covering and gloves, please. There is no need for special cleaning materials as there is no reason to think that the church has any virus contamination. Obviously, many hands will make light work, but please don't think about coming along if you are in a 'vulnerable group'. You can just turn up on the day but if you already know that you can come then do please let me know ahead. Thank you!

Adrian

Collect & Reading for the Ninth Sunday of Trinity

The Collect

Almighty God,
who sent your Holy Spirit
to be the life and light of your Church:
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
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

Romans 10:5-15

⁵Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that 'the person who does these things will live by them.' ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, 'Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?"' (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷or "Who will descend into the abyss?"' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? 'The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart' (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, 'No one who believes in him will be put to shame.' ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'

Matthew 14:22-33

Immediately after feeding the crowd with the five loaves and two fish, ²²Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But

immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

²⁸Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' ²⁹He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus.

³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

9th August - Matthew 14. 22-33

Reflective Questions for you to think about:

The passage begins with '*immediately*' - what is it that has come just before and why do you think Jesus now wants to pray alone?

The disciples fear seems to stop them from recognising Jesus. What gets in the way of your faith? Is it fear, anxiety, envy, anger - or something else?

If you want to walk on water, you've got to get out of the boat!' Is there something you really want to be able to do at the moment? Where is God calling you to 'get out of the boat'?

A Theophany...Scene 2!

Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster

Reflecting on the Gospel reading from Matthew today, my mind went immediately to my first time on stage as an operatic soloist. Nothing staggering, but singing Sir Roderick Murgatroyd in the G and S Opera Ruddigore as a debutant of 17 years of age...well...no singing coach by my side...all the other ghostly Murgatroyds providing a chorus to my star song, whilst each also desperately wanting to sing my part instead of me...an

awkward stage entry and the huge figure of my father, (always my severest critic,) sitting in the third row on opening night.

I felt very alone, very nervous and yet compelled to 'jump in' and simply 'do it'.

The disciples in this present story were compelled by Jesus to 'go it alone' in a boat on a journey from one side of the Sea of Galilee to the other. Although this is not a storm as in the similar Scene 1... Matthew 8:23-27, the huge difference is that here the disciples are alone being battered for a considerable length of time, and at night.

Jesus also is alone...referred to twice in the text ... but away from his followers on a mountain praying.

Combined with each being afraid enough, the last entity the disciples would wish to see is what they assume to be a ghost walking on the water towards them, walking on the primeval chaos which underpins this 'second scene' relating a similar story.

Here though, Jesus, using the 'I am' name for God Himself, tells them not to be afraid and in Peter not to avoid the turmoil, but to jump into it!

Here in this Theophany, this meeting of heaven and earth...(cf. Job 9:8, and Psalm 89:9) the first scene of the earlier Chapter 8 is now ramped up into showing beyond doubt that Jesus is God, and Lord of all creation.

Here too is the confirmation that we each can find Jesus in all the turmoil's of life and when we feel most alone. Likewise, we need to consciously step into the turmoil's, and take them on, rather than trying to avoid them, and there we will feel Jesus taking our hand and others will recognise the Lord in the chaos which temporarily abounds.

Collect & Reading for the Tenth Sunday of Trinity

The Collect

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall please you;
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

Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32

¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ²God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. ²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Matthew 15: (10-20) 21-28

¹⁰Then Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, 'Listen and understand: ¹¹it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.'
¹²Then the disciples approached and said to him, 'Do you know that the Pharisees took offence when they heard what you said?' ¹³He answered, 'Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.' ¹⁵But Peter said to him, 'Explain this parable

to us.’ ¹⁶Then he said, ‘Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.’

²¹Jesus went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²A Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, ‘Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.’ ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, ‘Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.’ ²⁴He answered, ‘I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.’ ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, ‘Lord, help me.’ ²⁶He answered, ‘It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.’ ²⁷She said, ‘Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.’ ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, ‘Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.’ And her daughter was healed instantly.

16th August - Matthew 15. 22-28

Reflective Questions for you to think about:

Why didn't Jesus answer this woman at first? What was her response and the disciples response to Jesus’ ‘silence’?

Be honest with yourself– do you tend to think of some types of people as more ‘acceptable’ to God or the church than some others? Have you any idea why?

How much faith do you think people should have before we welcome them into our church life?

WORSHIP INFORMATION

BBC Radio 4 Sunday Worship 8.10am

BBC Radio 4 Daily **Service each weekday 9.45am on long wave only**

Catch up available for all these on the BBC Sounds app.

Virtual Sunday Service for the Knighton Benefice. There will be **no virtual service** this week as Adrian and Matthew are away. The service will resume next week. Alternative virtual services can be found as follows:

Sunday @ 10 from the Diocese of Leicester is a short 10-15 minute service posted on YouTube at 10.00am.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/DiocesefofLeicester/videos>

Sunday Morning Worship from the Community of Leicester Cathedral around 30 minute service posted on YouTube at 10.30am. <http://leicestercathedral.org/online-services/>

Virtual Compline/ Night Prayer at 8pm on a Wednesday. You can join by just **phoning up** and inputting the code **or** using **'Zoom'** online. If you would like to participate with a speaking part, please do contact Matthew by 4pm each

Wednesday (revgough@gmail.com).



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

0800 804 8044

Are you in need of some daily hope during this lockdown?

We have a new FREE telephone line for you to ring to hear comforting hymns, daily prayers and reflections.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND CONNECTIONS

For Phone only: telephone this number **0131 460 1196**

When promoted input Meeting ID: **746 767 4408**

For internet using Zoom:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://leccofe.zoom.us/j/7467674408>

Input Meeting ID: 746 767 4408

Don't forget to visit the St. Guthlac's Facebook page and website <http://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk/>

'Church is Changing' on the home page includes copies of reflections and links to the You Tube recordings of virtual services. Newsletters can found on the news page.

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar: Revd. Adrian Jones 0116 2704268
adrian.jones@zoho.com

Associate Priest- St Guthlac's: Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster
safpta6@gmail.com 07966 376905

Assistant Curate: Revd Matthew Gough
revgough@gmail.com 07754 961997

Revd Aphro McCullough

Revd Janet Gasper

Reader: Fiona Wingate

Churchwardens:

David Hunt

Tina Jarvis

churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

NEWS OF MATTHEW'S ORDINATIONS AS A PRIEST

Now that Matthew is a year into his curacy with us it is time for him to be ordained not just as a Deacon but also as a Priest. The ordination service (usually at the end of June) has been rescheduled for either 12th or 13th September so do please pray for Matthew and his fellow deacons as they wait in anticipation.

KNIGHTON BENEFICE MAGAZINE—The July/August edition of the Magazine is now available and has been sent out by email. Those of you who normally receive our church information by post should receive your copy very soon—please bear with us as we print and post! The magazine can also be seen on the church website. Many thanks to Nigel Siesage and all the contributors for another excellent issue.

CARE HOME STAFF APPEAL-UPDATE

Sincere thanks to all who kindly donated to the Knighton care staff appeal. We raised in excess of £2400 with donations from parishioners and community alike. We will be distributing £200 each to 12 care homes in the Benefice & ward this week. Particular thanks to St Guthlac's PCC and Cllr March who have been incredibly helpful with the administrative processes. Cllr March has liaised with each of the care homes who have been really touched by the church community's gesture of gratitude which has meant a lot at this particularly challenging time.

GREEN CHRISTIAN GROUP The South Leicester Christian Partnership have let us know that a new Green Christian Group is being set up in Leicester. Details of the organisation can be found at <https://www.greenchristian.org.uk>. Anyone interested should contact Richard Pickering
leicestercity@greenchristian.org.uk

HELP LOCAL SOMALI CHILDREN?

With the pandemic forcing school closure, those whose families do not have English as a first language are most at risk of falling behind in their learning. I have been approached by our nearby Somali community asking for help for primary and secondary aged children to assist with tutoring, either online or, when appropriate, in person. If you have any subject, or English language, skills that you may wish to share, please do think about whether you could spare an hour a week or fortnight, thanks.

For more details please contact Matthew or Somali Parents Association directly- Abdikayf Farah 07853290875 or info@socopa.org.uk

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. Scheme details can be obtained David Hunt. If you are a taxpayer and gift aid your giving, our church can claim an additional 25%.

During the current Coronavirus pandemic please put aside your weekly offerings ready to bring to church when things return to something like normal. The costs of the church are largely unchanged even though we cannot meet, so your regular giving is extremely important to our collective 'health' and the mission of God here.

FOR THE NEWSLETTER Please send material to be included in the next newsletter by **Thursday 20th August 10pm** to administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

"Images of Knighton"

**Entries Wanted
for
2021 Calendar
Competition**



**Have you got a photographic eye, or
can you paint, draw, create (any me-
dium) an image of Knighton?**

Adult and under 18s categories

The panel of judges is made up of a
local councillor, artists, photographer
& Vicar

Free calendars to successful entrants

Please send high quality original jpeg
images by -

Monday 14th September

to **spireappeal@gmail.com**

Queries to Rev. Gough-07754961997



St Mary's Knighton Spire Appeal