

# ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac  
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



**Sunday 4 October 2020**  
**Harvest Festival**  
**Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity**

# 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.

**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*

## Our Harvest Festival - Growing Hope in Egypt

For the Zabaleen community of Cairo, one person's rubbish really is another person's treasure. Each day the Zabaleen (which translated from Egyptian Arabic literally means 'garbage people') workers visit the homes and businesses of Egypt's bustling capital by horse and cart collecting the rubbish and taking it back to their communities for sorting, re-using and re-selling.

The collecting of the rubbish – everything from domestic garbage to toxic hospital waste – is generally done by the men of the community while the women, children and elderly wait for the rubbish to be brought back for sorting. Recyclable materials will be collected together to be sold, food waste given to the community's pigs, and other materials burnt. It is back-breaking, dirty, dangerous work that provides a meagre existence.

It's almost impossible to describe Ezbet el Nakhl, the home of one of the Zabaleen communities. One million people squeezed together in unsanitary slums, interspersed with rubbish dumps divided by litterstrewn earthen streets. Life is unforgiving and short in this part of town, with an average life expectancy of 57. Industrial accidents, poor diet and drug and alcohol dependency all contribute to early deaths, particularly in men. Type-2 diabetes is rife as is anaemia, particularly in children. Literacy rates are low and violence and exploitation are common.

In the midst of the chaos and filth sits The Salaam Centre run by the Sisters of The Daughters of St Mary, a Coptic Orthodox order. The centre offers two kindergartens, a school, a children's health clinic, vocational workshops, a hospital, a home for the elderly and a rehabilitation centre for those with physical disabilities. There's even a garden growing cabbages, tomatoes and spinach. The sisters, alongside a growing band of volunteers, also run women's empowerment workshops, which

include child health, nutrition, literacy and numeracy, abuse awareness and support and drug rehabilitation.

The Salaam Centre offers Christian hope to those who live in terrible poverty and hardship; it's a life that the vast majority of us in Knighton will never have experienced or even witnessed. Growing hope in such circumstances is not easy, simple or cheap however. Thankfully the Salaam Centre is supported by a UK partner - Christian charity *Embrace the Middle East* , formerly 'Biblelands' – and this gives us the chance to help as well.

At our Harvest Festival we *remember and give thanks* for God's goodness to us, his generosity and abundance, and the relative comfort, peace and health that we live in as our daily experience. But we should also feel *challenged* to consider how we use and share God's generous gifts to us. Even a superficial reading of the Gospels shows us that the key theme of Jesus' teaching and way of life was love for others, even when that comes at a cost to ourselves. True riches are found in the extent to which we help others, especially those in need, as our Gospel passage today reminds us so vividly.

We may feel that our personal opportunities to feed those who are hungry, clothe those who are destitute or support those in trouble, are very limited – but we *can* provide the means for others to do that on our behalf. We can make our gifts from God, our *money*, work for the good of others.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you'll read exactly how to do this by supporting the Salaam Centre through Embrace. Please do support our Harvest Appeal this year, and by your actions defiantly proclaim the reality of our Christian hope - in the face of poverty, illness, and deprivation in Ezbet el Nakhl, and in the face of a global pandemic that threatens to cut us off from ourselves and our neighbours across the world.

*Adrian*

## How you can help to Grow Hope in Egypt

I very much hope that you would like to respond to God's generosity by supporting our Harvest Appeal this year, **Growing Hope in Egypt**, and so supporting *Embrace* and the Salaam Centre. God promises to bless and use even the smallest act of giving on our part, and there are several ways that you might give.

- If you feel inspired to create your own Harvest Supper (as described in the additional Growing Hope ideas sheets) then you might like to take it one step further and invite an Egyptian family to share it with you... almost. Simply work out how much it would have cost you to make four more helpings of your meal and then donate that amount to Embrace.
- There are a least 6,000 garbage dump workers in Ezbet el Nakhl all seeking to transform their rubbish into treasure. One 50p coin of 'treasure' for each worker would equal a £30 donation.
- The Zabaleen people are at the heart of Cairo's recycling. You might think about how many bags of recycling you put out each week or month, and make a one pound donation for each.

However you choose to settle on a donation, please do respond to God's goodness and the poverty of the Zabaleen, with a glad and cheerful heart.

You can drop an envelope into the collection at the back of the church marked simply 'Harvest', or you can drop an envelope in at the Vicarage if you pass (5 Church Lane) or at the St Mary's Church Office (in the Parish Centre). Please make cheques payable to 'Embrace the Middle East', writing your name and address on the back and 'Gift Aid please' if appropriate.

Alternatively you can send a donation directly to Embrace at 24 London Road West, Amersham, HP7 0LZ, or make a bank transfer to 'Embrace the Middle East', sort code 60-11-01, account 1554064. If donating directly, do think about emailing [info@embraceme.org](mailto:info@embraceme.org) with your name and address so that Gift Aid can be claimed.

Thank you – and may God bless your generosity.

*Adrian*

## **BOOKING SYSTEM**

### **MORNING PRAYER SERVICE Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October 10:30am**

St Guthlac's will be open for Morning Prayer this Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30. Rev Matthew Gough will lead the service. Yolanda will play the organ.

### **COMMUNION SERVICE Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 10.30**

St Guthlac's will have a communion service on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30. Rev. Matthew Gough will lead the service. There will be an opportunity to take bread or receive a blessing.

In order to maintain social distancing, we have to limit the number of people who can attend each service; our current calculation is that we can seat 19 individuals, small households or 'bubbles' safely at any one time. This is sadly very limiting. Consequently, we need to use a booking system.

If you would like to attend, either service you need to contact Tina to book a place.

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# THE MORNING PRAYER SERVICE

## *Before the service*

- Please arrive by 10.25 to allow time to direct you to your seat.
- When you arrive, you may have to queue for a while - please maintain a distance of 2m from others.
- Please wear a face covering as you queue and all the time you are in the church - we have some extras for those who cannot obtain their own.
- You will be welcomed and asked to sanitise your hands.
- The steward will ask you to give or check your contact details. The Steward only will write these down. These details will only be shared in the unlikely event that anyone develops symptoms. This is to protect everyone.
- You will be directed to a seat. Please sit only in this place as we need to maintain distances and reduce movement.
- Please note there are no toilets available.

## *The service*

- You will find a service sheet and a book (*OCOFOL*) with the day's readings and prayers on your chair.
- A member of the Benefice Team will lead the service.
- The choir is not able to lead us in worship and we can't sing any hymns. However, Yolanda will be playing the organ for the service on 4th October. and there will be recorded Taize music before and after the service for a short time.

## *After the service*

- Leave your service sheet and book on your chair
- Please keep your distance from others as you leave and do not linger in the building - sadly we can't offer refreshments.

- If you wish to leave a donation, please put it in the small box provided.
- You will be asked to sanitise your hands as you leave.

When we have all gone, the church building will remain unused for 72 hours to eliminate any virus.

If you should feel unwell with any of the symptoms of coronavirus in the two weeks following the service, as well as seeking medical advice, please leave a message with Adrian or Matthew.

No doubt, over time, even these restrictions will begin to feel 'normal.' Please don't feel too put off by these necessary precautions – throughout history Christians have found themselves worshipping in many dangerous and unusual circumstances, making do with what they have and still praising God, as is our duty, calling and privilege.

## **COMMUNION SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS**

The PCC agreed that communion services could start at St Guthlac's from 11<sup>th</sup> October.

The general arrangements will be very similar to the morning prayer service. Great care will be taken to protect the safety of the congregation. Only the priest will handle the elements and vessels, and then only after sanitising their hands. There will be no assistant. The wafers for the congregation will be covered while the priest consecrates them.

After the priest takes his/her wine and priest's wafer, he/she will put on a mask and sanitise hands again. Only then will the small individual wafers be uncovered and given to the congregation. Only wafers will be offered, not wine. At the distribution, Holy Communion will be administered in silence.

The wafer will be dropped into the communicants' hands taking care not to touch them.

There is no obligation to take the bread. You may wish to have a blessing or to remain sitting in your seat.

More details will be in next week's newsletter.

### **NOMINATIONS FOR 2020 AGM**

We are starting to plan for the AGM which was cancelled in April. Elections will take place for 2 churchwardens, 3 PCC members and 2 Deanery Synod representatives. If you would like to stand for any of these vacancies, or would like to find out more, please let me know. Thank you. **Lesley Meakin**

### **ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING**

This will take place on **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 12 noon** via Zoom, to enable everyone to take part. The meeting will be accessible via the internet or by phone only, there will be no physical attendance. The phone number, web address and meeting ID will appear in next week's newsletter.

### **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 from David Hunt. . If you are a taxpayer and gift aid your giving, our church can claim an additional 25%.

**Collect & Readings**  
**For Harvest Thanksgiving**

**The Collect**

Eternal God,  
you crown the year with your goodness  
and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season:  
grant that we may use them to your glory,  
for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being;  
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

**The New Testament reading is 2 Corinthians 9:6-15**

***Luke 12.16-30***

Jesus told the people a parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'

"Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.'"

"But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

"This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich towards God."

Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body what

you will wear. Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable are you than birds! Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?

“Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labour or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them.”

## **For the Seventeenth Sunday of Trinity**

### **The Collect**

Almighty God,  
you have made us for yourself,  
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:  
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,  
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city  
where we shall see you face to face;  
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

**The New Testament reading is Philippians 3:4b-14**

## **Matthew 21:33-46**

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: <sup>33</sup>Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. <sup>34</sup>When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. <sup>35</sup>But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. <sup>37</sup>Finally he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." <sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance." <sup>39</sup>So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup>Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' <sup>41</sup>They said to him, 'He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.'

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes"?' <sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. <sup>44</sup>The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.'

<sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

***Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster sends his apologies for the absence of a reflection this week, but he is away on holiday.***

## 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.**

Each week we will now usually upload a recording of the Sunday service from St Mary's or St Guthlac's onto the Knighton Benefice You Tube channel. This should happen by 1pm each Sunday. Please go direct to

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChYDSfNmiB2Zamsaz\\_EdZSq?](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChYDSfNmiB2Zamsaz_EdZSq?)

or via the website or Facebook page.

**This week there will be a recorded, all age 'Virtual Harvest' for you to watch online**

### **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](mailto:revgough@gmail.com)).

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



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  FAITH IN LATER LIFE **CONNECTIONS**

Don't forget to visit the St. Guthlac's Facebook page and website <http://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk/> Whilst work is being carried out on the webserver it may be necessary to access the website via

<http://82.22.25.16/StGuthlac/>

## **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

**Knighton Benefice Magazine: Nigel Siesage**  
stmaryknighton.magazine@gmail.com

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



## Images of Knighton

### 2021 Calendar



**Images of Knighton 2021** Calendar raising funds for Spire Appeal now available!

Local artists from the churches and wider community have contributed to make a beautiful and varied A3 size calendar celebrating life in Knighton.

Will make great gifts and appeal to anyone in the Knighton area.

**£7.50 each or 3 for £20.**

Quotes from satisfied customers 'Oh these are lovely' Mrs L Kirk, Stoneygate; 'They'll sell like hot-cakes', Mr N Siesage, South Knighton; 'Have you ordered enough?', Mr D Stanyer, South Knighton.

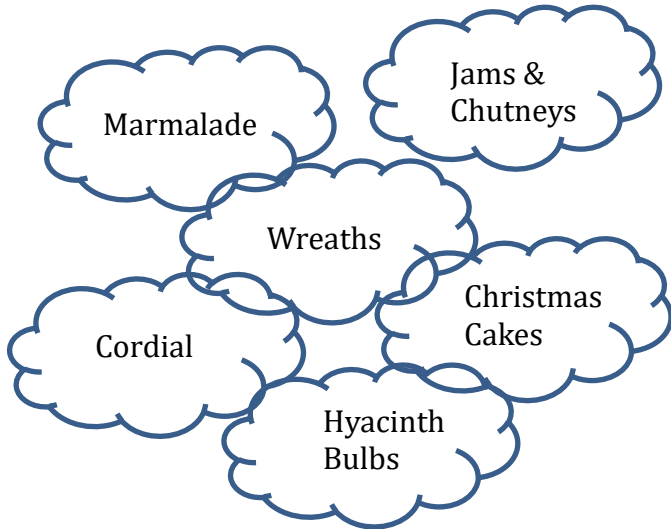
Available from Londis (Knighton Church Rd), Rev. Matthew, Lorna & Michael Kirk, Nigel Siesage, Aileen Orme and Rev. Janet.

## Typo from a Church Newsletter

"Maundy Thursday service: The ladies of the altar guild will be stripping on the altar."

*Thanks to Margaret for forwarding from City of Leicester Singers. More to follow!*

## **St Guthlac's Virtual Christmas Fayre Home-made Christmas Gifts**



Although St Guthlac's won't be able to hold a Fayre this year, we are pleased to be able to offer some of our popular makes and bakes..... We are aiming to have a sale of home-made items that can be ordered in November. They can then be either collected or delivered early December. The items available will be long lasting and can be made Covid-safe.

**If you can help with making jams, chutneys or Christmas wreaths please contact Tina. Thank you.**  
[churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk](mailto:churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk)

***Orders will be taken from Sunday October 11<sup>th</sup>;  
details in next week's newsletter.***