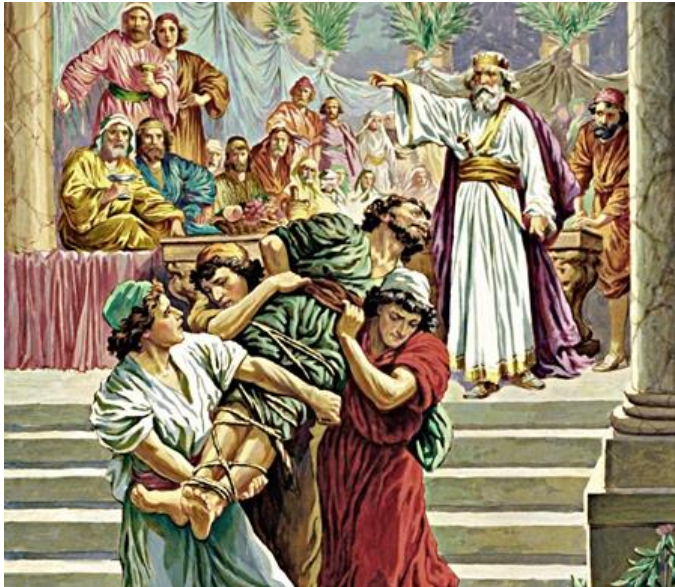


ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



Sunday 11 October 2020
Eighteenth 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*

COMMUNION SERVICE & BOOKING SYSTEM

Sunday 11th & 18th October 10:30am

We are delighted that St Guthlac's will be open for Communion this Sunday 11th October at 10.30. Rev Matthew Gough will lead the service and Yolanda will play the organ.

On Sunday 18th October the communion service will be led by Rev Adrian Jones and Rev Aphro McCullough. Geoffrey will play the organ.

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 a maximum of 21 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, you need to contact Tina to book a place.

THE COMMUNION 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 communion booklet or 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 still not able to lead us in worship and we can't sing any hymns. Yolanda will be playing the organ.

The sharing of the bread or blessing

- 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.
- Please stay in your seats the celebrant will come out to you in turn.

- If you wish to receive the bread, please hold out your hands. The priest will 'drop' the wafer into the outstretched hands, taking care not to touch them.
- There is no obligation to take the bread. If you wish to receive a blessing, please hold up your service booklet. If you prefer to pray quietly and not to receive either please fold your arms.

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.

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 with your name and address so that Gift Aid can be claimed.

Thank you – and may God bless your generosity. *Adrian*

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**

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%.

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.

Typo from a Church Newsletter

"The associate minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours.'" *Thanks to Margaret for forwarding from City of Leicester Singers. More to follow!*

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

The meeting will take place on **Sunday 18th October at 12 noon** via Zoom. The meeting will be accessible via the internet or by phone only, there will be no physical attendance.

Adrian will open the meeting from about 11.45 to give everyone plenty of time to join the meeting. The details are as follows:

For internet access: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://leccofe.zoom.us/j/92308623052?pwd=NGR0TWsxb2ZPV0Jubm5RTjdEa2NtUT09>

Meeting ID: 923 0862 3052

Passcode: 066117

Taking Part in the AGM by telephone: Sunday October 18th 11:45am: It is very easy. The speaker will guide you through.

1. Wait until the advertised time of the meeting, or slightly after, so that Adrian can 'let you into the meeting'.
2. Ring 0330 088 5830. This is charged at the local rate.
3. You will be asked to enter the meeting ID followed by hash key: 923 0862 3052 #
4. You will be asked if you have a participant ID. You do not have one so you will be asked to put a hash key #
5. You will then be asked to enter the passcode followed by hash key 066117 #
6. You will be told that you have been put on hold so that Adrian can let you into the meeting.

If unusually the telephone number is engaged try
0208 080 6592 or 0131 460 1196

You may have telephoned into other meetings. The ID and passcodes usually change. The numbers here are the ones you need for the AGM.

Collect & Readings
For the Eighteenth Sunday of Trinity

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
increase in us your gift of faith
that, forsaking what lies behind
and reaching out to that which is before,
we may run the way of your commandments
and win the crown of everlasting joy;
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 Old Testament reading is Exodus 32.1-14
The Psalm is Psalm 106.1-6, 19-23

Philippians 4.1-9

¹My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all

understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Matthew 22:1-14

¹Once more Jesus spoke to the chief priests and Pharisees in parables, saying: ²The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet." ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?" And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the

outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen.’

The God of peace and the peace of God **Revd Adrian Jones**

The Letter to the Philippians is sometimes called ‘the Letter of Joy’ because of the overwhelming sense of contented peacefulness that St Paul conveys in his words about the person of Christ, his encounter with him and the difference that makes to Paul, and can make to all believers, even in very difficult circumstances.

One commentator writes: *“The letter is dominated by a spirit of joy and peace, and is an outstanding witness to the power of Christ to lift the person weighed down with the sorrow and suffering of earth to rejoicing and gladness in the Lord.”*

It is a whole letter though, not a series of uplifting quotes and separate verses – an interconnected whole. Although we want to understand Paul’s thinking and the truth about God that he is so keen to share, we ought to be cautious about picking it apart until we have a sense of this whole.

So my first suggestion this week is that you take some time to read the whole letter in one sitting. It is only four chapters, so why not pour a cup of something warming, imagine yourself receiving this rolled parchment from the hand of a messenger, and settle down to read the letter in its entirety.

As you read though, be alert to the big themes that Paul has in mind – and imagine him talking directly to you, as a friend who values your faith, appreciates all you’ve gone through and now wants to encourage you to reach for the very best that God has for you.

When you’ve finished reading (not too fast!) allow the words in their entirety to sink in and make an impression on you...and then ask the God of peace to grant you his good gifts today.

Whatever your circumstances, resolve to live as Paul describes in chapter 4 and to accept God's gift of peace.

You are loved. Christ has done everything needful to make you safe. Now God longs to give you his peace. Turn to him with gratitude and allow joy to return.

Amen.

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_EdZSg?
or via the website or Facebook page.

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).

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  WITH US 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

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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

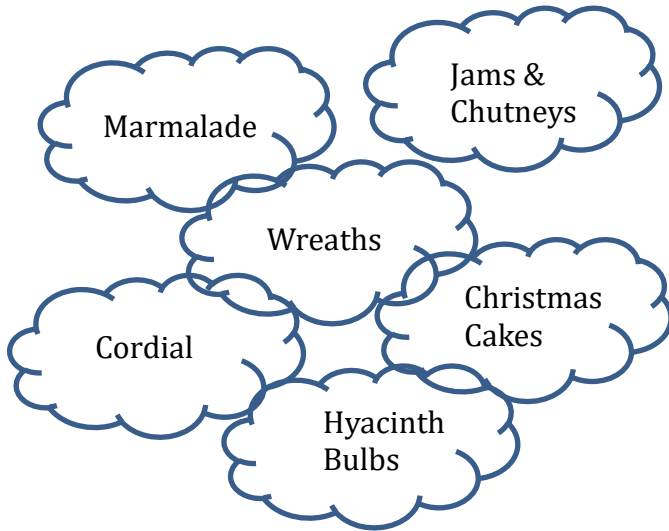
FOR THE NEWSLETTER Please send material to be included in the next newsletter by **Thursday 10pm** to administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

Images of Knighton 2021 Calendar

Raising Funds for St Mary's Spire Appeal. Lovely local artistry has contributed to make this special community celebration of Knighton life. £7.50 each or 3 for £20. Free tubes available for posting. Cheques payable to 'Knighton PCC'. Please collect from Sunday services at St Mary's, Rev. Matthew, Lorna Kirk, Aileen Orme, Nigel Siesage or Rev Janet. **Also available from Londis, Knighton Church Rd, Holbrook News, South Knighton Rd and Wigston Fields Deli, Carlton Drive.**



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

The catalogue of available products will be distributed next week with details of how to order.