

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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

JESUS REPLIED:
"LOVE THE
LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART
AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND WITH ALL
YOUR MIND.' THIS IS THE FIRST AND
GREATEST COMMANDMENT. AND THE
SECOND IS LIKE IT: 'LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR
AS YOURSELF.'"
MATTHEW
22:37-
39

Sunday 25 October 2020

Last 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*

BOOKING SYSTEM

MORNING PRAYER SERVICE Sunday 25th October 10:30am

St Guthlac's will be open for Morning Prayer this Sunday 25th October at 10.30. Rev Adrian Jones will lead the service. Yolanda will play the organ.

COMMUNION SERVICE Sunday 1st November 10.30

St Guthlac's will have a communion service on Sunday 1st November at 10.30. Rev Canon Dr Stephen Foster 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 a maximum of 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.

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.

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.

Collect & Readings **For the Last Sunday of Trinity**

The Collect

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:
help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast
the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

The first reading is Deuteronomy 34.1-12
The Psalm is Psalm 90.1-6, 13-17

1 Thessalonians 2.1-8

¹You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, ²but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. ³For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, ⁴but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. ⁵As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; ⁶nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, ⁷though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. ⁸So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Matthew 22.34-46

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶‘Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?’ ³⁷He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: “‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’

⁴¹Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴²‘What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?’ They said to him, ‘The son of David.’ ⁴³He

said to them, 'How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

⁴⁴"The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet'"?

⁴⁵If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?' ⁴⁶No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Back to Basics

Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster

It is known by us all I guess, that Jesus often had conflicts with the Jewish authorities. In his ministry, and before the particular examples in the so-called Passion Narratives in the Gospels, he is often found to be 'at odds' with the Pharisees and Sadducees and others.

Often the evangelists use these times to give Jesus some teaching space... to rearrange the negative criticisms levelled at him to form the basis of more positive teaching.

In today's Gospel from Matthew, we find an example of this, in fact, it is the final dispute example in Matthew before Jesus' Passion.

A lawyer asks one last question.

Matthew has Jesus answering in a way which sums up much of what has gone before.... about loving God and loving our neighbour. The Greek word for 'love' here is 'agape', the word which describes the very nature and essence of God Himself, a sacrificial, self-giving love, a love which costs. (Agape is pronounced 'aga-pay')

'God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son...' (John 3:16)...the word for love used here, as you might expect given the above, is from 'agape'.

So, the word used in today's text for how, in return, we should freely, actively love God and our neighbour is from 'agape'. Agape in its essentially self giving, sacrificial sense, describes how we should respond to God's love of us in return.

But how do we practically do that?

Well, loving our neighbour, that is, any other person, is fairly straightforward. We put ourselves out, we go the extra mile, we respond to their needs first, we reflect God's love of us by our own generosity to others. In today's society, folk can be surprised by such acts or words, and can ask the question...'Why are you doing this?'

How we 'love God with our heart, soul and mind' needs a bit more unpacking. Perhaps, it is easiest to say that by going to Church faithfully and regularly, by being at prayer faithfully and regularly and by studying our Bibles faithfully and regularly, we are satisfying the most important aspects of loving God.

As a caveat, I sometimes think we need work at loving God with our mind a bit more...being willing to wrestle with Him as 'theologians' in our own ways of study. Reading good and accessible theological books or articles can inspire encounter with our loving God in a remarkable way...afterall, he had given us a mind to think with!

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.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ON THE CHRISTMAS FAYRE CATALOGUE HAVE NOW SOLD OUT:

3 bulb hyacinth bowls

Apple chutney –all sizes

Plum chutney- large & small jars

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.**

Typos from a Church Newsletter

“The choir will meet at the Larsen house for fun and sinning.”

“The 'Over 60s Choir' will be disbanded for the summer with the thanks of the entire church.”*Thanks to Margaret for forwarding from City of Leicester Singers. More to follow!*

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 made in partnership with **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
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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

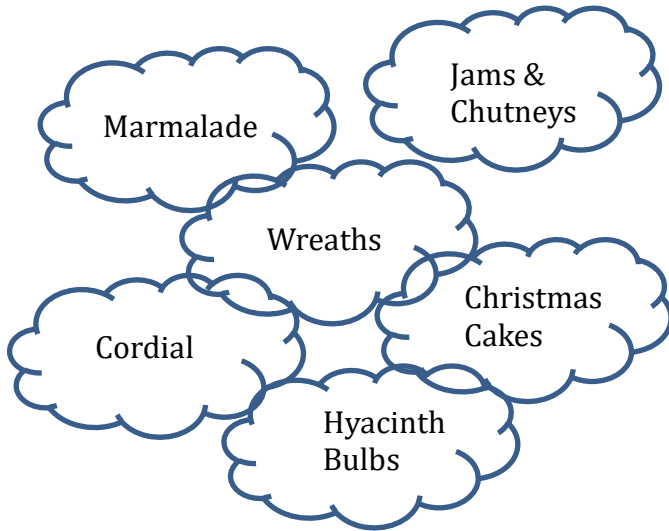
Tina Jarvis

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

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..... **the order line is now open!**

If you would like a copy of the catalogue please email fayre@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk or phone David Hunt for a paper copy.

There is a limited supply of goods so orders will be dealt with on a first come first served basis. **PLEASE SEE p9 FOR ITEMS WHICH ARE NOW SOLD OUT.**

Methods of payment and receipt of goods are detailed on the catalogue. Completed orders will be available from December 6th.