

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



Sunday 28 March 2021

Palm Sunday

A Hymn for Palm Sunday

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry;
O Saviour meek, pursue your road
with palms and scattered garments strowed.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die:
O Christ, your triumphs now begin
o'er captive death and conquered sin.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The winged squadrons of the sky
look down with sad and wondering eyes
to see the approaching sacrifice.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The last and fiercest strife is nigh:
the Father on his sapphire throne
expects his own anointed Son.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die;
bow thy meek head to mortal pain,
then take, O God, thy power and reign.

words: Henry Hart Milman (1791-1868)
music: 'Winchester New', adapted
from a chorale in Musicalisches Hand-Buch,
Hamburg, 1690

Henry Hart Milman was born in 1791 into a wealthy and learned family, his father being physician to King George III. Henry too proved to be a brilliant academic, poet, historian and writer,

studying and teaching at Oxford University. In 1816 he was ordained, and two years later became parish priest of St Mary's, [Reading](#). In 1835, [Sir Robert Peel](#) made him Rector of St Margaret's, [Westminster](#), and Canon of Westminster, and in 1849 he became [Dean of St Paul's](#) Cathedral, London, where he is buried.

Milman's published hymns only amount to 13, and this is by far the best known. Popularly sung on Palm Sunday, it holds together the 'lowly pomp' of the Servant King arriving in Jerusalem as Saviour, but riding on a humble donkey. This scene is the beginning of Christ's victories, but there still awaits suffering and death before triumph.

The tune 'Winchester New' is also often used for "*On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry.*"

Adrian

Palm Sunday Walk of Witness with Mable the Donkey

David Ardley St Mary's sacristan, myself and daughter will be making a robed public witness to Palm Sunday and Jesus' entry to Jerusalem on a donkey by walking around Pendlebury Drive to St Mary's, Brinsmead and then following the most direct route(Kenwood, Knighton Church Road, Elms, South Knighton Rd) to finish in the Easter Garden at St Guthlacs. We will be observing social distancing and so cannot host a procession. However please do look out for us 10am-11am, We will have sanitised Palm Crosses to give out along the route and we hope that Mable the donkey will be particularly appealing for our younger members of the community. **HOSANNAH!**

Rev Matthew

Worship for Holy Week and Easter

Despite still not being able to meet together for our regular worship, we can still mark Holy Week and celebrate Easter.

To help you remember the profound moments leading up to the crucifixion we will send everyone a simple guide to **praying through Holy Week**.

Then on **Maundy Thursday** you can join our special Eucharist at Home, at 7.30pm, by following this Zoom link:

<https://leccofe.zoom.us/j/92186073163?pwd=UmkyVzNNTWlmMUZPRktDQ2lzUWoydz09>

or phoning 0330 088 5830, using Meeting ID: 921 8607 3163 and Passcode: 814346

On **Good Friday** you can share in our Reflection at the Cross through the Youtube link that will be on the Church website.

On **Easter Day** itself we will have a special Virtual Worship, accessed as usual through the website or the YouTube link sent by email. Those who receive their newsletter by post will also receive special Easter Day prayers in printed form.

These special days are the heart of our Christian faith, so please do plan to mark and celebrate them in whatever way you can.

Together we can affirm confidently the transforming power of all that Jesus accomplished through his suffering and through the triumph of the resurrection – the hope that the world needs so much today.

Yours in friendship and Christ's service,

Adrian

Holy Week Together: a Cry from the Cross

Each day from Palm Sunday to Holy Saturday inclusive, the Cathedral will publish (on their [social media](#) and [website](#)) a meditation available from 12 noon. These films include bible readings, music, poetry and prayers. Bishop Guli will reflect each day on Jesus's last words from the cross using her experience as a Christian from Iran but who now lives here. Dean David will conclude the films on Holy Saturday with a reflection on all that Bishop Guli has explored. They are offered as a resource for reflection this Holy Week as we journey again with Jesus. Slightly extended versions of all these addresses will be published by Canterbury Press later in 2021.

The Easter Sunday service from the Cathedral will feature both Bishops Martyn and Guli. It will also be Bishop Guli's [last day serving in the diocese](#). The service will be streamed on the Cathedral's [social media platforms](#).

Collect & Readings for Palm Sunday

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human race
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and
humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
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

Liturgy of the Palms

Psalm 118.1-2, 19-end

¹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

² Let Israel say,
“His steadfast love endures forever.”

¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰ This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.

²¹ I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

²² The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

²³ This is the LORD’s doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵ Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.
We bless you from the house of the LORD.

²⁷ The LORD is God,
and he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.

²⁸ You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God, I will extol you.

²⁹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Gospel reading: Mark 11.1-11

Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

11 When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ² and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³ If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" ⁴ They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵ some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶ They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷ Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹¹ Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Liturgy of the Passion

First Reading: Isaiah 50.4-9a

Psalms 31.9-16

Second Reading: Philippians 2.5-11

Gospel Reading: Mark 14.1 - 15.47

Another hilltop – *a Palm Sunday reflection from Adrian Jones*

“Watch out!” – Peter ducked as another palm branch swung around and nearly clapped him on the head. This was getting ridiculous.

He stumbled as the rocky track and the rugs, thrown down hastily in front of the donkey, seemed to conspire to put him off balance, if not actually to trip him up. He was supposed to be in control of this animal, but he could hardly control his own movements. Ruefully he realised what a comical sight they must all be making, himself included.

The day hadn’t begun like this at all. At dawn Jesus had stirred and gone off to pray as usual. Peter sometimes followed, but the sleeping mats in Bethany were comfortable and he knew that Martha would have something tasty for breakfast – and he didn’t want the other disciples to scoff the lot. So today had begun like many others, with the friends gathering around a fire or in a kitchen, reminding each other what Jesus had said the night before, for the sake of those who had nodded off as the evening got late.

They’d had to do more of this remembering, this reflection together, recently. Things seemed to be getting more complicated and – how to say it? – slightly darker. Jesus had been talking more about death and dying, and if he was honest, Peter preferred all those discourses on ‘life to the full’ and stories about looking after sheep.

But that seemed to be behind them now. Jesus had a determination in his gaze these days, as if he had set his mind to something and had decided he wasn’t going to allow anyone or anything else to distract him from it. Peter couldn’t quite grasp it, but Jesus seemed to be intent on *something* he had to do, and that no one could share. A certain playfulness and joy had gone from their group of companions.

There was plenty of joy here though! And, judging by his smiles and greetings, Jesus certainly seemed to be sharing in the sense of celebration and festival. Crowds of people from the villages and the city had come out to meet them as Jesus topped the hill on a stranger's donkey and began the descent into Jerusalem.

These ordinary people of the land were pleased to see him – more, they were gripped by a sense that now Jesus was going to move from healing and teaching to a place of authority and power, where anything was possible. There was a carefree optimism in the air and they felt that God was on the move.

“Hosanna!”

“Blessed is David's son!”

Peter would have preferred a more stately procession – palms and cloaks were all very well until they started to cause an obstruction. And he had to admit to a slight sense of foreboding – were they in the sunlit calm before a storm on the Sea of Galilee? He knew how quickly the ‘weather’ could change, how fickle crowds could be, how unreliable even the strongest supporter might turn out to be.... and there were those dark predictions from Jesus himself.

Ouch! A sharp flinty stone caught his big toe as he kicked down the track – perhaps it'd even drawn blood, just like that day when Jesus had taken the three of them up the mountain with him that day too, they'd come down the hill to be greeted by enthusiastic crowds...

But instead of donkeys that day there'd been some sort of vision – it was hard to believe his own recollection, but he was certain that the dazzling and embracing light, together with the figures and the voice, were all absolutely real. And that voice had said *“This is my beloved Son; listen to him!”* ... so Jesus must know what was going on here today...he must understand, in a way that Peter could not, what this all meant.

Peter looked up from his feet to the rugged landscape around the city walls. Perhaps, soon, there would be another long walk to a hilltop, another vision of glory. Perhaps clouds would again miraculously fill the sky, perhaps a voice would again proclaim Jesus to be the Son. Perhaps, this time, on another desolate hilltop, he would learn what all the grief and glory that surrounded Jesus was coming to. Perhaps, on this other hilltop, he would understand where this journey was leading, and what it was that Jesus really needed to do.

PRAYER

Personal

Prayer is not easy. It is not the speaking of many words, or the hypnotic spell of the recited formula; it is the raising of the heart and mind to God in constantly renewed acts of love. We must go forward to grapple in prayer, as Jacob wrestled with the angel. We must lift high our lamp of faith that it may show us what prayer is, and what are its power and dignity. Into the darkness we must whisper our prayer: Lord, teach us how to pray.

Karl Ratner, On Prayer

Church and Community

We pray for all the local and national Church's witness in Holy Week. We pray that amongst all the distractions and crowded field for people's hearts that this Easter may break through to all who need to hear the good news of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We pray that as restrictions begin to be lifted this week, that those businesses may once again flourish in our high streets. We pray for those most isolated that they may be reunited with company.

Weekly prayer for roads in the parish – **Blankley Drive**

Nation and World

We pray for the treatment of the covid 19 to rise above politics and national competitiveness. We pray for those in poorest countries and those most vulnerable without health systems to have access to the vaccine.

We pray for peace against the ongoing instability in Myanmar and the hardships and suffering of ordinary people in Yemen. Maranatha-Come Lord Jesus.

Those facing personal pain we name before our Lord.

And those who have finished their days on this earth. We thank you for their lives and pray for their families and loved ones to be comforted.

For further prayer requests which can be included in the weekly prayer list or anonymized and prayed for in private, please contact Matthew revgough@gmail.com or Jane administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

GIVING THANKS FOR OUR VACCINES IN LEICESTER:
CHRISTIAN AID APPEAL As more of us, our family, friends, and neighbours receive their COVID vaccine, we give thanks to God and are both joyful and relieved. However, we are aware that many communities around the world are suffering and do not have access to vaccines and many of them lack the basics they need to protect themselves like clean water for handwashing. As you or a family member is protected, please give to help protect those who do not have access to vaccines. All donations will support Christian Aid's response to the coronavirus. Thank you for your support. You can give online at <https://giving.tapsimple.org/online/christian-aid/leicestercaq>

WORSHIP INFORMATION

BBC1 Sunday Worship Lent 6: 11.00am Sunday 28th March

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 iPlayer and Sounds apps.

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? or via the website or Facebook page.

Prayer and Reflection Together

As we enter Holy Week, the Lent Daily Prayer, Monday and Friday will stop and this week's Wednesday 7.30pm Reflection will change to a more meditative focus.

However starting after Easter on Monday 12th April we would like to restart Monday Midday Prayer as not least this has proven popular with care home residents.

To join us for this Wednesday's 7.30pm reflection with the option to stay for the 8pm Compline:

Join Zoom Meeting:

Meeting ID: 746 767 4408 Passcode: lent

To Phone in- Dial by: 0131 460 1196 (standard call charge)

Input Meeting ID when prompted: 746 767 440

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar: Revd. Adrian Jones 0116 2704268
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Associate Priest- St Guthlac's: Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster
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Assistant Curate: Revd Matthew Gough
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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 **noon Thursday** to administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

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

DIARY DATE: ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

This will take place on Sunday 2nd May. More details will follow soon.

ELECTORAL ROLL

If you are not currently on the electoral roll and would like to be entered on it, please contact Jane Wright on administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk for a form. Completed forms must be returned to Jane by 4th April if you wish to be entitled to vote at the APCM. The 'Notice of Revision' posted on our website and the external church noticeboard gives details of eligibility. Thank you.

Nominations for AGM:

Voting will take place at the AGM for 2 Churchwardens and for PCC members (3 x 3year posts and 2 x 1 year posts). If you are interested in standing for election or would like to find out more, please get in touch with me on 2103690 or at l.c.meakin@ntlworld.com. 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.

MOVING HOUSE IN A PANDEMIC

One of our congregation, who is about to move house has a problem as charity shops are closed or already full of goods. There are a few things available free to collect:

- Fireside chair and leg stool (Light brown upholstery)
- Decorating platform (for DIY)
- Model yacht. Large
- Assorted drill bits

If you are interested in any of the items, please contact churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk who will pass on your details.

Christchurch, Clarendon Park **LENT WALK: STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Start and finish at Christchurch. POSTER 1 is on the Christchurch noticeboard and POSTER 17 is on the porch window. The other 15 posters are in the windows of houses in Clarendon Park, Knighton and Stoneygate.

Download the route from the church website:

www.christchurchcp.org.uk

under latest news. The walk is about 10k but can be done in stages.

STONEYGATE BAPTIST CHURCH WELLBEING CAFE

The Zoom link for the Stoneygate Baptist Church wellbeing cafe, which you are welcome to join any Wednesday at 11am is:

us02web.zoom.us/j/86350559902?pwd=TEWYOWxUZTE0bjhWZFA1Smplbk1YUT09

Meeting ID: 863 5055 9902

Passcode: 216265

St Guthlac's Buddies: Keeping in Touch & Making Friends

Would you like to take part?

Over the past year, we have had a Buddy System which has involved about 30 people regularly keeping in touch, via the telephone, to provide mutual friendship, support and assistance. Each participant telephones their Buddy once a fortnight or so. It might be for a brief check to ensure their buddy is OK or for a longer chat. Nearly everyone currently in the Buddy System is very keen to continue with their Buddy(s).

Buddying has taken different forms. The most common form is that one person has telephoned another. This second person has telephoned a third and so on... This has meant that individuals have been able to do something for someone else, as well as being able to receive the gift of care from another.

In other cases someone who has not been at special risk or needed to shield, did some shopping or fetched medicines as well as telephoned their buddy. In another instance the pair had a regular prayer time.

Feedback from participants has been very positive. One person wrote 'I've enjoyed being a part of the Buddy system very much.' Another commented on how much she looked forward to the calls and felt she had gained a friend, rather than just an acquaintance. Getting to know people better and making friends has been the most common outcome. It has also been pointed out that the Buddy System keeps people in touch with the church even when they are not able to go because of the Lockdown, temporary illness or longer lasting infirmity.

In the future the Buddy system would also enable new people in the congregation to have an initial regular link.

Would you like to take part? Please contact Tina, churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk.