

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



Sunday 25 April 2021
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Re-opening St Guthlac's for Sunday Worship: an update

At our recent PCC meeting we confirmed our plans for re-opening the church building for Sunday worship when the right time comes. Whilst we appreciated the strong desire of many people to be able to meet and worship together again, we also took into account the relatively high rate of corona virus infections in Leicester and the difficulties in increasing vaccination rates. Our intimate and friendly building is also more difficult than some others to make 'covid-secure'. The outcome of our discussion, therefore, was a decision to hold back from re-opening until after the move to Step 3 of the Government's Roadmap, due on 17th May, all being well.

In the meantime, the larger and more spacious building of St Mary's is now able to be used for Sunday worship, albeit with all the restrictions that you would expect. Services will follow the usual pattern (please see below) and everyone is welcome - but please do note the change in service times and the need to 'book' a place by phoning the Church Office (0116 2702705).

Adrian

First Sunday: 2 nd May	9am 10.30am	Weekly Eucharist All Age Worship & Communion
Second Sunday: 9 th May	9am 10.30am	Weekly Eucharist (trd. language) Sung Eucharist
Third Sunday: 16 th May	9am 10.30am	Weekly Eucharist Morning Worship
Fourth Sunday: 23 rd May	9am 10.30am	Weekly Eucharist (trd. language) Sung Eucharist
Fifth Sunday: 30 th May	9am 10.30am	Weekly Eucharist Trinity Sunday Worship

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

This will take place on **Sunday 2nd May at noon**, via Zoom.

Topic: St Guthlac's Annual meeting

Time: May 2, 2021 12:00 PM London

<https://leccofe.zoom.us/j/94699236609?pwd=WIRUUEoxOHFGdkV4R2NGankwRmR3QT09>

Meeting ID: 946 9923 6609

Passcode: 615922

The Agenda and PCC Report have been emailed to you if we have your contact details. If you would like a paper copy of the report please contact Lesley.

Church of St Guthlac, Knighton ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS TO ELECT CHURCH WARDENS

Sunday 2nd May 2021 12 noon

PROPOSED RESOLUTION from the PCC to the Annual Meeting 02.05.21

This meeting notes the limitation on the term of office of Church Wardens, provided by the Churchwardens Measure 2001, to six consecutive periods of office.

This meeting resolves that, in subsequent years, this limitation shall not apply to the election of Churchwardens in the Parish of St Guthlac, Knighton.

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. Thank you.

Lesley Meakin

Collect & Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

First reading: Acts 4.5-12

Psalm 23

Second reading: 1 John 3.16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us – and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he

has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel reading: John 10.11-18

Jesus said to the Pharisees: ¹¹‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.’

Reflection for the Fourth Sunday of Easter –

1 John 3:16 – 24

Fiona Wingate

“Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action”

Over the last couple of weeks one might have been fascinated or bored by the coverage of the death and life of Prince Philip. Preparing this it struck me that it was not a life of words or speech (gaffes aside) but of truth and action. So much of that action around the development and encouragement of young people and the conservation of our natural world. Someone who aimed to be a good steward of all of God’s creation.

“Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action”

In this central part of the first letter of John, the writer tells his readers that the sign of a Christian is love. A love that flows from God the Father’s immense love for us. It’s a love like no other because Jesus laid down his life for us.

But John goes further to challenge us by asking how we can love when we who have “the world’s goods” don’t act to help those in need. How do they come to be in need? The most significant causes are climate change and social injustice.

As a church community, St Guthlac’s actively supports those in need through Christian Aid, FairTrade, Open Hands, Christingle and the clinics in Malawi. But as a community we cannot rest on our laurels. This is why the PCC have renewed our environmental strategy.

Through our united belief in Jesus Christ; this plan encourages our whole church family to show love for all of God’s creation

- by changing our habits and lifestyles to reduce our impact on the world
- by working together with all people locally and widely to bring about real change

to help those most in need and those most affected by climate change.

“Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action”

As a church community we will use the EcoChurch Scheme as the framework to support us in tackling these challenges. The aim is not the bronze, silver or gold accreditation the scheme offers. The aim is to bring about real change in us, in our actions and our environment. To support and encourage all in our community to make and campaign for the changes needed. To build relationships and through them work together to tackle climate change and social injustice.

“Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action”

I know all of you will already be involved in different ways to address climate change and social justice. We give thanks for this. But as we have so much of “the world’s goods” we have a responsibility to do more. We all have a contribution to make. We all have gifts and talents to share. We all have a part to play. Together we will have greater impact.

The Book of Prayer’s introduction to the intercessions tells us to pray for the whole state of Christ’s church “militant here in earth”. This is a call to action and steadfast prayer. We need to show love through action in obedience to Christ’s commandment and in the power of the Spirit.

Amen.

PRAYER

Personal

May the centre of my being be one with the Heart of Christ.
Amen

John Francis-Friendship

Church and Community

We pray for the changes in the Diocese of Leicester, Shaped By God Together, the final departure of Bishop Guli and the reports on Living in Love & Faith. We pray for honest, sincere conversations to flow where all may be heard and for decision makers to be open to the Spirit of God prompting their work. We seek forgiveness and repentance for all the times those marginalised by the powerful in the church have been overlooked and squashed, we uphold particularly Black and minority ethnic members, women and all LGBTQ plus communities.

Weekly prayer for roads in the parish – **Elmsleigh Avenue & Llewellyn Court**

Nation and World

We are thankful for the leaders summit this week planning in anticipation for the Cornwall international climate conference. We pray for rhetoric to be replaced by moral and convincing leadership.

We pray for India as it struggles against the overwhelming of its health system. We pray for co-operation between those able to help.

We uphold the tensions on the Ukraine border and the sabre rattling of world powers. We pray for your peace to be poured upon these troubled lands and times.

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/leicestercag>

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 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.

Online Compline Night Prayer from 8pm each Wednesday And Monday Midday Prayer

All Welcome. Same online joining details below for both:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://leccofe.zoom.us/j/7467674408?pwd=NHRQZ2F0Mmt5Wk5sd2NMc1JtREpaUT09>

Meeting ID: 746 767 4408 Passcode: hope

Or Phone In: 0131 460 1196 (standard call charge)

Input Meeting ID: 746 767 4408

St Mary's is open for services at 9am and 10.30am every Sunday. (Note new times) If you would like to attend a service please contact James in the Parish Office on 0116 2702705 to book a place. He will also be able to let you know the type of service being held or check St. Mary's website.

LIVE STREAMING SERVICES

As we begin to re-open St Mary's and St Guthlac's buildings for worship, we would like to trial live streaming as some people have requested. To participate and watch the service live, you will need a Facebook account. We have a step by step guide for how to set up a Facebook account currently available on St Mary's Website under Corona Virus Support '**Social Media-staying connected**', or on request from Matthew. The live recording will be available on the website later that day. For **Sunday 25th April, a livestream will be broadcast on St Mary's Facebook page for the 10.30 service and available later on the website www.stmarysknighton.co.uk**. If successful, we hope to offer live streaming at St Guthlac's too. This will complement the in-person and pre-recorded services.

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.

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 **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>

BENEFICE MAGAZINE

The copy deadline for the May/June issue of the magazine is 1 May, for publication in mid-May. Please send your contributions, preferably in Word, to stmaryknighton.magazine@gmail.com.

I am hopeful that it will no longer be necessary to badge articles as 'Letters from Lockdown'; but the experience of lockdown and ideas it prompts for the future, may act of a stimulus for items (short or long) under the banner 'Beyond Lockdown'.

And it's Spring. So to complement the pictures readers provided of their gardens last year, why not get out and about and send pictures of the Benefice in springtime.

Thank you. Nigel

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

Summary of Deanery Synod Meeting – 23rd March 2021. Part 2

The meeting was held by Zoom and two key areas were discussed. The first was summarised last week and the second is below.

Update on EcoDiocese – Andrew Quigley (Diocesan Social Responsibility Officer)

Leicester Diocese has unanimously agreed to work towards being EcoDiocese. The national church also agreed to become carbon neutral by 2030. The process is underway and the following has been and needs to be carried out:

- a. Diocese has registered its intent to be an EcoDiocese.
- b. The diocese has commissioned a group to take action namely the Diocesan Environmental Group.
- c. Produce an environmental policy which is expected to be formally adopted by Diocesan Synod in September 2021.
- d. Encourage individual churches to register as EcoChurch scheme as the number of churches within a diocese registered is a measure that is considered in awarding the diocese and EcoDiocese status.
- e. At diocesan level look to interfaith action on climate issues.
- f. Establish, record and celebrate eco achievements in the diocese.

Progress is going well within the diocese. A discussion highlighted that “eco” issues are missional. The diocese will support efforts but is unable to provide grants for infrastructure projects.

Both these topics are important for us as a church to engage with because the conversation about “Shaped by God together” may well define the shape of the church in this place for future generations. Similarly, the EcoDiocese is an important part of the overall church’s response to the critical issue of climate change and the environmental impact of our operations. As St Guthlac’s finalises our environmental strategy and action plan to help tackle the impacts of climate change I would encourage everyone to get involved in whatever way to you can no matter how big or small.

Certificate of Appreciation

Presented to

St Guthlac

Knighton

**for their generous
Parish Contributions of**

2019 - £21500

2020 - £22600

**This resources mission and ministry in
the Diocese of Leicester and includes the
provision of ordained and lay ministry
and other parish support services.**

With sincere thanks and prayers,



+ Martyn

Bishop of Leicester