

# ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac  
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



**Sunday 16 May 2021**  
**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

## Re-opening St Guthlac's for Sunday Worship

At our recent PCC meeting we confirmed our plans for re-opening the church building for Sunday worship when the right time comes, in other words delaying until after the move to Step 3 of the Government's Roadmap, on 17<sup>th</sup> May.

Our own 'roadmap' therefore looks like this (God willing):

- 13<sup>th</sup> May – checking over the building (completed)
- 16<sup>th</sup> May – church cleaning (see separate notice) **TODAY!**
- 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Morning Prayer 10.30am (Church Club by Zoom)
- 30<sup>th</sup> May – Morning Prayer 10.30am
- 6<sup>th</sup> June – Eucharist 10.30am
- 13<sup>th</sup> June – Morning Prayer 10.30am
- 20<sup>th</sup> June – Eucharist 10.30am
- 27<sup>th</sup> June – Morning Prayer/ Church Club 10.30am

We will need to use the same booking system as before for the time being, and singing is still not permitted, but as soon as Government and Church of England guidance allows then we will restore the familiar features of our worship together.

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*

## St. Mary's services

|                                        |                |                                                            |
|----------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| First Sunday:                          | 9am<br>10.30am | Weekly Eucharist<br><b>All Age Worship &amp; Communion</b> |
| Second Sunday:                         | 9am<br>10.30am | Weekly Eucharist (trd. language)<br>Eucharist              |
| Third Sunday:<br>16 <sup>th</sup> May  | 9am<br>10.30am | Weekly Eucharist<br>Morning Worship                        |
| Fourth Sunday:<br>23 <sup>rd</sup> May | 9am<br>10.30am | Weekly Eucharist (trd. language)<br>Pentecost Eucharist    |
| Fifth Sunday:<br>30 <sup>th</sup> May  | 9am<br>10.30am | Weekly Eucharist<br>Trinity Sunday Eucharist               |

**To encourage you.....** *"We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8.28)*

Hold onto hope. Look for the good in every circumstance. Make lists of the positive things that have happened. This is a reminder that good always overcomes evil; light triumphs over darkness; and hope over despair. Asking myself, *'What was God doing in this for me?'*, can bring a fresh perspective. Of course, our ultimate hope is in God and, through Jesus, the promise of eternal life.

(from "World of Difference" by Tearfund, the UK Christian charity that works with developing communities around the world).

# **MORNING PRAYER SERVICE & BOOKING SYSTEM**

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 10:30am**

St Guthlac's will be open for Morning Prayer Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 10.30.

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 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. Email her [churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk](mailto:churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk)

## **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, blue prayer book and red OCOFOL book 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.

### **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.

## **Collect & Readings for the Seventh Sunday of Easter**

### **The Collect**

O God the King of glory,  
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:  
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,  
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us  
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone  
before,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen

### **First reading: Acts 1.15-17, 21-26**

<sup>15</sup>In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people). He said, <sup>16</sup>'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus – <sup>17</sup>for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. <sup>21</sup>So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup>beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us – one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.' <sup>23</sup>So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup>Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen <sup>25</sup>to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.' <sup>26</sup>And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

## **Psalm 1**

### **Second reading: 1 John 5.9-13**

### **Gospel reading: John 17.6-19**

Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed: <sup>6</sup>‘Father, I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. <sup>12</sup>While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup>But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. <sup>14</sup>I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>15</sup>I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup>They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>17</sup>Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup>And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.’

## **Restless and Ready? A reflection on John 17:6-19**

*Rev Adrian Jones*

A confession: I am one of those annoying people who finds it hard to settle down to just sitting and being. I need to have something to do. This means that it's not uncommon for restless me to walk into our living room half-way through a television programme, and, of course, find it impossible to pick up the threads of what's happening.

A similar experience awaits us when we look at only a small section of Jesus' teaching and prayer at the Last Supper, as described in John's Gospel. For almost five chapters Jesus talks, and when we take just a small part of the much longer whole, we are bound to get only a partial understanding.

So, let's remind ourselves what Jesus is doing during these critical hours on the last night before his death. He starts by demonstrating what it means to follow in his way of serving others, but also highlights the opposition that follows. Again, he encourages his disciples to follow him and promises the Holy Spirit to help them. He urges his friends to love each other and again warns them that the road ahead is tough. He talks of grief and joy.... and then he *prays* for his disciples.

This is where today's Gospel passage fits in. Jesus prays for the protection of the disciples in the face of the challenges and pressures of the world, and he prays that they will be 'sanctified'. This is not a word that we use elsewhere or feel familiar with, but it just describes the process of becoming more and more of the people we have been created to be, more and more like Jesus himself - and it's the work of God.

Critically Jesus prays "*Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.*" In this one sentence he draws together the themes that have been so strong in everything else that he's said here; the importance of following him closely, the protection his disciples need, the key place of love, and God's continued presence with them.

Knowing that this is their best future, Jesus prays that they may become more like God. Knowing the source of that change, he prays that they may be soaked in the truth that is found in God's word; the word revealed in flesh is Jesus himself, the word revealed in scripture is the Bible.

So, if this is what Jesus wants for his disciples, both then and now, surely we should be doing what we can to see it happen in our own life. We can be *intentional* about following the way of Jesus – making it our purpose and priority day by day. We can *choose and plan* to spend time with the Bible day by day. This is our part in God's work of sanctification, transformation, of ourselves – and also our part in God's work of transformation in the world.

If, like me, you feel restless and ready to do something positive, then this is the place to start.

*Adrian*

## **PRAYERS**

### **Personal**

Christ's ascension into heaven is a sign that He has finished what He came to Earth to do. Now He entrusts us to play our part in transforming our world to look more like the Kingdom of Heaven. May the whole world know His promise and experience His love.

*Archbishop Justin*

### **Church & Community**

We pray for our friends and neighbours celebrating Eid. We pray for blessings and peace upon the Muslim community as it manages the disappointment of having mass park gatherings banned for a third time. Lord protect our City from further outbreak.

Weekly prayer for roads in the parish – **Freemantle Road**

### **Nation and World**

Let us pray for the peace of Jerusalem. The justice for Israeli Arabs and Palestinians, the security and wellbeing of Jewish Israelis. The peace of Gaza. The most vulnerable when hostilities break out, particularly vulnerable the high numbers of children and young people in already overcrowded conditions.

We pray for our friends in India, for vaccine justice - those countries who can, to share fairly and for all those health care workers to be protected and strengthened in their work. We call upon a power beyond ourselves - the Love of God in a situation which seems beyond a human response to manage.

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](mailto:revgough@gmail.com) or Jane [administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk](mailto:administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk)*

### **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](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86350559902?pwd=TEwyOWxUZTE0bjhWZFA1Smplbk1YUT09)

Meeting ID: 863 5055 9902

Passcode: 216265

## **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\\_EdZSg?](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChYDSfNmiB2Zamsaz_EdZSg?) 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.

## **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 9<sup>th</sup> May, 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](http://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](mailto:administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk)

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



The period between Ascension and Pentecost has long been recognised as a time of prayer for the coming of the Holy Spirit. In more recent years, this has grown in prominence as **“Thy Kingdom Come”**.

Just as last year, it’s unlikely that the usual mass gatherings and worship which are part of TKC will be able to happen. In 2020, TKC completely changed shape, yet at its heart it remained the same: praying for people to know the love of Jesus Christ. Despite the restrictions, people from more than 90% of the world’s countries took part, with new countries including Chad, Cuba and the Maldives. Christians from across many traditions, denominations and ages were involved. Testimonies were reported of people coming to faith and churches, families and individuals being drawn closer to God, being reinvigorated in their prayer life and inspired to share their faith. ‘Thy Kingdom Come under Lockdown’ resources were produced to enable churches, families and individuals to pray and worship in their homes suitable for use worldwide. Most of these resources were digital, including a popular Digital Family Prayer Adventure Map and App to explore prayer in a fun way. Thousands across the world signed up to shine their light on the Thy Kingdom Come website too. The ‘Pray for five’ (to come to faith) element of the campaign was reinforced. And in response to the crisis, a new theme, ‘Prayer and Care’, was introduced encouraging Christians to move beyond prayer into action,

practically demonstrating love and care through service to others during this time.

We expect much of this to be the same in 2021. Visit the website to download resources for families, churches and individuals and to pledge to shine a light <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

### **Eco-Tip of the week**



As mentioned in previous newsletters, St Guthlac's PCC has agreed to work towards Eco Church status. To help inspire members of the congregation to make small lifestyle changes which help the environment, and to share ideas, there will be an 'Eco-Tip' in the newsletter each week. If you have tips you would like to share, please send them to me or write me a note.

**This week's tip:** Many of us receive unwanted clothing, homeware or gardening catalogues which we put straight in the recycling bin. Could we reduce our paper waste by taking the time to ask to be taken off the mailing list for these companies?

## **CAN YOU HELP WITH SPRING CLEANING?**

### **TODAY: SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2.30PM**

We are hoping to start services at St Guthlac's on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May. As the church has been unused for several months, we need to smarten up the inside of the building. This involves light cleaning such as dusting and vacuuming.

Could you come and help on **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30 – 3.30?** Everyone is welcome. Volunteers should bring a face covering and gloves, please. Dusters would be helpful. There is no need for special cleaning materials as there is no reason to think that the church has any virus contamination.

Many hands will make light work and it will be good to see people 'in the flesh' in a socially distanced way. But please don't think about coming along if you are in a 'vulnerable group'.

You can just turn up on the day but if you already know that you can come then please let Tina or David know ahead. Thank you!

## **STEWARDS NEEDED FOR SUNDAY SERVICES FROM 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY**

**Can you help to enable people to spend time in church?** We need stewards each Sunday from our opening on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, to welcome and help people take their places in church in a safe and socially distanced way.

We aim to have two stewards each Sunday. It involves arriving before the service to open the church. Then to welcome people; check that they have booked; and to make sure they have masks and sanitise their hands. At the end of the service it is important to help people leave safely (and chat outside). Then lock the church.

Please contact David, if you can help.

# RSCM Music Sunday

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June**

*Did you know that we belong to the RSCM?*

The RSCM invites everyone to join in online with the  
**Big Music Sunday Service**  
from Lichfield Cathedral at tbc

Whether you want to participate in the singing or just listen, you will  
find all the information you need at

<https://www.rscm.org.uk/music-sunday-2021/>



The climate crisis is having a devastating impact on communities in Kenya. Right now, families struggle to survive without a reliable water source. Every day, they walk further, dig deeper and build stronger to survive. Unrelenting. Determined. Join me this Christian Aid Week as we stand together with those on the frontlines to battle coronavirus and fight for climate justice.

We will not be doing a house-to-house collection this year but will be operating a drop off only system for selected roads. Thanks to those who have agreed to be a drop off point. If you would like to donate, please consider using our church '**e-envelope**' which you can find at:

[e-envelope | Christian Aid Week](#)

For those without computers who wish to donate I have a few envelopes available which I can drop off and collect from you. Please call me to arrange this. Thank you.  
Lesley Meakin