

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



Sunday 20 June 2021
Third Sunday after Trinity

To encourage you *“Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.”* (Ephesians 6.18)

Pray and build resilience your own way. Each of us is unique, and we will have individual ways to strengthen our resilience. Some people keep a spiritual journal to record their reflections, thoughts and feelings. Prayer is an essential tool that God has given us to bring our thoughts, concerns and requests to him. Praise and worship can also encourage you to look beyond your circumstances and help you face each day.

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

EUCCHARIST BOOKING SYSTEM

Sunday 20th June 10:30am

This Sunday 20th June at 10.30am, Revd Adrian Jones will preside at the eucharist service and Revd Janet Gasper will preach.

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, please contact Tina to book a place.
churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

THE 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 the relevant book(s) and/or service sheet 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.

For Eucharist services:

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 books 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 Third Sunday after Trinity

The Collect

Almighty God,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts
whereby we call you Father:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,
that we and all creation may be brought
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;
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

First reading: Job 38.1-11

¹The LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind: ²“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? ³Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. ⁴“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. ⁵Who determined its measurements – surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? ⁶On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone ⁷when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? ⁸“Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb? – ⁹when I made the clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band, ¹⁰and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, ¹¹and said, “Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stopped”?

Psalm 107.1-3, 23-32

Second reading: 2 Corinthians 6.1-13

Gospel reading: Mark 4.35-41

35When evening had come, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let us go across to the other side.' 36And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. 37A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. 38But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' 39He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. 40He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?' 41And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?'

Reflection for the Third Sunday after Trinity

Mark Chapter 4 v35 - end

Rev. Janet Gasper

During a recent sort out I came across a certificate stating that I sailed and prayed on the boat on the Sea of Galilee on February 17th 1999. I was one of three priests co leading a group of pilgrims from Hereford Diocese on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. We went across the lake from Tibereas to Capernaum and it was very calm. When we reached the middle of the lake, one of my colleagues read the passage we are thinking about this week Mark 4. 35-end, about Jesus calming the storm and the boatman added that three days ago, the pilgrims had had a very bumpy ride because the lake was so choppy in the middle.

The sea had always been a sphere of mystery, danger and terror to the Hebrew mind, a place of chaos and sea monsters. Much evidence for this can be seen in the Book of Psalms,

“O Lord of hosts, who is as mighty as you O Lord Your faithfulness surrounds you.

You rule the raging of the sea when its waves rise you still them.”

Psalm 89 v 9

When a storm arises on Lake Galilee at the time of Jesus, Jesus is sleeping on a cushion in the stern of the boat and the disciples, many of them seasoned seafarers, are terrified.

“Teacher do you not care that we are perishing?” they cry as they rouse Jesus. Jesus silences the wind and calms the waves and the disciples know that this is the power of God at work. Jesus brings order and peace to the sea and rescues the disciples from fear.

Mark’s gospel was probably written thirty years after the death and resurrection of Jesus so some Christians listening to this story at that time were living under threat of Roman persecution. This story encourages them, to affirm God’s presence in their hearts when they might be tempted to feel alone and unsupported.

This story is also helpful to us as Christians - most of us experience personal storms in life - illness, loss, betrayal, breakdown. At these times we may not feel that God can help at all - He seems to be asleep and unaware of our problems . But if we take Christ’s words to the storm “Peace be still” deep into our hearts, we find they bring great calm, and help to banish the feeling of turmoil and chaos.

The church is often pictured as a boat sailing on the sea of life - sometimes it gets battered by storms and we its occupants get frightened but we can remain in the boat, secure in the company of Jesus and trust in his love and peace to help us live in the best way we can. The novelist Emily Bronte who died of Tuberculosis at the age of thirty wrote,

No coward soul is mine,
No trembler in the world's storm troubled sphere:
I see Heaven's glories shine,
And faith shines equal, arming me from fear. "Last Lines"

Text Note: Why Are You Afraid?

Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster

The Sea of Galilee and how Mark uses that particular 'place' to structure the different scenes of his Gospel has been rehearsed in many different ways by scholars for a long time. As there are over 60 analyses of Mark's Gospel as I know to, some hold more water than others...please excuse the pun!

Why are you afraid?

But what is undeniable, is that this episode appears in the story exactly half way between the beginning and Caesarea Philippi, where in Chapter 8, Peter, in some sense speaking for each of the disciples and for us as disciples in today's Church expresses faith in Jesus as the Messiah.

But let us be clear... it has taken half the gospel for that 'penny to drop' despite all that the disciples had heard and seen and shared with this Jesus of Nazareth.

So, 'geographically' in the story for today, we are only half way to Peter's Confession of faith above. So where we are today in Chapter 4, the disciples coming to faith is still very much work in

progress...and again excuse the pun but they are 'making heavy weather of it'.

Why are you afraid?

Here, in this episode, we are on a boat, in a storm, with Jesus largely 'out of the picture'...he is asleep on a cushion. The spotlight falls wholly on the disciples. This scene represents a sort of 'mid term report' of how they were doing in terms of their faith, of how they were doing in terms of trusting this Rabbi from Nazareth.

How the disciples were doing?...well..

Using school report parlance, the answer might be...'Very poor.'...'Better attention needed'... 'Could do much better'...'Very poor examination result'.

And those terms, if levelled at the disciples in this instance are being rather generous. Mark wants to portray the Twelve as by and large a pretty thick bunch.

Why are you afraid?

For since their being chosen, and despite all they have seen, and heard and experienced by the side of Jesus, so far in Mark's story in terms of who Jesus is and how they can trust him...well...they are nowhere near first base; they are hardly out of the traps; they are still on the starting grid... they are pretty clueless. Actually they are portrayed by Mark as missing almost all the clues they have witnessed so far.

Why are you afraid?

Mark wants us to realise this for a number of reasons...but for the point of this homily, my own view is that he is trying to

encourage each of us to see that even the disciples struggled with all that constitutes 'faith' in the Messiah. And if the disciples struggled with such things with him being actually with them 'in the flesh', it is hardly surprising that we struggle from time to time some two thousand years later spiritually.

Using the school report /exam result analogy while it usually cuts little ice if a student says...' but ALL of us did very poorly in the exams'...Mark wants to encourage ALL of us as 'being in the same boat'. Mark wants to encourage ALL of us who struggle with our faith, during those times when the storms of life around are corporately around like in the pandemic, or when the storms of life seem to be centred on us as individuals.

Why are you afraid?

It seems to me that in our most stormy times we like the disciples can fall short in seeing Jesus as the Messiah, and secondly even if that belief is still strong, we can fall short on realising how much we are loved and how much we can trust that infinite love and care.

Even St Theresa of Avila in her own stormy times suggests to God that 'if this is how you treat your friends, no wonder you have so many enemies!'

Speaking personally my own heart has always led me into the ways of trusting God at most difficult turns of my life. In that sense I might have symbolically left Jesus asleep on the cushion in the boat.

But, as an academic theologian, my own struggles have been 'head ones' rather than 'heart ones' where I have 'kept the Lord awake' many a night as I grapple with this or that theological issue!

Why are you afraid?

But the simple fact is that as we identify with the struggles of faith of the disciples, we may feel compared with them, in that sometimes we are way past the 'first base' they seem to be stuck at. But also sometimes we may feel we are right in the boat with them feeling rather foolish when Jesus asks us...

Why are you afraid?

I leave you with some further words of St Theresa, and thankfully more encouraging ones than those above...

'Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you
All things are passing away:
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things.
Whoever has God lacks nothing;
God alone suffices.'

Why are you afraid?

AMEN

PRAYERS

Personal

Prayer does not blind us to the world, but it transforms our vision of the world, and makes us see it, all humanity, and all the history of humanity in the light of God-Thomas Merton

Church and Community

We think of fathers this week, for those who bear the responsibility of parenting as many celebrate Father's Day. We pray particularly for those who have lost fathers, have broken relations with fathers and fathers who have lost children. We

pray for those children and their families now at risk or homeschooling once again through the new variant of Covid. We pray that many may soon enjoy the breaks of summer so much needed at this time. We pray for our ministry leadership, particularly those in the Diocese gathering church response for Shaped By God Together and managing the finance deficit. We pray for holy generosity and decision making.

Weekly prayer for roads in the parish – **Hendon Grange**

Nation and World

We thank our heavenly Father for pouring out his blessings day after day. We are thankful for having enough food in our shops. We pray for justice for our farmers and food industries as our government negotiates trade outside of the EU. We pray for decisions based on integrity which protect the wellbeing of the many. We turn our thoughts to those areas suffering hunger, hardship and famine. We pray particularly for Yemen and its ongoing conflict and those most harmed, children and the poorest. Come Lord Jesus, Come.

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

Shaped by God Together – the next steps.

Many thanks to all of you who took part in our 'local conversations' meetings last week, considering the proposals from the Diocese regarding the reshaping of patterns of ministry. These are significant but complex matters, and I appreciate the time and thought that many of you have given to this process.

As requested, I have submitted a compilation of our responses to the diocese, and they will be added to the responses from other parishes. As Acting Area Dean, I will be part of an extended, two day meeting of the Bishop's Council in July, where all the parish responses will be considered and after much prayer and discussion, a conclusion about the way ahead will be drawn. This final proposal will then be considered by the Diocesan Synod in October.

As soon as I am able to pass on more information I will, of course, update you with the news. In the meantime, please continue to pray for Bishop Martyn and all those involved in these difficult decisions.

Adrian

CHANGE OF DATES! – please note the changes below to dates following the Government's delay in relaxing pandemic restrictions.

**Post Lock down 'Teach in':
An Introduction to the Gospels**

Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster will be running a series of three lectures in **August** as an Introduction to the Gospels. Each session will be 50 minutes interaction/teaching, then 40 minutes tea/biscuits and further questions. The provisional titles are:

August 5th: *'What do YOU/WE know about the Gospels?'*

August 12th: *'What would YOU/WE call the Gospels?
History?...Story?...Theology?...?'*

August 19th: *WE look at St Mark...the first Gospel to be
written?*

All sessions will be held at 2.30pm in St Guthlac's and then repeated at 7.30pm in St. Mary's. They will take place in church to enable social distancing to take place if preferred.

Everyone is welcome to attend any/all of the sessions for an instructive and enjoyable get together.

Please bring a notebook and your favourite Bible to each

STEWARDS NEEDED FOR SUNDAY SERVICES

Can you help to enable people to spend time in church? We need stewards each Sunday, 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.

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'



2021



***Leicester
City, County & Rutland
At Risk War Memorials Project***

Open Days

**Chancel, (rear of) All Saint's Church, Highcross Street,
Leicester LE1 4PH**

Sat. 3rd July 11.00 – 16.00

Heritage Open Days

Thurs. 9th September - 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm

Fri. 10th September - 3.00 pm to 6.00 pm

Sat. 11th September – 10.00 am to 6.00 pm

Sun. 12th September – 2.30pm to 5.00 pm

Sat. 20th Nov. 11.00-16.00

Email: mail@atriskwarmemorials.co.uk

Website: www.atriskwarmemorials.co.uk

Face Book: www.facebook.com/arwmp

Twitter: @ARWMP

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.

There is a weekly online service from the Church of England. You can find details at

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/church-online/weekly-online-services>

Virtual Sunday Service for the Knighton Benefice.

This week we will 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.

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 Guthlac's services, Sunday at 10.30am

20th June – Eucharist

27th June – Morning Prayer/ Church Club

4th July -- Eucharist

Virtual Worship for Knighton Benefice – the last Sunday.

More of us are returning to 'live services' in the church buildings on Sundays, the number of viewers of our 'Virtual Worship' is declining, and we are now focussing on 'live streaming' from Sunday services. Therefore, we have decided that this week's pre-recorded Virtual Worship should be the last, for the moment at least. This will also leave the Ministry Team more time for Sunday preparation and all the other aspects of our life together. Thank you to all those who have given us feedback and appreciation over the last fifteen months, and particular thanks to Matthew for his time and energy given to making Virtual Worship happen week by week.

There are still other options available for on-line worship: this link takes you to the Cathedral's live stream <https://leicestercathedral.org/services/> and this link takes you to services provided by the national Church of England

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/church-online/weekly-online-services>

Adrian

LIVE STREAMING SERVICES

Now that we have returned to live services in both the churches of the benefice we are aiming to broadcast a service each Sunday live on the internet.

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.

You can also **watch a recording** of the service on the website later that day at www.stmarysknighton.co.uk.

Please let Adrian or Matthew know what you think about this new venture and how we might improve the recording.

Last week's Newsletter – an apology

I'm very sorry that last week we disappointed those of you who normally receive your newsletter by post. Unfortunately, the printer broke down and could not be serviced in time to print and mail out the newsletters as we usually do. You'll be glad to know that all is now well, so normal service should now be resumed!

Once again apologies for leaving you news-less.

Adrian

Church Family News: *Grandparents!*

Adrian and Alison are pleased to announce that they are grandparents for the first time! Elizabeth Mawgan Jones (known as Libby) was born to Rose and Claire (our elder daughter) last week. Libby was a healthy 6lbs 13 oz, and all three are doing well. All tips on how to succeed as grandparents gratefully received! A&A

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar: Revd. Adrian Jones 0116 2704268
adrian.jones@zoho.com 07919 262 399

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>

Eco-Tip of the week

Do you know your carbon footprint?

Many different aspects of our lifestyles affect our individual impact on climate change. Working out our carbon footprint is a great way to draw our attention to these factors and can be a good starting point for those who are willing to consider making some changes which will help to reduce their footprint, as we are all challenged to do.



There are a number of tools available for calculating your Carbon Footprint, some of which are rather complicated to say the least!

The Lent Group following the 'Caring for Creation' course found the one from WWF the easiest to use. Why not join them in working out your carbon footprint? footprint.wwf.org.uk

Bishop's urgent appeal for Covid-19 aid in Leicester's Indian link diocese

Bishop Martyn is asking for urgent financial support for our partners in India. We are hoping to help them purchase a new ambulance, oxygen concentrators, a ventilator and other equipment costing a total of £80,000. Details of how to contribute are given below.

The Bishop of our partner diocese, Trichy-Tanjore in the Church of South India (CSI), has written to describe the response of Christians in their region to the Covid-19 crisis which is sweeping India with devastating effect. Cases of infection have been increasing day by day and hospitals are short of beds, oxygen supplies and medication to treat the symptoms of Covid and other infections to which people, weakened by the virus, are falling prey. With the country in lockdown, schools and colleges are shut and people in many places are literally starving for lack of access to food. Regrettably, many church members, including two pastors in the diocese, have died and many more are in hospital receiving treatment.

In spite of all this, the Church is taking lot of effort and organizing relief work in partnership with Bishop Heber College in Trichy. The 'Task Force against Covid 19' works day and night to coordinate information about hospital bed availability, oxygen, food, ambulance services, counselling, prayer support, financial support, plasma availability and support for funerals. There has been a good response from the community for which they are very grateful to God.....

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The Diocese has come forward to open food counters in each local church where food packets are kept at the entrance of the

church for people who are hungry and needy to take. Facilities at the two CSI Mission Hospitals in the Diocese, in Trichy and Dharapuram have been dedicated for the treatment of Covid Patients and work is in hand to increase the number of beds available.

If you are able to make a contribution, however large or small, please send it to the following account:

Barclays Bank plc

Sort code: 20-49-37

Account number: 90577103

Account name: Leicester Diocesan Board of Finance

Please use the reference: 'Trichy Appeal'

Cheques can be sent for the attention of Jim Pullen at St Martins House, 7 Peacock Lane, Leicester, LE1 1SY. Please make your cheque payable to 'Leicester Diocesan Board of Finance' and write on the back 'Trichy Appeal'.

Meanwhile, please remember the people of India, especially our partners in Trichy, in your prayers.

Update on Christian Aid week

For Christian Aid week a 'drop off' collection was done in Holbrook Rd, Knighton Church Road and South Knighton Rd which raised £260. Many thanks to those who assisted with this, as well as to everyone who has donated so far. If you haven't yet donated and would like to do so, the E-envelope will remain open until 30th June and can be found at: [e-envelope | Christian Aid Week](#)

Open Hands donations

As a church we have supported this excellent cause with food donations for a number of years. Did you know that you can now donate to Open Hands at the Co-Op on London Rd or Asda Oadby? The items which are most needed/not needed can be seen on the chart. **Thank you.**

