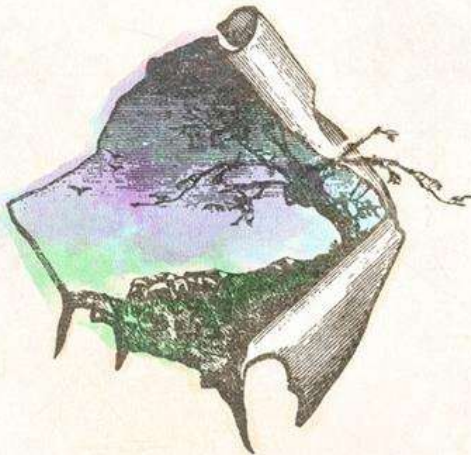


ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



Behold, the days are coming, declares the
LORD, when I will raise up for David a

**RIGHTEOUS
BRANCH,**

and he shall reign as king and deal
wisely, and shall execute justice and
righteousness in the land.

JEREMIAH 23:5

Faithlife
BIBLES/NEW/2000
Copyright 2017

Sunday 18 July 2021
Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Holidays Beginning 12th July, Adrian and Matthew will both be away on family holidays. Therefore, please contact the Wardens for general enquiries and questions, and the Revd Canon Stephen Foster or the Revd Janet Gasper for pastoral matters (contact details towards the back of the newsletter).

EUCHARIST BOOKING SYSTEM

Sunday 11TH July 10:30am

This Sunday 18th July at 10.30am, Revd Janet Gasper will be presiding and preaching at the Eucharist service.

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.

Important Update: Although the Government has said there will be no restrictions on communal worship after 19th July, there will be some strong advice in place that our PCC must take time to consider. There will also be revised guidance from the national Church of England at some point, and again we will need to talk this through in detail. The Bishop of London has urged a cautious approach to change by our churches. **Therefore, at the moment, we intend to keep our Sunday arrangements as they are, including for Sunday 25th July.** As soon as we can clarify the way ahead we will, of course, let you know! *Adrian*

Collect & Readings for the Seventh Sunday after Trinity

The Collect

Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
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: Jeremiah 23.1-6

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'

Psalm 23

Second reading: Ephesians 2.11-22

Gospel reading: Mark 6.30-34,53-56

The apostles returned from their mission. ³⁰They gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹He said to them, 'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³²And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

⁵³When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. ⁵⁴When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, ⁵⁵and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the market-places, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

Reflection for July 18th : The Prophet Jeremiah

Rev Janet Gasper

When I was teaching RE my Year 8 Group decided to present their work on the Prophets in Assembly. This is how we began:-

Compere: Ladies and Gentlemen, today you may have thought that this was going to be an ordinary assembly with hymns and prayers, but you are mistaken. Today we are looking at the life of a well-known man of the past. Today JEREMIAH - THIS IS YOUR LIFE.

A rather embarrassed Jeremiah entered and took his seat.

Compere: Jeremiah, you were born in 650 BC in a village north west of Jerusalem, son of a priest, you grew up in a home where faith in God was important.

Off Stage: Hi Jeremiah. I haven't seen you for ages. Do you remember how we used to go for walks together in the wilderness?

Compere; Yes it's your sister Deborah.. Tell us about Jeremiah as a boy.

Deborah: Well we lived in such a remote place and it was either blazing hot or freezing cold. Jeremiah was quiet and serious and very shy. I was so surprised when he said he had felt God calling him to be a prophet. I think it took a while for him to be sure, but one day he just left the family and the next day he was preaching in Jerusalem.

Deborah and Jeremiah embrace.

The next guest was a man who had heard Jeremiah preach in the Temple in Jerusalem and had been "scared stiff". He heard Jeremiah describe how the people were taking advantage of widows and orphans, killing innocent people, worshipping other gods and disobeying the true God. Jeremiah said the people

must change, stop being selfish or the whole nation would be punished.

Jeremiah's secretary Baruch was another guest. He had taken a scroll with Jeremiah's message written out on it to the Palace and read out Jeremiah's words to the King. The King threw the scroll piece by piece into the fire but Jeremiah dictated his message to Baruch once again and they kept up the pressure.

Jeremiah served under 4 kings .Ebed Melech was a servant to the last one King Zedekiah. Ebed came as a guest to tell what happened when Jeremiah asked yet another king to change his ways and the ways of the people, to turn back to God and do what is right. Zedekiah had Jeremiah thrown into a deep well and left to die. Ebed was directed by God to rescue Jeremiah and Ebed made ropes out of his dirty laundry and got Jeremiah out of the well.

Finally came a guest who had been taken into exile in Babylon after the defeat Jeremiah had predicted. This person spoke of a letter Jeremiah had written to the exiles telling them God's message to them now.

"I will make a new Covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah. I will put my law within them and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people ".

Homily

Rev Canon Dr Stephen Foster

Jesus says to his disciples...

Jesus says to us...

'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves...'

And I thought retirement might be less hectic...the days less full...with lots and lots of free time.

When folk from time to time say to me that in retirement they 'don't know how they found time to go to work'...I used to think it was a bit far fetched...but it really is true!

'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves...'

It seems to me that lives these days, despite all the electronic time saving devices and methods of 'make your life easier' available, we can still find ourselves chasing our own tails whether we work full time, part time, or are retired.

'Come away to a desert place all by yourselves...'

In my own retirement, I have had to try really hard to carve out a time to find my desert, my 'eremo' in Greek, my 'alone with God' place...my Poustinia as the Russian Orthodox call it, with me the Poustinik, the desert dweller.

'Come away to a desert place all by yourselves...'

Having fought to find a daily time... having found a quiet place I might call my desert, I still have to direct my mind and heart to encounter the One who asks me to encounter him, who invites me to go to my desert in order to find him.

'Come away to a desert place all by yourselves...'

Like Jesus in the Gospel story for today, where other people and their demands compromise his solitude, there are often so many other things which distract my own mind...usually something around how I am going to fit everything in before the day ends, what I have got to do when I leave my desert, my eremo, my poustinia.

'Come away to a desert place all by yourselves...'

I find it really hard sometimes to be 'all by myself' as the Lord asks...there are often so many other things crowding in.

To help me concentrate, an icon of Our Lady helps, a lighted candle helps, repeating a 'holy phrase' helps, a holding cross helps...the regularity of time and place helps.

To create a desert environment where mind and heart can be quietened, and where attention can be focused on listening to the Lord...that is the challenge.

'Come away to a desert place all by yourselves...'

But the challenge is so worthwhile. To be a Poustinik in your

own Poustinia gives the Lord an opportunity to speak to your very soul.

As a result, just sometimes we feel we are 'bathing in the sunshine of God.' Sometimes we feel nothing at all. But if I don't spend that time in my own desert, I know there is something missing in my day whether that day is busy or not.

'Come away to a desert place all by yourselves...'

After a while the desert environment we create externally becomes internal. The room, the time set aside, the solid aides become secondary. But they help to direct our concentration inside to our very souls where Christ dwells and most assuredly meets us.

Alongside our corporate times of prayer and worship, our spiritual journey, our spiritual growth, our becoming more like the Lord we worship, is vivified and deepened by our time spent daily listening to him in our internal poustinia, our soul, our own internal desert place.

So, it is at least partly as simple as this...accept our Lord's invitation...

'Come away to a desert place all by yourselves...'

PRAYERS

Personal

But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to the Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you' (*Matthew 6:6*)

Nation and World

O most merciful Father, we come together to pray for the eventual winning of the battle to defeat the Covid-19 virus which is still spreading throughout the world. We pray especially for the people of South America and Africa who have not been so fortunate to receive the vast amounts of vaccine that the Western nations have had. Lord grant a quick and satisfactory outcome to the pandemic.

Heavenly father we offer a prayer to you for the people from all nations who will be competing in the Olympic Games in Tokyo. Keep them safe. We pray that the Olympic Spirit will spread beyond the games to all parts of the world.

Church and Community

Lord, we pray for respect and good communication between different Anglican churchmanships and different Christian denominations. We pray for good relations between the major religions of the world, and for all who work in Inter-faith activities.

We thank God for the church and community here in Knighton and for the fellowship that has been shown during the pandemic. We pray that cheerful ' Good mornings' from strangers and people of all faiths and none, as well as the offers of help and friendship will continue now that many of the restrictions are being lifted.

Thank you, Lord, that the church has reached out in so many ways to help us maintain our faith when so many have suffered deeply in mind, body or estate. Some have lost loved ones and many are anxious about loved ones far away. We pray for all who are suffering illness and loss of loved ones. We pray especially for people who are in difficulties coping with the every demands that are put before us. May none within our fellowship feel lonely or unwanted, useless or unloved. Help us to 'love one another as Christ has loved us. '

Weekly prayer for roads in the parish – **Knighton Grange Road**

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.

With thanks to Winifred Thompson, Wendy Bramley and Peter Lakin who have provided this week's prayers while Matthew is away.

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

Funeral of Bob Newell: Following the sad news of Bob's death, I can now tell you that his funeral will be on Thursday 22nd July. At 10am there will be a Service of Committal at Countesthorpe Crematorium, followed by a Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration of Bob's life at 11.30am at St Mary's. Everyone is warmly invited to either or both services.

PIANIST NEEDED

We are looking for someone new to join the team who play the piano at St. Guthlac's services. It is not difficult, just straight forward hymns and a voluntary piece before and after. I know that some of you play the piano quite well enough to help. Please contact Yolanda.
Thank you.

THANKS FROM BRENDA LEE

I want to thank everyone for their kindness during the pandemic and the support and help I was given during my recent move to Lutterworth . Those who patiently did my shopping for months , my friend who spent his lunch hours dismantling my kitchen, others who dealt with my recycling and discarding , hauling to charity shops and the tip , and all the admin. and visits to house agents etc that a house move entails ---- all of these and above all the support of prayer enabled me to stay fairly sane and optimistic . Thank my neighbours and thank especially the Christian community of the Benefice of Knighton.

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 for 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 lecture. Please bring your own drink to have during the question and answer time. Biscuits will be provided.

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 both of these on the BBC iPlayer and Sounds apps.

The benefice live stream service can be found on the St. Mary's Facebook page. **A recording** of the service will be available later that day at **www.stmarysknighton.co.uk**.

The Cathedral's live stream service can be found at **<https://leicestercathedral.org/services/>**

There is also a weekly online service from the Church of England. **<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/church-online/weekly-online-services>**

Online Compline Night Prayer 8pm each Wednesday

All Welcome. Online joining details are:

Join Zoom Meeting

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

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

Meeting ID: 746 767 4408 Passcode: hope

St. Guthlac's services, Sunday at 10.30am

18th July - Eucharist

25th July -Morning Prayer

1st August -Eucharist

8th August -All Age Worship

St Guthlac's and the environment - "why should St Guthlac's bother about the environment"?

The first part of the strategy explains why we as the Christian community of St Guthlac's Church need to act.

As Christians we have a responsibility to care for all of God's creation. Genesis 1 explains that all of creation includes the earth, the seas, the air and all creatures that live in these places and all people. Genesis 1 also says that we were given responsibility and care for the natural world and therefore we must act. We must care for the planet and all that is in it.

Secondly, as Christians we wish to see a world where people exist peacefully with one another. We also want a world where all people and the natural world are respected and are able to live in harmony with each; a world where neither people nor the natural world are exploited.

We are conscious that many people within the St Guthlac community already work actively to tread lightly on the world. We, as the church, want to affirm, encourage and support all the good work and deeds that the whole St Guthlac's community do in protecting God's creation. This can be from simply sharing ideas (like EcoTips), praying for natural world and for all who work to protect it, encouraging people to get involved with their political and civil leaders to drive the changes necessary. We also want to build relationships with other communities or organisations to conserve and protect creation.

We want to work actively as trustees of God's creation to preserve and protect God's creation for future generations, both our young people and generations not yet born.

In the next element we'll look at what this strategy will mean for the church.

If you'd like to know more in the meantime please get in touch at Eco@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk.

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.

Our Diocese is looking back and conducting a safeguarding review.....

We have all heard from the news over recent years about the tragedy of abuse endured by some children, young people and also adults. The Diocese of Leicester, along with the rest of the Church of England, has been conducting a review of church-related cases from the past. This review aims to check that all victims have had the opportunity to speak about their abuse and be heard, and that all cases have been considered in the right way and action taken where needed. The review is nearing its conclusion, but as you'll see from this poster there is still an opportunity for anyone who feels that they suffered from abuse within a church context, to give their views on the response made by the church at the time and since.

If you have any experience of abuse that you feel may not have been reported, recognised or acted on properly, then please do contact the names on the poster. If you would prefer, then get in touch with our parish safeguarding co-ordinators first: Anne Hunt (St Guthlac's) and Cora Paul (St Mary's), or talk to me.

Adrian



Victim and Survivor Invitation for Past Cases Review 2

There is still an open invitation to anyone who wants to make representations about their experience as a victim or survivor of church related abuse in this diocese to contribute to the national Past Cases Review 2 process which is ongoing in 2021. This in relation to the response they received from the Church, however long ago this may have occurred. Contact details below.

Rachael Spiers, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser:

07930 819 279 Rachael.Spiers@LeicesterCofE.org

Peter Holloway, Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser:

07930 887 984 Peter.Holloway@LeicesterCofE.org

Dedicated independent phone line run by the NSPCC:

0800 80 2020

National Church of England Safeguarding Team:

safeguarding@churchofengland.org

There is also always an open invitation to come forward with information or make a new disclosure regarding church-related abuse or a request for support.

You can read more about the Past Cases Review 2 online at:

www.leicester.anglican.org/safeguarding

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>

Please pray for the following, who are starting their curacies in our diocese. They were licensed to parishes as lay workers last week and will be ordained as deacons at Michaelmas (Sunday 3 October). Those being ordained priest will also be ordained at Michaelmas (Saturday 2 October).

- Paul Betts, Wigston
- Kas Brown, St Peter Highfields and St Philip, Leicester
- Luke Dobson, Holy Trinity with St John the Divine, Leicester
- Tom Grant, Market Harborough and the Transfiguration – Little Bowden with Lubenham and Great Bowden
- Stephen March, The Hexagon Benefice
- Charles Ndigirwa, St Christopher, Leicester
- Rhianne O'Rourke, Coalville with Bardonia Hill and Ravenstone
- Steve O'Rourke, Hugglescote with Donington, Ellistown and Snibston
- David Palmer, "Elderberries" Fresh Expressions in Harborough Team
- Liz Piki, Loughborough, All Saints with Holy Trinity
- Manuela Schmuki, Leicester Cathedral
- Ali Simpson-Smith, Emmaus Team (St John the Baptist), Leicester
- Steve Sweet, The Cornerstone Team
- Kate Szejnmann, Holy Apostles, Leicester
- Ben Williams, Oadby Great Glen Team

CLEANERS NEEDED

As the church is opened up we need help with cleaning. The church, toilet and kitchen area need regular cleaning. We hope to have a rota of cleaners. The more people on the rota the less often each person is needed.

Can you help? Please contact Tina if you could help.
churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

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'

Eco-Tip of the week



Meat!

The 3 most impactful things we can do as individuals in the fight against the Climate Emergency are i) eat less meat ii) fly less iii) use green renewable energy for our homes. Other than that, inter-governmental policy and corporate decision making needs to happen. For these three weeks, we will consider each one and the associated mindset as the helpful 'Eco Tip'.

Perhaps part of the problem is how we have divided people almost like species-meat, vegetarian, vegan. People may say, 'I am vegan' etc and when planning a diet outside the home eg a conference, school or hotel may be asked 'are you vegetarian' and the answer then shapes your diet for the duration of the event. Would it be better that wherever possible we opted instead for 'plant based options'. Less familiar language but good for all, if we all eat less meat and dairy. Perhaps if everyone who eats meat or fish, decided to have days without either then that is better than 2% being strict vegan and the rest unthinkingly eating meat.

The problem with meat is the simple efficiencies of producing meat and the associate land mass required to host livestock and grow cereal based food which otherwise be used for human consumption. We lose forests to grow cereal crops for cattle. An Oxford University study published in the journal Climatic Change showed meat eaters being responsible for twice and a half times more CO2 emissions per day than a plant based diet.

So if "all or nothing" does not appeal, how about 'gradual', 'in moderation' with the realisation that plant based food is better for tackling climate emergency, your health and not forgetting animal welfare than the typical meat alternative.