

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



Sunday 1 August 2021
Ninth Sunday after Trinity

COVID SAFETY AT SERVICES AT ST GUTHLAC'S

Although the Government has said there will be no restrictions on communal worship after 19th July, the National Church of England have urged a cautious approach. Therefore we are planning to make limited changes only for the next few weeks.

Masks & social distancing

While face masks and social distancing are not mandatory, we recommend that you use them, unless you have an exemption. Hand sanitiser will be available for you to use as you enter and leave the church.

Booking and contact details

You will not need to book a place beforehand. However we need to have details of who attends. In order to minimise touching of the attendance list, we will have an alphabetic register of people who have regularly been coming to church in the last 2 months as we have contact details for these people. It will be easy and quick for the steward tick these names. People who are not on the list will be asked to give their name and contact details.

Choose where you feel comfortable to sit

The church will be set up with rows at the front of the church and spread out seats at the back. You can choose where you feel most comfortable to sit. You will be **offered cards saying 'Covid Safety, Please do not sit on this chair'**. You can put them on your adjoining chair if you wish to guarantee that others will not sit immediately next to you.



Toilets

Toilets will be open. Please use hand sanitiser before and after entering the toilet.

Singing will be allowed. Please use a mask

Singing will be allowed. The Church of England recommend that precautions should be taken to reduce transmission of the virus by using masks and shortening the duration of an activity like singing. Therefore please wear a mask while singing. If you don't have a mask, please don't sing.

For Eucharist services: The sharing of the bread or blessing

- 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.

Food and drink will not be served after the service in order to protect people who might serve and clear up afterwards. This will be reviewed after a few weeks.

Donations

If you wish to leave a donation, please put it in the small box provided.

When we have all gone, the church building will remain unused for at least 48 hours to eliminate any virus. The church and toilet will be cleaned regularly as normal.

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 Ninth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect

Almighty God,
who sent your Holy Spirit
to be the life and light of your Church:
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
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: Exodus 16.2-4, 9-15

²The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³The Israelites said to them, 'If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.'

⁴Then the LORD said to Moses, 'I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.'

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, 'Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, "Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" ¹⁰And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked towards the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. ¹¹The LORD spoke to Moses and said, ¹²'I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, "At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the

morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.”

¹³In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, ‘What is it?’ For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, ‘It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.’

Psalm 78.23-29

Second reading: Ephesians 4.1-16

Gospel reading: John 6.24-35

²⁴When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were at the place where Jesus had given the bread, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

²⁵When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, ‘Rabbi, when did you come here?’ ²⁶Jesus answered them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.’ ²⁸Then they said to him, ‘What must we do to perform the works of God?’ ²⁹Jesus answered them, ‘This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.’ ³⁰So they said to him, ‘What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?’ ³¹Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, “He gave them bread from heaven to eat.”’ ³²Then Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but

it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' ³⁴They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.'

³⁵Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

Reflection for 9th Sunday after Trinity 2021

Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster

'But to each one of us, grace has been given, as Christ apportioned it.'

There are biblical texts which are quite beautiful...but difficult to understand.

There are some which are quite ordinary...and easy to understand.

There are some which are neither beautiful nor seem to say anything very outstanding.

Well, whoever wrote the above...and it certainly isn't St Paul... there are few marks for beauty and probably the same number for world shattering significance.

Or at first sight, you might think so.

'But to each one of us, grace has been given, as Christ apportioned it.'

The Greek text is actually lovely, and, in terms of meaning, it has a really helpful significance which is easy to miss.

'But to each one of us, grace has been given, as Christ apportioned it.'

The root meaning is that we have each been given a combination of gifts by Jesus which is as unique to us as our DNA. This 'grace' includes the gifts of the Spirit that Paul categorises in 1Corinthians 12, but this grace is so much broader to include gifts which are outside the narrow confines Paul needed to highlight because of what the Church at Corinth was like.

So in reality, we have each been given a combination of gifts peculiar to us to be offered to the Church in the service of Christ.

To reiterate... we are each loved uniquely...we each have been given a different combination of a myriad of gifts...we are each challenged to offer them for use in the Church for the greater glory of Christ.

'But to each one of us, grace has been given, as Christ apportioned it.'

The knock on effect of such a truth can be quite surprising and far reaching.

I joke with other musicians when I say 'I hate tenors!' The humour continues by admitting I always wanted to be one. Sadly, I am not physically made that way. Whilst at ENO and since, I will admit to being really jealous of wonderful singers with that type of voice. What that does of course, is to colour my appreciation of the gifts that Christ has showered upon someone else. And, such jealousy shows a lack of thankfulness for what the Lord has showered on me within the same art.

Secondly, (and I have say, this continually hurts every time I think about it) out of nowhere, my eldest daughter Hannah turned to me, and said,

'Dad, I wish I was clever like you!'

That short rapier like phrase scythed into me in a number of ways.

Firstly, to Hannah the thing at the top of her mind in reflecting on her Dad's gifts was his academic ability.

Very sad.

Secondly, Hannah herself has huge gifts which I had seldom reminded her of...and by the way, she is able to 'do stuff' I could not even think about.

Thirdly, and possibly of most importance... in society, there are things, like academic attainment, which in themselves often seem to determine the worth of the individual. Sadly these things often devalue those wonderful things non academic, non wealthy, non powerful folk can 'bring to the party' in God's own kingdom here on earth.

'But to each one of us, grace has been given, as Christ apportioned it.'

As part of our evangelistic policy, the looking for, the sincere valuing, and the utilising of the gifts of all, honours what the Lord does with each of us, and hopefully teaches society a thing or two as well.

But to each one of us, grace has been given, as Christ apportioned it.'

AMEN.

PRAYERS

Personal

Before we can pray "Thy Kingdom come", we must pray "My kingdom go."

Amish Proverb

Nation and World

We pray for justice and humane for those destitute people suffering the tragedies of climate emergency, conflict and impoverishment who seek refuge in this country. We pray for those risking their lives helping them at sea. We pray for courage and conviction for longer term solutions. We pray for our politicians to seek justice coupled with compassion.

Church and Community

We pray for protection for our most vulnerable citizens as communities and churches relax their safety restrictions. We pray for sufficient food supplies and that we may learn through shortages how to not take God's provisions for granted.

Weekly prayer for roads in the parish – Knighton Rise

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

Sad news of the death of Anne Squires: Many of you will know that Anne Squires began treatment for cancer some time ago now, and has spent the last few months at home as it became evident that the illness was progressing. Sadly Anne died, at home with husband Phil, last Friday, 23rd July. I'm sure that you'll all join with me in sending her family our love and sincere condolences. Anne will be greatly missed at St Mary's and St Guthlac's as a loyal choir member, leading light of the Mothers Union and a very good friend. Please do pray for Phil, their sons, and the whole extended family at this time of loss. Details of Anne's funeral are yet to be finalised.

Adrian

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

1st August -Eucharist

8th August -All Age Worship

15th August -Eucharist

22nd August -Morning Prayer

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 Bardon 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 churchwardens@stguthlack-knighton.co.uk if you could 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'

Eco-Tip of the week



Green Energy

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 mind-set as the helpful 'Eco Tip'.

The efforts to make our homes more energy efficient and use green sources of energy are almost limitless. An easy quick win is to make sure our utility providers for Electricity and Gas generate and provide green energy. Many companies 'green wash' and charge a tariff but not all companies invest in renewable energy or generate their own sources of energy. This is a significant difference. Using wind, solar, wave, micro-generation, ground heat sources, biogas are all possible ways employed by some companies. It may mean paying a little more than the cheapest, though often they match the regional supplier cost. Reviewing energy suppliers for Eco Church, we found the top 3 rated for genuine green credentials are Good Energy, Ecotricity and Bulb. Though do check Which or similar for yourself as customer service is also important. Being practical, Andrew Oldershaw one member of the Eco Task group has offered to donate his recommend a friend reward to your church if you switch. Contact Andrew directly for details. Our own efforts to use less energy are paramount, and in terms of generating our own source, it can prove costly and in the bigger picture, is it worth it? Partly, our efforts are about the moral choices we make, we cannot change the world, but in all our choices, you can make decisions that improve or worsen a situation. At least choosing an genuinely green supplier is a decision that does not require much hassle or investment.