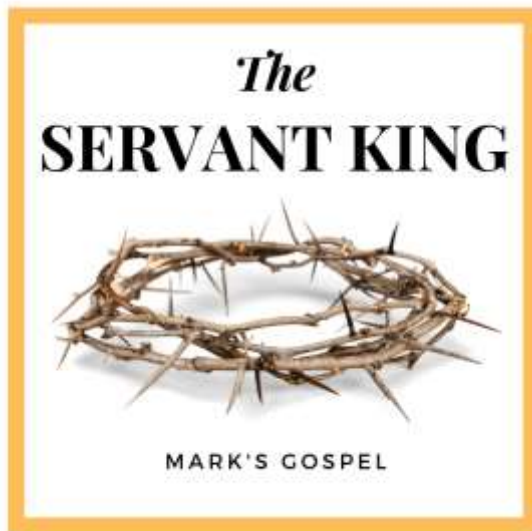


ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



Sunday 17 October 2021
Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 17 October 10:30am

This Sunday Revd Adrian Jones will preside and preach at a service of Holy Communion.

Collect and Readings for the Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect

God, the giver of life,
whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church:
by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ
and make us eager to do your will,
that we may share with the whole creation
the joys of eternal life;
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: Isaiah 53.4-12

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and
afflicted. ⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed
for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us
whole, and by his bruises we are healed. ⁶All we like sheep
have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the
LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. ⁷He was oppressed,
and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb
that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its

shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. ⁸By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. ⁹They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.

¹¹Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹²Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Psalm 91.9-16

Second Reading: Hebrews 5.1-10

Gospel Reading: Mark 10.35-45

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Jesus and said to him, 'Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.' ³⁶And he said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' ³⁷And they said to him, 'Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.' ³⁸But Jesus said to them, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?' ³⁹They replied, 'We are able.' Then Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I drink you will drink;

and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.' ⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, 'You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

Reflection for 20th Sunday after Trinity

Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster

'Grant to us that we may sit...'

As a teenager, a neighbour asked if I would help their son Robert with fractions. Rob and I were good friends, but I know he struggled at his school, and fractions in Maths were his 'bete noire'. He needed Maths and English O Level to join the Police Force.

Every Saturday morning for a number of months I'd pop round and over home made cake and coffee I would try my best to get him to see how fractions worked. I used the same method as he was taught at school, and I started each session reinforcing what we had done the week before. Well, I tried to. I tried to very hard. But it was as if, during the week, someone had entered his 'Maths head' and wiped the slate clean. So often we had to return to square one. I would like to say that eventually the 'penny dropped'...but it didn't. Somehow he managed to do sufficiently well to enter the Police

Force, and much more recently at my own Mother's funeral he reminded me of those heady days of him wrestling with fractions, in all its hopelessness...and me tearing my hair out!
'Grant to us that we may sit...'

Some people just don't get it do they....whatever in life 'it' might be!

The facts, the truth, the 'score on the door' is staring them in the face, but they just can't see it.

'Grant to us that we may sit...'

St Mark has Jesus spending literally half of his Gospel trying to get the disciples to realise who he is. Healings, Nature miracles, exorcisms, confrontations, much teaching with authority...all these they see, yet actually they don't 'see'...and it takes 8 Chapters for 'the penny to drop'. Finally, Peter at Caesarea Philippi blurts out 'You are the Messiah!'

'Grant to us that we may sit...'

Great we think...they are back on track!
But not a bit of it!

Because then, with equal difficulty, Jesus spends the next Chapters trying to teach them what being true disciples means...and they just don't get that either.

'Grant to us that we may sit...'

Peter, after his glorious insight into who Jesus is at Caesarea Philippi then, we will remember gets it all very wrong.

The rich man last week realises that despite all other godly virtues, he is utterly captivated by his wealth and therefore has no room for the Kingdom and discipleship.

Now, the other two of the inner three disciples, James and John, are squabbling about sitting in glory at Jesus' left and right hands in heaven.

'Grant to us that we may sit...'

And all this is set against Jesus' passion predictions which like reinforcement teaching, like clockwork, go back to basics trying to get the disciples to see clearly how his Messiahship actually is, and how discipleship of such a Messiah should really be.

(As an aside, I had to smile at the pictures in last week's newsletter of a camel and needle.

The Greek word Kamelon is most probably a scribal error. The Aramaic word Kamilon with an 'i' rather than an 'e' means 'rope' which makes much more sense with its related difficulty of going through the eye of a needle... an actual Camel makes no sense at all!)

'Grant to us that we may sit...'

Isn't it the case with us, that in so many arenas of our lives, we miss the central point, the blindingly obvious, the 'staring you in the face' issue.

We so often would rather put that aside preferring to hold onto or go after something peripheral, a sideshow, a personal hobby horse.

'Grant to us that we may sit...'

Years ago, when the issue of women priests was tearing the Church of England apart, I was asked at a Diocesan Clergy Summit what I would do if when sitting in Church a woman priest came out of the Vestry to preside....a bit of a naughty question I thought!

I was a bit taken aback, but answered something like...well, if I was on a desert island and the only priest of whatever gender wore a grass skirt and stood on his or her head to say Mass in a language I didn't understand, I would still go to Mass, as that is what Jesus asks me to do!

'Grant to us that we may sit...'

The peripheries can so often get in the way of our faithful witness. There are so many reasons we think that are so important that the prime commands of Loving God and our neighbour become secondary, sidelined, subordinate.

What are those things in our thinking...in our lives which are peripheral to our faithful witness; the secondary things which we need to set aside in favour of a more central, a more faithful witness as disciples of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

Grant to us that we may sit...

AMEN

PRAYERS

But now these three remain: faith, hope and love. (1 Corinthians 13)

May we find faith in our relations with others and God's natural world pointing to Him as creator.

May our hope in Christ be magnified and our hope in the resurrection to come. Death is defeated and we claim the identity as Christ's body, the church of which the promise is made that the gates of death will not prevail against the movement of the church-Christ's body. Help give us the courage and vision to move in life giving ways which conquer death daily. When we see as with spiritual eyes we may discern the choices and life giving ways countering the ways of the world which may diminish our humanity.

but the greatest of these is love...

When we find it hardest to love may we lean in and call on God to help us.

Weekly prayer for roads in the parish – **Shirley Avenue.**

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

St. Guthlac's Services, Sunday at 10.30am

24 th October	Matins	David Hunt
31 st October	Joint service at St. Mary's with Bishop Martyn	
7 th November	Eucharist	Revd Canon Dr S Foster
14 th November	Service of Remembrance	F Wingate

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

Advance Notice: Bishop Martyn's visit to Knighton

I'm very pleased to say that Bishop Martyn has accepted an invitation to join us in Knighton and to preside at a joint service for the Benefice, at St Mary's on Sunday 31st October at 10.30am. We will mark All Saints, give thanks for the successful completion of the St Mary's InSpired Appeal, and the Bishop will celebrate the Eucharist with us. I do hope that you will join us for this special occasion - as this is a benefice service for both parishes, there won't be another service at St Guthlac's on this Sunday. Adrian

The changing face of parish ministry: *Leicester Diocesan Synod votes in favour of a Minster Communities framework*

Following widespread discussions and the Shaped by God Together consultation, the Diocesan Synod has now voted in favour of a “**Minster Communities**” framework as the future shape of parish ministry across Leicester and Leicestershire. A Minster Community will be a group of parishes who work together in mission without losing their individual identity, and who work alongside their church schools, fresh expressions of Church, and chaplaincies.

It is envisaged that there will be parishes will be up to 25 Minister Communities within the diocese, each with a leadership team of at least four paid positions. Each team will be led by an ordained Oversight Minister, and will include a ‘Growing Faith’ focussed minister (lay or ordained) whose role will be to increase the number of children and young people within the life of our churches.

The framework was overwhelmingly supported (72%) by Synod members and it is intended that it will gradually be brought into place by 2026, after careful and detailed local conversations between parishes, schools and fresh expressions. These discussions will be supported by a diocesan staff Transition Team, and agreement will be sought across all parties about finance, buildings, and leadership.

The Bishop of Leicester, the Rt Revd Martyn Snow said that the comments made by Synod members during the debate, and concerns raised, would all be addressed and taken into account as the framework is worked out over the next few years.

Bishop Martyn said: “Nothing is going to change overnight and everything will be done in discussion with parishes. Every PCC,

school governing body and fresh expression will be involved. Each will decide for itself how they engage with this.” A special video message about Minster Communities has been recorded by the Bishop and can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Au-gOAYPK9Y&t=6s>

Adrian's observation : Thank you for all your prayers about this important decision. Here in Knighton, we will not know for some months, at least, any details about how this shift to Minster Communities will change things for us. Undoubtedly though, our benefice will be joining other parishes in a wider team, and working together is always a good thing! In the meantime, our worshipping life, all we do to build up and encourage each other in following the way of Jesus, and all our efforts to share our faith with our neighbours, will continue!

Greetings from distant friends who benefit richly from your love, concern and care.

The mobile clinic in Northern Malawi continues its vital work through the generosity of people like you. Thank you and thank you for your sustained awareness, support and enduring commitment. You are changing lives and you are saving lives.

This year we have carried out 12 clinic visits so far April - September. There were no visits from January to March because of severe rains and flooded rivers. The visit to the village of Chamalala involves crossing the Dwangwa River which is impossible when it is flooded and dirt roads become seas of mud in the rainy season.

However, the team of six made four visits to Mfula between May and August and two to Chamalala once the river had gone down. Over those visits 1,220 were treated at Mfula and 463 at Chamalala. These are the winter months in Malawi. Top of the list of illnesses treated were respiratory infections though malaria didn't lose its hold together with gastrointestinal complaints. Scabies, which is probably a rarity in this country, is not an uncommon affliction. COVID has impacted the team though the incidence of cases is falling. Sadly, one of the team succumbed to the virus and died earlier this year.

These figures leave me in no doubt as to the importance of this good work. Together we are able to support these remote rural villages and help raise the whole quality of their lives. Above all they know they are not forgotten. Indeed cherished and cared for.

Just this week I have received the budget for the next six visits, a grand total of over £2,800 - £1.67 per patient. Amazingly good value I think.

God bless you, your families, St Guthlac's Church and give you all good health.

Thank you again and stay safe.

Bishop Christopher

October 2021

Michaelmas Ordinations in Leicester



Many congratulations to all those ordained as deacon or priest recently in our diocese. Our particular good wishes go to Ali Simpson-Smith, one-time youth worker with the Edge Project which was part of our Mission Partnership. Ali was based at St Christopher's, Saffron Lane and worked with our own Alison Roche. Ali is serving her curacy at St John the Baptist in Clarendon Park.

Eco-Tip of the week

Choosing ethical flowers by post

Many of us love to send flowers to friends and family by post to celebrate special occasions. If you would like to ensure that the company you choose is as environmentally friendly and ethical as possible, you may not know how to start comparing the credentials of different providers.



Help is at hand! The Good Shopping Guide has done the work for you. Two companies have been awarded Ethical Accreditation from the Good Shopping Guide: **Arena Flowers** and **Bloom**, with Arena coming out on top with a slightly higher score. Companies are scored on an array of factors including ethical sourcing of flowers, environmental impact (energy use, packaging and recycling policy).



What is Climate Sunday?

The Climate Sunday initiative is calling on all local churches across Great Britain & Ireland to hold a climate-focused service on any Sunday before COP26 (November 2021). So far over 1,000 churches have joined in.

The collective action and commitments from local churches across Great Britain & Ireland was presented to UK Government at a Nations' Climate Sunday Service in Glasgow on Sunday 5th September 2021.

We thought it would be good to join in, so we have registered St Guthlac's with Climate Sunday which complements our Creationtide services throughout September.

Thank you! Clare G and EcoTeam.

Ahead of COP26 meeting in Glasgow (Oct-Nov 2021) could we as a community pray this prayer from Christian Aid.

God of hope,

We pray for world leaders attending COP26. Bless them with wisdom, creativity and a shared vision of hope for all creation. May they find the determination to take strong action to halt the destructive effects of climate change and the political will to act together for the common good. Amen



More resources and information:

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/pray/prayer-chain>

CONTACT DETAILS

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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>

You're invited to a Garden(ing) Party at St Guthlac's on Saturday 30th October from 14:30 till 16:30. Please bring yourselves, your garden tools, your boots, your gloves, your enthusiasm and your mug. We're looking to get the garden ready for winter and looking its best to welcome people for Remembrance Sunday. We would really appreciate if you'd join in. There'll be time for refreshment so please do bring your own mug. Fiona

Introducing *Cecilia Adjadje*

I'm really very pleased to tell you that we have a new face among our congregations! Cecilia is an ordinand (that is, she is training for the ordained ministry), studying over two years with St Mellitus College, and on placement with us in the benefice for two days a week. This means you can expect to see her taking part in services on Sundays, and in all sorts of other places within our church life together.

Cecilia lives locally, is married to Peter, and they have three children; Esther, David and Daniel. Originally they are from Nigeria, and they made their home in Leicester some years ago. Please do welcome them all warmly!

Adrian

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%.

The World's Favourite Bible



The remarkable story of the
King James Version

A special lecture by

Professor Gordon Campbell

FBA, DPhil, DLitt

7.30pm Monday 25 October 2021

St Mary Magdalen Church

Brinsmead Road, Leicester LE2 3WG

Tickets £5 – book via Eventbrite at
kingjamesbible.eventbrite.co.uk

Additional donations gratefully received on the day

Supporting the campaign to restore the spire of the Church

A complimentary glass of wine or fruit juice will be served after the
lecture

Gordon Campbell, Emeritus Professor and Fellow in Renaissance Studies at the University of Leicester, is an entertaining speaker and an exceptionally distinguished scholar with wide-ranging interests. For the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible in 2011 he published a monograph on the Bible and an edition of the 1611 text. His other extensive publications have included the works of John Milton, a history of gardens, classical art and architecture, and the alleged foundation of America by the Vikings.



Fauré REQUIEM

Would you like to sing with the Knighton Parish Singers for a performance of the Requiem by Gabriel Faure?

Rehearsals for this performance begin on Wednesday 22nd September at 8.00pm in St Mary's.

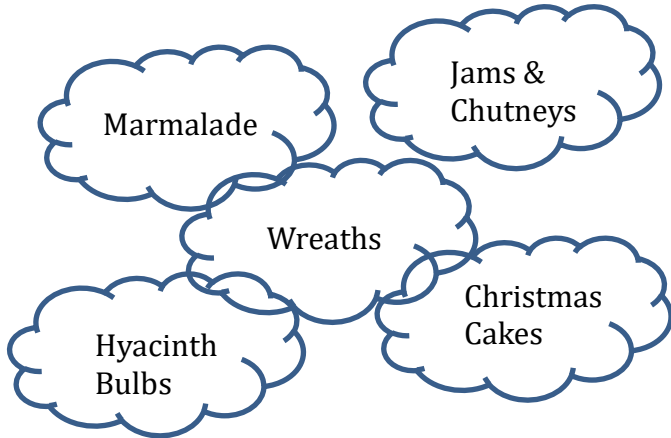
You would be more than welcome to join the choir for this performance.

The performance will be on Wednesday 24th November.

Further information from Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster.

Looking forward to seeing you next Wednesday.

St Guthlac's Virtual Christmas Fayre Home-made Christmas Gifts



St Guthlac's are holding another virtual Fayre this year and we are pleased to be able to offer some of our popular makes and bakes. We will also be having a raffle in aid of Malawi.

If you can help with making jams, chutneys or Christmas wreaths please contact Tina. Thank you.
churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

The catalogue will be available soon with orders being taken from November 1st.

Methods of payment and receipt of goods are detailed on the catalogue. Completed orders will be available from December 11th.