

# ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac  
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2022**  
**The Third Sunday of Epiphany**

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

This Sunday Revd Adrian Jones will be leading a service of Morning Prayer. Church Club will be taking place in Holbrook Hall.

### **Sundays in January and February: “*Women of the Bible*”**

As we move from Epiphany towards Lent some of our 10.30am Sunday morning services are going to look more closely at some of the women of the Bible -often overlooked or under-appreciated.

Each time we will hear what the Bible says about one individual, and listen to a sermon that unpacks what we can learn for our own Christian lives today from the story and example of this specific woman; examples include Anna, Phoebe and Miriam.

All the members of our Ministry Team will contribute, and no doubt the different perspectives will be both interesting and inspiring.

During February we will also have the opportunity to hear about a recent report presented to our Diocesan Synod, called “*Women: the state of play*”. The report explores how women’s ministry has been received and appreciated in the Diocese of Leicester over recent years, and has some challenging conclusions for us all. In discussion together, we may begin to see some ways our own attitudes or approaches might need to change.

I’m sure that every Sunday will offer something valuable, so please do take this chance to fill in some gaps in our appreciation of all God’s (Bible) people!

*Adrian*

## ***Words approved by God - our Bible Readings:***

As the eyes of a servant  
watch the hands of her mistress,  
so our eyes look for favour to you, O God. Psalm 123.2

You have spread a table...  
You have spread a table before me  
In the presence of my enemies. Psalm 23.5

Hear how wisdom calls  
and understanding lifts her voice.  
She takes her stand at the crossways. Proverbs 8.1

Can a woman forget the infant at her breast,  
or the mother the child of her womb?  
Even if these forget,  
I shall never forget you. Isaiah 49.15

Shall I bring to the point of birth and not deliver?  
says the Lord.  
Shall I who open the womb, close it again? Isaiah 66.9

As a mother comforts her son...  
As a mother comforts her son,  
so shall I comfort you. Isaiah 66.13

How often have I longed  
to gather your children like a hen...  
like a hen gathers her brood under her wings. Luke 13.34b

## **The Collect & readings for the Third Sunday of Epiphany**

### **The Collect**

Almighty God,  
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles  
the wonder of your saving presence:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness  
sustain us by your mighty power;  
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: Nehemiah 8.1-3,5-6,8-10**

### **Psalm: 19**

### **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12.12-31a**

The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. For we were all baptised by one Spirit into one body – whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free – and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” On the contrary, those

parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honourable we treat with special honour. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honour to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it.

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But eagerly desire the greater gifts.

### **Gospel reading: Luke 4.14-21**

<sup>14</sup>Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup>He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

<sup>16</sup>When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup>'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, <sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'  
<sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

## **PRAYERS**

As we draw to end of the Week for Christian Unity-we pray the prayer that we prayed in Knighton this week, which was also prayed around the country and the world (See our Churches of Britain and Ireland site for more information

<https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2022/> )...

Good Shepherd, the fragmentation of your 'little flock' grieves the Holy Spirit. Forgive our weak efforts and slowness in the pursuit of your will. Give us wise shepherds after your own heart who recognise the sin of division, and those who will lead the churches with righteousness and holiness, to unity in you. We ask you, Lord, to hear our prayer. Amen.

Weekly prayer for roads in the parish – **Allandale 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.

*For further prayer requests which can be included in the weekly prayer list or anonymized and prayed for in private, please contact Matthew [revgough@gmail.com](mailto:revgough@gmail.com) or Jane [administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk](mailto:administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk)*

## **St. Guthlac's Services**

### **Sunday at 10.30am**

30<sup>th</sup> January                  Eucharist                  Revd Matthew Gough

6<sup>th</sup> February                  Eucharist                  Revd Janet Gasper

13<sup>th</sup> February                  All Age Worship

20<sup>th</sup> February                  Eucharist                  Revd Janet Gasper

**Every Thursday 9.30am                  Holy Communion**

### **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

**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, Planned Giving Scheme Secretary:  
[churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk](mailto:churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk).

If you are a taxpayer and gift aid your giving, our church can claim an additional 25%.

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# Shaped by God Together - update

## SBGT JOURNEY TO MINSTER COMMUNITIES



In October 2021 our diocesan Synod agreed the new minster communities framework for our diocese. This is a journey that we will all take and by 2026 we hope that new framework will be fully implemented across the diocese. But this will happen differently for each area and context, all with support from the diocese.



There are three main 'stages' to this journey and the formal creation and move into a minster community is only one part.

**Stage One** – We are asking communities to think and pray about where God has placed you. Think about what you can offer to and gain from a Minster Community. Alongside this continue to promote vocations, work with schools and children and young people and partner with others locally.

**Stage Two** – this is the formal part of the process in which your Minster Community will form.

**Stage Three** – Now you are in your new Minster Community you can continue your conversations and start working together.

These three stages will happen at different points for different parishes and communities.

For some, particularly those in the pilot areas, they will be

entering stage two fairly early in 2022

giving them more time in stage three. For others stage one will be their focus until implementation of their minster community can take place.

But we are all on this same trajectory, all following the same journey of change. Shaped By God, together



**Shaped by God Together - update.** *Adrian writes:* "This update, and the diagram opposite, describe the next stages in the Shaped by God Together process that will change how all local churches in the Diocese of Leicester are grouped together in coming years, as 'Minster Communities'. You will see that nothing is planned quickly for most churches in 2022, while the pilot projects get underway. It'll be the autumn before we have any indication of proposals for St Guthlac and St Mary Magdalen. In the meantime we are all encouraged to look for ways in which we can work more closely with all our neighbouring churches."

**Intercessors: Can you help?** We currently only have a few intercessors for Sunday services.

Intercessors can read pre-prepared prayers from a published book or make up their own prayers. New intercessors will be given help and support. If we have a full complement of intercessors, each person would read the prayers once every two or three months.

Is this something you could do to help the church? If so please chat to Tina about it or email her.

***'We Saw His Star in the East...'***

United Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on Sunday 23rd January at 6.30pm at St John the Baptist Church, 4a Clarendon Park Rd, LE2 3AD

## **Looking ahead – *Adrian's forthcoming 'Extended Study Leave'***

I'm pleased to say that Bishop Martyn has given me his permission for a period of Extended Study Leave (or 'Sabbatical' as it used to be called) in 2022, between 25th April and 25th July.

This will give me a break from normal parish responsibilities for a while, and the opportunity to reflect, read, research and come back renewed! Please don't imagine that it's a sign I'm leaving... quite the opposite in fact! - I'm hoping that this time will give me lots of ideas and material to use back in our churches to refresh our worshipping life for a long time to come.

During my extended study leave I'll be looking at ways in which spirituality and discipleship 'on the margins' can nurture and support the life of Christian communities in more 'mainstream' urban and suburban areas. They're should be lots for me to tell you about, and plenty of ideas to try.

On a practical note, although I'll still be at home with the family in the vicarage most of the time, the aim is to break from normal parish responsibilities such as visiting, taking services, and being part of meeting. Thankfully, Matthew will be able to pick up the reins, with assistance from the other members of the Ministry Team, during this time.

I've discussed my Study Leave with both PCCs in the benefice and I'm grateful for their support. As you would imagine, we will plan carefully to ensure that all aspects of church life are maintained while I'm on my sabbatical.

Although we've some time to go yet, do please ask me any questions you may have about what I'll be doing, or about the arrangements for the churches here.

*Adrian*

**Looking ahead - your next step in Christian faith?** You may be thinking about how to take the next step forward in your Christian faith. If you are not already baptised then please do talk to Adrian about this important marker of commitment and God's grace. Our next service of baptism in the benefice will be at St Mary's will be on Sunday 6th February 2022. If you are baptised but not yet confirmed, then, again, please talk to Adrian or Matthew about the significance of receiving God's blessing through this special service.

### **Looking ahead – baptism on 6<sup>th</sup> February**

Congratulations and best wishes to our own Skye and Derry Roche who have both asked to be baptised in our All Age Worship at St Mary's on 6<sup>th</sup> February. It would be lovely to have friends from our church family with them for this special time, so do please join us if you can!

*Adrian & Alison*

### **Auntie's Birth: 100 Years of British Broadcasting – by Paul Kerensa | Leicester Comedy Festival**

**Thursday 3rd Feb 7.30 pm**

The First Broadcast: The Battle for the Beeb in 1922. A one-man play written and performed by Paul Kerensa British Comedy Award-winning writer (Miranda, Not Going Out, TFI Friday).

100 years ago: Two rival voices in The Marconi Company unite art and science to create British broadcasting.

Book via the Comedy festival website:

<https://comedy-festival.co.uk/event/aunties-birth-100-years-of-british-broadcasting-by-paul-kerensa/>

## CONTACT DETAILS

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

**Assistant Curate: Revd Matthew Gough**  
revgough@gmail.com      07754 961997

**Revd Aphro McCullough**

**Revd Janet Gasper**

**Reader: Fiona Wingate**

**Ordinand: Cecilia Adjadje**

**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 Jan 6<sup>th</sup>** to  
[administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk](mailto:administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk)

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