

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



Sunday 18th December 2022
Fourth Sunday of Advent

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This Sunday Revd Adrian Jones will be presiding and preaching at a service of Holy Communion, at 10.30am.

The Collect & Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Collect

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 7.10-16; **Psalm 80.1-8, 18-20**

Second Reading: Romans 1.1-7

Gospel Reading: Matthew 1.18-25

PRAYERS

Praying for the World: Please pray for the protection of Christians around the world, and in particular for those who live in places where they are persecuted or experience hardship because of their faith. Pray that, in this season of Advent and Christmas, they will be strengthened by the Holy Spirit and that fear will be banished by hope, peace, love and joy. Pray that they will be encouraged by knowing they are part of one global Christian family.

Praying for the Church: Please pray that all Christians would be renewed in their faith this Christmas time - that they may have their joy at the birth of our Saviour rekindled, and that it would inspire them to follow more closely in his Way through the coming year.

Praying for those in need: Please pray for all those who are in need at the moment, those who are unwell in body, mind or spirit, and those who are anxious and worried.

Also, give thanks for those who are recovering and who have found God's peace.

Please remember those who have died recently and pray for their families and friends. We also remember all those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

Weekly prayer for roads in the parish – **Toller Road**

For further prayer requests which can be included in the weekly prayer list or anonymized and prayed for in private, please contact Revd Adrian adrian.jones@zoho.com or Jane administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

Blessing your donations & the Collection Plate

Now many people do planned-giving through their direct debit, it seems inappropriate to hand the collection plate round during a service. The collection plate now will be at the back of the church.

Please leave your donation as you come into the service. A steward or member of the congregation will take up the plate to the altar for all donations to be blessed during the 3rd / offertory hymn or at a suitable point in non-Eucharist services.

St. Guthlac's Services

Sunday at 10.30am

25 th Dec	Eucharist	Revd Jon Barrett
1 st Jan	Benefice Eucharist service at St. Guthlac's	
8 th Jan	All Age Worship	Tina Jarvis & Jean Gabbar
15 th Jan	Eucharist	

Every Thursday at 9.30am Holy Communion

There is no service on Thursday 29th December.

Advent Meditations: *Do not be Afraid*

Tuesdays at 7.30pm to be held in the main body of the church.

29 th Nov	HOPE	6 th Dec:	PEACE
13 th Dec:	JOY	20 th Dec:	LOVE

The meditations give time to pause and be with God through readings, music, pictures, prayers and some silence (45min - 1 hour)

Virtual Compline 8.00pm Wednesday evenings

There is an online Compline every Wednesday 8.00 pm, **all are welcome**. You can also join using a phone. You can join the meeting from 7.50 pm.

On the computer click: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81118183080>

On the phone dial: 0203 481 5240 and follow the instructions.

You will be asked for a meeting ID. Put **811 1818 3080** followed by #

There will be no Compline on Wednesday 21st December as there is a service of Nine Lessons and Carols at St Guthlac's. The next Compline service will be Wednesday 28th December.

NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS Wednesday 21st December 7.30pm at St. Guthlac's. Take part in a joyful service celebrating the good news of Jesus' birth, told through bible readings, poems and carols.

Advance Notice: On **Sunday 1st January** we will be having a joint Eucharist service for the benefice, here at St Guthlac's at the usual time of 10.30am, with the Revd Arthur Deegan presiding. Please also note that there will be **no Thursday Communion service on 29th December.** *Adrian*

CHRISTMAS FAYRE A big thank you to all who helped at or supported the Christmas Fayre. We raised over **£1,650** for church funds and in addition, **£367** for the mobile health clinic in Malawi, a wonderful result. There are still a few things left for sale in the welcome area.

Many congratulations and best wishes to the Revd Janet Gasper, who celebrated 25 years of her ordination to the priesthood last week.

Make your Christmas Greetings go further. As in previous years, members of the congregation may like to make a donation to Bishop Christopher's Malawi charity instead of exchanging Christmas cards with one another. A large card for everyone to sign is in the welcome area together with a box for donations. Thank you.

Caring for each other at church during infectious times-UPDATE

Our Worship Committee, on behalf of the PCC, continue to discuss the precautions we should take at St Guthlac's. We would urge everyone to continue thinking about the best ways to ensure that illnesses are not spread at church, for instance staying at home if you feel unwell. Please also continue to be understanding of those people whose response to the hazards of the virus is different to your own.

Following a successful trial at our midweek Communion, we will now be offering the wine as well as the bread to everyone at Sunday morning Eucharists - if you would like to take it. "Simultaneous Communion" means that the priest will take each wafer one at a time and dip the edge into the chalice of wine, before placing it in the Communicants hands as usual. This allows for the sharing of wine from a Common Cup, but without the hazards of each person actually using the Cup themselves.

The priests officiating at Communion will sanitise their hands before taking the bread and wine to the congregation. They will not wear a mask as they now mix normally at all other times.

The Wardens and I would be very pleased to have your feedback on this way of receiving, so do please let us know what you think when you've tried it out a few times.

Thank you for your understanding and co-operation with these changes and precautions – this way we can remain both safe and welcoming!

Adrian & Churchwardens

As you plan for Christmas, please consider supporting the Just shop when looking for presents, treats and decorations.



Just aims...

...to get people excited by fair trade ethical and sustainable living. To know the real difference it makes to disadvantaged communities all over the world.

...to sell the best range of fair trade ethical and sustainable products, making enough profit so we can grow and do things that benefit our producers in the less developed countries of the world.

...to value the people of the Just community so they feel actively involved, encouraged and supported to play their full part in the work of Just.

36, Silver Street

St Martin's Square

LE1 5ET



Holbrook Oasis
at St. Guthlac's Church,
Wednesdays 1.30-3.30pm

Companionship, Conversation, Refreshment, Relaxation
Open to all, especially young families, people living alone, older persons and if you are new to Leicester. Tea, coffee and cakes provided. Email; churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

Mince pie tasting at Oasis on 21st Dec 1.30-3.30

Please come along and join us for mince pie tasting at the last Oasis session of the year. We will be sampling various versions and seeing which comes out on top. The more the merrier!

PLANNED GIVING SCHEME Regular giving is an integral part of our

Use your phone to scan the QR
Code below and make a donation
towards the work of St. Guthlac's
Church. Thank you.



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

CONTACT DETAILS

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Revd Janet Gasper

Reader: Fiona Wingate

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FOR THE NEWSLETTER Please send material to be included in the next newsletter by noon next 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**](https://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk)

Newsletters on Line

Both St Guthlac's and St Mary's current and backdated newsletters are available online.

St Guthlac's <https://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk>

St Mary's <https://www.stmarysknighton.co.uk>

Update on Malawi from Bishop Christopher

Recently, I had a message from Malawi that they have had an outbreak of cholera. I have been exchanging messages with our medical team and the diocese. I've been impressed with what has been happening. The Diocese has built three boreholes in and around the infected areas; the third will be completed soon. Access to clean safe water is essential if cholera is to be eradicated

Our Team Medical Leader, Dr John Chipolombwe, has been talking with the District Health Officers for Chamalala (Kasungu) and Mfula (North and South Mzimba). He tells me that help from the UN has given funds for vaccinations, chlorine (means to purify water) all of which I had mentioned to him. So this is excellent news. More importantly, and the most significant intervention, is to have access to clean safe water - as I've said - but also the building of latrines to stop the frequent and dangerous practice of open defecation. Currently, what they lack to move this programme on - the education on how to prevent cholera - is funds for the sensitisation campaign and chlorination of water points

In consultation with the local health districts Dr Chipolombwe has sent me a budget to help launch this programme: £800. It sounds a large sum of money. I think this is about 50% of what might be required but it is all he has asked for. The programme will involve almost 100 personnel. It consists of a mixture of invited guests (e.g Village Headman, Headteachers and others); it is a way of getting the villagers there. Also performers. Drama is a big part of getting the message across as well as support staff all who need feeding and allowances. Included in this is the cost for a meeting tent and amplification hire.

I'm confident we can raise this and I'm very keen to do so. The impact will be significant for 1,000s of people and a swathe of the Northern Region of Malawi. Later today or as soon as I can I'll send some other emails and make some 'phone calls. I have some funds in reserve which we could use.

Thank you and as ever, very best wishes. +Christopher

Communitrees

We will be hosting a wooden Christmas tree in front of Holbrook Hall in the run up to Christmas, as part of the Communitrees fundraising initiative which our gardener Sam Oldman is organising. Twelve trees will be put up around the area in support of twelve charities. If you would like to support the scheme, this can be done in two ways:

- By using the QR code near the tree to make a donation
- By going to Karma Corner (a shop on Montague Rd, off Queens Rd round the corner from the Flower Corner) and picking up a wooden tree decoration, which you can write a message on/decorate and return (maybe take a suitable marker pen to do it on the spot). A voluntary donation can be made in the shop. The finished decorations will then be hung on one of the trees

Further details of Communitrees and the charities which will benefit are on the noticeboard posters.



St Guthlac's Christmas Services

Nativity Gift Service: Sunday 11th December 10.30 am

An interactive service suitable for all ages, that tells the story of the birth of Jesus. Gifts of food will be collected for people in need in Leicester. (Tinned & packet foods only please.)

Holy Communion: Sunday 18th December 10.30am

Nine Lessons & Carols: Wednesday 21st Dec. 7.30 pm

Take part in a joyful service celebrating the good news of Jesus' birth, told through bible readings, poems and carols and led by the benefice choir and friends.

Crib Service: Saturday 24th December 4 pm

Join us for an informal service, particularly suited for children, where youngsters are encouraged to help tell the Christmas story by placing the nativity figures in the stable.

First Communion of Christmas: Sat. 24th December 8 pm

Together we celebrate the miracle of Jesus' birth with Holy Communion, carols, readings and prayers.

Christmas Morning Eucharist: Sun. 25th Dec. 10.30 am

A communion service celebrating the birth of Jesus our Saviour.

Benefice service of Holy Communion: Sun 1st Jan. 10.30am at St. Guthlac's Church