

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



DOUBLE ISSUE
Sunday 25th December 2022
Christmas Day
and
Sunday 1st January 2023

Christmas Services

Crib Service: Saturday 24th December 4 pm – Fiona Wingate

First Communion of Christmas: Sat. 24th December 8 pm - Revd Adrian Jones

Christmas Morning Eucharist: Sun. 25th Dec. 10.30 am - Revd Jon Barrett

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

The Collect & Readings for Christmas Day

Eternal God,
who made this most holy night
to shine with the brightness of your one true light:
bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth,
to see the radiance of your heavenly glory;
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 9.2-7

Psalm 96

Second Reading: Titus 2.11-14

Gospel Reading: Luke 2.1-14(15-20)

The Collect & Readings for the Second Sunday of Christmas

Almighty God,
in the birth of your Son
you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word,
and shown us the fullness of your love:
help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love
that we may know the fullness of his joy;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

First Reading: Isaiah 63.7-9; **Psalm 148**

Second Reading: Hebrews 2.10-18

Gospel Reading: 2.13-23

PRAYERS

Praying for the world: This Christmas time please pray that the birth of Jesus - the greatest sign we have of God's love for the world - might inspire peace and an end to conflict across the nations. Pray for those who suffer as a consequence of war and violence, and that we might all be moved to play our own part in building peace wherever we live.

Praying for the Church: Please pray for all Christians, that our faith might be sincere, and that we would live and act in love for God, each other and our neighbours across the world. Ask God for renewal, inspiration, and strength for all that he calls us to in 2023, and that we might always 'keep in step with the Spirit' (Galatians 5.25)

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.

This week we pray for all roads in the parish.

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.

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



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

St. Guthlac's Services

Sunday at 10.30am

1 st Jan	Benefice Eucharist service at St. Guthlac's	
8 th Jan	All Age Worship	Tina Jarvis & Jean Gabbar
15 th Jan	Eucharist	
22 nd Jan	Morning Prayer & Church Club	

Every Thursday at 9.30am Holy Communion

There is no service on Thursday 29th December.

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 #

The next Compline will be on Wednesday 28th December.

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. We have raised **£148** to date. 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

Food donations for Open Hands: A big thank you!

Thanks to everyone who brought a contribution to the Open Hands food and toiletries collection at the Nativity Gift Service. As usual, your generosity resulted in a mass of boxes and bags of much needed items, which will be gratefully received by our most disadvantaged neighbours here in Leicester.

Adrian writes: "After Christmas I'll be taking some days of rest with the family, taking up the reins again on Wednesday 4th January. In the meantime, for urgent messages please send me a text on my mobile number 07919 262399, which I'll check each day."

Christmas Greetings from the Vicarage: As we rapidly approach Christmas and the end of the year, I'd like to pass on my sincere thanks to everyone who has put in time, expertise, hard work and commitment to our many Advent & Christmas events across the benefice. I hope that during the busy-ness of the season you have all found moments of peace and reflection, and that the message of the angels, "Do not be afraid!" , has encouraged you and helped you to trust that the future is in God's good hands.

Thank you all so much for the many cards and gifts that have arrived at the Vicarage - Alison, Skye and Derry join with me in sending everyone our best wishes for a very happy Christmas and a peaceful, blessed New Year. *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.

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

Open as usual this Wednesday 28th December

CONTACT DETAILS

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Revd Aphro McCullough

Revd Janet Gasper

Reader: Fiona Wingate

Ordinand: Cecilia Adjadje

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Knighton Benefice Magazine: Nigel Siesage

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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>

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>