

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



Sunday 8th January 2023
Baptism of Christ

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Tina and Jean will be leading the All Age Worship Service this Sunday at 10.30am. The theme is the 250th anniversary of the hymn Amazing Grace.

The Collect & Readings for the Baptism of Christ

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;
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 42.1-9; **Psalm 29**

Second Reading: Acts 10.34-43

Gospel Reading: Matthew 3.13-17

PRAYERS

Praying for the world: Please pray for all those across the world who are trapped in poverty, and so are most vulnerable to illness, disease and the impact of climate change. Pray for all those who work to see everyone freed to live life in all its fullness.

Praying for the church: As we prepare for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and remember the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict, please pray for all Christian leaders - for all moves towards greater

co-operation and understanding. Pray especially for the Church of England ahead of the important General Synod in February.

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, those who are anxious and worried as well as those facing new challenging circumstances.

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 – **Aber 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

15 th Jan	Eucharist	Revd Janet Gasper & Revd Aphro McCullough
22 nd Jan	Matins & Church Club	David Hunt
29 th Jan	NO SERVICE AT ST. GUTHLAC'S Joint Eucharist Service at St. Mary's	
5 th Feb	Eucharist	Revd Janet Gasper
12 th Feb	All Age Worship	Revd Adrian Jones

Every Thursday at 9.30am Holy Communion

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 #

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%.

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



Advance notice! This month has five Sundays, and as usual we'll be taking the fifth as an opportunity for a joint benefice service, where we join together with the congregation of St Mary's to worship, pray, learn, and get to know each other better. On **Sunday 29th January** we will join together at St Mary's for a Eucharist, and to hear Susan Littlemore, a speaker from **Christians Against Poverty** - see below for more information about CAP. As we aim to bring all our church members together in the one service on this Sunday, there won't be a 9am Eucharist at St Mary's that day.

Christians Against Poverty was founded in 1996 by John Kirkby. He believed God was calling him to sacrifice his career in finance and use his knowledge of the industry to help those in need. In his hometown of Bradford, John began to use his expertise to help ordinary people weighed down by debt and unable to make ends meet, to support families facing eviction and to bring hope to desperate people trapped by poverty. In partnership with local churches and other committed volunteers trained as debt counsellors, John expanded the network of CAP centres to other areas of the country. Today, as well as offering debt help, Christians Against Poverty offer practical advice about living well on a low income through Life Skills groups, and support people stepping into employment through CAP Job Clubs. Through this UK-wide network of projects, CAP have a vision of transformed lives, thriving churches and an end to UK poverty. All Christians and churches are invited to be part of this essential service of others.

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.

Stamps for the Leprosy Mission: Discontinuation

The Leprosy Mission has made the decision to stop asking for contributions of stamps and collectables to help raise funds. This is due to a drop in value of stamps, further exacerbated by the introduction of barcoded stamps, making cash returns very small. In the past significant sums have been raised, and grateful thanks have been sent to all those who have made this possible. Please bring any stamps you have before the end of January, as a final shipment will be made before the deadline. Thank you.

Make your Christmas Greetings go further. We have raised **£198** for Bishop Christopher's Malawi charity instead of exchanging Christmas cards with one another. *Thank you.*

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

Coffee Morning in St. Mary's Church, Sat. 14th Jan. 10-12noon.
Stalls to include unwanted Christmas gifts, cakes, books and raffle. Everyone welcome.

CONTACT DETAILS

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Revd Aphro McCullough

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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>

Free Film Night at St Guthlac's Church



**Holbrook Rd
LE2 3LF**



**Part of our monthly Tea and Talk series of events. All
welcome!**

SAVING GRACE

(Cert 15, 90 mins)

Tues 17th Jan 7.00pm

Green-fingered widow Grace Trevethen (Brenda Blethyn) is faced with a cash-flow problem and wonders how she will be able to pay for the upkeep on her Cornish manor. The solution comes from the manor caretaker (Craig Ferguson): why not start growing and selling marijuana? That's exactly what Grace does, with hilarious and unforeseen consequences. Other actors are Martin Clunes, Tch ky Karyo and Jamie Foreman.

**Free refreshments and the
chance to socialise**



Chalking the Door: an Epiphany House Blessing.

“Chalking the door” is an ancient Christian tradition that is once again becoming popular. It is a way to celebrate and literally mark the occasion of the Epiphany and God’s blessing of our lives and home. Remembering how the Three Kings sought out Jesus at home and in his family, we ask for God’s blessing on our own homes, families and all who visit us, as we start a New Year.

This year, our prayers are symbolised by using the markings 20+C+M+B+23. The numbers remind us of the year and the letters stand for the Latin phrase ‘*Christus mansionem benedictat*’ or “*May Christ bless the house.*” They could also stand for the legendary names of the Three Kings (Caspar, Melchior and Belthazar).



To 'Chalk the Door' this Epiphany, follow these simple steps: First gather your 'household' outside, by the door - all who want to share what you are doing. If you live alone, consider asking a friend or neighbour to join you. Then pray- using the prayer below, or something similar.

Peace be to this house and to all who enter here.

Amen

Loving God, bless this household we pray,

with faith, compassion and generosity;

with health, peace, love and joy.

May everyone who comes to our home this year

know that they are truly welcome,

And, as we share with both friends and strangers,

may we also know that Jesus is with us,

revealed to the world as your Son and our Saviour.

Amen.

Write the inscription - with a piece of chalk, mark the lintel of the door or porch, or a wall close to the door, with 20+C+M+B+23, as you do so saying 'May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year.'

To encourage you, there is a basket of free chalk at the back of the church! Do please take a piece on your way home today. Although the chalk will fade over the course of the year, God's presence and blessing will stay with us. *Adrian*



Epiphany, Friday 6th January 2023

