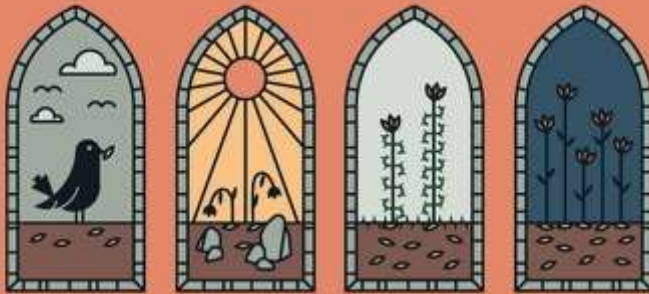


ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



Sunday 16 July 2023
Sixth Sunday after Trinity

sunday 16th July

This Sunday at 10.30am, Revd Janet Gasper will preside and preach at a service of Holy Communion.

The Collect & Readings for the Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you in all things and above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

1st Reading: Genesis 25.19-34

Psalm 119.105-112

2nd Reading: Romans 8.1-11

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23

PRAYERS

Praying for the World: Sunday 16th July is Disability Awareness Day - and around the world an estimated 1.3 billion disabled people (one in six of us) frequently and routinely suffer discrimination, exclusion, unequal access to health and other services, and even violence. Pray for changing attitudes in all nations and a greater recognition of universal human rights, as well as the value of all our differing abilities and experiences. Pray especially for all those who suffer stigma, discrimination, poverty, exclusion because of their disability.

Praying for the Church: Pray for God's wisdom as we seek to challenge our own biases and prejudice, especially in regard to our differing abilities and disabilities. Pray that God will help us to recognise the giftings of every individual and that our churches will be places where all people can belong fully and be active members of the church family.

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 – **Knighton 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

23 rd July	Morning Prayer	Cecilia Adjadje
30 th July	Benefice service at St. Mary's	
	NO SERVICE AT ST GUTHLAC'S	
6 th August	Eucharist	Revd Janet Gasper
13 th August	Morning Prayer	Revd Aphro McCullough
Every Thursday	at 9.30am	Holy Communion
Every Tuesday	9.30am at St. Mary's	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.



Disability Awareness Day – Sunday 16th July

“Disability Awareness Day” promotes a can-do culture focusing on what disabled people can do throughout life and work.”

For Christians a big part of our life is church, church family and using our giftings, what we can do, for the kingdom. This is just the same for disabled Christians as it is for non-disabled Christians. 1 Corinthians 12:5-6 teaches us that every single person has different gifts from God and that we are all called to serve and use those giftings. The Bible has lots of disabled people in it who contributed to the history of God's people.

Let's look at just a few and consider what we can learn from how God responded to them:

- Moses was too frightened to speak in front of Pharaoh because he had a speech defect (Exodus 4:10-16). God provided support for him in the form of his brother Aaron who was his spokesperson.
- Elijah had serious mental health problems. The day after his great triumph he was in hiding, suicidally depressed and begging God to take his life (1 Kings 19). God's response was to provide him with food and a safe place to rest and to speak to him in a very gentle way.
- People believe that Nicodemus may well have been autistic. He had a very detailed and complete knowledge of Jewish law, he came to Jesus in a quiet dark place, he struggled to understand the metaphor of being born again, he tried to save Jesus by using his knowledge. All of this falls into autistic characteristics. Another autistic person in the bible is said to be the apostle Matthew.
- When Jesus is resurrected and returns to his disciples, they were scared, they had many doubts. Jesus said to Thomas “Put your finger here, see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side”. His hands, feet and side held the marks of significant physical disability. In the resurrected Christ we see a holy and whole, yet disabled, God. His injury is part of him. Not as a punishment, not as an opportunity for healing. The perfect, all-powerful, all-knowing Christ is resurrected with a disability.

Dear God, thank you for the clear example of disability inclusion in the bible, for the challenge that sets us. We ask for your wisdom as we seek to challenge our own biases and prejudice. Help us to focus on the 'can do' culture and to recognise the giftings of every single person in your kingdom. We pray that our churches will be places where all people are able to fully belong and be active members of the church family. Amen.

Emily Williams, Diocesan Disability Advisor

Saying farewell to Sybil Rutland: Later this month our longtime church member and friend, Sybil, will be moving house to Norfolk, to be much closer to her family. As most of you will know, Sybil, with her husband Bob who died last year, has been an important part of our church life for a long time - providing support and encouragement to so many others, even as they met difficult challenges of their own. Personally, I'm very grateful for that encouragement, and for their stirring work as Parish Clerks at St Mary's before I arrived, when they organised and updated all our churchyard records.

Sybil will be much missed, and we send her on her way with sincere thanks and prayers, affection and all our best wishes for the future. Adrian

EcoTip for July: Lending a helping hand in hot weather. Help hedgehogs in hot weather. Hedgehogs particularly need help in a heatwave, as their usual prey of slugs, snails and worms are often unavailable. Leaving out a juicy snack, such as mealworms or canned dog food, can help in sustained warm weather. If you have a garden pond, ensure there's always a way for hedgehogs (and other small mammals) to climb out if they fall in.

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>

**Adrian and family will be on holiday over the next two weeks.
In case of urgent pastoral need please contact Revd Janet or
Revd Aphro.**

CONTACT DETAILS

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

Curate: Revd Cecilia Adjadje

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 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>



The Parish of St Guthlac, Knighton



11th June 2023

Dear Friends,

‘A BRIGHTER BUILDING’ - a new appeal.

Will you help fund the repair and re-decoration of St Guthlac’s?

Over the last year we have all had to bear the consequences of the “cost-of-living-crisis” - everyone’s budget has been squeezed, and some very tightly indeed.

Firstly therefore, I want to pass on the grateful thanks of the St Guthlac’s Church Council and myself, for your continuing financial support through your giving to the Church. Your donations and fundraising are essential – they enable the Church to maintain and expand our Christian life together, and to keep our focus on outreach and support in the local community and beyond.

Given the challenging times in which we live, it is more important than ever that everyone can find a welcoming space where we can worship God together and grow in the faith that gives us hope and security – and for many of us, that place is the local church.

This is why I am writing to you now. We want to ensure that St Guthlac’s is once again ‘A Brighter Building’ for meeting together and worship - and so today we are launching a new appeal for the funds needed for essential repairs and re-decoration.

The interior of the church was last painted many years ago, and after the installation of the new heating system the intention was always to completely redecorate and make good. Now that some considerable time has gone by, we are also concerned that the building will

deteriorate if we don't act soon; we know that spending money now will save higher costs in the future and want to nip any problems in the bud. The other building issue is that two areas of flooring have become weak and potentially unsafe – you may have seen the 'hazard' tape in the chancel area but there is also an area in the vestry that needs attention. Both areas will need to be taken up before repair, and more, unforeseen, problems may then become apparent.

We are now launching our '**A Brighter Building**' Appeal for **£20,000**, so that we can carry out these essential works.

Raising this amount will certainly be a challenge for us, but I am confident that

"God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4.19)

The Bible reminds us many times about God's incredible generosity towards us, and exhorts us all to reflect that generosity in our own giving:

"Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.... for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9.6 & 7)

So, can I urge you to consider how *you* can contribute to our appeal to create '**A Brighter Building**'? Our Appeal Donation Pack gives you all the information you need to make either a one-off gift or a regular contribution.

Thank you for supporting St Guthlac's, and enabling us, together, to provide a **Brighter Building** for the future of our special church.
Very best wishes,

Revd Adrian Jones (Vicar)

Calling and Celebration: It was with great joy that we shared in Cecilia's ordination service on Sunday 2nd, at All Saints in Loughborough. Along with four others, Cecilia was ordained as a deacon by Bishop Saju in a service that combined reflection on their calling to serve, with celebration and thanks giving for all that God has already done, and promises to do in our parishes through them. Please do continue to pray for Cecilia, her husband Peter, and their children Esther, David and Daniel, as they adjust to this new way of life and as they move house in the near future.

In this year as a deacon, Cecilia will assist on Sunday mornings and start her training in all the pastoral duties of parish clergy. Over the summer I have planned a gentle introduction for her, with time for refreshment and rest as well. This time next year she'll be ordained as a priest, and so will be able to lead and preside at services of the Eucharist as well.

Adrian

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

SAMARITANS

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Molly Clarke is organizing a Charity Evening Dinner to raise money for the Leicester Samaritans.

This will be held at Leicester College on **Wednesday 8th November**.

Tickets are £28 each.

More details to come. Molly

Taking the
next step
on your

Journey in Faith



What is the Journey in Faith Course?

A 3 term course that provides the time and space for people to:

- Grow in knowledge of the Christian faith
- Deepen their relationship with God
- Explore how to live out faith in the whole of life.

Introductory session - Saturday 23 September 10.00-12.30 at SMH

Course venues

The course will take place at different venues around the diocese - register your interest to find out more.

Who can join?

It is open to anyone—there is some reading to do between sessions but you don't need to have done any studying before.

Is there a cost?

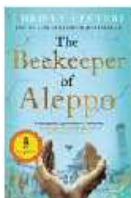
£40 per term to cover venue hire and materials but speak to us if this is a barrier.

How do I join a course?

For more information or to register contact Liz Rawlings (liz.rawlings@leicestercofe.org).

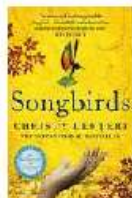
What does a previous participant say?

"If you want to know more about yourself and your Christian faith, then JIF is the course for you. You'll be welcomed and challenged, affirmed and changed, and you'll definitely be glad you came."



Summer Read

We hope you will join us in reading one or more books by Christy Lefteri



The Bee Keeper of Aleppo and / or The Songbirds

Bee Keeper of Aleppo

Nuri is a beekeeper, his wife, Afra, an artist. They live a simple life, rich in family and friends, in the beautiful Syrian city of Aleppo - until the unthinkable happens. When all they care for is destroyed by war, they are forced to escape through Asia and Europe. This is a beautifully written story of a couple's flight from war-torn Aleppo to the UK. It is gripping, sad and thought-provoking.

The Songbirds

A story based on real events. Nisha has left Sri Lanka to go to Cyprus to support her mother and young daughter. She goes to work for Petra. For Petra, it is only natural to hire a domestic worker to keep her house clean and her family fed. Their lives have nothing in common, except the love they feel for their daughters. Then one day, Nisha vanishes. No one cares about the disappearance of a foreign domestic worker, except Petra and Nisha's secret lover, Yiannis.

Copies of the books will be available to borrow from St Guthlac's church and Holbrook Oasis café which meets every Wednesday between 1.30 – 3.30.

There will be an opportunity to meet to discuss the books on Tuesday 12th September at 7.00 (with tea & cakes) or at Holbrook Oasis at St Guthlac's on Wednesday 13th September at 1.30.