

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



Sunday 3 December 2023
Advent Sunday

Sunday 3rd December

This Sunday at 10.30am, Revd Janet Gasper will be presiding & preaching at a service of Holy Communion.

The Collects and Readings for Advent Sunday

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the
light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

1st Reading: Isaiah 64.1-9;

Psalms 80.1-8,18-20;

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1.3-9;

Gospel Reading: Mark 13.24-37

St Guthlac's Church Family News

Praying for the World: Please pray for all those, around the world, who are active in the work of peace and reconciliation. Pray especially for negotiators at work between Israel and Hamas, but also for those working 'on the ground' in less well known conflicts, to bring communities and nations back together and to create trust and friendship.

Praying for the Church: Please give thanks for the re-opening of St Martin's Cathedral, and pray for the whole team that supports it's mission and ministry. With others across our Diocese, please also pray this week for the people and leaders of the churches in Market Bosworth, Sheepy, the Fenn Lanes Group, and Sapcote and Sharnford cum Wigston Parva.

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 – **St. David's Crescent.**

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

Thanks: I would like to thank all my friends for their cards, good wishes and prayers of support. It means so much. I am making slow but steady progress.

With love, June Ardley

More Thanks: On Wednesday 8th November 2023, I organised a Charity Dinner for the Leicester Samaritans. 49 of us met up at the Taste Restaurant in Leicester College. Michael Gasper said a welcome and the Revd Janet Gasper said grace. We then sat down to a delightful meal served by the students. They were friendly and worked hard and that added to a lovely atmosphere.

I was supported by so many people from St Mary's and St Guthlac's Churches and so many in the community. The total raised was **£575**. Thank you for those who donated. I was so happy with the result.

Molly Clarke

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

"A Brighter Building" fundraising Update.

A VERY big thank-you to everyone who has pledged and donated to our decorating project. Our target is £20000 and so far, including Gift Aid, we have reached just over **£15000**, an incredible result in only just 2 months. Keep the donations coming and before long we will be able to start to Brighten our Building. *David Hunt, Treasurer*

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.

Choir for the Service of Nine Lessons & Carols

If you would like to join us to sing at our Service of Nine Lessons & Carols on Wednesday 20th December, please speak to Janet Edwards or join us on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm. Thank you.

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.

EcoTip for December

Recycle right this Christmas (and beyond!) Since more waste ends up in landfill over Christmas than during the rest of the year, it's a great time of year to review and improve your own recycling set up at home. Different boroughs offer different recycling provisions, but you can find out exactly what you can recycle at home by entering your postcode here: recyclenow.com/recycling-locator

Come and join us at
St. Guthlac's Christmas Fayre

Saturday 9th December 9:45 am – 1:00 pm

St Guthlac's Church, Holbrook Rd, Knighton LE2 3LF

CAKES

PRESERVES

JEWELLERY

TOMBOLA

GIFTS

WREATHS

**CHRISTMAS
STALLS**

**CHILDREN'S
KNITWEAR**

Free entry

Refreshments

Live Music

**Cash and Card payments
accepted**

St. Guthlac's Christmas Fayre

For those who would like to **order in advance** - and this does help our stock control - we are offering our **Virtual On-line catalogue** show-casing some of our more popular items.

Please request an on-line order form from David Hunt or
Collect a hard copy from the back of church.

*** Ordering in advance does not stop you joining us on the big day ***

This Sunday December 3rd is your last chance to order from our catalogue! Christmas Fayre Items that have sold out:

(Before ordering, check the items you require are not in the list below)

Item 4 – Piccalilli

Item 6 – Chutney, Damson Large Jar

Item 6 – Chutney, Damson Small Jar

Item 6 – Chutney, Spicy Plum & Apple Large Jar

Item 6 – Chutney, Spicy Plum & Apple Medium Jar

Item 6 – Chutney, Spicy Plum & Apple Small Jar

Item 6 – Spiced Apple & Date Medium Jar

Item 7 – Apple Jelly Medium Jar

Item 7 - Bramble Jelly Medium Jar

Item 7 – Bramble Jelly Small Jar

Wanted for Christmas Fayre. Bottles for tombola stall. These can be alcoholic/non-alcoholic/shampoos and smellies/sauces etc. Pop an extra item in your shopping each week! Gift stall – any unwanted or surplus to need items that would make nice presents. Boxes will be in the Welcome area for donations. Thank you

Christmas Hamper. As usual there will be a Christmas Hamper raffle to raise money for Malawi. Please see the sheet in the Welcome Area to indicate what you would like to contribute. The last date for donations will be **Sunday 3rd Dec.**

Carols on the Corner. 19th December 6:45pm. Come along and join the local community as we sing a few carols on the corners around South Knighton. Starting at 6:45pm outside Withers Salon on the corner of Knighton Church Road and South Knighton Road, we'll be back at St Guthlac's by about 7:30pm for some refreshments. All are welcome. Dress for the weather and consider bringing a torch to make reading the carols sheets easier. Look forward to seeing you there.
Steve

Open Hands donations: A very big thank you to all who have so generously donated bedding, curtains, towels and kitchen equipment to Open Hands. They are so very grateful for everything and have been overwhelmed by your generosity. Let's pause the collections during December, then when you all start your Spring Cleaning activities in January. I'll be in touch again for items which are much needed by this local charity. Margaret Bonney
Ed: Instead, please give below!

Open Hands donations: Nativity Gift Service on 10th Dec 10.30am. This year we would again very much welcome your donations for Open Hands, who are continuing to provide much needed support for people in need here in Leicester. Please see next page for the items which are being requested. Please note that the date of our collection means that we would not meet Open Hands' deadline for receiving Christmas foods and treats, so we are not asking for these to be brought this year. Our donations of more basic items will be very welcome to keep supplies available to clients of Open Hands in the New Year. Your donations can be brought before 10th Dec if this suits you better. Thank you.

Food

 Urgent

 Fully Stocked

					
Tinned Fruit	Dry Pasta	Jar Sauce	Vegetarian Meal	Meat Meal	Cereal
					
Tinned Tomatoes	Tinned Vegetables	Tinned Pulse Beans	Dried Pulse Beans	Tinned Fish	UHT Milk
					
Jams/Spreads	Biscuits	Rice	Squash	Tinned Soup	Flour
					
Pasta/Noodle Pot	Instant Coffee	Bread Delivery Only	Fridge/Freezer Items Delivery Only	Sugar	Small box of tea bags

Toiletries

 URGENT

 Fully stocked

				
Face Cloth	Shampoo	Conditioner	Mens Shower Gel	Ladies Shower Gel
				
2-in-1 Shampoo and Conditioner	Shaving Products	Men's Deodorant	Baby wash/shampoo	Nappy Bags & Wipes
				
Bar Soap	Pump action soap	Ladies Deodorant	Sanitary Towels	Adult Toothpaste

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar: Revd. Adrian Jones
adrian.jones@zoho.com

0116 2704268 or 07919 262 399
(rest day normally Friday)

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
stmarysknighton.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>

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

St. Guthlac's Services

Sunday at 10.30am

3 rd December	Eucharist	Revd Janet Gasper
10 th December	AAW Nativity Gift service	Tina Jarvis & Revd Cecilia Adjadje
17 th December	Eucharist	Revd Janet Gasper
24 th December	Morning Prayer	Fiona Wingate

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 #

Grow in your faith this Advent: During the busy-ness of Christmas preparations, it's easy to lose sight of what the season is all about. We can keep our focus and grow in our faith, however, if we take some time together to look at the themes of Advent. This year we are running a short, four week Advent group, to give us exactly this opportunity. We will meet on Wednesday mornings, from 10.30 - noon, in the 'Warm and Welcome' room (the Cottage Room) of the Parish Centre. Each week we'll start with tea/coffee and biscuits before discussing one of the traditional themes of the season: Hope, Joy, Peace, and Love. Please do join us whenever you can—we start on 29th November, and will be led by Revd Janet.

St Guthlac's Church:

Advent & Christmas Services and Events

Advent midweek Communion: Each Thursday, at **9.30am** Our midweek Communion service will have an Advent theme, and help to keep us focussed on our personal and spiritual preparation for Christmas celebrations.

Advent Reflections Group – week one: Wednesday 29th November 10.30am –12 noon A reflective start to the season, as we give time to listen and then discuss the themes of Advent. The first of four special times to pause and be with God. – come any Wednesday you can. We meet in the Welcome Room at St Mary's Parish Centre on the corner of Brinsmead Road and Church Lane. Refreshments every week.

Advent Reflections Group – week two: Wednesday 6th December 10.30am –12 noon We meet in the Welcome Room at St Mary's Parish Centre on the corner of Brinsmead Road and Church Lane (see above).

Christmas Gift Service: Sunday 10th December 10.30 am
An interactive, informal service, suitable for all ages, that will help us look ahead to the birth of Jesus. Gifts and toys will be collected for people in need in Leicester, working together with the Open Hands charity.

Advent Reflections Group – week three: Wednesday 13th Dec. 10.30am –12 noon (see above).

Advent Reflections Group – week four: Wednesday 20th Dec. 10.30am –12 noon (see above).

Traditional Carols and Readings: Wednesday 20th Dec. 7.30 pm A traditional service celebrating the birth of Jesus with Bible readings and poems, alongside Christmas carols and choral music, led by the St Guthlac's Church Choir.

Crib Service: Sunday 24th December 4.00 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: Sunday 24th December 8.00 pm Together we celebrate the miracle of Jesus' birth with Holy Communion, carols, readings and prayers.

Christmas Morning Communion: 10.30 am

We join together to celebrate Christmas Day with a service of Holy Communion for All.

Please Note: On Sunday 31st December there will be no service at St Guthlac's or St Mary's. A service of Sung Eucharist will be held, as usual, at the Cathedral, at 10.30am.

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%.



The City of Leicester Singers



Charity Number
518215

**St James the Greater Church
London Road, Leicester
Saturday December 16th 2023
7.00 p.m.**

Conductor - Richard Archer

Accompanist - John Pye

**Featuring
Leicester Recorder Players**

Joy to the World



Supporting Parkinsons UK

**Tickets £12 under 16s free,
from choir members, at the door or
www.cityofleicestersingers.co.uk**

www.parkinsons.co.uk

Tickets available from Margaret Bonney



PLACES OF PEACE A CHRISTMAS EVENT FOR GAZA

OADBY, TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH

MONDAY 4th DECEMBER, 19:00

AMOS TRUST'S Christmas tour stops off at TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH, HARBOROUGH ROAD, OADBY, in December, featuring local performers, poetry, music and special guests from Palestine. **PLEASE JOIN US.**

Proceeds from the event will go towards Amos Trust's Christmas appeal supporting partners in the West Bank and Gaza. For details, please visit amotrust.org/gaza-appeal

To register, please visit our web site —
amotrust.org/christmas-2023



If you are unable to join us, we are also having an online event on Monday 11th December at 6pm. Details for registering will be added to the Amos Trust diary page, but save the date for now.

Prayers for peace and hope, in the midst of the ongoing Israel-Gaza conflict.

As we give thanks for the pauses in fighting this week, and the release of hostages and prisoners, we continue to pray for a just and secure peace:

O God of all hope and peace, we bring to you the needs of our broken and hurting world.

Our hearts are breaking with images of lives lost and torn apart by grief in Israel and Palestine.

We pray for an end to violence and warfare so that the challenging work of rebuilding may begin.

Help us, O Lord, to affirm our common humanity so that in our differences we may build together for justice and peace.

In Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

O God, we pray for all the children of Abraham, in Israel and Palestine and in every country of the world.

We pray for Muslims, Jews and Christians, that we will draw on the best of our traditions to guide us away from words and acts of division and discrimination,

so that everyone may be free to live in safety.

Protect the vulnerable, strengthen the fearful and comfort the grieving.

In Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

CHRISTIAN AID CHRISTMAS APPEAL

This year, Christian Aid are making their Christmas Appeal on-line, rather than through the traditional envelopes in pews. Please do follow-up the article below by visiting the website and donating as you can:

https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christmas-appeal?gclid=CjwKCAiAx_GqBhBQEIwAIDNAZiqKSjeCmRdW3Ig3g7ClcsoN-iyI8sFtTMgFrzrps1juNDjDq1B6cRoCr8kQAvD_BwE

Every woman deserves the chance to break out of poverty...

And in Bangladesh, young women have become a guiding light in their community - leading the way out.

Kurigram, in Northern Bangladesh, is one of the country's poorest and most disaster-prone regions. Life, here, is challenging. And for women, opportunities are even more limited.

Looking back, 21-year-old Kakoli Khatun, who lives in Kurigram, remembers, 'I didn't have any dreams a few years ago... To do something, I had to ask for money from my brothers and father.'

But now, Kakoli splits her time running a successful business, while studying for a college degree.

Kakoli has found community in an extraordinary group of gifted women – artisans and entrepreneurs – who've set up a business to sell their beautiful craftwork online. These women have become a powerful force change in their communities.

Your gift could enable someone like Kakoli to shape their future.

This Christmas, will you help young women shine?



Knighton Christmas Tree Festival

Saturday 2nd December 10 am – 5 pm

Sunday 3rd December 12.30 pm – 5 pm

St Mary's Church, Brinsmead Road, Leicester LE2 3WD

Admission £2 - Children free. All profit going to

Wishes 4 Kids and the church community garden.



Leicester
City Council

Light refreshments, raffle and children's activities.
Event supported by Knighton Ward Community Fund.



Music at the Christmas Tree Festival will include:

Saturday 2nd December:

The Semper Singers 11.00-12.00noon

The Titanic (a New Orleans style jazz band) 2.00-4.00pm - 'they go down well' 😊

Sunday 3rd December:

The Knighton String Quartet 2.00-4.00pm

The event will close with Carols for everyone from 5.00pm.

Mulled wine available from 4pm both days (while stocks last!)



Drop in for a hot drink and a chat

Come and join us in our
Warm and Welcome Space,
at Knighton Parish Centre,
on the corner of Brinsmead Rd
and Church Lane (LE2 3WG)

Every Monday and Thursday afternoon
2.00—4.30pm.

**Open to all — you'll have a very
Warm Welcome!**

Advent Read

The Promise and the Light by Katy Morgan



Advent reading helps us to bring our attention and reverence to the Bible story of Jesus' Nativity and the true meaning of the Christmas season. Some people study daily readings and commentaries or academic books about significant themes. If you don't have time to do this, why not read '*The Promise and the Light*' by Katy Morgan.

'*The Promise and the Light*' is written as a series of vivid and dramatic first-person accounts. It tells the stories of Mary, Joseph and Zechariah as they experience the events of the first Christmas. Written in a lively and engaging style it is suitable for all the family.

You can either borrow the book or buy a good quality secondhand copy. See Tina or Jean if you want a copy. We also have a variety of other Advent books you can borrow. If you have a good Advent or Christmas book that you do not need this year and you are happy to lend it to others, please bring it along to St Guthlac's.

What sort of book did you find helpful?

There will be an opportunity to meet to discuss this book and others you've read during Advent & Christmas on **Tuesday 9th January at 7.00pm** (with tea & cakes).