

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



Sunday 16th February 2025
Third Sunday before Lent

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This Sunday at 10.30am, Revd Adrian Jones will be preside & preach at a service of Holy Communion.

The Collect and Readings for the Third Sunday before Lent

Almighty God,
who alone can bring order
to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity:
give your people grace
so to love what you command
and to desire what you promise,
that, among the many changes of this world,
our hearts may surely there be fixed
where true joys are to be found;
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

1st Reading: Jeremiah 17.5-10;

Psalm 1

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15.12-20;

Gospel Reading: Luke 6.17-26

Praying for each other this month: Please pray for the other members of our church "family" - and especially, in February, those whose surnames begin with E, F, G, and H. Pray for growth in faith, and in the awareness of God's goodness in all circumstances.

Praying for the World: This week, please pray for all those traumatised by the effects of war and conflict, especially children and young people. Pray that there will be wise and skilled health professionals, counsellors and psychologists who will be able to take them on a path towards healing wholeness, and peace once more.

Praying for the Church: Our Diocese is a "community of communities" and our prayers support and encourage our fellow Christians. This week, with others across the Diocese, please pray for the people and leaders of: St Hugh, Eyres Monsell & St James the Greater, Huncote; Holy Apostles, Leicester; Holy Trinity & St John the Divine, Leicester; St James the Greater, Leicester; and St John the Baptist, Clarendon Park. Pray for deep wisdom as we all plan for Minster Communities.

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 – **Birkdale Avenue.**

Sad news about Yolanda Courtney: I'm very sad to have to tell you that, after illness and a stay in hospital, our friend and member of St Guthlac's, Yolanda Courtney, died on Thursday. Yolanda was well known and liked across the benefice, for her generosity and kindness as well as her many years of organ playing and singing in our choirs. Although she had found the world an increasingly difficult and complex place to navigate in recent months, she retained her deep appreciation for friends and their care, and of course for St Guthlac's. We send our heartfelt condolences to her brother Anthony and her sister-in-law Jane - please pray for them in this time of grieving and loss. *Adrian*

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

World Day of Prayer. A date for your diary - **7th March**. There are two services in our area: one at St. Mary's at 2pm and the other at Stoneygate Baptist Church at 7.30pm. The service this year has been prepared by Christian women from the Cook Islands.

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

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.



<https://givealittle.co/c/b277f14e-1e30-43b5-ac10-c822f0a70286>

St. Guthlac's Services

Sunday at 10.30am

23 rd February	Matins	David Hunt
2 nd March	Eucharist	Revd Cecilia Adjadje
9 th March	All Age Worship	Fiona Wingate
16 th March	Eucharist	Revd Janet Gasper
Every Thursday at 9.30am		Holy Communion
Every Tuesday 9.30am at St. Mary's		Holy Communion

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.

Virtual Compline 8.00pm Wednesday evenings

There is an online Compline service 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 #

CONTACT DETAILS

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

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

Curate: Revd Cecilia Adjadje
(rest day normally Friday)

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 on 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

Getting the most out of Lent 2025

Lent is the traditional part of the Christian year that covers the weeks before Easter, and acts as a preparation for the sombre reflection of Good Friday and the joyful celebration of Easter Day. There are many ways in which you can make it a special time to nurture and grow your Christian faith, and I would encourage you to make the most of the season. Here are some ideas:

Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday**, which is the 5th March this year. Every year we have a special benefice Communion service at 7.30pm – in 2025 the service is at St Guthlac's. Christians have often prepared for this rather serious service by skipping a meal or reducing what they eat on Ash Wednesday – meaning that we become much more aware of our physical needs and wants, at the same time as considering our spiritual weaknesses, in the light of God's deep understanding and forgiveness. Our service includes the opportunity for "ashing" – when, if you wish, the priest marks each forehead with a small cross of ash made from last year's Palm crosses, as a sign of our turning back to God in repentance.

In Lent 2025 there will also be weekly opportunities for you to join other members of our churches in a **Lent discussion group** that will encourage and build your faith: watch this space for more details next week.

Christians have traditionally used lent as a **time of discipline and training** – either by giving up something pleasurable so that more time can be given to prayer or Bible reading, or more money can be given away, or by taking on a task for the benefit of others. Perhaps this year you might consider reading a chapter a day (making 40 in all) of the Gospels of Mark and then Luke? Then you might also consider putting aside one tin or packet of food each day from Ash Wednesday onwards (not including Sundays) as a donation to our local foodbank?

Let's pray that Lent will be a time that God speaks to us all, and that, as he helps us understand our weaknesses afresh, we might also find more loving understanding of each other.

Adrian

Minster Communities: Many of you will know that the parishes of the diocese are currently going through a process of reorganisation into new 'Minster Communities'. These Minster Communities will give us all the benefits of closer partnership in a challenging financial climate. Over the past year the PCC have been involved in numerous discussions about those areas of experience and expertise that St Guthlac's can offer to other churches, and what we might look to gain from others too.

We have now reached a significant stage in the process, when representatives from all the churches in our proposed Minster Community are beginning to meet in a number of working groups, each tasked with exploring a different aspect of how, practically, we might best work together in partnership (schools & young people, buildings, finance etc).

To help everyone understand as clearly as possible what is happening we have produced a summary leaflet about the proposals, and there is a new display at the back of the church which includes a map of our proposed Minster Community. You can also join me for an informal "Any Questions?" evening when I'll attempt to explain what's happening and clear up mysteries and misunderstandings! "Any Questions?" will be on Wednesday 26th February (venue to be confirmed - hopefully the St Mary's Parish Centre) and you'll also be able to join via Zoom, if you follow this link:

<https://leccofe.zoom.us/j/92648387604?pwd=XDuTnIKe2DI4LcLiAaO1fClbeQbDHb.1>

The Meeting ID is: 926 4838 7604 and the Passcode is 2rMhEUa@ should you need them. You can join by telephone too, calling 0208 080 6592

In the meantime, do talk to me or any member of the PCC for more information, and especially if you'd like to join a working group on behalf of St Guthlac's. Do also read the invitation to a service and get-to-know-you for our proposed Minster Community, at St Andrew's, Aylestone, also in this newsletter. *Adrian*

An Invitation to all at St Guthlac's

As we start to get to know each other in the Minster Community process, the members of St Guthlac's are warmly invited to a
**joint Evensong at St Andrews, Aylestone,
on Sunday 2nd March 2025, at 4pm.**

While offering praise to God, the purpose of the service is also to bring our congregations together in worship and fellowship. We have invited all the churches in the "Teal" Minster Community group of churches, and some others who have expressed a wish to join our group. After the service we will provide light refreshments, nibbles and the time to talk and get to know more about each other.
Please RSVP.

There will be open ringing of the bells for any campanologists that would like to come an hour before the service (on the ropes at 3pm). Our Director of Music has offered to prepare the music and wishes to extend an invitation to members of your choir to join us on the evening if they wish to. Please contact him for further information:
Graham Lightburn

For further information about the service contact Glenn

The Right Reverend Christopher J Boyle
Hon. Assistant Bishop for the Diocese of Leicester

3rd February 2025

Dear Fiona, David and Members of St Guthlac's,

Thank you once again for your tremendous support of the mobile clinic in Northern Malawi. This is much appreciated and will be well used.

St Guthlac's is probably our single biggest donor. What you do and what you give we do not take for granted. It is generous. It is substantial and it gives longevity to the clinic as well as the capacity to budget beyond the merely short term.

I keep Bishop Fanuel updated on our fund-raising efforts and told him recently about your generous donation of £1500. He wrote back asking me to include these remarks to all of you at St Guthlac's.

Bishop Fanuel writes:

I am incredibly grateful to the faithful of St. Guthlac's Knighton for their continued generosity in supporting our initiatives, which began during the time of Fr. Richard Bonney. I remember visiting their parish some years ago.

I appreciate that they have not forgotten us. Their support means so much to us; we firmly believe that no action is small, every action counts. This gift will enable us to reach out to the people we serve in Mfula and Chamalala.

Once again, thank you for being with us in this ministry.

May God bless you for everything.

I echo completely Bishop Fanuel's words and say again a heartfelt thank you for this sizable gift, for fellowship in mission and ministry and thank you in these challenging times that you keep focussed on Kingdom values and remain a world facing church.

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Christopher J Boyle". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Christopher J Boyle".

COMPLINE WEDNESDAY EVENINGS



Cold & Wet out?

Why not stay in and come to an online Compline via Zoom on **Wednesday evenings 7.50 - 9.00pm**. There is a short time of chat and discussion followed by Compline. Everyone can take part if they wish.

It's easy to attend, just click on this link
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81118183080>

If you prefer to use your telephone dial: 0203 481 5240 and follow the instructions. You will be asked for a meeting ID.

Put **811 1818 3080** followed by #

If you want more information contact Tina churchwardens@stguthlacknighon.co.uk