

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



Sunday 23rd February 2025
Second Sunday before Lent

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This Sunday at 10.30am, David Hunt will be lead a service of Matins and Church Club will take place in Holbrook Hall.

The Collect and Readings for the Second Sunday before Lent

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and the earth
and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things,
now and for ever.
Amen

1st Reading: Genesis 2.4b-9,15-25;

Psalm 65

2nd Reading: Revelation 4;

Gospel Reading: Luke 8.22-25

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: Please pray for all journalists and broadcasters, writers and commentators across the world, as they seek truth in an age of disinformation. Pray that we will all be skilled at understanding what we see and hear, and that we will be able to discern with wisdom, those who are seeking to mislead and those who want to inform without bias.

Praying for the Church: Please pray with others across our Diocese for the people and leaders of the Church of the Nativity in Aylestone, St Mary de Castro, and St Peter, Braunstone Park.

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.

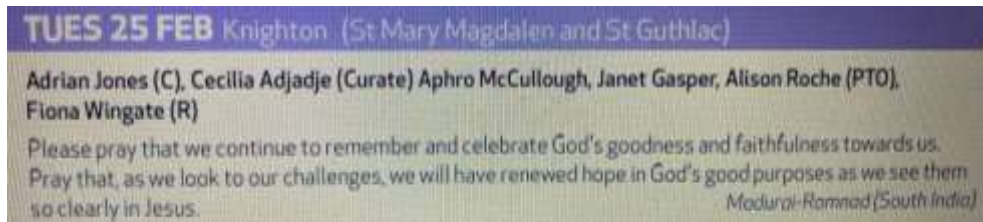
Weekly prayer for roads in the parish – **Blankley Drive.**

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 some days ago. 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.

Diocesan Prayer Calendar: This week St Mary's and St Guthlac's feature in the Diocesan Prayer Calendar once again



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%.



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

Mothers' Union Fellowship. Our next meeting is on Tuesday, 25 February when our speaker will be the Revd Adrian, our Vicar. We'll gather, as usual, in the Cottage Room of the Parish Centre at 1.30 for a 2pm start. Non-members are welcome to join us. LP

St. Guthlac's Services

Sunday at 10.30am

2 nd March	Eucharist	Revd Cecilia Adjadje
9 th March	All Age Worship	Fiona Wingate
16 th March	Eucharist	Revd Janet Gasper
23 rd March	Morning Prayer	

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

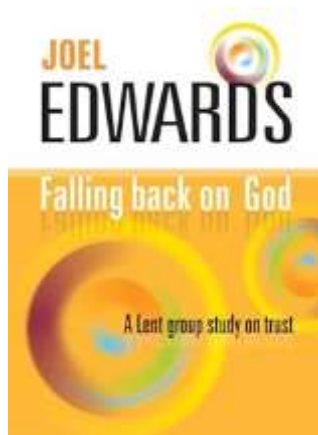
Getting the most out of Lent 2025

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.

You can join the **Wednesday morning group**, at 10.30am in the small Cottage Room in the St Mary's Parish Centre, beginning on 5th March. We will be looking at "Falling back on God" – a Lent study for groups, following the theme of 'trust' in the Psalms, and written by Joel Edwards. There's no need to buy the book, which is about £8, but if you would like to then please let Adrian know.



OR you might prefer the **Thursday afternoon group**, which will meet at the home of Janet Edwards at 2.30pm, beginning on 13th March. The group will be led by Tina Jarvis and discussion will centre on sections of the book *“Wild Bright Hope: reflections on faith.”* Please see the separate item for more details.

OR you might like to join the **Thursday evening group**, that will meet in the Narthex of St Mary’s at 7.30pm, starting on 13th March, led by Revd Janet Gasper.

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** in the lounge of the 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 grahamlightburn7@gmail.com

For further information about the service contact Glenn

Lent Reflections Group: Wild Bright Hope

Thursdays 2.30 – 4.00

@

Janet Edward's Home



Wild Bright Hope gathers together a range of lively, up-and-coming writers who write passionately about what gives them hope, Chapters include 'Seeds of unity', 'A beautiful and messy awakening', 'Kingdom diplomacy across faiths', 'A vision for hope in politics', 'Wild paths of peace' and 'Hope in suffering'.

Wild Bright Hope urges us not only to embrace a more hopeful perspective but also considers how we might play a part in bringing in the kingdom of God. The book costs about £10.

Meetings begin on Thursday 13th March up to and including 10th April.

Everyone welcome, even if you can't make every week.

If you are not sure where Janet lives, need help getting the book or if you have any other questions please contact Tina

churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

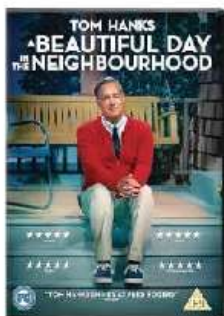
Free Film Night

at St Guthlac's Church



Holbrook Rd
LE2 3LF

All welcome!



A Beautiful Day in the Neighbourhood

(Cert PG, 104 mins)

Tues 11th March 7.00pm

The film is based on a true story. Fred Rogers (Tom Hanks) is an American young children's TV presenter and Presbyterian minister who meets journalist Tom Junod (Matthew Rhys), a jaded cynical magazine writer. Tom has been reluctantly assigned to write a profile of Fred Rogers.....

**Free refreshments and the
chance to socialise**