

# ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac  
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2025**  
**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

## Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May

This Sunday at 10.30am, Revd Adrian Jones will lead a service of All Age Worship.

### **The Collect and Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:  
raise us, who trust in him,  
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,  
that we may seek those things which are above,  
where he reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen

**1st Reading:** Acts 9.36-43;

**Psalm 23;**

**2nd Reading:** Revelation 7.9-17;

**Gospel Reading:** John 10.22-30

**Praying for each other:** Please pray for other members of our church community, and especially those whose surnames begin with Q, R, S and T. Pray that we would all grow in faith, hope and love – in our hearts and minds but also in the actions of our lives.

**Praying for the world:** This year's Christian Aid Week (11-17 May) is focusing on Christian Aid's work in Guatemala, Central America, where the climate crisis is causing the seasons to intensify and shift erratically. As a result, farming communities have to battle devastating floods and intense heatwaves. Please pray for the local people and for all those who are committed to helping them tackle life in a changing world.

**Praying for the Church:** Please pray for all the other churches within our potential Minster Community - St Andrew's, Aylestone; Church of the Nativity, Aylestone Park, St Thomas, South Wigston; All Saints, Wigston Magna; St Hugh, Eyres Monsell; St James, Huncote, St Guthlac's and St Mary Magdalen, Knighton. Pray for the new Working Groups looking at important areas of church life, and for wisdom as we look at possible co-operation in the future.

**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.

In particular please pray this week for **Dale McCullough** and **John Orme**.

Also, give thanks for those who are recovering and who have found God's peace.

Please remember those who have died recently, especially **Pope Francis** and **Revd Canon Zolile Mbali** 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 – **Guilford 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](mailto:adrian.jones@zoho.com) or Jane [administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk](mailto:administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk)*

## **Thanks**

Many thanks for your prayers for Sam, Rachel and their families. Both are making good progress on the long road to recovery, and are now home with their respective families. They, and we, really appreciate being upheld in prayer and are grateful to God and the medical teams for their skill and care.

**United Christian Aid Service**, marking the start of Christian Aid Week will be at **6.30pm on Sunday 11 May at Stoneygate Baptist Church**. Our speaker will be Chris Walker, the Campaign Strategy Lead for Christian Aid. *Lawrence Whittaker, Secretary SLCP*

### **Remembering VE Day and the end of the Second World War in Europe:**

This week we remembered the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day on 8th May. You might like to use these prayers as we bring to mind all those who gave their lives, were injured, and served in the forces and on 'the home front'.

O God of truth and justice,  
we hold before you those men and women  
who have died in active service, particularly in the Second World War,  
whose sacrifice brought Victory in Europe.  
As we honour their courage and cherish their memory,  
may we put our faith in your future;  
for you are the source of life and hope,  
now and for ever.  
Amen.

Pray too for those who serve in the Armed Forces today, and for peace across the world:

#### *For those who serve today*

O Lord God of Hosts,  
stretch forth, we pray, your almighty arm  
to strengthen and protect our service men and women.  
Support them in times of conflict,  
and in their rest and training keep them safe from all evil;  
endue them with courage and loyalty;  
and grant that in all things they may serve without reproach;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

For the peace of the world

O God, who would fold both heaven and earth  
in a single peace;  
that the design of your great love lighten  
upon the waste of our wraths and sorrows  
and give peace to your church, peace among nations,  
peace in our dwellings and peace in our hearts;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**Meeting of Parishioners for the election of churchwardens and  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting: Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 12 noon  
in St Guthlac’s Church**

Please make a note of the date of this important event in our church  
calendar! The meeting is our opportunity to review the previous year  
in the life of the church, find out about our finances, and hold  
elections.

We will be electing:

- 2 churchwardens
- 2 representatives for Deanery Synod (casual vacancies as we  
currently have no reps)
- 3 PCC members for 3 years and 1 member for 2 years

If you would like to be nominated for any of these roles, or would like  
to find out more about what’s involved, please get in touch with me.

The annual APCM brochure containing the agenda, reports and  
accounts will be available from 4<sup>th</sup> May and will be send out by email  
to those who have it. A few printed copies will be available for those  
without email.

**Lesley Meakin PCC Secretary** \*\*\*\*\* 0\*\*\*\*\*

**Gardening Party.** Thank you to everyone who was able to join the gardening party on Monday 5th, given the short notice. A good deal, and wide scope, of work was done by the group which included our wider community.

The hedge was given a gentle tidy to ensure that footpaths and walkways are clear allowing our neighbours easy access. A good deal of weeding was done to remove/reduce some of the invasive species like mare's tail and three cornered leek. Three cornered leek is often mistakenly planted as wild garlic. We have a lot in the garden so next year we would like to harvest it for people who might like to take and use it in recipes. Keep an eye (and nose) out for this next spring. The roses have been tendered and fed with manure to ensure they're looking their best in memory of our friends Lee and June Parry. Some of the laurel has been thinned to keep it away from the choir vestry building to ensure the fabric of the building is protected. The area between the church and the hall has been scarified to try break up the thick matting and to try encourage biodiversity. It doesn't look very pretty right now but like so many things we're hoping that this period of not looking too good will bring about great flourishing so please do bear with us.

Thank you also for the very welcomed refreshments provided. Again, thank you to everyone for supporting the work to care for the natural world and making the garden a space for the whole community.

## **Craft Workshops**

The Knighton Christmas Tree Festival Team plan to run a series of Craft Workshops during the year. These will take place once a month on Tuesdays from 10.30-12.30 in St. Mary's Church, Knighton.

**The next workshop will be held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May.**

We hope to provide a warm welcome, a variety of craft activities, tea/coffee and biscuits. Everyone is welcome to attend. No previous skills or knowledge required - just a willingness to have a go!

We plan to sell the items made at the next Festival, but if you would like to take your creations home you are welcome to, for a small donation.

## St. Guthlac's Services

Sunday at 10.30am

18 <sup>th</sup> May	Eucharist	Revd Janet Gasper
25 <sup>th</sup> May	Matins & Church Club	David Hunt
1 <sup>st</sup> June	Eucharist	Revd Adrian Jones
8 <sup>th</sup> June	All Age Worship	Revd Cecilia Adjadje

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 3<sup>rd</sup> / 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 #

## **St. Guthlac's May Fayre: Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2025. 11:00am – 2:00pm**

Plans for this popular event are now well under way. You can help support the fayre in lots of ways:

- Help on a stall (thanks to all who have already offered to do this)
- Come along on the day and invite family and friends too
- Donate goods for the tombola (e.g. bottles, tins, new or as new items)
- Get baking! Donations to the cake and preserves stall are requested
- Plants and seedlings are very welcome for our popular plant stall
- Donate your jigsaw puzzles (with no missing pieces please)

Plants and baked goods can be brought on the day or on Friday morning 16<sup>th</sup> May during set up time from 10.30am. Other items can be brought in advance. There is a box at the back of church.

**Many thanks for your support.**

### **EcoTip for MAY. Support pollinators.**

Nothing says Spring like the buzz of a bee! But bees are declining because of habitat loss, climate change and agricultural intensification. Tuesday 20 May is World Bee Day, so look around to see how you can improve habitats for bees and other pollinators - even small efforts make a difference.

Read more about bees, butterflies and habitats that support them such as wildflowers, in our Target 25 resources at <https://arocha.org.uk/what-we-do/target-25/> and pray for the rejuvenation of these crucial pollinators.



## CONTACT DETAILS

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

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

**Curate: Revd Cecilia Adjaje**  
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(rest day normally Friday)

**Revd Aphro McCullough**  
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**Revd Janet Gasper**  
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**Reader: Fiona Wingate**  
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**Churchwardens:**  
**David Hunt**  
**Tina Jarvis**

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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 on Thursday to [administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk](mailto: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>

**Our new Minister Community** - We are moving on in the process towards forming our new 'Minster Community' of local churches working in partnership. Seven Working Groups have now been established to look at different aspects of church life - what we are doing now and what we might do in partnership together. The groups will look at:

- Engagement
- Growing Faith and Schools
- Discipleship and Mission
- Worship, Liturgy and Music
- Geography, Context, Resources and New Communities
- People and Ministry
- Finance, Generosity and Buildings

If you'd like to know more, and perhaps join one of the groups for the next three months, please see Adrian for more information.

## **BENEFICE MAGAZINE**

The revised deadline for the May/June Benefice Magazine is **Monday 12 May**. I'm sure there are many potential contributions out there - your thoughts on Easter, reflections on the death of the Pope - even, dare I say it, the prospects of Minster Communities!

And then there are some of our regular/occasional topics, like favourite hymns and travellers' tales.

Over to you!

Editor Nigel ([stmaryknighton.magazine@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryknighton.magazine@gmail.com))

### **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](mailto:churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk)

## Please support Christian Aid Week 11<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May



**Meet Aurelia:** An inspirational farmer and community leader. Aurelia and her family belong to the Indigenous Q'eqchi' community of the Alta Verapaz region in Guatemala.

The climate crisis and industrial plantations have changed Q'eqchi' land dramatically. Heatwaves, storms and unpredictable seasons are ravaging farms. Industrial agriculture is taking over the last of the region's natural resources to feed the world's richest countries.

Many of the vital crops that Aurelia depends on are withering and dying before her eyes.

With funding from **Christian Aid**, Congcoop supports communities to return to Indigenous farming practices and adopt agroecological approaches that conserve their land, culture and livelihood. Agroecology, put simply, is farming in a sustainable way that works with, not against, nature. It's the application of ecological principles in farming – a blend of ancient and modern wisdom.

By working with Congcoop, Aurelia's gained the skills and knowledge to cultivate native seeds that are better suited to the changing climate. She's producing her own organic fertiliser, creating nurseries, constructing rainwater collection systems, and making nutritious food and medicine for her chickens.

Thanks to Aurelia's ever-growing knowledge base, she's now cultivating cacao, sugarcane, cinnamon, corn and pineapples. It's steady progress that holds promise. Aurelia's resolute hope has also inspired her to develop and lead other activities in her community, including producing chocolate, establishing a farmers' market, and fighting for women's rights.

**Can YOU help fund essential training and tools, so farmers like Aurelia can feed their family? You can donate in one of the following ways: THANKYOU!**

- Through a donation in a Christian Aid envelope which is delivered to your home, or one available in church
- By donating on-line through our St Guthlac's e-envelope. This is easy to do by using the following link: <https://fundraise.christianaid.org.uk/envelope-2025/st-guthlacs-e-envelope>
  - or by using the QR code below



**Tea and Talk meeting for May...**

# **Bumblebees in Leicester**

## **Are they in crisis?**

**Tina Jarvis**

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm**

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



Tina has been part of a national scheme to monitor bumblebees for the last 10 years as part of the Bumblebee Conservation Trust. Bumblebees are big furry social bees that originated in the Himalayans. Come and find out about the common types that live in Leicester. They are important pollinators for plant reproduction and crop yields but sadly 2024 was a very bad year for them. Thankfully there are easy things you can do to help.

**Free talk and refreshments. Do join us!**