

# ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac  
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025**  
**Advent Sunday**

## **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November**

This Sunday at 10.30am, Revd. Adrian Jones & Revd. Cecilia Adjadje will preside and preach at the benefice communion service.

### **The Collect 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

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 2.1-5;

**Psalms 122;**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Romans 13.11-14;

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 24.36-44

**Prayers for each other this month:** December is the month when, together as a church family, we pray for those whose surnames begin with U, V, W, X, Y and Z! This group may include some friends but please also bring before God all of this alphabetical collection, even if you don't know their names. Pray for the fruit of the Holy Spirit to be seen in their lives as they come close to God during the festive celebrations.

**Prayers for the World:** As many people in the UK still feel the impact of the 'cost of living crisis', please pray for all those for whom Christmas is a financially perilous time, with anxiety about meeting everyone's expectations whilst still making ends meet. Pray for those who find this season poignant and sad, even distressing, because they are missing someone special or because of past trauma and abuse. Pray for those who have no idea about Jesus and how his coming changed the world and offers to change us.

**Prayers for the Church:** Pray for all local churches and their communities in this season of Advent preparation. Pray for all the concerts, services and events that will be put on - for their success in pointing people towards Jesus as both baby and adult, and in prompting questions about his continuing life in the world today. With others across our diocese please pray for the people and leaders of the local churches in Glenfield & Newtown Linford, Anstey & Thurstaston with Cropston (including Matthew and Clare Gough), Desford & Kirby Muxloe and St Leonard's, Swithland.

In particular please pray this week for **Katherine Swanson**.

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 –**Toller 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)*

### **Dale McCullough**

Aphro is pleased to report that Dale's health has improved. She would like to thank everyone for their prayers and support.

## Minster Community proposal writing stage

Following the hard work that each of the seven working groups (WGs) undertook, the coordinating group used the summaries generated by the WGs to take to the Sensemaking day at St Hugh on 27<sup>th</sup> Sept. The process of sensemaking led to additional thoughts being added to the summaries. We also had the chance to discuss: the stresses and tensions, larger insights, opportunities and gaps.

The next stage in the process of forming a Minster Community is '**writing the proposal**'. Once drafted this will be circulated to PCCs for comment and eventually taken through various stages within the diocese before coming back to the PCC for approval.

To write the proposal we need a 'writing group'. This needs to be a group of no more than 4-5 people. With the existing members of the co-ordinating group, we need no more than 1 or 2 additional volunteers to join the writing group. The writing group volunteers will each need to write sections of the proposal, to comment on the drafts of the proposal as they are generated and to contribute to editing the proposal to get it to its final stage. This will involve meeting several times over the course of the 3 months Jan to March 2026.

If you have writing and editing skills and you feel you would like to volunteer to be a member of the writing group, **please contact Fiona**. Please can you give examples of how you use/have used your writing and editing skills. This is so that in the event that we have more than 2 volunteers we are able to match these up to existing skills and fill the gaps.

Thank you for your contribution to the formation of the MC3 Teal Minster Community. We would not have been able to get to this stage without your focus, commitment and help.

### **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)

### **EcoTip for December: Celebrate a simpler and greener Christmas.**

As Advent begins, let us turn our gaze to the true meaning of Christmas - God with us, Emmanuel. The humble birth of a child in a stable may seem distant from the way we celebrate today, but it offers a profound reminder of simplicity. This season, let's reflect on the story that we wish our actions and choices to tell. Consider A Rocha UK's blog on journeying towards a zero-waste Christmas [arocha.org.uk/journeying-towards-a-zero-waste-christmas](http://arocha.org.uk/journeying-towards-a-zero-waste-christmas). May our hearts and our celebrations align with the simplicity and beauty of the Christmas story.

### **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.

**Communion at Home:** If you find that coming to church on Sundays or for our midweek services is just too difficult, you might appreciate the opportunity for receiving Communion at home occasionally. Please let Adrian know if this would be helpful and we'll see what can be arranged.

## **St. Guthlac's Services**

Sunday at 10.30am

7 <sup>th</sup> December	Eucharist	Revd Aphro McCullough
14 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity Gift Service	Revd Adrian Jones & Fiona Wingate
21 <sup>st</sup> December	Eucharist	Revd Cecilia Adjadje & Revd Janet Gasper
28 <sup>th</sup> December	NO SERVICE AT EITHER CHURCH	
Every Thursday at 9.30am		Holy Communion
Every Tuesday 9.30am at St. Mary's		Holy Communion

### **Virtual Compline 8.00pm Wednesday evenings**

**There will be NO Compline on Wednesday 17th December or Christmas Eve 24th December.**

There will be virtual Compline services on all other Wednesdays in December and January at 8.00pm including Wednesday 31st December 2025. **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

07919 262 399  
(rest day normally Friday)

**Curate: Revd Cecilia Adjadje**  
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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>



# **Knighton Christmas Tree Festival**

**Saturday 29th November 10am – 5pm**

**Sunday 30th November 12.30pm – 5pm**

St. Mary's Church, Brinsmead Road, Leicester LE2 3WD  
Admission £2.50 - Children free. All proceeds going to  
The Bridge Charity and the Church Community Garden



**Light refreshments, raffle and children's activities.**

**Event supported by Knighton Ward Community Fund**



## **CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

Yes, it's that time of year fast approaching – St. G's Christmas Fayre! This year it will be on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 9:45 – 1:00pm. Put the date in your diaries! Whilst we do have some time in hand it would be good to start to plan well in advance.

Therefore, we are asking for donations of the following items:

- Clean empty jam jars, preferably with labels removed!
- Jigsaw puzzles – please ensure they have ALL their pieces!
- New/as new items for a Gift Stall
- Tombola items. Bottles/soap/shower gel/unwanted small gifts etc.

A box for donations will be at the back of church.

There will be a raffle in aid of Malawi health clinic. A list of items needed for the hamper will be in the Welcome area.

Cakes and biscuits will be required on the day of the Fayre.

If anyone is able to make preserves or pickles of any sort, they would be most welcome. With thanks, Anne Hunt

### **How to order:**

If you can email your order, please request an on-line catalogue from [fayre@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk](mailto:fayre@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk)

If you are using a printed copy of the Christmas Fayre Catalogue, (paper copies available in church), fill in the quantities against the required items and enter your details. Send your completed catalogue order in the post to David Hunt, 11, Swale Close, Oadby, Leicester. LE2 4GF or phone your order through to 0\*\*\*\*\*.



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

**Saturday 6th 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**

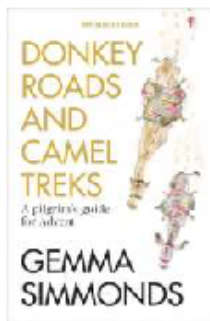
## Advent resources 2025

If are wondering how to observe the coming Advent season, you might like to consider using one of these books, an online Advent resource or maybe both!



### Listening to the music of the soul

- The Archbishop of York's 2025 Advent book
- Bishop Guli Francis-Dehqani helps you explore Advent themes through the bible and her own personal experiences
- You will find hope and transformation in your journey towards Christmas
- Available to buy on line for around £11



### Donkey roads and camel treks

- The BRF Advent book for 2025
- Gemma Simmonds helps you navigate the true meaning of Advent through the eyes of a pilgrim
- Take time out from the busyness of the season and be encouraged to grow in faith
- Available to buy on line for around £10

Copies of both books are available in the welcome area for you to look at. Please leave them for others to see.

Online reflections from the Church of England are also available:

- **Daily Advent reflections on the Everyday Faith app:** Daily 'O Come Emmanuel' reflections are available with audio on the Everyday Faith app (the new daily devotional app from the Church of England) from 1-24 December.
- **Twelve Joys of Christmas meditations:** These funny and profound reflections are also available by email and the Everyday Faith app (with audio). You can sign up for Joy of Christmas emails here [Sign up to The Joy of Christmas | The Church of England](#)

**Donations for Open Hands at our Gift Service on 14<sup>th</sup> Dec** As usual, we will be collecting much needed food donations at our Gift Service, for distribution by Open Hands to our needy neighbours. Please note that Christmas treat items are **NOT** requested, as our collection will be made after the deadline of 30<sup>th</sup> November for Christmas hamper donations (although there are collection points for these in Sainsbury's and Asda in Oadby, and the London Rd Co-op, if you would like to add something before 30<sup>th</sup> Nov). The items pictured would be especially welcome at our gift service Thank you.



SOME OF THESE ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE TO BUY ON **GIVE TODAY**

# Food

*Needed For our Essentials Hub*



					
Tin of Soup	Tinned Fruit	Jar of Sauce	Vegetarian Meal	Meat Meal	Rice
					
Cooking Oil	Tinned Vegetables	Tinned Pulse Beans	Dried Pulse Beans	UHT Milk	Bottled Water and Soft Drinks
					
Jams/Spreads	Sugar	Tinned Tomatoes	Squash	Tinned Fish	Tea Bags Small (40s and 80s)
					
Flour	Small Coffee	Cereal	Bags for Life	Biscuits	Pasta

## Christmas Tree Festival 2025

### Cards and Notelets

These exclusive cards with designs by members of our congregations will be available from mid-November. To order, sign on the list in St Mary's or email [knightonctf24@gmail.com](mailto:knightonctf24@gmail.com), stating the number of packs required. Please distinguish between cards and notelets.

**Christmas Card** Angel of the Annunciation by Sue Sansome (*after William Morris*)



Packs of 8 cards (6 ins x 4 ins with envelopes)  
£6

Message inside reads

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year

**Notelets by Deborah Martin**



Packs of 5 different designs (5ins x 5ins with envelopes)  
£4

Blank inside

Proceeds go to the Christmas Tree Festival's two charitable objectives this year: the Bridge, Homelessness to Hope, and the Place of Peace in St Mary's churchyard.

# CHRISTMAS RAFFLE HAMPER

Our popular Hamper will be back this year with proceeds going to our Malawi appeal. Please indicate on the list in the welcome area if you are able to donate something to go into the hamper. The raffle will be drawn at the Fayre on Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Dec, so please bring your contributions no later than **Sun 30<sup>th</sup> November**. (Please check use by dates extend until Christmas). Thank you.



**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](mailto: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 Church: Christmas Services and Events**

<b>St Guthlac's Christmas Fayre:</b>	<b>Sat. 6<sup>th</sup> December 9.45am – 1pm</b>
<b>Christmas Gift Service:</b>	<b>Sun. 14<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am</b>
<b>Traditional Carols and Readings:</b>	<b>Wed. 17<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm</b>
<b>Crib Service:</b>	<b>Wed. 24<sup>th</sup> December 4.00pm</b>
<b>First Communion of Christmas:</b>	<b>Wed. 24<sup>th</sup> December 8.00pm</b>
<b>Christmas Morning Communion:</b>	<b>Thurs. 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am</b>

*Please Note: On Sunday 28th December there will be no service  
at St Guthlac's.*

## **St Mary Magdalen: Christmas Services and Events**

<b>Christmas Tree Festival:</b>	<b>Sat. 29th November (10am-5pm) &amp; Sun. 30th November (12.30pm—5pm)</b>
<b>Festival Carol Service:</b>	<b>Sun. 30<sup>th</sup> November 5pm</b>
<b>Carols &amp; Christingles:</b>	<b>Sun. 14<sup>th</sup> December 4pm</b>
<b>Parish Carol Service:</b>	<b>Sun. 21<sup>st</sup> December 6.30pm</b>
<b>Carols &amp; Crib Service:</b>	<b>Wed. 24th December 4pm</b>
<b>Midnight Communion:</b>	<b>Wed. 24<sup>th</sup> December 11.30pm</b>
<b>Christmas Day:</b>	<b>Thurs. 25<sup>th</sup> December 9am</b>
<b>Christmas Day Celebration:</b>	<b>Thurs. 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am</b>

*Please note: there will be no morning services on Sunday 28th December, but  
on Sunday 4th January they run as usual, at 9am and 10.30am.*



**CANTAMICI** choir presents a  
Concert of Christmas music



**St. Denys Church, Church Road, Evington, LE5 6FA**  
**Saturday 6th December 2025 at 7pm**

**A large car park is available opposite the church!**

The choir has toured the UK and Europe many times and has performed at St. Denys previously.

**Tickets only £10** available at the door and includes quality refreshments.

Raffle tickets, for the chance to win quality prizes, will be available to purchase on the night.

**All welcome!**

For more information, Tel: 0116 271 3812 or 07803 828454



**st denys church**  
**evington**