

# ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac  
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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

**save the date!**





## Join the East Midlands Young Adults Pilgrimage to



## August 1 - 9, 2026

*For those aged 18-35, from across the East Midlands and beyond, with limited seats on the coach for those over 35! To find out more contact: [revgough@gmail.com](mailto:revgough@gmail.com) or [clay.roundtree@lincoln.anglican.org](mailto:clay.roundtree@lincoln.anglican.org)*

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2025**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**

## Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December

This Sunday at 10.30am, Revd Adrian Jones & Fiona Wingate will lead the Nativity & Gift All Age Service. If you are able, please bring gifts for Open Hands to this service. Details of the most needed items can be found on page 9. Thank you.

### **The Collect and Readings for the Third Sunday of Advent**

O Lord Jesus Christ,  
who at your first coming sent your messenger  
to prepare your way before you:  
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries  
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way  
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,  
that at your second coming to judge the world  
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 35.1-10;

**Psalm 146.4-10;**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** James 5.7-10;

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 11.2-11

**Praying 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.

**Praying for the World:** Please pray for all situations across the globe where there is suffering, oppression and injustice. Pray that God will help global leaders with influence and agency, whose instincts are for justice.

Pray too for ourselves, that we may be alert and attuned to God's call for engagement with the life of the world.

**Praying for the Church:** Please pray for our discipleship and all our journeys of faith this season. Give thanks for God's loving presence with us, and pray that those who are going through difficult times will know that God is 'hidden in the dark' with them.

In particular please pray this week for **June Rich** and **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 –**Woodland Avenue**.

*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

21 <sup>st</sup> December	Eucharist	Revd Cecilia Adjadje & Revd Janet Gasper
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28 <sup>th</sup> December	NO SERVICE AT EITHER CHURCH	
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4 <sup>th</sup> January	Eucharist	Revd Janet Gasper
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11 <sup>th</sup> January	All Age Worship	
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Every Thursday at 9.30am	Holy Communion
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Every Tuesday 9.30am at St. Mary's	Holy Communion
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### 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 #

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE** A big thank you to all who helped at or supported the Christmas Fayre. We raised over **£2,300** for church funds and in addition, **£330** for the mobile health clinic in Malawi, a wonderful result. There are still a few things left for sale in the welcome area.

## 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>

## 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 about £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

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](#)

**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%.

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





**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

**Mothers' Union Fellowship** Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> December (not our usual 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday) at 1.30 for a 2pm start. It will be a "bring and share" lunch and we will have some carols. LP

# **St Mary Magdalen:**

## **Christmas Services and Events**

**Christmas Tree Festival:** Sat. 29th November (10am-5pm) & Sun. 30th November (12.30pm—5pm)

**Festival Carol Service:** Sun. 30<sup>th</sup> November 5pm

**Carols & Christingles:** Sun. 14<sup>th</sup> December 4pm

**Parish Carol Service:** Sun. 21<sup>st</sup> December 6.30pm

**Carols & Crib Service:** Wed. 24th December 4pm

**Midnight Communion:** Wed. 24<sup>th</sup> December 11.30pm

**Christmas Day:** Thurs. 25<sup>th</sup> December 9am

**Christmas Day Celebration:**  
Thurs. 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am

*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.*

# **St Guthlac's Church: Christmas Services and Events**

## **St Guthlac's Christmas Fayre:**

**Sat. 6<sup>th</sup> December 9.45am – 1pm**

**Christmas Gift Service: Sun. 14<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am**

## **Traditional Carols and Readings:**

**Wed. 17<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm**

## **Crib Service:**

**Wed. 24<sup>th</sup> December 4.00pm**

## **First Communion of Christmas:**

**Wed. 24<sup>th</sup> December 8.00pm**

## **Christmas Morning Communion:**

**Thurs. 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am**

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

*St. Guthlac's, Knighton*  
*Candlelit Service of Nine*  
*Lessons and Carols*  
*Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec*  
*7.30pm*



*Followed by*  
*light*  
*Refreshments*

*All Welcome*