

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

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



Sunday 22nd February 2026
First Sunday of Lent

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

The Collect and Readings for the First Sunday of Lent

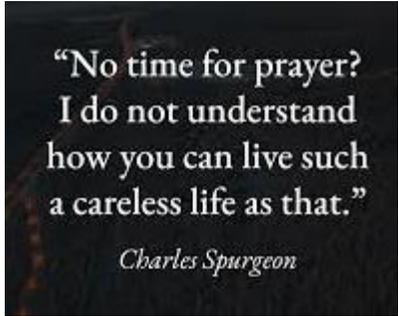
Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

1st Reading: Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7;

Psalm 32;

2nd Reading: Romans 5.12-19;

Gospel Reading: Matthew 4.1-11



“No time for prayer?
I do not understand
how you can live such
a careless life as that.”

Charles Spurgeon

Praying for each other: In this new month of February, please pray for all our friends and congregation members whose surnames begin with the letters E, F, G and H. Pray that in these cold days they'll experience the warmth of God's love, as he shares it with us both in Jesus and through our companions and families.

Praying for the World: Please pray for all those who are victims of abuse, exploitation and trafficking across the world. Pray that they will know how precious they are in God's sight and that they have the right to a life of purpose and peace. Pray for all those who work to bring them release, justice and healing.

Praying for the Church: Please pray within every church we will be able to create a place of safety for all those who are vulnerable or abused. Pray that we would be able to change our church culture so that everyone helps to safeguard the welfare of others.

In particular please pray this week for **Dr John Chipolombwe, Eileen McKellican, 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 – **Beresford Drive**.

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@stquthlac-knighton.co.uk

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.

EcoTip for February: This Lent, take part in Climate Steward's Carbon Fast. Lent is a time when Christians traditionally fast and focus on God. The Carbon Fast will help you consider ways to live more simply, give you new ideas to cut your carbon footprint and invite you to focus on God and consider the whole of

his creation. If you sign up of the Carbon Fast, then beginning on 5 March, you'll receive a weekly email containing key facts, suggestions for how you could reduce your carbon footprint and a prayer to lead you through this Lenten season. Each week features a different theme designed to help us take climate action in manageable ways that bear witness to a God who has promised to restore all of his creation. Find out more and sign up at <https://climatestewards.org/resources/carbon-fast-for-lent/>

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>

St. Guthlac's Services

Sunday at 10.30am

1 st March	Eucharist	Revd Cecilia Adjadje
8 th March	All Age Worship	Fiona Wingate
15 th March	Eucharist	Revd Aphro McCullough & Revd Adrian Jones
22 nd March	Morning Prayer & Church Club	David Hunt
Every Thursday at 9.30am		Holy Communion
Every Tuesday 9.30am at St. Mary's		Holy Communion

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 **#**

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.

Update from Bishop Christopher about the Mobile Clinics in Malawi:

This is by way of an update and also to thank you to all at St Guthlac for your sustained generosity and awareness of all that the clinic and its outreach means.

With your unstinting help we have been able to do the following:

- continue vital monthly visits to the villages during the dry season.
- 10 visits alone during the 5 months of the dry season - the rainy season began in November.
- 450/500 patients seen each month and the number grows
- a wide range and numerous medical conditions treated
- these include a high incidence of respiratory diseases - asthma, chest infection and cancers
- skin conditions such as scabies, fungal infections and eczema have been the most numerous
- Food supplements - Likuni Phala - given to the most vulnerable to help combat the silent killer of malnutrition: pregnant women and under 5s.
- 114 cases of nutritional concern were recorded.
- a local and innovative partnership forged between the mobile clinic, Mzuzu Rotary and Eyesight Universal has brought eyecare and glasses to the villagers.
- purchase of care and diagnostic equipment
- participation in a Polio Prevention Campaign.
- registration with the Medical Council of Malawi necessary for our continuation.
- each trip costs about £620

You have enabled the treatment to be more comprehensive and professional. In additional eye tests and glasses are now being offered on clinic visits to Chamalala.

In mid January it was reported by the BBC that Malawi's energy regulator has hiked petrol prices by more than 40% marking the second time fuel costs have gone up in four months. This impacts significantly on the running cost of the clinic. Fuel is a very large expense and it increases the costs of drugs too.

Equipment Shortage: A lack of dedicated screening hinders patients' privacy and medicine dispensing tables hinders what the team call the 'clinical flow' of patients.

I have asked Dr John Chipolombwe to send him the unit cost of folding screens and dispensing tables but is not sure when these may arrive. Dr John was discharged a week ago from hospital following major back surgery and has to wear a neck brace for 6 weeks. He is recovering but it all may take a little time.

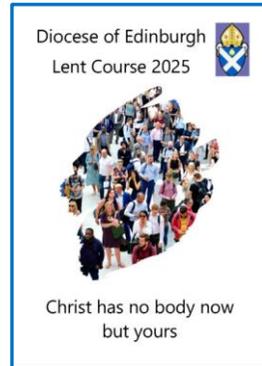
Thank you all again and God bless all our efforts going forward.
+ Christopher

Lent: The traditional habits of Lent have fallen out of fashion somewhat - apart from eating pancakes on Shrove Tuesday perhaps! It is good though, to remember the seasons of the Church's year and to make a point of preparing ourselves for the major festivals. Can I encourage you to take up a spiritual discipline for Lent this year? Perhaps choosing a prayer to say each morning, or committing to reading through one of the Gospels before Easter. You might also choose to skip a meal once a week so that you can give something extra to charity, or develop the virtue of patience by giving up something you enjoy until Easter. *Adrian*

Mothers' Union Fellowship Our next meeting is on Tuesday 24th February at 1.30 for a 2pm start in the Parish Centre. Our speaker will be Margaret Young whose talk is intriguingly entitled "Neither Fish nor Fowl" (plus a 16th century romance!) LP.

LENT approaching! You may well have noticed that Easter is 'early' this year, and so, therefore, is Lent! As usual, Christians are encouraged to remember through Holy Week and then celebrate on Easter Day itself – and the weeks of Lent before then are a significant time for pause, thought, reflection, thinking, discussion and growth in our Christian faith.

In our **Sunday services** during Lent we will be picking up themes from a course written for the Diocese of Edinburgh last year, called "**Christ has no body now but yours**", which is based on the famous prayer by St Teresa of Avila. The course encourages us to think more deeply about our individual part in the Body of Christ and how we can better work out our faith in practical ways every day. Each Sunday service will be followed during the week by the chance to be part of a small group discussion around the same theme, with illustrations and questions to help us.



There will be (at least) two **Lent discussion groups**. One will run at St Mary's Parish Centre (in the small Cottage/Welcome Room) on Wednesday mornings at 10.30am-noon, starting on 25th February for five weeks. The other group will run in the entrance area of St Guthlac's on Thursday evenings at 7.30-9pm, starting on 26th February for five weeks. Please choose the best day and time for you – it doesn't matter which church you feel part of most! The course book for both groups is identical and costs just £1.50 towards the printing.

I do hope that you will want to use this Lent as an intentional time for growing your faith, and that you'll be able to join one of these groups. If you're keen but the dates and times don't work for you, please see me so that we can think about running an additional meeting.

Please sign the list at the back of either church to show that you'd like to be part of a midweek discussion group and that you'd like a booklet. See you there! *Adrian*

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar: Revd. Adrian Jones 07919 262 399
adrian.jones@zoho.com (rest day normally Friday)

Curate: Revd Cecilia Adjadjé *****
***** (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
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

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>

**YOU ARE INVITED TO A
SIMPLE**

LENT LUNCH

SOUP, BREAD ROLL, CHEESE AND BISCUITS



ON SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2026

12 NOON FOR 12.30PM - 2 PM

KNIGHTON PARISH CENTRE,

CHURCH LANE, LE2 3WG

TICKETS £6

AVAILABLE FROM

BERYL BONFIELD 0116 2702202

SUPPORTING LOROS

Free Film Night

at St Guthlac's Church

Holbrook Rd

LE2 3LF

All welcome!



Driving Miss Daisy

(Cert U, 94 mins)

Tues 7.00pm 10th March

Fiercely independent, and penny-pinching Miss Daisy (Jessica Tandy) is appalled when her nephew decides she is too old to drive and hires her a black chauffeur (Morgan Freeman)..... This American comedy won the Academy Award for best picture of 1989.

**Free refreshments and the
chance to socialise**