



**St Mary Magdalen Church,
Knighton**



**Sunday 30th January 2022
4th Sunday of Epiphany**

**Join us in prayer, worship and life together,
this Sunday and through the week**

Collect

God our creator,
who in the beginning
commanded the light to shine out of darkness:
we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ
may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief,
shine into the hearts of all your people,
and reveal the knowledge of your glory
in the face of 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.



DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday 30th January	9.00am	Weekly Eucharist
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist
	10.30am	Eucharist at St Guthlac's
Monday 31st January Parish Office Closed	7.00pm	Pilgrim Course
Tuesday 1st February	9.30am	Eucharist
Wednesday 2nd February	9.30am	Morning Prayer for the Presentation of Christ in the Temple
	10.00am	Boon Cleaning Services
	7.00pm	Choir Practice
	8.00 pm	Compline on Zoom
Thursday 3rd February	9.30am	Eucharist at St Guthlac's
Friday 4th February	7.00pm	Choir Practice
Saturday 5th February		
Sunday 6th February	9.00am	Weekly Eucharist
	10.30am	All Age Worship with baptisms
	10.30am	Eucharist at St Guthlac's

Sunday Club, for children at primary school, meets during the 10.30am service on both the second and third Sundays of each month. Everyone is welcome even if it's your first time here! Just ask one of the Welcome Team to point out our leaders, and then say hello :)

On the first Sunday we all stay together for All Age Worship, and on the fourth Sunday why not join us at 10.30 for the relaxed, cafe- style Church Club at St Guthlac's, Holbrook Road?

UPDATE: Christian Aid Christmas Appeal

The final total raised for this appeal was £295, to which will be added £47.50 in Gift Aid. Renewed thanks for your generosity. Eileen McKellican

Precautions against the spread of Corona Virus

During the on-going pandemic it is right and good that we take some sensible precautions when we meet together for worship in church.

Can I ask you once more to be careful about **sanitising** your hands as you arrive and as you leave?

We are now required to wear a **face mask** in church.

Please keep the side chapels available as spaces for those who would prefer to continue **sitting 2m apart**;; and please ensure that you leave space in the pews whenever you can.

We will continue to offer **communion** as wafers only and will not use the altar rail as yet. Please keep your mask on as you wait to receive.

Please remember to give each other **space at coffee time**, particularly if you take your mask off to drink – please spread out in the building rather than bunch together in the Narthex.

In summary, please do continue to act kindly towards each other, try not to take offence easily and to make allowances for others who may be more or less cautious than yourself. Our fellowship together is much more important than getting everyone to agree with us!

Revd Adrian Jones

Morning Prayer to mark 'Candlemas', the Presentation of Christ in the Temple - In the Church's calendar, we remember on 2nd February each year how Mary brought the infant Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem forty days after he was born, to be presented to the priests and for her own purification according to Jewish law. Since the fifth century the festival has been traditionally marked in churches with the lighting of candles - hence the common name 'Candlemas'. This year we will mark Candlemas on Wednesday 2nd February with Morning Prayer at St Mary's at 9.30am, lasting for about 20 minutes. Everyone is welcome.

Sad news

We lost one of our long standing church family members last week. Robert Muddimer died peacefully at home surrounded by his family after a long battle with failing health. He died in the faith of knowing Christ and we pray for him to rest in peace and rise in glory and for Charlotte and family to know the nearness of God at this time of grief. Rob's funeral will be held at St Mary's, Monday 21st February at 1pm.

Listening to God's Word

Our Bible readings for **Sunday 30th January** are:

Romans 1.1-10

1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God – ² the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures ³ regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, ⁴ and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. ⁵ Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake. ⁶ And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

⁷ To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁸ First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. ⁹ God, whom I serve in my spirit in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you ¹⁰ in my prayers at all times; and I pray that now at last by God's will the way may be opened for me to come to you.

Romans 16.1-16

16 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church in Cenchreae. ² I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of his people and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been the benefactor of many people, including me.

³ Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my co-workers in Christ Jesus. ⁴ They risked their lives for me. Not only I but all the churches of the Gentiles are grateful to them.

⁵ Greet also the church that meets at their house.

Greet my dear friend Epenetus, who was the first convert to Christ in the province of Asia.

⁶ Greet Mary, who worked very hard for you.

⁷ Greet Andronicus and Junia, my fellow Jews who have been in prison with me. They are outstanding among the apostles, and they were in Christ before I was.

⁸ Greet Ampliatus, my dear friend in the Lord.

⁹ Greet Urbanus, our co-worker in Christ, and my dear friend Stachys.

¹⁰ Greet Apelles, whose fidelity to Christ has stood the test.

Greet those who belong to the household of Aristobulus.

¹¹ Greet Herodion, my fellow Jew.

Greet those in the household of Narcissus who are in the Lord.

¹² Greet Tryphena and Tryphosa, those women who work hard in the Lord.

Greet my dear friend Persis, another woman who has worked very hard in the Lord.

¹³ Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother, who has been a mother to me, too.

¹⁴ Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas and the other brothers and sisters with them.

¹⁵ Greet Philologus, Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas and all the Lord's people who are with them.

¹⁶ Greet one another with a holy kiss.

All the churches of Christ send greetings.

Sundays in January and February: “Women of the Bible”

As we move from Epiphany towards Lent our 10.30am Sunday morning services are going to look more closely at some of the women of the Bible -often overlooked or under-appreciated.

Each week we will hear what the Bible says about one individual, and listen to a sermon that unpacks what we can learn for our own Christian lives today from the story and example of this specific woman; examples include Anna, Phoebe and Miriam.

All the members of our Ministry Team will contribute, and no doubt the different perspectives will be both interesting and inspiring.

During February we will also have the opportunity to hear about a recent report presented to our Diocesan Synod, called “*Women: the state of play*”. The report explores how women’s ministry has been received and appreciated in the Diocese of Leicester over recent years, and has some challenging conclusions for us all. In discussion together, we may begin to see some ways our own attitudes or approaches might need to change.

I’m sure that every Sunday will offer something valuable, so please do take this chance to fill in some gaps in our appreciation of all God’s (Bible) people!

Adrian

PLEASE CAN YOU HELP? - Dust and cobwebs are building up in church., The Church needs your help on a regular basis. All willing hands please contact Sian or Beryl, Churchwardens. Contact details are at the back of this newsletter. Thank you.

Looking ahead – baptism on 6th February

Congratulations and best wishes to our own Skye and Derry Roche who have both asked to be baptised in our All Age Worship at St Mary’s on 6th February. It would be lovely to have lots of their friends from our church family with them for this special time, so do please join us if you can!

It will also be the first time we can use our new moveable font, bought recently with a bequest from the late Bill Ibbs.

Adrian & Alison

Looking ahead – *Adrian's forthcoming 'Extended Study Leave'*

I'm pleased to say that Bishop Martyn has given me his permission for a period of Extended Study Leave (or 'Sabbatical' as it used to be called) in 2022, between 25th April and 25th July.

This will give me a break from normal parish responsibilities for a while, and the opportunity to reflect, read, research and come back renewed! Please don't imagine that it's a sign I'm leaving... quite the opposite in fact! - I'm hoping that this time will give me lots of ideas and material to use back in our churches to refresh our worshipping life for a long time to come.

During my extended study leave I'll be looking at ways in which spirituality and discipleship 'on the margins' can nurture and support the life of Christian communities in more 'mainstream' urban and suburban areas. They're should be lots for me to tell you about, and plenty of ideas to try.

On a practical note, although I'll still be at home with the family in the vicarage most of the time, the aim is to break from normal parish responsibilities such as visiting, taking services, and being part of meeting. Thankfully, Matthew will be able to pick up the reins, with assistance from the other members of the Ministry Team, during this time.

I've discussed my Study Leave with both PCCs in the benefice and I'm grateful for their support. As you would imagine, we will plan carefully to ensure that all aspects of church life are maintained while I'm on my sabbatical.

Although we've some time to go yet, do please ask me any questions you may have about what I'll be doing, or about the arrangements for the churches here.

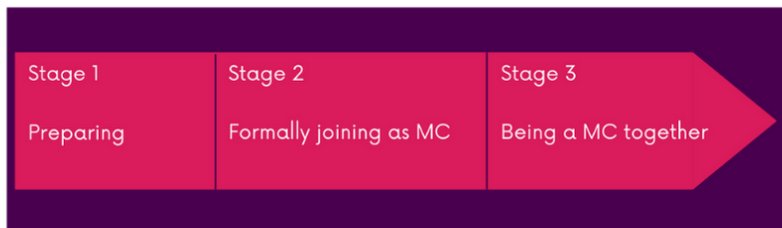
Adrian

Shaped by God Together - update



SBGT JOURNEY TO MINSTER COMMUNITIES

In October 2021 our diocesan Synod agreed the new minister communities framework for our diocese. This is a journey that we will all take and by 2026 we hope that new framework will be fully implemented across the diocese. But this will happen differently for each area and context, all with support from the diocese.



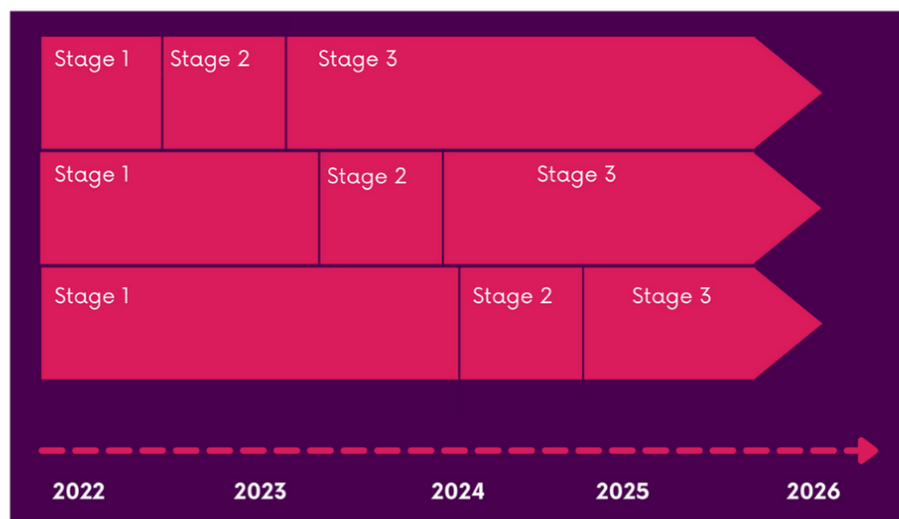
There are three main 'stages' to this journey and the formal creation and move into a minister community is only one part.

Stage One – We are asking communities to think and pray about where God has placed you. Think about what you can offer to and gain from a Minister Community. Alongside this continue to promote vocations, work with schools and children and young people and partner with others locally.

Stage Two – this is the formal part of the process in which your Minister Community will form.

Stage Three – Now you are in your new Minister Community you can continue your conversations and start working together.

These three stages will happen at different points for different parishes and communities. For some, particularly those in the pilot areas, they will be entering stage two fairly early in 2022



giving them more time in stage three. For others stage one will be their focus until implementation of their minister community can take place. But we are all on this same trajectory, all following the same journey of change. Shaped By God, together

Shaped by God Together - update. *Adrian writes.* "This update, and the diagram opposite, describe the next stages in the Shaped by God Together process that will change how all local churches in the Diocese of Leicester are grouped together in coming years, as 'Minster Communities'. You will see that nothing is planned quickly for most churches in 2022, while the pilot projects get underway. It'll be the autumn before we have any indication of proposals for St Guthlac and St Mary Magdalen. In the meantime we are all encouraged to look for ways in which we can work more closely with all our neighbouring churches."

Churchyard update:

You'll no doubt notice when you're at the church that there are now two things needing attention in the churchyard

The first is that the notice board at the Brinsmead Rd entrance has come apart and one side has come off - the wood has swollen, cracked and is irreparable. Although it doesn't look good at the moment, the PCC are in the process of ordering a replacement, probably made of aluminium but very similar in design.

The second thing is that some stones have come down from the wall near the lychgate. I'm glad to tell you that we have been in touch with the Church Architect and stonemasons in order to get repairs underway as quickly as possible.

Adrian

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 Lorna Pollard, Planned Giving Scheme Secretary: telephone 01162704272 or email: stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com. If you are a taxpayer and gift aid your giving, our church can claim an additional 25%.

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Food for thought?

Find out more about the Christian faith

pilgrim

A COURSE FOR THE CHRISTIAN JOURNEY

Interested in building your faith?

We are hosting a four week Pilgrim course for small groups.

Starting Monday 31st January from 7pm at St Mary's.

If you are interested please contact Matthew or Janet before we confirm final details

Contact details:

Vicar: Adrian Jones 0116 270 4268 or 07919 262399

adrian.jones@zoho.com (rest day normally Friday)

Curate: Revd Matthew Gough 07754 961997

revgough@gmail.com (rest day normally Friday)

Ordinand: Cecilia Adjadje 07425 705221

cadjadje@yahoo.com (Wed, Thurs, Sat, Sun)

Revd Aphro McCullough 0116 283 7887

aphro.mccullough@btinternet.com

Revd Janet Gasper 0116 288 9646

jgasper925@gmail.com

Lay Reader: Fiona Wingate 07515 752954

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Churchwarden: Sian Howard 07932 557646

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Churchwarden: Beryl Bonfield 0116 2702202

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Parish Administrator: James Gutteridge 0116 270 2705

office@knightonparish.co.uk

Please pray..... *"but you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life. "* (Jude, 20-21)

Praying for the World: Please pray for all those dedicated to the protection and education of children and young people, especially in places afflicted by warfare and poverty. Pray especially for those working to end human trafficking and exploitation - and for the freedom and welfare of the victims.

Praying for the Church: Please give thanks for the consecration this week of Bishop Saju, who will soon be installed as the Bishop of Loughborough. Please pray that God will keep calling men and women from a whole diverse range of backgrounds and circumstances, to ministry in the church. both lay and ordained. Pray that the Church will recognise and welcome their calling.

Praying for the Parish: Please pray for the peace and well-being of all those who live on **Knighton Lane East, Pendlebury Drive, Larchwood Close, Chadderton Close, Dawson Way.**

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, and those who are anxious and worried. In particular please pray this week for **Judi Stone, R, Andrew, and Helen.**

We pray for all those on our parish 'Continuing Prayer' list. May they know the power of God's healing love at work in their lives today. We give thanks for those who have been healed and restored.

We remember those who have died recently and pray for their families and friends. **Rob Muddimer, Debbie Gaskin, Eileen Jennison and Noel Freer**

We remember all those whose anniversaries fall at this time.