

St Mary Magdalen Church of England, Knighton

Vicar - Revd Adrian Jones

Sunday 24th February 2019

2nd Sunday before Lent

Welcome to our Sunday services

A warm welcome to everyone joining us at St Mary Magdalen this week, especially if you are here for the first time or visiting. On the next page of this newsletter you'll find all the essential information you might need for this morning's service. This morning we welcome Rev'd Canon Dr Stephen Foster to preside and preach, while Adrian leads at St Guthlac's.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT DURING LENT: During Lent this year, as well as our discussion groups and Ash Wednesday service (see inside for information), the Sunday morning services will have a running theme drawn from our St Mary's vision of being a church that has "Faith for Life". On each of the central five Sundays we will be thinking about one of the objectives identified by the PCC for the next stage of our life together - in each case we will look at the Biblical basis for the objective and in particular what it might imply for us as a church and as individual Christians. I anticipate that there will be both encouragement and challenge for us over the weeks! I'm also hoping that many members of the congregation will be inspired with fresh ideas for practical action, so please do let me know what springs to your mind as, under God's guidance, we look to the future. *Adrian*

Lent 2019 themes: **Faith for Life**

10th March - **WORSHIP:** 'Worshipping God well' (John 4.19-26)

17th March - **FOLLOW:** 'Exploring and following the way of Jesus' (John 15.1-17)

24th March - **CONNECT:** 'Connecting better with our community' (Luke 10.25-37)

31st March - **WELCOME:** 'Welcoming everyone as equally valued' (Matt. 25.31-40)

7th April - **SHARE:** 'Sharing our faith in Jesus with others' (Matt. 28.19-20)

ABOUT OUR SERVICES

- Our worship follows the printed order of service and the readings and hymns are on an additional sheet. Large print versions are available from the sidespersons (the welcomers at the door).
- If you are using a hearing aid, please switch it to the T position so as to make best use of the hearing loop system.
- It is traditional to stand for the hymns and some of the prayers and readings, but if this is difficult for you then please do remain seated and comfortable.
- In the entrance area are toilets, and there is a crèche area at the back of the church. During the service there are activities in the entrance area for children of all ages, at Sunday Club.
- As part of each service we share Communion together and everyone is invited to come forwards to receive bread and wine as we remember the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. If you would prefer to come for a blessing then simply carry the service booklet with you.
- At 10.00am, non-alcoholic communion wine is available on request in the Lady Chapel (to the left) and gluten free wafers on request at the main Communion rail.
- You are welcome to join Adrian for a short time of prayer before the main service: 9.30-9.45am at the front of the Lady Chapel (the chapel on the left).
- Please talk to the sidespersons if you have any other questions and do please stay after the 10.00 am service for tea or coffee and introduce yourself to some of us.

Please send items for inclusion in the diary or notice sheet to James Gutteridge by **Thursday 12.00 noon**. Contact James on office@knightonparish.co.uk or 0116 2702705. Knighton Parish Office, Church Lane, Knighton, Leicester LE2 3WG

DIARY FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 24th February 2nd Sunday before Lent	8.00am 10.00am	Eucharist Sung Eucharist
Monday 25th February Parish Office Closed	7.30pm	Bell Ringing Practice
Tuesday 26th February Parish Office Closed	9.30am 2.15pm	Eucharist, St Mary's MU AGM (Centre)
Wednesday 27th February		
Thursday 28th February Parish Office Closed	9.30am	Eucharist, St Guthlac's
Friday 1st March		
Saturday 2nd March		
Sunday 3rd March Sunday next before Lent	8.00am 10.00am 11.30am	Eucharist All Age Worship Eucharist

The next monthly Service of Prayer for Healing with Communion will be held on **Friday 29th March** at 11.00am.

PRAYING FOR ST MARY'S - SEEKING AND LISTENING TO GOD:

It is always a good idea to pray! And so we are hoping to start up a small group meeting monthly to pray for our church and community as we look for the next steps in our life together. We will normally meet on the first Thursday of each month, around 10.30am, in a local home. If you would like to join us please do let me know. *Adrian*

Listening to God's Word

Our Bible readings today are:

1 Samuel 16.1-13 and Luke 5.17-26

Today's theme is:

Jesus begins: "Remarkable things...."

ADVANCE NOTICE! This year our Church Annual Meeting (APCM) will be on Sunday 7th April at 11.30am, after the morning service. We will have coffee and cakes to keep us going! Everyone who thinks of themselves as part of our church family ought to be there, if at all possible, to hear reports and questions on our life together last year and to take part in the election of Church Wardens and Church Council (PCC) members. Sadly this date, which was determined by Easter and our planning and accounting timetables, means that we will not be able to have the regular 11.30am Communion service that morning - my apologies. Our Annual Report will be available for everyone sometime before the meeting as usual. *Adrian*

PANCAKES, ASHES, SOUL SEARCHING.... AND A GOOD NATTER. It won't be long now before we begin that season in the Church's life that we call Lent. Through these weeks until Easter we consider the final days of Jesus's life before the crucifixion and we live with a greater awareness of our own need to turn away from the wrong in our life and turn back to God. Although many of us mark Shrove Tuesday or Pancake day, the first day of Lent is Ash Wednesday, which this year falls on **6th March**. As usual we have a benefice service that evening, at 7.30pm in St Mary's. This gives us an important opportunity to start our own reflections on what God might want to change in our lives and our own part in making that happen. The service includes the traditional 'ashing' when the minister marks the sign of the cross on each forehead as a symbol of our penitent turning towards a crucified Saviour. Ash Wednesday is also a traditional day for Christians to practice fasting (going without food for some time), again as a symbol of our repentance.

We will also be having our Lent Discussion Groups once again. This year we will be discussing and debating our Lent series of Sunday sermons that focus on what it means to have 'Faith For Life'. Our Wednesday morning group will meet at 10am, beginning on 13th March, at Doreen White's house, 2 Shanklin Gardens. Our Thursday evening group will meet at the Vicarage at 7.45pm, beginning on 14th March. Please think about joining us even if this sort of group is new to you - everyone is very friendly and relaxed and you won't be put on the spot at all! Do sign up on the list at the back of the church on the green boards. *Adrian*

MOTHERS UNION - a reminder that our Annual General Meeting takes place on **Tuesday 26th February**, at 2.15 p.m. in the Parish Centre Lounge. Subs are due.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday, 1st March. Our local services are at 2pm at St James the Greater and 7.30pm at St Guthlac's. Please note this means there will be no 'First Friday Prayers' in March.

PARISH MAGAZINE The copy deadline for the March issue of the Parish Magazine is **Friday 1 March** (St David's Day). I hope to have it issued by 15/16 March. This will be the last magazine before Easter, so please bear that in mind if you have events for that period to publicise. Copy should be sent to stmaryknighton.magazine@gmail.com. Thank you. Nigel Siesage

'TIME FOR A CUPPA ' - On **Sunday 3rd March 2019** after the All Age Worship, homemade cake will be served with your coffee and tea. The money donated that day will be sent to Dementia UK to help fund people with dementia or their carers whilst still living at home. Care can be provided by Admiral Nurses but training costs are high and as more people are living longer dementia is more of an issue. Please help this very worthwhile cause. Thank you in advance for your support. Sue Bonnett.

LENT LUNCH - a simple meal of soup, bread, cheese and biscuits, with tea or coffee. **Saturday 9th March At 12 noon** in the Parish Centre.

Tickets [Essential for this event] £6 From Judi Stone [0116 2881306] or Cora Paul [0116 3678954]. Proceeds in aid of Behala Children's Home, India

THANK YOU to Flick and her team of volunteers for welcoming to St Mary's all 120 Year One children from Overdale Infants School last week. The children shared a range of fun activities that gave them a taste of what the church family here believes and does together in this great building.

THANKS to all who kindly put their "loose change" into the plastic bottle at the back of the church which will go to Grifaid which is the name of the Safe Water Trust. You generously donated £47.65. C.A.J.M.

DON'T MISS OUT! Everyone who is a part of our church family and community needs to complete a new Electoral Roll form this year. We also need a signed 'Keeping in touch' form so that we have permission to contact you. Please pick up both forms from the back of church and return them completed by **10th March** to Eileen McKellican, Adrian Jones or Ros Matthew.

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

This begins next week, and as usual we will have Fairtrade goodies (for a donation!) with our tea and coffee after our services on **3rd** and **10th March**.

Our All Age Worship on 3rd March will focus on Fairtrade, and what we can all do to support justice in trade.

There will also be a **Fairtrade Coffee Morning** at the Vicarage on **Tuesday 5th March**, from 10.30am until 12 noon, with homemade Fairtrade refreshments and Fairtrade gifts from the Just Shop to buy. Everyone is welcome!

Fairtrade 'Real Easter Eggs' come with a newly designed Easter story activity book, at £3.99 each. Please order from Alison Roche by **5th March** and pay on collection.

MARIE CURIE Annual Spring Lunch at the Taste Restaurant, Leicester College on Thursday 21st March, 12.30pm for 1pm. Tickets are £17 per person. The bar will be open and there will be a raffle. Contact Shirley Wills on 0116 2811401 for more information.

Contact details:

Vicar: Adrian Jones 0116 270 4268 / adrian.jones@zoho.com
(day off normally Friday)

Churchwarden: Rosalind Matthew 07531 505637

Parish Administrator: James Gutteridge 0116 270 2705
Email: office@knightonparish.co.uk

(The Parish Office is open **Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday** and **Friday** from 9.30am until 2.30pm, unless stated differently in the diary)
The office is closed on **Mondays**.

KNIGHTON PLAYERS

will be performing

Snow White and the Seven Dwarves

on Friday 22nd March 7.30pm
and Saturday 23rd March 2.30pm and & 7.30pm
in the Parish Centre.

Tickets (adults £7, children £5) are available from Jane Wright 2925220,
David Hunt 2716991 (St. Guthlac's), Tanya Willis 2103580 (St. Mary's),
or knightonplayers@ntlworld.com.

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 standing order as part of our Planned Giving Scheme. Details can be obtained from Lorna Pollard, Planned Giving Scheme Secretary: telephone 0116 2704272 or e mail: stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com. If you are a taxpayer and gift aid your giving, our church can claim an additional 25%.



CHEQUES FOR ST MARY'S Please makes cheques for St Mary's payable to **Knighton PCC**.

Please pray.....

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5.16-18)

Praying for the World: please pray for greater awareness amongst us all about the international trade in arms and warfare, and its influence on world politics and decision making.

Praying for the Church: Please pray for all those involved in the World Day of Prayer (formerly the Women's World Day) on Friday 1st March. Pray that that we are all aware of the issues facing others in the world today and do not live in isolation, that our prayer and action may be inseparable, and for the women of our world and their role in transforming society.

Praying for the Parish : This week please pray for all those who live in **Southland Road, Portisdown Road, Ventnor Road South, Wimbourne Road, Ring Road, Ryde Avenue.**

We pray for all those who are unwell at the moment, whether in body. mind or spirit. In particular we pray for: **'B', Saty French, Trevor Gutteridge** and all those on our parish 'Continuing Prayer' list. May they know the power of God's healing love at work in their lives today.

Give thanks for those who have been healed and restored.

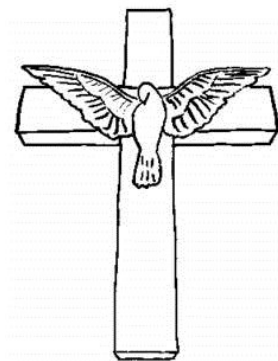
We remember those who have died recently and pray for their families and friends:

Peter Adamson

Renee Duncan

Sue Alexander

Vivienne Freeman



Names will remain on the prayer list here for three weeks - please let us know if they should then be moved to the 'Continuing Prayer' list used for intercessions during the week.