



St Mary Magdalen Church of England, Knighton

Vicar - Revd Adrian Jones
Curate - Revd Neil Bullen

17th December 2017
3rd Sunday of Advent

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.

- 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.
- 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.

Diary for the Week

Sunday 17th December 3rd Sunday of Advent	8.00am 10.00am 6.30pm	Eucharist Sung Eucharist Nine Lessons & Carols
Monday 18th December	7.30pm	Bell Ringing
Tuesday 19th December	9.30am	Eucharist
Wednesday 20th December Parish Office Closed	9.00am 10.00am 1.00pm	Overdale Infant School 'Singalong' Advent Group Tiny Tots (Narthex & Church)
Thursday 21st December Parish Office Closed	9.30am 10.00am	Eucharist at St Guthlac's church Thursday Club (Centre)
Friday 22nd December	6.00pm	Crib Service staging set up
Saturday 23rd December	1.00pm	Crib Service rehearsal
Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve	8.00am 10.00am 5.00pm 11.30pm	Eucharist Sung Eucharist Crib Service Midnight Mass

The next Service of Prayer for Healing with Communion will be held on **Friday 26th January 2018**. Please note there is **no** service on the last Friday in December, in the week after Christmas.

The Liturgy of the Word, Sunday 17th December 2017

Our Bible readings today are:

Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-end '**...an everlasting covenant ...**'

1 Thessalonians 5.16-24 '**....pray continually...**'

John 1.6-8, 19-28 '**..I baptise with water....**'

The sermon today is titled '**Great Expectations**'

Contact details: Adrian	0116 270 4268 / adrian.jones@zoho.com (day off normally Friday)
Neil	07729 004642 / revdneil@yahoo.com (day off normally Monday)
Patrick	(Churchwarden) 0116 2215116
Rosalind	(Churchwarden) 07531 505637

PLANTING FOR TOMORROW - listening to God. Many thanks to all of you who have prayed with me during the season between All Saints and Advent, as we seek to understand what God might be saying to our Church about the future. Please do continue to read your Bibles day by day, and listen to the Word on Sundays, attentive to those things that God highlights for you (see my 'Vicar's Letter' in the latest Magazine). Do make a note of them so that you can let me know. Adrian

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS Once again, one of the notice boards at the back of church will be reserved for those who would like to send a 'shared' card to their friends in the congregation. A donation for doing so may be made to The Children's Society, in the box provided. Thank you.

ARE YOU ABLE TO HELP? We are looking for two or more people to join our Church Cleaning Team. This involves "light" cleaning duties every other month on the 2nd Tuesday of that month, 10.15am - 11.45am. If you could help please have a word with Doreen White 270 4744

CAN YOU OFFER A LIFT? Veronica Brown is in need of a lift to Church on Christmas Day for the 8.00am service. If you would be able to offer her a lift to Church and then home afterwards, please contact Veronica on 288 9284.

Please note that the Parish Office is closed on Thursday 21st December.

PCC MEETINGS

Meetings of the PCC take place approximately every two months commencing at 7.30pm. The dates are published in the magazine, in the on-line church diary and by formal notice in the church west porch ten days before the meeting. Meetings are usually open to members of the public who wish to attend but they may only speak at the invitation of the chairperson (Vicar). In order to ensure suitable accommodation for the meeting it would be helpful if you would notify the Secretary in advance if you wish to attend.

If you wish to have an item discussed at a meeting you should contact either the Vicar or the PCC Secretary at the earliest opportunity since the agendas are usually quite lengthy and need to be distributed at least a week before the meeting. Please note that there is a detailed delegation scheme in place and there may be alternative mechanisms or committees at which it will be more appropriate to discuss the matter.

Simon Britton (Tel: 07710 975 272, simon@simonbritton.net)

PCC Secretary.

Christmas Services 2017

Saturday 24th December

5.00pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Sunday 25th December

8.00am Christmas Day Eucharist

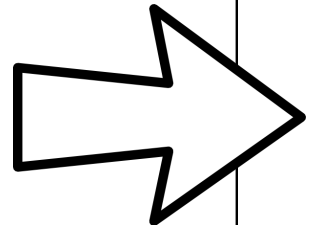
10.00am Christmas Day All Age Worship

(followed by a short Communion service for those who wish to stay.)

A Rough Sleeper reported in St Mary Magdalen Church!

On the night of **Wednesday 20th December** Revd Neil will be 'rough sleeping' in the church, not because his wife Jackie has kicked him out, but to raise awareness of the plight of the many homeless people in our society. This will be part of the Church Urban Fund's 'Advent Sleepout Challenge 2017'

For further details please see: <https://www.sleepoutchallenge.org.uk/>



NEWSFLASH!

Neil will have no blankets, pillows, food or drink with him when he starts this challenge. He will be relying on the generosity and provision of others. Please don't let him get too cold!

(to maintain authenticity as far as possible, please don't tell Neil beforehand if you intend to provide anything)

If you would like to support Neil in this endeavour, there is a sponsorship sheet at the back of church or you may even consider joining Neil and raising your own sponsorship for this very worthwhile course (please speak to Neil about this).

THE ADVENT
SLEEPOUT
CHALLENGE 2017

TAKE THE CHALLENGE AND HELP TRANSFORM LIVES



To find out more, contact:

Neil

We're taking the Advent Sleepout Challenge and we'd love you to join us.

Money raised will be distributed by Church Urban Fund via the Together Network; offering support and practical solutions to thousands of England's most marginalised people.

This is a great way to do something really special in the run up to Christmas, so get your woolly jumper on, get in touch and join in the fun.



CUF⁺
CHANGING LIVES AND
COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

#SleepoutChallenge
www.sleepoutchallenge.org.uk

WISDOM FROM THE WORLD CHURCH

"Christianity is not a collection of truths to be believed, of laws to be obeyed, of prohibitions. That makes it very distasteful. Christianity is a person, one who loved us so much, one who calls for our love,. Christianity is Christ".

Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador,
murdered in 1980 while presiding at Communion.



NINE LESSONS & CAROLS

THIS EVENING AT 6.30PM.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR SERVICE OF CAROLS & READINGS.

REFRESHMENTS WILL FOLLOW THE SERVICE.

COMMUNITY OF GRACE CHRISTMAS TEA TIME WISH 2017

Do you think you could help to make this Christmas special for the 16 men who reside at the Community of Grace?

The number of men invariably rises at Christmas.

They would love to have a "special Christmas tea time" on Christmas Day (and other days during Christmas week if possible).

If you can help please see the suggested food list next to the decorated box which will be near the tower vestry , everything is needed from teabags, milk sugar and biscuits but let your imagination run wild don't be confined by the list.

All donated food will be taken on the 24th December.

The milk bottle is there for any donations to buy milk for the men to use during Christmas week.

Whilst your donations would be gratefully received we also appreciate that you may be supporting other charities at this, and other, times.

If you need any further information please speak to Adrian, Bernard Stone or Sue Holligan

CAR PARKING On Sunday mornings, please do not park in front of the church or on the church path unless you need to do so for mobility reasons. Also, please do not block the paths.

GIVING SCHEME Regular giving can be made either by weekly envelope , periodic cheque or bank standing order. Details of the Scheme can be obtained from Lorna Pollard, Giving Scheme Secretary : telephone 0116 2704272 or e-mail: stmarysknighton.giving@gmail.com If you are a tax payer and gift aid your giving, our Church can claim an additional 25%.

CHEQUES FOR ST MARY'S Please note that any cheques for St Mary's must be made out to Knighton PCC.

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

Please pray.....

"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people..." **1 Timothy 2.1**

Praying for the Parish : This week please pray for all those who live in **Skelton Drive, Shrewsbury Avenue, Chiltern Green, Woodcroft Avenue, Barmouth Avenue, Oakdene Road.**

We pray for those who are unwell at the moment.

Gracious God, who journeys alongside us when we are sick, anxious or troubled, we pray today for

**Alison Prior
Shirley Wills**

Cathy Aska-Curtis

David Griffin

May they know the power of your healing love, at work in body, mind and spirit. In the name of Christ the healer, hear us now. Amen

Please pray for those with ongoing illness, and for those whose names are on the prayer board in the Requiem Chapel.

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 Beams Angela Hefford
Janet Corbett Rupert Hunte
Mavis Dakens-Forrester**

Please advise Adrian or Neil of anyone who needs to be added to our prayer list.

