



St Mary Magdalen Church, Knighton

Sunday 20th June 2021

3rd Sunday after Trinity

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

Collect

Almighty God,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts
whereby we call you Father:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,
that we and all creation may be brought
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;
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.



DIARY FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 20th June 3rd Sunday after Trinity	9.00am	Weekly Eucharist
	10.30am	'Fresh' worship for the 3rd Sunday
	10.30am	St Guthlac's Eucharist
Monday 21st June	12 noon	Midday Prayer on Zoom
Tuesday 22nd June	2.30pm	MU Service of Thanksgiving and Transition (St Mary's)
Wednesday 23rd June	8.00 pm	Compline on Zoom
Thursday 24th June	6.45pm	Parish Players Rehearsal
Friday 25th June	11am	Communion and Prayers for Healing
Saturday 26th June	11.30am	Memorial Service for Brian and Veronica Small
Sunday 27th June 4th Sunday after Trinity	9.00am	Weekly Eucharist (trad.)
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist
	10.30am	Morning Prayer at St Guthlac's
	2pm	Baptism

Sunday Worship at St Mary's: *June*

It is good that we can now meet again in church for worship on Sundays, but as you'll know there are a few precautions we still need to take.

- Please remember to phone the Church Office (0116 270 2705) to book your place at any service in the next two weeks.
- As you arrive please be ready to queue and maintain a distance of 2m from others;
- Please wear a face covering all the time you are in the church;

- You will be welcomed, asked to sanitise your hands, given a service sheet and directed to a seat;
- We are using every other row for seating now, but friends can sit together in a group of up to six, as long as they are 2m from anyone else;
- The side chapels are reserved in the first instance for those who would prefer to maintain more distance from others;
- If it is a Communion service then stewards will direct you to receive your wafer at the right time;
- Please keep your face mask on until you have your wafer and then consume the wafer as you move away;
- After the service please keep your distance from others as you leave and do not linger in the building - sadly we can't offer refreshments yet;
- Please sanitise your hands as you leave;
- The toilets are available but please keep good hygiene standards.

If you should feel unwell with any of the symptoms of coronavirus in the two weeks following the service, as well as seeking medical advice, please leave a message at the Parish Office so that we can inform others if need be.

Thank you!

To encourage you *“Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.”* (Ephesians 6.18)

Pray and build resilience your own way. Each of us is unique, and we will have individual ways to strengthen our resilience. Some people keep a spiritual journal to record their reflections, thoughts and feelings. Prayer is an essential tool that God has given us to bring our thoughts, concerns and requests to him. Praise and worship can also encourage you to look beyond your circumstances and help you face each day.

(from ‘World of Difference’ by Tearfund, the UK Christian charity that works with developing communities around the world)

Last week’s Newsletter – an apology

I’m very sorry that last week we disappointed those of you who normally receive your newsletter by post. Unfortunately, the printer broke down and could not be serviced in time to print and mail out the newsletters as we usually do. You’ll be glad to know that all is now well, so normal service should now be resumed!

Once again apologies for leaving you news-less.

Adrian

Church Family News

The death of Jean Arnison

Sadly, I have to tell you that our friend and church member, Jean Arnison, has died. Many of you will know that Jean was very badly affected by Covid-19 earlier in the year, and then a significant chest infection. Although she had rallied somewhat recently, she died very peacefully at Amberwood Care Home last Monday morning. Her funeral will be at St Mary's on Friday 2nd July at 1pm and friends are welcome.

I will remember Jean for her great sense of humour, her determination to keep going despite her difficulties and her love for this church and her friends here. Please keep her daughter Sue and her family in your prayers.

Adrian

Thanksgiving and memorial service for Brian and Veronica Small

On Saturday June 26th following the interment of ashes, St Mary's will be host to a postponed thanksgiving memorial service for Brian and Veronica Small at 11.30am.

With the recent government announcement extending legal restrictions on church services, unfortunately **there are only a limited number of places** for the memorial service which must be reserved via the family.

Please contact Helen (daughter), if you would like to attend 07894211717, or, helenhampton@googlemail.com

Grandparents!

Adrian and Alison are pleased to announce that they are grandparents for the first time! Elizabeth Mawgan Jones (known as Libby) was born to Rose and Claire (our elder daughter) last week. Libby was a healthy 6lbs 13 oz, and all three are doing well. All tips on how to succeed as grandparents gratefully received! A&A

Shaped by God Together – the next steps.

Many thanks to all of you who took part in our 'local conversations' meetings last week, considering the proposals from the Diocese regarding the reshaping of patterns of ministry. These are significant but complex matters, and I appreciate the time and thought that many of you have given to this process.

As requested, I have submitted a compilation of our responses to the diocese, and they will be added to the responses from other parishes. As Acting Area Dean, I will be part of an extended, two day meeting of the Bishop's Council in July, where all the parish responses will be considered and after much prayer and discussion, a conclusion about the way ahead will be drawn. This final proposal will then be considered by the Diocesan Synod in October.

As soon as I am able to pass on more information I will, of course, update you with the news. In the meantime, please continue to pray for Bishop Martyn and all those involved in these difficult decisions.

Adrian

Benefice Magazine

The copy deadline for the July/August issue of the magazine is 1st July, for publication in mid-July. Please send your contributions, preferably in Word, to:

stmaryknighton.magazine@gmail.com

Thank you. Nigel Siesage.

Listening to God's Word

Our Bible readings for **Sunday 20th June** are:

Job 38.1-11

The LORD speaks

38 Then the LORD spoke to Job out of the storm. He said:

² 'Who is this that obscures my plans
with words without knowledge?

³ Brace yourself like a man;
I will question you,
and you shall answer me.

⁴ 'Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation?
Tell me, if you understand.

⁵ Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know!
Who stretched a measuring line across it?

⁶ On what were its footings set,
or who laid its cornerstone –

⁷ while the morning stars sang together
and all the angels shouted for joy?

⁸ 'Who shut up the sea behind doors
when it burst forth from the womb,

⁹ when I made the clouds its garment
and wrapped it in thick darkness,

¹⁰ when I fixed limits for it
and set its doors and bars in place,

¹¹ when I said, "This far you may come and no farther;
here is where your proud waves halt"?

Mark 4.35-41

Jesus calms the storm

³⁵ That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, 'Let us go over to the other side.' ³⁶ Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. ³⁷ A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. ³⁸ Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, 'Teacher, don't you care if we drown?'

³⁹ He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, 'Quiet! Be still!' Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

⁴⁰ He said to his disciples, 'Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?'

⁴¹ They were terrified and asked each other, 'Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!'

Reflection from Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster

The Sea of Galilee and how Mark uses that particular 'place' to structure the different scenes of his Gospel has been rehearsed in many different ways by scholars for a long time. As there are over 60 analyses of Mark's Gospel as I know to, some hold more water than others...please excuse the pun!

Why are you afraid?

But what is undeniable, is that this episode appears in the story exactly half way between the beginning and Caesarea Philippi, where in Chapter 8, Peter, in some sense speaking for each of the disciples and for us as disciples in today's Church expresses faith in Jesus as the Messiah. But let us be clear... it has taken half the gospel for that 'penny to drop' despite all that the disciples had heard and seen and shared with this Jesus of Nazareth.

So, 'geographically' in the story for today, we are only half way to Peter's Confession of faith above. So where we are today in Chapter 4, the disciples coming to faith is still very much work in progress...and again excuse the pun but they are 'making heavy weather of it'.

Why are you afraid?

Here, in this episode, we are on a boat, in a storm, with Jesus largely 'out of the picture'...he is asleep on a cushion. The spotlight falls wholly on the disciples. This scene represents a sort of 'mid term report' of how they were doing in terms of their faith, of how they were doing in terms of trusting this Rabbi from Nazareth.

How the disciples were doing?...well...

Using school report parlance, the answer might be...'Very poor.'...'Better attention needed'...'Could do much better'...'Very poor examination result'.

And those terms, if levelled at the disciples in this instance are being rather generous. Mark wants to portray the Twelve as by and large a pretty thick bunch.

Why are you afraid?

For since their being chosen, and despite all they have seen, and heard and experienced by the side of Jesus, so far in Mark's story in terms of who Jesus is and how they can trust him...well...they are nowhere near first base; they are hardly out of the traps; they are still on the starting grid... they are pretty clueless. Actually they are portrayed by Mark as missing almost all the clues they have witnessed so far.

Why are you afraid?

Mark wants us to realise this for a number of reasons...but for the point of this homily, my own view is that he is trying to encourage each of us to see that even the disciples struggled with all that constitutes 'faith' in

the Messiah. And if the disciples struggled with such things with him being actually with them 'in the flesh', it is hardly surprising that we struggle from time to time some two thousand years later spiritually.

Using the school report /exam result analogy while it usually cuts little ice if a student says...' but ALL of us did very poorly in the exams'...Mark wants to encourage ALL of us as 'being in the same boat'. Mark wants to encourage ALL of us who struggle with our faith, during those times when the storms of life around are corporately around like in the pandemic, or when the storms of life seem to be centred on us as individuals.

Why are you afraid?

It seems to me that in our most stormy times we like the disciples can fall short in seeing Jesus as the Messiah, and secondly even if that belief is still strong, we can fall short on realising how much we are loved and how much we can trust that infinite love and care.

Even St Theresa of Avila in her own stormy times suggests to God that 'if this is how you treat your friends, no wonder you have so many enemies!'

Speaking personally my own heart has always led me into the ways of trusting God at most difficult turns of my life. In that sense I might have symbolically left Jesus asleep on the cushion in the boat. But, as an academic theologian, my own struggles have been 'head ones' rather than 'heart ones' where I have 'kept the Lord awake' many a night as I grapple with this or that theological issue!

Why are you afraid?

But the simple fact is that as we identify with the struggles of faith of the disciples, we may feel compared with them, in that sometimes we are way past the 'first base' they seem to be stuck at. But also sometimes we

may feel we are right in the boat with them feeling rather foolish when Jesus asks us...

Why are you afraid?

I leave you with some further words of St Theresa, and thankfully more encouraging ones than those above...

'Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you
All things are passing away:
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things.
Whoever has God lacks nothing;
God alone suffices.

Why are you afraid?

AMEN



Virtual Worship for Knighton Benefice – the last Sunday.

More of us are returning to 'live services' in the church buildings on Sundays, the number of viewers of our 'Virtual Worship' is declining, and we are now focussing on 'live streaming' from Sunday services. Therefore, we have decided that this week's pre-recorded Virtual Worship should be the last, for the moment at least. This will also leave the Ministry Team more time for Sunday preparation and all the other aspects of our life together. Thank you to all those who have given us feedback and appreciation over the last fifteen months, and particular thanks to Matthew for his time and energy given to making Virtual Worship happen week by week.

There are still other options available for on-line worship:

this link takes you to the Cathedral's live stream <https://leicestercathedral.org/services/>

and this link takes you to services provided by the national Church of England

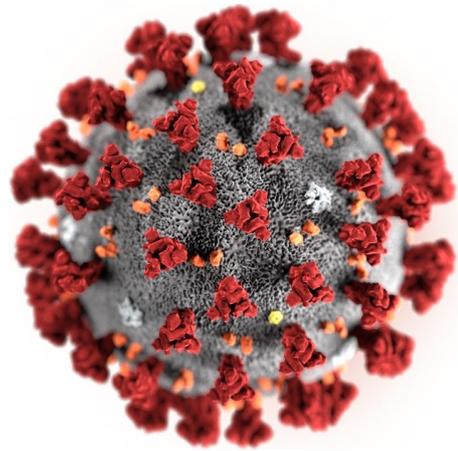
<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/church-online/weekly-online-services>

Adrian

Our grateful thanks must go to David Ardley for patiently repairing the large wooden bowl from the back of church at St Mary's after the unfortunate 'accident'. Thank you David.

Bishop's urgent appeal for Covid-19 aid in Leicester's Indian link diocese

Bishop Martyn is asking for urgent financial support for our partners in India. We are hoping to help them purchase a new ambulance, oxygen concentrators, a ventilator and other equipment costing a total of



Coronavirus & the Church

£80,000. Details of how to contribute are given below.

The Bishop of our partner diocese, Trichy-Tanjore in the Church of South India (CSI), has written to describe the response of Christians in their region to

the Covid-19 crisis which is sweeping India with devastating effect. Cases of infection have been increasing day by day and hospitals are short of beds, oxygen supplies and medication to treat the symptoms of Covid and other infections to which people, weakened by the virus, are falling prey. With the country in lockdown, schools and colleges are shut and people in many places are literally starving for lack of access to food. Regrettably, many church members, including two pastors in the diocese, have died and many more are in hospital receiving treatment.

In spite of all this, the Church is taking lot of effort and organizing relief work in partnership with Bishop Heber College in Trichy. The 'Task Force against Covid 19' works day and night to coordinate information about hospital bed availability, oxygen, food, ambulance services, counselling, prayer support, financial support, plasma availability and support for funerals. There has been a good response from the community for which they are very grateful to God.

The Diocese has come forward to open food counters in each local church where food packets are kept at the entrance of the church for people who are hungry and needy to take. Facilities at the two CSI Mission Hospitals in the Diocese, in Trichy and Dharapuram have been dedicated for the treatment of Covid Patients and work is in hand to increase

If you are able to make a contribution, however large or small, please send it to the following account:

Barclays Bank plc

Sort code: 20-49-37

Account number: 90577103

Account name: Leicester Diocesan Board of Finance

Please use the reference: 'Trichy Appeal'

Cheques can be sent for the attention of Jim Pullen at St Martins House, 7 Peacock Lane, Leicester, LE1 1SY. Please make your cheque payable to 'Leicester Diocesan Board of Finance' and write on the back 'Trichy Appeal'.

Meanwhile, please remember the people of India, especially our partners in Trichy, in your prayers.

Spire Stones & Plant Sale 31st May 2021

An **AMAZING RESULT**...when **£2,055** was raised for the Spire Fund, including two generous donations.

The sun shone and people who attended smiled happily as they met together in our garden for the first time in many months.

Thanks to our willing helpers and all who came.

Michael & Lorna Kirk.



Live Streaming Services

Now that we have returned to live services in both the churches of the benefice we are aiming to broadcast a service each Sunday live on the internet.

To participate and watch the service live, you will need a Facebook account. We have a step by step guide for how to set up a Facebook account currently available on St Mary's Website under Corona Virus Support '**Social Media-staying connected**', or on request from Matthew.

You can also **watch a recording** of the service on the website later that day at www.stmarysknighton.co.uk.

Please let Adrian or Matthew know what you think about this new venture and how we might improve the recording.

Monday Midday Prayer on Zoom

Every Monday 12 noon for up to 15 minutes.

All Welcome

+

Wednesday evening Compline on zoom

Every Wednesday at 8.00pm

All Welcome

Same online joining details below for both:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://leccofe.zoom.us/j/7467674408?>

pwd=NHRQZ2F0Mmt5Wk5sd2NMc1JtREpaUT09

Meeting ID: 746 767 4408

Passcode: hope

Or Phone In 0131 460 1196 United Kingdom

Eco-Tip of the week

Do you know your carbon footprint?

Many different aspects of our lifestyles affect our individual impact on climate change. Working out our carbon footprint is a great way to draw our attention to these factors and can be a good starting point for those who are willing to consider making some changes which will help to reduce their footprint, as we are all challenged to do.



There are a number of tools available for calculating your Carbon Footprint, some of which are rather complicated to say the least!

The Lent Group following the 'Caring for Creation' course found the one from WWF the easiest to use. Why not join them in working out your carbon footprint?

footprint.wwf.org.uk

Church Picnic! The sun is out and it's time for a picnic! Come and join our church family, and friends of the Semper Singers, for a picnic and outdoor concert on **Sunday 4th July**. We'll gather outside the west doors from 1pm, with the music starting about 2pm.

Bring your own food—with more to share if you like— and your favourite picnic chair. Some other seats will be available though, and there'll be easy access to the toilets in church.

Tell your friends too and take the chance to reconnect with the church family. Hope to see you there. *Adrian*



Community Musical Picnic Sunday 4th July at 1pm



**Bring your own food and seats to join us
for a community outdoor picnic from 1pm
and an informal concert
by the Semper Singers from 2pm.**

Where: Outside St. Mary's Church,
Knighton. *Inside if wet*

When: Sunday 4th July 1pm – 3pm

Cost: No admission charge
Raffle with lots of prizes



Semper Singers is sponsored by

M&S Lighting Services

Everyday Spirituality

spiritual habits for everyday life

Centering Prayer

Tuesday 29th June 7-8.30 pm

on Zoom

or

Saturday 3rd July 10.00-11.30am

St Peter's Church

Copt Oak, LE67 9QB

To book email: mmbookings@leicestercofe.org



THE COMMUNITY OF THE
TREE OF LIFE



Launde Abbey



Diocese of
Leicester
Shaped by God



Discipleship at
Leicester Cathedral

-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%.

During the current Coronavirus pandemic please put aside your weekly offerings ready to bring to church when things return to something like normal. The costs of the church are largely unchanged even though we cannot meet, so your regular giving is extremely important to our collective 'health' and the mission of God here.

giftaid it

CHANGE OF DATES! – *please note the changes below to dates following the Government's delay in relaxing pandemic restrictions.*

Post Lock down 'Teach in': An Introduction to the Gospels

Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster will be running a series of three lectures in **August** as an Introduction to the Gospels. Each session will be 50 minutes interaction/teaching, then 40 minutes tea/biscuits and further questions. The provisional titles are:

August 5th: *'What do YOU/WE know about the Gospels?'*

August 12th: *'What would YOU/WE call the Gospels?*

History?...Story?...Theology?...?

August 19th: *WE look at St Mark...the first Gospel to be written?*

All the sessions will be 2.30pm in St Guthlac's **and** then repeated at 7.30pm in St. Mary's. They will take place in the church to enable social distancing to take place if preferred. Everyone is welcome to attend any/all of the sessions for an instructive and enjoyable get together.

Please bring a notebook and your favourite Bible to each lecture.

**ST. MARY'S KNIGHTON
SPIRE APPEAL**

**Due to unforeseen circumstances, the date of the
Parish Auction has been altered to**

**SATURDAY 16th OCTOBER 2021
2.00 pm - 5.00 pm**

AUCTION SALE

~~SATURDAY 9th OCTOBER 2021~~
KNIGHTON PARISH CENTRE : 2.00 pm

**We are hoping for your help and support:
IN FINDING ANTIQUES and COLLECTABLES
Minimum value £10.00 - but no POSH TAT!**

**Please look at some of the items you have hidden away and the family don't
want!**

Ask your friends and people moving house.

We can collect and store items, which must be transportable by car.

**We would like : PORCELAIN, GLASSWARE, GOLD and SILVER ITEMS,
JEWELLERY, OLD BOOKS and POSTCARDS, CLOCKS, WATCHES,
OLD COINS, MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, ART DECO, ART NOUVEAU,
MEMORABILIA, SMALL FURNITURE.**

Please none of your cast off pictures, unless they are a valuable painting!

Contact: Michael or Lorna Kirk
Tel: 0116 2707843
Email: michaelkirk@btopenworld.com

Contact details:

Vicar: Adrian Jones 0116 270 4268 or **07919 262399 N EW!**

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

Curate: Revd Matthew Gough 07754 961997

revgough@gmail.com (rest day normally Friday)

Revd Aphro McCullough 0116 283 7887

aphro.mccullough@btinternet.com

Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster 07966 376905

afpta6@gmail.com

Revd Janet Gasper 0116 288 9646

jgasper925@gmail.com

Lay Reader: Fiona Wingate 07515 752954

fiona.wingate@talktalk.net

Churchwarden: Sian Howard 07932 557646

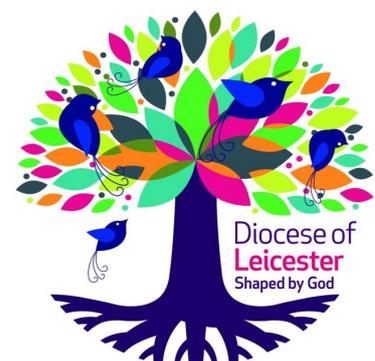
sian.howard@tiscali.co.uk

Churchwarden: Beryl Bonfield 0116 2702202

berylbonfield1945@gmail.com

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 that commitments made by the strong, developed nations at the G7 Summit will now be followed through rapidly, and that there will be international consensus on climate change action and covid vaccinations sharing.

Praying for the Church: please pray for the Diocesan retreat centre, Launde Abbey. Pray for the newly appointed Warden, Revd Alison Myers, the Trustees as they shape and implement future vision, and the staff as they assume new roles and ways of working in a 'living with COVID' environment.

Praying for the Parish: Please pray for the peace and well-being of all those who live on Southland Road, Portisdown Road, Ventnor Road South, Wimbourne Road, Ring Road, Ryde Avenue.

Praying for those in need:

We pray for all those who are unwell at the moment, whether in body, mind or spirit, and all those with troubling investigations and diagnoses. We especially pray for all those with long-term ailments, including **Bob Newell, Keith Dewsbury, Anne Squires, Jason Griffin and Rex Wills**. 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: **Jean Arnison and Patrick Welstead**

We remember all those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

Jesus said "Come to me, all you who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11.28.