PLEASE TAKE THIS HOME FOR YOUR INFORMATION

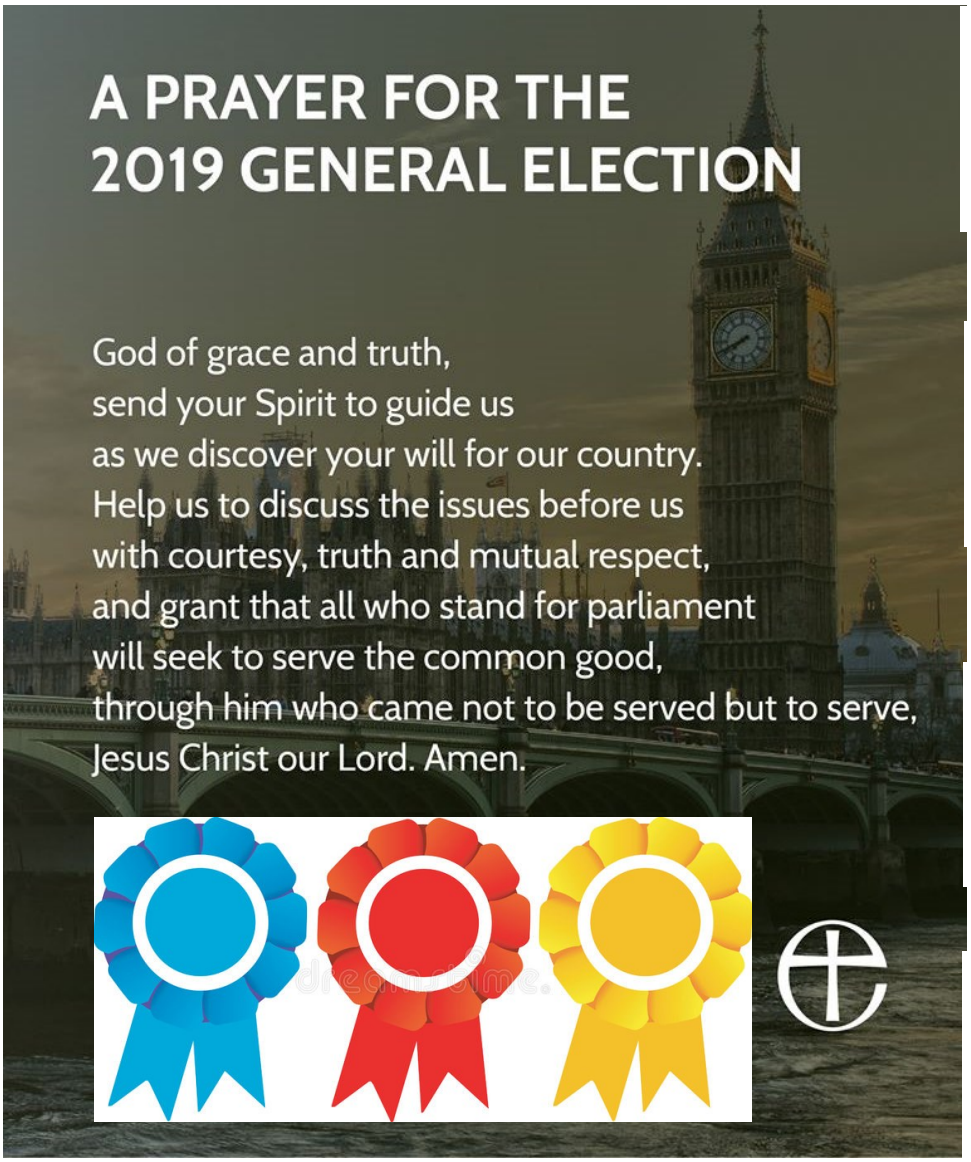
St Mary Magdalen Church
Church of England, Knighton

Sunday 8th December 2019
2nd Sunday of Advent

Our Presiding Minister and Preacher today is the Revd Adrian Jones

Welcome to Sung Eucharist

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.



“How you should vote.”

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. Sunday Club meets in the Narthex for primary school age children.

- 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.

Listening to God's Word

Our Bible readings today are

Isaiah 11.1-10 & Matthew 1.1-17

Today's title is **"How you should vote."**

DIARY FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 8th December 2nd Sunday of Advent	8.00am Said Eucharist **10.00am Sung Eucharist** 12 noon Christmas Tree Festival 5.00pm Carols amongst the trees 6.00pm Removal of Christmas trees
Monday 9th December **Parish Office Closed**	9-12noon Removal of Christmas Trees 10.00am Visit from Willows Pre-School 4-7pm Removal of Christmas Trees 7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice
Tuesday 10th December **Parish Office Closed**	9.30am Eucharist, St Mary's 2.00pm Interment of Ashes 7.00pm Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday 11th December	9.30am Overdale Juniors 10.00am Advent Group meets 7.00pm Choir Rehearsal
Thursday 12th December	9.30am Eucharist, St Guthlac's
Friday 13th December	12noon onwards Faith Tucker set up, rehearsal and concert
Saturday 14th December	
Sunday 15th December 3rd Sunday of Advent	8.00am Said Eucharist **10.00am Morning Worship** 6.30pm 9 Lessons & Carols

The next monthly service of Prayer for Healing with Communion will be held on **Friday 31st January** at 11am.

Please note that the Parish Office is closed in Tuesday 10th December.

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

In**SPIRE**d

The campaign to save our spire

InSpired - our appeal for the spire

The Spire Group is continuing to work on an exciting programme of events which we hope will attract people from all over the community. Please tell your friends and neighbours about all our events as they are announced.

InSpired News

Online giving

It is now possible to donate to the appeal online. Just go to the parish website and follow the link. This is an easy, efficient way for people who live further away to contribute, so please pass this information on to any of your friends who care about the future of St Mary's.

Your Spire Fund-raising Group are: Nigel Siesage, Adrian Jones, Sue Holligan, Sian Howard, Lorna Kirk, Michael Kirk.

Donations for the Spire Fund

We continue to receive some very generous donations. Cheques for the Spire should be made out to Knighton PCC, but make it clear that they are for the Spire, by writing 'Spire Fund' on the back of the cheque.

If you already give to the church with Gift Aid, it will be possible to claim it on spire donations. Please speak to Lorna Pollard for advice if you have any questions about this.
Also, there are Spire Fund Appeal blue envelopes available for you to use in the pews, if you wish to use this method in addition to your regular giving in the unmarked envelopes. If you are a tax payer and complete the envelope, your gift will increase by 25%. Many thanks. *Nigel*

THURSDAY DROP-IN

After 46 years, the Thursday Drop-In club have sadly decided that the time has come for us to close. Our last meeting will be on Thursday 2nd January. We've had a lovely time over the years and shall miss the friends and fellowship. (and the bingo!). *Mavis*

Adrian says: We are all sad to hear this news from Mavis. Many people have told me how much the Thursday Club has meant to them over the years, both as volunteers and club members. We certainly need to mark the ending of such a significant group - please let me have any ideas you have for recognising the part it has played in so many lives and for thanking God for all it has meant to our life together.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

I am very sad to have to tell you that our friend and regular member Peter Smith died on Wednesday evening. Peter had been ill for a long time but had not wanted to talk much about it. He was at home when he died and had been receiving full time care. Peter will be profoundly missed by many of us, not just those who knew him from the 10am service. We give thanks to God for all that he gave in so many ways during his life. There are no details as yet of his funeral, but I will keep you informed. *Adrian*

MARY BRISTOW

News of Mrs Mary Bristow (from her daughter). After having had a stroke, Mary has moved to Autumn Grange, Linden Road, Creswell, Chesterfield S86 4TI. She is content and being well looked after. It would give her great pleasure to receive a Christmas card from friends of the church she had been a member for many years.

VALERIE DUDLEY

Valerie's daughter Angela has been in touch to let us know that her mum is settling well into a nursing home, following a nasty fall. It's a lovely old country house with beautiful grounds and views and faboulous staff. It would be really nice if friends from church could send Valerie a Christmas card. If you'd like to, please send to Valerie Dudley, Shockerwick House Care Home, Lower Shockerwick, Bath BA1 7LL.

ONE NIGHT ONLY!

Don't forget to buy your tickets for Faith Tucker's concert in church on Friday 13th December. The concert starts at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 and £5 for children. Tickets are available from :
Aileen Orme 0116 2745221 Judi & Bernard Stone 0116 2881306
Lorna & Michael Kirk 0116 2707843
Andrew & Carolyn Oldershaw 0116 2889925

THE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

on Saturday 30 November raised £1,900 excluding sales in Church. This is an increase of £400 on last year. Many thanks to all those who helped and supported it. *Michael Kirk*

Very many thanks to everyone who gave so much time, energy and enthusiasm to make the Bazaar a great success. It was a splendid way to both raise funds and also open our church life to numerous friends and neighbours from the local community. Adrian

THE HOLLY and the IVY…..

St Mary's Flower Guild will be decorating the Church from 1pm on Friday 13th December. We need to have an
earlier start due to preparations for the Faith Tucker evening concert. We will continue from 9.30am on Saturday 14th. Gifts of Holly and evergreen foliage would be appreciated. Further info from Deborah Martin Tel: 0116 2707525

SING CHRISTMAS WITH BBC RADIO LEICESTER IN THE BENEFICE!

Come along to The Aberdale, Shackderdale Road, West Knighton, Monday 23rd December from 7-8pm with other churches from the South Leicestershire Christian Partnership. Mince Pies to donate welcome to bless our community. More information-Revd Matthew

THANKS

Thanks to those who kindly donated their small change, some of which was in the plastic bottle at the back of the Church and some handed to me, as a donation to "Grifaid", which is the name of the Safe Water Trust. You generously donated £13.46 *C.A.J.M.*

DRIVERS - CAN YOU HELP?

We are currently putting together a list of drivers who might be able to help Veronica Brown get to church from Wigston, for the 8am service, when her usual lift is not available. The next date Veronica needs help is on Christmas morning for the 8am service. Veronica would also appreciate occasional lifts to the doctors. If you can help, please tell James in the office. Thanks. *Adrian*

Christmas Tree Festival

The CTF team would like to thank everyone for their help and support in helping to bring this , our first Christmas Tree Festival to be held in the church, to fruition.

Thank you for donating towards our raffle prizes, and giving your time, manual labour, and expertise so generously.

We hope that the placement of the trees is not intrusive to your morning worship, and we look forward to seeing many of you over the weekend .

Thank you from all of the Christmas Tree Team.

Ordered wooden christmas tree baubles. The last of the ordered baubles can be picked up from the table at the back of the church after the service. Please let me know if there are any problems.
Sue Holligan

CAROLS AT THE CORNERS On Tuesday 10th December St. Guthlac's and the South Knighton community will be holding a carol singing walk around three corners of Knighton. Meeting at 6.30pm outside Londis (Flynn's) and walking along Knighton Church Road to Whitters. We will finish with mulled wine or soft drink in St. Guthlac's at about 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome to join us.

'PEACE ON EARTH' - THE AMOS TRUST BETHLEHEM CAROL SERVICE: Join us when the Amos Trust Bethlehem Christmas Carol Service tour stops off at Trinity Methodist in Oadby on Monday 9th December at 7pm, where we'll be joined by Sami Awad from Holy Land Trust in Bethlehem, plus special guest performers. Sami is a leading Palestinian peace activist who will be explaining why non-violence is at the heart of the Christmas message and of his family life in Gaza. There will be a collection for the Amos 2019 Christmas appeal supporting our partners in Gaza, and the home and peace-building work of Holy Land Trust. If you'd like to travel with friends, Alison Roche has spaces in the car! Please join us. *Adrian*

CHRISTMAS CARD BOARD

Once again we hope to have a 'space' on the notice board at the back of church, where we can share Christmas Greetings. As in the past, a contribution to the Children's Society can be placed in the box provided. We hope the 'space' will be available immediately after the Christmas Tree Festival.

CHURCH CLEANING

The current team would value more help to lighten their load. Duties are light! Cleaning takes place on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 10.15am until 12.15pm. Volunteers are asked to come every other month. Coffee and biscuits. Men very welcome! Please speak to Doreen White after the service or 270 4744.

Find us on: facebook

SCARGILL SUMMERFEST 2020 - YOUR SUMMER HOLIDAY?
Scargill House in the beautiful Yorkshire Dales, is home to a Christian community that hosts courses, retreats and holidays throughout the year. In the school summer holidays there are three special weeks set aside for Summerfest - a special time of fun, worship, countryside, learning and entertainment for people of all ages, in groups or families, with friends or alone. In 2020, for the third time, we will be taking a group from St Mary's and we would love you to come with us! The dates are Saturday 8th - Thursday 13th August, and as usual there are a variety of accommodation options to choose from: full board and ensuite, through to self-catering camping. If you'd like to know more please talk to one of us or the group from 2019, and see the notice board for more details. There are also plenty of Scargill programme booklets at the back of the church. If cost feels like an issue then we might be able to help so have a quiet talk to Adrian. But don't delay- places go quickly! Adrian and Alison PS - ask us about our short video of Summerfest 2018!

Scargill Movement
Lives shared, lives transformed

COMMUNITY OF GRACE CHRISTMAS DAY BREAKFAST APPEAL. This year, as in previous years, we are looking to make the men at the Community of Grace have a better Christmas. To that end I would ask if you could add an extra item or two into your supermarket trolleys and bring them to church on one of the following Sundays up to and including Sunday 22nd of December. A box will be marked at the back of church for your groceries. The items we are looking for are: Fruit Juice, Bacon, Sausage, Eggs, Tinned Tomatoes, Baked Beans, Thick Sliced Bread, Marmalade, Jam, Butter or Spread, Tea, Coffee, Sugar etc., Please make sure that any perishable items have a date after the 26th of December. Thank you in advance for your donation and let's make the Community of Grace Residents have the best Christmas Day and hopefully Boxing Day Breakfast ever. *Sue Bonnett.*

It’s beginning to look a lot like …..Advent!

During the hectic preparations for Christmas it is easy to let all our activities overwhelm us. Why not try one of the new books written for the season of Advent? They can enrich your spiritual life and provide the discipline some of us need to keep God at the centre of our run up to Christmas.

Here are some of the new books published for Advent 2019, all available from Christian Resources bookshop in Leicester.

Wake Up To Advent by John Sentamu Price: £9.99
“This is the hour of crisis: it is high time for you to wake out of sleep, for deliverance is nearer to us now than it was when first we believed.”
St Paul's encouraging words to the Christians in Rome are the springboard for the Archbishop of York's Advent book for 2019. With prayers and stimulating questions for reflection at the end of each daily meditation, here is fresh spiritual food for the Advent journey – pressed down, shaken together and running over.

Freedom is Coming by Nick Baines Price: £9.99
“Comfort, O comfort my people. . . In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord.' The second part of the book of Isaiah rings with proclamations and prophecies that find their fulfilment in the Gospels and are still being fulfilled by followers of Jesus today. In “Freedom is Coming” Nick Baines invites you to think about what it meant for people in Isaiah's day to be living in exile, and at the same time helps you to see the connections between Isaiah's time and ours, and how his vision of God's truth and justice spreading throughout the world can comfort, challenge and inspire God's people now, just as it did back then.

In The Bleak Midwinter by Rachel Mann Price: £12.99
Framed by her most famous poems, `In the Bleak Midwinter' and `Love Came Down at Christmas', this daily devotional explores Advent and Christmas through the poetry of Christina Rossetti. For each day there is a poem with a reflection that draws on Rossetti's writings, such as her devotional journal and Biblical commentary.

Rejoice! By Chris Wright with John Stott Price: £7.99
25 Bible meditations based on Scripture verses and teaching nuggets from John Stott, with commentary and prayers from Christopher Wright. Accessible and bite-sized, fresh and exciting, each meditation deepens our appreciation of the timeless spiritual truths of Advent and Christmas.

Visit the bookshop to see these and many more Advent books.

YOUR DIOCESE – YOUR BOOKSHOP – Encouraging faith, equipping Christians.
Christian Resources Leicester St Martins House.
7 Peacock Lane, Leicester LE1 5PZ
0116 2615222
www.christianresourcesleicester.com

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Email: Fiona.wingate@talktalk.net 07515 752954
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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**.

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. *If you are giving by bank standing order, yellow tokens are available at services to put on the plate, should you wish.*

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%.

giftaid it **CHEQUES FOR ST MARY'S** Please make 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)

Give thanks: for all those who act as pastoral visitors in our church life, taking our care and concern to those who are ill and/or can't make it to church.

Praying for the World: Please pray for renewed efforts to bring a just peace to the Middle East, especially the Holy Land.

Praying for the Church: Please pray for carol services, concerts, events and celebrations at churches throughout our diocese. Pray that in all our busy-ness we will remember 'the reason for the season' and point people to the person of Jesus.

Praying for the Parish : This week please pray for those who live on: **Kingsmead Road, Northfold Road, Eastcourt Road, Westgate Road, Lynholme Road, Deancourt Road.**

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. In particular we pray for **"a friend", Jane Mee, Paul,** 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 Smith** **Mr Brian (BAF) smith**

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.