

**St Mary Magdalen Church  
Church of England, Knighton**

**Sunday 23rd February 2020**

**Sunday next before Lent**

Our presiding minister today is Revd Janet Gasper  
and the preacher is Revd Matthew Gough

**Welcome to our 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.

Receive this cross of ash upon your brow,  
Brought from the burning of Palm Sunday's cross.  
The forests of the world are burning now  
And you make late repentance for the loss.  
But all the trees of God would clap their hands  
The very stones themselves would shout and sing  
If you could covenant to love these lands  
And recognise in Christ their Lord and king.  
He sees the slow destruction of those trees,  
He weeps to see the ancient places burn,  
And still you make what purchases you please,  
And still to dust and ashes you return.  
But Hope could rise from ashes even now  
Beginning with this sign upon your brow.

*Malcolm Guite*

## 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.



## DIARY FOR THE WEEK

<b>Sunday 23rd February</b> Sunday next before Lent	8.00am <b>10.00am</b>	Said Eucharist <b>Sung Eucharist</b>
Monday 24th February <b>Parish Office Closed</b>	7.30pm	Bell Ringing Practice
Tuesday 25th February	9.30am 2.15pm 7.30pm	Eucharist (St Mary's) Mothers' Union AGM (Centre) Concert rehearsal
Wednesday 26th February Ash Wednesday	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Service for the Benefice (St Guthlac's)
Thursday 27th February	9.30am	Eucharist (St Guthlac's)
Friday 28th February	11.00am 1.00pm	Service of Prayer for Healing with Communion Funeral - Eileen Mason
Saturday 29th February		
<b>Sunday 1st March</b> 1st Sunday of Lent	8.00am <b>10.00am</b> 11.30am	Eucharist <b>All Age Worship</b> Eucharist

The next monthly service of Prayer for Healing with Communion will be held on **Friday 27th March** at 11am.

### Listening to God's Word

Our Bible readings today are:

**Deuteronomy 30.15-20 & Matthew 5.27-32**

**Today's title is 'Fidelity'**

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

# InSPIREd

## The campaign to save our spire

### InSpired - our appeal for the spire

InSpired – a progress report

I am delighted to report that, as at 31 December, our spire appeal had raised just over £28,000. This is a magnificent achievement in so short a time, a reflection of the love that members of the parish have for St Mary's, and an immense credit to everyone who has helped to raise funds. Of this, about £17,000 has come in donations or gift aid on those donations.

Wonderful though this progress is, we are not home yet.

- We still need to raise that last £12,000 to reach our initial target for local contributions.
- Our aim is to secure a further £60,000 from the lottery and other funding bodies. They should be impressed by what we are doing locally, but their support is not guaranteed.
- The programme of events we are organising to raise funds is also crucial to our parish's community outreach, and as the great success of events so far has demonstrated, this is having an effect.

So please continue your support for InSpired – and thank you for all you have done so far.

Nigel Siesage



## How you can help

I would like to help save the spire of St Mary Magdalen, Knighton by making a gift to the InSpired fund.

I wish to give the sum of

£

I have paid online via the parish website: [www.stmarysknighton.co.uk](http://www.stmarysknighton.co.uk) (This also provides for Gift Aid).

I am paying by BACS direct to Knighton Parochial Church Council  
Sort code: 20-49-17  
A/c no: 80264997  
Give reference: Spire fund (Complete and return the form opposite if you want to add Gift Aid).

I enclose a cheque made payable to Knighton PCC, marked on the back 'Spire fund'. Send to address below left. (Complete and return the form opposite if you want to add Gift Aid).

Cash donations are also welcome. Please use the blue envelopes marked Spire Fund in church or collections at special events.

*giftaid it*

You can boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you give. St Mary's is a charity (Knighton PCC, Charity no 1130923) and we can reclaim Gift Aid on the tax you pay for the current tax year. Please complete the form on the left. (If giving online, this process can be completed there).

### Gift Aid Declaration

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £\_\_\_\_\_ to Knighton PCC (Charity no. 1130923). I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Full name:

Address:

Postcode:

Signature:

Date:

Return to Administrator, Knighton Parish Office, Parish Centre, Church Lane, Leicester LE2 3WG.

## **JOYCE GARLAND**

Joyce's funeral will take place in St Mary's on Wednesday 4th March at 11.00am, followed by cremation at Countesthorpe Crematorium for those who wish to attend. There will be refreshments at The Cradock from 12 noon. All welcome.

**LRI MAGAZINES** Kate Adams will be collecting magazines for the chemotherapy suite at the LRI until Sunday 1st March. There's a box in the Narthex for you to put them in.

### **A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:**

**World Day of Prayer Services** , Friday 6th March here at St Mary's at 2pm and at Stonegate Baptist Church at 7.30pm. The services for this year have been prepared by Christian women of Zimbabwe and will be celebrated as a wave of prayer in more than 120 countries around the world.

**Fairtrade Fortnight is coming!** 24th February - 8th March. There are three specific ways that you can support the difference made by Fairtrade to some of the world's poorest workers:

**Fairtrade Coffee Morning at the Vicarage (5 Church Lane) on Tues 25th Feb, 10.30am-12noon.** Come and enjoy fairly-traded coffee, tea and cake, as well as other produce and gifts from the Just Shop during Fairtrade Fortnight. All welcome - bring your friends!

Also, **orders for Fairtrade Real Easter Eggs** being taken by Alison Roche until Sunday 8th March - please sign up on the list at the back of church or see Alison. £3.99 each - payment when they arrive. New 10th anniversary booklet and design - tells the real Easter story + plastic & palm oil-free.

After the 10am service on Sunday 1st March there will be Fairtrade cakes! ... and a small stall of Fairtrade goods. Please bring some money for a generous donation to the Fairtrade Foundation (you have a dispensation from your lenten discipline as it's a Sunday!) *Adrian*

## **"Lord help us to keep a Holy Lent"**

On Ash Wednesday this week we shall mark the beginning of Lent, the period of preparation for Easter. Lent's origin is hidden in the early centuries of church history, but it has traditionally been a time set aside for a particular focus on repentance, a time for focusing on the heart, for asking questions about our personal and collective spiritual health.

Many people choose to take up a positive new practice for Lent, such as daily readings to strengthen their faith - we are offering two in church this year: "Count your blessings" from Christian Aid, and "Live Lent- Care for God's Creation" from the Church of England. Both are available at the back of the church. You might also choose to use the prayer ideas on the church newsletter each day, or to read a Christian book.

Many people also choose to give up a negative practice for the 40 days of Lent, or to 'let go' of something that is actually good in itself so that we can strengthen our self-discipline and reliance on God. The Church of England encourages us to eat less on Ash Wednesday, and to eat more frugally during Lent, for just these reasons. Our Ash Wednesday service this year is at St Guthlac's (at 7.30pm) and gives us the opportunity to put ourselves on the path of humble reflection for the next few weeks - 'ashing' (marking the forehead with a cross, using the ashes of burnt palm crosses) is part of the service for those who wish. Why not be part of this ancient spiritual practice this year? Adrian

## **LENT 2020**

The Wednesday morning Lent Course will be held at 2 Shanklin Gardens beginning at 10.00 am. The first meeting will be on Wednesday 4th March. Please sign the list at the back of church if you would like to come. Thank you. Doreen White.



St Mary Magdalen Church  
Brinsmead Road, Knighton



Saturday 18th April

10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Raising money for the InSpired Appeal

Sponsorship forms are available from Lorna Kirk  
Email: [lorna.kirk@btopenworld.com](mailto:lorna.kirk@btopenworld.com)  
Tel: 0116 270 7843



**MUSICATHON :**  
**SATURDAY 18TH APRIL**  
**2020** 10am 4pm in St  
Mary's Church

We launched this Inspired fund raising event on Sunday 2nd February. Flyers were distributed to participants and we hope for early responses. In 2013 we had 36 volunteers offering their SPONSORED musical and poetic skills. Further information from Lorna Kirk 0116 2707843.

**MOTHERS UNION** - our Annual General Meeting takes place on Tuesday, 25th February, at 2.15 p.m. in the Lounge at the Parish Centre. This will be followed by a tribute tea. Subscriptions are also due.

**A PERSONAL NOTE OF THANKS.** David Wood, husband of our late friend Marjorie, and their daughters Sheila, Janet and Julie, would like to thank everyone at St Mary's for their kind messages and support over the last few weeks and at Marjorie's funeral. It has been greatly appreciated by all the family. The collection raised over £650 for Cancer Research, which is a much appreciated tribute to Marjorie.

## **LENT LUNCH**

Saturday March 7th. at 12 noon in the Parish Centre.

Tickets at £6 each for a simple meal of homemade soup, fresh bread, cheese, pickles and biscuits are available now from Bernard & Judi Stone. All proceeds are going to the "Send a Cow" Charity this year.

## **MESSY CHURCH**

Friday February 28th. at Stoneygate Baptist Church from 3.30pm. A hot meal will be served at about 5.15pm. Donations towards the costs are always welcome but not essential.

## **KNIGHTON PLAYERS**

This year's production from Knighton Players is 'The Sword In The Stone' by Ian Jones. The performances are on **Friday 27th March** at 7.30pm and **Saturday 28th March** at 2.30pm & 7.30pm in the Parish Centre.

Tickets are priced at £7 for adults and £5 for children and are available from Tanya Willis and Jane Wright or contact knightonplayers@ntlworld.com Profits in aid of MENPHYS (supporting Leicestershire children and young people with disabilities for 50 years)

## **MARIE CURIE ANNUAL SPRING LUNCH**

The Oadby & Wigston Fundraising Group are having their Annual Spring Lunch on **Thursday 26th March** 12 noon for 1.00pm, at the Taste Restaurant, Leicester College. This is a 4 course lunch and tickets are £19 per head. There will be a bar and a raffle. Please support this charity. For more information, call Shirley Wills on 0116 281 1401.

**THANK YOU** Molly Clarke would like to say thank you to the friends in St Mary's for their prayers and good wishes for her brother Brian, who had a difficult two weeks. We're pleased to say that he is now well and on the mend.



**Knighton  
Benefice Choir  
& Friends**

CONDUCTED BY  
**STEPHEN FOSTER**

**SPRING SING**

*To include music by Mozart,  
Palestrina, Monteverdi, Tallis,  
Rachmaninov and Handel*

**WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH 7.30PM**

**ST MARY MAGDALEN CHURCH**

*Brinsmead Road, Knighton*

*Retiring collection to InSpired Appeal and Parkinsons UK*

*You are invited to join in the Grand Finale of Handel's Hallelujah Chorus*

*Please bring a copy of the music if you have one.*

### Contact details:

**Vicar: Adrian Jones** 0116 270 4268 or 07584 954414

Email: [adrian.jones@zoho.com](mailto:adrian.jones@zoho.com) (day off normally Friday)

**Assistant Curate: Revd Matthew Gough** 07754 961997

Email: [revgough@gmail.com](mailto:revgough@gmail.com) (day off normally Friday)

**Revd Aphro McCullough:** 0116 283 7887

Email: [aphro.mccullough@btinternet.com](mailto:aphro.mccullough@btinternet.com)

**Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster**

Email: [safpta6@gmail.com](mailto:safpta6@gmail.com) 07966 376905

**Revd Janet Gasper**

Email: [janet.gasper@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:janet.gasper@hotmail.co.uk) 0116 288 9646

**Reader: Fiona Wingate**

Email: [Fiona.wingate@talktalk.net](mailto:Fiona.wingate@talktalk.net) 07515 752954

**Churchwarden: Rosalind Matthew**

**Parish Administrator: James Gutteridge** 0116 270 2705

Email: [office@knightonparish.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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:** Give thanks: for all those who work in medical science, helping to understanding illness better and to discover new treatments and medicines.

**Praying for the World:** please pray for increased efforts and funding to eradicate Malaria. This disease is preventable by simple precautions (such as nets) and very treatable when diagnosed early. However in 2018 there were 228 million cases worldwide and approx 405,000 deaths - 67% of deaths were children under 5 years old.

**Praying for the Church:** Today marks Poverty Sunday. Please pray for the charity Christians Against Poverty, and their work in debt prevention and counselling. Pray also for the Leicestershire Fair Finance Strategy Group, which draws together a coalition of organisations under the Diocesan umbrella, to press for local change. Pray for all those who live daily with poverty.

**Praying for the Parish :** This week please pray for those who live on:  
**Lambourne Road, Fairholme Road, Cairnsford Road, Ferndale Road, Northdene 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 **Edward Groves, Paul, Jackie Wood, Keith Dewsbury** 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.

**Eileen Mason    Joyce Garland**  
**Jane Mee        Chris Arnold**