

ST. NICHOLAS, NEWPORT, LINCOLN, LN1 3DP
Registered Charity Number: 1133977
www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk
11th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
23rd August 2020

Please read the Notices below carefully with regard to all services and events.

TODAY

9:00 am Said Eucharist
10:30 am Said Eucharist
5:00 pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

THIS WEEK

MONDAY

8:45 am Morning Prayer in the Sanctuary
10:00 am Church Open for Individual Prayer

TUESDAY

8:45 am Morning Prayer in the Sanctuary
10:00 am Church Open for Individual Prayer

WEDNESDAY

8:45 am Morning Prayer in the Sanctuary
9:30 am Said Eucharist
10:00 am Church Open for Individual Prayer

THURSDAY

8:45 am Morning Prayer in the Sanctuary
10:00 am Church Open for Individual Prayer
1:15 pm Funeral – Zak Johnson



*Please keep an eye on our Facebook Page,
or speak to Alice,
for information about St Nick's Nippers*

FRIDAY

8:45am Morning Prayer in the Sanctuary
10:00am Church Open for Individual Prayer

SATURDAY

10:00 am Church Open for Individual Prayer
Weekend e-Church available from Noon

NEXT SUNDAY – 12th AFTER TRINITY

9:00 am Said Eucharist
10:30 am Said Eucharist
5:00 pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

<u>SUNDAY 30th</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY 2nd</u>
Jeremiah 15:15-21	1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Psalms 26:1-8	Psalms 62
Romans 12:9-end	Luke 4:38-end
Matthew 16:21-end	

FROM THE VICAR

Many things have been hard about the interruption to our normal pattern of Christian worship over the last few months, but probably the one that I hear most frequently mentioned is not being able to sing together.

I completely agree. Congregational singing has been part of my life from as early as I can remember and few things are more uplifting or moving for me than being in a church full of people singing hymns. A formative influence in my early life was a milkman called Gwynn Jones, who used to sing the tenor parts of the hymns from the congregation from memory, every inch the Welshman. Whether it's a small number gently singing a simple Taizé chant, or a Cathedral full of people singing 'At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing' on Easter Eve, not many things more reliably bring a tear to my eye than a group of ordinary people singing God's praise together.

Community singing is an activity that exemplifies the truth that we are more, much more, together than we can possibly be apart. In church, when our hymns and songs are directed towards the praise of Almighty God, that sense of unity in diversity, has a spiritual dimension. It is what the church is, or should be, all about; the discovery that God's love dissolves mutual hostility and allows us to discover our truest individual selves in relationship with God and one another.

Good news, then, that the recently completed study into the transmission of the Coronavirus by singing seems to suggest that it may be safe to resume congregational singing sooner than we feared. Congregational singing is still not permitted, but the signs are encouraging.

I sometimes get asked what my favourite hymn is. It changes, and has changed many times, and of course there are particular hymns that are best suited to seasons in the year and moments in the liturgy. 'We Hail Thy Presence Glorious' is probably my favourite Offertory Hymn, while 'How Shall I Sing that Majesty' takes some beating as hymn of praise. 'O Jesus I have Promised' is a beautiful expression of Christian commitment, and 'Just as I Am' has a purity in its devotion that is hard to bet.

While we're waiting to be allowed to sing together again, why not send me a note of your favourites?

May God bless you all,

Hugh

PARISH INFORMATION

Vicar: Rev'd Dr Hugh Jones

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Parish Office

☎ 01522 540614; stnicholaslincoln@gmail.com

Notices for next week's sheet by Wednesday please.

Online & Social Media

🐦 @StNicksLincoln 📘 @stnicholaslincoln

www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk

NOTICES

CHRISTIAN AID LEBANON APPEAL

In Beirut City, today, there are 750,000 people affected by the explosion of 4th August. This includes over 5,000 injured and over 200 dead.

Please support the Christian Aid effort to help these people who are in great need. Christian Aid have partnered 'Mouvement Social' to distribute water, food, hygiene, disinfection materials, mattresses and blankets right now.

Please donate through the Christian Aid website to "The Lebanon Crisis Appeal".

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/>

You can also donate cash and cheques via the bucket in church starting this weekend and finishing today Sunday (23rd August).

CAN YOU HELP?

We aim to open church for private prayer and visitors from 10.00am to 11.00am each day, Monday to Saturday, but we need volunteers to help us achieve this. The work is not onerous and involves just one or two hours each month. Extending a friendly welcome is the main task. If you can help or if you'd just like more information, please contact me on 01522 520729 or email to joanberesford1@gmail.com. Thank you.

Joan Beresford

RESUMPTION OF PUBLIC WORSHIP

Face Coverings

It is now a legal requirement for those attending public worship to wear face masks. It is also a legal requirement for those conducting public worship to wear face masks at those points in the ceremony where physical distance cannot be maintained, most particularly during the distribution of communion. As currently phrased the Government's definition of a 'face covering' requires at least two, preferably three, layers of cloth which fit securely against both sides of the face. We are asked to make clear that face coverings should not be seen as a substitute for social distancing and careful hygiene.

Morning Prayer

The morning office is taking place in the Sanctuary. If you want to come along you will need a device with the Common Worship Daily Prayer App installed. Please get in touch with me, Alice or Peter Elsmore if you need help with this. If attending, please sit only in the seats provided, and do not move the chairs.

Private Prayer

The building continues to open daily for private, individual prayer. Please follow the instructions on the various signs around the church, and of the stewards on duty.

Eucharists

It remains essential that you contact the Parish Office in advance of a Eucharist if you wish to

attend. If possible, please do so **by email.** The Administrators will be keeping a list, and stewards will give priority to those who have registered. Services will offer communion in one kind only, and various social distancing measures will be in operation. Please follow the instructions given in church by the Priest and stewards. The order of service for the eucharist is available on the parish website and the link has been published by email circulation. **We encourage as many people as possible to download the service at home and bring it with them, either as a print out or on a phone or tablet.** There will be a very limited number of freshly printed service booklets in church for each service. If you need to use one of these, please do not hand it back in. Take it away with you, and be prepared to use it again.

e-Church

e-Church continues, but there is now only one video each week. This video will appear on a Saturday. Anyone who can access the internet can see these videos. If you need help with this, please do get in touch.

DAILY OFFICE ONLINE

With the resumption of Morning Prayer in church, our online daily office will now change. Evening Prayer will happen on Zoom on Sundays at 5.00pm. Please contact the Vicar if you would like to join in with this act of worship.

CHURCH FINANCES – THANK YOU

We are so grateful for the continued generosity of our many regular supporters during the lockdown period. Members of congregation have continued with their monthly standing orders and direct debits, and without their support we would not be able to meet our monthly commitments. Sandra says, 'I am very grateful to them all for helping me keep the books balanced and me sane.'

Now that we are back in the church building, we ask those who use the weekly or monthly envelopes to bring their donations with them – many already have, for which heartfelt thanks. Every penny is needed to keep this wonderful church going. Thank you!

READINGS

Sunday 23rd August – 11th after Trinity

COLLECT

God of glory, the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 51:1-6

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,
you that seek the Lord.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.
For the Lord will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.
Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation;
for a teaching will go out from me,
and my justice for a light to the peoples.
I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,
my salvation has gone out
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.
Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats;
but my salvation will be for ever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

PSALM

PSALM 138

Refrain: O Lord, your love endures for ever.

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods will I sing praise to you.
I will bow down towards your holy temple and praise
your name,
because of your love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name
and your word above all things. **R**
In the day that I called to you, you answered me;
you put new strength in my soul.
All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your mouth.
They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,
that great is the glory of the Lord.
Though the Lord be high, he watches over the lowly;
as for the proud, he regards them from afar. **R**
Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you will preserve me;

you will stretch forth your hand against the fury of my
enemies;
your right hand will save me.

The Lord shall make good his purpose for me;
your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever;
forsake not the work of your hands. **R**

SECOND READING

ROMANS 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.
For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 16:13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

POST COMMUNION

Lord of all mercy, we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace: by our communion keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel and preserve us from all sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Wednesday 26th August

COLLECT

God of glory, the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

FIRST READING

2 THESSALONIANS 3:6-10, 16-END

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labour we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways. The Lord be with all of you. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. This is the mark in every letter of mine; it is the way I write. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you.

PSALM

PSALM 128

Refrain: How abundant is your goodness, O Lord.

Blessed are all those who fear the Lord,
and walk in his ways.

You shall eat the fruit of the toil of your hands;
it shall go well with you, and happy shall you be. **R**

Your wife within your house
shall be like a fruitful vine;
your children round your table,
like fresh olive branches.

Thus shall the one be blest
who fears the Lord. **R**

The Lord from out of Zion bless you,
that you may see Jerusalem in prosperity
all the days of your life.

May you see your children's children,
and may there be peace upon Israel. **R**

GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 23:27-32

'Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which on the outside look beautiful, but inside they are full of the bones of the dead and of all kinds of filth. So you also on the outside look righteous to others, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

'Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the graves of the righteous, and you say, "If we had lived in the days of our ancestors, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets." Thus you testify against yourselves that you are descendants of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your ancestors.

POST COMMUNION

Lord of all mercy, we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace: by our communion keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel and preserve us from all sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**