

ST. NICHOLAS, NEWPORT, LINCOLN, LN1 3DP
Registered Charity Number: 1133977
www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk
2ND SUNDAY OF LENT
28th February 2021

NOTES

Due to Covid restrictions, list entries in italics are private services. Please do not come to these unless you have been personally invited.

Joining instructions for online services and events are provided in the notices below.

Please be aware that all services and events are subject to late changes, and get in touch before finalising your plans.

TODAY

9:00 am Said Eucharist
10:30 am Said Eucharist

THIS WEEK

MONDAY

8:45 am Morning Prayer on Zoom
7:00 pm PCC on Zoom (link circulated to members)

TUESDAY

8:45 am Morning Prayer on Zoom
12:30 pm Funeral – Rita Chapman
7:30 pm Parents' Fellowship on Zoom

WEDNESDAY

8:45 am Morning Prayer on Zoom
9:30 am Said Eucharist
11:00 am Coffee and Catch-Up on Zoom
7:00 pm Lent Course on Zoom

THURSDAY

8:45 am Morning Prayer on Zoom

FRIDAY

11:30 am Funeral – Marian Gurnhill

NEXT SUNDAY – THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

9:00 am Said Eucharist
10:30 am Said Eucharist

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

<u>SUNDAY 7TH MARCH</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY 10TH MARCH</u>
Exodus 20:1-17	Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9
Psalms 19:7-end	Psalms 147:13-end
1 Corinthians 1:18-25	Matthew 5:17-19
John 2:13-22	

FROM THE VICAR

Once upon a time my family and I set out to drive to my parents' house. That sounds simple, doesn't it? It was made a bit less simple than it might have been, however, by virtue of the fact that Grandma and Grandad lived at that time in the extreme south west of France. It was necessary to break

the journey overnight and we made a reservation at the Novotel in Rouen.

All went very smoothly until we arrived in Rouen and tried to find the hotel. It would be only a very small exaggeration to say that we drove on every road in Rouen *except* the one on which the hotel was located.

These days, satellite navigation and smart phones make this scenario less likely, but back then the problem arose as a result of using a French road atlas and having nothing more to go on than the postal address. You discover, in situations like this, that familiar mapping conventions do not always apply. You also find out that the postal address of a hotel is not necessarily in the same place as the hotel itself!

I am reminded of this experience this week because of all the talk of roadmaps. A one way ticket to freedom has been offered, a way out of Covid restrictions, coupled with a stern warning not to run. Like a classful of children at the end of the school day, there will be some who will rush to get out first, others who will hang back until they're sure the path is clear, and still others who will semi-consciously muddle along with the crowd.

In all the discussion of dates and data, of whether things are going too slowly or too fast, it's easy to forget that this roadmap leads us to somewhere we've never been before. The post-Covid world will not be as it was. We can't tell exactly what it will be like, and the roadmap will be no use once we're there.

If we're not to spend hours driving around Rouen in the middle of the night with two small children in the back of the car (to stretch the metaphor) we will need something more than a map. We will need wisdom, and humility, a willingness to learn and a determination to do better. We will need, in other words, God's help.

May God bless you all,

Hugh

PARISH INFORMATION

Vicar: Rev'd Dr Hugh Jones

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Parish Office

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Notices for next week's sheet by Wednesday please.

Online & Social Media

🐦 @StNicksLincoln 📘 @stnicholaslincoln

www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk

NOTICES

MORNING PRAYER ON ZOOM

Please contact Alice to receive the Zoom link for Morning Prayer. If you've never joined, why not make this Lent the time to start?

COFFEE AND CATCH-UP ON ZOOM

Join us on Wednesdays at 11am for a coffee and a catch-up! A chance to see one another and share fellowship and fun, until we can meet in person again. The Zoom details are below; please get in touch with Alice if you have any questions or problems.

Topic: Wednesday Coffee and Catch-up

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87638167553>

Meeting ID: 876 3816 7553

LENT COURSE

This year's Lent Course is a series of reflections, with worship, on the Collect for Ash Wednesday. It will take place on Zoom (**using the same link as above**) continuing on Wednesday 31st February, at 7:00 pm, for five weeks. Please download the notice circulated by e-mail for fuller details. Please note that you do not need a password to access this meeting.

COVID RESTRICTIONS

The PCC will meet on Monday to discuss our own 'roadmap' out of lockdown. For the time being, however, it is important that we continue to observe all of the risk management protocols that we have in place. Please be patient a little bit longer!

PARENTS' FELLOWSHIP

Having started on Tuesday 16th February at 7:30 pm, Kate Mitchell will continue to host an informal coffee, chat, and fellowship group for parents of senior school children. The group will meet on Zoom for around 40 mins on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays thereafter.

Please do join as your other commitments permit and feel free to spread the word to anyone else you feel may be interested. Contact Kate on kimitchell882@gmail.com to register interest and be sent the recurring Zoom link.

Kate says: 'I hope that this will be a relaxed space in which we can get together over a coffee to draw encouragement and inspiration off each other about growing our own faith as parents, sharing our faith with our children, and living with teenagers who have had their school and social lives tipped upside down due to school closures and social distancing. Bring a drink of your choice for a catch up and then we will close with a restful compline for the last 5-10 mins. If you can't make the entire time you can just drop in and drop out as you need to.'

EASTER EGGS

If you'd like Traidcraft Easter Eggs this year, please order them direct, at www.traidcraftshop.co.uk.

BUILDING REPAIRS

It's almost a year since the first lockdown was announced. We are all missing meals out with friends, cancelled holidays and theatre trips and that new spring outfit. But have you noticed that your bank balance has increased? Please consider making a donation to the church so that vital repairs to the East Window can take place and the work of mission and ministry at St Nicholas' can continue apace when we eventually re-open. *Joan Beresford*

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - MARCH 5TH 2021

This year's service has been created by the women of Vanuatu. A virtual service will be held on Zoom, at 3.30 pm on Friday 5th March, hosted by Anne Atkinson of St Mary Magdalene. If you'd like to participate, please register your interest by email to acatkinson@yahoo.co.uk as soon as possible. Further details can be found at www.wdp.org.uk. If you are unable to join in on Zoom, the organisers will be making some service booklets available. They are particularly keen to hear from anyone who would be happy to read during the service.

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS

Did you know that you can forward the e-Church bulletins to your families and friends? Just click the 'forward' arrow in your email system. This is a terrific, and very easy, way of sharing the good news. Our materials are already being accessed by people all over the world, but there's plenty of room for lots more. People can also 'like' the videos on YouTube and subscribe to our mailings either by contacting the Parish Office or clicking on the button in the front page of the website. Do get in touch if we can help with any of this.

READINGS

Sunday 28th February

COLLECT

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

FIRST READING

GENESIS 17:1-7, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, 'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

PSALM

PSALM 22:23-END

Refrain: All the ends of the earth shall turn to you, O Lord.

Praise the Lord, you that fear him;

O seed of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, O seed of Israel.

For he has not despised nor abhorred the suffering of the poor;

neither has he hidden his face from them;
but when they cried to him he heard them. **R**

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;

I will perform my vows
in the presence of those that fear you.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied;

those who seek the Lord shall praise him;
their hearts shall live for ever. **R**

All the ends of the earth

shall remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For the kingdom is the Lord's

and he rules over the nations. **R**

How can those who sleep in the earth

bow down in worship,
or those who go down to the dust kneel before him?

He has saved my life for himself;

my descendants shall serve him;

this shall be told of the Lord for generations to come.

They shall come and make known his salvation,
to a people yet unborn,
declaring that he, the Lord, has done it. **R**

SECOND READING

ROMANS 4:13-END

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

GOSPEL

MARK 8:31-END

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

POST COMMUNION

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Wednesday 3rd March

COLLECT

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 18:18-20

Then they said, 'Come, let us make plots against Jeremiah—for instruction shall not perish from the priest, nor counsel from the wise, nor the word from the prophet. Come, let us bring charges against him, and let us not heed any of his words.'

Give heed to me, O Lord,
and listen to what my adversaries say!
Is evil a recompense for good?
Yet they have dug a pit for my life.
Remember how I stood before you
to speak good for them,
to turn away your wrath from them.

PSALM

PSALM 31:4-5, 14-18

Refrain: Into your hands I commend my spirit.

Take me out of the net
that they have laid secretly for me,
for you are my strength.
Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth. **R**
But my trust is in you, O Lord.
I have said, 'You are my God.
'My times are in your hand;
deliver me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
'Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and save me for your mercy's sake.' **R**
Lord, let me not be confounded
for I have called upon you;
but let the wicked be put to shame;
let them be silent in the grave.
Let the lying lips be put to silence
that speak against the righteous
with arrogance, disdain and contempt. **R**

GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 20:17-28

While Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside by themselves, and said to them on the way, 'See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they

will hand him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified; and on the third day he will be raised.'

Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favour of him. And he said to her, 'What do you want?' She said to him, 'Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.' But Jesus answered, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?' They said to him, 'We are able.' He said to them, 'You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.'

When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

POST COMMUNION

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**