

ST. NICHOLAS, NEWPORT, LINCOLN, LN1 3DP  
Registered Charity Number: 1133977  
www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk

**PALM SUNDAY**  
28<sup>th</sup> March 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.***

***Please continue to let us know if you plan to attend worship in church. We still need to keep records of those who attend as well as making sure our numbers are within safe limits.***

### TODAY

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

### THIS WEEK

#### **MONDAY**

8:45 am Morning Prayer  
7:00 pm Said Eucharist

#### **TUESDAY**

8:45 am Morning Prayer  
12:30 pm Said Eucharist

#### **WEDNESDAY**

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

#### **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

8:45 am Morning Prayer  
7:00 pm Liturgy of Maundy Thursday, followed by Watch to Midnight

#### **GOOD FRIDAY**

2:00 pm Liturgy of Good Friday

### NEXT SUNDAY – EASTER SUNDAY

9:00 am Said Eucharist  
10:30 am Said Eucharist  
Noon *Baptism of Daryl Baxter*

### READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

#### SUNDAY 4<sup>th</sup> APRIL

Acts 10:34-43  
Psalm 118:14-24  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11  
John 20:1-18

#### WEDNESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> APRIL

Acts 3:1-10  
Psalm 105:1-9  
Luke 24:13-35

### FROM THE VICAR

'I thought you were my friend!'

The discovery that someone you trusted has turned against you is a horrible feeling. Most of us will have experienced it at some stage in our lives. Many of us will have been through it on a larger scale, too, when a group of people whom we thought were 'on our side' takes against us and we find ourselves isolated.

I wonder how we responded.

Perhaps the first response was a desire for revenge. The visceral logic of 'you hurt me so I'm going to hurt you' is hard to shake. Our view of human nature may have been tarnished. We may have resolved never to trust again, becoming more cautious in our choice of friends and more guarded in what we share with them.

Palm Sunday is a good day to reflect on these things since it speaks volumes about the fickle nature of human loyalty. Jesus is at his most popular as he rides into Jerusalem surrounded by crowds shouting 'Hosanna'. It's the one clear 'Superstar' moment of his career. Yet in just a few days the crowd of fans will disappear, one of his closest supporters will betray him, another deny him, and he will hang, dying on a cross.

Remarkably, there are no petulant outbursts from Jesus, no vengeful feelings on show. Jesus' understanding of human nature is as clear-sighted as it has ever been. His final words about those who have treated him so appallingly are a prayer: 'Father, forgive.'

Indeed, there is a strange, subliminal sense throughout all this that only Jesus understands what is really happening. He is the victim, yes, but also the principal actor. While others are thrown into chaos by fear, ambition, jealousy, boredom, expediency and the changing moods of the crowds, by the time he is arrested Jesus appears almost aloof. For him, the turbulence comes earlier, in prayer in the garden: 'take this cup away from me', then 'not my will, but yours be done'.

And here, I think, is the key to our own understanding and engagement with this Sunday and the Holy Week that follows it. For Jesus, there is really only one battle to be fought. It isn't a battle for the approval of the crowds. It isn't a fight for survival or prestige or wealth or power. It isn't about getting revenge on those who abandon or betray him. It is the battle within, between the very real and human desire to be spared the horrors that lie ahead of him, and the knowledge that there is no other path that can accomplish the Father's will to save and redeem the world.

May God bless you all,

Hugh

### PARISH INFORMATION

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Notices for next week's sheet by Wednesday please.

Online & Social Media

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www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk

## NOTICES

### POST-COVID VOLUNTEERING

We are hopeful that over the next few months things at St Nicholas will return to a more familiar pattern. Much of this depends on things beyond our control – the progress might in fighting the virus, Government policies, national church advice. *But some of it depends on you!* In order to be able to do everything we would like to do, we need volunteers, lots of them. There are opportunities to get involved in church opening, stewarding services, church cleaning, various roles in worship, and many other things. Please get in touch if you are willing to help.

### 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**

### PARENTS' FELLOWSHIP

Having started on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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.'

### GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF WITNESS

We've been asked to let you know that the ecumenical walk through Lincoln will NOT take place this year.

## 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 28<sup>th</sup> March*

#### **PALM GOSPEL**

MARK 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" just say this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately."' They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!' Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

#### **COLLECT**

True and humble king, hailed by the crowd as Messiah: grant us the faith to know you and love you, that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross, which is the path of glory. **Amen**

#### **READING**

ISAIAH 50:4-9A

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

#### **PSALM**

PSALM 31:9-16

*Refrain: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*

Have mercy on me, Lord, for I am in trouble;  
my eye is consumed with sorrow,  
my soul and my body also.

For my life is wasted with grief,  
and my years with sighing;  
my strength fails me because of my affliction,  
and my bones are consumed. **R**

I have become a reproach to all my enemies  
and even to my neighbours,  
an object of dread to my acquaintances;  
when they see me in the street they flee from me.

I am forgotten like one that is dead, out of mind;

I have become like a broken vessel. **R**

For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;  
fear is on every side;  
they scheme together against me,  
and plot to take my life.

But my trust is in you, O Lord.

I have said, 'You are my God. **R**

'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**

#### **PASSION GOSPEL**

MARK 14:1-END OF 15

#### **POST COMMUNION**

Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation: give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

### *Maundy Thursday – 1<sup>st</sup> April*

#### **COLLECT**

God our Father, your Son Jesus Christ was obedient to the end and drank the cup prepared for him: may we who share his table watch with him through the night of suffering and be faithful. **Amen**

#### **FIRST READING**

EXODUS 12:1-4, 11-14

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike

down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

### PSALM

PSALM 116:1, 10-END

*Refrain: Gracious is the Lord and righteous.*

I love the Lord,  
for he has heard the voice of my supplication;  
because he inclined his ear to me  
on the day I called to him. **R**  
How shall I repay the Lord  
for all the benefits he has given to me?  
I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call upon the name of the Lord.  
I will fulfil my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people. **R**  
Precious in the sight of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful servants.  
O Lord, I am your servant,  
your servant, the child of your handmaid;  
you have freed me from my bonds. **R**  
I will offer to you a sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name of the Lord.  
I will fulfil my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people,  
In the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.  
Alleluia. **R**

### SECOND READING

1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

### GOSPEL READING

JOHN 13:1-17, 31B-35

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them

with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!' Jesus said to him, 'One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.' For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, 'Not all of you are clean.' After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, 'Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

When he had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

### POST COMMUNION

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament you have given us the memorial of your passion: grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries of your body and blood that we may know within ourselves and show forth in our lives the fruit of your redemption, for you are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen**