

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

TRINITY SUNDAY

30th May 2021

NOTES

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. Events in italics are by invitation only.

TODAY

9:00 am Said Eucharist

10:30 am Said Eucharist

THIS WEEK

MONDAY

8:45 am Morning Prayer

10:00 am Church open for private prayer

TUESDAY

8:45 am Morning Prayer

10:00 am Church open for private prayer

7:30 pm Parents' Fellowship

WEDNESDAY

8:45 am Morning Prayer

9:30 am Said Eucharist

10:00 am Church open for private prayer

THURSDAY – CORPUS CHRISTI

8:45 am Morning Prayer

10:00 am Church open for private prayer

FRIDAY

10:00 am Church open for private prayer

SATURDAY

10:00 am Church open for private prayer

13:30 am **St Nick's Litter Pick**

NEXT SUNDAY – 1st AFTER TRINITY

9:00 am Said Eucharist

10:30 am Said Eucharist

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

SUNDAY 6th JUNE

Genesis 3:8-15

Psalms 130

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Mark 3:20-end

WEDNESDAY 9th JUNE

2 Corinthians 3:4-11

Psalms 78:1-4

Matthew 5:17-19

advantage of this half-term holiday to spend time with family from whom we've been physically separated for a long time. (It's my Mum's 85th birthday this week, so it's come at just the right time for us.) I hope that I will never again take for granted the precious gift of being able to sit indoors and chat and greet loved ones with a hug.

Pope Francis reminds us in his recent book 'Let Us Dream' that touch is a sense that technology cannot mediate. We can look at pictures and hear voices on our tablets, phones and computers. And the many ways that technology has helped us to keep relationships going, care for each other, pray and worship over the last 15 months are things for which I'm truly grateful. But they are consolations for what we have lost, not adequate substitutes.

One of the most important things about our Christian faith is that our God is embodied. For Christians, God is physically present in the world, most especially in the historical person of Jesus Christ and in the same Christ's sacramental presence in the Eucharist. We are physical creatures and we worship a God who makes himself physically present to us.

Not everyone warms to this idea. Some are drawn to a disembodied religion because it reassures them (falsely) that they are not falling into the sin of idolatry. Others struggle to reconcile the imperfections of bodily life with the glory of God. People who have strongly negative attitudes towards their own bodies may find it hard to accept the love of an embodied God.

I understand and empathise with all of those reasons for preferring an abstract God, a cognitive God, a shapeless formless God, but I have to be clear that this is not the Christian God. The frailty of the human body is intrinsic to the very nature of that God; as Charles Wesley puts it, 'those dear tokens of his passion, still his dazzling body bears.'

I hope you are looking forward to getting together with family and friends again. I hope you are able to do so safely, and take good care of one another as you do so. And I hope that in the time that you spend together as *whole* people, you may find in the encounter something of the grace and love of God.

May God bless you all,

Hugh

PARISH INFORMATION

Vicar: Rev'd Dr Hugh Jones

☎ 07792 423927; drhughwfjones@gmail.com

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

FROM THE VICAR

I begin this week with thanks to our curate, Mthr Alice Jolley, for preaching and presiding at both of our morning services this week while I am at St George's, Swallowbeck, and to Fr Alan Moses, who will be preaching and presiding at our service on Wednesday while I am on leave.

To judge by the conversations I've been having recently, I won't be the only person taking

NOTICES

ANNUAL MEETINGS – CASUAL VACANCIES

Warmest congratulations to those elected to hold office in the Parish in the coming year! We ended up having a bit of a switch around, which resulted in two short-term vacancies for elected PCC representatives. If you would be interested in serving on the PCC for a one-year term, please speak to the Vicar.

ST NICK'S NIPPERS

St Nick's Nippers will now resume in September. Please speak to Alice if you are able to be on the team of volunteers. Please also spread the word about this excellent opportunity for children under 5 and those who care for them to spend a happy morning in church.

PARENTS' FELLOWSHIP

Online catch up, comradeship and compline for parents of senior school children. Meeting as usual this week – Tuesday 1st June, at 7:30 pm. Do drop in if you're able. Please contact Kate Mitchell at kimitchell882@gmail.com to register interest and be sent the recurring Zoom link.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY – 5TH JUNE 2021

ST NICK'S PARISH LITTER PICK

Don't forget to sign up for our first ever Parish Litter Pick so you can do your bit to improve the local environment. We can all play a small part in caring for God's wonderful world. Details are available on St Nick's Facebook page and on the Parish website. If you would like more information or to take part, please contact the office or speak to Kate Mitchell or Sue Humphrey.

READINGS

Sunday 30th May

COLLECT

Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.' The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!' Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: 'Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.' Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'

PSALM

PSALM 29

Refrain: The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name;
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. **R**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders;
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation;
the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice. **R**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf
and Sirion like a young wild ox. **R**

The voice of the Lord splits the flash of lightning;
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare;
in his temple all cry, 'Glory!'

The Lord sits enthroned above the water flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.

The Lord shall give strength to his people;
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

R

SECOND READING

ROMANS 8:12-17

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

GOSPEL READING

JOHN 3:1-17

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

POST COMMUNION

Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

COLLECT

Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

FIRST READING

TOBIT 3:1-11, 16-END

Then with much grief and anguish of heart I wept, and with groaning began to pray:

'You are righteous, O Lord, and all your deeds are just; all your ways are mercy and truth; you judge the world. And now, O Lord, remember me and look favourably upon me. Do not punish me for my sins and for my unwitting offences and those that my ancestors committed before you. They sinned against you, and disobeyed your commandments.

'So you gave us over to plunder, exile, and death, to become the talk, the byword, and an object of reproach, among all the nations among whom you have dispersed us.

'And now your many judgements are true in exacting penalty from me for my sins. For we have not kept your commandments and have not walked in accordance with truth before you.

'So now deal with me as you will; command my spirit to be taken from me, so that I may be released from the face of the earth and become dust.

'For it is better for me to die than to live, because I have had to listen to undeserved insults, and great is the sorrow within me.

'Command, O Lord, that I be released from this distress; release me to go to the eternal home, and do not, O Lord, turn your face away from me. For it is better for me to die than to see so much distress in my life and to listen to insults.'

On the same day, at Ecbatana in Media, it also happened that Sarah, the daughter of Raguel, was reproached by one of her father's maids. For she had been married to seven husbands, and the wicked demon Asmodeus had killed each of them before they had been with her as is customary for wives. So the maid said to her, 'You are the one who kills your husbands! See, you have already been married to seven husbands and have not borne the name of a single one of them. Why do you beat us? Because your husbands are dead? Go with them! May we never see a son or daughter of yours!'

On that day she was grieved in spirit and wept. When she had gone up to her father's upper room, she intended to hang herself. But she thought it over and said, 'Never shall they reproach my father, saying to him, "You had only one beloved daughter but she hanged herself because of her distress." And I shall bring my father in his old age down in sorrow to Hades. It is better for me not to hang myself, but to pray the Lord that I may die and not listen to these reproaches

any more.' At that same time, with hands outstretched towards the window, she prayed and said,
'Blessed are you, merciful God! Blessed is your name for ever; let all your works praise you for ever.

At that very moment, the prayers of both of them were heard in the glorious presence of God. So Raphael was sent to heal both of them: Tobit, by removing the white films from his eyes, so that he might see God's light with his eyes; and Sarah daughter of Raguel, by giving her in marriage to Tobias son of Tobit, and by setting her free from the wicked demon Asmodeus. For Tobias was entitled to have her before all others who had desired to marry her. At the same time that Tobit returned from the courtyard into his house, Sarah daughter of Raguel came down from her upper room.

PSALM

PSALM 25:1-8

Refrain: Remember, Lord, your compassion and love.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame,
but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you have I hoped all the day long. **R**

Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth
or my transgressions,
but think on me in your goodness, O Lord,
according to your steadfast love.

Gracious and upright is the Lord;
therefore shall he teach sinners in the way.

He will guide the humble in doing right
and teach his way to the lowly. **R**

GOSPEL READING

MARK 12:18-27

Some Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to him and asked him a question, saying,
'Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no child, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. There were seven brothers; the first married and, when he died, left no children; and the second married her and died, leaving no children; and the third likewise; none of the seven left children. Last of all the woman herself died. In the resurrection whose wife will she be? For the seven had married her.'

Jesus said to them, 'Is not this the reason you are wrong, that you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God? For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the story about the bush, how God said to him, "I am the God of

Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob"? He is God not of the dead, but of the living; you are quite wrong.'

POST COMMUNION

Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever. **Amen**