ST. NICHOLAS, NEWPORT, LINCOLN, LN13DP Registered Charity Number: 1133977 www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk

7TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY 18th July 2021

TODAY

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

THIS WEEK

MONDAY

8:45 am Morning Prayer 10:00 am Church open

TUESDAY

8:45 am Morning Prayer 10:00 am Church open

WEDNESDAY

8:45 am Morning Praver 9:30 am Said Eucharist 10:00 am Church open

THURSDAY

8:45 am Morning Prayer 10:00 am Church open

1:30 pm Funeral – Charles Wells

FRIDAY

10:00 am Church open

SATURDAY

10:00 am Church open

NEXT SUNDAY – JAMES THE APOSTLE

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

Noon Holy Baptism - Archie Tonks

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

SUNDAY 25th JULY Acts 11:27-12:2

WEDNESDAY 28th JULY Exodus 34:29-end

Psalm 126 2 Corinthians 4:7-15

Psalm 99 Matthew 13:44-46

Matthew 20:20-28

FROM THE VICAR

I expect that most people attending church this weekend will have one question towards the front of their minds. 'Is this the last Sunday when we have to put up with all these restrictions?'

The answer, frustratingly, is 'yes and no'. Strictly speaking, from Monday 19th there will be no Covidspecific limits on what we can and cannot do in church. (We will return to the pre-Covid position of having to meet our obligations under Canon law and other legislation. In short, this means we must hold public worship every Sunday, and endeavour to make sure that everything that happens in our church building is broadly consistent with the values and teachings of the Christian religion. So far so good.)

However...

There are many reasons why I need to be a bit of a party pooper. The responsibility does now fall on me, and the decisions about how we proceed from here will be mine. I expect to be able to communicate these to you very soon, but for now I will have to limit myself to explaining my various reasons for throwing a bit of a wet blanket over the euphoria of 'freedom day'.

To begin, although we expect the Government to publish specific guidelines for places of worship, this has not yet emerged. The Church of England's detailed guidance has now been issued, but with the clear caveat that details in the Government's paper may alter its recommendations.

Once we have that guidance, we will need to complete a full revision of our risk management documentation and the procedures it describes. This is a non-trivial task that will take time.

I know that for every person in our congregation who longs for the opportunity to cast aside their face covering, hug their fellow worshippers and sing enthusiastically in God's praise, there is another for whom the relaxation of restrictions will lead to increased anxiety and, in some cases, real risk.

I will need, then, to steer a middle course. In this, my goal will be to ensure that the maximum number of people can come to church and feel happy and safe doing so. That will involve some measure of compromise for every one of us, myself included.

I will also be taking into account the fact that caution is still strongly encouraged, especially for indoor activities, and that infection rates are at their highest level for some time and still rising.

I can announce one thing right now, though, and that is that after this weekend it will no longer be necessary to let the office know if you plan to attend worship. There will be no lists at the back of church, checking off names and phone numbers. If you want to come to church, all you will need to do is show up. I do expect, further, that it will be possible for us to sing together inside the church building from next Sunday morning onwards.

I see this moment as a test of our Christian charity. For a Christian, freedom should never be an excuse to hurt someone, or put them at risk. If it turns out that some of our precautions stay in place over the summer, it will be because we want to make our church as hospitable to all those who enter it as possible.

May God bless you all, Hugh

PARISH INFORMATION

Vicar: Rev'd Dr Hugh Jones and the contraction of the contr

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

ANNE NUGENT

Anne Nugent has served St Nicholas Church as Director of Music for 24 years. Although Anne has kindly agreed to continue to play for our worship over the summer, we're taking the opportunity today, before people head off on holiday, to celebrate her ministry here and thank her. Everyone is warmly invited to join in.

SUMMER E-CHURCH

e-Church will continue through the summer, but in a different format. There will be no sermon and no hymn. Instead, a service of Morning Prayer for Sunday will be the template with a Collect and Bible reading for the day.

CANON BRIAN BARNES

We've had a lovely letter of thanks from the Injured Jockeys Fund for donations totalling £220 given by the people of this church in memory of Brian. Una sends her appreciation. *Jackie*

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.

CHURCH CLEANING

As we look forward to re-starting activities and opening up more spaces, we need volunteers to keep our church clean. Can you spare an hour or two each month to join our team of cleaners? You don't have to be super-fit, just let me know what you are happy to contribute. Phone me on 01522 520729 if you can help. Thank you. *Joan Beresford*

ANNE ASKEW: A WOMAN OF COURAGE IN TUDOR LINCOLNSHIRE – BY MARGARET CROMPTON

Wednesday 28th July, 1:10pm, Cathedral Chapter House (Normal cathedral entrance charges apply.) Anne Askew read the Bible illegally in Lincoln Cathedral. In 1546; caught up in a conspiracy against Queen Katherine Parr, she was burnt as a heretic. In prison, she wrote accounts of her interrogations, including torture. The manuscript was smuggled out of England for publication by exiled priest Dr John Bale. The Wren Library, Lincoln Cathedral, holds a first edition. This staged reading by Script-in-Hand of this explores Anne's peaceful protest and its significance for our own understanding of freedom. In 2021, Eve is reading her own Bible in the Cathedral, to commemorate Anne Askew. Time drags, but Eve forgets her boredom when Anne speaks to her. Anne is represented by two actors. Anne (2021) introduces her father (Sir William), husband (Thomas Kyme) and Bishop Longland. Anne (1546) reads from her own writings, The Examinations of Anne Askewe, while John Bale reads his editorial comments. The Scholar interposes background information. John Bale is Master of Ceremonies. Please come and support us! Su Toogood

READINGS

Sunday 18th July

COLLECT

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 23:1-6

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore, thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

PSALM

PSALM 23

Refrain: The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.

The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.

He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. **R**

He shall refresh my soul

and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil;

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me. R

You spread a table before me

in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.

Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. **R SECOND READING**

EPHESIANS 2:11-END

Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called 'the uncircumcision' by those who are called 'the circumcision'—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the

commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, so that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

GOSPEL READING

MARK 6:30-34, 53-END

The apostles returned from their mission. They gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, 'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the market-places, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

POST COMMUNION

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life, ever giving himself that the world may live: may we so receive within ourselves the power of his death and passion that, in his saving cup, we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

Wednesday 21st July

COLLECT

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

FIRST READING

Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites set out from Elim; and Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt. The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, 'If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.'

Then Moses said to Aaron, 'Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, "Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining." 'And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked towards the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, 'I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, "At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God." 'In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it,

they said to one another, 'What is it?' For they did not

know what it was. Moses said to them, 'It is the bread

PSALM

PSALM 78:17-31

Refrain: O Lord, how glorious are your works.

Yet for all this they sinned more against him and defied the Most High in the wilderness.

They tested God in their hearts and demanded food for their craving.

They spoke against God and said,

that the Lord has given you to eat.

'Can God prepare a table in the wilderness?

'He struck the rock indeed, so that the waters gushed out and the streams overflowed,

but can he give bread or provide meat for his people?' **R**

When the Lord heard this, he was full of wrath; a fire was kindled against Jacob and his anger went out against Israel,

For they had no faith in God and put no trust in his saving help.

So he commanded the clouds above and opened the doors of heaven.

He rained down upon them manna to eat and gave them the grain of heaven.

So mortals ate the bread of angels; he sent them food in plenty. **R**

He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens and led out the south wind by his might.

He rained flesh upon them as thick as dust and winged fowl like the sand of the sea.

He let it fall in the midst of their camp and round about their tents.

So they ate and were well filled, for he gave them what they desired.

But they did not stop their craving; their food was still in their mouths,

When the anger of God rose against them, and slew their strongest men and felled the flower of Israel. **R**

GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 13:1-9

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!'

POST COMMUNION

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life, ever giving himself that the world may live: may we so receive within ourselves the power of his death and passion that, in his saving cup, we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**