

ST. NICHOLAS, NEWPORT, LINCOLN, LN1 3DP
Registered Charity Number: 1133977
www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk
13TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
29th August 2021

TODAY

9:00 am Said Eucharist
10:30 am Said Eucharist
Hymns: 435; 42; 236; 748

THIS WEEK

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY

No services or events in church today

TUESDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

10:00 am Church open

SATURDAY

10:00 am Church open
3:00 pm Wedding – Ellie Charge and Steve Rose

NEXT SUNDAY – 14TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

<u>SUNDAY 5th SEPTEMBER</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY 8th SEPTEMBER</u>
Isaiah 35:4-7a	Micah 5:2-4
Psalms 146	From Judith 16
James 2:1-10, 14-17	Matthew 1:18-23
Mark 7:24-end	

FROM THE VICAR

The end of August, when shops begin to advertise 'Back to School' specials, carries some extra weight this year. Many are hoping that 'back to school' might mean 'back to normal'. Others are fearing exactly that.

In our church life, as Covid precautions are gradually wound down, this raises many questions. What will be our pattern of worship? Will we be able to offer refreshments? Will our various groups and committees be able to resume their activities?

I'm aware that many of you are asking these questions, and that there are anxieties about the future in many hearts. So I want this week (a week earlier than previously advertised) to share with you all some of my own thoughts about all this, which

have also featured in discussions with the Ministry Team and the PCC.

The first thing to say is that the future cannot be, and will not be, exactly the same as the past. Many of the reasons for this are positive – some of the skills and opportunities for ministry that we have developed during the pandemic represent huge leaps forward, and they must continue. Online worship, phone-based pastoral support, the much wider involvement of our lay ministry team in the life of our community; all of these are good things that we should not let fade away.

There are also features of the wider national and Diocesan context that require us to think differently about what we do. The 'Time to Change' programme recently approved by Diocesan Synod makes sobering, but ultimately hopeful, reading. For St Nicholas this will mean reflecting on how we can make a wider contribution to the work of God in our city, through our partnership with our neighbours and in other ways. I encourage everyone to visit the Diocesan website and read at least the headline messages. [<https://www.lincoln.anglican.org/ttct>]

Finally, there is the simple choice that faces every church in every community across the country – we must either find ways to grow, or accept that we will die. Attracting, and retaining, new worshippers needs to be in all of our thoughts, and a factor in all of our decisions.

I recognise that St Nicholas is not the kind of place where talk of change is easily received as good news! We (and I really do mean 'we') are people who place a high value on what I have called the 'mainstream of the Anglican tradition'. It would be against every instinct I have as a Christian and as a priest to abandon that tradition, and I see no reason at all why we should. We can and we must grow this church in a way that holds fast to its rich heritage.

What we must *also* do, however, is abandon any notion of ourselves as a club for like-minded people, and instead embrace Archbishop William Temple's insight that the church exists for the benefit of those who are not yet its members.

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

FIRST AID TRAINING COURSE

A one-day training course will be held at St Nicholas' on Saturday, 2nd October, starting at 9.30am and finishing at 4.00pm. There will be a 30 minute break for lunch (bring your own). Drinks and biscuits will be provided during the day. If you would like to book a place or if you want more information, please contact me on 01522 520729 or joanberesford1@gmail.com.

Joan Beresford

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are aiming to re-launch our work with children and families in the autumn. This will include St Nick's Nippers, and some new groups as well. If you feel the Holy Spirit is prompting you to help in any way with this (i.e., helping run the groups, serving refreshments, publicity, etc), please get in touch with Alice.

This is extremely important work, much valued by the community we serve, but it cannot happen without a team of volunteers. Please do think about it! Thank you.

LINCOLNSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST – RIDE AND STRIDE

Ride and Stride Sponsored Walk on 11th September
Information for Riders and Striders: – we start from Church at 10.00 a.m. The walk or ride is just under 6 miles, including following the River Witham south, visiting the High Street and Monks Road churches, through the Arboretum to St Anne's Bede Houses and then up to the Cathedral.

Many of the churches are offering refreshments, but I can't guarantee this, so, if this could be a problem, I suggest you bring an emergency snack to keep you going till we are back in our Church.

For our supporters: – please see Audrey or John about sponsorship.

Thanks to all those who have already volunteered to be on duty in the Church to offer hospitality to visitors.

Dave Valentine 07815 806394

THE CENTRE FOR RECONCILIATION

The Centre for Reconciliation, Lincolnshire Faith Council, Active Lincolnshire and Sport England have worked together to offer a series of cross-cultural activities in our area in the coming weeks. These include:

Cricket: Multigenerational, interfaith, intercultural cricket between 10.00am and 4pm on Sunday 19th September and Sunday 10th October at Sobraon Cricket Ground. **Please register your interest by Thursday 9th September.** Contact details below.

Sitting With Peace and Awareness Sessions

Free sessions aiming to improve mental wellbeing to be held between 11.00am and 12noon on various Tuesdays between 24th August and 16th November.

Yoga (via Zoom)

Beginners' Level yoga for the family, with sessions held between 4.30pm and 5.10pm on several Fridays from 10th September to 29th October.

To register for the cricket or for more information, please email enquiries@tcf-reconciliation.org or text 07565 015918

CALLING ALL LOCAL HISTORIANS

We have received a request for help in pinpointing several old locations in the parish and elsewhere in Lincoln, from someone researching their family tree. The locations in question are: 'Dawson's Court', 'Strains Pits' and 'Carter's Court'. If you think you might be able to help, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you.

A SMILE, SHARED BY MAUREEN CHRISTIE

A smile costs nothing, but gives much.
It enriches those who receive,
without making poorer those give.
It takes but a moment,
but the memory of it sometimes lasts for ever
None is so rich or mighty than he can get along
without it,
and none is so poor but that he can be made rich by it.
A smile creates happiness in the home,
fosters good will in business
and is a countersign of friendship.
It brings rest to the weary, cheer to the discouraged,
sunshine to the sad
and it is nature's best antidote for trouble.
Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed or stolen
for it is something that is of no value to anyone
until it is given away.
Some are too tired to give you a smile
so give them one of yours,
as none needs a smile so much
as he who has no more to give.
ANON

READINGS

Sunday 29th August

COLLECT

Almighty God, you search us and know us: may we rely on you in strength and rest on you in weakness, now and in all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

FIRST READING

DEUTERONOMY 4:1-2, 6-9

Moses spoke to the people:

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you. You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!' For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

PSALM

PSALM 15

Refrain: Those who do what is right will dwell in the presence of the Lord.

Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may rest upon your holy hill?

Whoever leads an uncorrupt life
and does the thing that is right;

Who speaks the truth from the heart
and bears no deceit on the tongue;

Who does no evil to a friend
and pours no scorn on a neighbour;

In whose sight the wicked are not esteemed,
but who honours those who fear the Lord. **R**

Whoever has sworn to a neighbour
and never goes back on that word;

Who does not lend money in hope of gain,
nor takes a bribe against the innocent;

Whoever does these things
shall never fall. **R**

SECOND READING

JAMES 1:17-END

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

GOSPEL READING

MARK 7:1-8, 14, 15, 21-23

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?' He said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, "This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines."

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.'

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.' For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.'

POST COMMUNION

God our creator, you feed your children with the true manna, the living bread from heaven: let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage until we come to that place where hunger and thirst are no more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Wednesday 1st September

COLLECT

Almighty God, you search us and know us: may we rely on you in strength and rest on you in weakness, now and in all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

FIRST READING

COLOSSIANS 1:1-8

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow-servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

PSALM

PSALM 34:11-18

Refrain: O taste and see that the Lord is gracious.

Come, my children, and listen to me;

I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

Who is there who delights in life
and longs for days to enjoy good things?

Keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from lying words.

Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it. **R**

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous
and his ears are open to their cry.

The face of the Lord is against those who do evil,
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

The righteous cry and the Lord hears them
and delivers them out of all their troubles.

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted
and will save those who are crushed in spirit. **R**

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 4:38-END

After leaving the synagogue he entered Simon's house. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked him about her. Then he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. Immediately she got up and began to serve them. As the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various kinds of diseases brought them to him; and he laid his hands on each of them and cured them. Demons also came out of many, shouting, 'You are the Son of God!' But he rebuked them and would

not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Messiah.

At daybreak he departed and went into a deserted place. And the crowds were looking for him; and when they reached him, they wanted to prevent him from leaving them. But he said to them, 'I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other cities also; for I was sent for this purpose.' So he continued proclaiming the message in the synagogues of Judea.

POST COMMUNION

God our creator, you feed your children with the true manna, the living bread from heaven: let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage until we come to that place where hunger and thirst are no more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**