

ST. NICHOLAS, NEWPORT, LINCOLN, LN1 3DP  
Registered Charity Number: 1133977  
www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk  
**14<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**  
5<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### TODAY

9:00 am Said Eucharist  
10:30 am Said Eucharist  
*Hymns: 810; 587; 669; 742*

### 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 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  
**10:00 am Ride and Stride – all day**

### NEXT SUNDAY – 15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9:00 am Said Eucharist  
10:30 am Said Eucharist  
Noon Holy Baptism – Isabelle and George Peach

### READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

<u>SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER</u>
Isaiah 50:4-9a	1 Timothy 3:14-end
Psalms 116:1-8	Psalms 111:1-5
James 3:1-12	Luke 7:31-35
Mark 8:27-end	

### FROM THE VICAR

Last week I wrote a little about the way the future is beginning to take shape. I want to share a little bit more on that subject today, and in particular on how the wider context of our Diocese and Deanery need to be taken into account.

The Diocesan Synod recently voted to approve a new way of working called 'Resourcing Sustainable Church – A Time to Change Together'. If you haven't already visited the Diocesan website and had a look at the headlines, I do encourage you to do so.

For us, it seems to me, there are two main questions raised by this. The first is what role we see St Nicholas church playing beyond our traditional parish boundaries. Or, to put it another way, what

we can contribute to the ministry and mission of the Church of England in the city of Lincoln and the county of Lincolnshire. The second, and perhaps more immediate, question is how we develop our work in partnership with St Mary Magdalene, the parish that is our nearest neighbour and of which I am now the Incumbent.

These questions are being asked all over the country. There is a recognition, which I share, that the time has come for a deeper re-think of how we organise and deliver local ministry. This is not, at least as far as I'm concerned, about centralisation and a retreat from engagement with our local communities. Quite the opposite. It is, however, a recognition that these communities are now geographically larger and more fluid. People make choices about where to shop, where to exercise and where to worship on the basis of a lot of different factors, not just where they live. Recognising that we must adapt to these changes gives us as the Church of England in the city and county of Lincoln a change to do things better.

In just over a week's time our PCC and our ministry team will be meeting with their opposite numbers at St Mary's to discuss ways in which we can be more together than we were apart. Later in the month, the PCC will meet to form a final view of where to place St Nicholas in the 'church categorisation' exercise that forms part of the Diocesan process.

In the meantime, we have agreed to experiment with allowing our morning services to evolve in different directions from each other. The 10:30 service will continue to move back towards what was our familiar pattern of mid-morning worship before the lockdown. The 9:00 service will be re-shaped with the aim of making it more welcoming to children and families. For those who prefer a quieter service, an 8:00 Said Eucharist will be introduced, on the first Sunday of the month to begin with.

I wrote last week that we must do all we can to grow as a church. This is not a task for the clergy alone, but for everyone who loves our church and wants it to survive. None of us can predict the future, but we can walk confidently towards it with faith and hope and love, together.

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.

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www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk

## NOTICES

### GARDEN TEA PARTY – THANK YOU!

We had a wonderful afternoon in the sunshine last Saturday, chatting with friends old and new and sharing a cuppa and some delicious cakes. Thank you to everyone who contributed: the bakers, the set up team, the servers. A special thank you to The Phoenix Group for the financial support. It was a great team effort and without all those involved, it simply would not have been possible. *Sue Humphrey*

### FIRST AID TRAINING COURSE

A one-day training course will be held at St Nicholas' on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:joanberesford1@gmail.com).

*Joan Beresford*

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

As we continue to move back to a more familiar form of church life, we will need more people to roll up their sleeves and get involved. We will need volunteers to provide refreshments after our services, others to help look after children, more to support our worship in church, and more still to help keep the church open and offer hospitality to visitors. None of these things will happen without your help. Please get in touch with Hugh or Alice if you think you can help in any way.

### LINCOLNSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST – RIDE AND STRIDE

Ride and Stride Sponsored Walk on 11<sup>th</sup> 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*

*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 19<sup>th</sup> September and Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October at Sobraon Cricket Ground. **Please register your interest by Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> August and 16<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Yoga (via Zoom)**

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

To register for the cricket or for more information, please email [enquiries@tcf-reconciliation.org](mailto:enquiries@tcf-reconciliation.org) or text 07565 015918

### 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

### SCRIPT IN HAND PRESENTS: WOMEN OF THE CATHEDRAL: A SEQUENCE OF VOICES BY MARGARET CROMPTON

Wednesday 22 September 1pm-2pm

Admission is included with the Cathedral entry charge.

The Cathedral is full of silent women. In stained-glass windows and tombs, behind monuments and under slabs, in statues and carvings, paintings, books and dedications. As Margaret Crompton began to listen to them, she found their voices in poems, the often-overlooked women of the Cathedral. Now, through these poems, those voices can be heard in the Chapter House.

In Bethany, Martha and Mary reflect on the return of their brother Lazarus, but who are Hannah and Sarah, and what links Veronica with a tree? Mrs Tweed grieves, Anne Askew reads the Bible illegally, and Mary meets an Archangel. Here are a dancing child and a peaceful poet, a faithful dog and a companioning swan. A queen, a duchess and a countess leave their tombs in search of company, while altos sing of triumph and of hope. Do please support us! *Su Toogood*

## READINGS

*Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September*

### **COLLECT**

Merciful God, your Son came to save us and bore our sins on the cross: may we trust in your mercy and know your love, rejoicing in the righteousness that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **FIRST READING**

ISAIAH 35:4-7A

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
'Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.'  
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;  
the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

### **PSALM**

PSALM 146

*Refrain: You open wide your hand, O Lord, and satisfy our needs.*

Alleluia.

Praise the Lord, O my soul:  
while I live will I praise the Lord;  
as long as I have any being,  
I will sing praises to my God. **R**

Put not your trust in princes,  
nor in any human power,  
for there is no help in them.

When their breath goes forth, they return to the earth;  
on that day all their thoughts perish. **R**

Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their  
help,  
whose hope is in the Lord their God;

Who made heaven and earth,  
the sea and all that is in them;  
who keeps his promise for ever;

Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong  
and bread to those who hunger. **R**

The Lord looses those that are bound;  
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;  
the Lord loves the righteous;

The Lord watches over the stranger in the land;  
he upholds the orphan and widow;  
but the way of the wicked he turns upside down. **R**

The Lord shall reign for ever,  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Alleluia. **R**

### **SECOND READING**

JAMES 2:1-10, 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

### **GOSPEL READING**

MARK 7:24-END

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' But she answered him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.' So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it.

They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

#### **POST COMMUNION**

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### ***Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September***

#### **COLLECT**

Almighty and everlasting God, who stooped to raise fallen humanity through the child-bearing of blessed Mary: grant that we, who have seen your glory revealed in our human nature and your love made perfect in our weakness, may be daily renewed in your image and conformed to the pattern of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

#### **FIRST READING**

MICAH 5:2-4

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labour has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of  
the Lord,

in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth.

#### **CANTICLE**

FROM JUDITH 16

**Refrain: My heart exults in the Lord.**

I will sing to my God a new song:

O Lord, you are great and glorious,  
wonderful in strength, invincible. **R**

Let all your creatures serve you,  
for you spoke, and they were made.

You sent forth your spirit, and it formed them;  
there is none that can resist your voice. **R**

For the mountains shall be shaken to their foundations  
with the waters;  
before your glance the rocks shall melt like wax.

But to those who fear you  
you show mercy. **R**

For every sacrifice as a fragrant offering is a small thing,  
and the fat of all whole burnt-offerings to you is a  
very little thing;  
but whoever fears the Lord is great for ever. **R**

#### **GOSPEL READING**

MATTHEW 1:18-23

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel',  
which means, 'God is with us.'

#### **POST COMMUNION**

God most high, whose handmaid bore the Word made flesh: we thank you that in this sacrament of our redemption you visit us with your Holy Spirit and overshadow us by your power; strengthen us to walk with Mary the joyful path of obedience and so to bring forth the fruits of holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**