

ST. NICHOLAS, NEWPORT, LINCOLN, LN1 3DP  
Registered Charity Number: 1133977  
www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk  
**CHRIST THE KING**  
21<sup>st</sup> November 2021

### TODAY

9:00 am Family Eucharist  
*Hymns: 612; 593; 489; 663*  
10:30 am Parish Eucharist  
*Hymns: 663; 232; 811; 612*

### 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  
1:00 pm Funeral – Sheila Smelt

#### **THURSDAY**

8:45 am Morning Prayer



9.30am-11.30am - ST. NICK'S NIPPERS  
Worship & Coffee & Friendship for young  
children and those who have care of them.

#### **FRIDAY**

10:00 am Church open  
7:00 pm Lincolnshire Music Service Concert

#### **SATURDAY**

10:00 am Church open

### NEXT SUNDAY – 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 am Family Eucharist  
10:30 am Parish Eucharist  
6:00 pm *Advent Carol Service @ St Mary Magdalene*

### READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

<u>SUNDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</u>	<u>WEDS 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER</u>
Jeremiah 33:14-16	Isaiah 25:6-10a
Psalms 25:1-9	Psalms 23
1 Thessalonians 3:9-end	Matthew 15:29-37
Luke 21:25-36	

### FROM THE VICAR

The end of a year is usually a time for looking back, remembering and reflecting. What have we experienced? What have we learned? What should we commit ourselves to in the future?

The secular calendar ends on 31<sup>st</sup> December, but the church calendar finishes the year on the Feast of Christ the King, which falls this weekend. Advent and Christmas, which mark the end of the year in the

world around us, stand at the beginning of a *new* year in the Christian way of reckoning.

All of this is important, and never more so than this year.

Each year the church re-tells the story of salvation, of God's redeeming work in human history. We end with the bit that hasn't happened yet; Christ's triumphant return, the reconciliation of all things, and the establishment of the God's kingdom for all eternity. The end of the year and the end of history thus sit side by side – we are reminded this weekend of the final destination.

For those who love him, this is a wonderful promise, one whose fulfilment we long for from the depths of our hearts as we pray with Saint John, 'come soon, Lord Jesus'. We know at gut level that only Christ's return as rightful King can establish peace, justice and freedom. What we sometimes forget, however, is that the marks of Christ's kingdom are the same as those of his birth, passion and resurrection. 'The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glory now,' says the (should be mandatory) hymn. The humility of the manger, the priority for the marginalised shown by it, the service of others demonstrated in his earthly ministry, the wounds of his suffering and death... these are not mistakes but rather the signs in which we read the essential character of Christ's authority.

Next week, we start again. We return to beginning of the story, as humanity recognises its need of God and cries out 'Oh that you would tear open the heavens and come down!' But this week, on this Sunday and in the days that follow it, we remember the year past, and we reflect on what we have experienced and learned in the light of the knowledge that God is in Christ reconciling all things to Godself under the Lordship of that same Christ.

This is the same every year, but this year it seems especially so, as our Parish and Diocese move forward into new chapters and as we gradually learn to live with the deep wounds of the pandemic. May God draw us ever closer to one another even as we are drawn ever closer to God in Christ, and 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**

### **ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACTING BISHOP**

On Friday the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Reverend Justin Welby, announced that the Bishop of Ely, the Right Reverend Stephen Conway, has been asked to serve as Acting Bishop of Lincoln. The full text of the public announcement is available on our website at:

<https://www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Public-Statement.pdf>

A letter from Archbishop Justin to the people of the Diocese is on our website at:

<https://www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Archbishops-Letter.pdf>

(You may need to copy the text of these links into your browser to access these documents.) A few printed copies of both are available in church.

### **FAREWELL SERVICE FOR BISHOP CHRISTOPHER**

The Cathedral's service of Choral Evensong on the Feast of Christ the King, at 3.45pm today – Sunday 21 November, will mark Bishop Christopher's farewell to the Diocese of Lincoln. The service is open to all, without tickets.

### **REGULAR GIVING**

Those who have used numbered envelopes this year will receive new envelopes for 2022 during December. These will be boxes of 52 weekly envelopes. Just use the one with the date nearest the date of your donation and discard the rest.

Envelopes are the most expensive and time-consuming way for us to collect regular donations. Perhaps you could consider a different method?

The **Parish Giving Scheme** is our preferred method and costs us next to nothing in bank charges and manhours. You can register online at <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/home/>

Or, you can set up a standing order to pay directly into our current account. Contact me on 01522 520729 or 07722 121161, or [atjoanberesford1@gmail.com](mailto:atjoanberesford1@gmail.com), for the account details.

Regular giving is vital to our plans for mission and development at St Nicholas'. If you are not yet a member of one of our schemes, make this the day you start. Do not hesitate to contact me if you need more information.

*Joan Beresford - Planned Giving Officer*

### **CAROL SERVICE & MINCE PIES**

We will be taking donations of mince pies for the Christmas Carol service from now until Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December. The service is on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December at four o'clock, so please ensure that the use by dates are after that date. Please leave donations on the refreshment table.

## **CHURCH KEYS**

If you have a church key – of any sort – that you no longer need, would you please return it to the Parish Office or to Sandra Gratrack as soon as possible.

### **PARKING ALERT**

Please be aware that the car park at the Stag's Head is NOT church property. If cars are parked there without a permit from the landlord, they will be clamped, with a fee for their release.

### **FLOWERS**

It is lovely to see flower arrangements again in Church, and with your help we hope to continue this. Will you sponsor the flowers? Donations, in an envelope labelled 'Flowers', can be handed to Audrey Salisbury or Sandra Gratrack. If you'd like a particular date commemorated, please note this on the envelope.

### **FILM AND FELLOWSHIP**

Film and Fellowship will start again in November. We meet at the Venue at BGU for drinks and social time an hour before the film starts and then enjoy a film together. Open to all – a good opportunity to bring a friend who maybe doesn't go to church but would benefit from the social fellowship. I will post the film time and date in the weekly sheet. Please contact me if you've any questions. *Sally Hubbard*.

### **FAIR TRADE ADVENT CALENDARS**

Advent calendars ordered in October have now arrived, so please bring money to church on Sunday and collect from me.

I now have a few Christmas Gift Guide catalogues which include Christmas cards, and which can be borrowed to browse, as well as the general autumn/winter catalogue which has many food items. *John Simmons*

### **REINSTATEMENT OF FULL ALTAR PARTY**

We are trying, in earnest, to reinstate a regular altar party at the 10.30am service, as from October and, over time, at the 9.00am service too. This is a terrific way for both adults and young people to get involved in the worship of the church and training will be given beforehand, so, if you would like to volunteer to serve in this way, on a rota basis, please contact Sue Humphrey after the service or get in touch with the Parish Office. Thank you.

### **REGISTER OF GIFTS**

We're attempting to make sure our Register of Gifts is up to date. If you are aware of significant gifts to the church of equipment – an example might be an altar frontal - made since 2000, do please let us know.

## READINGS

*Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November*

### **COLLECT**

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### **FIRST READING**

DANIEL 7:9-10, 13, 14

As I watched,  
thrones were set in place,  
and an Ancient One took his throne;  
his clothing was white as snow,  
and the hair of his head like pure wool;  
his throne was fiery flames,  
and its wheels were burning fire.  
A stream of fire issued  
and flowed out from his presence.  
A thousand thousand served him,  
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.  
The court sat in judgement,  
and the books were opened.  
As I watched in the night visions,  
I saw one like a human being  
coming with the clouds of heaven.  
And he came to the Ancient One  
and was presented before him.  
To him was given dominion  
and glory and kingship,  
that all peoples, nations, and languages  
should serve him.  
His dominion is an everlasting dominion  
that shall not pass away,  
and his kingship is one  
that shall never be destroyed.

### **PSALM**

PSALM 93

*Refrain: The Lord has girded himself with strength.*

The Lord is king and has put on glorious apparel;  
the Lord has put on his glory  
and girded himself with strength.  
He has made the whole world so sure  
that it cannot be moved.  
Your throne has been established from of old;  
you are from everlasting. **R**  
The floods have lifted up, O Lord,  
the floods have lifted up their voice;  
the floods lift up their pounding waves.  
Mightier than the thunder of many waters,  
mightier than the breakers of the sea,  
the Lord on high is mightier. **R**  
Your testimonies are very sure;  
holiness adorns your house, O Lord, for ever. **R**

## **SECOND READING**

REVELATION 1:4B-8

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him;  
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.  
So it is to be. Amen.

'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

### **GOSPEL READING**

JOHN 18:33-37

Pilate asked Jesus, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.' Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.'

### **POST COMMUNION**

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November

### COLLECT

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### FIRST READING

DANIEL 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28

King Belshazzar made a great festival for a thousand of his lords, and he was drinking wine in the presence of the thousand.

Under the influence of the wine, Belshazzar commanded that they bring in the vessels of gold and silver that his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple in Jerusalem, so that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them. So they brought in the vessels of gold and silver that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. They drank the wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone.

Immediately the fingers of a human hand appeared and began writing on the plaster of the wall of the royal palace, next to the lampstand. The king was watching the hand as it wrote. Then the king's face turned pale, and his thoughts terrified him. His limbs gave way, and his knees knocked together.

Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king said to Daniel, 'So you are Daniel, one of the exiles of Judah, whom my father the king brought from Judah? I have heard of you that a spirit of the gods is in you, and that enlightenment, understanding, and excellent wisdom are found in you. But I have heard that you can give interpretations and solve problems. Now if you are able to read the writing and tell me its interpretation, you shall be clothed in purple, have a chain of gold around your neck, and rank third in the kingdom.'

Then Daniel answered in the presence of the king, 'Let your gifts be for yourself, or give your rewards to someone else! Nevertheless, I will read the writing to the king and let him know the interpretation. You have exalted yourself against the Lord of heaven! The vessels of his temple have been brought in before you, and you and your lords, your wives and your concubines have been drinking wine from them. You have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood, and stone, which do not see or hear or know; but the God in whose power is your very breath, and to whom belong all your ways, you have not honoured.

'So from his presence the hand was sent and this writing was inscribed. And this is the writing that was inscribed: mene, mene, tekel, and parsin. This is the interpretation of the matter: mene, God has numbered the days of your kingdom and brought it to an end; tekel, you have been weighed on the scales and found wanting; peres, your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians.'

### CANTICLE

BENEDICITE 4-5

*Refrain:* **Bless the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit: sing his praise and exalt him for ever.**

Bless the Lord sun and moon:

    bless the Lord you stars of heaven;

bless the Lord all rain and dew:

    sing his praise and exalt him for ever. **R**

Bless the Lord all winds that blow:

    bless the Lord you fire and heat;

bless the Lord scorching wind and bitter cold:

    sing his praise and exalt him for ever. **R**

### GOSPEL READING

LUKE 21:12-19

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.'

### POST COMMUNION

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**