

ST. NICHOLAS, NEWPORT, LINCOLN, LN1 3DP

Registered Charity Number: 1133977

www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

5th May 2024

TODAY

9:00 am Said Eucharist

10:30 am Parish Eucharist

Hymns: 197; 72; 452; 168; 238

THIS WEEK

MONDAY – BANK HOLIDAY

TUESDAY

8:45 am Morning Prayer

10:00 am Church open

2:00 pm Games Afternoon

WEDNESDAY


8:45 am Morning Prayer

9:30 am Said Eucharist

10:00 am Church open

THURSDAY – ASCENSION DAY

8:45 am Morning Prayer

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

10:00 am Church open

7:00 pm Ascension Day Service at St Paul in the Bail

FRIDAY

10:00 am Church open

SATURDAY

10:00 am Church open

NEXT SUNDAY – SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION

9:00 am Said Eucharist

10:30 am Parish Eucharist

6:00 pm Choral Evensong at St Mary Magdalene

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

SUNDAY 12TH MAY

Acts 1:15-17, 21-end

Psalms 1

1 John 5:9-13

John 17:6-19

WEDNESDAY 15TH MAY

Acts 20:28-end

Psalms 68:27-28, 32-end

John 17:11-19

FROM OUR ASSOCIATE PRIEST

Dear Friends,

Last Sunday was a busy day for us, with Bishop David's visit in the morning and our Easter Songs of Praise in the afternoon. At the end of the 10:30 Eucharist, we made a presentation to Sue Humphrey on her retirement from the posts of parish administrator and churchwarden. On your behalf I paid tribute to her for all that she done in both roles over the past 8 years: far more hours than she has been paid for and efforts beyond what can be expected of a churchwarden. She has been an unfailingly kind and welcoming presence to visitors and those coming to arrange baptisms, weddings and funerals. The works listed below, and many others, have come to fruition in large measure thanks to her perseverance, not least with the Church of England's faculty jurisdiction (the equivalent of planning permission); a subject about which she knows more than anyone other than archdeacons and diocesan registrars need. She, and Jackie Jones, have been a staunch support to me as I have been juggling jobs and trying to maintain continuity of pastoral care and worship. As Sue said in her response, we are not losing her. She is just taking a break from the tasks she has been carrying out.


In his sermon Bishop David spoke of characteristics of growing churches. We will try to reproduce the gist of it shortly. His visit was in the context of the Resourcing Urban Churches project through which we will be exploring the possibility of The Revd. Hannah Grivell from St. Wulfram's Grantham becoming our parish priest. Mother Hannah will be with us on Sunday May 28th and the plan is that she will be with us one Sunday a month for the rest of the year, and on some other occasions, so that she can get to know us and we her. She has already had lunch with the Churchwardens.

Our Easter Songs of Praise, had something of a local and Lincolnshire feel to it, with hymns by Charles Wesley and Bishop Christopher Wordsworth, as well as our resident hymn-writer David Mowbray's metrical version of the Easter Anthems from the Prayer Book, which was our first hymn. Each hymn was introduced by a brief historical and theological commentary from one of us. The choir not only supported our singing but also sang a setting of the Lord's Prayer at the end. Singing hymns together can be a deeply spiritual experience and good hymns teach us the faith. We will plan another one for which we will ask people to suggest favourite hymns and perhaps even speak about what they mean to them.

Sunday worshippers will find the church in some disarray as work is in progress on the installation of our new audio-visual system. The most obvious change is that the control panel has been returned to its former position at the back of the church. This will allow for much better co-ordination when recorded music is played at weddings and funerals than was possible when someone was operating the system from inside the 'bunker' behind the organ. Television cameras are

PARISH INFORMATION

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

also being installed, so that in future we can expand our online ministry.

The works meant that we had no sound system on Wednesday, so the Eucharist was celebrated at the altar of St. Peter and St. Paul in the south aisle. The congregation had to sit together and Peter Elsmore and I had to practice our skills of voice projection. We will look at using the altar more often but if we are to do so, the area around it will need to be de-cluttered. It seems to have become a repository for pieces of redundant church furniture and other odds and ends, which are not appropriate for the place where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved. We need to find somewhere more accessible for prayer requests to be posted.

Those who approach the church through Newport Cemetery will have seen scaffolding around the east end of the Church. This is for new protective screens for the east window. At the west end of the church the defibrillator is being installed.

“Decluttering” programmes now feature regularly on TV. Marie Kondo was the high priestess of decluttering but when she decreed that you should only have ten books, I decided that this kind of domestic asceticism was several steps too far. However, churches do have a tendency to accumulate “stuff” which “might come in useful someday”. It rarely ever does and ends up making the place look untidy and uncared for. In my parish in London we had an annual clear out when the hired skip always seemed to fill up with things which had accumulated over the course of a single year. St. Nick’s is no exception to this tendency, so we have arranged a “Skip Day” on Monday July 8th. Lindsey, the landlady of the Stag’s Head, has very kindly agreed to allow the skip to be placed in the pub car park. If you are one of those people who finds throwing things out therapeutic, come and join us.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Alan

NOTICES

ASCENSION DAY – THURSDAY 9TH MAY

This year we are invited to join with our neighbours from St Mary Magdalene to celebrate the Ascension, at a Eucharist at the site of St Paul in the Bail (on the corner of Bailgate and Westgate, next to the fish restaurant). The preacher will be the Rev’d Canon Rowena King – the new Missioner at the Cathedral.
Service at 7 pm; please dress to suit the weather!

A MESSAGE FROM SUE

Thank you to my St Nick’s family for your prayers, kind words, beautiful flowers and your very generous gift, on my retirement as Parish Administrator. This is, God willing, the beginning of a new chapter rather than the beginning of the end and I am excited to see what He has planned for me. *Sue Humphrey*

PHOENIX GROUP ACTIVITIES

1st and 3rd Mondays, 2:00 to 4:00 pm

1st Mondays: Board Games and refreshments

3rd Mondays: Speakers and refreshments

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

TUESDAY May 7th: Games Afternoon (moved from Bank Holiday Monday)

May 20th: The Revd Pauline Makin – ‘Speaking in a World of Silence’.

Pauline was Chaplain to the Deaf from the early 1980s in the Diocese of Liverpool until her retirement. She is now Chaplain Emeritus for the Deaf.

Her talk aims to demonstrate the communication difficulties experienced by those with a hearing loss, whether complete or partial, and how this is alleviated through ‘speaking’ through sign language. She has spoken at St. Nicholas Church many years ago when those listening were captivated and entertained by her talk. Do come along and enjoy an educational, informative and light-hearted talk. She is happy to take questions and to chat afterwards.

June 3rd: Games Afternoon

June 17th: Strawberry Tea

July 1st: Games Afternoon

July 15th: Harriet Winspear, Natural Environmental Project Officer for Trees and Woodland Creation – talking about her new post

August 5th: Games Afternoon

August 19th: Su Toogood and Carolyn Jones – A Summer Medley

Sept 2nd: Games Afternoon

Sept 16th: Annette Mackenzie – “Owlin’ Mad”

October 7th: Games Afternoon

October 21st: Louth Carpet Factory – a talk by Betty Brown

**For further information, please contact Betty Brown
email address: bettybkbbrown@yahoo.co.uk**

BROWNIES BRING AND BUY SALE UPDATE

All the unsold items from the Brownies Bring and Buy Sale in January were taken to St Barnabas Hospice. Nothing was thrown away. These items have now been sold raising £202.54 for St Barnabas’. Thank you to all who helped make this possible. *Joan Beresford*

WANTED – CARDIGANS & WAISTCOATS!

Members of our family will be leading workshops for children and adults at the Greenbelt Festival this coming August. Greenbelt is a Christian Festival exploring the links between Art, Faith and Justice. The 2024 theme is DREAM ON and the workshops will re-purpose cardigans and waistcoats into amazing technicolour dreamcoats. So if you have any items, of any size, please bring them along to the designated box at the back of church. We shall be very grateful.

David & Diana Mowbray, 01522 546753

ST MARY MAGDALENE
SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES

Evening services at St Mary Magdalene are on second and fourth Sundays, starting at **6:00 pm**.

MAY

Sunday 12th: Choral Evensong (BCP)

Sunday 26th: Sung Evening Prayer (CW)

ST MARY MAGDALENE
SUMMER CONCERT SEASON

Concerts start at 7:30 pm

- Weds 8th May** Lincoln Renaissance Band and Friends
Renaissance Music
- Weds 15th May** Gone to the Dogs
Acoustic roots music
- Weds 29th May** The Cerulean Trio
Classical Guitar Trio
- Tuesday 4th June** St Andrew's Uni. Madrigal Group
A Capella Choral Music
- Weds 12th June** Sixteen Eighty Five
Renaissance & Baroque Music
- Weds 26th June** 3-Piece Suite
Music for two flutes and piano
- Weds 3rd July** Andrew North & Robert Fields
Baritone & Piano
- Weds 17th July** Eira Lynn Jones
Harpist

READINGS

PRAYER BEFORE THE SERVICE

Lord God, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us a place in the new Jerusalem: grant that we, who this day give thanks for his resurrection, may praise you in the City of which he is the light, and where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Sunday 5th May

COLLECT

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ your Son 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

ACTS 10:44-END

While Peter was speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered

them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

PSALM

PSALM 98

Refrain: The Lord has made known his victory in the sight of the nations.

Sing to the Lord a new song,

for he has done marvellous things.

His own right hand and his holy arm

have won for him the victory. **R**

The Lord has made known his salvation;

his deliverance has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness

towards the house of Israel,

and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. **R**

Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth;

break into singing and make music.

Make music to the Lord with the lyre,

with the lyre and the voice of melody.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn

sound praises before the Lord, the King. **R**

Let the sea thunder and all that fills it,

the world and all that dwell upon it.

Let the rivers clap their hands

and let the hills ring out together before the Lord,

for he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world

and the peoples with equity. **R**

SECOND READING

1 JOHN 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

GOSPEL READING

JOHN 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples, 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you

friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.'

POST COMMUNION

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

Wednesday 8th May ***Julian of Norwich***

COLLECT

Most holy God, the ground of our beseeching, who through your servant Julian revealed the wonders of your love: grant that as we are created in your nature and restored by your grace, our wills may be so made one with yours that we may come to see you face to face and gaze on you for ever; through Jesus Christ your Son 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

1 KINGS 19:9-13A

Elijah came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

PSALM

PSALM 27:1, 3-6

Refrain: Stand on the mountain before your God.

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear?

The Lord is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid? **R**

Though a host encamp against me,
my heart shall not be afraid,
and though there rise up war against me,
yet will I put my trust in him. **R**

One thing have I asked of the Lord
and that alone I seek:

that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
To behold the fair beauty of the Lord
and to seek his will in his temple. **R**
For in the day of trouble
he shall hide me in his shelter;
in the secret place of his dwelling shall he hide me
and set me high upon a rock. **R**

SECOND READING

1 CORINTHIANS 13:8-13

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

GOSPEL READING

JOHN 20:11-18

Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." ' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

POST COMMUNION

Merciful God, who gave such grace to your servant Julian that she served you with singleness of heart and loved you above all things: help us, whose communion with you has been renewed in this sacrament, to forsake all that holds us back from following Christ and to grow into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**