

ST. NICHOLAS, NEWPORT, LINCOLN, LN1 3DP

Registered Charity Number: 1133977

www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

3rd November 2024

TODAY

- 9:00 am Said Eucharist
10:30 am Parish Eucharist
Hymns: 296; 309; 683; 602; 312
3:00 pm Service of Remembrance & Thanksgiving

THIS WEEK

MONDAY

- 8:45 am Morning Prayer
9:30 am Buildings Committee
10:00 am Church open
2:00 pm Games Afternoon
7:30 pm Guild of Servers Eucharist

TUESDAY

- 8:45 am Morning Prayer
10:00 am Church open
2:00 pm Autumn Study Group

WEDNESDAY

- 8:45 am Morning Prayer
9:30 am Said Eucharist
10:00 am Church open
7:30 pm Autumn Study Group

THURSDAY

- 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

FRIDAY

- 10:00 am Church open
Noon Funeral – Nigel Llewellyn

SATURDAY

- 10:00 am Church open

NEXT SUNDAY – REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

- 9:00 am Said Eucharist
10:30 am Parish Eucharist & Act of Remembrance
6:00 pm *Choral Evensong at St Mary Magdalene*

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Psalm 62:5-end
Hebrews 9:24-end
Mark 1:14-20

WEDS. 13TH NOVEMBER

Titus 3:1-7
Psalm 23
Luke 17:11-19

FROM OUR ASSOCIATE PRIEST

Dear Friends,

In New Testament times the word 'saint' was applied to all Christians, as members of God's holy people. St. Paul wrote to "all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints," and I could address this letter to "all God's beloved in St. Nicholas', Newport, who are called to be saints."

The fact that this church building is dedicated to a particular saint points to the fact that quite early in the Church's long history, the term 'saint' came to be reserved for those recognised as examples of that holiness to which all are called. The first of these were the martyrs, those who witnessed at the cost of their lives. With them would be the Mother of Jesus and then others who did not suffer martyrdom but whose discipleship was seen as exemplary in one way or another. Some of these would be celebrated across the Church, while others would be more local figures.

Since early times the Church has kept a day to honour all the saints together, both those officially recognized and those known only to God. It reminds us that the true company of saints is far greater than the list of those canonised; the term used for those officially recognised. These anonymous saints form part of the great "cloud of witnesses," surrounding us with their faith. As a prayer in the Scottish Liturgy puts it, we are "encouraged by their example, strengthened by their fellowship, and aided by their prayers."

The Apostles Creed, the Western Church's profession of faith at baptism, recited daily in Prayer Book Morning and Evening Prayer, speaks of our belief in "the communion of saints," in the section which deals with the work of the Holy Spirit. That communion is not just a collection of 'super-Christians.'" This article of faith and this great festival remind us that the Church is a vast communion that spreads beyond all bounds of race and language and human condition, beyond even time and space, across the barrier of death. In that communion we are one with countless generations who have gone before us in faith.

All Souls Day, the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed, grew out of this belief. In allowing a remembrance of deceased family members and friends, it provided a sense of continuing relationship through prayer and of final hope of reunion in the risen life we share with our Lord. There were times in the history of the Church when this took on a particular sense of urgency; times of plague and war when people died 'suddenly and unprepared.' The remembrance of our dead on All Souls Day and in the regular prayers of the Church met a real pastoral need.

Prayer for the dead was a cause of controversy at the Reformation because it had become a fund-raising racket, through the sale of 'indulgences,' which purported to aid departed loved ones by reducing their time in purgatory. The sale of these in Germany to fund the rebuilding of St. Peter's in Rome enraged Luther. In consequence, the Reformers abolished prayers for the

dead and All Souls Day. In time, this extreme response was moderated in the Church of England. The 1662 Prayer Book allows worshippers to “bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; beseeching thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.” Most of us will have people in our lives for whom we could make that prayer. We might also have others whose examples are less inspiring, but for whom we still have a duty to pray. All Souls Day has been restored and the Church also recognises that there are those “whose faith is known to God alone,” and whom it includes in its prayers.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Alan

NOTICES

PCC TREASURER NEEDED

After many years of diligent service as our Treasurer, Sandra Gratrack will retire at the end of this financial year - 31st December. Sandra intends to complete the annual report and balance the accounts for the year ending 2024 for next year's APCM - but a new Treasurer is needed to take up the baton from the beginning of January 2025. Could this be you? The role is a very important aspect of the running of St Nick's. To find out more, please speak to Fr Alan, to Sandra, or to one of our Church Wardens.

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE & THANKSGIVING

SUNDAY 3RD NOVEMBER, 3 PM

Our annual service in remembrance of deceased loved ones takes place this afternoon. We have invited the families of all whose funerals have been conducted in this church, or by our clergy, over the last year. It is always a moving and thoughtful occasion.

All are welcome. If you would like a name, or names, to be read out during the service, please add them to the list that you will find at the back of church, or tell the Parish Office.

AUTUMN STUDY GROUP

Our Autumn Study Group takes place on Tuesday afternoons at 2 pm, and repeated on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm, through to the end of November. Groups meet in the St Nicholas' Church Centre. Led by clergy and readers from both St Nicholas and St Mary Magdalene, we are using Bishop John Pritchard's book "Living the Gospel Stories Today". Please do join us! More information from Peter Elsmore, or Fr Alan.

URGENT - FIRST AID TRAINING

Very few people have signed up for the course we plan to hold on Saturday, 9th November. Perhaps PCC members, vergers, administrators, Nippers helpers could think about it. Please talk to me today if you would like to attend. The course may be cancelled if we don't have more participants.

Joan Beresford

07722 121161 / joanberesford1@gmail.com

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:

November 4th: Games Afternoon

November 18th: Liquorice Park Millenium Green

December 2nd: Games Afternoon

December 16th: Dan Matthews, Senior Lecturer at Lincoln University - Forensic Science

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

ST MARY MAGDALENE

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES

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

NOVEMBER

Sunday 10th: Choral Evensong (BCP)

Sunday 24th: Choral Evening Prayer (CW)

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The Lincoln World Day of Prayer Preparation Day will be taking place on Wednesday 6th November 2024 at the Parish Centre, Our Lady of Lincoln RC Church, Laughton Way, Ermine Estate, Lincoln, LN2 2HE.

For more information, please see the notice at the back of church.

CONCERT OF REMEMBRANCE

SATURDAY 9TH NOVEMBER

From 7-9 pm at St Peter in Eastgate Church. Music by the **RAF Waddington Military Wives Choir**. The ticket price of £20 includes wine and canapes. All profits will be donated to charities with a special focus on supporting the mental health of serving and ex service military personnel.

ACCOMMODATION

St Anne's Bede Houses, Sewell Road, Lincoln LN2 5QT
There is currently a vacancy, for which applicants must be aged over 55, of limited means and having some link with a Christian denomination. Accommodation is a self-contained flat (including shower) and is situated in a safe, caring and attractive environment. Weekly charge £108.63 with Broadband £8 per month optional extra. Inquiries to Warden (07719 900270) or Clerk to Trustees (01522 529277).

READINGS

PRAYER BEFORE THE SERVICE

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, bring us to the dwelling which your Son is preparing for all who love you. Give us the will each day to live in life eternal. Let our citizenship be in heaven with your blessed and beloved, the whole company of the redeemed; and with countless angels, praising, worshipping, and adoring him who sits upon the throne, for ever and ever. Amen

*Sunday 3rd November
All Saints' Sunday*

COLLECT

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those inexpressible joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; 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

WISDOM 3:1-9

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them.

In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace.

For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality.

Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; like gold in the furnace he tried them, and like a sacrificial burnt-offering he accepted them.

In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through the stubble. They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them for ever.

Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

PSALM

PSALM 24:1-6

Refrain: The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God.

The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it,
the compass of the world and all who dwell therein.
For he has founded it upon the seas

and set it firm upon the rivers of the deep. R

'Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord,
or who can rise up in his holy place?'

'Those who have clean hands and a pure heart,
who have not lifted up their soul to an idol,
nor sworn an oath to a lie;

'They shall receive a blessing from the Lord,
a just reward from the God of their salvation.'
Such is the company of those who seek him,
of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob. R

SECOND READING

REVELATION 21:1-6A

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.'

And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

GOSPEL READING

JOHN 11:32-44

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb.

It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone.

And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

POST COMMUNION

God, the source of all holiness and giver of all good things: may we who have shared at this table as strangers and pilgrims here on earth be welcomed with all your saints to the heavenly feast on the day of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Wednesday 6th November

COLLECT

Almighty and eternal God, you have kindled the flame of love in the hearts of the saints: grant to us the same faith and power of love, that, as we rejoice in their triumphs, we may be sustained by their example and fellowship; 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

PHILIPPIANS 2:12-18

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Do all things without murmuring and arguing, so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world. It is by your holding fast to the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labour in vain. But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you— and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me.

PSALM

PSALM 27:1-5

Refrain: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

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**

When the wicked, even my enemies and my foes,
came upon me to eat up my flesh,
they stumbled and fell.

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**

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 14:25-33

Large crowds were travelling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, 'Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, "This fellow began to build and was not able to finish." Or what king, going out to wage war against

another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

POST COMMUNION

Lord of heaven, in this eucharist you have brought us near to an innumerable company of angels and to the spirits of the saints made perfect: as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage we have shared their fellowship, so may we come to share their joy in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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