

ST. NICHOLAS, NEWPORT, LINCOLN, LN1 3DP
Registered Charity Number: 1133977
www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk
6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
25th May 2025

TODAY

9:00 am Said Eucharist
10:30 am Parish Eucharist
Hymns: 208; 684; 742; 236; 683
12:15 pm Holy Baptism – Isla Grace & Priya Rose
Turner
6:00 pm *Sung Evening Prayer at St Mary Magdalene*

THIS WEEK

MONDAY – BANK HOLIDAY

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
7:00 pm *Ascension Day Eucharist 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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

<u>SUNDAY 1ST JUNE</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY 4TH JUNE</u>
Acts 16:16-34	Acts 20:28-end
Psalms 97	Psalms 68:27-28, 32-end
Rev. 22:12-14, 16, 17, 20-end	John 17:11-19
John 17:20-end	

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

FROM OUR ASSOCIATE PRIEST

Dear Friends,

In Sunday's reading from the Acts we hear of the extension of Paul's and the Church's mission from Asia to Europe, after his vision of a man saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." That mission began in the city of Philippi and Luke reports that on the Sabbath day they met and spoke with a group of women who had gathered at a place of prayer outside the city. The group included a woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth (the luxury end of the rag trade in those days). She was a "worshipper of God," that is, someone who had been drawn to the Jewish religion. So receptive was she to Paul's message that she and her household were baptized and she invited the missionary party to stay at her home.

On Thursday of this week, the site of the old church of St. Paul in the Bail - probably the oldest site of Christian worship in Lincoln, - will once more be an outdoor place of prayer, as with our friends from St. Mary Magdalene's and the Cathedral, we celebrate Ascension Day. I'm sorry that a half-term visit to granddaughters means that I will not be available to act as Master of Ceremonies and thurifer. I shall have to find somewhere else to go to church on Ascension Day.

There are types of outdoor religion which are more off-putting than attractive: usually conducted through a loudhailer and threatening people with hellfire and damnation. For some years a man called Phil patrolled the area around Oxford Circus urging the crowds: "Don't be a sinner, be a winner." I never once saw him actually engage anyone in conversation about the gospel. Local workers and residents, who had to endure this monotonous message day after day, were relieved when the council took out an order excluding him from the area.

Phil and his ilk were one of the reasons which prompted us to begin having outdoor processions around our parish, taking in a stretch of Oxford Street; on Palm Sunday, Corpus Christi and the Feast of the Assumption on August 15. Together with a brass band to support our hymn-singing – not easy with a long procession moving around corners, and competing the din of traffic. On summer evenings, we made way through crowds of shoppers, drinkers standing outside pubs, diners sitting at restaurant tables. We harangued no one, smiled at people and greeted them – and handed out leaflets explaining that we were the parish church and telling them about our projects for the homeless. Some looked bemused, others fell to their knees, and some even joined us and became our guests at the post-service party in the church courtyard. We hoped that people would see in this outdoor worship a joyful expression of the Christian faith, rather than a high volume verbal battering, and a demonstration that, contrary to rumour, the Church is not dead.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Alan

NOTICES

ASCENSION DAY EUCHARIST **THURSDAY 29TH MAY AT 7 PM**

Our friends at St Mary Magdalene invite us to join them, along with friends from Lincoln Cathedral, to celebrate a Eucharist for Ascension Day at the site of St Paul in the Bail, on Bailgate. Do dress with an eye to the weather!

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

There will be a retiring collection for the work of Christian Aid this Sunday – May 25th. Envelopes are available at the back of church, which enable donations to be made with Gift Aid. Thank you for your generosity.

JARS OF CHANGE LENTEN APPEAL

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Lenten Appeal for WaterAid. We raised £136.99 which, I am sure, will be much appreciated by those supported by this very worthwhile charity. *Sue Humphrey*

SUSPENSION OF ST. NICK'S NIPPERS

Sadly, due to very low attendance over several months, it has been decided that regular Thursday morning meetings of St Nick's Nippers will be suspended for the foreseeable future.

Over the coming months, those involved will be discussing when, how and in what format we should continue our ministry to pre-school children, their parents and carers and we sincerely hope to be able to relaunch at some point later this year.

If you have any thoughts about what you would like to see us providing, please do get in touch.

In the meantime, please watch this space for news of one-off events over the coming months, to which you are all warmly invited.

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:

June 2nd: Games Afternoon

June 16th: Alan Barnes – the RNLI

July 7th: Games Afternoon

July 21st: Vikki Sonnenberg – the Pennells' History

TALKS TO LOOK FORWARD TO:

Sept 15th: Jill Stubbs – The Canal & River Trust

Oct 20th: Annette Mackenzie & Eric the Little Owl

Nov 17th: Shirley Brook

Dec 15th: Dan Matthews – Forensic Science, Part 2

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**.

MAY

Sunday 25th: Choral Evening Prayer (CW)

JUNE

Sunday 8th: Choral Evensong (BCP)

Sunday 22nd: Choral Evening Prayer (CW)

UKRAINIAN MASS FOR PEACE

St Hugh's Church, Monks Road will be celebrating a mass with the Ukrainian Community to pray for peace in Ukraine, on Sunday May 25th at 3 pm.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH NETTLEHAM **2025 CONCERT SERIES 7 PM / £10**

The next concert of this series is on **Friday 13th June**.

Simcha, Lincoln's Klezmer Band, plays music from pre-WWII Jewish Communities.

ECUMENICAL QUIET DAY

**On the theme of Holy Place, at Stow Minster,
with Canon Dr Ian Stockton & Fr Alex Adkins.**

12th July 2025, 10-3.30pm

Road side parking available. Hot drinks provided. Please bring a packed lunch. A donation of £10 to support the fabric of this beautiful church is suggested. Places are limited. To book, please contact David Justham on 01427 788725 or david.justham@talk21.com

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 25th 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 16:9-15

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

PSALM 67

God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
That your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;

let all the peoples praise you.

O let the nations rejoice and be glad,
for you will judge the peoples righteously
and govern the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;

let all the peoples praise you.

Then shall the earth bring forth her increase,
and God, our own God, will bless us.

God will bless us,

and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;

let all the peoples praise you.

SECOND READING

REVELATION 21:10, 22-22:5

In the spirit the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practises abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

GOSPEL READING

JOHN 14:23-29

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.

Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

'I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, "I am going away, and I am coming to you." If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.'

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 28th 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 17:15, 22-18:1

Those who conducted Paul brought him as far as Athens; and after receiving instructions to have Silas and Timothy join him as soon as possible, they left him. Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we too are his offspring."

Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.' When they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some scoffed; but others said, 'We will hear you again about this.' At that point Paul left them. But some of them joined him and became believers, including Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth.

PSALM

PSALM 148:1-2, 11-END

Refrain: O praise the name of the Lord.

Alleluia.

Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights.
Praise him, all you his angels;
praise him, all his host. **R**
Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;
Young men and women,
old and young together;
let them praise the name of the Lord. **R**
For his name only is exalted,
his splendour above earth and heaven.
He has raised up the horn of his people
and praise for all his faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.
Alleluia. **R**

GOSPEL READING

JOHN 16:12-15

Jesus said, 'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.'

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**