

ST. NICHOLAS, NEWPORT, LINCOLN, LN1 3DP
Registered Charity Number: 1133977
www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
30th November 2025

TODAY

9:00 am Said Eucharist
10:30 am Parish Eucharist
Hymns: Advent Prose; 30; 41; 45; 36
6:00 pm *Advent Carol Service at St Mary Magdalene*

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 Standing Committee

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
10:15 am Advent Course

THURSDAY

8:45 am Morning Prayer
10:00 am Church open
7:30 pm Advent Course

FRIDAY

10:00 am Church open

SATURDAY

10:00 am Church open
6:00 pm **St Nicholas Mass – a choral service**

NEXT SUNDAY – PATRONAL FESTIVAL

9:00 am Said Eucharist
10:30 am **Patronal Festival Eucharist**

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

<u>SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER</u>	<u>WEDS 10TH DECEMBER</u>
Isaiah 61:1-3	Isaiah 40:25-end
Psalms 68:1-10	Psalms 103:8-13
1 Timothy 6:6-11	Matthew 11:28-end
Mark 10:13-16	

FROM OUR VICAR

Happy New Year!

It may be an odd phrase to hear at the end of November, but it is the first Sunday in the Church Calendar. The Liturgical Year runs from the first Sunday of Advent to the eve of Advent every year.

We are still in the early days of me being Vicar of St Nick's, and I have had the pleasure of meeting many key people individually already, with a few more booked into the diary. I am learning a bit more about St Nick's and I hope you are learning a bit more about the vision and hopes I am bringing to you all.

We enter now a season of anticipation, of watching, waiting. We are going from the Patriarchs to Christ, hearing again the story that led to the birth of Jesus. It is a tough time as Christians to keep Advent free from Christmas – it seems the shops have been anticipating Christmas since September!

But in this season, we remember that there was a time on earth before Jesus; where it was hard for the faithful to know which way to turn. There was no advocate then with God, or at least He hadn't arrived yet.

Advent is a time where I like to remember that we are so blessed to live in a time where Jesus has come, where Jesus has died for us, and is our advocate in heaven. Jesus' birth is the beginning of the story of our redemption – there is a lot of theology to unpick here, and I could write myself round in circles attempting to avoid heresy!

Instead, I invite you to keep this season in hopeful anticipation, reading in our Bibles the stories of those who awaited the Messiah. I also invite you to our Advent Course, beginning this Wednesday after the 9:30am Eucharist, and Thursday at 7:30pm, both held in Church. We can discover more together during this time of anticipation, and wait on the Lord to see where They are calling us.

Mother Hannah

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

NOTICES

SPECIAL SERVICES FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

Saturday 29 November – Eve of Advent

6:00 pm Advent Carol Service at Lincoln Cathedral

Sunday 30 November - Advent Sunday

9 am Said Eucharist & 10:30am Sung Eucharist

6:00 pm Advent Carol Service at St Mary Magdalene

Saturday 6 December

6:00 pm Haydn's St Nicholas Mass

*A Service, sung by Lincoln Choral Society,
joined by the choir of St Nicholas' Church*

Sunday 7 December - Patronal Festival

9 am Said Eucharist & 10:30am Sung Eucharist

We remember St Nicholas

Sunday 14th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent

9 am Said Eucharist & 10:30am Sung Eucharist

Tuesday 16th December

6:30 pm Light in the Darkness

*A reflective Christmas service for those who find the
season difficult*

Sunday 21st December

9 am Said Eucharist & 10:30am Sung Eucharist

4:00pm A Festival of Lessons and Carols

The traditional candlelit start to Christmas

Wednesday 24 December - Christmas Eve

4:00pm Crib Service

Especially suitable for the very young

11:30pm Midnight Mass

The First Eucharist of Christmas

Thursday 25 December - Christmas Day

10:30am Christmas Day Eucharist for All

ST NICKS PATRONAL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY DECEMBER 6TH AT 6.00PM

Our church choir is joining with Lincoln Choral Society to sing **Haydn's St. Nicholas Mass** in St Nicholas church on our patronal Festival day, Saturday 6th December, at 6.00pm. This is not a concert! It is a celebration of the Eucharist using music composed for the liturgy. We hope that you will join us for what will be a very special act of worship.

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:

Dec 1st: Games Afternoon

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

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

ADVENT COURSE 2025

For our Advent and Lent courses this year, we will be using the Diocesan Course - ***Set our hearts on fire.***

There are 3 sessions for Advent and 5 for Lent - you do not need to have come to all of them if you can't make it, it has been designed so that each session can stand alone.

Wednesdays 3rd, 10th, & 17th December at 10:15am (after 9:30am Eucharist)

Thursdays 4th, 11th, & 18th December at 7:30pm

All sessions will be held in Church and refreshments will be available. We look forward to welcoming you!

TEA & COFFEE ROTA

We are seeking some more people who may be willing to help with serving tea & coffee after our 10:30am Sunday service. The role includes tidying away afterwards, and, particularly at this time, ensuring the bins have been taken out once everything is cleared away. If you are willing to be involved, please speak with either Chris or Clare who would be happy to talk through what the role entails.

Thank you for your help in making St Nick's a place of warm welcome!

REGULAR GIVING ENVELOPES

If you presently use numbered envelopes for your regular giving, new sets for 2026 will be issued next month. Alternatively, you could join the Parish Giving Scheme (our preferred method) which costs us nothing. Numbered envelopes cost more than £3.00 per set.

Please talk to me about queries you may have about your donations or about Gift Aid.

Joan Beresford, Parish Giving Officer

'EXPLORING VOCATIONS'

THE COLLEGE OF ST HUGH, DIOCESE OF LINCOLN

The first in a series of mornings to be run by the College of Saint Hugh will explore Reader Ministry. Hear about the discernment process from those who have recently been trained and licensed as Readers. From **9.30 to 12.30 on Saturday 10th January 2026**, at Edward King House, Minster Yard, Lincoln. Please contact collegeofsthugh@lincoln.anglican.org to book a place.

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 30th: Advent Carol Service

DECEMBER

Sunday 14th: Choral Evensong (BCP)

ALL SAINTS CHURCH NETTLEHAM

2025 CONCERT SERIES 7 PM / £10

The next concert of this series is on **Friday 12th December.** Baroque Christmas music from **Pro Musica**, with soprano Helen Winter, and violinist Caroline Siriwardena.

READINGS

PRAYER BEFORE THE SERVICE

Purify our consciences, almighty God, by your visitation, that your Son when he comes in these holy mysteries, and finally to judge the world, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen

PRAYER FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

God of Abraham and Sarah, and all the patriarchs of old, you are our Father too. Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of David. Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth to make our hearts ready for your Holy Spirit to make his home among us. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the light who is coming into the world. Amen.

Sunday 30th November
1st Sunday of Advent

COLLECT

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;

that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

PSALM

PSALM 122

Refrain: I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord'.

I was glad when they said to me,

'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'

And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem;

Jerusalem, built as a city

that is at unity in itself. **R**

Thither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
as is decreed for Israel,

to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

For there are set the thrones of judgement,
the thrones of the house of David. **R**

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

'May they prosper who love you.

'Peace be within your walls

and tranquillity within your palaces.'

For my kindred and companions' sake,

I will pray that peace be with you.

For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,

I will seek to do you good. **R**

SECOND READING

ROMANS 13:11-END

Brothers and sisters, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 24:36-44

Jesus spoke to his disciples,

'About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

POST COMMUNION

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin

but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Wednesday 3^d December

COLLECT

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 25:6-10A

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples

a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured
wines strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain

the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

he will swallow up death for ever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all
faces,

and the disgrace of his people he will take away from
all the earth,

for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he
might save us.

This is the Lord for whom we have waited;

let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

For the hand of the Lord will rest on this mountain.

PSALM

PSALM 23

Refrain: I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The Lord is my shepherd;

therefore can I lack nothing.

He makes me lie down in green pastures

and leads me beside still waters. **R**

He shall refresh my soul

and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his
name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of
death,

I will fear no evil;

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me. **R**

You spread a table before me

in the presence of those who trouble me;

you have anointed my head with oil

and my cup shall be full.

Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. **R**

GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 15:29-37

After Jesus had left the district of Tyre and Sidon, he passed along the Sea of Galilee, and he went up the mountain, where he sat down. Great crowds came to him, bringing with them the lame, the maimed, the blind, the mute, and many others. They put them at his feet, and he cured them, so that the crowd was amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the maimed whole, the lame walking, and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel.

Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, 'I have compassion for the crowd, because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way.' The disciples said to him, 'Where are we to get enough bread in the desert to feed so great a crowd?' Jesus asked them, 'How many loaves have you?' They said, 'Seven, and a few small fish.' Then ordering the crowd to sit down on the ground, he took the seven loaves and the fish; and after giving thanks he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all of them ate and were filled; and they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full.

POST COMMUNION

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**