

ST. NICHOLAS, NEWPORT, LINCOLN, LN1 3DP  
Registered Charity Number: 1133977  
www.stnicholaslincoln.org.uk  
**5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**  
6<sup>th</sup> April 2025

### TODAY

9:00 am Said Eucharist  
10:30 am Said Eucharist

### THIS WEEK

#### **MONDAY**

8:45 am Morning Prayer  
10:00 am Church open  
2:00 pm Phoenix Group

#### **TUESDAY**

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

#### **WEDNESDAY**

8:45 am Morning Prayer  
9:30 am Said Eucharist  
10:00 am Church open

#### **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  
Noon Funeral – Jennifer Davison

**2:00 pm Lent Course**

#### **FRIDAY**

10:00 am Church open

#### **SATURDAY**

10:00 am Church open

### NEXT SUNDAY – PALM SUNDAY

9:00 am Said Eucharist  
**10:30 am Palm Sunday Eucharist**  
6:00 pm *Choral Evensong at St Mary Magdalene*

### READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

<u>SUNDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</u>
Isaiah 50:4-9a	Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalms 31:9-16	Psalms 70
Philippians 2:5-11	Hebrews 12:1-3
Luke 22:14-end 23	John 13:21-32

### 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,

Last week in our exploration of the Eucharist we had reached the Sanctus and Benedictus. This week we cover the remainder of the Eucharistic Prayer, the Great Thanksgiving.

The first thing to say is that unlike the Prayer Book which has only one Eucharistic Prayer, Common Worship has no less than nine (including two for use with congregations of children); expressing a richer variety of Eucharistic theology.

In the Prayers we use most often at St. Nicholas' (Prayers A, B & E) the Sanctus is followed by the Invocation of the Holy Spirit on the gifts of bread and wine so that they may become what Christ had declared them to be, his Body and Blood and our food and drink for the new life we now live in him. In contrast to the Churches of the East, the role of the Holy Spirit in the Eucharist was rather neglected in the Western Church, both in the Roman Missal and the Prayer Book. Liturgical revisions have redressed this imbalance.

An exception to this was the liturgy of the Episcopal Church in Scotland, the one which I celebrated in the first half of my ministry. This followed the Eastern pattern by having an epiclesis – an invocation of the Spirit on the elements and the people after the narrative of institution and the memorial of redemption. Two prayers we use occasionally (F & G) are based on Eastern forms and have the same structure. The Invocation of the Spirit on gifts and people remind us that we can do nothing without God's prior gift.

Then come the words of institution, understood in the West – both before and after Reformation – as the 'words of consecration.' Theologians now regard the whole prayer, not just the words of institution or the epiclesis, as consecratory. However, as the late Bishop Michael Perham wrote, there is a devotional and psychological need for acts and gestures which highlight different parts of the prayer: the president stretching out his hands and making the sign of the cross over the bread and wine at the invocation; taking the bread and wine into his hands and showing them to the people at the narrative of institution; raising the chalice and paten at the final doxology. The Eucharist is something we do, not just say.

The Lord's command (found in Luke's Gospel and Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians), "Do this in remembrance of me," is not just to remember the last supper but to participate again in the memorial of the whole mystery of his passion, death and resurrection by offering this prayer and sharing in the sacred sacrificial meal. Here our usual understanding of 'remembrance' and 'memorial,' as of people or events in a past which becomes ever more remote with the passage of time can miss the sense of the sacrament as both a present reality in which the risen Christ makes himself known in the breaking of the bread and draws

us into his sacrificial offering, and an anticipation of the coming of God's kingdom: the marriage feast of the Lamb.

After memorial acclamations which increase congregational participation – and help us concentrate in a long prayer – there follow a variety of petitions: for the acceptance of our 'sacrifice of thanks and praise,' for our formation in the likeness of Christ; for the coming of God's kingdom of justice and mercy; for the unity of the Church both here on earth and in the communion of saints, the whole company of heaven with whom we worship.

The prayers culminate in a doxology which recognises that we can only offer our worship "through and with and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit." In two of the prayers this concludes with a congregational acclamation taken from the vision of the worship of heaven in the Book of Revelation: "Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever." In all the prayers, we add our 'Amen.'

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Alan

## NOTICES

### HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2025

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April – Palm Sunday**

9 am Said Eucharist

10:30 am Sung Eucharist for Palm Sunday

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April**

9:30 am Said Eucharist

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April – Maundy Thursday**

7:30 pm Liturgy of Maundy Thursday & Watch

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April – Good Friday**

9:30 am Good Friday Gathering

11:30 am *Walk of Witness*

2 pm Good Friday Liturgy

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April**

8 pm *Easter Vigil at Lincoln Cathedral*

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Day**

9 am Said Eucharist on Easter Day

10:30 am Sung Eucharist on Easter Day

### LINCOLN CATHEDRAL LENT SERMONS

#### SUNDAY EVENSONG, 3:45 PM

This Lent, sermons at the Cathedral's Sunday Evensong service are linked to the Diocesan Lent Course.

**6th April** (Lent 5, Passion Sunday): **Saying Ouch**

(Prayers of Lament) - Canon Dr Hugh Jones

**13th April** (Palm Sunday): **Saying Nothing** (Prayers of Contemplation) - Rev'd David McCormick

#### GOOD FRIDAY WALKS OF WITNESS

Churches Together in Lincoln and District invite you to join one of the four Walks, leading to St Benedict's Church, for an open air Civic Service at noon. **The northern route leaves Bailgate Methodist Church at 11:30 am, on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April.**

## CHRISTIAN AID MYANMAR EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

A collection will be made in church over the next two weeks to help the urgent humanitarian work of Christian Aid in Myanmar. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

### LENT COURSE: TEACH US TO PRAY

Our Lent course concludes, on 8<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm; repeated on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm. **All are welcome!**

### ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS

The Annual Meetings took place on Sunday, 23 March. The following have been elected as Churchwardens: Christine Elsmore, David Gratrack, Nick James and Roger Hansard. Joan Beresford and Clare Wise were elected to the PCC.

We still have vacancies to fill on the PCC. If you would like to be considered please speak to one of the Churchwardens or email the office.

There are also two vacancies for Deanery Synod Representatives. Again, if you would like to be considered please speak to one of the Churchwardens or email the office. You could also speak to Dr Neill Hepburn who is a Deanery Synod Representative, for more information. *Joanne Osborne, PCC Secretary*

### PHOENIX GROUP ACTIVITIES

**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays, 2:00 to 4:00 pm**

**1<sup>st</sup> Mondays:** Board Games and refreshments

**3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays:** Speakers and refreshments

#### **FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:**

**April 7<sup>th</sup>:** The Churches of the Lincolnshire Wolds – an illustrated talk by David Brown

**TUESDAY April 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Games Afternoon

**TUESDAY May 6<sup>th</sup>:** Games Afternoon

**May 19<sup>th</sup>:** topic to be confirmed

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Games Afternoon

**June 16<sup>th</sup>:** Alan Barnes – the RNLI

**July 7<sup>th</sup>:** Games Afternoon

**July 21<sup>st</sup>:** Vikki Sonnenberg – the Pennells' History

#### **TALKS TO LOOK FORWARD TO:**

**Sept 15<sup>th</sup>:** Jill Stubbs – The Canal & River Trust

**Oct 20<sup>th</sup>:** Annette Mackenzie & Eric the Little Owl

**Nov 17<sup>th</sup>:** Shirley Brook

**Dec 15<sup>th</sup>:** Dan Matthews – Forensic Science, Part 2

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

#### **APRIL**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>:** Choral Evensong (BCP)

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>:** Choral Evening Prayer (CW)

### ALL SAINTS CHURCH NETTLEHAM

#### 2025 CONCERT SERIES 7 PM / £10

The first concert of this series is on **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April**, when the Allegra Voice Choir will perform an eclectic mix of songs.

## READINGS

### PRAYER BEFORE THE SERVICE

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your apostles, 'Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you': look not on our sins but on the faith of your Church and grant it the peace and unity of your kingdom; where you live and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April*

### COLLECT

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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

ISAIAH 43:16-21

Thus says the Lord,  
who makes a way in the sea,  
a path in the mighty waters,  
who brings out chariot and horse,  
army and warrior;  
they lie down, they cannot rise,  
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:  
Do not remember the former things,  
or consider the things of old.  
I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
and rivers in the desert.  
The wild animals will honour me,  
the jackals and the ostriches;  
for I give water in the wilderness,  
rivers in the desert,  
to give drink to my chosen people,  
the people whom I formed for myself  
so that they might declare my praise.

### PSALM

PSALM 126

*Refrain: The Lord has done great things for us.*

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,  
then were we like those who dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter  
and our tongue with songs of joy. **R**  
Then said they among the nations,  
'The Lord has done great things for them.'  
The Lord has indeed done great things for us,  
and therefore we rejoiced. **R**  
Restore again our fortunes, O Lord,  
as the river beds of the desert.  
Those who sow in tears  
shall reap with songs of joy.  
Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed,  
will come back with shouts of joy,  
bearing their sheaves with them. **R**

## SECOND READING

PHILIPPIANS 3:4B-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

## GOSPEL READING

JOHN 12:1-8

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

## POST COMMUNION

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. Amen

## Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April

### COLLECT

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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

DANIEL 3:14-20, 24-25, 28

Nebuchadnezzar said to the men, 'Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods and you do not worship the golden statue that I have set up? Now if you are ready when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble to fall down and worship the statue that I have made, well and good. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire, and who is the god that will deliver you out of my hands?' Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered the king, 'O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to present a defence to you in this matter. If our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire and out of your hand, O king, let him deliver us. But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods and we will not worship the golden statue that you have set up.'

Then Nebuchadnezzar was so filled with rage against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that his face was distorted. He ordered the furnace to be heated up seven times more than was customary, and ordered some of the strongest guards in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and to throw them into the furnace of blazing fire.

Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up quickly. He said to his counsellors, 'Was it not three men that we threw bound into the fire?' They answered the king, 'True, O king.' He replied, 'But I see four men unbound, walking in the middle of the fire, and they are not hurt; and the fourth has the appearance of a god.' Nebuchadnezzar said, 'Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his angel and delivered his servants who trusted in him. They disobeyed the king's command and yielded up their bodies rather than serve and worship any god except their own God.'

### CANTICLE

BLESS THE LORD

Blessed are you, the God of our ancestors,  
worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.  
Blessed is your holy and glorious name,  
worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.  
Blessed are you, in your holy and glorious temple,  
worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.  
Blessed are you who look into the depths,  
worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.  
Blessed are you, enthroned on the cherubim,  
worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.  
Blessed are you on the throne of your kingdom,  
worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.  
Blessed are you in the heights of heaven,  
worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

**Bless the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.**

### GOSPEL READING

JOHN 8:31-42

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, 'If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.' They answered him, 'We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, "You will be made free"?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there for ever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed. I know that you are descendants of Abraham; yet you look for an opportunity to kill me, because there is no place in you for my word. I declare what I have seen in the Father's presence; as for you, you should do what you have heard from the Father.'

They answered him, 'Abraham is our father.' Jesus said to them, 'If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing what Abraham did, but now you are trying to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. You are indeed doing what your father does.' They said to him, 'We are not illegitimate children; we have one father, God himself.' Jesus said to them, 'If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now I am here. I did not come on my own, but he sent me.'

### POST COMMUNION

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen**