



Thoughts, notices and reminders
February 11 2018

Remember
you are
loved
and to
Love
you
will
return

Please feel free to contact Fr. Stephen at any time,
but please remember that his usual day off is Friday.

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Any items for this weekly sheet should be received by Rachel Fleshbourne
no later than Wednesday evening.

If you would like to receive this weekly sheet by email, please e-mail Rachel:
admin@stjohnthebaptistparishchurch.org.uk

THE PRAYER PAGE

| Saint's Day | Prayer in the parish | Prayer in the diocese |
|---|---|--|
| Sunday Next before Lent | St Francis School; Enterprise House Ann Hoffmann (head), staff, pupils and governors Residents of: Greyling View, Hackthorn Place, Hardwick Place, Harmston Close | RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY AND CHURCH ACTION ON POVERTY SUNDAY |
| Monday | Ermine Primary Academy Jenna Richards (acting head), staff, pupils and governors Residents of: Harpswell Road, Hatcliffe Gardens, Hawkshead Grove, Haydor Avenue | LINCOLN CATHEDRAL The Very Revd Christine Wilson |
| Tuesday Shrove Tuesday | Ermine West Methodist Church Residents of: Ingleby Crescent, Jesmond View, Keddington Avenue, Kershaw View | LINCOLN ST MARY MAGDALENE Fr Alex Whitehead |
| Wednesday Ash Wednesday Sts Cyril and Methodius Missionaries to the Slaves | Ruckland Court; Lincoln Cathedral Quarry workers Residents of: Langdale Close, Langton Close, Laughton Crescent, Laughton Way | CHRISTIANITY DEANERY Fr Dr Hugh Jones (Rural Dean) |
| Thursday Thomas Bray Founder of SPCK | The Neighbourhood Management team Residents of: Laughton Way North, Lenton Gardens, Manton Road, Midville Close | CHURCH SCHOOLS IN THE CALCEWAITHE AND CANDLESHOE DEANERY |
| Friday | Housebound communicants Residents of: Millbeck Road, Minting Close, Moorby Close, Natal View | LINCOLN ST NICHOLAS Revd Dr Hugh Jones |
| Saturday Janini Luwum Archbishop of Uganda | Health care services; Social Workers Residents of: Nene Road, Nocton Drive, Oxen Park Close, Pietermaritz Street, Pietermaritz View | LINCOLN ST FAITH Revd Julie Wearing |

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| Give thanks for: | Our freedom to vote in democratic elections |
| Special prayers this week for: | Our intentions for the Lenten season; Christian writers and authors; Businesses affected by the Carillion collapse |
| People in need: | Mary Bayston, Vicki and Terry Barnes, Doug Bradley, Fr John Clark, Jan Hunter, Sarah Lusby, Sheila Lusby, Joan Pratt, Janice Rutherford, Vanessa Williamson, Doug and Anita, Gerrard |
| Rest in peace: | Ian Hewitt |

Coming up this week:

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| Sunday 11 | 10:00am | Family Eucharist |
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| | 2:30pm | Ruckland Court Songs of Praise |
| Tuesday 13 | 7:00pm | Pancake party and quiz in church |
| Wednesday 14 | 9:30am 10:30am 11:00am 7:00pm | Eucharist with ashing Mothers Union- shared lunch JJs' in the church hall Eucharist with ashing |
| Thursday 15 | 9:30am 1:30pm 7:00pm | ALM meeting in church Bingo and coffee in the church hall Ermine Voices |
| Sunday 18 | 10:00am 12:00pm | Eucharist Baptisms |

Coming up soon:

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| Monday 19th | 9:30am | Architectural historians visit to church |
| Tuesday 20 | 7:00pm | Bp Nicholas discussion evening – all welcome |
| Wednesday 21 | 9:30am 10:30am 12:00pm 7:00pm | Eucharist and stations of the cross Choir practice Lunch club Lent course |
| Thursday 22 | 9:00am 7:00pm | Philippa taking assembly at St Francis school Ermine Voices |
| Sunday 25 | 10:00am 6:00pm | Eucharist Benediction |
| Monday 26 | 4:15pm 7:30pm | Staff group meeting St John's Singers |
| Tuesday 27 | 7:00pm | Stations of the cross |
| Wednesday 28 | 9:30am 2:00pm 7:00pm | Eucharist with prayer for healing Transition group meeting Lent course |
| Thursday 1 | 9:00am 7:00pm | Fr Stephen taking assembly at St Francis school Ermine Voices |
| Friday 2 | 2:00pm | Women's world day of prayer service at the URC |
| Sunday 4 | 10:00am 12:00pm 6:00pm | Eucharist Baptisms A service to pray with victims of genocide |
| Tuesday 6 | 7:00pm | Stations of the Cross |

LENT



Keeping a Holy Lent

Incredibly, the season of Lent is almost upon us again. It seems like we only just get over the Christmas celebrations before we are plunged once more into one of the most challenging and demanding parts of the Christian year. In Lent, we are called to journey with Jesus on his way to Jerusalem, taking the challenge of the unflinching love of God into the very heart of the military, civic and religious powers of the ancient world.

That journey will call his disciples to come to terms with some difficult ideas as Jesus tells them, time and time again, that his way is one of obedient love, not of military victory. Of course, when the time comes, the idea of a crucified Messiah is still one that they cannot begin to grasp, until they experience the baffling joy of the risen Lord. As we follow Christ on his way of the cross, we are also called to make this season of Lent a special time of preparation, to take more time to listen to God, to spend time in reading the Bible more regularly, perhaps to deny ourselves something we enjoy... but whatever we give up or take on in Lent, the purpose is clear: to draw ourselves closer to Christ and to prepare ourselves for the wonders of Holy Week and an encounter with the cross. I like to think of Lent as a special time to go into training. When athletes are getting ready for the main event, they train more consistently and harder so they are as ready as possible to run the race. In the same way, Lent is an opportunity for us to develop new ways of relating to God, new ways of praying, new ways of service that are not an end in themselves, but perhaps, in helping us to prepare to meet the risen Lord, will be taken over into our everyday lives after Easter. Lent is a period of five weeks and that is a decent amount of time to try something new. So, how do you propose to spend your Lent this year? I certainly hope that you will worship regularly in church from Ash Wednesday and throughout the season, but you might like also to join one of our study groups which will run throughout Lent (see details above).

Other things you could consider might be:

Attend one (or more) of the Stations of the Cross

Devote an extra time each day for prayer or, if you do not pray every day, try setting aside 5 minutes each day for prayer

Read the Bible every day

Give up something you enjoy, and make a donation to charity instead of spending the money you might have spent on a treat for yourself. Last year some people collected something for the Community Larder for each day of the season.

Read a book for Lent – there are copies of Lent Extra at the back of church or we can recommend something for you to read.

These are just a few suggestions, but please do ask if you would like any suggestions of how you may spend a holy Lent this year. But whatever you do, remember that Lent is a time to draw closer to the experience of our Lord in his pilgrimage, to follow him on the way to the cross and to meet him with joy in the garden of resurrection.

Fr Stephen

A WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER

A week of guided prayer is being planned for all uphill Lincoln Anglican churches for the week of July 7 – 14th. This is being organised by Fr Stephen. A week of guided prayer is a great way to explore your relationship with God, your faith and your life

accompanied by a prayer guide for the week, who meets with you individually each day for 40 minutes; they will listen to you, suggest ways in which you might develop your prayer life, give you ideas to explore and hold you in their prayer throughout the week. We have had a Week of Guided Prayer in the parish and the people who took part found it to be a transforming experience. More details will be available nearer the time, but if you are interested, please make a note of the dates in your diaries – you would need to be available on Saturday mornings on 7th and 14th July and at a time slot to suit you on the Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Please ask if you would like more information.

A CHARITY FOR 2018/19

The time has come to choose our charity for next year!

Every year we have a nominated charity and use various different methods of fundraising to support them. For the last year we have supported War Child; but at the APCM when the new church year begins it's time to change our charity as well. Please be having a think about which charity you would like to nominate.

If you wish to nominate a charity, please fill in the slip below and put it in the box on the table at the back; we will collect the slips after church TODAY and produce a voting form in the next bulletin. If you are nominating more than one charity, please use a separate form for each. Charities that we have supported before may be nominated. After that, we'll vote again on the top three so that everyone gets a say.

CHARITY NOMINATION – please put this form in the basket at the back of church

Your name

Name of the charity

Brief summary of what the charity does

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Website

BISHOP NICHOLAS VISIT TO ST JOHNS

Bp Nicholas, the Bishop of Grantham, will be with us on Tuesday 20th February at 7:00pm in church. He will be talking to us about his episcopal visitation last June and his subsequent report and leading a discussion on our ministry here at St John's. This is a unique opportunity to meet the Bishop and to talk about our hopes and dreams for the future of St John's. Everyone is welcome to come along and there will be some refreshments served. If you would like more information, please ask!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross are an ancient devotion. In the early centuries, pilgrims would make the journey to Jerusalem to follow Christ's path from Pilate's palace through the streets of the city to the hill of execution. As time went on it became difficult for Christians to travel to Jerusalem, and the city itself was occupied by Islamic forces.

Because of this, the practice grew of following the way of the cross in people's own communities, churches or holy places, and developed into what we now know as the Stations of the Cross.

The Stations are usually followed during Lent and in Holy Week; they have become a popular Lenten devotion. In many churches, you will see small tableaux (stations) placed on the walls around the church which remain all year, but become a focus for the Stations in Lent. Churches like St Johns, which do not have permanent stations, put posters up for Lent and Holy Week. Each picture or tableau represents one of the stages of Christ's journey from condemnation in Pilate's palace to his burial in a stranger's tomb.

There are fourteen stations:

- Pilate condemns Jesus to death
- Jesus takes up his cross
- Jesus falls for the first time
- A mother meets her son
- Simon carries Jesus's cross
- Veronica wipes Jesus's face
- Jesus falls for the second time
- Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem
- Jesus falls for the third time

Jesus is stripped
Jesus is nailed to the cross
Jesus dies on the cross
The body of Jesus is taken down from the cross
The body of Jesus is laid in the tomb.

At each station there is:

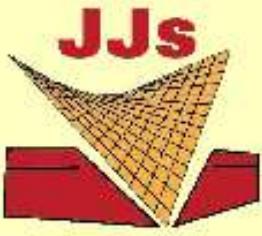
An opening sentence and response
A reading and/or meditation
A time of silence
A closing prayer or responsory.

As the group moves from station to station, it is usual to sing the verse of a hymn (hymns appropriate to Holy Week are generally used). In many churches (including ours) the group following the stations will walk from station to station usually in the process completing a round of the whole church; in others, the congregation remains seated whilst the priest progresses round. Some places will also follow the Stations of the Cross around their communities, stopping at key points in their area to proclaim the story of Christ's passion and death. There are many versions of the Stations of the Cross available, from the traditional to the modern. Some tell the story using a character such as Mary, and there are an increasing number of Stations suitable for use with children.

Please do consider following the Stations at St John's during Lent. All the dates are in the diary section of the bulletin, but please ask if you would like any more information

SHROVE TUESDAY

There is a quiz with pancakes on Tuesday in church at 7:00pm. Everyone is welcome!



St John's Juniors @ the Pringle Church

LOVE and LENT CELEBRATION

**Wednesday 14th
February**

**Craft activities at 11.00
Worship and Lunch at 12.15**

at St John's Church Hall,
Laughton Way

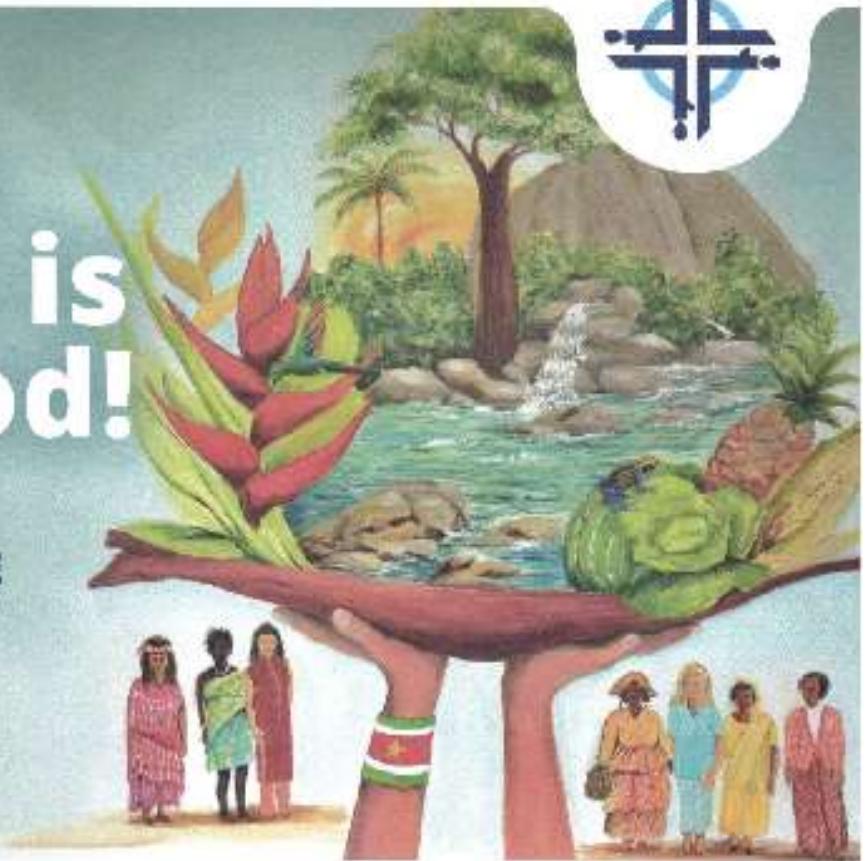
**Contact Philippa White for
details: 01522 567004 -
revdpjwhite@gmail.com**

Women's World Day of Prayer



All God's Creation is Very Good!

PRAYING FOR SURINAME
A SERVICE FOR EVERYONE



Friday 2nd March 2018

2:00pm

ECUMENICAL SERVICE at
ERMINE UNITED
REFORMED CHURCH
Sudbrooke Drive, Ermine

ALL WELCOME

www.wwdp.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 233242