



Thoughts, notices and reminders  
April 29 2018

Divine grace comes to live in our hearts,  
within us...the kingdom of God  
is just the grace of the Holy Spirit,  
living in us, warming us, enlightening us,  
filling the air with his scent,  
delighting us with his fragrance  
and rejoicing our hearts with gladness.

*Seraphim of Sarov*

Please feel free to contact Fr. Stephen at any time,  
but please remember that his usual day off is Friday.  
Telephone: 01522 525621 mobile: 0794 371 5279  
e-mail: [fr-stephen@stjohnthebaptistparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:fr-stephen@stjohnthebaptistparishchurch.org.uk)

Revd Philippa White 0747 495 8658

Web site: [www.stjohnthebaptistparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.stjohnthebaptistparishchurch.org.uk)

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](mailto:admin@stjohnthebaptistparishchurch.org.uk)

## THE PRAYER PAGE

<b>Saint's Day</b>	<b>Prayer in the parish</b>	<b>Prayer in the diocese</b>
Sunday <b>Easter 5</b>	<b>Shops and businesses on the estate</b> Residents of: Woodburn Close, Woodburn View, Woodhall Drive	<b>PRAY FOR THE WILL AND THE STRENGTH TO ABIDE IN JESUS, AND SO TO BEAR FRUIT FOR HIM</b>
Monday <b>Pandita Mary Ramabai</b> Translator of scriptures	<b>The library, Sudbrooke Drive Community Centre, and the Ravendale Drive sports field</b> Library staff, centre managers and users, sports field users and managers Members of our congregation who live outside the parish	<b>SCARTH0, ST GILES W. ST MATTHEW</b> Revd Sheena Cleaton
Tuesday <b>Sts Philip and James</b> Apostles	<b>Our parish and people</b> Residents of: Allandale Close, Allandale View, Amble Close, Apley Close, Ashlar Close	<b>BISHOP GROSSETESTE UNIVERSITY, AND Fr PETER GREEN, CHAPLAIN</b>
Wednesday <b>St Athanasius</b> Bishop of Alexandria	<b>Fr Stephen, Fr Ruben, Philippa White, Jackie Howell</b> Residents of: Asterby Close, Aubourn Avenue, Aylesby Avenue, Bain Street	<b>THE MEETINGS OF BISHOP'S COUNCIL AND THE CLERGY HOUSING COMMITTEE</b>
Thursday	<b>Our Lady of Lincoln church and school</b> Fr Colin, the clergy and people; the staff, governors and pupils of Our Lady Primary School Residents of: Barkston Gardens, Bassingham Crescent, Bilsby Close, Blankney Crescent	<b>GRAFFOE DEANERY</b> Revd Annabel Barber (Rural Dean)
Friday <b>English Saints and Martyrs</b>	<b>Ermine House; Ermine Voices</b> Residents of: Brattleby Crescent, Broxholme Gardens, Buchanan Street, Burnside Close	<b>THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN TRUST AND BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING</b>
Saturday	<b>Our parish visitors</b> Residents of: Burwell Close, Cabourne Avenue, Carlton Grove, Carlton Walk	<b>BRANSTON W. NOCTON AND POTTERHANWORTH</b> Revd Lorna Brabin-Smith

<b>Give thanks for:</b>	Our Lunch Club
<b>Special prayers this week for:</b>	The Archive Group meeting on Wednesday; victims of the van attack in Toronto
<b>People in need:</b>	Doug Bradley, Fr John Clark, Gill Clayton-Hewson, Dick Moore, Joan Pratt, Joseph Skehell, Peter Wise, Gerrard
<b>Rest in peace:</b>	Francesca Angelici

### Coming up this week:

Sunday 29	10:00am 6:00pm	Eucharist Benediction
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Tuesday 1	7:00pm	Stations of the resurrection
Wednesday 2	9:30am 10:30am 10:30am 11:15am 12:00pm 7:00pm	Eucharist (Philip and James) Choir practice Ruckland Court Eucharist Ermine House Eucharist Lunch club in the hall Archive meeting
Thursday 3	7:00pm	Ermine Voices
Sunday 6	10:00am 11:30am 6:00pm	Eucharist Standing Committee meeting Genocide service

### Coming up soon:

Wednesday 9	9:30am 10:30am 10:30am 1:00pm	Eucharist Mothers Union - Paul Barrett Staff group meeting Knit and natter
Thursday 10	9:30am  2:45pm 7:00pm	Eucharist (Ascension) Novena of prayer starts Fr Stephen taking assembly at Ermine Primary Ermine Voices
Saturday 12	10:00am	Christian Aid coffee morning at the URC
Sunday 13	10:00am 2:30pm	Family Eucharist (St Matthias) Ruckland Court Songs of Praise
Monday 14	7:30pm	St John's Singers
Tuesday 15	7:00pm	Eucharist and PCC meeting
Wednesday 16	9:30am 10:30am 12:00pm	Eucharist Choir practice Lunch club in the hall
Thursday 17	9:00am	Fr Stephen taking assembly at St Francis school
Sunday 20	10:00am 5:00pm	Eucharist Choral evensong
Wednesday 23	9:30am	Eucharist with prayer for healing
Saturday 26	12:00pm	Family fun day
Sunday 27	10:00am 12:00pm	Eucharist Baptisms
Wednesday 30	9:30am 10:30am	Eucharist Choir practice

### CHARITY FOR 2018

Thank you all for taking part in our very democratic process of selecting a charity for 2018-19! We received 33 votes in the second stage and it was a very tight contest: 10 for British Heart Foundation, 2 for the Community Larder and 11 for Macmillan Nurses. Our charity for the coming year is therefore **Macmillan Nurses!** We will raise money for

this very worthy cause in various different ways throughout the year, and in particular through the Pentecost-Harvest Smartie tube challenge.

### **PHILIPPA MOVING ON**

As Fr Ruben would so often remind us, curacies don't last forever! I have been with you at St John's for longer than him, but my curacy is also coming to an end. I will be moving to Oxford in the summer to take up the role of Succentor at Christ Church Cathedral – which means I'll be the Precentor's assistant, making the cathedral's services and music run smoothly, and thinking about how the cathedral can improve its welcome and outreach to tourists, local residents, students and university staff. I'll also be an assistant college chaplain, working with students, and school chaplain to the cathedral school (working with 150 primary school aged boys!) My last Sunday at St John's will be on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, so I am not saying goodbye for a while – and I'm so glad that I will have several more months with this wonderful community. You are truly special people; you have welcomed me in and given me a home, where I have learnt so much. The people I have shared with and the things I have experienced at St John's and on the Ermine have shaped who I am as a person and as a priest. You will always be held in my prayers and love. Philippa.

### **CHRISTIAN AID**

It will be Christian Aid week early in May, so please do make sure that you have our annual coffee morning raising funds for the charity in your diary. This year it will be held at Ermine URC on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May from 10:00am – donations of tombola (colour scheme this year is red, white and blue) and raffle prizes and cakes would be very welcome. Fr Stephen and Sheila will also be crossing the Humber Bridge for a sponsored walk in early May (date to be confirmed).

### **FAMILY FUN DAY**

Our annual Family fun day will be on Saturday 26 May. As in previous years we are offering tables for groups or individuals in the community to raise funds. If anyone would like a table to raise funds for the church please let Rachel know.

### **ROTAS**

We are currently putting together the rotas for July, August and September. If you know you will be away at any time during these months could you let us know by filling in the sheet at the back of church.

### **ASCENSION DAY**

We are invited to attend a deanery Ascension Day service on May 10<sup>th</sup> which will be held outdoors on the site of St Paul in the Bail at 6:00pm. Consequently, we have moved our service from that evening from 7:30pm to 9:30am.

## GENOCIDE SERVICE

Next Sunday evening we will be putting on the postponed (because of snow earlier in the year) service reflecting on victims of genocide both current and past. Jessica Howell has put this together and this will be unique opportunity to reflect on and pray into both the darkness of the situations and the hope that lies within them. The service starts at 6:00pm – please do come along and support this important service.

## THY KINGDOM COME

Every year from Ascension Day to Pentecost, the Church of England observes 9 days of prayer entitled “Thy Kingdom Come”. This year, we will be giving you a booklet of prayers (a novena of prayer) to pray everyday throughout this season and encouraging you to make an intention to pray for 5 people during this time. These resources will be given out next Sunday, but we should have spares if people are not in church at that time. If you want to find out more about Thy Kingdom Come or are looking for suggestions for your prayer life, have a look at the website:

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

## HELP NEEDED

Hannah Lee, a playwright originally from Scunthorpe, is working on a play set in Lincoln between 1997 and the present, looking at politics through the lens of Lincolnshire attitudes and family relationships. She would like to interview people who have lived in Lincoln since at least 1997, from a range of backgrounds and political opinions – particularly focusing on the changes in political affiliation over the past 20 years and the reasons behind the Brexit vote last year. If you would like to know more or be involved, please speak to Philippa

## TRANSITION GROUP

The Transition Group is a small group set up by the PCC to help to plan for the coming interregnum. As you know, Fr Stephen will be leaving at the end of September, so this group has been working with him to identify everything that the church does, that he does, and that needs to be covered. We already have a twenty page document arising out of our discussion, but we are confident that we have thought about nearly every aspect of the life of the church. The next stage is to start thinking about the parish profile – this is a document that will be sent out to people who are interested in applying for the job and will give full information about the church, the parish, the community and the sort of priest that you will be looking for. The process of recruiting a new priest will not start until after Fr Stephen has left, but the Transition Group are working hard now so that we can get the process in place as soon as possible after September. The Group consists of the churchwardens, Jackie Howell, our parish administrator and David Fleshbourne. Please ask them if you have any questions.



# Ermine Family Fun Day

St John's Church & Church Hall  
Laughton Way - 26<sup>th</sup> May 2018

12pm - 3:30pm

activities for all including

- ▶ Derek Tindall Birds of Prey
- ▶ Performances by Ermine Voices
- ▶ Giant inflatable slide
- ▶ Circus skills
- ▶ Bouncy castle
- ▶ Refreshments served

For more details or to  
book a free table  
contact Fr Stephen  
on 01522 525621





**Coffee Morning**

**Saturday 12th May 2018**

**10.00am to 12.00**

**Ermine United Reformed Church**

**Sudbrooke Drive**

**Lincoln**

**Tea, Cake, Bacon Butties**

**Tombola Stall and Raffle**

**For more information about Christian Aid Week  
please visit [caweek.org](http://caweek.org)**

## A WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER FOR UPHILL LINCOLN CHURCHES

7<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> July 2018

### **WHAT IS A WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER?**

A WGP provides an opportunity to reflect on our individual relationship with God, and how the call of Christ is at work in our daily life. It is an invitation to explore new ways of praying and to be supported by a guide who is experienced in this ministry. It is a time for encouragement and renewal, for learning and exploring. The Holy Spirit is the guide for all that happens and all those taking part, guides and participants, find themselves bound together in a mutual awareness of the Spirit, who is 'the source of our lives' directing our course.

### **HOW DOES IT WORK?**

In the week to take place at St Giles, St John the Baptist and St Nicholas the 'week' will be a period of five days (Monday to Friday). Each participant makes a commitment to a half hour's prayer a day – as discussed with their prayer guide at a daily meeting, which is scheduled to last no longer than forty minutes. The week will begin and end with a gathering for all those involved. This initial get together on the Saturday will introduce the pattern for the week and participants will be 'paired up'. The daily meeting with the prayer guide is crucial – allowing the retreatant to share with their guide their experience in prayer and to discern the next step on the journey through the week. The prayer guides will arrange to meet at a time that is convenient for you. The final meeting reviews the past week and provides an opportunity to look forward, providing material and advice for a continuing walk with Christ.

### **WHO IS IT FOR?**

The week is for anyone from St Giles, St John the Baptist, St Mary Magdalene, or St Nicholas parish churches

### **WHEN WILL IT HAPPEN?**

We will start with the introduction session on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July at St Giles at 11:00am and the week will finish on the following Saturday, again at St Giles with a closing session at 11:00am.

Saturday 11:00am Introduction, prayer and gathering for those wishing to take part -

Venue: St Giles parish church

Monday – Friday daily 40 minute meeting with your prayer guide at a time and venue

appropriate to you within your working day. Venues: St Giles, St John the Baptist, St Nicholas

Saturday 11:00am Gathering of all involved, prayer, thanks and looking forward. Venue – St Giles parish church.

### **WHAT IS MY COMMITMENT?**

A daily 40 minute meeting with your prayer guide and a 30 minute personal time of prayer during each day.

### **WHO IS LEADING THE WEEK?**

Canon Fr Stephen Hoy, Diocesan Spirituality Adviser, is leading the week with the support of a team of experienced prayer guides. If you are interested in taking part in the week, please have a word with Fr Stephen