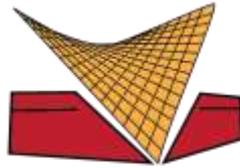


St John the Baptist



ERMINE, LINCOLN

Thoughts, notices and reminders  
May 20 2018



Jesus invites us to abide in his  
love. That means to dwell with all  
that I am in him.

It is an invitation to a total  
belonging, to full intimacy, to an  
unlimited being-with. The light of  
the Spirit reveals to us that love  
conquers all fear.

*Henri Nouwen*



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

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e-mail: [fr-stephen@stjohnthebaptistparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:fr-stephen@stjohnthebaptistparishchurch.org.uk)

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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](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>Pentecost</b>	<b>Community Police and Neighbourhood Watch</b> Helen Kumar, Amanda Allen, Craig Mobbs and Tina Worden Residents of: Ridge View, Riseholme Road, Riverton Close, Riverton View	<b>FOR THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT</b>
Monday	<b>Rachel Fleshbourne, our parish administrator;</b> <b>Lenton Green and Cathedral View Court</b> Residents of: Rolleston Close, Rothwell Road, Roughton Court, Ruckland Avenue	<b>SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</b>
Tuesday	<b>Lincoln Castle Academy;</b> <b>Yarborough Leisure Centre and the Sports Hub</b> Residents of: Rusland Close, Rushlip Close, Sanders Close, Sanders View	<b>THE SCUNTHORPE CENTRE OF MISSION</b> Captain Sean Andrews
Wednesday	<b>Organist, Choir, vergers and servers</b> Residents of: Scopwick Place, Searby Road, Sedgebrook Close, Stainton Gardens	<b>CHURCH SCHOOLS IN THE GRANTHAM DEANERY</b>
Thursday <b>John and Charles Wesley, Evangelists</b>	<b>United Reformed Church</b> The elders and people of the church Residents of: Stapleford Avenue, Steeping Court, Sturton Close, Sudbrooke Drive	<b>BARROWBY AND GREAT GONERBY</b> Fr Peter Hopkins
Friday <b>Venerable Bede</b> Historian	<b>The Estate Managers and council workers; postmen and women</b> Residents of: Swaby Close, Tangshan Court, Tetney Close, Thoresway Drive	<b>GRANTHAM, ST WULFRUM</b> Fr Stuart Craddock
Saturday <b>St Augustine</b> Archbishop of Canterbury	<b>Lincoln North Children's Centre;</b> <b>the Women's refuge</b> Residents of: Thurlby Crescent, Torrington Road, Trelawney Crescent, Troutbeck Close	<b>GRANTHAM, HARROWBY W. LONDONTHORPE</b>

<b>Give thanks for:</b>	The marriage of Prince Harry and Megan Markle
<b>Special prayers this week for:</b>	Tensions between Israel and Palestine and those people injured in the recent confrontations; preparations for our Family Fun Day.
<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>	Kathleen Macefield, Doreen Priddey

**Coming up this week:**

Sunday 20	10:00am 5:00pm	Eucharist Choral evensong (Please earlier time)
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Wednesday 23	9:30am	Eucharist with prayer for healing
Saturday 26	12:00pm	Family fun day
Sunday 27	10:00am 10:00am pm	Eucharist Fr Stephen preaching at St Giles Fr Stephen and Sheila's sponsored walk for Christian Aid

### Coming up soon:

Wednesday 30	9:30am 10:30am 11:00am	Eucharist Choir practice JJ's in the hall
Thursday 31	9:00am 10:00am 7:30pm	Philippa taking assembly at St Francis school Authorised Lay Ministers meeting Eucharist
Saturday 2	12:00pm	Wedding in church
Sunday 3	10:00am 12:00pm 6:00pm	Eucharist Baptisms Prayer for Healing
Wednesday 6	9:30am 10:30am 11:15am 12:00pm	Eucharist Ruckland Court Eucharist Ermine House Eucharist Lunch club in the hall
Thursday 7	7:00pm	Ermine Voices
Sunday 10	10:00am 2:30pm	Family Eucharist (St Barnabas) Ruckland Court Songs of Praise
Wednesday 13	9:30am 10:30am 1:00pm 2:00pm	Eucharist Choir practice Knit and natter Mothers Union service
Thursday 14	2:00pm 7:00pm	Transition group meeting Ermine Voices
Sunday 17	10:00am 6:00pm	Eucharist Benediction
Tuesday 19	7:00pm	Archive meeting
Wednesday 20	9:30am 12:00pm	Eucharist Lunch club in the hall
Thursday 21	9:00am 2:45pm 7:00pm	Philippa taking assembly at St Francis school Fr Stephen taking assembly at Ermine Primary Ermine Voices
Friday 22	2:00pm	EASA conference at St John's

### **AT THE PCC**

At last week's PCC meeting, we welcomed Philip Howell and Joy Jillings to their first meeting, along with Clive Kettley our independent examiner. Clive came along to outline his role as independent examiner of our accounts and to explain how he had presented the accounts in our annual report. We are delighted that Clive has agreed to act as our independent examiner next year.

We discussed how we should use the recent bequest money we had received. The PCC decided to use some of it to replace the church hall front door as this had needed doing for some time, and to place the rest of the money into our reserves. Although we are doing well in paying our parish share, the PCC also agreed to increase the amount we pay each month to ensure we are kept on track to meet the full amount by the end of the year.

Fr Stephen reported on the work of the transition group in their planning for the interregnum. The group have been working very hard to ensure that everything we can plan for is covered and have started to think about how to put a parish profile together (this is a bit like a job description for a new priest, but includes information about the area, the church, our pattern of services, the vicarage, etc). We noted that we now need people who can help to lead, or represent the church at: Women's World Day of Prayer, Christian Aid, Ermine Community Action Group, Ermine Music and the Electoral roll – more information about these next week, but if you are interested in getting involved with any of these, please do ask. We also heard about plans to ensure that the JJs Messy Church activities can continue once Philippa has moved to her new post.

The PCC also discussed the implications for the church of the new Data Protection laws that come into force on May 26<sup>th</sup>. This requires us to think carefully about the information we hold on people, whether we should be holding it, how securely it is held and who has access to it. Danny Holt has been doing a lot of work of this for us, and presented a privacy policy to the PCC (every organisation now has to have one) which was accepted; he had also produced a flow chart identifying the types of information we have and how we should deal with it. We spent a long time on this topic as it throws up a number of questions for us, but we are delighted that, with Danny's expertise, we are already well advanced in our planning and thinking. The privacy notice will be published in the bulletin and displayed on the notice board.

We noted that the next meeting of the PCC will be Philippa and Fr Stephen's last meetings with the PCC. Phil Betts was elected as lay chair of the PCC at the annual meeting and so he will share the chairing of the next meeting with Fr Stephen.

If you would like any more information about the issues we discussed at the PCC meeting, please ask any of the PCC members who were present: Liz Straw, Jackie Howell, Philip Howell, Revd Philippa White, Danny Holt, Sue Fleshbourne, Tim Wright, Joy Jillings and Fr Stephen.

### **FR STEPHEN'S RETIREMENT AND WHAT HAPPENS NEXT.**

A number of people have been asking some questions about what happens when Fr Stephen retires, so hopefully this will answer some of those questions. If there is something that is not covered here, please do ask. The Transition group have been doing a lot of work to prepare for the interregnum to make sure that as much as possible carries on as usual.

**When is Fr Stephen actually leaving?**

His final Sunday will be on 23<sup>rd</sup> September and he will then be taking a week's leave. His official retirement date is October 1<sup>st</sup> and he and Sheila will be moving during that week.

### **How is a new incumbent appointed?**

Nothing can happen until Fr Stephen has left. The Archdeacon of Lincoln, Gavin Kirk, will meet with the PCC in October to work with them on the next steps.

It goes something like this:

The Diocese agree to make a full time appointment to the post

The PCC put together a parish profile – this includes information about the parish, the Vicarage, the estate, and what sort of person you are looking for (churchmanship, experience, personal qualities, etc.)

The Archdeacon agrees the parish profile and wording for an advert to go into Church Times and on the diocesan website.

The PCC appoints a selection panel, who, with the Archdeacon, will shortlist the applications. The panel could just be PCC members, or a mix of members and people from the congregation (no more than 4). It should include the churchwardens. The selection panel will interview prospective candidates with the Archdeacon, and possibly the Dean of the Cathedral or the Bishop (the parish's patrons are the Bishop and Dean alternating – as Fr Stephen was appointed by the Bishop, it is technically the Dean's turn to be involved this time around).

At interviews, it is usual to hold an event at which congregation members can informally meet the candidates and their spouses (if any) and feedback their impressions to the selection panel. This could be an afternoon tea, or evening reception.

If an appointment is made, no announcement can be made to the parish until the candidate has accepted the post and all DBS checks and arrangements with the parish/diocese they are moving from have been concluded. From advertising to appointment, this process could take up to 12 months, or more, but it is important that the right appointment is made.

### **Do we get to interview the spouse of an applicant if there is one?**

No. Clergy spouses are not being employed by the diocese. It should not be taken for granted that a clergy spouse will want to be involved with the parish in any case. They may have their own job, or in some cases, not attend the church their spouse works with.

### **Can we specify that we would like someone with a family?**

No. It is a myth that a clergy family with children will inspire other families to attend church – it may be the case, but it will depend much more on the interests and personality of the incumbent. A single person could be very talented at encouraging young people to engage with God.

## **How do we keep things going in the meantime?**

The churchwardens working with the Transition group, Jackie, our reader, and the parish administrator will be responsible for the running of the church:

Sunday morning services and Wednesday morning services will continue as usual. Jackie and Phil Betts are currently contacting local priests to put a rota together to ensure every service is covered. It is unlikely that we will be able to continue our pattern of evening services, however.

Our services at Ruckland Court and Ermine House, and the Songs of Praise at Ruckland Court will continue as usual with our Reader and Authorised Lay Ministers taking responsibility for these services.

Home communions and pastoral visiting will continue as usual.

The hymn sheets and weekly bulletin will continue to be produced each week

The parish administrator will act as a contact for all parish enquiries and ensure that the right person is contacted to answer a query (i.e. when schools might wish to use the church for harvest or Christmas services).

## **Who is in charge during an interregnum?**

The churchwardens carry the legal responsibility, but the Transition group will meet regularly to keep everyone informed and to co-ordinate what is going on.

## **Will the PCC continue to meet?**

The PCC should continue to meet as normal with a lay chair – Phil Betts was elected as lay chair at the annual meeting in April.

## **What happens to the Vicarage?**

The Diocesan Estate department takes responsibility for the Vicarage, for the payment of all utility bills and upkeep of the property. If there is a long interregnum, it is possible that the house may be made available for a short term let (6 months) until a new incumbent is appointed. However, the churchwardens may retain a key for checking of post and to ensure upkeep of the garden if a let is not made.

## **EASA CONFERENCE**

On June 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will be welcoming delegates from the Ecclesiastical Architects and Surveyors Association's summer conference which will be taking place in Lincoln for four days in June. For their afternoon session on the Friday of the conference, delegates will visit St John's. They will hear a presentation from Fr Stephen about the church and its story and from Diana Coulter about the work of Keith New (who designed our window). This will take place in the church, and following the presentations, the conference will move into the church hall for a question and answer session and refreshments. We will need a lot of help on this afternoon please, specifically:

Serving refreshments in the hall

Helping to get the hall ready and clearing up (quickly!) afterwards

Putting out a display of some of our archive materials.

If you can help with any of this, please do have a word with Fr Stephen. This is an important conference and I would like us to show just how hospitable we can be!  
Many thanks.



**Ermine Family Fun Day**

St John's Church & Church Hall  
Laughton Way - 26<sup>th</sup> May 2018  
12pm - 3:30pm

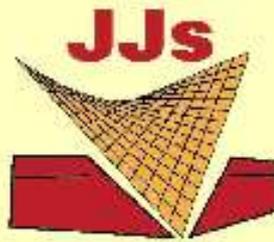
activities for all including

- ▶ 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



Ermine, Lincoln



*St John's Juniors @ the Pringle Church*



**to the Church!**

**WEDNESDAY 30<sup>th</sup> MAY**

**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**