



Thoughts, notices and reminders
December 17 2017

You are the Father who welcomes home
The prodigal who has wandered far
You are the Father who prepares a meal
When others would simply ignore
You are the Father whose love extends
Beyond our thoughts or minds
You are the Father who knows our hearts
And yet loves us as we are
You are the Father whose word we trust
In whose presence we have no fear
You are the Father whose tender touch
Makes a wounded spirit whole
You are the Father whose only Son
Was born that he might die
You are the Father whose gracious love
We celebrate this day.

John Birch

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 Advent 3 O Wisdom	Health care services; Social Workers Residents of: Nene Road, Nocton Drive, Oxen Park Close, Pietermaritz Street, Pietermaritz View	TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH JUSTICE – WE PRAY FOR TRANSFORMATION DURING ADVENT
Monday O Adonai	Work with children and young people on the estate Residents of: Pine Close, Queen Elizabeth Road, Queen Mary Road	THE BISHOP OF GRIMSBY The Rt Revd Dr David Court
Tuesday O Root of Jesse	The PCC and Parish officers Phil Betts, David Rudeforth, Sue Young, PCC members Residents of: Ravendale Drive, Redbourne Drive, Retief Close, Retief View	ARCHDEACON OF STOW & LINDSEY The Ven. Mark Steadman
Wednesday O key of David	Community Police and Neighbourhood Watch Residents of: Ridge View, Riseholme Road, Riverton Close, Riverton View	THE DIOCESAN ACCOUNTS & FINANCE TEAM
Thursday O Morning Star	Rachel Fleshbourne, our parish administrator; Lenton Green and Cathedral View Court Residents of: Rolleston Close, Rothwell Road, Roughton Court, Ruckland Avenue	DIOCESAN ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE
Friday O King of the nations	Lincoln Castle Academy; Yarborough Leisure Centre and the Sports Hub Residents of: Rusland Close, Rushlip Close, Sanders Close, Sanders View	THE DIOCESAN CHILDREN AND YOUTH TEAM
Saturday O Emmanuel	Organist, Choir, vergers and servers Residents of: Scopwick Place, Searby Road, Sedgebrook Close, Stainton Gardens	HUMAN RESOURCES AND CLERGY APPOINTMENTS

Give thanks for:	The work of the Children's Society
Special prayers this week for:	The people of the DR Congo facing starvation in the Kasai region Our preparations for the Christmas services
People in need:	Mary Bayston, Vicki and Terry Barnes, Betty Hoy, Doug Bradley, Fr John Clark, Ann Gray, Jan Hunter, Sarah Lusby, Sheila Lusby, Joan Pratt, Doug and Anita, Vanessa Williamson, Gerrard
Rest in peace:	Vera Coles
Remembering:	Keith Clark, Thomas Edwards

Coming up this week:

Sunday 17	10:00am 6:00pm	Eucharist Carol service
Tuesday 19	7:00pm	Advent stations
Wednesday 20	9:30am	Eucharist
Thursday 21	1:30pm	Bingo and coffee in the church hall
Saturday 23	10:00am 11:15am	Christingle making Ruckland Court Carol service
Sunday 24	10:00am 6:00pm 11:45pm	Eucharist Christingle service Midnight Mass

Coming up soon:

Monday 25	10:00am	Mass of the Nativity
Tuesday 26	9:30am	Eucharist
Wednesday 27	9:30am	Eucharist with prayer for healing
Thursday 28	9:30am	Eucharist
Sunday 31	10:00am	Eucharist
Wednesday 3	9:30am 10:30am 11:15am 12:00pm	Eucharist Ruckland Court Eucharist Ermine House Eucharist Lunch club in the hall
Sunday 7	10:00am 11:30am 6:00pm	Family Eucharist (Epiphany) Standing committee New Year party at the Vicarage
Monday 8	9:30am	Deanery Chapter meeting at St John's
Tuesday 9	4:30pm	Choir practice Church windows being cleaned inside and out 1
Wednesday 10	9:30am 10:30am 1:00pm 7:00pm	Eucharist Mothers Union Knit and natter Archive group meeting
Thursday 11	9:00am 10:30am 7:00pm	Fr Stephen taking assembly at St Francis school Transition group meeting Ermine Voices rehearsal
Sunday 14	10:00am 2:30pm	Eucharist Ruckland Court Songs of Praise
Tuesday 16	7:00pm	Eucharist and PCC Meeting
Wednesday 17	9:30am 12:00pm	Eucharist Lunch club in the hall
Thursday 18	9:00am 1:30pm	Philippa taking assembly at St Francis Bingo and coffee in the church hall
Sunday 21	10:00am	Eucharist



JJs

St John's Juniors @ the Pringle Church

CHRISTMAS PARTY!

**Wednesday 20th
December**

**Craft activities at 11.00
Free lunch at 12.30**

St John's Church Hall, Laughton Way

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

CHRISTINGLE MAKING

Don't forget that we are putting our Christingles on the Saturday in church at 10:00am – we have 120 to make, so please do come along and lend a hand if you have some time to spare that morning!

CHURCH HEATING

There have been several instances recently when the church heating timer has been switched to “off” and not to “timer”. When this happens, it means that the heating will not come on at the timed settings for services, making the church very cold and difficult to heat quickly. Please make sure that if you have changed the heating setting from “timer” that it is reset to “timer” before you leave the church.

ANNUAL REPORT

Just after Christmas we will need to start putting our annual report together. The last date for all reports to be in will be by Wednesday 7th February – this gives us a couple of weeks to put the whole report together (this is a big job!). So, as soon as the Christmas and New Year festivities are over, it will time to start putting pen to paper (or fingers to keyboards, which doesn't sound nearly so good!)

RESIDENTIAL HOMES

We have now delivered Christmas cards for each of the residents at Ermine House and Ruckland Court, and will be taking those for people at the Refuge this week.

ADVENT STATIONS

This week will be your last opportunity to walk the Advent Stations. Tuesday at 7:00pm is the time and date to note in your diary and Fr Ruben will be leading the stations. This 40 minute devotion is a good way to reflect on the great themes in Advent of waiting, expectation, hope and incarnation in preparation for Christmas.

POPPY APPEAL

We have just heard from the British Legion that we raised £17.60 for the Poppy Appeal from the poppies available in church, contributing to the district total of £41,752.



NEW YEAR PARTY

Everyone is warmly invited to our New Year Party at the Vicarage on Sunday 7th January from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. No tickets, just turn up with some food or drink to share and be prepared for Fr Stephen's fiendish New Year quiz!



YOUR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Many thanks to everyone for your donations for our charity War Child.
Your Christmas greetings have raised £116 so far for the charity!

We wish all of you a very happy Christmas and a new year filled with God's blessings!
We have been so happy to be part of all of you here at St John's and wish you every blessing as we await together the coming of Jesus this Christmas.

Fr Ruben, Amy, Gabriele and Raffaele

Wishing all of my friends a lovely Christmas and a very happy New Year.

With love as always from Joy

To all at St John's church have a happy and spiritual Christmas and a prosperous New Year

Olive Musson

A peaceful and happy Christmas and New Year to everyone at St John's. Thank you all for your help over the past year.

Ian and Sue Young

We wish all the people at St Johns a Merry Christmas and happy New Year, with plenty of music!

From the Millward family

Wishing everyone at St John's a joyful Christmas and a happy and healthy new year for 2018.

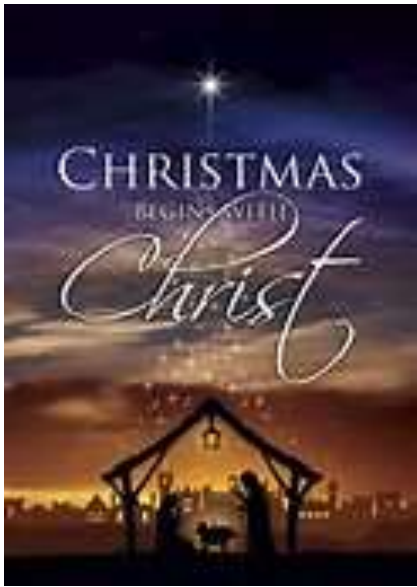
Liz Straw and Ann Allen

A Joyous and peaceful Christmas to everyone.

Brian and Christine

All our best wishes for a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year

David and Rosemary Rudeforth



Love and Peace at Christmas and for the future.
Annette, John, Nicole Oliver and Gareth

Wishing all at St John's a happy and peaceful Christmastide.
Paul and Hazel

Merry Christmas to everyone
From Philippa, Ed and Gregory

Happy Christmas to everyone at St John's and best wishes
for the New Year
Sue Fleshbourne

Love and peace not just at Christmas but all year round.

Jackie and Philip

Wishing everyone at St John's and your families a very Merry Christmas and happy
2018.

Tim Wright

With our prayer and blessing for you all at Christmas and our hopes for a wonderful
new year in 2018

Fr Stephen and Sheila

Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year we hope it is filled with love and
peace.

David, Rachel and Martha

To all our friends and neighbours at St John's, we wish you all the very best for
Christmas and 2018. Celebrate, enjoy and above all stay safe.

Phil and Odette Betts

22nd Lincoln Brownies and 3rd Lincoln Guides wish you all a Happy Christmas and
best wishes for the New Year.



THE LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true:
To you be praise and glory for ever.
Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth
as a burning and shining light.
May we your servants rejoice in his light,
and so be led to witness to him,
who is Lord of our coming kingdom,
Jesus our Saviour and King of the ages.
Blessed be God forever.

The third Advent Candle is lit in silence, then we say together

**Lord Jesus, light of the world
John told the people to prepare,
for you were very near.
As Christmas grows closer day by day,
help us to be ready to welcome you now.**

We sing

Come my Lord, my light, my way
Come my lantern, night and day
Come my healer, make me whole,
Come my Saviour, protect my soul.
Come my King, enter my heart
Come Prince of Peace and never depart