



From the Curate

The Reverend Sonia Marshall

Dear Friends,

There have been too many days of late when it has been painful to switch on the news headlines or pick up a paper. The national news has been dominated by cuts, cuts and yet more cuts ... international news by threats of terrorism and cyber warfare ... and religious news by suggestions that the Church of England is 'in crisis'. Meanwhile those who keep an eye on weather conditions and the migration of birds have reported the arrival of [Bewick swans](#) from Siberia a full three weeks earlier than usual heralding a harsh winter. What a prospect as we face the fading of the light and the shorter, darker days of this month!

November has traditionally been a month for remembering ... not merely the [conspiracy of 1604/5](#) which so aggravated relations between denominations in this country ... but more importantly those who have given their all for the love of their country, its freedom and justice ... not forgetting our own loved ones and friends who have moved on to the greater light of God's presence.

Of all the occasions to remember this month the most significant is the one we celebrate on Sunday 21st, [the feast of Christ the King](#). On that day we are reminded that, despite the ups and downs of our present existence, Christ is in control ... our future is ultimately in his hands. Death and dying are serious matters and many find them difficult to talk about. But if we and those we love have died with Christ (as signified by our baptism) we will also rise with him ... winter will, in God's good time, give way to spring. Christ is the King - let men rejoice!

Sonia Marshall.

Parish Directory

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Churchwardens		churchwarden@dsj.org.uk
	Tony Masters	
	Adrian Hallam	
Assistant Churchwardens	John Worthington	
	Doris Bellairs	
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Vice-Chairman	Adrian Hallam	
Hon. Secretary	Roger Bridgeman	
Hon. Treasurer	Simon Marshall	treasurer@dsj.org.uk
Covenant Secretary	Peter Wilde	
Electoral Roll Officer	Kim Hallam	
Synod Members		
Diocesan Synod	Canon Niccy Fisher	
	<i>The above plus</i>	
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	Simon Marshall	
	Cled Bennett	
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Temporary Organist	Philip Spratley	
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Church Ladies' Fellowship	Anthea Wray	
Church Coffee Group	Carole Mills	
	Margaret Flegg	
Church Flowers	Pauline Brooksbank	
	Christine Masters	
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In This Month's Priory News ...

Dear All,

As you can see, this month's edition has a lean and hungry look.

I'm hoping that our Christmas edition will be back to full strength. To achieve this, we need your support. Whether you're a regular contributor or a first-timer, please let me have your items for inclusion by 19th November. If you need any help, please feel free to contact me by [email](#) or phone.

I have been in touch with Revd. Janet Donaldson and she is looking forward to joining us in January. She has kindly agreed to write an article for Priory News in the near future, introducing herself. You might be interested to read about The Benefice of the Knights & Hospitallers Parishes (www.knights-hospitallers.org.uk), where Janet is currently Rector.

Warmest wishes,
Bet.

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The choir are in dire straits due to a shortage of members. As a result our carol services this year are in jeopardy. Please read [John's article](#) and see if you can help. (P7)

[Join Tony](#) as he recalls a wet but memorable day with Christine, rambling around Coniston in the Lake District. (P6)

Oh, yum - [Chocolate Muffins!!](#) (P10)

Cover picture: Part of the Harvest floral display organised by Pauline, Christine and their team.

[Picture courtesy of Bet Washbrooke.]

Thank you to those who have sent in articles for Priory News. Contributions and suggestions are very welcome. Please let us have your prayers, poems, pictures, comments, reminiscences and anything else you'd like to share. ***NB: pictures containing recognisable children must be accompanied by authorisation to publish from their parents or guardians. We will not publish the names of children pictured unless specifically requested to do so by their parents or guardians.***

Please send copy to:

priorynews@dsj.org.uk

Please let us have your contributions for the December edition of Priory News BEFORE the deadline, Friday 19th November. Thank you for your help.

Church Calendar November 2010

2 nd	Tuesday	<u>Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)</u>	
3 rd	Wednesday	<u>Richard Hooker, Priest, Anglican Apologist, Teacher, 1600</u>	
4 th	Thursday	9:30am	Holy Communion followed by Home Communion
		7:45pm	Church Ladies' Fellowship
5 th	Friday	<i>Practice Night:</i>	
		6:45pm	Choir
		7:30pm	Ringers
THE THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT			
7 TH	SUNDAY	10:00am	Sung Eucharist
		6:00pm	Evening Prayer
8 th	Monday	<i>The <u>Saints</u> and <u>Martyrs</u> of England</i>	
10 th	Wednesday	<u>Leo the Great, Bishop of Rome, Teacher, 461</u>	
11 th	Thursday	<u>Martin, Bishop of Tours, c.397</u>	
		9:30am	Holy Communion
12 th	Friday	<i>Practice Night:</i>	
		6:45pm	Choir
		7:30pm	Ringers
13 th	Saturday	<u>Charles Simeon, Priest, Evangelical Divine, 1836</u>	
THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT (REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY)			
14 TH	SUNDAY	8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:00am	Sung Eucharist
		3:00pm	Service of Remembrance
		6:00pm	Evening Prayer
16 th	Tuesday	<u>Margaret, Queen of Scotland, Reformer, 1093</u>	
17 th	Wednesday	<u>Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, 1200</u>	
18 th	Thursday	<u>Elizabeth of Hungary, Princess of Thuringia, 1231</u>	
		9:30am	Holy Communion
		7:45pm	Church Ladies' Fellowship
19 th	Friday	<i>Practice Night:</i>	
		6:45pm	Choir
		7:30pm	Ringers
20 th	Saturday	<u>Edmund, King of the East Angles, Martyr, 870</u>	
CHRIST THE KING (THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT)			
21 ST	SUNDAY	10:00am	Sung Eucharist with Holy Baptism
		6:00pm	Evening Prayer

23 rd	Tuesday		<u><i>Clement, Bishop of Rome, Martyr, c.100</i></u>
25 th	Thursday	9:30am	Holy Communion
			<i>Practice Night:</i>
26 th	Friday	6:45pm	Choir
		7:30pm	Ringers
27 th	Saturday	2:00pm	Wedding Blessing: Michael and Carol Baczkur
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (COMMON WORSHIP YEAR A BEGINS)			
28 TH	SUNDAY	8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:00am	Sung Eucharist
		6:00pm	TBA
30 th	Tuesday		<u><i>Andrew the Apostle, Patron of Scotland</i></u>
2 nd Dec	Thursday	9:30am	Holy Communion followed by Home Communion
		7:45pm	Church Ladies' Fellowship
			<i>Practice Night:</i>
3 rd Dec	Friday	6:45pm	Choir
		7:30pm	Ringers
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT			
5 TH DEC	SUNDAY	10:00am	Sung Eucharist
		6:00pm	Evening Prayer

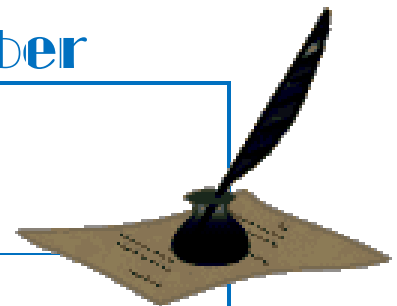
Registers for September

BAPTISMS: *We welcome into the Lord's family:*

12th Freya Anne Pollendine
Faith Emily Harwood

WEDDINGS: *We congratulate:*

4th Michael James Turner and Rachel Linda Cliffe
17th Stewart Hill and Jessica Louise Jellis
18th Christopher Joseph Brown and Rebecca Louise Hamilton



HOUSE GROUP
7:30pm Wednesdays
at 45 Crowson Way, DSJ.
All welcome!



You may recall that in last month's magazine Sonia referred to the difficulties of finding a way through a maze in the context of penance. I suppose the idea of penance is rather out of fashion these days but it certainly crossed my mind recently as I stood, with my boots full of water, watching my wife struggling through a swamp. Yet the day had started promisingly enough. We were on a walking holiday in the [Lake District](#), staying in a rented cottage in [Coniston](#). As we enjoy fell walking we were out whenever the weather permitted and on our last day we decided to traverse the High Man Ridge, which runs parallel to Coniston Water's western shore. Described in the guide book as a medium walk of about 7 miles and an easy climb (only about 1000ft), it sounded a safe and easy bet for our final day as we planned to drive home that evening.

Having begun our walk along a narrow path beside a meadow we found within half a mile that the footpath had been diverted; not too surprising, as we were using a very old guide book. Then, mysteriously, we found ourselves in silent, dark and claustrophobic woodland, ascending a flight of ancient, wide and mossy stone stairs alongside a garden and possibly once part of it. Somewhere within the garden, hidden among the dense surrounding trees and hedges, must surely have lurked a house and in such an eerie setting I could see in my mind's eye



Coniston Fells from the open fell, some time before we entered the forest and endured the swamps. Not very inspiring - it wasn't a good walk for viewpoints - or anything else, come to that!

[Photo courtesy of Tony Masters.]

that it ought to be a place of turrets and towers, architecture of such gothic extravagance that it would frighten the Goths. Alas we were unable to see it, so completely was it hidden from the path, but perhaps it was better left to the imagination since the reality would probably be disappointing. Eventually we stumbled out of the woods and the increasingly muddy footpath, on to a minor road.

We tramped up the tarmac, steadily gaining height, and at the top of the hill crossed a stile to gain the open fell. From here at last we had some open views, looking across Coniston Water to the heights of the Coniston fells opposite. After a while we had to skirt a large area of bog, an ominous warning of what was to follow because we now plunged in to an unpleasant forest of dense conifers, typical of Forestry

Commission planting. What dreadful places these are; no light, no birds, no landmarks, just regimented lines of conifers. The path was defined by a narrow fire break between the trees and grew progressively narrower and muddier. After a mile or two of this conversation faltered, spirits drooped. The trees and undergrowth closed in on both sides until at length we came to a swamp, which we couldn't avoid because the undergrowth on either side was just too thick. Going back was unthinkable so, nothing for it, I leapt across the drier parts only to come unstuck in one place as both feet sank in up to the ankles. As I stood there contemplating the sensation of cold water seeping through my socks I consulted the guide book again. "The middle section along the ridgeway of High Man is enclosed by forest but it has its own charm, despite being a little boggy in parts." Somehow the charm seemed to have evaporated long ago and as for being a little boggy – well, possibly something of an understatement.

I looked across to Christine as she staggered around in a similar condition- probably muttering under her breath about her husband's choice of route. Certainly this walk had turned in to a penance of sorts, but another thought crossed my mind; it was our wedding anniversary that day, who says I don't know how to give a girl a good time?

Tony Masters.



Thank You

Christine and I would like to thank everyone who gave of their time, energy and donations to make our church look so very "harvesty" during this Harvest season. We much appreciate it.

Thank you again.

Pauline Brooksbank.



[Our thanks to you and Christine too. The church looked splendid! Bet.]

Carols - A Plea for Help

Like me, do you look upon the start to our Christmas celebrations as being the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols? Ever since we arrived in Deeping, nearly twenty three years ago, this occasion has meant a great deal to Victoria and me and I know this feeling is shared by many in our choir and congregation and in the wider parish too. For my part, if I include all my past years as a music teacher, I have been involved annually in either organising or singing (or both), this form of service for over forty years! It is with great sadness, therefore, that I have to report that this year's Service, due to take place on 19th December, and also the earlier Advent Carol Service on 28th November, are in serious jeopardy - for the first time ever, I cannot begin to plan the kind of occasion



to which we have become accustomed because we are so desperately short of singers.

I have put out general requests for singers on several occasions in recent years, but sadly, in spite of being told by several in the congregation of others who have good voices, nobody has responded. Whether it is an unwillingness to be committed weekly, or whether it is because the choir is (wrongly) seen to be an elitist organisation, I do not know, but I do know that those few of us remaining still enjoy a good sing, friendship and a bit of fun. You may have noticed, though, that even our weekly Sunday anthem sometimes has to be changed, or even, as happened on one Sunday in October, cancelled. Several recent members have moved on to university but we cannot for ever rely upon their goodwill when returning home on vacation.

I have said it before and, at risk of becoming repetitive, I shall say it again: Christmas time is the ideal time to come and 'try out' singing with us - the music is enjoyable, highly singable and mostly well known. Also, I am quite prepared to arrange a trial session or two if that will help to dispel any feelings of inadequacy or embarrassment. What better way to begin our celebrations of our Lord's Birth than to sing about him in services which have become such a feature in the life of so many churches throughout the world? Can you, please, will you, please, join us? Please

John Worthington.

Church Hall Caretaker

Further to the PCC's last message on the subject of the Church Hall, the rôles that were previously undertaken by the Hall Manager have been split up. The functions of bookings, advertising and cleaning have been arranged. What the Hall now needs is a Caretaker. The rôle could be undertaken by one volunteer or several working together. The Hall has recently benefited from a major improvement to the domestic facilities and up-to-date sound and computer projection systems, making it a much needed venue for the Parish community and a source of income to keep itself maintained.

The Caretaker's rôle will be:-

- Meet hirer at hall to explain facilities etc.
- Arrange time for payment & key collection & return
- Set heating to suit lettings, arrange annual boiler service.
- Provide rubbish bags for cleaner & ensure disposal.
- Liaise with cleaner regarding re-stocking of cleaning supplies.
- Forward cleaner's time sheet each month to Treasurer for payment.
- Report any major repair requirements to churchwardens.

If you would be interested in this important Parish service or would like more information, please contact any member of the PCC.

Martin Jones (PCC Member).

Harvest Auction

On Sunday 3rd October, 56 adults and 5 children sat down to the traditional Harvest Lunch served by members of the church.

Lunch this year consisted of chicken pie with new potatoes and a selection of vegetables. This was followed by a choice of puddings, all washed down by a glass of wine or fruit juice.

After the meal, Trevor Harwood auctioned off all the produce that had earlier decorated the Church. He was assisted by Bill, Adrian and Simon.

Sonia thanked Margaret for preparing the meal.

We are pleased to say that the Auction raised £163.00 and the proceeds from the meal were £227.00. This made a grand total of £390.00 to be divided between Christian Aid and the Leprosy Mission.

Thank you to everyone involved.

Bill & Margaret Flegg.



Harvey's Festival



So often, when I read sayings attributed to young children, I have my doubts as to their authenticity. I can, however, vouch for the following from my grandson, Toby, who was dismayed to hear that his school's harvest festival was not going to be held in church this year:

"But Harvey's one of my best friends!!"

Bet Washbrooke.



Chocolate Muffins

Ingredients

- 2 eggs
- 200g caster sugar
- 130g plain flour
- 50g cocoa powder
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- pinch of salt
- 160ml full milk
- ¼ teaspoon vanilla extract
- 160g unsalted butter, melted
- 120g dark chocolate, roughly chopped

Method

1. Line a 12 hole muffin tin with paper cases.
2. Preheat oven 170°C/325°F/Gas 3
3. Wisk eggs and sugar until pale and combined.
4. In a bowl sift the flour, cocoa powder, baking powder and salt. In another bowl combine milk and vanilla. Gradually beat these two mixtures into the egg mix a little at a time until completely mixed.
5. Stir in the butter, then the chocolate.
6. Spoon mixture into the cases two thirds full. Bake for 30 minutes or until the sponge springs back when touched / a skewer inserted should come out clean.

Margaret Flegg.

Rotas for November

		Servers	Sidespersons	Intercessors
Sun 7 th	10:00 am	John Sellars Paul Boswall	Team C: Cled Bennett, Adrian Hallam, Tim Hitchborn	Sonia Marshall
Sun 14 th	8:00 am	Geoff Armstrong	George Knowles Ken Rimmer	
	10:00 am	Simon Marshall Chris Halley	Team D: Kim Hallam, Graham Hardy, Trevor Harwood	Martin Fisher
	3:00 pm	John Sellars		
Sun 21 st	10:00 am	Simon Marshall John Sellars	Team E: Liz Bridgeman, Bill Flegg, Margaret Flegg	Tony Masters
Sun 28 th	8:00 am	Geoff Armstrong	George Knowles Ken Rimmer	
	10:00 am	Paul Boswall Chris Halley	Team F: Doris Bellairs, Christine Masters, Val Wilde	John Marsh
	6:00 pm	TBA	Team A: Doris Bellairs, Mary Hamilton, Vivien Hamilton	
Sun 5 th Dec	10:00 am	TBA	Team B: Joy Cunningham, Ann Meekings	Niccy Fisher

		Bread & Wine	Sunday Coffee	Church Flowers	Church Cleaning	Brasses
Sun 7 th	10:00 am	Dick & Anthea Wray	Pat Feek Doris Warner	Mrs A Wall	Dick & Anthea Wray	
Sun 14 th	10:00 am	Martin & Niccy Fisher	Liz Spratley Linda Sellars	Remembrance Day	Josie Waghorn Joy Cunningham	
Sun 21 st	10:00 am	Pat Feek Doris Warner	Johanna Jones	Sue Marsh		Jean Shepherd Doris Bellairs
Sun 28 th	10:00 am	Bill & Margaret Flegg	John & Sue Marsh	Advent	Pat Feek Doris Warner	
Sun 5 th Dec	10:00 am	Peter & Val Wilde	Bill & Margaret Flegg	Advent		

Readings and Readers for November

		Old Testament		New Testament		Gospel Reading
		Reading	Reader	Reading	Reader	
SUN 7 TH	THE THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT					
	10:00 am	Job 19:23-27	John Marsh	2 Thessalonians 2:1-5,13-17	Niccy Fisher	Luke 20:27-38
SUN 14 TH	THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT (REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY)					
	8:00 am	Malachi 4:1-2		2 Thessalonians 3:6-13		Luke 21:5-19
	10:00 am		Liz Spratley		Peter Wilde	
SUN 21 ST	CHRIST THE KING (THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT)					
	10:00 am		[Baptism]	Colossians 1:11-20	Martin Fisher	John 6:1-15
SUN 28 TH	THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (COMMON WORSHIP YEAR A BEGINS)					
	8:00 am	Isaiah 2:1-5		Romans 13:11-14		Matthew 24:36-44
	10:00 am		Bill Flegg		Roger Bridgeman	
SUN 5 TH DEC	THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT					
	10:00 am	Isaiah 11:1-10	Liz Bridgeman	Romans 15:4-13	Adrian Hallam	Matthew 3:1-12



Bishop's Letter

Dear Friends

The Big Society

At a recent meeting of all the UK Bishops we were addressed by not one, but two Government Ministers responsible for promoting The Big Society. They were charming, at times eloquent and anxious to affirm the role of faith and faith communities in building a society conducive to the common good. But at the end of it all we were left little the wiser as to what The Big Society is, and how we might recognise it when we see it.

Sceptics see this vision as but a smoke screen for rolling back the State and cutting public expenditure by relying more and more on volunteers and local resourcing. Others are prepared to give the idea some benefit of the doubt. After all, don't local people know what is best for their locality, and isn't there a huge reservoir of good will waiting to be tapped as voluntary groups and committed individuals are freed from excessive top-down regulation in order to deliver services and enhance quality of life in the places where they live and for which they have a care? Isn't the upcoming Decentralisation and Localism Bill simply another version of love your neighbour as yourself?

It is certainly a fact that Churches across Lincolnshire have been promoting The Big Society in practice for many centuries - even if they did not describe it in those terms. We have not always trumpeted our achievements, and there is some truth in the observation that Anglicans go about doing good, and hope others will guess the reason why!

Taking with us into the Church the concerns which affect our local community, and then going out from Church strengthened to address those concerns is crucial to who we are as the people of God, and if Government has now seen the sense of that and chooses to re-brand it as The Big Society then all well and good.

However, there is a worrying contradiction at the heart of current policy initiatives. For The Big Society to work it needs to ensure that volunteers are supported, resourced and sometimes trained to do what is being asked of them. Government cuts seem destined to impact severely on centrally funded voluntary sector agencies which provide that back-up, and take responsibility for ensuring overall good practice and accountability. As our Diocese relies more and more on Voluntary Ministers to take forward our mission, so we have invested more and more in the training and support of those Ministers. Like Grace, The Big Society is free - but it isn't cheap!

+ John Lincoln