



View from the Curate's House

As you will probably know Churches Together are heavily involved in the development of a foodbank for the Deepings area. Over the last year or so many of the clergy in the area and organisations such as the Citizens Advice Bureau had noticed an increase in the number of people experiencing financial difficulty, who were coming and asking for support. These people were struggling to keep a roof over their heads, and to pay the ever-increasing costs of heating and lighting etc. As a result they found themselves running out of money to pay for other necessities such as food. Information from the charity, Christians against Poverty, seems to support this analysis as their statistics reveal that the average credit card debt of people coming to them for support was £28,000. When Churches Together discussed the matter it decided that something had to be done to help those in need in our community and the idea of setting up a foodbank took shape.

The response of the churches, schools and organisations to the planned foodbank has been tremendous. Charitable grants, donations from churches and monetary gifts from individuals have flooded in and we hope to be opening the Deepings Foodbank at the Deepings School by the end of November.

One of the most encouraging aspects of our fundraising has been the support of our young people for this project. Without any prompting, two of our primary schools have donated their Harvest Celebration gifts to the Foodbank. I went to one school to receive their gifts and took a number of beautifully decorated boxes, filled with foodstuffs to our temporary food store (the Old Vicarage) only to be called to ask when I was going to take the rest of the donations. It turned out that the school had presented me with some token boxes in the service but they also had a classroom filled with bags and boxes of pasta, biscuits, cereal, tins etc. which the children had collected for the project. The following day another school phoned to say that it had another huge donation of food for the foodbank and this was gratefully received by one of the foodbank committee.

The generosity of people didn't stop there, as churches such as our own also gave the proceeds from their harvest lunches and auctions to the foodbank. Certain commercial organisations in the area have also expressed an interest in supporting the project. At the end of the month we will be working with Tesco's in Market Deeping who have offered to support us as part of a national 3 day event supporting foodbanks.

There is a lot of work still to do before the foodbank can be officially launched and become operational and if you would like to get involved please let me know. Please can I also ask you to support the project in your prayers, praying for a successful launch, for all those who have volunteered to help and most of all for all the families and individuals who find themselves in need of the service.

Every blessing

Reverend Mark

Parish Directory

Priest in Charge	Vacancy- Please contact either Revd Sonia or Revd Mark	- see below -
Curate	The Revd Sonia Marshall	curate@dsj.org.uk
Joint Curate with Market Deeping	The Revd Mark Thomson	revmarkthomson@stguthlacs.org.uk
Churchwarden	Martin Fisher	churchwarden@dsj.org.uk
Assistant Churchwardens	Liz Spratley John Worthington Doris Bellairs	
Parochial Church Council		
Chairman	Chris Halley	
Vice-Chairman	Martin Fisher	
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>	
Deanery Synod	The Reverend Sonia Marshall Simon Marshall	
Choir Master	John Worthington	music@dsj.org.uk
Organist	Philip Spratley	organist@dsj.org.uk
Organisations		
Bellringers	Hilary Gentle	ringers@dsj.org.uk
Church Hall Bookings	Jo-Anne Thomson	churchhall@dsj.org.uk
Church Ladies' Fellowship	Pat Abel	
Church Coffee Group	Jane Thompson Margaret Flegg	
Church Flowers	Pauline Brooksbank Christine Masters	
House Group	Doris Warner	
Rose & Sweet Pea Show	TBA	roseandsweetpea@dsj.org.uk
Junior Church	Andrea Gamman	juniorchurch@dsj.org.uk
Priory News		
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Advertising	John Marsh	
Printing	John Worthington	
Distribution	Doris Bellairs	
Webmaster	Adrian Hallam	webmaster@dsj.org.uk



In this Month's Priory News ...

Dear All,

As the days shorten, the clocks go back, the nights lengthen and the temperatures begin to fall there is also the exciting and not unexpected news that fuel prices are rising again. Christmas decorations and goods are already in the shops but, sadly, once again the real truth of Christmas seems rarely to be featured. This month sees our annual Service, "Remembering Our Loved Ones" and also our Remembrance Day Service and soon after that, the season of Advent will be with us. However, I'm getting ahead of myself. . .

Our occasional column, 'Faithbook', reappears this month, thanks to John Fisher, and there is also a chance to hear about Jill Ironside and her family in 'Getting to Know You'. Finally, there is news of some forthcoming events. All in all, we hope there is something for everyone.

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P.S. In case you are wondering, I am assured that Margaret's Apple Cake is different from the one she gave us a little while ago, but it does offer a solution for making use of the apples which we haven't been able to make into cider!

John

Since nobody volunteered any assistance with the cider-making, Margaret has found another good use for your apples!

Thanks to John Marsh whose cover photo reminds us how beautiful this time of year is. This picture was actually taken last year.

Thanks to those who have sent articles for Priory News. Please keep them coming. ***Please note: 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.***

John Worthington, Cranmore Farmhouse, DSJ - Tel: 343860 priorynews@dsj.org.uk
*In view of the time of year, please let us have your contributions for the December edition of Priory News **BEFORE** the earlier deadline of **Monday 18th. November.***

Dates for your Diary....

- *Pre-Advent Coffee Morning*

This will take place on Thursday 28th November after between 10-00am and 11-15am. There will also be a Raffle, a Chocolate Tombola and a Cake Stall.

The cost of £2-00 will include Coffee and Mince Pies.

Bill and Margaret Flegg

- *Mission Matters*

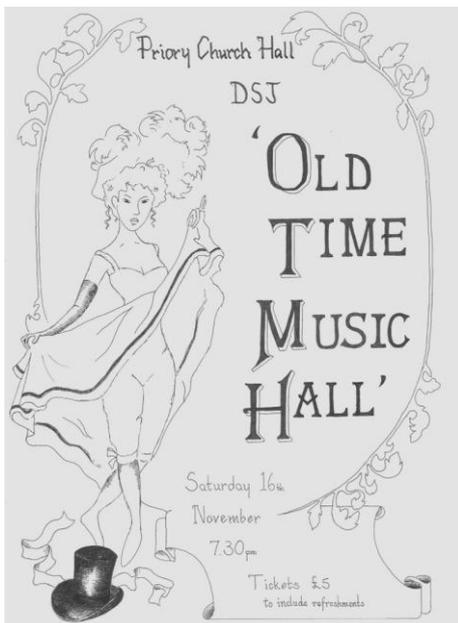
As winter grows closer and the colder weather begins to bite we are reminded of the many needs of the homeless.

Thank you for all your support over the years; unfortunately they still need our help with blankets, sleeping bags, duvets and warm clothing. Jeans are also very much in demand and any tinned food you are able to donate. We were richly blessed by a very generous gift of Harvest goods from the local 1st. Eagle Cubs for which we are very grateful.

If you would like to wrap up a small gift for Christmas for the homeless, e.g. gloves, hats, scarves etc., it would be great. Any contributions can be placed in Fred's box at the back of church. Any queries, contact 01778 348110.

Pat Feek

Old Time Music Hall



Don't forget our Old Time Music Hall on Saturday, 16th. November. Tickets are now available from Cledwyn Bennett, price £5.00. It may not be polished but we can guarantee some fun and laughter. Rehearsals have already started, so please come and support us.

Knit and Natter

Please note there will be no more Knit and Natter sessions this year. They will resume in the new year

Victoria

- *Calling all primary school children*

Design a Christmas Card and see your work in print!

What we would like you to do:

1. Draw a picture with a Christmas theme no bigger than 10cm x 15cm. You may use crayons, felt tips or paint;
2. Take your finished picture and put it in the Christmas Card Competition box in the Priory Church. Remember to attach your name, age and telephone number;
3. Make sure you put your picture in the box by Friday, 8th. November.

We should like to print one or two of the pictures to use as Christmas Cards to sell in church. There will be a small prize for the winner(s).

So, start now and get drawing!

The Mission Committee

GAUDETE! – Christmas concert by Freshe Ayre.

3pm, Sunday 15th December, Priory Church, Deeping St James

What musical goodies will be unwrapped at this year's Christmas Concert? There will be tunes we know and love, including a witty new arrangement called 'Let's have a ding dong'. There is a jovial piece from the 12th century and of course the concert includes 'Gaudete,' the 16th century carol made so popular in 1973 by the electric folk group Steeleye Span. Other offerings are more intriguing: Just how do a wolf with rabies, a French girl on a donkey and Ilkley Moor fit in? There's only one way to find out!

Freshe Ayre will be playing recorders plus unusual early instruments such as cornemuse, rotte and rebec. Modern keyboard, oboe, flute and trombone will also make an appearance this year. The group, Philip and Jo Astle, Ann Wright, Victoria and John Worthington will be joined by the baritone Bryan Jones and there will also be several opportunities for the audience to have a hearty sing!

The proceeds from last year's concert helped the charity 'Stronger Together' provide proper Christmas dinners for over 70 homeless people and we'd love to do even better this year. With your support we can - so bring your friends, neighbours and relations and get Christmas off to a great start.

Tickets Adult £6 Child £4 include light refreshments and are available from 01778 346879 or 343860 or at the door.

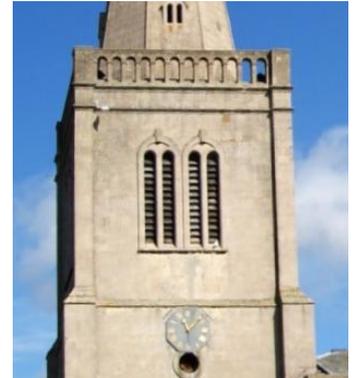
Philip Astle

Reports from Church Groups

- *News from the Tower*

(We have had no news from the Tower this month although Friday evenings and Sunday mornings still regularly resound with the sound of the bells.

We look forward to some news next month. In the meantime, let's hope that the ringers keep up the good work, and our thanks to you all for maintaining such an important tradition in our village. John.)



- *Church Decoration At Harvest*

Once again our church was decorated beautifully at Harvest and we want to thank everyone who contributed to this. We are fortunate to have a dedicated band of workers. Thank you very much.

Pauline and Christine

- *Flower Rota 2014*

It's that time of year again when I will soon be preparing the rota for 2014 for altar flowers. Presumably ladies, you are all quite happy to continue providing altar flowers on similar dates to this year. If for any reason you would like to change, please let me know and I will do my best to help. If there are any ladies new to the Priory Church and would also like to provide flowers in memory of any loved ones, then please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Christine Masters

Other Reports and News

- *Book of Recipes*

In 1913 the Market Deeping Guild of Help published a Book of Recipes to raise money for the Church. In 2013 we have reprinted these recipes with some detail about the women who submitted them and some lovely photos of old Deeping - these are now on sale for £4.99 each (they are similar in style to the Gardening in Deeping St James - the story so far). I am taking orders or they can be obtained at Callows, DSJ Post Office and the Community Centre.

Judy Stevens

- *News from Revd. Janet*

I thought that members of the Priory Church might like to know that I bought a beautiful Georgian style wooden music stand with the vouchers given by the parishioners. I think some photos taken when three of the ladies visited Welford for the day will soon come your way too, by way of illustration. I also bought a digital tuner to help with tuning stringed instruments, and a wooden recorder stand which holds 5 recorders. Alistair and I went up to the Salts Mill in Bradford, where the Early Music Shop has its premises, to look around. This was an interesting visit in itself because the mill is converted into various units, with a lovely art gallery and a good restaurant. The railway line runs just beside the mill, so you can imagine Alistair's delight when a steam train drove by.

I am not playing recorders at present, but I am conducting a choir once a fortnight.

We have been warmly welcomed here, and I am enjoying the country driving, as I am 20 minutes from the furthest Church. We recently had a Harvest Festival on a farm, and were very fortunate indeed, sitting outside on hay bales without our coats; it was such a lovely autumn day.

I would like to thank everyone at the Priory church for their kind gift, which will certainly be put to good use.

With every blessing,

Revd Janet



Diocesan Synod Digest *of the meeting held on Saturday 28 September 2013 at Chapter House, Lincoln Cathedral.*

The Bishop of Lincoln's Presidential Address introduced the motion "**That this Synod supports the vision and direction of the Diocese of Lincoln as Faithful, Confident, Joyful**".

The Bishop's address can be viewed here: diocese.se/synodfcj

The Bishop's mission statement for the diocese is: "**To respond to the love of God as faithful worshipping communities and as confident disciples of Jesus Christ, joyfully serving and witnessing to him in the world through the power of the Holy Spirit**".

The motion was voted for unanimously.

Matters arising: There were no matters arising.

Air Vice-Marshal Canon Paul Robinson was welcomed by the Chair, the Revd Canon John Patrick, and reported that the Central Services Review had been conducted as agreed by Synod in October 2012, and had made some radical proposals.

(Continued on page 13)

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER 2013

1st	Friday	ALL SAINTS' DAY Practice Night: 6:45 pm Choir 7:30 pm Ringers
2nd	Saturday	All Souls' Day. Commemoration of the Faithful Departed
3rd	SUNDAY	Fourth Sunday before Advent: ALL SAINTS (transferred)
		9:00 am Holy Communion (said) 10:00 am Family Service 3:00 pm Remembering Our Loved Ones
4th	Monday	7:30 pm PCC meeting at 16 Church Street
7th	Thursday	Willibrord of York, Bishop, Apostle of Frisia, 739 9:30 am Holy Communion 10:30 am Home Communions 7:45 pm Church Ladies' Fellowship - Deeping Old & New
8th	Friday	Saints and Martyrs of England and Wales Practice Night: 6:45 pm Choir 7:30 pm Ringers
9th	Saturday	2:00 pm Wedding of Steven Brew and Sophie Barnsdale
10th	SUNDAY	Third Sunday before Advent: REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
		10:00 am Sung Eucharist 3:00 pm Service of Remembrance
11th	Monday	Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397
12th	Tuesday	9:00 am Deanery Clergy Chapter at Crowland
13th	Wednesday	Charles Simeon, Priest, Evangelical Divine, 1836
14th	Thursday	9:30 am Holy Communion
15th	Friday	Practice Night: 6:45 pm Choir 7:30 pm Ringers

16th Saturday Margaret, Queen of Scotland, Reformer of the Church, 1093
7:30 pm Olde Time Music Hall in the Church Hall

17th SUNDAY Second Sunday before Advent

10:00 am Sung Eucharist

18th Monday Elizabeth of Hungary, Princess of Thuringia, 1231

19th Tuesday Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680

20th Wednesday Edmund, King of the East Angles, Martyr, 870
7:30 pm Deanery Synod at St. John's Church, Spalding

21st Thursday 9:30 am Holy Communion
7:45 pm Church Ladies' Fellowship - Before Queensgate

22nd Friday Practice Night:
6:45 pm Choir
7:30 pm Ringers

23rd Saturday Clement, Bishop of Rome, 100

24th SUNDAY CHRIST THE KING (Next before Advent)

10:00 am Sung Eucharist

28th Thursday 9:30 am Holy Communion

29th Friday Day of Intercession and Thanksgiving for the
Missionary Work of the Church
6:45 pm Choir
7:30 pm Ringers

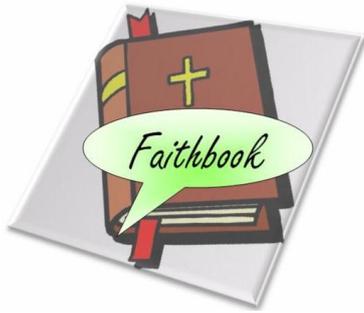
30th Saturday ANDREW THE APOSTLE, Patron Saint of Scotland

December

1st SUNDAY ADVENT 1

(Common Worship Year A begins)

10:00 am Sung Eucharist
6:00 pm Advent Carol Service



[In August, Richard Gamman shared with us some thoughts on his Christian faith. This month we are grateful to John Fisher who writes the second of our occasional series in the Faithbook column. Thank you, John.]

“John’s Journey”

Born under the shadow of the Priory Church Spire at 10, Eastgate, I was the third child of Reg and Freda Fisher. I have two brothers, Ray and Tony, and a sister, Josie.

Having lived in Deeping all my life, I was educated at the Infant School (now home to the Clubs and Scouts), the Cross School (now the Youth Club) and finally the Deepings School where I was one of its first pupils. My Mum encouraged me to attend Sunday School under the teaching of Miss Crowson. One of the highlights was the annual outing to the seaside. One evening I was ‘press-ganged’ into joining the church choir by one of my friends. This was short-lived because I lacked musical orientation.

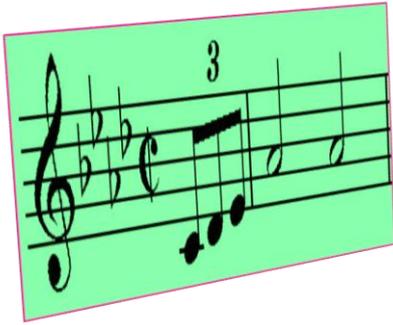
After leaving school I served an engineering apprenticeship at Baker Perkins, leaving in 1979 to work in the family motor car business. Unfortunately I had to retire prematurely in 1999 due to the onset of motor neurone disease. My disability curtailed my participation in field sports and country and coastal walking. I still enjoy getting out into the countryside on my mobility scooter with my dogs. Married to Rosemary, we have two daughters, Louise and Suzanne, both of whom were taught at Sunday School by Miss Crowson.

My wife and I used to own a touring caravan and on one of our many holidays visited Wells Cathedral. Whilst inside the cathedral I had the sensation of someone touching me which I believe guided me on a renewed spiritual journey. Following the death of my mother in 1992 I decided to attend confirmation classes and was confirmed in the autumn of that year.

I thoroughly enjoy the fellowship of the church and the Wednesday evening housegroup. My faith has given me strength to cope with my illness. If I was asked what my favourite hymn and Psalm are, I would say Hymn 170, ‘The Church’s One Foundation’, and Psalm 119.

John Fisher

Getting to Know You...



Jill Ironside tells us about herself and her family and also answers all the questions I should have asked her before letting her into the Choir! (Actually, it's great to have you singing with us, Jill!)

Hello all,

My name is Jill Ironside and most Sundays I can be found in the front row of the choir with the sopranos. (I am the one that can't sing, but don't tell John!) I grew up in Lichfield, worshipping at St Chad's Church with my parents, and attending the church run youth group and discussion group. I remember many happy weekends staying at Dovedale House in Illam, Derbyshire (owned by the Dioceses of Lichfield and used as a youth residential centre) with youth group and going away as a family on our parish camping weekends. I certainly remember attending Sunday School and working my way through the Scramblers, Climbers and Explorers materials, and I even taught at Sunday School while I was in my 6th form. I left home after my A levels to attend Bishop Grosseteste College, the Church of England Teacher Training college in Lincoln, and it's there that I met my husband, Phillip, who was a student at Lincoln Technical College.



Phillip and I bought our first house in Lincoln (back in the days when 22 year olds could afford to buy houses!) and both found jobs in the city, Phillip as an Engineer and myself as a Civil Servant (the teaching bit didn't quite work out as expected!). We got married in 1989, and had six lovely years of peace and quiet before the children came along. Joe was born 1995, Eleanor in 1997, Bea in 1999 and Hattie in 2003. I gave up work to stay at home with them while they were small, and loved being able to go to toddler groups and do lots of socialising with friends.

Phillip changed jobs in 2000, to work at Perkins in Peterborough, and we finally moved to Deeping St James in 2001. However, we moved again within the year to Peoria, Illinois, USA, with his job, and it was here that Hattie was born. We had an amazing 5 years living in the States, and managed to tour as much as was possible with 3 young children and a brand new baby. Sadly, Perkins recalled us back to Deeping, and we moved back into our house in the village in 2006. Since then, Phillip has changed jobs several times, but we have managed to stay put and not had to relocate again. We are now at the stage where we are

about to extend our house to fit in our ever growing family. Teenagers seem to take up so much room!

I now work full time as a Teaching Assistant in the Reception class at Deeping St James Community Primary School, and I am really lucky to absolutely love my job. Last year I made the momentous decision to complete my degree via Open University, and I have now just started the final module of my honours degree. It can be a bit tricky managing to work and study and run a house ... but my children are getting better at cooking and using the washing machine! I hope that this time next year I will begin my training to become a teacher - completing what I first started in 1984.

As a family we all enjoy sailing and have 3 boats at Rutland Sailing Club. Unfortunately, club racing is on a Sunday morning, and so I usually only manage to get out on the water in the summer holidays when the choir are taking their well deserved summer break. We camped lots while the children were small, but teenage girls seem highly resistant to the idea of roughing it in a tent! Left to myself, I enjoy reading and am always to be found with a book in my hand. I love cooking too, and like pottering in the kitchen, baking cakes and scones (I dream of being a size 12, but somehow always manage to find room for the last piece of flapjack, or fruit crumble, so think it's highly unlikely I will ever get there!)

Jill Ironside

Cooking with Margaret: Apple Cake



Ingredients:

225g Cooking Apples, peeled, cored and chopped,

225g Sultanas

150ml Milk

175g Soft brown sugar

350g S R Flour

2 level tsp mixed spice

175g Butter, softened

1 Egg, beaten

25g Demerara Sugar

Method:

Mix together the apples, sultanas, milk, and sugar

Sieve flour and spices together and rub in the butter

Add the fruit mixture and egg and mix well

Place in a lined 20cm square cake tin

Sprinkle with Demerara sugar and bake in the oven at 170°C/325°F/Gas 3 for 1¼ hours until risen and golden brown

(Continued from page 7)

He went on to say that this is an organic process and will continue as the Diocese grows and develops. Canon Robinson highlighted the importance of communication. The reports are available on the website: diocese.se/csrmp

A presentation was given by the Venerable Jane Sinclair entitled '**Shaping the Future**'. This expanded on the areas highlighted in the Central Services Review and how this could be used to drive forward the Diocese for the future. The Archdeacon did not go through the Report in detail, but picked out some of the key elements and how they might shape the Diocese. The Archdeacon highlighted:

Mission Communities - these will be fundamental to our planning and engagement in sharing the Gospel over the coming years.

Worship - is at the heart of everything we do. Archdeacon Justine Allain Chapman will be developing this aspect of our life together through her **discipleship** work.

Education and training - regular development reviews will identify training needs for clergy, and churchwardens and PCC members will be given training to equip them for the roles and responsibilities.

Church buildings - Mission Communities will be invited to look at their church buildings and to categorise them according to their use, enabling to use them better and help resource our mission.

Clergy numbers - it is clear that we need to recruit and retain a significantly increased number of high-quality clergy.

Readers and ALMs - are invited to feed back with what resourcing and support would best assist their ministry.

Financial support - parish share is not an end in itself, it's a collaborative exercise in generosity, and we need to consider how parish officers can help people in their parish to become better stewards of the money that is entrusted to them by God. The current parish share system will be amended, and the Mission Community will be the basic unit for the calculation.

Mission Fund - this is a financial resource, largely for special mission projects. Collaboration and community are at the heart of the Mission Fund approach, and all are encouraged to think creatively on how to use the funds available. The Archdeacon's presentation can be viewed here: diocese.se/synodiane

Each representative was invited to complete a feedback card. The comments will be considered by Bishop's staff.

The Chair of the House of Laity put the motion that "This Synod agrees to waive Standing Order 72 until the next meeting of this Diocesan Synod, to allow for the creation of a separate Bishop's Council and Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee. The current Diocesan Council, and on its inception the Bishop's Council, will be for the time being the Standing Committee of this Synod". The motion was carried unanimously.

The Synod closed with worship.

The next meeting of Diocesan Synod will be on 9 November 2013 at Bishop Grosseteste University College, Lincoln, beginning at 6.30pm.

Rotas for November

Servers

	9.00 am	10.00 am	3:00pm	6:00 pm
3rd	Geoff	Paul	Chris	-
10th	-	Simon & Chris	John	-
17th	-	John & Paul	-	-
24th	-	Simon & Chris	-	-
Dec 1st	-	John & Simon	-	Geoff

Sidesmen

3rd	Team C: Tim Hitchborn & Cled Bennett
10th	Team D: Trevor Harwood & Kim Hallam
17th	Team E: Liz Bridgeman, Bill & Margaret Flegg
24th	Team F: Val Wilde, Doris Bellairs & Christine Masters
Dec 1st	Team A: Jane Thompson & Adrian Hallam

Intercessions

	9:00 am	10:00 am
3rd	John Marsh	-
10th	-	Anne Smart
17th	-	Tony Masters
24th	-	Bet Washbrooke
Dec 1st	<i>(no 9.00 am service)</i>	John Marsh

Bread and Wine

3rd	Caroline & Victoria	Johanna Jones & Jill Ironside
10th	Ann & Cled Bennett	Ann Bennett & Penny Hebblewhite
17th	Caroline Herron & Linda Sellars	Pat Feek & Doris Warner
24th	Carol Mills & Joy Cunningham	Bill & Margaret Flegg
Dec 1st	Martin & Niccy Fisher	Pat Feek & Doris Warner

Coffee

Flowers

Cleaning & Brasses

Flowers		Cleaning	Brasses	
3rd	Mrs A. Wall		-	
10th	Remembrance Day	11th-24th	-	Liz Spratley & Sandra Jones
17th	Sue Marsh		17th	Jean Shepherd & Doris Bellairs
24th	<i>(Vacant)</i>	25th-8th	-	John & Linda Sellars
Dec 1st	Advent	-	1st	Doris Bellairs & Christine Masters

Readings and Readers for November

		OT Reading	OT Reader	NT Reading	NT Reader	Gospel
ALL SAINTS (Fourth Sunday before Advent)						
3rd	9:00 am	Daniel 7: 1-3,15-18	Bet Washbrooke	Ephesians 1: 11-23	Martin Fisher	Luke 6: 20-31
	10:00 am	Luke 6: 20-31	Lisa Goodchild			
THIRD BEFORE ADVENT (Remembrance Sunday)						
10th	10:00 am	Job 19: 23-27	Cled Bennett	2 Thessalonians 2: 1-5,13-17	Bryan Jones	Luke 20: 27-38
SECOND BEFORE ADVENT						
17th	10:00 am	Malachi 4: 1-2	Bill Flegg	2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13	Caroline Herron	Luke 21: 5-19
CHRIST THE KING (Sunday next before Advent)						
24th	10:00 am	Jeremiah 23: 1-6	Nicky Fisher	Colossians 1: 11-20	Trevor Harwood	Luke 23: 33-43
ADVENT 1						
Dec 1st	10:00 am	Isaiah 2: 1-5	Simon Marshall	Romans 13:11-14	Roger Bridgeman	Matthew 24: 36-44

Registers for September 2013

Weddings: **We congratulate:**

14th Philip Laughton and Jessica Cann
Aiden Wilde and Michelle Holland



<p>House Group 7:30pm Wednesdays at 45 Crowson Way, DSJ. All welcome!</p>



Letter from the Bishop of Lincoln

Dear Friends,

What a fantastic summer we've had! The wonderful warm weather and those big, blue skies seemed to go on for ever.

However, there's no doubt now that things have changed and the season is turning. As I write, the bright blue sky has given way to grey as the rain pitter-patters on my window. Warm woollies and raincoats have been dusted down, and all around us the glorious green of summer is giving way to the browns, reds and yellows of autumn.



The tree is a symbol of the growth of the Bishop's vision: faithful, confident, joyful.

While I enjoy the summer, I also enjoy this time of year. Those changing colours which are all around us, the fruit on the trees and those fallen leaves crunching underfoot, are a reminder that human life is marked by change as much as it is by constancy.

And as the light summer days give way to the darkness of winter that is coming, we are reminded, too, of our own mortality and the transient nature of this earthly life.

Our church calendar is a big help here, since at the beginning of this month we keep the festivals of All Saints and All Souls.

All Saints is a day when, as a church, we remember that great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us; the saints whose lives are an example and an inspiration to us as we try to live out our vocation as disciples of Jesus Christ in our time, just as they did in theirs.

All Souls - or as it is also known, the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed – is a time for us to remember our loved ones before God, giving thanks for all that they have given to us, and commending them to his unfailing love.

If there are services for these festivals taking place in a church near you, I encourage you to go along and take a full part in them. Both of them are an opportunity to examine our own Christian lives in the light of those who have gone before us, who have loved us and inspired us, and to dedicate ourselves once again to follow Jesus in the service of others and of God.

+ Christopher Lincoln :