



# *From the Curate*

**The Reverend Sonia Marshall**

Dear Friends,

‘Ring out the old, ring in the new,  
Ring happy bells across the snow’ (Tennyson)

As we approach the New Year I expect many of us do it with mixed feelings ... sadness that the wonderful days of Christmas will soon be over, the cheerful decorations have to come down (always more of a chore somehow than putting them up). Sadness too as we remember friends and relatives who are no longer with us at the year's turning.

On a brighter note, the New Year gives us the opportunity to start afresh, to clear away dust and neglect, to carry on with what we have found of continuing value but also to launch out in new directions ... sometimes surprising ones. Who could have foreseen at the start of 2010 that a coalition government would have been in power at the end of it? An arrangement which necessitated give and take on both sides, putting aside differences for the greater good of the country.

The New Year at the Priory opens with two very special occasions. On 9<sup>th</sup> January we welcome the Bishop of Grantham to our Sunday worship. The following day we welcome the Bishop of Lincoln for the licensing of our new priest in charge, Janet, one of the final duties Bishop John will be performing before his retirement, an opportunity for all to say ‘farewell’ to him as we say ‘hello’ to Janet.

New Year's day itself is the day on which we remember the Naming of Jesus. As we welcome 2011 in His Name:

‘Ring out the want, the care, the sin,  
The faithless coldness of the times;  
Ring in the valiant man and free,  
The larger heart, the kindlier hand.  
Ring out the darkness of the land,  
Ring in the Christ that is to be’.

With every blessing for 2011,

*Sonia Marshall.*

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## In This Month's Priory News ...

Happy New Year, everybody!

As I write, our two Westies are happily romping in the falling snow. By the time you read this the new year may have brought warmer weather. It will certainly bring changes, as reflected in this edition.

Martin speaks for us all in his tribute and thanks to Sonia. As we welcome Janet, I am sure that you will enjoy her first contribution to Priory News.

Thank you all for your support and positive feedback during 2010. One final word of thanks to my husband, Dave, for all his work in collating and producing the printed and online versions of the magazine.

Warmest wishes,

*Bet.*

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<a href="#">Revd Janet introduces herself</a> to her new parish. (P7).	Martin looks back over almost <a href="#">two years of interregnum at the Priory Church</a> . (P6).
Please help Kim in her rôle as <a href="#">Leprosy Mission</a> Co-ordinator. (P9).	John Saxbee's last <a href="#">Bishop's Letter</a> . (P16).
Margaret shows us how to make perfect <a href="#">French onion soup</a> . (P11).	Don't miss the fun: <a href="#">Cinderella</a> at the Methodist Church on 28 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan and a <a href="#">Candelmas quiz</a> on 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb in the Church Hall. (P10). Also the <a href="#">results of our Christmas Quiz</a> . (P13).
Another <a href="#">entertaining report from Tony</a> . (P8).	
We have an ornithological theme this month, with <a href="#">collared doves</a> (P11) and a <a href="#">greater spotted woodpecker</a> (P12).	<b>Cover picture:</b> Collared dove squabs [ <i>Photo courtesy of Dave Washbrooke.</i> ]

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.**

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*Please let us have your contributions for the **Febuary** edition of Priory News **BEFORE** the deadline, **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January**. Thank you for your help.*

# Church Calendar January 2011

1 <sup>st</sup>	Saturday	<u><a href="#">The Naming &amp; Circumcision of Jesus</a></u>	
<b>THE EPIPHANY (TRANSFERRED)</b>			
2 <sup>ND</sup>	<b>SUNDAY</b>	10:00am 6:00pm	Sung Eucharist Evening Prayer
6 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	9:30am 7:45pm	Holy Communion followed by Home Communion Church Ladies' Fellowship: Madeira (Mrs Whittle)
7 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	<i>Practice Night:</i> 6:45pm Choir 7:30pm Ringers	
<b>THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY (THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST)</b>			
<i>NB: No 8:00am Holy Communion service this week</i>			
9 <sup>TH</sup>	<b>SUNDAY</b>	10:00am 6:00pm	Sung Eucharist - President : The Bishop of Grantham Evening Prayer
10 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	7:30pm	The Licensing of the Revd Janet Donaldson as Priest in Charge by the Bishop of Lincoln
12 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	<u><a href="#">Aelred of Rievaulx, 1167</a></u>	
<u><a href="#">Hilary of Poitiers, Bishop, Teacher, 367</a></u>			
13 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	9:30am 11:00am	Holy Communion Deanery Clergy Chapter at Crowland
14 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	<i>Practice Night:</i> 6:45pm Choir 7:30pm Ringers	
<b>THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY</b>			
16 <sup>TH</sup>	<b>SUNDAY</b>	10:00am 6:00pm	Sung Eucharist Service of Lessons and Hymns and Blessing of the Plough
17 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	<u><a href="#">Anthony, Hermit, Abbot, 356</a></u>	
19 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	<u><a href="#">Wulfstan, Bishop, 1095</a></u>	
20 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	9:30am 7:45pm	Holy Communion Church Ladies Fellowship: Antiques Quiz (Pat Abel)
<u><a href="#">Agnes, Martyr, 304</a></u>			
21 <sup>st</sup>	Friday	<i>Practice Night:</i> 6:45pm Choir 7:30pm Ringers	
<b>THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY</b>			
23 <sup>RD</sup>	<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:00am 10:00am 6:00pm	Holy Communion Sung Eucharist United Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (at St Guthlac's, Market Deeping)
24 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	7:30pm	PCC Meeting
25 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	<u><a href="#">The Conversion of St Paul</a></u>	
26 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	<u><a href="#">Timothy and Titus, Companions of St Paul</a></u>	

27 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	9:30am	Holy Communion
28 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	<i>Practice Night:</i> 6:45pm Choir 7:30pm Ringers	
30 <sup>TH</sup>	SUNDAY	<b>THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE (CANDLEMAS)</b>	
		10:00am	Sung Eucharist
		6:00pm	Evening Prayer
3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	Thursday	9:30am	Holy Communion
4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Friday	<i>Practice Night:</i> 6:45pm Choir 7:30pm Ringers	
6 <sup>TH</sup> FEB	SUNDAY	<b>THE FIFTH SUNDAY BEFORE LENT</b>	
		10:00am	Sung Eucharist
		6:00pm	Evening Prayer

## Registers for November 2010

<b>BAPTISMS:</b> <i>We welcome into the Lord's family:</i>	
21 <sup>st</sup>	Milla Cherry Jane Pedder
<b>FUNERALS:</b> <i>We commend to God's keeping:</i>	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Eileen Rose Jarman
4 <sup>th</sup>	Daphne M <sup>c</sup> Vinnie
18 <sup>th</sup>	Bertram James West



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

# Heartfelt Thanks!

This month marks the end of almost two years of interregnum in Deeping St James and we all look forward to welcoming Janet Donaldson at her Licensing Service on 10<sup>th</sup> January. It is a good moment to look back and to review how we have fared during the longest period without a Parish Priest that I can remember.

Many members of the Priory Church have worked very hard to ensure that life has gone on as normally as possible and it would be invidious for me to pick out any individuals. We have also been well supported by a number of visiting priests from the Deanery, including those, like Alan Fiddymont, who have retired and should really be taking a well earned rest!

However there is no question that the bulk of the extra work has fallen upon Sonia Marshall, who has willingly accepted the responsibility for organising services, visiting parishioners, managing baptisms, weddings and funerals, and all the myriad



activities that the Vicar would normally be expected to do. Every single Sunday during the interregnum we have celebrated the Eucharist and, to the best of my knowledge, not a single service has been cancelled in the last two years. That is a record that Sonia can be very proud of, and for which we should be extremely grateful.

Sonia is, of course, despite being ordained, an unpaid volunteer, and her willingness to undertake all these responsibilities is a magnificent example of Christian Ministry. As many have commented, she has truly risen to the many challenges that she has faced and has grown in the rôle that has been placed upon her in ways which may even have surprised herself! Now she can look forward to working with Janet Donaldson, who I am certain will be hugely appreciative of Sonia's knowledge and experience of ministry at the Priory Church.

Thank you, Sonia. Thank you for your hard work, your love for the Parish, and most of all for your example to the rest of us of sacrificial ministry. Have a bit of a well-earned rest – but not too much, because we will still need you!

*Martin Fisher, PCC Chairman.*

# *From Our New Priest in Charge!*

## **The Reverend Janet Donaldson**

Hello Everyone,

At last, after three months of planning and packing, we are finally arriving! Alistair and I are very much looking forward to settling in at 50, Spalding Road after 22 years in Essex, and I will begin to minister here after the Licensing Service on 10<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Firstly, a few words about our background.**

We both come from the same village in Surrey, Thames Ditton, and have been married since 1976. We have four grown-up children: Matthew (32), Simon (30), Rachel (28), and Fiona (26). As for our extending family, Matthew and his wife Davina have two children, Aaron (3) and Laura (2); and Fiona will be marrying her fiancé Tom in March.



Alistair is a retired Railway Civil Engineer, having worked for British Rail, Railtrack, and Network Rail. Consequently we have lived in various parts of the country during our married life: Surbiton, Crewe, and Norwich during the 70s and early 80s, Kelvedon in mid Essex from 1986 onwards, and finally Great Maplestead in rural north Essex.

I studied Music at Trinity College of Music, and taught music at Newark-on-Trent Church of England Secondary School before we were married. I continued to teach music at home while the family grew up, and then felt called to the Church, being ordained in 1998. I first served as Curate in Tiptree (famous for its jam!) for four years, before moving into my current Benefice of four rural parishes in 2002.

My parents and grandparents attended a Free Church some distance away from our home, and I was sent to Sunday School in our local village Anglican Church. I have played the organ in many different denominations, yet always felt, and still do, that the Anglican Church is my home. I have also attended worship in many different denominations over the years, and find the same Christ at the centre of all.

## Secondly, we are looking forward.

Coming to Deeping St James will be quite a change: I shall have to quickly adapt to a much bigger congregation for a start, as well as taking fewer services on a Sunday morning than I currently do! I look forward to meeting new friends and co-workers for Christ's kingdom.

The readings I have chosen for the Licensing Service speak of God's abiding presence and care in the midst of change. [Joshua 1 verses 6-9](#) were spoken before a significant new beginning as the Israelites were ready to cross into their Promised Land after wandering in the desert for forty years. [John 15 verses 1-5](#) demonstrate God's abiding presence in daily life through an analogy taken from nature. You might like to read them in advance, and reflect and pray over them with me. I do hope to meet you all at the Service.

My preparation for this new chapter in my ministry is to take a day for retreat at the Diocesan Retreat House here on 13<sup>th</sup> December to reflect and pray for this new chapter of our lives. I pray that in the worship of the Retreat House, and in the peace of God's quiet, I will be inspired with His vision for us all.

With all good wishes,

*Revd Janet.*



## Wardens' World

There was an amusing reference in a recent Priory News to a child confusing Harvest Festival with Harvey's (his friend's) Festival. That reminds me of the old joke about the child telling his mother that at Sunday school they had discussed 'six pieces of suet' which she later found out to have been 'seek peace and pursue it'. These are just two instances of the difficulties and

hazards of communication; often bad enough between adults, even worse between children and adults.

Years ago, when my eldest granddaughter, Hollie, was still very small she used to like to look at the photographs I regularly received from Africa of my sponsored child, Hawa Diallo. In my study / workshop I kept an inflatable globe of the world and whenever Hollie visited me I would inflate the globe to show her where Hawa lived, and why her climate and living conditions in sub-Saharan Africa were so harsh and different from ours. Naturally I thought I was communicating all this quite effectively. How wrong I was, because one day my daughter, Louise, told me that, as she collected Hollie from school, her teacher had taken her aside and said her curiosity was aroused because Hollie had said something very strange that day. When

Louise asked what it was the teacher said, rather hesitatingly, "Well, she said her Grandpa has a friend who lives on a balloon."

Let's end with a simpler and hopefully unambiguous communication; Adrian and I, plus our valued assistants, John and Doris, wish you all a happy and peaceful New Year.

*Tony Masters.*

## News from the Tower

Welcome to our new vicar Reverend Janet Donaldson.

A Very BIG THANK-YOU to Sonia for keeping the ship on a straight course for the past year or so. Well done, Sonia.

Whilst we are giving out thanks, Bet Washbrooke also deserves recognition for keeping the Priory News going and encouraging the rest of us to put forward our contributions.

*Mike Gentle.*



## Leprosy Mission

30<sup>th</sup> January is World Leprosy Day, when we are asked to pray for the people who suffer from this terrible disease. Nearer the time there will be more information regarding this day on the notice board at the back of Church.

I have recently taken over as the Leprosy Mission co-ordinator for our Church. If anyone has a Leprosy Mission money box that they would like emptying or if anyone would like a money

box to donate to this worthy cause on a regular/irregular basis, please see me and I will arrange this for you.

Many thanks.

*Kim Hallam.*

## Coffee Group: Advent Coffee Morning

Around 60 people attended the Advent coffee morning to enjoy hot mince pies with their coffee. A large raffle took time to get through. The cake stall proved popular; also the chocolate tombola.

The event raised £294.05. Carole Mills and Margaret Flegg would like to thank all who helped those help to make the morning a success.

*Margaret Flegg.*



# Cooking with Margaret

## French Onion Soup



### Ingredients

- 2oz butter
- pinch of sugar
- 450g sliced onions
- 850ml stock
- 110g grated cheese
- Slices of French bread

### Method

1. Melt the butter then add sugar.
2. Fry onions slowly until soft and brown.
3. Stir in the stock, then bring to the boil and simmer with lid on for 30 minutes.
4. Season to taste.
5. Pour into flameproof dishes. Sprinkle grated cheese on the slices of French bread, and float on top of soup.
6. Place under a hot grill until the cheese melts.

*Margaret Flegg.*

## Our “Beautiful” Collared Doves

Collared doves are one of our most common pigeons now but did not live in Britain before 1950. Their annoying song can be a nuisance. Kate Humble says it sounds like “I DON’T know!” but my mother-in-law reckons it’s more like “I WON’T cook!”. They mainly eat cereal grains, with the occasional caterpillar and aphid in spring; however, they seem to take bread quite happily from our bird table.



Their nest is a flimsy platform of twigs. Our doves built theirs in our monkey puzzle tree – not a very squab-friendly location, I wouldn’t have thought – it caused me enough damage in its time! The parents share incubation and the feeding of the squabs. Unlike their parents, collared dove squabs are ugly chaps (as our cover picture shows) but, in common with all pigeons, by the

time they leave the nest they look almost identical to the adult birds.

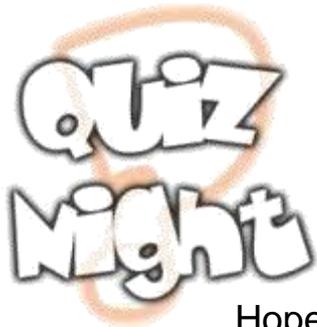
For the past couple of years we were concerned that our monkey puzzle’s roots could be getting near to the foundations of our house. We decided to have it felled. Of course, we had to ensure that the nest was not in use – not easy, as the collared doves’ breeding season is from



March to October. However, in August this year the nest was empty and we called in

David Palmer, a local tree man, who was able to come and fell the tree at short notice and at a fair price. The tree has gone but the doves remain and are still the most common visitors to our bird table.

*Dave Washbrooke.*



## Candlemas Quiz

Candlemas has become a special time of year in the calendar for Deeping St James in Bloom - last year you will remember that we planted 3,000 snowdrops in the churchyard at this time.

Hopefully, as you read this, the bulbs will be appearing from under the frozen land!

This year at Candlemas the Bloom team are organising a Candlemas Quiz at 7:30pm on 5<sup>th</sup> February at Priory Church Hall - called the "Clash of the Clubs", it is hoped that neighbourhoods, friends and more formal groups will form teams of four for a fun filled quiz night! Tickets are just £7.50 to include a fish and chip supper.

To register please call Judy Stevens on 348859 or email [judy.stevens1@btopenworld.com](mailto:judy.stevens1@btopenworld.com)

*Judy Stevens.*

## Cinderella

The A.C.T.S. drama group at the Deepings Methodist Church will be performing Cinderella (words and music by Ann Bossingham) on:

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 7:30pm

and

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> January at 2:30 and 7:00pm.



You are all welcome: Adults £6, Children £4, Family of 4 £16.

Please contact Sandra Holden (348650). Thank you.

*Adrian Browne.*

# The Greater Spotted Woodpecker

A Greater Spotted Woodpecker  
Dropped by for tea last night  
Contrasting with his blood red plumes  
Jet black and purest white

He appeared to like the peanuts  
As you may suppose he might  
And he tackled them with what seemed  
A voracious appetite!

And I guess that to the woodpecker  
All peanuts aren't alike  
For he stretched around the feeder  
In deciding where to strike!

No other bird came near  
So did they watch that handsome male?  
Complete in his regalia  
From his head down to his tail.

And then the bird stopped eating  
He surveyed the world about  
For nearly two whole minutes  
He just stood there eating nowt!

He looked around the garden  
He surveyed from where he stood  
Deciding should he eat again?  
I hoped perhaps he would.

Then my hopes were soon rewarded  
For the bird resumed his meal  
Without any sign of warning  
Once again he ate with zeal!

He stood upon the feeder  
Full of peanuts for the crowd  
Of sparrows, tits and starlings  
Though woodpeckers are allowed!

His head went back and forwards,  
With great gusto he could eat  
Seemed to know, with no delusions  
He had happened on a treat!

Both up and down, from side to side  
The hungry 'pecker ate  
As you and I might well pick out  
The best chips on our plate!

Until a greedy starling  
Thought he'd come and join the toff  
Our hero simply spread his wings  
And saw the starling off!

He seemed to be digesting  
Bits of nut he had consumed.  
Much like people at a banquet  
He was beautifully groomed.

Why was the bird not eating?  
(Every quandary has solutions)  
Without as much as by your leave  
The bird did his ablutions!

But I don't know why it happened  
Was he full? It's hard to say  
Just as quickly as the bird had come  
He upped and flew away!

*John Marsh.*



# Christmas Quiz

**All the answers you've been waiting for!**

1. **Who was the first British monarch to broadcast a Christmas message to the nation?**  
**George V (in 1932).**
2. Child star Jimmy Boyd sang which hugely popular 1950's Christmas song, which was initially banned by the Catholic Church in Boston because it supposedly mixed sex and Christmas?  
**I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus.**
3. Who banned Christmas in England between 1647 and 1660?  
**Oliver Cromwell.**
4. On which date is Epiphany celebrated in the traditional Western calendar?  
**6<sup>th</sup> January.**
5. Who are the four ghosts in Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol?  
**Christmas Past, Christmas Present, Christmas Yet to Come, Jacob Marley.**
6. What liqueur goes into making a 'snowball' cocktail?  
**Advocaat.**
7. What is the English title of the carol written in 1818 by Austrian priest, Josef Mohr, originally called "Stille Nacht"?  
**Silent Night.**
8. The Nordic countries (Denmark, Sweden, Norway notably) tend to celebrate Christmas chiefly on which date?  
**24<sup>th</sup> December.**
9. What is the popular name for little baked sausages wrapped in rashers of streaky bacon?  
**Pigs in blankets.**
10. Which of the Wise Men was said to have brought the gift of gold for the baby Jesus?  
**Melchior.**
11. What changed in 1752 which caused England to have a White Christmas less frequently thereafter?  
**The Julian calendar was replaced by the Gregorian calendar.**
12. Traditional in Germany at Christmas, what sort of food is stollen?  
**Cake.**
13. The Christmas period of 1813-14 saw the last what in London?  
**Christmas Fair on a frozen River Thames - known as a Frost Fair.**
14. How many gifts are given in total in the song The Twelve Days of Christmas?  
**364.**
15. The words "Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume breathes of life, of gathering gloom..." come from which Christmas carol?  
**We Three Kings - composed by Rev John Henry Hopkins, 1857.**
16. Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean is a territory of which country?  
**Australia.**
17. John Callcott Horsley designed what first commercial Christmas item in 1843?  
**Christmas card.**
18. In Victorian England what people were popularly called robins because of their red uniforms?  
**Postmen.**
19. Which popular poem was alternatively known as "A Visit from St Nicholas"?  
**'Twas The Night before Christmas.**
20. Which token vegetable is often included in the ingredients of a Christmas pudding?  
**Carrot.**
21. What animal is Snowball in George Orwell's book Animal Farm?  
**Pig.**
22. Yorkshireman, William Strickland, is believed to have brought the first what to Britain from North America in 1526?  
**Turkey.**



## A Very Special Happy New Year and sincere thanks

to all our unsung and uncomplaining band of regular contributors to the organisation and effective running of the Priory Church on Sundays and other occasions:

Servers	Sidespersons	Intercessors
Bread & Wine Teams	Coffee Makers & Servers	Flower Providers & Arrangers
Church Cleaners	Brass Polishers	OT & NT Readers

What would we do without you all?

*Bet Washbrooke.*

### Rotas for January 2011

		Servers	Sidespersons	Intercessors
<b>Sun</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>10:00</b> <b>am</b>	Paul Boswall Chris Halley	<b>TEAM C:</b> Adrian Hallam, Tim Hitchborn	Tony Masters
<b>Sun</b> 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10:00</b> <b>am</b>	John Sellars Simon Marshall	<b>Team D:</b> Kim Hallam, Graham Hardy, Trevor Harwood	Bet Washbrooke
<b>Mon</b> 10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>7:30</b> <b>pm</b>	John Sellars		
<b>Sun</b> 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10:00</b> <b>am</b>	Paul Boswall Chris Halley	<b>Team E:</b> Liz Bridgeman, Bill Flegg, Margaret Flegg	Niccy Fisher
	<b>6:00</b> <b>pm</b>	Geoff Armstrong		
<b>Sun</b> 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>8:00</b> <b>am</b>	Geoff Armstrong	George Knowles Ken Rimmer	
	<b>10:00</b> <b>am</b>	Simon Marshall John Sellars	<b>Team F:</b> Doris Bellairs, Christine Masters, Val Wilde	John Marsh
<b>Sun</b> 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10:00</b> <b>am</b>	Chris Halley Simon Marshall	<b>Team A:</b> Doris Bellairs, Mary Hamilton, Vivien Hamilton	Sonia Marshall
<b>Sun</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>10:00</b> <b>am</b>	Paul Boswall John Sellars	<b>Team B:</b> Joy Cunningham, Ann Meekings	Janet Donaldson
	<b>6:00</b> <b>pm</b>	Geoff Armstrong		

		<b>Bread &amp; Wine</b>	<b>Sunday Coffee</b>	<b>Church Flowers</b>	<b>Church Cleaning</b>	<b>Brasses</b>
<b>Sun 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	Martin & Niccy Fisher	Linda Sellars Liz Spratley	<i>Christmas Flowers</i>	Liz Spratley Sandra Jones	
<b>Sun 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	Pat Feek Doris Warner	Pat Feek Doris Warner	Jane Thompson	John & Linda Sellars	
<b>Sun 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	Peter & Val Wilde	Johanna Jones	Ann Bennett		Bill & Margaret Flegg
<b>Sun 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	Caroline Herron Linda Sellars	John & Sue Marsh	Doris Warner	Janet Lill Marion Stevens	
<b>Sun 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	Bill & Margaret Flegg	Liz Spratley Linda Sellars	Margaret Flegg		Val Wilde Sylvia Anderson
<b>Sun 6<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	Joy Cunningham Carole Mills	Val Wilde Doris Bellairs	Eileen Day	Dick & Anthea Wray	

## Readings and Readers for January 2011

		<b>Old Testament</b>		<b>New Testament</b>		<b>Gospel</b>
		<b>Reading</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Reading</b>
<b>Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan</b>	<b>THE EPIPHANY (TRANSFERRED)</b>					
	<b>10:00 am</b>	<a href="#"><u>Isaiah 60.1-6</u></a>	<b>Jacob Boswall</b>	<a href="#"><u>Ephesians 3.1-12</u></a>	<b>Martin Fisher</b>	<a href="#"><u>Matthew 2.1-12</u></a>
<b>Sun 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY (THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST)</b>					
	<b>10:00 am</b>	<a href="#"><u>Isaiah 42.1-9</u></a>	<b>TBA</b>	<a href="#"><u>Acts 10.34-43</u></a>	<b>Liz Spratley</b>	<a href="#"><u>Matthew 3.13-end</u></a>
<b>Sun 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY</b>					
	<b>10:00 am</b>	<a href="#"><u>Isaiah 49.1-7</u></a>	<b>Bill Flegg</b>	<a href="#"><u>1 Corinthians 1.1-9</u></a>	<b>Roger Bridgeman</b>	<a href="#"><u>John 1.29-42</u></a>
<b>Sun 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY</b>					
	<b>8:00 am</b>	<a href="#"><u>Isaiah 9.1-4</u></a>		<a href="#"><u>1 Corinthians 1.10-18</u></a>		<a href="#"><u>Matthew 4.12-23</u></a>
	<b>10:00 am</b>		<b>John Marsh</b>		<b>Victoria Worthington</b>	
<b>Sun 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE (CANDLEMAS)</b>					
	<b>10:00 am</b>	<a href="#"><u>Malachi 3.1-5</u></a>	<b>Caroline Herron</b>	<a href="#"><u>Hebrews 2.14-end</u></a>	<b>Adrian Hallam</b>	<a href="#"><u>Luke 2.22-40</u></a>
<b>Sun 6<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>THE FIFTH SUNDAY BEFORE LENT</b>					
	<b>10:00 am</b>	<a href="#"><u>Isaiah 58.1-9a</u></a>	<b>Niccy Fisher</b>	<a href="#"><u>1 Corinthians 2.1-12</u></a>	<b>Joy Cunningham</b>	<a href="#"><u>Matthew 5.13-20</u></a>



# Bishop's Letter

Dear Friends

## My Last Article of Faith

If there was a competition for the corniest joke, I think it would be about the man who got accidentally shot in the backside during a pheasant shoot, and the notice on the hospital web-site said that he was doing well - "and there will be another bullet in later".

Bulletins have featured very prominently during my time in this Diocese. Every month I have written an article for the Diocesan Bulletin, and I am always glad to see that it finds its way into lots of parish magazines.

The subject-matter has ranged far and wide - from pieces about the da Vinci Code, J. John's "Just Ten" Mission and the Abolition (and persistence!) of slavery; to reflections on prayer, pews and the Christian beliefs of Alfred Lord Tennyson. Education has featured prominently, and so have public affairs with the environment, globalisation and the Big Society jostling with tilts at Richard Dawkins, winterval and other sad symptoms of our so-called secular society. Mike Parker's Map Addict got a mention (why settle for a two-dimensional world when with God there is always a further dimension to explore?), and so did the film *Chocolat* which provided a new slant on the observance of Lent. By no means least, we celebrated the steady rise in the number of people being Ordained in the Diocese, the advent of New Era and the cycle of seasons and celebrations which mark out the Church's year.

But above all, I have tried to write about God in Christ and why faith, inspired by the Holy Spirit, matters more and more in a world increasingly obsessed by its own self-sufficiency. Free-range faith rather than factory-farm religion is what motivates me as a pastor, preacher and evangelist. It is this which undergirds what I have written month by month. You are free to change because, as I have repeated so often, God loves you as you are - and loves you too much to leave you that way. That is for me the key message of Christianity, and I simply leave it with you as my last letter and, for me at least, there will not be another Bulletin later!

May God continue to establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith;

and the Blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

+ John Lincoln