

All Saints

NETTLEHAM PARISH CHURCH

St. Mary's

RISEHOLME PARISH CHURCH

The Good News from Nettleham

Sunday 24th November

Christ the King

No 125

Father Richard writes...

I don't know how many of you are living your lives from day to day trying to ignore the noise of the election process, but incessantly taking a peep and getting variously depressed and angry. It is a surprisingly debilitating background noise. No-one lives entirely surrounded by people with whom they agree, and I guess there are political issues and choices which divide us more than usual at this time. I have lived and worked in the past in businesses or communities, even, I dare say, churches, where it never occurred to me that many people thought differently from me.

I reassure myself that most people who make up the community of which I am now a member at least agree on one thing – that whatever your party, whatever your voting intention, whatever your position on Brexit, the current choices are less than wonderful, candidates' conduct and inclination to attack people not their views are pretty unedifying, the political world and the reporting by the media are pretty horrible. We've allowed ourselves to become entrenched. The principal casualties of this political scene of the last couple of years have become civility and truth.

The back-drop to our own political horror story has been the awful spectacle of ruthless manipulation of truth and power in the USA, confused confrontation between ideologies and rights in Hong Kong, continuing atrocities in the Middle East, escalating tensions with a bear with wounded pride in Russia. A mindless move to populism and nationalism, similar to that which has plunged our world into hideous wars in the past, in places we thought were securely democratic and humane. And the disgraceful behaviour of senior members of our Royal Family and shocking and often unchallenged abuse in our churches, historic and more recent. An ecosystem descending into dysfunction, an escalating global population, destruction of habitats and thousands of species. Abject poverty and inhuman lifestyles around the world, even in places here.

All of this needs tackling, and I feel pretty forlorn in praying that there will come into positions of influence people who have a heart for healing and caring, and the skills to make them work. We need a national consensus, in fact a global consensus, to deal with much of this. I had a long conversation in the last couple of days thinking about how, if the economy grows, but fewer and fewer people are needed to work the machines and generate the wealth, the wages of all, sufficient to give them a decent life, might be paid. We are close to a world in which one business person could farm huge areas of Lincolnshire extremely productively, providing food for tens of thousands and making millions, entirely with machines run from his iPad. Who will be able to buy the food?

And so we have to vote – we must, as many women and men died so we can. I don't know what you think will make this world a better place. I am certainly not going to suggest how you should vote. I'll just pray for more Christ-like Christians in the world.

Quote of the week.....

It was a day when I was preparing a speech to be delivered in praise of the Emperor; there would be a lot of lies in the speech and they would be applauded by those who knew that they were lies."

The Confessions of St. Augustine – 397 CE. Translated by Rex Warner

Prayer of the week...

A prayer from the Church of England for the 2019 General Election

God of grace and truth,
send your Spirit to guide us
as we discover your will for our country.
Help us to discuss the issues before us
with courtesy, truth and mutual respect,
and grant that all who stand for parliament
will seek to serve the common good,
through him who came not to be served but to serve,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

In need of prayer....

Doris Coleman, Lynne Combes, Etienne Salt, Hugh Carter, Arielle Salt, Graham Chapman, Barry Crum, Heather Haynes, Chris Wooster, Jean Dewar, Julian Ellin, Harriet Rich and Ben Comins.

RIP....

We give thanks for the life, pray for the soul and ask comfort for the relatives and friends of Eileen Briggs, Brenda Boulter and Doreen Cruiks.

Special prayers....

We pray for Ella, Harvey and Rafferty who are being baptised this afternoon at All Saints Church. We pray also for their family and friends.

Year's Mind

Jack Ashton	(2010)
William Hartley	(2009)
Cyril Cox	(2012)
Shane Hides	(2010)
Diane Wilburn	(2013)

Vicky Church	(2010)
Kathleen Perritt	(2012)
Clive Mason	(2015)
Hazel Ward	(2012)

Week commencing 24th November...

Sunday	Christ the King
8.00am	Said Eucharist
9.30am	Sung Eucharist
11.15am	BCP Holy Communion at St Mary's Riseholme
1.00pm	Baptism
2.00pm	Baptism
3.00pm	Cuppa Time
4.00pm	Worship@4
6.00pm	Evensong
6.00pm	Saints Alive (11-16 yrs) nativity workshop at the Parish Centre
Monday	<i>Catherine, martyr, 4th cent; Isaac Watts, hymn writer, 1748</i>
7.00pm	Handbells in the Parish Centre
7.00pm	Men's Curry Night at The Gate of India, Market Rasen
Tuesday	<i>Feria</i>
9.30am	Ducklings
11.30am	Said Eucharist CW
2.00pm	Craft and Natter in the Parish Centre
7.00pm	Deanery Synod cancelled
Wednesday	<i>Feria</i>
12 noon	BCP Holy Communion
Thursday	<i>Feria</i>
9.30am	CW Eucharist, followed by coffee in the Parish Centre
10.30am	Advent Bible Study – The four Advent candles – I. Patriarchs
Friday	<i>Day of Intercession and thanksgiving for the missionary work of the Church</i>
12.00pm	CW Eucharist for the departed
Saturday	<i>Andrew the Apostle</i>
5.30pm	Vigil Eucharist of Sunday
Sunday	Advent Sunday
8.00am	Said Eucharist
9.30am	Sung Eucharist
1.30pm	Christmas Festive Market
	No Cuppatime, Worship@4 or Evening Prayer

Weekday Morning and Evening Prayer – 9.00am and 6.00pm

Readings Sunday 1 December – Advent Sunday

Isaiah 2.1-5 Psalm 122 Romans 13.11-14 Matthew 24.36-44

Future dates for your diary....

1st December – Festive Market

7th December – 5.30pm. A service of remembrance at Christmas in conjunction with Lincolnshire Co-operative Funeral Services.

Prayer Diary....

Day	Diocese, wider church	Parish
Sunday 24th Christ the King	Pray that as we celebrate the majestic reign of Christ today we may stand with him through our troubles and so reign with him in glory. <i>Pray for the Falkland Islands: The Rt Revd Timothy Thornton – Bishop to the Forces and Bishop to the Falkland Islands</i>	God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory. Amen.
Monday 25th	16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence begin. Please pray for our Archdeacons, Mark Steadman, Justine Allain Chapman and Gavin Kirk, and for their support staff, Sue Wilson and Tom Wilson. <i>Sao Paulo (Brazil): The Rt Revd Flavio Augusto Borges Irala; East Carolina (USA): The Rt Revd Robert Skirving</i>	Our clergy, Reader and Administrator <i>Pray for Fr Richard, Revd Judy. Bishop Nigel, Jane Hanson and Kath Pickering</i> We pray for Church View.
Tuesday 26th	The meeting of the Assets Committee. Please pray for those working on preparations for Lincoln Christmas Market. <i>Sapele (Nigeria): The Rt Revd Blessing Erifeta; East Kerala (South India): The Rt Revd Kayalakkakathu George Daniel</i>	Our choir and organists <i>Pray for choir members, for our Choir Mistress, Margaret Crossland, and our organists</i> We pray for the health centre and healthcare workers.
Wednesday 27th	Please pray for church schools in the Isle of Axholme Deanery. <i>Saskatchewan (Canada): The Rt Revd Michael William Hawkins; Saskatchewan: The Rt Revd Adam Halkett; East Ruwenzori (Uganda): The Rt Revd George Turyasingura; East Tennessee (USA): The Rt Revd Brian Lee Cole</i>	Our churchwardens, sidespeople, readers and intercessors. We pray for the police and emergency service headquarters, police office and emergency services
Thursday 28th	The Crowle Group: Crowle, Garthorpe, Luddington: The Revd Graham Lines. <i>Saskatoon (Canada): The Rt Revd David Irving; Eastern Himalayas (North India): Vacant</i>	Charities we support and the FiSH project We pray for the Parish Council, our representatives on district and county councils, in Parliament and in the European Parliament.
Friday 29th Day of Intercession and Thanksgiving for the Missionary Work of the Church	The Epworth Group: Epworth, West Butterwick, Wroot: The Revd Paul Wilson. <i>Sebei (Uganda): The Rt Revd Paul Kiptoo Masaba; Eastern Kowloon (Hong Kong): The Rt Revd Timothy Kwok; Kyushu (Japan): The Rt Revd Luke Ken-ichi Muto</i>	The Sacristy team and Servers. <i>We pray for the whole team and their ministry for us</i> We pray for village amenities: Mulsanne Park, Village Hall, Old School, Community Hub and Scout and Guide HQ
Saturday 30th Andrew the Apostle	Haxey and Owston: The Revd Mark Zammit (from January 2020). <i>Sekondi (West Africa): The Rt Revd Alexander Asmah; Eastern Michigan (USA): The Rt Revd Todd Ousley</i>	Our Family Church, Cuppa Time, Ducklings and their leaders. We pray for shops, businesses and pubs.
Sunday 1st Advent Sunday Charles de Foucauld, Hermit in the Sahara, 1916. World Aids Day.	Please pray that this Advent season will be one for the Church in our diocese of penitence and preparation as we rekindle our longing for the coming of Jesus to fulfil his Kingdom. <i>Please pray for mission agencies and their work throughout the Anglican Communion</i>	Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Men's Curry Night...

Our Men's Curry Night is a social occasion for current and prospective members of the church. There is no order of service, just a menu! **The next curry night will be TOMORROW evening Monday 25th of November at The Gate of India restaurant in Market Rasen at 7-00pm.**

Please give your name to Bobby Hipgrave in person, or by email at bobby.hipgrave@btinternet.com, or ring Shirley, our Parish Administrator on 01522 931076 (weekdays 9.30-12.30).

Drivers: male or female urgently needed...

Following my recent medical problem and surgery, I have an automatic minimum 6 month loss of driving licence. This leaves our group seriously short of volunteer drivers to transport anyone needing a lift to and from the 9.30am Eucharist each Sunday. We have a rota that fits in with your availability and generally involves each driver once a month. If you think you could help or need more information please contact me, Hugh Carter, group organiser, on 752378 or speak to me at church.

Many thanks, *Hugh*

Help! vergers wanted for weddings and funerals....

Our verger team has become seriously depleted with both Martin and David suffering ill health which leaves yours truly as the remaining verger. Volunteers (ladies or gents) are urgently required to consider this important and rewarding role which is always well appreciated by those we serve. Please contact Wally G in church or on 01522 595963.

and baptisms...

If you think you could spare some time to become a member of the baptism team, please contact Revd Judy Shaw. Training is provided for this very valuable service.

Registering on the website....

We hope you have all been using the website. We have received quite a lot of donations for the tower through it.

If you are a regular attender, you are welcome to log on and become a member. You will be asked a few questions, and get to choose who may see and use the data you give. When you have joined, you should get an email telling you what you can do. Eventually we want to do all our rotas and circulation through this. We can give group leaders the access rights to change dates and information for their activity.

Go to www.asn.church and have a look.

Electoral roll....

On a similar note, there are loads of people involved in things at All Saints who aren't on our Electoral Roll. It doesn't cost you (or us) anything, but it means you occasionally get a vote on things we do at church. There are forms at the back of church and a box to put them in. Or give them to Doug at the 9.30.

Ducklings news....

It is wonderful that our Ducklings are doing so well. Most weeks it is our best-attended event in church. Often around 70+ of you, sometimes more. Some of you are incredibly loyal.

One of the good things is we meet every week, come rain or shine. Holidays or term time. Our team of helpers is fabulous – getting chairs moved, safe floor coverings put down, toys and play equipment set out, and wonderful cakes and drinks. And then putting it all away again. Pauline does a great job coordinating it all. Several mums, dads and carers stay and help afterwards. It would probably be nice if there were a bit of a rota, so have a word with Pauline or Shirley if you'd like to help from time to time.

Christmas is a great time for tiny children. Christmas Eve is a Tuesday this year, and I'd love to give our main helpers a morning off. We thought we'd meet at 9.30 as usual but keep it a bit shorter. So we will have drinks and biscuits when you get there – please let your little ones dress up as a character from a nativity play! Doesn't matter if we have ten Mary's, fifteen angels and six donkeys. We will sing a song and act out a bit of the Bethlehem story. If you can't organise that or your little one is too shy, come anyway and watch. Then we will have some festive cake. We'd particularly like some definite extra helpers for this – our ministry team will run it.

Then we will all have a week off the Tuesday after Christmas.

After Christmas, we are looking at a time for a get together for people who've moved on from Ducklings to Nursery. Probably a social slot on a different morning or in the afternoon after nursery, at the Parish Centre for parents and carers. Talk to Father Richard or Shirley about that. We will miss you if you disappear completely.

Christmas lunch....

This is about giving and receiving. What could be more important at Christmas. I picked up this message on the Nettleham Village Facebook site this week.

Due to the success of last year's Christmas dinner for people in the village who would otherwise be spending the day on their own – we are happy to announce it is back for 2019!

Under the guidance of last year's fantastic team, we are happy to offer a three course Christmas meal to anyone, or any couple who would otherwise be spending Christmas day on their own.

The Christmas meal will take place at the Village Hall in Nettleham between 1pm-3pm and there is no cost to attend.

If you feel that you would be interested in attending the meal, please contact Emma Shaw on (01522) 595177.

To accompany your Christmas meal there will be entertainment, music and a raffle.

We are really looking forward to making this a special day.

If you are likely to be on your own this Christmas, why not join in? If you know someone likely to be on their own, let them know about it. If you want, let Shirley know at the office or Revd Judy, and they will put you in touch.

Secondly, COYAS! Come on, you All Saints! This is a great opportunity to do something for the community, to share love and joy at Christmas, to care for folk in our community, and to show what church-goers are made of. Please get in touch directly if you'd like to help, or donate. Entertainment? Presents? Baking and baked gifts? Carols? I went along last Christmas and it was a really great atmosphere.

Understanding Eucharist: 2....

Last week we thought about the Eucharist in general, and how just turning up and being ready is part of the joyful worship we offer to God in this regular service. Today, we think about the first part of the service itself, known as **The Gathering**.

Our standard service comes from Common Worship, Services and Prayers for the Church of England, published in 2000. Along with its supplementary books for the Times and Seasons, Festivals, Daily Prayer, Pastoral Services, Patterns of Worship and Christian Initiation and the historic Book of Common Prayer 1662, it is a rich and flexible resource and provides the only forms of service allowed by law in the Church of England. We use much more varied material from it than most churches. At its heart, in the main book, with forms of Eucharistic Worship and some seasonal material, Morning and Evening Prayer, collects and proper prayers for main Sundays and a modern version of the Psalms.

There is a list of the actions contained in a modern Eucharist (actually, though modern, it conforms more closely than BCP Holy Communion to the ancient norms of the Western Church). The Order Structure has three actions in **The Gathering**. It says:

The people and the priest

- Greet each other in the Lord's name
- Confess their sins and are assured of God's forgiveness
- Keep silence and pray a Collect

We begin our worship with a hymn in bigger services – a joint expression of joy helping to set the scene for the theme of the day – and an opportunity for the priest and ministers and servers to come in to emphasise this coming into church ready to meet the Lord in Word and Sacrament, and in each other. We open with the words with which we are baptised – In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. We are saying we are the church, the body of Christ, and that is why we are meeting. The greeting is then quite formal – and we should return it positively. Sometimes there is then an informal note of welcome, a seasonal greeting some information about the service.

We are then invited to make our confession in one or other of familiar forms. Repentance is an essential if we really believe we are to meet the Lord and offer God worship with a clean heart. Many people prepare privately what they really want to hold up before God. Nothing keeps us from the love of God and the table fellowship with the Lord Jesus as long as we acknowledge and confess our failings. We then hear from the priest the wonderful words totally assuring us of our forgiveness. At most times of the year, we say or sing a hymn of praise and thanksgiving – the Gloria.

The final section of The Gathering is the Collect. This is a special prayer for the day. Some of these are immensely ancient, all or beautiful and powerful. We always spend a little time in silence preparing to hear and pray the Collect. Silence is a really important part of our worship. We say Amen at the end. This can be a bit of a mumbled formality. Try listening really hard to the prayer, realising we are offering it to God the Father in the power of the Holy Spirit, and through what we have been given by Jesus Christ. Try saying Amen as a response to that awesome idea!

So now we are gathered and ready. Ready to meet the Lord in Holy Scripture, and then in the taking, breaking, blessing and sharing of the Bread. We will think about the encounter in the Word next week. Keep in mind that whilst the Eucharist is a great social function and a time of learning and deepening faith, it is primarily a time of encountering Jesus Christ, of offering to God all we have received, and being charged up to work for the Kingdom until the next time.

Parish Giving Scheme....

The large number of us who joined the Parish Giving Scheme are making a great contribution to the funds we need as a parish. Many of us who joined about the same time have recently received a message from the scheme managers in Gloucester (we pay nothing for the work they do for us). We have been told what a cost of living increase on our past year's contributions would look like. We can adjust our level of giving accordingly. Many of us round up a bit!

We have about 200 people connected with the church and coming to worship of various types, some very frequently and some more occasionally. Everyone who is coming to church on some level ought to think about being a regular giver. At present it is rather fewer than half! I do hope many more will think of joining the Parish Giving Scheme – you can get forms from me, from Russ Coulter or from the Parish Centre. It is a really easy way to give, and if you pay tax, we get some of that back as well. If you are using the scheme, please share with others how good it is to use. Let people know you use it – certainly don't say how much – even I am not allowed to know that! If you are a giver, please think about doing it through the Parish Giving Scheme. If you are in some way part of our wide All Saints Family and don't give regularly, please think about becoming a regular giver through the scheme. Even a few pounds a week paid monthly makes a huge difference. We give mainly for two reasons – because God expects generosity as a sign of our gratitude for all we have received, and because we want to enable the church, both here in Nettleham and across the county, to do its work, praising God, sharing the good news and transforming people and the world.

Our church and our diocese are in need of generous giving if we are to work for growth. The Church of England recommends 5% of net income. Our diocese has the lowest giving per regular giver anywhere in England, though Nettleham does a bit better than the average. However, if every regular of All Saints gave on average £5 per week more than now, we'd have an extra £60,000 a year. I've no idea if that is possible. That'd enable us to keep up with costs, extend our use of the Parish Centre, invest in music and in ministry with young people, help out some less fortunate parishes with their contribution to the wider church and give more generously to mission and needy causes. Smile please – the Lord loves a cheerful giver!

Fr Richard

Contact...

Rector: Father Richard Crossland

rector@asn.church

Desk: 01522 754752

Mobile: 07717 767879

Assistant Curate: Revd Judy Shaw

judy@asn.church

07594 670408

Assistant Bishop: Rt Revd Dr Nigel Peyton

01673 862174

Licensed Reader: Jane Hanson

01522 809846

Ordinand in Training: Kath Pickering

Parish Administrator: Shirley Keyes

01522 931076/931075

admin@asn.church

treasurer@asn.church

07943 099431

Churchwarden: Andy Lewis

Churchwarden: Lynne Combes

01522 823867

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Russ Coulter

safeguarding@asn.church

Pastoral Care Coordinator: Jean Gledhill

gledhills@talktalk.net

01522 751451

Parish & Deanery Office open weekdays 9.30am-12.30pm

To discuss a baptism, wedding or funeral, please call Administrator, Shirley Keyes.

If you need to talk urgently to a priest, please call Fr Richard or Reverend Judy.