

All Saints

NETTLEHAM PARISH CHURCH

St. Mary's

RISEHOLME PARISH CHURCH

The Good News from Nettleham

Sunday 26 July 2020

Trinity 7

No 159

Urgent notice....

The Church of England has issued new guidance on safety when meeting in church buildings, based on government guidance and instructions.

Face-coverings now advised for all going into churches.

"We strongly advise that face coverings should be worn by all those attending a place of worship, including ministers, worshippers, staff, volunteers, contractors and visitors, where there may be other people present; remembering that they are mainly intended to protect other people, not the wearer, from coronavirus COVID-19 and that they are not a replacement for physical distancing and regular hand washing."

Accordingly, with immediate effect, we are advising all who come into All Saints, **please wear a face mask**, as a sign and a means of offering safety as well as hospitality to others. If you do not have one, there are plenty in church. We suggest congregations should keep them on throughout worship but remove them carefully to receive communion. Clergy and ministers will wear them at all times except when speaking. The same advice applies when we open the church for private prayer, and for those visiting the Parish Centre. Please use sanitiser, including before and after touching masks, and keep 2m distance where possible.

Young children and those with specific conditions are under no pressure to comply with guidance on masks – details later in GNFN. **Fr Richard 25 July**

Father Richard writes...

As we tentatively take steps to emerge from our Coronavirus shelter, to meet a little, and even, praise be, to worship together, we will need not to be over ambitious, and we will need to keep safety paramount. However, we need now to take steps to create a normality that learns from the lessons of our lockdown - all the pious hopes that everything will be not just back to normal but better - all the aspirations that the weaknesses in our own lifestyles, the lifestyles of our church and of our nation and world, will be addressed. We need to see that the weaknesses the virus has cleverly exploited are of our own making and within our control. Those who have suffered most have been those who were already suffering most, and their suffering is the result of our comfortable lifestyle and our complacency about others. Complacency or complicity?

I have been despairing for some time about the lack of Christian solidarity with those most in need. The gospel couldn't be clearer - up with the poor and down with the rich - I say it every day in the words of the Magnificat from Luke. All are equal in the sight of God - you cannot read the New Testament without seeing the dawning realisation of those under the influence of Jesus that the good news is for everyone, Jew and Gentile, women and men, saints and sinners, fit or disabled. Together rather than alone - made in the image of God, who is three persons held in unity, built for community. Respecting sacrificial weakness above acquisitive power-handling. This is so not our society, so not our church - in Nettleham, in the diocese, at national level and in most parts of the world. It is certainly not the common mind of the nation and other nations, or their governments, their media, their economic systems.

We as Christians are called to make a church that reflects Christian values. The church then will be able to model a contrasting way of living and being for the whole of society. But the church is riddled with prejudice and wholly unrepresentative of the global community our lord sought to address. It is patriarchal, middle class and white, homophobic, racist and afraid of diversity, complicit in planetary destruction, unsacrificial, property conscious and afraid of real change. Not all, but in general, and in overall impact. Unless we preach the gospel we have received, and seek to overthrow injustice by living that gospel, we might as well not bother with reopening our building, sorting out our online resources, raising money for the tower. We might as well not bother trying to solve the financial and missional problems of the diocese. A handful of vibrant churches speaking truth to power like the prophets, preferring Samaritans over historic settlers, challenging abuse of wealth and power, and living as a demonstration of the new creation, would be more effective for God's purposes in the incarnation of the word than a vast network of pretty churches with regular worship unconnected with the Messiah Revolution.

Diocesan Synod met last Saturday online, to look at hard questions about what kind of church we wanted to be in the future. What kind of church we could afford to be. What kind of church the lord came to teach us to be. These will be tough times, with uncomfortable change. But it must not be about how much of how we have always been we can hang onto. It must be about what we can most effectively create out of what we have that will enable us to flourish and transform the world. Flourish, not just as well cared for buildings and enough givers and doers to get by, but flourish as God-centred drivers of a new agenda of love, light and peace. The general burden of the proposed changes has been set out in a paper from Bishop David which is included in this edition of the Good News from Nettleham. The real purpose, however, is set out in Bishop Nicholas' opening address, which can be watched [at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Yl-Elk6c8s&feature=emb_title](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Yl-Elk6c8s&feature=emb_title).

Prayer of the week...

Father, you have given all peoples one common origin.

It is your will that they be gathered together as one family in yourself.

Fill the hearts of mankind with the fire of your love and with the desire to ensure justice for all.

By sharing the good things you give us, may we secure an equality for all our brothers and sisters throughout the world.

May there be an end to division, strife and war.

May there be a dawning of a truly human society built on love and peace.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

Quote of the week....

"To know what is right and not to do it is the worst cowardice." *Confucius*

In need of prayer....

Roy Smith, Jim Vincent, Carolyn Robbins, Bryan Holt, David Herbert, Jan Cleveland, Annette Lane and Heather Haynes,

RIP....

We give thanks for the lives, pray for the souls and ask comfort for the relatives and friends of David Robbins.

Year's Mind

28 July
30 July
1 August

David Haigh (2002)
Jacqueline Newby (2013)
Derrick Buckingham (2010)

Today's Readings - Trinity 7

1 Kings 3.5-12 Psalm 119.129-136 Romans 8.26-39 Matthew 13.31-33,44-52

Our prayer lists...

All names will remain and be prayed for over a 4-week period. If you, or a relative, wish to remain on the list you will need to contact us again. Please email Shirley (admin@asn.church) or ring 01522 931076.

Please contact Shirley too if you wish to be prayed for in private i.e. your name is not publicly shared just within the ministry team.

This week's services...

Sunday

10.00am

Trinity 7

Facebook Live – Holy Communion (uploaded to the ASN website later)

4.00pm

Informal service of worship – follow it on the website
www.asn.church/worship/worship@4 online

6.00pm

Healing and Wholeness Service in church only

Monday

9.00am

Morning Prayer on Facebook Live with Martin Farmer

10.00am

Bible Reflection on Zoom. Email Teena (teena@asn.church) for a meeting ID and passcode please.

Tuesday

9.00am

Morning Prayer on Facebook Live with Jean Carter

Wednesday

9.00am

Morning Prayer on Facebook Live.

Thursday

9.00am

Morning Prayer on Zoom with Sandy and Andy. Email Andy (allsaintscw@btinternet.com) to receive a meeting ID and passcode.

10.00am

Holy Communion on Facebook Live at the All Saints Nettleham page

Friday

9.00am

Morning Prayer on Zoom with Judy and other members of the ministry team. Email Judy (judeshaw.shaw3@gmail.com) for a meeting ID and passcode please.

10.00am

Holy Communion from the Book of Common Prayer on the Facebook Live All Saints Nettleham page

Saturday

9.00am

Morning Prayer on Facebook Live.

Prayer Diary....

Day	Diocese, wider church	Parish
Sunday 26 th 7 th Sunday after Trinity	Jesus said: "God's kingdom is like yeast that a woman mixes into a big bowl of flour to make bread. The yeast makes all the dough rise." <i>Please pray for the team responsible for preparing the Lambeth Conference, which was due to be taking place now – please pray for them as they consider the implications of its postponement in light of the Covid-19 pandemic</i>	Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Monday 27 th Anne & Joachim, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary	The South Cliff Group: Revd Stuart Hadley Pray for our ten parishes at the southern end of the Cliff Road learning to lead their churches into growth. <i>Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island (Canada) The Most Revd Ronald Wayne Cutler; Bida (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Jonah Kolo; Karachi (Pakistan) The Rt Revd Sadiq Daniel</i>	Our clergy, Reader and Administrator. <i>Pray for Fr Richard, Revd Judy. Bishop Nigel and Teena Twelves.</i> We pray for the police headquarters, the police office and emergency services.
Tuesday 28 th	Brant Broughton w Stragglethorpe & Beckingham: Revd Chris Goldsmith <i>Nsukka (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Aloysius Agbo; Biharamulo (Tanzania) The Rt Revd Yusuph Vithalis; Karamoja (Uganda) The Rt Revd Joseph Abura</i>	Our choir and organists <i>Pray for choir members, for our Choir Mistress, and our organists</i> We pray for the parish council, our representatives on district and county councils and in Parliament.
Wednesday 29 th Mary, Martha & Lazarus, Companions of our Lord	Leadenham & Welbourn: Revd Chris Goldsmith "We pray that we would be open to the Holy Spirit's leading and teaching and show us how to be Christ's disciples in this place and time. Give us wisdom, openness and bravery to listen to him and follow wherever he may take us. Amen" <i>Nyahururu (Kenya) The Rt Revd Stephen Kabora; Birmingham (England) The Rt Revd David Andrew Urquhart</i>	Our churchwardens, sidespeople, readers and intercessors. We pray for the shops, businesses and pubs.
Thursday 30 th William Wilberforce, Social Reformer 1833, Olaudah Equiano 1797 and Thomas Clarkson 1846: Anti-Slavery Campaigners	Claypole: Revd Tony Tucker <i>Nzara (South Sudan) The Rt Revd Richard Bbikoyesu Aquilla; Blackburn (England) The Rt Revd Julian Tudor Henderson; Bo (Sierra Leone) (West Africa) The Rt Revd Solomon Leonard Scott-Manga</i>	Charities we support and the FiSH project We pray for village amenities: Mulsanne Park, Village Hall and the Old School.

Friday 31 st Ignatius of Loyola, Founder of the Society of Jesus, 1556	Saxonwell: Revd Harriet Orridge <i>Missionary District of Oeste-Brasil (Brazil)</i> The Most Revd Naudal Alves Gomes (Primate) Boga (Congo) The Rt Revd Mugenyi William Bahemuka Port Elizabeth (Southern Africa) The Rt Revd Edward Ronald Daniels	The Sacristy team and Servers. We pray for the whole team and their ministry for us We pray for village amenities: The Community Hub and Scout and Guide HQ
Saturday 1st	The Deanery of Lawres: Fr Richard Crossland, Rural Dean; Russ Coulter, Lay Chair. <i>Missionary District of Oeste-Brasil (Brazil):</i> Vacant; Boga (Congo): The Rt Revd Mugenyi William Bahemuka; Port Elizabeth (Southern Africa): The Rt Revd Edward Ronald Daniels	Our Family Church, Cuppa Time, Ducklings and their leaders whilst not meeting We pray for the residents of All Saints Lane, The Rowans and The Chestnuts.

A letter from the bishops, archdeacons, elected chairs and Diocesan Secretary ...

20 July 2020

Dear Friends,

We are writing to you as members of the family of the church in the Diocese of Lincoln. The Diocesan Synod met on Saturday 18th July and received recommendations from the working groups that it set up in November 2019. Some of you may have been at the meeting so will have heard what was said in person, but we felt it important to write to everyone who is part of the diocesan family so that we could all begin the process of thinking and praying through the implications of the different recommendations together.

In his presentation to Synod, Bishop David set out what we sense many of us already know: that we cannot afford the pattern of ministry to which we have aspired and that the struggle to maintain buildings and worship services in their current pattern is taking an unsustainable toll on us all. Faithful church officers are tired. Faithful clergy and lay ministers are over-burdened.

In facing this reality, it is important, however, to note that the last years have seen some really positive things: levels of commitment to the Church in the diocese are high despite the challenges; the rate of decline in attendance at worship has slowed significantly; we are no longer at the bottom of the Church of England's table for giving; many of our congregations, of all types and across the different parts of the diocese, have grown in confidence and some in numbers.

So we are at a turning point: we need to recognise and build from places of strength and we need to rethink how we deploy our different resources in order to move on from the debilitating effects of trying to 'keep things going', only with fewer people, and with greater numbers of churches and parishes being asked to work together in ever larger isolated and independent units.

Here are some of the main themes of the recommendations from Bishop's Council to Synod and thus to us all:

- Distance and the effects of isolation are big issues for the people of Lincoln Diocese. Let's tackle these by building shared ministry teams of clergy and laity, working not over single parishes or benefices but across areas that match those of our Local Authorities: we need to support each other and bring different gifts to bear.
- Our parish share, which is the common fund that together with our income from historical assets pays for our stipendiary clergy and the diocesan staff that support our parishes, is continuing to decline. Let's think again about parish share and move towards

an approach in which parishes are empowered to contribute towards the common fund as an act of covenant or promise: we need to know that our gift enables our life together, and that as we give, so we also receive.

- Our church buildings, so important to so many in our communities, are challenging to maintain and do not always have the facilities that are necessary for worship or hospitality today and into the future. Can we recognise that our Christian life, as every other aspect of life today, now has 'multiple layers of belonging'? - That as we probably shop at a supermarket for some things but in our neighbourhood shop for others so we might worship on a Sunday in one well-provided for building but during the week choose to meet for prayer or study more locally: we need to revisit, update and build on the work that was done about 'church categorisation' and then move swiftly to implementation.

- Finally, and this theme relates to all of the above, we must cut our coat according to our cloth, which means that we must be responsible about costs, more transparent and mutually accountable in every respect, and, generally, more modest in our expectations: our diocese is very rich in many ways, but we must be humble as we deploy these riches and always mindful of the vulnerable, the poor and the marginalised.

In giving you these 'main themes' we want to emphasise that what was presented to Synod on Saturday is, we believe, hopeful, positive and honest. Over 60 people contributed to the different working groups, drawn from across the diocese, lay and ordained. In adopting their recommendations, we are committing to a programme that will be challenging to us all, but that we believe offers us the best chance to build on our strengths together, while tackling those areas of our life that have been persistently difficult to address.

In the autumn, we will be holding a series of public meetings across the diocese (at which participation will also be possible by electronic means) during which we will share more, listen to suggestions and be able to discuss with you how this way forward will be implemented. On 21st November, Diocesan Synod will take decisions about implementation so that we can then begin to put plans into action during 2021.

This has been a difficult year for everyone. The bishops wrote in their 'Ad Clerum' last week particularly about the impact of Covid-19 and about Black Lives Matter, but set these issues within the context of other important things such as climate change and our own life together as a diocese. They commented that at this 'turning-point time' they profoundly believe that we have the resources to meet our different challenges by working together. We are all committed to this shared working and commend the recommendations presented at Synod to you for your prayers and consideration. With profound thanks for your fellowship in the gospel,

Bishop David, Bishop Nicholas, Reverend David Dadswell (Diocesan Secretary), Archdeacon Gavin Kirk, Archdeacon Mark Steadman, Archdeacon Justine Allain Chapman, Canon Nigel Bacon (Chair of House of Laity), Chris Clarke (Chair of LTDBF), Reverend Aly Buxton (Chair of House of Clergy)

Exemptions from Face-covering Advice....

You do not need to wear a face covering if you have a legitimate reason not to.

This includes:

- young children under the age of 11
- not being able to put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment, or disability
- if putting on, wearing or removing a face covering will cause you severe distress
- if you are travelling with or providing assistance to someone who relies on lip reading to communicate
- to avoid harm or injury, or the risk of harm or injury, to yourself or others
- to avoid injury, or to escape a risk of harm, and you do not have a face covering with you
- to eat or drink, but only if you need to (e.g. *to receive communion!*)
- to take medication
- if a police officer or other official requests you remove your face covering.

Community Support Volunteers...

There will be two short meetings of the Community Support Volunteers on Monday 27 July at The Black Horse in Nettleham. The first meeting at 6.00pm is for those who have volunteered to make errands and the next one at 7.00pm is for those manning the phones. Don't worry if you can't make it as we will relay all the information to you. Alternatively, we could try setting up a Zoom connection if this would help? *Rev'd Judy*

Services...

Please come along to our services in church on Thursday (Common Worship Eucharist) and Friday (BCP Communion.) It isn't absolutely necessary to book for these but it does help us plan more effectively. Booking is essential though for the Sunday Eucharist. Don't forget it is our **Healing and Wholeness Service this evening (26 July) in church only at 6.00pm.** Everyone welcome. *Shirley*

Thank you...

Many thanks for all the cards, prayers and good wishes I have received from so many during the last few months.

It will have been a very difficult time for many of you and I hope you have received the help you have needed.

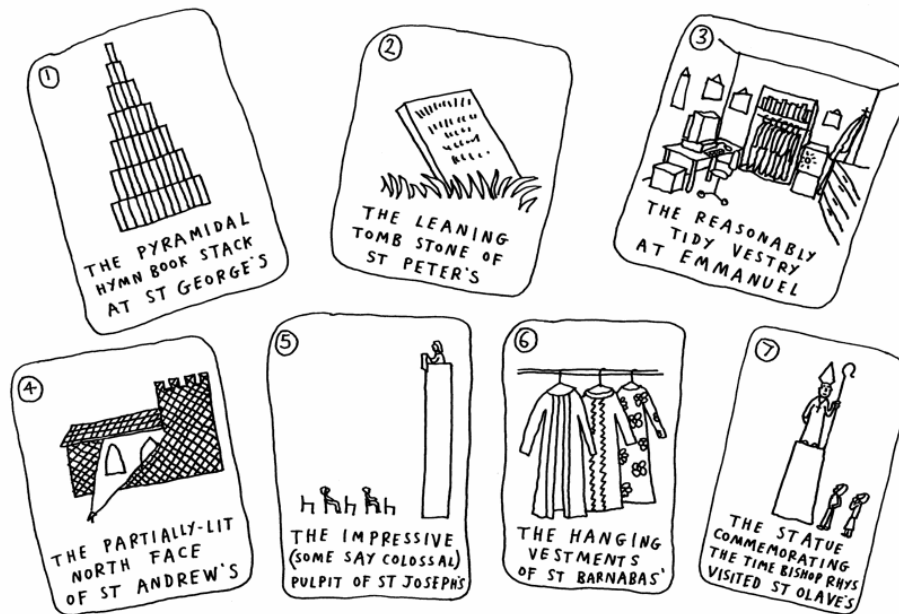
God bless. Love *Mavis Kirton*

Cartoon of the week...

(This CartoonChurch.com cartoon by Dave Walker originally appeared in the Church Times.)

THE SEVEN WONDERS

OF THE DEANERY



CartoonChurch.com

Contact...

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Curate: Teena Twelves

Parish Administrator: Shirley Keyes

01522 931076/931075
admin@asn.church

Treasurer: Russ Coulter

treasurer@asn.church
07943 099431

Churchwarden: Andy Lewis

01522 823867

Churchwarden: Lynne Combes

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Russ Coulter

safeguarding@asn.church

Pastoral Care Coordinator: Jean Gledhill

gledhills@talktalk.net
01522 751451

Parish & Deanery Virtual Office open weekdays 9.30am-12.30pm

To discuss a baptism, wedding or funeral, please call Administrator, Shirley Keyes.
If you need to talk to a priest, please call Fr Richard or Reverend Judy.

Father Richard is currently on annual leave.