

The Good News for Nettleham

Sun 1st December

First Sunday of Advent

No 344

Sun 1st	First Sunday of Advent
8.30am	Said Holy Communion
10.00am	The Parish Communion (<i>with a little 'background' incense</i>)
4.00pm	Quiet Advent Service
6.00pm	Youth
Mon 2nd	
9.00am	Morning Prayer on Facebook Live with Martin
10.00am	Coffee Shop
3.15pm	Families
6.00pm	Scout and Guide Christmas Celebration
7.00pm	Handbell Ringers in Rooms 19&20
Tues 3rd	
9.00am	Morning Prayer on Facebook Live with Jean
9.30am	Ducklings
10.00am	CBS at the Methodist Church
Weds 4th	
9.00am	Morning Prayer on Zoom with Andy. Email allsaintscw@btinternet.com
10.00am	Churchwardens meeting in Rooms 19/20
2.00pm	Flower Meeting in Church
2.30pm	Christingle at Nettleham Infant and Nursery School
5.00pm	Carol Singing at Tennyson Wharf
Thurs 5th	
9.00am	Morning Prayer in All Saints Church
2.00pm	The Funeral Service of Tony Grafton
2.00pm	Choir Practice at Nettleham Methodist Church
6.00pm	Advent Course in Offices 19/20
Fri 6th	
9.00am	Morning Prayer on Zoom with Yola. Email yjdeane@gmail.com
10.00am	Advent Course (10.30am start with drinks served from 10am)
12.00pm	BCP Holy Communion
7.00pm	The Hungate Singers Concert in Church
Sat 7th	
4.00pm	Quiet Christmas Service with Lincolnshire Cooperative Funeral Services
Sun 8th	Second Sunday of Advent
8.30am	Said Holy Communion
10.00am	The Parish Communion including the Baptism of Lola and Marvin
11.15am	BCP Mattins at St Mary's Riseholme
6.00pm	Youth

The Second Sunday of Advent

Malachi 3.1-4 The Benedictus Philippians 1.3-11 Luke 3.1-6

Prayer for our Community

Sunday	1 st Streets: Riseholme Lane, Hall Lane, St George's Lane Community: St Mary's Church
Monday	2 nd Streets: Grange de Lings, Riseholme Farms Community: University of Lincoln
Tuesday	3 rd Streets: Lincoln Road, Welton Road Community: Becksid Nursery
Wednesday	4 th Streets: Washdyke Lane, Cliff Avenue Community: Conservation Groups
Thursday	5 th Streets: Greetwell Lane, Beech Avenue, Cherry Tree Lane Community: Farming
Friday	6 th Streets: Kingsway, Dalderby Crescent, Manor Court and Sutton Close Community: Christian Groups
Saturday	7 th Streets: High Street, Bridge Street, Becksid, The Rookery, Watermill Lane Community: Methodist Chapel

In need of prayer.... Steve Jackson and Lynne Combes.

RIP.... We give thanks for the lives, pray for the souls, and ask comfort for the relatives and friends of Ray Ridley, Tony Grafton, George Walker and Ann Harrison.

Year's Mind... James Vincent, Cynthia Watson, Dennis Tate and Kenneth Gowers

St Mary's, Riseholme...

Our pattern of worship is:

2nd Sunday in the month BCP Matins at 11.15am

4th Sunday in the month BCP Holy Communion at 11.15am

You will always find a warm welcome at St Mary's. If you would like to get involved in a pre-Christmas church clean on Monday 9th December please speak to Richard Smith – *Churchwarden*.

Contacts...

Priest in Charge: Revd Michelle Webb

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Associate Priest: Revd Judy Shaw

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Parish Administration:

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Treasurer: Simon Hardy

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Churchwarden: Andy Lewis 07943 099431

Churchwarden: John Dent 07985554775

Churchwarden: Richard Smith (St Mary's).

01522 542209

All Saints Safeguarding Officer: Russ Coulter.

safeguarding@asn.church

St Mary's Safeguarding Officer : R. Smith.

richard@richbar.plus.com

Growing Faith:

Advent Study: We're planning this year's four session advent course. We hope to offer one daytime opportunity at 10.30 on Friday mornings (starting 29/11/24) and one evening at 6pm on Thursday in Offices 19/20 in The Hub (starting 28/11/24).

Community Bible Study (CBS) UK Are you interested in studying the Bible? Or just curious about it? Community Bible Study (CBS) is a worldwide, inter-denominational system of Bible study that uses a combination of personal study and group discussion, suitable for all ages and abilities. Our Nettleham study group meets during term time in the Methodist Church Hall on Tuesdays from 10.00am to 12 noon. If you're interested see Andy Lewis.

Serving:

Carols on the Green: Would you be able to help with the smooth running of Carols on the Green at 7pm on 24th December. We need stewards, collectors and carol sheet distributors. Talk to Andy if you are able to help.

Community:

GNFN Prayer Update: At the beginning of December we have renewed the names of those included in the prayer list of GNFN. If you are not currently on the prayer list, and would like to be on the list, please just let us know and we will keep you added. If you would like to add someone, with their permission, that's absolutely fine too!

Alpha: Alpha will run at Nettleham Methodist Church in January 2025. If you'd like to help out or go along please see Michelle for more information.

Lunch Together: On 13th February, everyone is invited to the Rugby Club for a meal at 12.30pm. Menu: Cottage pie with vegetables and gravy or Lasagne and salad with veggie options on both. Lemon meringue or chocolate fudge cake. With tea or coffee £15.50. See Kath Ersser to sign up.

Generosity:

Advent Appeal: We have been supporting families experiencing food poverty during school holidays through the FiSH project for some years. The project will not be run centrally this Christmas but we still feel it is essential to offer this support via our local schools this Christmas. If everyone in our church donated £10 we could bless so many families this Christmas. Please would you consider making a 'one off' donation this Advent? All monies received by 12th December will be converted into vouchers to give, via school, to local families who are in need at this time of year. If you are able to support this we would be so very grateful. Please give monies to Simon Hardy (treasurer), John Dent (churchwarden) or Andy Lewis (churchwarden).

Standing Orders: The bank now charges us 35p to receive a standing order. If you haven't tried the Parish Giving Scheme before... why not give it a go? We receive all PGS monies in one transaction which means only one charge for all donations made through it! Speak to Simon if you'd like to find out more!

Revd Thomas writes...

A strange paradoxical idea on Advent Sunday, the first day of the Christian year, is Jesus' message of the 'Day of the Lord' - God's final act of salvation and judgement at the end of time. We are not solely looking forward with great anticipation to the pleasures of Christmas, but rather to the event that is mentioned in the Eucharist during the prayer of consecration and in the creed, Christ's coming in glory to judge the living and the dead. Early Christians were expecting the event of the final cataclysm of the 'Day of the Lord' to occur very shortly. There was a general expectation then, that the world would end in a final and total destruction and would follow quickly on the heels of the resurrection and so many of the personal relationships within the early church were specially adapted with that particular event in mind.

In a way we have much more difficulty with this idea - it is to us an event that may or may not happen. After all two thousand years have gone by without the physical cataclysmic event that has ended the world and brought all things back to God, although we have been perilously close in recent generations. However we should be a little careful about some of these ideas as they tend not to comfort, or show a love and compassion which is at the heart of our understanding of God's nature. It is not the event that ends the world that should cause us personal concern but our own finitude, our own mortality, our own impermanence and temporality. The judgement happens, God is revealed for a second time - not now as the babe in Bethlehem but as the risen and glorified one. In a season that points to Christmas, an event so immersed in peace and joy, light and love, many are scandalised that Christians seem to want to make of it such a sombre remembrance of the finality of death, judgement, heaven and hell - collectively known as 'the four last things'. If this is the case, then so be it. But we who hear the redeeming message of hope in the life and works of Jesus, through his passion - the pain, crisis, agony, sweat, gore, stench and blood of the cross, are fully aware that it is only through such vulnerability and self-emptying that we can experience the awesome grace of God. Liberated by Jesus's life freely offered up, on the cross, once for all as a perfect sacrifice oblation and satisfaction for our sins and the sins of the world, we dare to walk in the light, we dare to hope, and we dare to say we are redeemed and saved. The "parousia" - the second coming - is already here and it is about us. Indeed, and this is a mystery, we need look no further than the times that when we are privileged to communicate directly with God in the Eucharist, the thanksgiving, at the altar. Memorial it may be, but our faith says it is more - it is the visible sign to us NOW of the future glory which is to come and of which we are promised to be partakers. The Communion is the living proof of God's love so freely given.

Weekly Prayer

People of God: awake! The day is coming soon when you shall see God face to face. Remember the ways and the works of God. God calls you out of darkness to walk in the light of his coming. You are God's children.

Lord, make us one as we walk with Christ today and forever. **Amen.**