

**Tue 17<sup>th</sup>** 7.00 pm Said Eucharist for Healing & Wholeness  
 7.45 pm 'In Depth' group meet, 4a Caistor Rd  
**Wed 18<sup>th</sup>** 9.30 am Said Eucharist  
 2.00 pm MU Meeting: speaker - David Belford  
 7.00 pm Ladies' Group  
**Thu 19<sup>th</sup>** 9.30 -11.30 Open Door  
 Home Communions

**Sunday November 22<sup>nd</sup> - Christ the King**

8.00 am Said Eucharist  
 9.30 am Parish Eucharist  
 6.00 pm Sung Evensong  
**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup>** 10.15 am Toddler Time  
 7.00 pm Said Eucharist

7.30 pm PCC meeting  
**Tue 24<sup>th</sup>** 7.00 pm Said Eucharist  
 7.30 pm *Deanery Synod/Circuit at Barrow*

**Wed 25<sup>th</sup>** 9.30 am Said Eucharist  
 2.00 pm MU Prayer Time

**Thu 26<sup>th</sup>** 9.30 -11.30 **Open Door**

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Festival – 'Open Door' will run**

**Sunday November 29<sup>th</sup> - Advent 1**

8.00 am Said Eucharist.  
 9.30 am Parish Eucharist.  
 4.00 pm Baptisms.  
 6.00 pm Advent Procession

**Mon 30<sup>th</sup>** 10.15 am Toddler Time  
 7.00 pm Said Eucharist (St Andrew's Day)

*Morning Prayer is usually said at 9.00 am Monday-Friday in the S<sup>t</sup>. James' Chapel.*



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## Copy Deadlines for the December edition

Would all contributors please submit material by **Sunday November 22<sup>nd</sup>** at the absolute latest – and preferably before!

## LITTLE ME

If I had a shred of Protestant credibility left about me, it probably evaporated when I joined about 300,000 others in venerating the relics of the 19<sup>th</sup> century French saint Thérèse of Lisieux during her visit this October. (Mind, I was in good company at York Minster, since a large number of cathedral dignitaries were enthusiastically there, and I recognised at least one respectable Methodist minister in the front row resplendent in his cassock. If the Protestant Reformation Society *is* out to get me, I'm in good company!)

I think it's fair to say that not everyone 'does' relics (though the prices paid for personal mementoes of celebrities – Michael Jackson's glove, for example – make me think it's a widespread human instinct to want a physical link with an important figure). However, this particular saint, who died young, was neither well-travelled nor well-educated, and never achieved any position of authority even within her own convent came up with an insight into the Christian journey which – especially at All Saints' Tide – has something for us all to ponder. Not only did she insist on the overwhelming primacy of God's love (and the call to show that love), she concluded that the most ordinary and humdrum life still gives opportunities for that love to be shown, and that all that matters is for those opportunities to be taken. Smallness is no bar to holiness. Thus her 'Little Way' was born.

So much for Thérèse, inexplicably not yet a part of the Anglican calendar. My own spirituality is that of a very mediocre follower of another non-ordained monastery-dweller, Benedict. And, surprise, surprise, as I read Benedict, so that same message comes across. His rule is a 'Little Rule' – as the Dutch Benedictine oblate (an oblate is someone who takes on many of the obligations of a religious community while not living within its walls) Wil Derkse observes, “Benedict writes that this is a rule for beginners. He does not mean by that, that after reading it and after sufficient practice we are promoted to the following level.... On the contrary there is *only* this rule for beginners. *We remain* always and daily beginners on our pilgrim road....”

There is a poem from the eleventh century (no, *not* in Anglo-Saxon!), 'The martyrdom of the Theban Legion', one of whose members was Maurice, patron saint of Horkstow Church. In it, the author, Sigebert of Gembloux, reflects on his smallness as he begins, 'I tried to make a garland for the

## November Diary

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> - All Saints' Day

8.00 am	Said Eucharist
9.30 am	Parish Eucharist
11.15 am	Sunday Club
2.30 pm	Service at the Willows
6.00 pm	Choral Evensong

### Mon 2<sup>nd</sup>

9.00 am	All Souls' Day Requiem Eucharist
10.15 am	Toddler Time

### Tues 3<sup>rd</sup>

7.00 pm	Said Eucharist
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### Wed 4<sup>th</sup>

9.30 am	Said Eucharist ( <i>MU Corporate</i> )
2.00 pm	Service at Eagle House
7.00 pm	Ladies' Group

### Thu 5<sup>th</sup>

9.30 -11.30	Open Door
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### Sunday November 8<sup>th</sup> - 3 before Advent: Remembrance Sunday

8.00 am	Said Eucharist
9.30 am	Parish Eucharist
11.30 am	Service of Remembrance
4.00 pm	Baptisms
6.00 pm	Evening Prayer

### Mon 9<sup>th</sup>

9.30 am	<i>Clergy chapter at Scawby</i>
10.15 am	Toddler Time

### Tue 10<sup>th</sup>

2.00 pm	Standing Committee meets at the Vicarage
7.00 pm	Said Eucharist

### Wed 11<sup>th</sup>

9.30 am	Said Eucharist
2.00 pm	Service at Beech House
7.15 pm	Ministry Team meets at the Vicarage

### Thu 12<sup>th</sup>

9.30 -11.30	Open Door
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### Nov 14<sup>th</sup>

10.00-12.00	Christmas Bazaar in the Hall
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### Sunday November 15<sup>th</sup> - 2 before Advent

8.00 am	Said Eucharist
9.30 am	Family Worship
6.00 pm	Parish Eucharist

### Mon 16<sup>th</sup>

10.15 am	Toddler Time
10.15 am	Home Communion - St. Peter's Court
11.00 am	Home Communion - Victoria House
7.00 pm	Sidsmens'/womens' meeting in Church

## NOVEMBER AT ROPERY HALL

Original jazz and homage to the music of Bob Dylan are among the acts in November at Ropery Hall.

Sarah Gillespie, whose music has been described as a bracingly eclectic mix of Beat poetry with jazz, folk and Middle Eastern elements, is appearing on Saturday, November 14 with her quartet as part of a country wide tour promoting her new single, How The Mighty Fall.

The following Saturday turn the clock back to the 1960s and enjoy a night of Bob Dylan for Subterranean Homesick Yorkshire Blues when five musicians/poets will pay tribute to the legendary star with live music, poetry and humour.

For more details, including ticket prices, see [www.roperhall.co.uk](http://www.roperhall.co.uk) or pick up the Autumn 2009 programme from The Ropewalk.



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saints....' and realises his inability to produce anything wonderful out of his life, nothing to compare with the laurel wreath of the victor, or the roses of the martyr. And eventually, he is driven to make his wreath from privet flowers, commonplace, everyday, of little obvious merit. But he concludes, 'And yet revile it not, for it is love.'

All Saints' Tide celebrates the small people like us, who nevertheless are called to show the love of God in this place where we are. It is the only place we can do this, the place where we stand *now*. Privet flowers, not lilies or roses or laurel wreaths are what we offer. Yet offer it we do — and it is received with honour as the gift of love.

*Fr David*

## NEW YEAR FOR CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES

The last Sunday in October brought us to the end of the year of Stewardship envelopes. Many thanks to all who have given conscientiously and regularly. We hope you have received your new box.

The scheme is an essential part of the funding of St. Mary's Church; so if anyone else would like to start using this method of giving, starting in November, please contact either of the Churchwardens Geoff or Val. Thanks go also to those whose Planned Giving is done by using the Standing Order system. Again, if you would like to start using this method, please ask one of the Churchwardens, or Alan Mabbott, the Treasurer or David Dukes, the Planned Giving Secretary

God has been generous to us; we are called to reflect this generosity. John 3,16-17



## LADIES' GROUP: Harvest Supper

Superbly set tables with lovely flower arrangements greeted 78 members as they arrived for the annual harvest supper. After Grace said by Brenda Skinner we all enjoyed one of Cook's of New Holland's excellent buffet meals. On the menu were such things as succulent roast ham, pork, chicken and a variety of quiches and salads served with hot new potatoes and homemade pickles. Tempting desserts such as strawberry Pavlova, crème caramel, caramel cheesecake and fresh fruit salad for the weight conscious followed, not forgetting the double cream!!! And to help that down, wine and fruit juice.

We were all put to the test with a quiz compiled by Sandra Dean. Here is a sample of the questions for you to answer!!!!

1. *What was Mr. Hudson's Christian name in upstairs Downstairs?*
2. *Where on a dress would you find a leg of Mutton?*
3. *Which flower is Mary Quant's logo?*
4. *What is the common name for hypermetropia?*
5. *What is the nickname given to the Vicar's neckwear?*
6. *What is the collective name for a group of heron?*
7. *On which day of the week during part of Henry V111's reign could a person be hanged for eating meat?*
8. *Who or what is the second biggest land owner in Great Britain?*
9. *What would you do with an Eton Mess?*
10. *What is the minimum age for buying fireworks?*

(Please ask Sue for the answers!!!!)

Brenda's team won with 32 points and Cathy's team brought up the rear!!!!

The flower arrangements were raffled, a round of applause was given to Cook's of New Holland, and Wendy Stow thanked the Committee for a lovely evening.



## BISHOP JOHN'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

First of all, can I remind you about the Taster Day in the Cathedral on Saturday 14th November at 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. for those who want to explore approaches to prayer and so discover what works best for you. No need to book, and there is no charge – just come along and I will look forward to welcoming you. A packed lunch would be a good idea.

Meanwhile, we are delighted that the Archbishop of Canterbury will be with us from 5 – 8th March next year as we mark the Centenary of the death of Bishop Edward King. The Archbishop likes to visit Dioceses when he can, but it is unusual for him to give so much time to one place, so we consider ourselves to be rather privileged.

On Friday 5th March he will be celebrating Fresh Expressions of Church with people coming to Lincoln from all over the country. Apparently we are a bit of a market leader when it comes to promoting and resourcing Fresh Expressions, so it is a chance to showcase some of those initiatives.

Saturday 6th March sees the Archbishop giving a Lecture in the Cathedral at 11.00 a.m. and then Presiding at a celebration of the Eucharist at 2.30 p.m. when we hope all Parishes will be represented. Further details about these events, and how to secure tickets, will be notified in due course but for now please put this date in your diary.

In addition, the Archbishop will travel to the north of the Diocese on Sunday 7th and the south of the Diocese on Monday 8th after Celebrating the Eucharist in the Chapel of Edward King House on Edward King Day.

By no means least, he will meet Ordinands and Readers in training, visit the U2charist project and dine with Civic, Business and Voluntary Sector leaders so as to get a feel for our context and the challenges we face.

All in all, it should be a very special weekend for us, and I hope as many people as possible will be able to share in our celebrations.

+John Lincoln

## SAMARITAN'S PURSE - OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX APPEAL 2009

The completed boxes need to arrive at Church or at 77 Bowmandale by Sunday 8th November 2009 as I expect to be making arrangements for their collection very shortly after that date.

I should be very grateful if completed boxes could be brought to St. Mary's, at service times on Sundays or Wednesday mornings only, so that they can be stored safely. Alternatively they can be brought to 77 Bowmandale: I suggest you phone first to make sure there is someone at home. If you would have difficulty delivering your box, please contact me and ask for it to be collected.

Many thanks

Rosemary Lamert

.....

### PARISH REGISTERS

#### BAPTISMS:

September 13 **Charlotte Nicole Leeman**, daughter of **Patricia Annette & Charles Peter Leeman**

October 11 **Sol Jacob Finley Ellam & Poppy Matilda Hart**, son & daughter of **Rebecca Hayes & Simon Hart**

October 11 **Sophie Phoebe Merigo & Harry Edward George Frith**, daughter & son of **Andrea Clare & Sean Frith**

October 18 **Jacob Damien Johnson**, son of **Nicola Jenny Robinson & Damien Andrew Johnson**

October 18 **Jake Smith**, son of **Heather Smith**

MARRIAGES: *None in October*

#### FUNERALS:

September 29 **Peggy Nolan & Gordon Jeffrey Cousen**

October 19 **Gertrude Clipson**

## LADIES' GROUP: October 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting – 'Lettsbox'- from Black work to boxes

Val Letters who, as she said is 'big in the W.I.' gave a humorous talk which she entitled 'My journey with a needle' explaining how she loves needlework and her first projects were cross stitch starting with a Christmas card which she gave to her mother.

She then progressed to long stitch and black work and the Mount Mellick work which takes the form of shades of white on a cream background. She then tried Sue Newhouse work which is like painting with threads and then patchwork, telling us that all patterns have a meaning (e.g. Dresden plate, yellow brick road etc.) and were used to send messages – for example a star meant it was safe to travel north. She even travels to Kentucky, to the quilting festival and to buy fabrics. Her latest project is covered boxes of all shapes and sizes and her husband has started to help her too.

This happened since her friend became 'Clericus Fabricus' at the Cathedral. She has branched out into hat pincushions, needle cases and scissor keepers this year. We were all invited to look at her work and buy early Christmas present if we wished.

She was thanked by Angela Duke, and Wendy Stow, Penny Phillips and Anne Chapman won the raffle.

Sue Wright

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## MOTHERS' UNION NOTES

On Tuesday September 15<sup>th</sup> several members of St Mary's Mothers Union attended Brigg Mothers Union who were holding a concert in St John's Church Brigg. This consisted of organ playing, piano playing, some beautiful solos sung by the wife and daughter of the organist, and some congregational hymns. This was to raise funds for St. Benedict's Lincoln. Refreshments followed in the church hall: the afternoon was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

On Saturday September 19<sup>th</sup> Barton Mothers Union held a Coffee morning in St Mary's Church hall. We would like to thank everyone who supported this event, with contributions, help and attendance. This helped to raise £150 for St Benedict's Lincoln.

### North Lincolnshire Area Day 6th October

Sheila and Linda represented the branch at Haxey where a warm welcome was given by the area president, Liz Lilley. Liz thanked the Haxey members for their hospitality and then introduced the area Chaplain, Revd Jeremy Green, who led the morning session on "Being Single and Widowed", taken from the Mother's Union pack entitled "We are created by God". This was followed by group discussion on case scenarios. Summing up, after feedback, Liz said that the most useful outcome of this was an increased awareness, coupled with the need for encouragement, help, support and understanding. The Revd. Jeremy Green emphasised the importance of friendship and quoted "the best vitamin for friendship is B1". Involvement in practical tasks in the church was considered a useful way of helping people.

After a superb shared lunch and much chatter with members of other branches we reassembled for the afternoon session when Elsbeth Gardiner-Crehan presented some of her large biblically based paintings and talked about her faith.

The afternoon closed with a short period of worship.

There was an Autumn Bring and Buy stall and the usual £1 donation from members.

Any money left, after expenses, was to go to St Benedict's. The present total raised is £6000 and the target is £11,000.

We hope that this will not impede swift progress in the Church of England towards the ordination of the first women bishops in this land.

*Fr Andrew Nunn, Rector General, The Society of Catholic Priests.  
Fr Jonathan Clark, Chair, Affirming Catholicism.*

## AND WHEN NOT IN ROME....

One of the more entertaining things to come out of Bishop John's visit to the parish at the end of September was a gentle recommendation to the parish priest. He said, "I would really like to press the case for you to take a period of Study Leave sooner rather than later," and continued, "I encourage you to have a word with (the person responsible at Lincoln) about possibilities and options – and I assure you I will be checking up with him whether you have done that, and what the outcome has been!" The Church of England being an Episcopal Church, we always do as the bishop says (!). So I've been in contact with David McCormick and agreed – provisionally – that I will be 'out of action' for three months in 2009. It was going to be 2010 until a pincer movement by the junior clergy of the parish decided otherwise.

I've been ordained over 25 years now, so perhaps it was overdue – many clergy have managed a couple of these periods of study by my stage. And I hope to pursue a question which has been fascinating me for some time – we know lots about how prayer was organised in the monasteries in the past, and how that influence extended to the parish clergy. But what about the ordinary person in their daily life? How was their life of prayer sustained? And what lessons might we learn for spirituality now? There are intriguing clues, from archaeology, from monastic sermons condemning what ordinary people were doing, from Chaucer, from mediaeval poetry, and I hope to get chance to find out more. Especially I hope to live a bit of it from the inside by tackling the 700km pilgrimage from the Pyrenees to Santiago de Compostela – on foot! It may be good for the soul, if not for the sole....

Watch this space.

*Fr D*

## WHEN IN ROME...

There has been a lot of media attention paid to Pope Benedict XVI's startling offer to take on Anglicans who are struggling with issues like the ordination of women into a recognisably Anglican sub-unit of the Roman Catholic Church.

There are many reasons why I won't be swimming the Tiber (if ever I did I wouldn't seek a priestly ministry), and I don't think they'd have me anyway! But amid the media kerfuffle a few sane voices have been heard, including a thoughtful piece by Diarmaid MacCulloch in the Observer on 25<sup>th</sup> October ([www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/oct/25/pope-benedict-invitation-anglican-church](http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/oct/25/pope-benedict-invitation-anglican-church)).

Particularly useful is this gentle reflection by the Society of Catholic Priests, which sums up where I am, and which others may find helpful:

### NOT ALL CATHOLICS ARE TRADITIONALISTS

The current debate about the implications of the offer made by his Holiness Pope Benedict XVI to make provision for Anglicans who wish to join the Roman Catholic Church ignores one important fact. The majority of Catholics within the church are in favour of women's ministry and wish to remain loyal to the Anglican tradition within the Anglican Communion.

The Society of Catholic Priests, which has over 500 members in this country and is about to establish chapters in the American Episcopal Church and in Australia, and Affirming Catholicism which draws together clergy and laity in this country and throughout the Anglican Communion, are committed to the Catholic nature and teaching of the Church of England. We are actively working to see women ordained to the episcopate and hold that this is entirely consistent with the teaching of the church and the historic nature of our orders. We are also convinced that the issues of human sexuality should not be ones that divide the church.

To suggest that the departure from the Church of England of those who hold more conservative views will remove the Catholic wing and tradition from the church is entirely wrong. Churches and parishes which have a Catholic tradition and are served by priests, both male and female, are growing and flourishing and look forward to the future with enthusiasm.

We welcome the offer made by the Pope to those of our brothers and sisters who no longer feel that the Anglican Communion is their spiritual home.

Thanks were expressed to all branches who had held money raising events and sent donations. Fund raising continues and work can start as soon as a faculty is granted.

Nov 4<sup>th</sup> 9.30am      Corporate Communion: Reader Iris Ward.  
Nov 18<sup>th</sup> 2pm      Speaker: David Belford.  
Nov 25<sup>th</sup> 2pm      Reader and Vote of Thanks: Iris Ward.  
Prayer Time (in St James Chapel)  
Leader: Linda Bromfield.

Flower Rota: Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> - Val Dukes.

*Brenda Skinner*

*Will all members please check the MU notice board at the back of church for information.*

## SONGS OF PRAISE FOR CANDLEMAS – SUNDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2010, 6.00PM

A "Songs of Praise" service will be held as above. For this service, please fill in a small sheet (at the back of the church) with up to 5 (five) of your favourite hymns. We will then collate the replies and the "Top" six or seven will be incorporated into the service. The collection box is also at the back of the church, and will be available from Sunday 1st November until Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November.

*Alan*



## E1W DO CHRISTMAS

Once again, E1W present a fancy dress extravaganza to celebrate the feast.

Everyone's Welcome, including magi, shepherds and angels — and fairies, elves, Santas, pantomime characters, even Ebenezer Scrooge or Tiny Tim (see Jenny, Amanda or Marion for ideas).



Games and frivolity to be had, with traditional Christmas fare.

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December in the church hall: adults £7.50, children £3.50.

## CARERS' RIGHTS DAY - FRIDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2009

Do you look after someone who is elderly, ill or disabled?

Thousands of people looking after sick or disabled relatives or friends at home may be missing out on vital benefits and support, which could have a big effect on their pensions.

Carers can find out more by making an appointment to talk with someone, in confidence, at special Carers Rights Day events organised by the Carers' Support Centre on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December. The event will be held at Barton Library from 10am to 4pm. Ring 01652 650585 to book your appointment now!

The focus of this year's Carers Rights Day is "*Caring for your income and pension*". The Carers' Support Centre, in conjunction with local benefits advisors, will be there to inform Carers of the rights, benefits and services they are entitled to. There is a booklet entitled "*Looking After Someone? – A guide to Carers' rights and benefits*" which provides specialist advice to Carers. If you'd like a free copy please ring the Carers' Support Centre on 01652 650585.

*Help make Carers Rights Day matter. Last year, the events held nationally helped over 30,000 Carers.*

## Wilderspin National School

Over eight thousand visitors have been to the School since re-opening including descendants of Samuel Wilderspin. Rooms at the School are increasingly being used for functions and meetings.

The old Church School hosted the 2009 UK School Museums Group annual conference in September which focussed on the early design of schools for infants. Delegates heard about the efforts to save the school and its international importance due to the Wilderspin connection. This was complemented by presentations about the UK's first infant school at Robert Owen's New Lanark mill. Nathan Archer from Caistor Montessori School spoke about the philosophy and methods of Montessori and how they are employed at Caistor. John French conducted a tour of the town taking in the former Wesleyan School on Maltby Lane and the former County School on Castledyke West. It was interesting to see how the room for the younger children at the refurbished Castledyke School has been opened up to form one large learning space rather than having smaller classrooms. Just as it was in 1845!

The School will be open as part of the Christmas Festival on the 28<sup>th</sup> November and will offer a quiet place to sit down and take refreshments or reminisce about Christmas at school in the past – and maybe do some Christmas shopping.

Our new website is [www.wilderspainschool.org.uk](http://www.wilderspainschool.org.uk) if you want more information.

## DONATIONS FOR CHURCH FLOWERS

Donations for Church flowers have been received in loving memory of:-

Walter Paul  
Timothy Wilson  
The Brigham Sisters - Daisy, Rene, Mary, Grace, Winnie & Lucy  
Edna and John Bellamy  
Lauretta and Stanley Welch  
Hugh McMahan  
Frank R. Milner  
Joe Atkin

*Shirley Creasey*