

Naughty — but foul.

I have few claims to fame, but I did once interview Radio 3's favourite Vicar, the Revd. Richard Coles, when he was offering himself for ordination some years ago. (He came back to the clergy conference last year, and told us how, when he'd finished his curacy in Boston, he felt a call to the inner cities, and ended up in somewhere like Knightsbridge.)

I mention this because he presented a radio programme the other day which pointed out what has become an advertiser's favourite ploy. Under the slogan 'Naughty, but nice' (and similar lines), self-pampering and self-indulgence have been made positively virtuous. And it's surprising how far the infection spreads – one official response to the London bombings was not that we should wonder what causes young men to kill in the name of God, but that we should go out and keep spending.

Perhaps it's because of the Puritans' over-eager identification of sin with the pleasures of life (cue for the old gag, "there are Christians kept awake at night by the fear that someone, somewhere, is enjoying themselves") that the pendulum so easily swings in the opposite direction. The mind-set that bans dancing and Christmas dinner (Oliver Cromwell) or chains up the swings in a children's playground on a Sunday (a Welsh council in the 1980's) corrupts innocent enjoyment of life, and provokes a backlash. But it also trivialises sin, locates it entirely in the physical world (usually between the navel and the kneecaps), and banishes its ugly, cruel side from sight.

Lent is a time when we are encouraged to see sin for what it is – not as 'naughty but nice', but as a virus which corrupts human flourishing. And corrupt it does – Archbishop Justin is horrified by the corruption he has found in the banking system which has led thousands into misery. That is sin. The airy dismissal by the comfortable of the homeless and starving as 'a price worth paying' is sin. The sacrificing of human dignity to meet NHS managerial aspirations – that is sin too. Puritanical rantings about sex, drink, and sausage rolls probably miss most of the point.

In the vision of Hell which the poet Dante offers, the darkest regions are reserved, not for the folk who wake up in bed with the wrong person, or nursing a hangover, but for the proud, the unscrupulous,

the cruel. 'Fly from sin' says St Benedict. Once we see that there's nothing 'Naughty but nice' about it, who could disagree?

Fr David.

For details of the services for Holy Week and Easter, please see the March diary

Women's World Day of Prayer

Friday 1st March 2pm

Title "I WAS A STRANGER AND YOU WELCOMED ME"

Arranged by Christian Women of France.

Service at Trinity Methodist Church

Speaker : Rev. Sue Wilkins.

Everyone Welcome.

Refreshments afterwards.

FAMILIAR CHURCH TASKS - NEW NAMES ON THE BLOCK!

Geoff and Rosemary Lamert have handed over tasks we have performed for a varying number of years – would you believe that Geoff has compiled the Sunday morning Readers and Intercessors list for over 25 years? - time flies when you are enjoying yourself!

However – the really good news is that these tasks are all being taken over by younger members of the Church – some a lot younger than us!

1. Readers and Intercessors at the 9.30am Sunday Morning Eucharist - CHARLOTTE SMITH

2. Local Mentor for the Church Children's Achievement Award Scheme/ Bishop's Youth Achievement Award Scheme - MICHELLE WRIGHT (don't forget that the CCAA scheme was created by our own Youth Leader Jenny Hepworth and then adopted for use across the Diocese by the Diocesan Youth/Children's Service)

3. Coordinator for the Samaritan's Purse: Operation Christmas Child Annual Shoebox Appeal - JULIA WILSON

4. Coordinator for the annual registration and insurance of Church Youth/Children's groups with the Lincoln Diocesan Youth and Children's Service - JENNIFER HEPWORTH

As you have supported the Lamerts during past years we look to you all to support the above as they take over the reins.

The Bishop of Lincoln writes:

These three words - 'what is truth?' – are famously uttered by Pontius Pilate when Jesus stands before him after being arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane. Pilate questions Jesus, and by the end of the conversation Jesus' fate of being condemned to death on the cross is more or less sealed.

Pilate's question has echoed down the centuries: 'what is truth?' Pilate recognised that 'truth' is not only a relative term, it's also ambiguous. Science and mathematics can seem to pin it down in an objective way, but that will only ever be part of the story. The complexity of human life is such that it can never be reduced to mere facts and figures.

Life is not clear cut and simple, and neither are the choices we all have to make as we live it. Those choices are affected by many things – where we are, who we are with, our circumstances and those of the people around us, and so on.

Many of us still struggle with this; it's tempting to think that it would be easier to be told what to think, to take refuge in absolutes. In reality, we know that life isn't like that. That's part of the challenge and the joy and the pain of being human. That means we have to take the time to ask questions, to form our own opinions and views, and then to exercise choice and judgement in the way we live our lives. When we think about truth as it relates to how we are with each other, how we

interact with each other, there will always be more than one way to look at things.

As we make our way through the season of Lent, we are brought face to face with many truths: the truth of our own lives, if we are honest enough to examine them and hold them up to the light of God's love; the truth of our broken world, longing for the hope of divine healing and reconciliation; the truth of the depth of God's love for us, shown in the death of Jesus on the cross; the truth that out of despair, God's gift of new life is offered to us all in the promise and the joy of Easter Day. These are the truths to which Jesus came to testify. They are the same truths that you and I are called to proclaim as his disciples.

+Christopher

FROM THE REGISTERS:

BAPTISMS:-

Feb 10 Harry George FOSTER son of Hayley COGGLE & William George FOSTER

MARRIAGES:-

Feb 16 Robert Samuel HUMPHREY & Victoria Leigh BARRON

FUNERALS:-

Feb 1 Edwin Ernest NICHOL

Feb 13 Thomas Edward BEACOCK

Feb 20 Raymond Peter NEWTON

Feb 27 Pamela Jean Rodwell

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

Henry and Winifred Lodge
Lucy Speck

Stephen Atkin
Madge Ayto Atkin
Fred Ayto Small

Congratulations.....

.....to Andrew Lord on his election as Ringing Master of the Northern Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers at the Branch AGM in Grimsby Minster recently. Andrew decided he wanted to lean to ring when he saw his Grandfather's name on a Peal Board in Bigby church in 2003, he now has his name on Peal Boards in two Northern Branch towers.

Succession planning

Like many other voluntary organisations, Saint Mary's is suffering from a shortage of people prepared to take on responsible jobs. At the moment we are able to keep all the functions associated with the church running in the traditional way, but it is evident that there are not enough younger people with the necessary skills and commitment to replace those of us currently doing jobs in the Church (many of whom are elderly) when we finally retire or die. Deaths and ill-health have an unfortunate habit of hitting organisations quite unexpectedly, and can affect our functioning quite severely. For these reasons, all organisations need to have succession plans in place, so that trained successors (hopefully younger successors) are available in the event of unforeseen happenings.

Accordingly, we are seeking people who in due course could take on any of a variety of functions, such as singing, organ-playing, churchwardens, financial oversight, cleaning and care-taking jobs. Persons with administrative skills would be particularly welcome to support the present team. While this appeal is primarily addressed to present church members, this should not put off anyone not currently an active worshipper.

Please address enquiries to the Vicar, Rev David Rowett, 01652-632202, E-mail davidrowett@aol.com or the Churchwardens (see our web site www.stmarysbarton.org.uk)

Territorial Monk?

Alan wrote last month about how some of us find ourselves drawn to particular religious traditions, and told me I was on first. So here goes.

When our boys found out I was exploring a formal Benedictine connection, they suggested I was becoming the monastic equivalent of a member of the TA. Unlike Liz and Gordon, who're both fully bound to their religious families, I still have that last, binding step to take, probably in a few weeks. But why am I doing it at all? I've been ordained nearly 30 years, you'd think I didn't need another badge to add to the collection.

Crucially, this is 'discipleship', not 'clergy'. It certainly doesn't make me holy – Benedict warns, 'Do not aspire to be called holy until you really are' — like most of us, I have a long way to go. Nor is it studying a copy of 'Which Monastery?' to choose the one we fancy. Our tradition (in this context often called a 'charism') chooses *us*, not the other way round. Don't ask me *how* you know – you just do. It feels like coming home.

But why the Benedictines? There's no easy answer. The twin foundations are Scripture and Benedict's Rule — and there's also the central vow of the Benedictines, 'stability': the commitment to a community-in-God, to a group of people in all their gifts and weaknesses (including one's own). I could never have had the ability to take a job for five years and then move on, it's not my temperament – I need community.

All Christians venerate Scripture: thoughtfully and prayerfully read and studied, Scripture, especially the Psalms, is the foundation of the Benedictine life and of the Rule. (*Lectio Divina*, the slow, prayerful reading of Scripture is one of the Benedictine gifts to the whole Church.)

Benedict's Rule sets out his vision of how a community should live and worship faithfully together, encouraging each other in the journey of faith. Its 73 chapters set out how to balance prayer, study, work and leisure as essential ingredients in Christian growth towards God, and

building a community which will support this. There is no room for privilege of *any* sort – learning, breeding, wealth, ordination, anything. All are part of the one community and all that matters is the journey into God. For this parish priest, this vision is deeply appealing.

The Rule tells us *'to prefer nothing to the love of Christ'*. The whole of the Benedictine – indeed, the Christian - way might be summed up in those words.

David.

St. Mary's Ladies' Group.

Mr. Gary Hunter, Practice Manager at Central Surgery was the speaker at our first February meeting. He described how the surgery 'works':-

- ❖ 10 doctors- 5 Partners and 5 Associates.
- ❖ Surgery contracted to the N.H.S. to provide Healthcare to 1700 patients.
- ❖ Opening times 8a.m. to 6.30 pm, with no out of hours service.
- ❖ Service provided in Goxhill does not detract from Barton.
- ❖ Surgery dispensaries are for those who live more than 1 ½ miles away.
- ❖ All prescription fees go directly to the Government.
- ❖ Repeat prescriptions have to be reviewed every 12 months.
- ❖ Repeat scripts take 48 hours to go to the pharmacy and are then dispensed.
- ❖ A lot of money is wasted through incorrect ordering by patients.

❖ **Appointments:-**

- ❖ There are 8 incoming phone lines.
- ❖ 300 incoming calls are taken from 8am on a Monday morning.
- ❖ 200 on other mornings
- ❖ 4 people deal with these using a queuing system.
- ❖ The **RINGBACK FUNCTION DOES NOT WORK.**
- ❖ 970 appointments are available each week
- ❖ Same day appointments are the target.
- ❖ Appointments have to be shared equally between Doctors.
- ❖ One Doctor each day is assigned to be on call usually through the triage nurse.
- ❖ 99 patients failed to keep Doctors' appointments in January.
- ❖ 287 missed Nurses' appointments in January.
- ❖ After 3 missed appointments, patients are reprimanded .If this reoccurs they are removed from the list.

Mr Hunter prefers written complaints which can be dealt with formally. He also thinks that all staff deserve to be treated with respect as some patients can be very abusive.

It became apparent that the appointment system caused the most frustration. After a recent survey the Practice is looking at improving the system particularly for those who work away. Everyone agreed that more information should be available to everyone perhaps

through publications such as the Bartonian. Mr Hunter has since agreed to let us publish such info in the Church Magazine. S.M.

(apologies for such a long report but I thought this information was relevant to us all, Ed.)

Our second February meeting took the form of a quiz led and set by Pam Read. 9 teams competed, answering questions about the names of the London underground - one being 'jealous Vicars' – answer - 'Parson's Green'. Other questions were of a general knowledge nature. We were pleased to welcome a team from Worlaby too. A winning and losing team emerged and the evening ended with a faith supper. Thanks to Pam for her hard work. The next meeting is a talk given by the Women's Refuge in Scunthorpe. S.W.

BARTON CHURCHES TOGETHER MEETING TUES 22 Jan 2013 at 6 Queen St Barton

Present: Ursula Vickerton (Sec), Russ Westfield (Senior Pastor of New Life Church), Capt. Nick Cotterill (Sal Army officer), Margaret Sidell (CofE & Barton Food Bank & Care home services), Pam McCartney (Methodists) & Trudi Morrissey (RC).

- 1 Meeting started with a brief prayer.
- 2 Minutes of last meeting in 11 Sept 12 agreed.
- 3 Brief discussion on recent events which were considered to have gone well. Day of Prayer, Prayer Breakfasts, united services in care homes, Posters & Leaflets of our Christmas Services & United Carol Service 30 Dec 12. The Cross Britain outreach events had gone very well and had drawn over 1,000 to the Baths Hall in Sc and 75/80 to Queens Barton on 25 Oct, Mark & Hannah Westfield especially involved in Barton.
- 4 LENT/ Easter All agreed that all who could support the Passion Play in Brigg this year on Good Friday morning should do so, ring Anne Spolton on 01652 658995. However we also

considered the joint events here in Barton also should be offered:-

MON 25 March 7 pm ST A Webster Church 7pm Stations of the Cross etc.

TUES 26 March 7pm Salvation Army 7pm Service

WED 27 March 7pm St Mary's service

GOOD FRIDAY quiet Walk of Witness to grounds of ST AW for 11am short service, Salvation Army will play, Trudi & Ursula to plan... if wet in ST AW Church.

- 5 **9 APRIL TUES DAY of Prayer 7am to 7pm Salvation Army Prayer Room Queen St** Major Brenda to arrange and book people to slots for day.. All welcome to call in to pray... 7 pm final shared prayers.
- 6 Pentecost/ Christian Unity... St Augustine Webster Church opened 25 years ago on 27 May 2013, looking into Open Week end / flower festival...
Agreed United Songs of SUNDAY 26 MAY 6 pm all welcome Christian Unity theme.
- 7 Shared Publicity.. Ursula to contact CODEX to see if year book is expected in 2013.
Russ will check Barton websites to check our details.
Barton Directory recently published was discussed and were glad to details there.
Bartonian Nov 12 edition lost Ursula will submit our signpost details for April 13.
- 8 Prayer Breakfasts continue on 3rd Sunday of month at various venues.
- 9 Barton Food Bank separate free standing body and was very busy especially close to Christmas when double amounts were issued to over 36 families. Rotary and many community members helping. Brigg food bank helped and we agreed a place to store emergency essential goods in Barton area would be useful.

10 Shared services in care homes etc... continued to go well thanks to Margaret Sidell and other volunteers dates times and venues shared electronically... just turn up to help. To explore giving each resident of the care homes their own Christmas Card.

11 Salvation Army had submitted plans to demolish and re-build on Carnival Site. Trinity have choir from USA staying 28-30 June offers of help bed & Breakfast to Pam McCartney. Garden Party Trinity poss. 29/6 St Mary's Barton 7 July.

Agreed next meeting... TUES 14 MAY 2013 7.30pm 6 Queen Street, Barton..

Ursula Vickerton Volunteer Secretary BCT tel 01652 632739 6 Queen St Barton DN18 5QP

What does it mean when....

At St Mary's we're very lucky to worship in a beautiful and ancient building. However, it's also a very large building and it can be difficult to see exactly what's happening. Over Holy Week there are a few things about our liturgy which are different from the usual pattern, but there's no mystery or secret about what happens, and we thought it might be helpful if we explained some of the things which might seem unusual.

Palm Sunday – At the very beginning of Holy Week, our Parish Eucharist begins at St Peter's and we process to St Mary's carrying our Palm Crosses. This is a liturgical re-enactment of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, but it's also a valuable act of witness to the beginning of Holy Week. Not everybody's fit enough to manage the walk, but if you are, please do join in with the procession. It might be the only indication people nearby get that Easter is about more than chocolate. This year everybody will also be invited to take a nail home to keep in their pocket during Holy Week as a reminder of the Lord's Passion, and to bring it back to church as part of the Good Friday service.

Maundy Thursday – In many ways this is the most dramatic service in the liturgical year. It's also one in which the mood is very different at the end from the atmosphere at the beginning. In recognition that this is the service at which we remember the Last Supper we have the Gloria again, which has been missing throughout Lent. It's a solemn service but it reflects our gratitude for the Eucharist and has all the colour we can bring to it at the beginning -. colourful vestments, incense, candles – anything we can do to mark this event in the life of Christ and of the Church and to give thanks for it. This is also the service at which we remember the betrayal of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane and much of the liturgy is intended to draw attention to the events of that night. So after the Communion various things happen.

The colourful vestments, are removed, the altar is stripped and all the candles, hangings etc are taken out of the sanctuary, to reflect the desolation felt by Jesus as his betrayal and the gathering darkness of his Passion

The Blessed Sacrament is moved to the altar of repose. In St Mary's this is St Thomas' altar and it will be the only bright place in the church by the time we reach the end of the service. It will be filled with candles and flowers, partly out of reverence for the Sacrament, but also to represent the garden where Jesus was betrayed. Whatever our churchmanship, we recognise something sacred in the Communion, and for many people the Blessed Sacrament is a powerful focal point for prayer. To make it clearly visible we put the Host in a monstrance (a special stand with a glass window which allows the consecrated Host to be clearly seen), which was given to us last year. It allows us to focus on God and on this particular night it leads to the Watch of Prayer until midnight. Jesus asked his disciples to watch and pray with him on the night he was betrayed, but they couldn't keep awake and eventually deserted him. Traditionally Christians have spent some or all of the night of Maundy Thursday in prayer, showing a willingness to watch with the Lord as he asked.

Good Friday

In recent years our liturgy on Good Friday has changed in some details, to bring us into line with recommendations in Common

Worship. Common Worship recognises the diversity of styles within Anglicanism and makes provision for all those traditions to be expressed at important seasons in the church's year. On Good Friday one example of that is the first action of the clergy as they come in to lead worship on that day. Some of us will bow and some of us will prostrate (lie face down on the floor for a few moments). Both gestures are acceptable and both indicate reverence. Those who prefer to prostrate do as a symbol of the grief of the church on this solemn day, but not everybody wants to do that – and not everybody can manage it. Getting down is easy, getting up again can prove tricky. Whatever happens, the point is that it's a gesture of reverence. Neither is better than the other and it's as much a matter of personal choice as whether to sit or kneel for the intercessions on a Sunday morning.

During the service the Cross is carried through the church and placed at the chancel step. This year there will be the option for members of the congregation to venerate the cross if they would like to. There are various ways of doing that – bowing, kissing the cross, touching it etc. One suggestion is that everybody brings back the nail they took away with on Palm Sunday and places it at the foot of the cross in memory of the death of Jesus. Again, there is no pressure to do anything which makes you uncomfortable and if you would prefer to remain in your seat, that's absolutely fine.

We hope this is helpful to anybody who wondered what some of these things represented. If there's anything that's unclear or anything else you're unclear about, please do ask one of us and we'll be happy to explain.

David
Alan
Liz

Baby clothes for Eastern Europe

The picture below shows Peter Kipling loading some of the Barton Rotary Club Shoeboxes containing items for New Born Babies. Many of the goods were collected at St Mary's Church at Christmas and the Rotary Club thanks you for the great help with the project. Peter delivered the boxes to Hull Rotary Club volunteers who then deliver them to Eastern Europe. Shoeboxes are sent at several times during the year and the "New Born Baby" project will continue with a collection point at the Ropewalk during April.



20:20 Print Exchange at The Ropewalk

Printmakers from The Ropewalk are this year taking part in a project organised by the Salford based Hot Bed Press printmakers' studio.

The show is part of Hotbed Press' annual print exchange project and this year 392 artists from 30 print studios around the UK submitted 9,800 prints which have been distributed amongst participating studios.

Since 2009 the project has steadily grown from around 100 artists taking part as an exchange between the Salford studio and Red Hot Press in Southampton.

The exhibition opens on Saturday, March 2 and continues until Sunday, April 14 in Gallery One.

For one week only!

Those of you who managed to get to church on Sundays 3, 10 and 17 February will have seen three differently-coloured altar frontals and pulpit falls – gold, green and purple. The Church of England hasn't decreed this to give more work to Janet and Brian; it's just that for this year three "seasons" occur on consecutive Sundays. Gold was for Candlemas (the end of the Christmas season), green was for the "Ordinary Time" i.e. no particular season, (which it is for many of the summer months) and purple is for Lent.

To go as a companion book to Common Worship, the Church has published two volumes "Times and Seasons" and "Festivals" which give the material to be used on those special occasions. In Barton (and increasingly in the Low Villages and beyond) we have incorporated some of that material into the new booklets we use at Advent, Lent, Holy Week and Easter. This is not done so that the clergy can feel righteous about using the "correct" material, but so that the service can be enhanced for all by the use of appropriate sections – it also means that the congregation can follow what's going on!

Alan

Geoff Lamert – an appreciation

I always read the obituary notices in the paper – mainly to see if I'm the subject; so far, I haven't been. However on reading them, I often marvel at what a person has done, as well as wondering what is behind the whiffs of scandal or dalliance. Neither of these two could be laid at Geoff Lamert's door. This piece is not to write Geoff off; far from it – it's to appreciate what he has done while he can still read it!

As we have read elsewhere, Geoff has been in charge of the Readers' and Intercessors' Rota for over 25 years, and a member of the choir for over 30. He has now felt it time to hang up his lectionary and his hymnbook; as we know, his health over the last year has been a cause of concern to him (and us), and the fact that Rosemary's health is not at its most robust is an added worry.

Geoff on many occasions organised dramatic performances on particular Sundays with his own insistence on clarity of words. He has graced many church meals and has often been seen tripping the light fantastic with (among others) Margaret Baker (herself of indomitable spirit) At those occasions, Geoff's plate never seemed to be empty – was it that he took so long to eat one plateful, or did he keep going back..... Geoff will also be much missed among the basses. There were times when he didn't really approve of the music (and used to say so under his breath, forgetting that the choirmaster then had good hearing!); in fact I think he only really liked music composed in a particular week in 1603. Seriously though, Geoff has contributed much to the church over the years, and we thank him most sincerely for it.

Alan

Bored?

It's like that bit from 'The Life of Brian' – 'apart from better sanitation, medicine, education, irrigation, public health, roads, a freshwater system, baths and public order — what *have* the Romans done for *us*?'

It's easy for us to get complacent about what the Christian faith has to offer us in terms of deepening our discipleship, or to dismiss what is there as requiring more effort than is worthwhile. However, if you want to become more open to God, then there are one or two things coming up which you may find interesting.

Once the Lent Course comes to an end, we'll be recommencing our regular Second Monday evenings. These will be 7.00 for coffee, 7.30 start, and will be on the following themes.

April 8. **'Praying Poetry'**. Religious verse gets a bad name from some of the sicklier offerings of the pious well-intentioned. Giants of Christian poetry like TS Eliot, GM Hopkins, RS Thomas and others may make us change our minds....

May 13. (tbc) **'We believe'**. Sunday by Sunday Christians recite the Creed as a profession of what we believe. In a world where dogma has a bad name, how do we hold to the Creed intelligently?

June 10. **'Sweet Songs of Sion'**. Apart from the hardened Evensong-goer, many Christians have very little exposure to the Psalms, even though they have shaped Jewish and Christian belief and prayer for two thousand years. What may we learn from them today?

July 8. tbc

And two other events have been organised.

On May 4, a **Day Pilgrimage to Harpham**, near Drifffield, the birthplace of St John of Beverley (d721), and on to Beverley, where he's buried. We plan for a midday Eucharist — and there's a good local for lunch!

And on **October 12 a quiet day** has been arranged at The Endsleigh Centre on Beverley Road in Hull. More details closer to the time.

Feast of Feather Dusters.

Feast of Feather Dusters.

A reminder to all with a penchant for flicking the feather duster over the furniture that our annual Church Cleaning Day will be on the Tuesday of Holy Week, March 26th. Cleaning the old place after winter gloom and murk in preparation for the great Easter celebration has an hallowed place in the Church calendar, and even if you can only give the odd half-hour or so, you'll still be greeted like a long-lost friend!

Fifty Shades of Grey

Well now I've got your attention the grey shades in question are the dusty ones which afflict the Church. We've lost one or two folk from the cleaning rota by retirement and ill health, and would very, very grateful for reinforcements. No previous experience of cleaning is necessary, and we are an equal opportunities employer – all genders (and tastes in reading matter) are welcome! Please contact Jan Petch or one of the Wardens.

'Abide with me'...

...is a hymn that most people understand instinctively; the wish for God to be present; but the word 'abide' is not one that crops up in conversation very often, except maybe in 'I can't abide him/her'. And there are the shepherds 'abiding in the fields', which makes us think of good shepherds being where they ought to be, dependably looking after the needs of their vulnerable flocks. So it's not a word we often put into modern speech, but we know what it means.

'Abiding' is the title of the Archbishop's Lent book for 2013, and I was lucky enough to go to its launch in London last month and meet its author Ben Quash, professor of Christianity and the Arts at Kings' College London. The book is worth reading for life and not just for Lent, as it fleshes out in practical terms what it means to dwell in God and to have God dwell in us.

One concern of Quash's is about how much society would benefit if knowledge of the Bible were restored to the nation, not as a means by which people can be brow-beaten into adhering to some status-quo inspired version of 'biblical values', but rather so that there would be restored 'an extraordinary power to imagine and describe with the help of this great resource.' Highly recommended.

'Abiding' is published by Bloomsbury, and is around £10 or less.

Viv Rowett.

Fri 1 st March	2.00 pm		Women's World Day of Prayer. Trinity Methodist Church
	5.00 pm		E1W
	6.00 pm		Prayers before the Blessed Sacrament
Sat 2 nd	11.00 am		Lectio divina
Sunday 3rd March		Lent 3	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	2.30 pm		Service at The Willows
	6.00 pm		Choral Evensong
Monday 4 th	9.30 am		Toddler Time
	9.30 am		Deanery Chapter (Barrow)
Wed 6 th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist (MU Corporate)
	7.30 pm		Ladies' Group
Fri 8 th	5.00 pm		E1W
Sat 9 th	11.00 am		Lectio divina
Sunday 10th March		Mothering Sunday/Lent 4	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist with St. Peter's School
	4.00 pm		Baptisms
	6.00 pm		Said Evening Prayer
Mon 11 th	9.30 am		Toddler Time
	10.00 am		Diary meeting (Birchdale)
	7.30 pm		Deanery Confirmation (Kirton Lindsey)
Wed 13 th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist
	2.00 pm		Service at EagleHouse
	7.15 pm		Ministry Meeting (Vicarage)
Fri 15 th	5.00 pm		E1W
Sat 16 th	11.00 am		Lectio divina
Sunday 17th March		Lent 5	

	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	3.00 pm-5.00 pm		Quiet afternoon
	6.00 pm		Sung Evensong
Mon 18 th	9.30 am		Toddler Time
Tues 19th	7.00 pm	Joseph of Nazareth	Said Eucharist and Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Wed 20 th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist
	2.00 pm		Service at Westbridge House
	2.00 pm		Mothers' Union meeting
	7.30 pm		Ladies' Group
		Parish News Deadline	
Thurs 21 st	7.30 am	Benedict	Said eucharist
			Home Communions
Fri 22 nd	5.00 pm		E1W
Sat 23 rd	11.00 am		Lectio divina
	HOLY	WEEK	
Sunday 24th March		Palm Sunday	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	**9.30 am	**start at 9.20 from St. Peter's	Palm Sunday Procession and Parish Eucharist
	11.30 am		Baptisms
	6.00 pm		Said Eucharist with hymns
	7.30 pm		New County Choir
Mon 25th	9.30 am		Toddler Time
	7.00 pm		Said Eucharist for Holy Week
	7.00 pm		Holy Week service at St. Augustine's
Tues 26th	am		Annual Church Spring Clean
	7.00 pm		Said Eucharist for Holy Week
	7.00 pm		Holy Week service at Salvation Army
Wed 27th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist for Holy Week
	10.30 am – 12 noon		St. Peter's School services in church

	7.00 pm		Holy Week service at St. Mary's
Thurs 28th	7.00 pm	Maundy Thursday	Sung Eucharist, Stripping of Altars and Watch of Prayer
Fri 29th	11.00 am	Good Friday	Service at St. Augustine's after Walk of Witness
	2.00 pm		An hour before the Cross
	<i>Clocks</i>	<i>go forward one</i>	<i>hour on Saturday night</i>
Sunday 31st March		Easter Day	
	6.00 am		Easter Eucharist of the Dawn
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	6.00 pm		Choral Evensong
Wed 3rd April	9.30 am		Said Eucharist (MU Corporate)
	7.30 pm		Ladies' Group

Over to you

I am aware that you should never listen to other people's conversations (Paul has a poster on his wall - 'Careless talk costs lives!') but one hears all kinds of things in the changing room at the leisure centre!! It was fascinating hearing two sets of parents discussing which primary school to send their children to! One parent was new to the town and had decided on St. Peter's because of its calm atmosphere and the church connections. Many parents opt for church schools at secondary level because of their work and religious ethos.

Many of you will be aware of the Christian ethos of the school - at our last Bishop's Visitors' conference we were asked 'What makes a church school different from any other?'

Well, it is obvious as soon as you set foot in the door as there are religious artefacts and displays, the school Banner in the Hall which depicts the cross of St. Peter, the correct liturgical colour on the table, a candle to light for assembly, prayer corners in the classrooms etc

.Members of all denominations are, however, invited to lead the Visitor's assembly on a Wednesday and all religions are studied as part of the North Lincs R.E. curriculum. A lot of attention is given to the children's spirituality too.

Also attendance at St. Mary's for religious festivals and participation in their worship - on March 10th. a group of children from the 'Worship Club' will be helping with our Mothering Sunday service. Come along and support them if you can (we will be using our new 'child friendly' Eucharistic order of service). Have a good month. S.W.

Final call for the Electoral Roll

A complete new Electoral Roll has to be compiled this year, so even if you have been on it in the past, a new form must be filled in this time, by **Tuesday 5th March**. Forms are available at the back of the church, where there is a box for their return. If for some reason you are unable to get to church to collect one, please contact either Sue or me (details on front page). The **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** is on **Tuesday 19th March**, starting after the Eucharist at 7.00 pm. Please try to attend this.

Alan.