

Addresses

## Contents

## Who's a saint?

On 18th October two unusual people were officially declared to be saints. You may feel that's not very surprising since being a saint is hardly run of the mill, but these two are remarkable because in many ways they're ordinary. Louis and Marie-Zélie Martin were a devout couple from Normandy who lived in the 19th Century. They had nine children, four of whom died in infancy and the remaining five became nuns (and I know *that's* not ordinary but in 19th Century France things were a little different). One of those nuns was St Thérèse of Lisieux, one of the most widely venerated saints around the world, but that's not really the point of Louis and Zélie Martin's canonization. It's the fact that they did what most people do – they got married, brought up a family, did their best to give them proper values and then eventually let them make their own decisions about their lives which sets them apart from most other saints we read about.

The stories of most saints are designed to inspire us. We read of brave martyrdom or deep personal holiness, or possibly lives lived in the face of terrible trouble, but the Martin family wasn't like that. They were middle-class, suburban, not rich but certainly not poor. That's not to say they didn't know sadness. Apart from the loss of four of their children, Zélie herself died when her youngest child was only four, leaving the older daughters to become surrogate mothers to the younger ones, but that has to be put in the context of a world in which mothers of children died alarmingly regularly. Sadly their situation wasn't that unusual. However, Louis Martin in particular *is* an unusual saint, not because of his piety or faith, but because of his frailty. In his later years Louis suffered from severe mental illness and was hospitalised for much of that time. He's not a big strong sword-wielding saint, defending the faith on every side, he's a broken often tormented soul but one who managed to hang on to his faith in the sort of dark places most of us are lucky enough never to see.

Whatever we make of the idea of saints, to recognise as holy people who just do their bit, plugging away wherever life has put them, living alongside their neighbours without undue drama is no bad thing. Neither is the recognition that the fact somebody is damaged in some way doesn't stand in the way of their being holy and close to God. When all's said and done, there probably won't be many books written about any of us. We'll work and live and die among our families, we'll do our best to care for our children and our lives will have some happy times and some that are a bit bumpier. But in that ordinary unremarkable context we too are invited to move close to God and learn to be holy. It's not just about the big names like Paul or even more recent heroes like Maximilian Kolbe. It's about ordinary people doing their best wherever God has put them: people like Louis and Zélie Martin – and people like you and me.

Liz

## St. Mary's Ladies' Group

Our first meeting this month was the Harvest Supper. Members were seated at elegant tables decorated with seasonal flower arrangements donated by the more artistic ladies! The magnificent buffet of roast ham, coronation chicken, quiche, potatoes, rice and many salads was provided by Cooks of New Holland who did a splendid job as always. Those with a sweet tooth were well catered for with the puddings, a wonderful fresh fruit and cream meringue, fresh fruit salad and strawberries. The food and drink was enjoyed by all, and afterwards we were entertained by The Three Busketeers, a trio from Barrow of two guitars and bongo drums who performed songs from the 70's and 80's to great acclaim. At the end of the evening the table decorations were raffled off after a collection for church flowers for harvest raised over £60.

Later in the month Sue and her guide dog, Ice, came to talk to us about the work of the Guide Dogs Association who have been supplying Sue with a dog since 1979, Ice being the 5th such dog she has had and the 4th German Shepherd. Guide dogs are retired at 10 years old and can then be kept as a pet, given to a friend or relation or rehomed in a family atmosphere. The dogs are well cared for; each dog is checked by the vet every six months, has a booster injection each year and is fed regularly, all costs being met by the Association. It is estimated the cost of a dog from puppyhood to end of life with all the training, food and vet bills is £50,000, and with no Government grants this money is raised by legacies and collections etc. There are about 5000 working dogs at the moment and

more in training, for which the owner pays 50p as a legally binding contract to look after the dog.

The Association uses its own breeding stock, mainly Labradors, German Shepherds, Retrievers and Labrador/retriever crosses. They also use some Border Collies which have to be rid of the rounding-up instinct and work best in rural areas away from too much traffic. Giant poodles and labradoodles are also used, all dogs having been bred for their temperament. The puppies stay with their mothers until they are 6-8 weeks old and then go to puppy-walker homes where they are house trained, introduced to social situations and undergo early discipline work to get them used to being on a lead, going on trains and buses, visiting the supermarket etc. They are accustomed to different sound and appearances. At 1 year old they go to the training centre and then are matched to owners when there is an intense period of training together to build up the trust that must exist on both sides. Ice leads Sue to the post box, the library, bus stops and shops by name, trained to walk in a straight line unless there are obstacles and returns to her on a whistle for a titbit after enjoying a free run. Ice's favourite activity is to play with a frisbee but always returns to work. GD

### **Christmas Art Market at The Ropewalk**

Original gifts and Christmas presents will be on sale at The Ropewalk's traditional Christmas Art Market being held in early December.

More than 30 artists and makers, many of whom took part in Northern Lincolnshire's Open Studios event held in September, will be lining the corridors of the quarter-mile long building for the two day event which takes place over Saturday and Sunday, December 5 and 6 .

This will be the fourth year that the Art Market has been held over two days. On sale will be original handmade gifts, cards, and artwork. The opening times for both days are 10am until 4pm and admission is free.

On December 5, The Ropewalk's Christmas Show will open in all galleries with an explosion of all things hand-made. There will be a wonderful selection of handmade presents for all the family.as well as essentials for everyone's Christmas including handmade cards, gift wrap and stocking fillers!

### **The Children's Society Box Holders**

Thanks to you, small change is making an enormous difference to disadvantaged young people in this country.

Your support of The Children's Society is helping those whom society often labels as difficult or troublesome: young people who suffer abuse, neglect and exploitation every day and face a future with little or no prospects.

Regrettably, with nearly 25,000 teenagers in England identified as being most at risk of abuse or neglect in the last year alone, it means there is still much to be done to try and eradicate this disturbing issue.

With your help, The Children's Society continues to raise around £2 million from collection boxes each year to go towards their work with disadvantaged children and young people.

Thank you for your continued support.

This year The Children's Society are asking all Box Coordinators to try to recruit at least two new Box Holders, if it is something that you think you may be interested in, please do get in touch with one of us.

Margaret & Mike Searle.

### **Harvest Supper and Auction**

Once again the Harvest Supper was enjoyed this year by over 40 people (+The Teddy Bear) and raised a considerable sum for the Kitchen Fund. Following this the Auction, with less produce and fewer people than last year, raised £171 for Christian Aid (last year's amount was £144). We were thoroughly entertained by Ted Treasure as he conducted the Auction, ably assisted by his wife Viv. The bidding definitely was increased by the Teddy Bear and mysteriously by a Silver Robot from the back of the room!

We decided this year to support Christian Aid's appeal as it is working with Churches and other agencies in supporting humanitarian efforts taking place in Europe and the Middle East. They urgently need funds to continue supporting existing vulnerable families and prepare to reach thousands more. As well as the Auction a plate was available at service times throughout October.

Many thanks to all who decorated the Church, brought produce, bought produce, gave donations, and to those few who worked so hard to feed us all.

Val

### **Wilderspin School Museum**

On Saturday 7 November, between 10.30am – 3.30pm we are having a study day focussing on the First World War as part of the centenary commemorations. Perspectives of the Great War will include a number of speakers sharing their personal interpretations of the 1914-1918 War using a variety of documentary and pictorial sources they have used in their investigations. This includes family history research and the use of glass magic lantern images from a member of the Magic Lantern Society. The cost is £12 which includes a finger buffet lunch.

Everyone is welcome to attend the afternoon film session when there will be a screening of rare film of military training at Brocklesby Park supplemented with rare footage from the Imperial War Museum's Film Archive and a unique magic lantern show of First World War slides. The show starts at 2pm in the Wilderspin Room. Entry is £3 to raise funds for the School Museum.

Later that day (Saturday 7th November) there is an evening show, Seeing is Believing – Victorian Optical Entertainment. This will be an entertaining, hands-on show all the family will enjoy. Lasting about an hour and a half with time to look closely at lots of devices and optical toys. The show starts at 6.30pm and costs Adults £5.00 children under 16 £3.00, family\* £13.00.

Don't forget to pop into the School on Christmas Festival day, Saturday 28th November. Christmas Past includes the only Victorian Father Christmas in Barton resplendent in traditional Victorian green! Grown-ups can enjoy mulled wine and mince pies around the classroom fire while children can make a Victorian Christmas decoration. There will be indoor stalls too and lots of Christmas stocking ideas in the Joseph Wright Hall adjacent to the School Museum.

Advance notice for December

Classroom Christmas - Wednesday 9 December, 5pm –7pm

Explore the origins of our Christmas traditions in this special family event. Find out about the first crackers, cards and Christmas trees. There are all sorts of Victorian crafts to make and a chance to visit the only Victorian Father Christmas in Barton!

Children: £2.00

### **Mothers' Union notes**

For our October meeting we held a coffee afternoon to raise funds for Mothers Union work overseas. We were joined by MU members from other groups in the Glanford Group. Our speaker was Pam McCartney from Trinity Methodist Church.

The afternoon was one of fellowship and enjoyed by everyone. Val Dukes thanked Pam for her talk.

Nov 4th 9.30am Corporate Communion

Nov 18th 2pm Annual Wave of Prayer Service

Flower rota:-

Nov 1st Val Dukes

Nov 15th Janet Petch

Nov 29th ADVENT SUNDAY

FROM THE REGISTERS:

Baptisms:-

Oct 25 Jack William AUSTIN son of Danielle Marie & Christopher AUSTIN  
Hugo John & Harriet Rosalie ARMITAGE son & daughter of Joanne HORSFALL & Julian John ARMITAGE

Funerals:-

Sept 29 Kathleen May THOMPSON  
Oct 6 Leslie Barry (Badger) ATKINSON  
Oct 7 Edna Mavis SWEETING  
Oct 13 Doreen COX  
Oct 15 Janet Pauline Gouldthorpe CLAYTON  
Oct 17 Jodie Jayne ROGERS  
Oct 20 Beatrice Annie HUTESON

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

Hugh and Dorothy Varah  
Lauretta and Stanley Welch  
Edna and John Bellamy  
Hugh McMahon  
The Brigham Sisters - Daisy, Rene, Mary, Grace, Winnie and Lucy  
Stephen Atkin  
Madge Ayto Atkin  
Fred Ayto Small

Thank you for these donations and a big 'Thank you' too to members of the Ladies' Group for the collection made at the Harvest Supper. The grand total of £77.15 was raised. This gesture was very much appreciated.

### Crow

Oil black sheen  
With gimlet stare,  
Flies loftily  
Giving throat cracked cry,  
To gaze imperious,  
Omnipresent, over  
Darkening land.

*Carol Jacklin 2015 (November)*

### Lindsey Lodge Hospice

The Tree of Lights Service will take place on Sunday 13th December at 4pm at St Mary's. This is a service for people who have lost love ones. You can remember loved ones by either sending a donation to the Hospice to have your loved ones put in the book of remembrance or just by lighting a candle for them on the day. There will also be refreshments after the service.

### The Bishop of Lincoln writes.....

It has been a productive year for some of Lincolnshire's farmers. I do not profess to be any kind of agricultural expert, but as Bishop of Lincoln I felt a real sense of pride when I heard recently of Tim Lamyman - one of our own, farming on the Wolds - and his new world record wheat and oilseed rape yields. That will make an awful lot of bread, biscuits and cake, for which the country, and I especially, am very grateful. In the south of the diocese, I see fields bursting with pumpkins, and I look with satisfaction at the Brussels sprouts, some of which will inevitably end up on our dining tables at Christmas.

But while some farmers are celebrating a fabulous harvest, and the rest of us gratefully look forward to our Christmas feasts, others continue to feel the pinch of the impact of national and international markets on our relatively small part of the world. Lincolnshire's dairy farmers might be wondering if their long hours will ever be profitable again. Cereal growers might wonder if costs will ever stop rising, while the value of their crops and hard work remains depressed.

The harvest festival was once a genuine thanksgiving to God for the success of a small scale crop, and food for the cold winter months. Now crops have been bred to be more reliable, techniques and land stewardship more scientifically advanced, and sales more predictable (even if prices are low), has God become less relevant? What is it that we're really celebrating at the harvest festival?

For me, the harvest festival should be a vital part of our calendar to remind us all that the world we have inherited is a wonderful place, that our land provides all the food we need, and that our work is done not only to feed our families, but also to the glory of the God who made us, and who made the land of which we're custodians for a fraction of a fraction of history. Please remember, and pray for, those who don't have enough to eat, those who are anxious about the future, and for your own stewardship of the gifts you have. And let's also celebrate how fabulous Lincolnshire and its farmers are at producing food.

+Christopher Lincoln:

**Barton upon Humber Civic Society**

\* Society Good Marks have been awarded for work to the street frontage of 17 Holydyke, and for the residential development on the site of the Blue Bell Inn on Barrow Road.

\* Work has begun on environmental improvements focussing on the Beck.

\* Our final talk of the year Snow Birds – The High Arctic in Winter is on Friday 20 November at the Assembly Rooms when Graham Catley will be speaking about his winter visits to Norway and Canada where he observed how birds adapt and prepare for the severe arctic winter. The talk starts at 7.30pm. Non members are always welcome: £2.

**Over to you.....**

You may remember some weeks ago I spoke about ‘never expecting to make regular visits to places again in the future, one of these being Burton Stather.’

This memory has recently been brought back to me following the very recent announced closure of parts of the Tata Steel works in Scunthorpe. My best childhood friend Jane’s grandparents lived on Derby Road in Burton and we frequently went to visit them with her mother. We were then taken to Scunthorpe through the Normanby Park section of the Steel Works. Jane and I were fascinated by the huge cooling towers billowing out vast quantities of water vapour (and other things too I expect). We imagined them to be ladies wearing their tightly boned corsets and made up all kinds of stories about them!!

Now when you travel that way it has all disappeared and is a landscaped reservoir. From Barton into Scunthorpe down Dragonby Hill your first image was heaps of waste from the mining of iron ore and railway lines carrying the ore to the works. Other people will tell you of the other sections of the works and how Scunthorpe used to be five villages now merged into one town.

So you cannot fail to know how history is repeating itself with another rapid reduction in the workforce. Colleagues I teach with were on tenterhooks on Tuesday, worrying what news their husbands would bring after the management’s declarations. We have heard many accounts of hardship on the news and the knock on effects on other places in the community.

Many of us will not know how to understand or respond to their situations, and platitudes are meaningless. Things we can do are to listen and be more generous in our donations to the foodbank. Also to offer the families up in our prayers and hope that God will support them throughout this crisis. As we were reminded recently- we are here to serve one another and God especially as He is here to serve us.

S.W.

<b>Sunday 1st Nov</b>		<b>All Saints’ Day (am)/All Souls’ Eve (pm)</b>	
	<b>8.00 am</b>		<b>Said Eucharist</b>
	<b>9.30 am</b>		<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
	<b>2.30 pm</b>		<b>Service at The Willows</b>

	<b>6.00 pm</b>		<b>All Souls' Requiem</b>
Mon 2nd	9.30 am		Toddler Time
	2.00 pm		Diary meeting (Vicarage)
Tues 3rd	1.30 pm		Shoebox working party (Hall)
<b>Wed 4th</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>		<b>Said Eucharist (MU Corporate)</b>
	2.00 pm		Service at Beech House
	7.30 pm		Ladies' Group
Fri 6th	6.00 pm		Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament
Sat 7th	10.00 am		Autumn Bazaar
<b>Sunday 8th Nov</b>		<b>3 before Advent - Remembrance Sunday</b>	
	<b>8.00 am</b>		<b>Said Eucharist</b>
	<b>9.30 am</b>		<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
	<b>11.30 am</b>		<b>Town Remembrance Service</b>
	<b>4.00 pm</b>		<b>Baptisms</b>
	<b>6.00 pm</b>		<b>Choral Evensong</b>

Mon 9th	9.30 am		Toddler Time
	2.00 pm		Standing Committee (Vicarage)
Tues 10th	7.00 pm		Deanery Synod (Wrawby)
<b>Wed 11th</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>		<b>Said Eucharist</b>
	2.00 pm		Service at Eagle House
Thurs 12th	2.00 pm		Service at Westbridge House
Sat 14th	11.00 am		Lectio divina
	evening		Victorian Evening (Hall)
<b>Sunday 15th Nov</b>		<b>2 before Advent (ShoeBox Sunday)</b>	
	<b>8.00 am</b>		<b>Said Eucharist</b>
	<b>9.30 am</b>		<b>Family Eucharist with receipt of ShoeBoxes</b>
	<b>6.00 pm</b>		<b>Said Evening Prayer</b>
Mon 16th	9.30 am		Toddler Time
	Home	Communions	this week
<b>Tues 17th</b>	<b>7.00 pm</b>		<b>Said Eucharist</b>
<b>Wed 18th</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>		<b>Said Eucharist</b>

	2.00 pm		Mothers' Union meeting
	7.30 pm		Ladies' Group meeting
Fri 20th		Parish	News Deadline
Sat 21st	11.00 am		Lectio divina
<b>Sunday 22nd Nov</b>		<b>Christ the King</b>	
	<b>8.00 am</b>		<b>Said Eucharist</b>
	<b>9.30 am</b>		<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
	<b>11.30 am</b>		<b>Baptisms</b>
	<b>6.00 pm</b>		<b>Said Eucharist with hymns</b>
Mon 23rd	9.30 am		Toddler Time
	<b>7.00 pm</b>		<b>Eucharist and PCC</b>
<b>Wed 25th</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>		<b>Said Eucharist</b>
Sat 28th	11.00 am		Lectio divina
<b>Sunday 29th Nov</b>		<b>Advent Sunday</b>	
	<b>8.00 am</b>		<b>Said Eucharist</b>
	<b>9.30 am</b>		<b>Parish Eucharist</b>

	<b>6.00 pm</b>		<b>Advent Procession</b>
<b>Mon 30th</b>	<b>8.45am</b>	<b>Andrew, Apostle</b>	<b>Said Eucharist</b>
	9.30 am		Toddler Time
	9.30 am		Deanery Chapter (Kirton)
<b>Wed 2nd Dec</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>		<b>Said Eucharist (MU Corp)</b>
	7.30 pm		Ladies' Group meeting
Thurs 3rd	5.00 pm		Installation of Christmas Tree

*Reminder: Filled ShoeBoxes should be returned to church at the special service on November 20th at 9.30am, or brought to church before then.*



# THE GEORGE INN

Christmas Fayre

Tel 01652 636303



Monday 7th December/Wednesday 23rd December

(Not Sunday Lunch)

Three Courses.....£14.95

Seniors & Children (12 yrs & Under) £9.95

Parties of 2 To 40 Catered for

## BOOKINGS

### NOW

### BEING

### TAKEN

PLEASE ASK AT THE BAR FOR MENU

Buffets to your requirements also catered for