

The Parish of Louth and Deanery of Louthesk

Weekly notes and information for

25th October 2020: Last Sunday after Trinity www.teamparishoflouth.org.uk



In all we do, we seek to live out Jesus' command to draw close to the love of God in worship, and to share this by loving our neighbour



South Elkington's Harvest Festival swag by Mandy Grant

Collect Prayer at Daily Prayer during the week
O ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, of thy bountiful goodness keep us, we beseech thee, from all things that may hurt us; that we, being ready both in body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things that thou wouldest have done; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our churches: opening as places for prayer and reflection in our communities

The Parish Church of Louth St James will be open for private prayer between **10am and 4pm every day from Monday to Saturday**

Please see pages 2 and 3 for details of other churches that are open for private prayer across the Deanery of Louthesk

DIARY OF PRAYER & WORSHIP THIS WEEK...

Services marked * are streamed via www.facebook.com/louthchurch

Sunday 25th	8 45am	Matins at Wold Newton
<i>Last Sunday after</i>	9 30am	Harvest Service at Ludborough
<i>Trinity</i>	10am	EUCCHARIST at St James' (Nave)* Psalm 90.1-6, 13-end Missa simplex <i>Plainsong</i> Deuteronomy 34. 1-12; 1 Thessalonians 2.1-8; Matt. 22.34-end
	10am	Morning Service at North Thoresby
	10am	Morning Service at South Elkington
	10 30am	Holy Communion at Grimoldby
	10 30am	Parish Mass at Binbrook
	10 30am	Morning Service at Manby
	11am	Morning Service at North Somercotes
	11 15am	Matins at Legbourne
	3pm	Holy Communion at Fotherby
	6pm	PLAINSONG EVENSONG at St James' (Nave)* <i>Plainsong</i> Responses Ps. 119.89-104 <i>Plainsong</i> canticles Ecclesiastes 11,12; Timothy 2.1-7 Before the ending of the day <i>Plainsong</i>
Monday 26th	9 15am	MATINS at St James' (Nave) Psalm 1; Ephesians 4.32-5.8; Luke 13.10-17
	10am	St James' open for private prayer until 4pm
	10am	Cards for Good Causes opens in St James' 'til 4pm
	11am	Funeral at Binbrook
Tuesday 27th	9 15am	MORNING PRAYER at St James' (Nave)* Psalm 128; Ephesians 5.21-end; Luke 13.18-21
	10am	St James' open for private prayer until 4pm
	10am	Cards for Good Causes opens in St James' 'til 4pm
	11am	HOLY COMMUNION at St James' (Nave)*
	11 45am	Praying with the imagination (Ignatian) Go to: www.zoom.us/join or 'phone 0203 481 5240, and enter the Meeting ID: 847 0617 4009 and Password: 562604.
Wednesday 28th	9 15am	MATINS at St James' (Nave)* Psalm 119.89-96; Isaiah 28.14-16; Ephesians 2.19-end; John 15.17-end
<i>Simon and Jude,</i>	10am	St James' open for private prayer until 4pm
<i>Apostles</i>	10am	Cards for Good Causes opens in St James' 'til 4pm
	10am	Shine drop-in at Trinity Centre
	12 noon	Friendship Walk leaving from Trinity Centre
	1pm	Grimoldby open for private prayer until 3pm
	1pm	Legbourne open for private prayer until 2 30pm

	6 30pm	Choir Practice at St James'
	7 30pm	COMPLINE at St James' (Nave)*
Thursday 29th	9 15am	MATINS at St James' (Nave)* Psalm 144.1-2,9-11; Ephesians 6.10-20; John 15.17-end
	10am	St James' open for private prayer until 4pm
	10am	Nth S'cotes open for private prayer until 12noon
	11am	Mass at St Michael's
	7pm	Centering Prayer Group at St James'
Friday 30th	9 15am	MATINS at St James' (Nave)* Psalm 111; Philippians 1.1-11; Luke 14.1-6
	10am	St James' open for private prayer until 4pm
	10am	Cards for Good Causes opens in St James' 'til 4pm
Saturday 31st	10am	St James' open for private prayer until 4pm
	10am	Cards for Good Causes opens in St James' 'til 4pm
	12 30pm	MIDDAY PRAYER at St James'
Sunday 1st	9 30am	Morning Service at Great Carlton
All Saints Day	10am	SUNG EUCHARIST at St James' (Nave)* Psalm 34.1-10, Missa simplex <i>Plainsong</i> Revelation 7.9-end; 1 John 3.1-3; Matt. 5.1-12
	10am	Holy Communion at North Thoresby
	10am	Morning Service at Fulstow
	10 30am	Holy Communion at Marshchapel
	10 30am	Morning Service at Grimoldby
	11am	Parish Mass at Ludford
	11 15am	Eucharist at Legbourne
	6pm	ALL SOULS SERVICE at St James' (Nave)* Special order of service, including: The souls of the righteous <i>Marchant</i>

Please see the pages 13 to 16 for details of further resources for use at home.

Nick Brown's last services in the Parish and Deanery

- Nick's last morning service at St James at 10am on Sunday 15th November
- On 22nd November Nick will be leading the following services:
 - 10am Holy Communion at South Elkington
 - 3pm Holy Communion at Fotherby
 - 6pm Choral Evensong at St James'

An Order of Service for the Eucharist this Sunday

- *We open our hearts to God, that we might be transformed by his love*
- *We listen to God's Word, and seek to find out how we may grow to understand God's will for us more fully*
- *We gather around the table to share a symbolic meal, a meal that joins us with our brothers and sisters throughout the world; the saints who have lived in all times and places*
- *We pray that we go out as lights that shine with God's love wherever we might go*

The Gathering

The GREETING and PREPARATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Together we pray...

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

As the Ministers enter, organ music may be played or a psalm sung.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

The PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

A Minister introduces the Prayers of Penitence.

[My brothers and sisters, as we prepare to celebrate the presence of Christ in word and sacrament, let us call to mind and confess our sins:]

Father eternal, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us.

We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.

The Priest pronounces Absolution.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

We say the GLORIA, a Song of Praise written by the early Christians

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.**

Amen.

The COLLECT prayer

God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 34. 1-12

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy. Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the LORD showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. The LORD said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants’; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.” Then Moses, the servant of the LORD, died there in the land of Moab, at the LORD’s command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended. Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the LORD had commanded Moses. Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face. He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the LORD sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2.1-8

A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Thessalonians. You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22.34-end

Reader: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

There will be a HOMILY and period for reflection, after which the service continues with the NICENE CREED:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

The INTERCESSIONS, which may include the following bidding and response:

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

And may end with:

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers,

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

A CHANT may be sung, as gifts are brought up and the altar is prepared.

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

The prayer at this point may include the following response:

Blessed be God for ever.

The EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

The president praises God for his mighty acts, ending with:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

The president recalls the Last Supper, after which the following acclamation may be used:

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

The Prayer continues and leads into the doxology, to which all respond boldly

Amen.

We sit or kneel for the LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

The GIVING OF COMMUNION

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Communion is distributed.

The PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION.

The priest leads the congregation in prayer:

God our Father, whose Son, the light unfailing, has come from heaven to deliver the world from the darkness of ignorance: let these holy mysteries open the eyes of our understanding that we may know the way of life, and walk in it without stumbling; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Following this prayer, all join in:

We thank you, Lord, that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all peoples.

Amen.

The Dismissal

We stand, and the priest proclaims God's BLESSING and we are sent into His world...

[Christ, whose glory is in the heavens, fill this house and illuminate your hearts;]

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

We stand as the Ministers leave.

Common Worship and New Patterns for Worship, material from which is included in this service, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000 and 2002.

Special Service during November at St James'...

1 st November	6pm	All Souls Service at which we remember those who we 'love but see no longer'
8 th November	<u>9am</u> 10 50am	Holy Communion for the 3 rd Sunday before Advent Service for Remembrance Sunday (Admission by ticket only)
15 th November	6pm 10am	Choral Evensong Sung Eucharist , with the commissioning of Sarah Addison as Headteacher of St Michael's School (This will also be Nick Brown's last Sunday morning service at St James')
22 nd November	6pm 6pm	Choral Evensong , with dedication of the LIVES defibrillator Choral Evensong , which will be Nick Brown's last service as Rector of Louth
29 th November	6pm	Advent Evensong , with Music and Readings for Advent Sunday

Matins and Evensong: An Order of Service

*If used in the context of a family or household the words in **bold** are said by all. If said alone, all words are spoken by the individual praying.*

Along with this order of service you will need a Bible for the psalm and readings. Details of which psalm and readings to use are found on pages 2 and 3.

If the service forms the only, or the main, act of worship on a Sunday in a parish church, then the Minister everyone to reflect on those things that distance us from God and, after a pause for reflection, we join in the Prayer of Confession, which is followed by a prayer of absolution or forgiveness:

Almighty and most merciful Father; We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; And we have done those things which we ought not to have done; And there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable offenders. Spare thou them, O God, that confess their faults. Restore thou them that are penitent; According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous and sober life, to the glory of thy holy name. Amen.

At other time the service may be begin with the opening responses:

O Lord, open thou our lips.

And our mouths shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

The Word of God

*Say or recite the **Venite, Exultemus Domino** (Psalm 95, at Matins) and the appointed **Psalm(s)**.*

The Psalm(s) end with the 'Gloria patri':

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*A Reading from **The Old Testament**. (See pages 2 and 3 for details)*

*Say or sing the **Canticle**; either the Benedictus (at Matins) or Magnificat (at Evening Prayer):*

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel: for he hath visited and redeemed his people; And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us: in the house of his servant David; As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets: which have been since the world began; That we should be saved from our enemies: and from the hands of all that hate us; To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers: and to remember his holy covenant; To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham: that he would give us; That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies: might serve him without fear; In holiness and righteousness before him: all the days of our life.

And thou child shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; To give knowledge of salvation unto his people: for the remission of their sins, Through the tender mercy of our God: whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us; To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death: and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations. He hath shewed strength with his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.-

A Reading from The New Testament. (See pages 2 and 3 for details)

*At Evening Prayer, we also say the **Nunc Dimittis**:*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation; Which thou hast prepared: before the face of all people; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles: and to be the glory of thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

The Creed

You may wish to stand to say the Apostles' Creed:

**I believe in God the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth:
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried.
He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

The Prayers

The Lesser Litany, Lord's Prayer and Prayers:

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen.

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.

And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

**Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

These Prayers end with one or more Collects for the Day (see the front over) and the following morning or evening Collects:

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom; defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day; defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both, our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that, by thee, we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

A time for Reflection

After any further prayers, there may be a time for reflection including the singing of an anthem. If using this material at home, you may find this a good time to play a piece of recorded music or listen to one of the podcasts/video meditations.

The Conclusion

*The service ends with either a **Blessing**, or by praying the **Grace**:*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost be with us now and evermore. **Amen.**

THIS WEEK'S PSALM AND HOMILY

Psalm: 90. 1-6, 13-end

LORD, thou hast been our refuge : from one generation to another.

2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever the earth and the world were made : thou art God from everlasting, and world without end.

3 Thou turnest man to destruction : again thou sayest, Come again, ye children of men.

4 For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yester-day : seeing that is past as a watch in the night.

5 As soon as thou scatterest them they are even as a sleep : and fade away suddenly like the grass.

6 In the morning it is green, and groweth up : but in the evening it is cut down, dried up, and withered.

13 Turn thee again, O Lord, at the last : and be gracious unto thy servants.

14 O satisfy us with thy mercy, and that soon : so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

15 Comfort us again now after the time that thou hast plagued us : and for the years wherein we have suffered adversity.

16 Shew thy servants thy work : and their children thy glory.

17 And the glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us : prosper thou the work of our hands upon us, O prosper thou our handywork.

Homily

People have asked me, why did you do it Matthew? Well the answer is simple. I was compelled. Not by any human force, but by a yearning desire to make Jesus known to the world. Through the work of Paul of Tarsus and those who worked with him the Church of Jesus Christ was growing all over the world and there was a great hunger among followers to learn more about him. There were lots of people travelling around relating the great deeds and sayings of Jesus and a Gospel by Mark was being widely shared, but I didn't think it went far enough in relating who Jesus was.

So I set about collecting these accounts and weaving them together. One thing I set out to do was to help people make the link between him and Messianic prophecies and to establish his place of birth in Bethlehem. An ordinary, human birth yet at the same time royal and of God. Not only that but the fulfilment of those prophecies. The one we had been waiting for. I established his blood line and talked of visitors from the east, of the world outside his homeland. I set about collecting those accounts and putting them together built on the foundation of the birth narrative. It was painstaking work but worth the effort. I did refer to Mark's account but as I said earlier there was room for additions to the text just to fill out the story and the character of Jesus. Jesus often taught in Parables like for example one about a sower who sowed his seed, you probably know it. Mark tells the story faithfully and fully but he leaves his readers hanging with the conclusion "He who has ears to hear, let him hear." but I thought that left it hanging in the air so I decided to include the explanation for the disciples and, in consequence, for future readers. I've always thought that it is really important that we gain as much understanding of the things Jesus did and said as we can and that is what lay behind the account of Jesus' life and times that I presented to the church. I can't see the point in writing something that can't be easily understood. The whole idea that Jesus is both human and divine is hard enough without making the things he said and did difficult to grasp,

But I did want to show that Jesus did have the power to heal and save like when he made a man's withered arm whole and a blind person regain his sight. I also showed how he had control over demons, cleansing many who felt themselves possessed by unholy spirits, thus assuring readers that he had authority of both worldly and unworldly things. There are plenty of examples in my account that will help the church through the ages to understand this as best they can and perhaps to grapple with this understanding as time goes on. And I took pains to include this story we've just heard, which I saw as a very important moment. As Jesus and his disciples continued their journey to Jerusalem he tells them about end times and the signs to look out for. He had already told them what was going to happen in Jerusalem. Now he seeks to prepare them for what is next. He talks to them about huge disturbance in the heavenly realms affecting the sun and the moon and how this will signal the coming of one like the 'Son of Man' on the clouds of heaven. Angels will be sent out with loud trumpets to call the elect from all over the world. He talks of times and seasons and how they must learn lessons from them. The time is coming. Be alert.

This link between the natural and supernatural in the life and ministry of Jesus is a really important one. There are many times when he relates to the spiritual and connects with the physical and this is no exception. He has shown himself to be both fully human whilst also holding strong links to the other worldly. I have tried to show this throughout my account but this proclamation of his to his closest followers is to me a clear indication that he fully understands this, almost as if he has already experienced it. The story of Jesus is both heart-warming and disturbing, this man who collected a close group of followers to aid him in fulfilling his mission to the world challenged the very bedrock of established religion, came up against authority which, eventually put him to death though not before he uttered a scathing critique of their actions, and had thought they had seen the last of him. But that was not to be. Reports of his resurrection spread widely through works like mine and the other chroniclers who travelled around relating his glorious deeds and thoughts. Jesus' death and subsequent resurrection happened some time ago but the Church which holds him so dear continues to grow across the world. My account of the life and works of Jesus is an honest one which I hope will stand the test of time and that people will still be reading many years from now.

Homily Reflection

1. How have you found this way of encountering the text?
2. Might it sometimes be a useful exercise to try to get into the mind of the author in order to gain a different kind of insight?
3. Is there anything else from the passage not already discussed that speaks to you? What is it?
4. What will you do this week in your Monday-to-Saturday ministry in response to what you have heard today? #everydayfaith

MORE RESOURCES FOR USE AT HOME

As you will know the present situation is quite fluid. Whilst we hope that people will continue to be able to gather sensibly to worship, we need to be prepared for any local changes that are necessary.

A range of spiritual resources remain available across the deanery as follows:

- **'Worship at home' resources**, available from:
<https://www.teamparishoflouth.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Worshipresources.pdf>
- **Weekly Parish and Deanery Notes**, available from:
<https://www.teamparishoflouth.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/newsletter.pdf>
Containing details of bible readings for the week, orders of service you might use and resources for reflection, including a weekly Homily reflection provided by the diocese.
- **Daily Prayer** (including Sunday and Festival services) at Louth St James, and streamed via the Parish of Louth facebook page
- **St Andrew's Stewton Church Community** welcomes everyone. Since March 2020 we have produced an email 'Post' every Sunday morning to sustain the life of our church community on-line. You can access these Posts via the web site www.standrewsstewton.co.uk or have your email address added to our circulation list on request to windhover22@live.co.uk
- **'Praying with...'** online sessions, available live via Zoom (see Parish Notes for details) or as a video on the Parish of Louth facebook page.
- **Midweek Homily**, available as a video on the Parish of Louth facebook page.

In the event that activities have to be restricted, then we will aim to maintain acts of worship available to the public in a limited number of locations – and if we cannot maintain worship in all communities, then the daily worship at St James will remain as a spiritual heartbeat for communities across the deanery available online as well as in the building. Please keep an eye on the Weekly Parish and Deanery Notes and the various parish websites and facebook pages where information of any changes will be shared as early as possible.

NOTES AND NOTICES

- The parish knows that there will be a great many wanting to show their appreciation for all that Rev. Nick Brown has done for the Deanery and to express their good wishes as the family go forward into their new chapter in Lincoln. If you would like to do so, please leave your contribution for a gift for him, clearly labelled in the office at Church House or dropped securely into the perspex donation box at St James'.
- A new baby bank 'Bundles of Joy' will open in church house later in November on a Wednesday and Friday morning 10am-12noon. Church House shall be open on November 4th and 6th and 11th and 13th to welcome donations of clothes and accessories (up to age 18months) as well as feeding and bathing equipment. There is limited space for larger items such as cots, pushchairs etc. No toys or car seats thank you. If you would like to be involved in volunteering for this new initiative, please contact the Trinity Centre using the contacts provided.
- There comes a time when it gets too much dealing with difficult emotional problems by yourself and that's when we are here to help. A new counselling Service is available to provide a non-judgemental, approachable support service to people who are in need of emotional and psychological support during times of difficulty, confusion or hardships to improve their well-being and quality of life
For an appointment please phone the Trinity Centre on 01507 605803 or email greg.gilbert@teamparishoflouth.org.uk
- **Admission to the 10 55am service at St James' on Remembrance Sunday will be by ticket only.** Anyone wishing to request a ticket is asked to send a stamped, addressed envelope to The Deanery Office, 6 Ugate, Louth LN11 9ET. In the likely event that there are more applications than available seats, then tickets will be allocated by lot on Monday 2nd November 2020. We appreciate that this is unusual, but is the only way that it is practical to hold this service in the present situation – and hope that you will understand how difficult a decision it has been. The service will be also streamed on the Parish of Louth facebook page so that people can join in at home.

In our prayers this week...

All those affected by the current pandemic

The Sick and those in need: *Peggy Baillie, Anne-Marie Bidwell, Helen Blakey, Paul Clifford, Ed Cox, Hildegard Dettmer-Becroft, Rosemary Huke, Derwent Levick, Margaret Gray, Christina Livesey, Roly Livesey, Mal Locking, Anna Mamwell, Alan Pounds, Sylvia Pounds, Eileen Robinson, Marjorie Spendlow, Enid Spicer, Joyce Terrett, John Troughton, Charles Wakeley, Pauline Watson, Stuart Watson*

Those who have died: *Dennis Joy, John Walsh, Mary Farrow, Margaret Williams*

PARISH AND DEANERY CONTACTS

At this time, if you are aware of anyone in urgent pastoral need please e-mail louthparishpastoral@gmail.com or 'phone 07901 852198, 07500 965321 or 07734 871159.

Deanery Office 01507 610247

louthesk@lincoln.anglican.org

For Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals and other enquiries

Trinity Centre 01507 605803

trinity@teamparishoflouth.org.uk

For matters relating to activities at Trinity Centre

Safeguarding concerns 01507 610752

For information about how to respond to safeguarding concerns, or for sources of support, please see Safeguarding Notices in church porches

www.teamparishoflouth.org.uk

Hymns reproduced under CCLI Licence number 1072098