St Wulfram's **Community**

Sharing God's love with everyone in the heart of Grantham

23rd November 2025 Christ the King



Service details for today:

8.ooam Eucharist (CW)

Celebrant: Fr Francis Preacher: Katy Castañeda (Reader)

9:30am Parish Eucharist

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Setting: Archer, Lincoln Hymns: AMNS 345, 147, 259, 139

Readings: Colossians 1.11-20 and Luke 23.33-43

Lesson Reader: Val York Intercessor: Lynda Basford

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Officiant: Fr Stuart

Responses: Rose Psalm: 72.1-7 Lesson Readers: Stephen Bate and Katie Brownlow Readings: 1 Samuel 8.4-20 and John 18.33-37

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COLLECT:

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Colossians 1.11-20

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

GOSPEL: Luke 23.33-43

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.']] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

POST COMMUNION:

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

Please pray for:

Those who are unwell: Amelia, Christy, Terry, Barbara, Reg.

Recently departed: Richard Hill (Dick).

Anniversary of deaths: Geoffrey Brocklebank, William Holdham, Brenda Marriott, Nigel Aspland.

If you would like to add a notice to the Community news, the deadline for the next issue is: Thursday, 4th December 2025.

We have learnt this week that Dick Hill, a long standing member of our congregation passed away last weekend. Our love and prayers are with him and his family at this time. No details of funeral arrangements are available at present.

Our Christmas Tree Festival will begin on Wednesday with the opening ceremony starting in the Market Place at 6:00pm. The festival will then be open from 10:00am to 8:00pm Thursday to Saturday and 12:00noon to 4:00pm on Sunday. Entry to the festival will be £3.00 per adult, those booking skating tickets will be free. For further information and to book your skating tickets please visit our website or click on the following link: Christmas Tree Festival - Wednesday 26 November to Sunday 30 November 2025

Advent Carols and Nine Lessons and Carols—would you be willing to do a reading at **one** of these services? Both services start at 6:30pm—Advent Carols service is on Sunday 30th November and Nine Lessons and Carols is on Sunday 21st December. To sign up to read a lesson please click on the link here: https://forms.churchdesk.com/f/0Jlmx0jM40

Treasurer sought—Our interim Treasurer is standing down and we need to recruit a replacement. This essential volunteer role is a vital part of our church leadership and we are looking for someone with time to work on day-to-day financial management, and who has the professional accountancy experience to prepare the financial statements. A full role description is available and if you are interested, please contact Ray to discuss at **rachel.davie@stwulframs.com**Applications are requested by 6th December.

Britten's 'Ceremony of Carols'—please join us at 6:30pm on Sunday, 7th December when the choristers will lead us through an Advent Service of Prayer and Song including Benjamin Britten's 'A Ceremony of Carols'.

The Passage – Thank you for all your donations of warm socks for the Passage. We have received another request, this time for <u>warm coats and shoes</u>. Please give any donations to Sheila Knight in church or leave for her attention in church, on the cabinet in front of the old parish office, by the 6th December Thank you in advance.

On Saturday 13th December two Christmas Wreath Making Workshops being held in church. To book your place for either the 10:00am to 12:00noon session or the 2:00pm to 4:00pm session please complete the online booking form via our website: Christmas Wreath workshop Tickets are limited to 20 people per session, and there a just a few places left. Tickets are £25.00 each.

Lord, Show Us The Way News – The Diocese of Lincoln has a series of important Strategy Engagement Events that will be happening across Lincolnshire. This is an opportunity for you to have a conversation with the diocesan central team, including the Strategy Working Group, about the strategy. You'll also gain insight into how far we've come on the journey and what we could possibly expect next. These engagement events are taking place across Lincolnshire. It is crucial that you sign up to an event so they can plan. There will be a meeting held in church on Monday, 1st December at 7:00pm. Please click on the following link to book your place: Diocese of Lincoln Strategy Development Engagement Events

Service of Prayer – from Saturday 6th December there will be a Service of Prayer held in church each Saturday at 1:00pm. This will be a short, informal service. If you have any prayer requests please contact either Fr Stuart or the Parish Office.

St John's Church, Manthorpe will be holding their Christmas Fayre with stalls and refreshments on Saturday 6th December from 10:00am to 3:00pm.

Inclusive Church – Living in Love and Faith. Inclusive Church has produced an open letter for members of the Church of England. Please click on the link to read the letter and show your support. LLF Open Letter – Inclusive Church There is also a copy of the letter in church in front of the old parish office.

Christmas Cheer—We are running our 'Christmas Cheer! Support for Families at Christmas' campaign until the end of November. Please click on the link to find out more information and make your donation: Christmas Cheer! Support for Families at Christmas

'Tis the Season: A Festive Celebration with the Band of the Royal Air Force College Cranwell. The Sir Frank Whittle Hall Concert Series continues in 2025 with a sparkling Evening of Festive Favourites in church on Saturday 6th December. Doors open at 2:30pm, concert begins at 3:00pm. Please click here to book your free tickets: 'Tis the Season: A Festive Celebration with the Band of the Royal Air Force College

PCC Meeting—the PCC met during the evening of Thursday, 20th November. If you want to know anything about the meeting, please speak to a member of the clergy or a churchwarden.

On Advent Sunday, 30th November our All-Age Eucharist at 9:30am, marking the beginning of Advent, will be held on the skating rink (of course!). At this service we would love you to be able to bring a donation of new toys or gifts (unwrapped) for Christmas which will be given to Grantham Foodbank for distribution. Suggested items are: selection boxes, gifts for teenagers and younger children. Tinned soup, baked beans, tomatoes peas or sweetcorn, custard, rice pudding, fruit, fish, meat. Tea, coffee, bottled squash, UHT long-life milk. Rice, pasta. Selection boxes, biscuits, mince pies, non-alcoholic Christmas pudding, jam, breakfast cereals, sugar. Pasta sauces, tomato ketchup, brown sauce. Toilet rolls, toiletries. Gifts will be distributed with food to ensure the crisis families face at this time will be eased this Christmas. If you unable to make it to the service on 30th November please bring your donations to church by the end of Sunday, 7th December.

Carols in the Courtyard will take place at Grantham House again 22nd this year on Monday December at 7:00pm. Join us for an evening of Carols, sung by current and former members of our Youth Choir. Tickets are £12.50 and include mulled wine and mince pies. To book your tickets please follow the link here or go to our website: https:// forms.churchdesk.com/f/ odbMHuDTI

Madonna and Child—We are excited to announce that a new statue is being given to the church, by The Friends of St Wulfram's, of Madonna and Child. The statue, which will stand approximately 115cm high, is being created by Nottinghamshire sculptor Peter Eugene Ball and will stand in the Lady Chapel replacing our current figure of Mary. More details about



Day and Prayer Intention	Church Calendar followed by events and services for the day
Mon 24th November The Police and Fire Services	Feria. 9:00am to 8:00pm Set up in church for the Christmas Tree Festival 7:30pm-9:00pm Community Choir—meet in church
Tue 25th The Benefice of Springline—The Rev'd Sue Deacon	Catherine, martyr, 4 th cent. Isaac Watts, hymn writer, 1748. 9:00am to 8:00pm Set up in church for the Christmas Tree Festival 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:00am Grantham U3A Coffee Morning in church 12:00noon Eucharist—to be held in the Crypt today 7:00pm-8:30pm String Ensemble meeting at Grantham House
Wed 26 th Our Christmas Tree Festival	Feria. 9:00am Morning Prayer 11:00am-12:00noon Coffee Morning—meet in church 6:00pm Procession from the Market Place to church for the official opening of the Christmas Tree Festival (the festival closes at 8:30pm today) 7:00pm Women's Bible Study Group—meet at St John's Church, Spitalgate
Thurs 27 th Our Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel	Feria. 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:00am to 8:00pm Christmas Tree Festival open
Fri 28th The Abbey of St Wandrille	Freia. 9:00am Morning Prayer 9:30am-10:30am Wulfram Tots meet in church 10:00am to 8:00pm Christmas Tree Festival open 7:30pm Youth Groups 8-10 and 11-13 meet in church
Sat 29 th November St John's, Manthorpe and St John's, Spitalgate	Day of Intercession and Thanksgiving for the Missionary Work of the Church. 10:00am to 8:00pm Christmas Tree Festival open
Sun 30 th Our Parish	First Sunday of Advent. See page 4 for more details of today's services 12:00noon to 4:00pm Christmas Tree Festival open
Mon 1st December Bishop Stephen, Bishop of Lincoln	Andrew the Apostle. 9:00am to 8:00pm Christmas Tree Festival clearance 7:00pm Diocese of Lincoln Strategy Engagement Event in church—see opposite page for more details 7:30pm Community Choir meet at Grantham House
Tue 2 nd Those who work in Social Services	Feria. 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:15am to 11:30am LCC Coffee Morning in church 12:00noon Eucharist
Wed 3 rd Our Church Schools	Francis Xavier, missionary, 1552. 9:00am Morning Prayer 11:00am-12:00noon Coffee Morning meet at Grantham House 2:00pm Little Gonerby School Christingle Service
Thurs 4 th The work of Inclusive Church	John of Damascus, monk, teacher of the faith, c.749. Nicholas Ferrar, deacon, founder of the Little Gidding Community, 1637. 9:00am Morning Prayer
Fri 5 th The Abbey of St Wandrille	Feria. 9:00am Morning Prayer 9:30am Wulfram Tots meet in church 1:00pm Wholeness and Healing Service 2:00pm Pastoral Team meeting at Grantham House 5:15pm Choral Evensong with the Youth Choir 7:30pm Youth Group Yrs 5-7 at Grantham House
Sat 6 th St John's, Manthorpe and St John's, Spitalgate	Nicholas, bishop, c.326. 1:00pm Service of Prayer 3:00pm Concert in church from the Band of the RAF College Cranwell—see opposite page for more details
Sun 7 th Our Parish	Second Sunday of Advent. See back page for more details of today's services

WHO'S WHO AT ST WULFRAM'S

www.stwulframs.org.uk

Rector: Fr Stuart Cradduck 01476 569582 rector@stwulframs.com

Ordinand: Tom Stockwell tom.stockwell@stwulframs.com

Churchwardens: Mrs Jan Burrows 07745948720 and Mrs Mel Fletcher 07973699901

churchwardens@stwulframs.com

Readers: Nick Kerry 07971177781 Katy Castañeda 07594862071 katyjag@outlook.com

Director of Music: Dr Tim Williams choir@stwulframs.com

Parish Administrator: Elaine Chambers, Parish Office: 01476 561342 admin@stwulframs.com

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Jeremy Lloyd 07538789348 safeguarding@stwulframs.com

Assist. Safeguarding Officer: Elaine Chambers, Parish Office: 01476 561342 admin@stwulframs.com

WHEN WE ARE USUALLY OPEN

Church open for private prayer: Monday to Saturday 9:00am-4:00pm, and on Sundays from 10:30am – 4:00pm.

Francis Trigge Library: Wednesday and Saturday mornings 10:00am-12:00n0on

Parish Office: Monday 10:00am-12:00n0on. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 10:00am to 3:00pm. Tel: 01476

561342 Email: admin@stwulframs.com

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The Parish Office is based at: Grantham House 45 Castlegate Grantham, NG31 6SS



St Wulfram's **Community**

Sharing God's love with everyone in the heart of Grantham

30th November 2025 Ist Sunday of Advent



Service details for today:

8.00am Eucharist (BCP)

Celebrant and Preacher: Fr Stuart

9.30am All-Age Eucharist including the Christmas Toy Collection for Grantham Foodbank

Celebrant and Address: Fr Stuart

Hymns: **AMNS 26, 31, 256, 28**

Readings: Romans 13.11-14 and Matthew 24.36-44

6.30pm Advent Carol Service

Officiant: Fr Stuart

Choral music, readings and carols for Advent by candlelight.

COLLECT:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

FIRST READING: Romans 13.11-14

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

GOSPEL: Matthew 24.36-44

'But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

POST COMMUNION:

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please pray for:

Those who are unwell: Amelia, Christy, Terry, Barbara, Reg.

Recently departed: Richard Hill (Dick) **Anniversary of deaths:** Olive O'Berry.

Service Details for 7th December 2025

8:00am Eucharist (BCP) 9:30am All-Age Eucharist 11:00am Choral Eucharist 6.30pm An Advent Service of Prayer and Song including Benjamin Britten's 'A Ceremony of Carols' Readings for 7th December 2025 Second Sunday of Advent Romans 15.4-13 Matthew 3.1-12