

Louthesk Deanery

Pew Sheets – w/c Sunday 14th December 2025

3rd Sunday of Advent



www.achurchnearyou.com

**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**

Collect Prayer at Daily Prayer this week

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SERVICES THIS WEEK ACROSS THE DEANERY...

Sunday 14th

3rd Sunday of Advent

HC Scripture *Canticle: Magnificat; Isaiah 35.1-10; James 5.7-10; Matthew 11.2-11*

8 45am **Parish Mass** at Wold Newton

10am **Matins** at North Thoresby

10am **Holy Communion** at St James'

10 30am **Holy Communion** at Binbrook

10 30am **Morning Worship** at Grimoldby

10 30am **Methodist Service** at Saltfleetby

11 15am **Morning Praise** at South Elkington

3pm **Carol Service** at Grainsby

4pm **Carol Service** at Alvingham

4pm **Carol Service** at Manby

4pm **Carol Service with Christingle** at North Somercotes

6pm **Carol Service** at Thorganby

7 30pm Louth Chamber Choir at St James'

Monday 15th

Rural Mission Enablers Day Off

MP Scripture *Psalms 40; Isaiah 38.1-8, 21-22; Matthew 16.13-End*

11am **Funeral** (Doreen Stephenson) at Alford Crem

1pm **Funeral** (Shelia Larter) at Covenham St Mary's

Tuesday 16th

MP Scripture *Psalms 70; Isaiah 38.9-20; Matthew 17.1-13*

11am **BCP** at St James

11am Informal Coffee at Utterby with Carols by Utterby Primary

7pm Chess Club at St James' Church Hse

Wednesday 17th

MP Scripture *Psalms 75; Isaiah 39; Matthew 17.14-21*

11 30am Rotary Carol Service at Ludborough

12 30pm Church Mice Crafters at Fotherby Church with
Special Christmas Pop-in lunches - 12 30 till 2 30pm

12 30pm KEVIGS Prizegiving at St James'

7pm Louth Photographic Society at St James' Church Hse

Thursday 18th

MP Scripture	<i>Psalms 76; Zephaniah 1.1-2.3; Matthew 17.22-End</i>
10 30am	'Craft and Chatter' at St James'
12 30pm	Funeral (Charles Boardman) at St James'
1 30pm	Somercotes Academy Carol Service at Nth Somercotes
6pm	Carols at Legbourne

Friday 19th

Priest In Charge of Louth - Day Off

MP Scripture	<i>Psalms 146; Zephaniah 3.1-13; Matthew 18.1-20</i>
1 30pm	Funeral (Russell Baker) at Marshchapel
6pm	Crib Service at Swaby
7pm	Carols followed by refreshments at Covenham
7pm	Pop Up Christmas Supper at Utterby

Saturday 20th

MP Scripture	<i>Psalms 46; Zephaniah 3.14-End; Matthew 18.21-End</i>
2 30pm	Carol Service at Kelstern
4pm	Christingle at Utterby
4pm	Carol Service at Welton Le Wold
6pm	Carol Service at Ludford

Sunday 21st

4th Sunday of Advent

HC Scripture	<i>Isaiah 7.10-16; Psalms 80.1-8, 18-20; Romans 1.1-7; Matthew 1.18-End</i>
9 30am	Holy Communion at Marshchapel
10am	Carol Service at Fulstow
10am	Holy Communion at North Thoresby
10am	Holy Communion at St James'
10 30am	Holy Communion at Grimoldby
10 30am	Holy Communion at Saltfleetby
11am	Holy Communion at Legbourne
3pm	Crib Service at Fotherby
3pm	Carol Service & Baptism (Ruairi Dwyer) at Raithby
3pm	Carol Service followed by refreshments at Stewton
4pm	Carols For All at St James'
5pm	Carol Service at Ludborough
6pm	Carols at Belleau
6 30pm	Carol Service at Binbrook
6 30pm	Carols with Louth Chamber Choir at Sth Elkington

PRAYERS AND READINGS

Collect Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 35.1–10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ²it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. ³ Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.'
⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸ A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. ⁹ No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰ And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Canticle: Magnificat

¹ My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.
² From this day all generations will call me blessed; the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.
³ He has mercy on those who fear him, from generation to generation.
⁴ He has shown strength with his arm and has scattered the proud in their conceit,
⁵ Casting down the mighty from their thrones and lifting up the lowly.
⁶ He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.
⁷ He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, to remember his promise of mercy,
⁸ The promise made to our ancestors, to Abraham and his children for ever. *Luke 1.46-55*

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading: James 5.7–10

⁷Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.
⁹Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 11.2–11

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

²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples
³and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' ⁴Jesus
answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight, the
lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have
good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' ⁷As they
went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the
wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see?
Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces.
⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.
¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you." ¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women no
one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is
greater than he.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and
reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

In our prayers this week...

The sick and those in need: *Sylvia Hynes, Julie Johnson, Patrick Lee, Phil Mamwell, Andrew Mawer, Richard Mawer, Ronnie & Revd Ian Partridge, Christina Pettifer, John and Liz Morris, Margaret Pinchbeck, Elaine Walsh, Lawrence Willets, Connie Robinson, Lesley Carroll, Michelle Neal.*

Those who have died: *Alan Banks, Robin Foyster, Deborah Smith, Joan Field, Doreen Stephenson, Shelia Larter, Charles Boardman, Russell Baker, Pauline Thornton, Dorothy Broome.*

Louthesk Deanery Office

Office Opens on Tuesday's & Wednesday's from 9.30am to 4pm at

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****Denise Works Mondays, Thursday and Fridays from Home****

Please be advised that the staff at Louthesk Deanery Office and Diocese Offices in Lincoln, will break for Christmas, from lunchtime on Wednesday, 24th December, and will restart on Monday, 5th January 2026

Wishing you joy this Christmas and a bright New Year ahead!

With best wishes

Denise and Jooles, Louthesk Deanery Office x