

St John the Evangelist

Manthorpe



Jottings – July 2026

News and views from church, village and estate

Minister's Letter

As most of you will know, I've recently had what is known as a 'revision' of an old hip replacement. Apparently the plastic cup which joins the two pieces of metal together (one in the pelvis and one in the leg) was wearing very thin and was almost metal on metal. There was no pain and I had full movement in it, but the orthopaedic specialist clearly thought it needed urgent attention.

So I've had four days in hospital. The NHS gets a lot of flack, but I have to say I was impressed. Yes, by the care I and the other patients received but even more by the attitude of the staff. They were always most considerate, caring and respectful of each other. No matter what their level of training, pay, and position was, they very clearly worked together as a very supportive team. While I was there, one of them had an offer of a new job, closer to where she lives: they all rejoiced with her. I was also pleased to see that, on a couple of occasions, when a patient needed to talk, about a health problem or a problem at home, a nurse had time to sit with them and listen and everyone else respected that and covered for them.

So now, I'm home and on the slow road to recovery. As the specialist warned me, it's a lot worse now than it was before he operated. He hoped I wouldn't hate him for that!

So two lessons from this experience. Support, encouragement and respect for all those around us, whatever their differences, no matter how diverse, goes a long way to helping us live together as a community, in mutual love and trust.

And, I fear, I'm not quite as patient in recovery as I (and Steve) hoped I would be!

Jill Potts

Lent Appeal

Our Lent Appeal seems a long time ago now, but the weather at the beginning of June was certainly reminiscent of March and April when many of you gave so generously to our fund-raising events for the Grantham Dementia Cafe.

You may remember Rob Dixon's visit to us in March when he spoke of the BHive Community Hub in Finkin Street offering a range of support, advice and information to help those living with dementia and their families and carers.

On June 3rd we had the great pleasure of visiting the BHive to present your cheque for £575.00 to Susan Swinburn at Grantham Dementia Cafe and to meet some of the amazing volunteers (Brian, Gill and Mel) working there. The Cafe was in full swing in the main area with many happy, smiling faces to greet us! Susan kindly gave us a full tour of the centre including the radio station (97.2FM) and the large bicycle repair area where old cycles can be donated, repaired and renovated by volunteers, and subsequently sold for extremely reasonable prices to raise money for the activities and events held at the Hub.

Thank you so much for supporting the Lent Appeal - your donations are so appreciated!

Pam Barratt



Where two or three are gathered in my name.....

One of the things considered by the Working Party headed by Mother Kate was what to do with the quite rare fifth Sundays in the month? As a member of the group I agreed that we should try something to appeal to families in the area who perhaps had a neurodiverse child who found the restrictions of a formal church service too much to cope with or perhaps an adult with difficulty in concentrating for any length of time. We came up with the idea of a Cafe Church to be held in the Church Hall on the fifth Sunday of the month. I had forgotten about this decision until I saw it advertised in the Jottings with the first one to be on the 31st May.

Well, as I had voted for it, I should go. The Hall looked welcoming with half a dozen tables with tablecloths and flowers. We were invited to take a coffee or tea with a gorgeous variety of biscuits. The Hall was abuzz with Conversation when Jill and Steve called everyone to order. The screen showed us hymns and prayers. As it was Trinity Sunday we began with the reading about Abraham welcoming three strangers and bidding them stay and enjoy a sumptuous repast that he had generously prepared for them. Jill asked "What would you do if someone turned up on the doorstep?" "Not open the door" was one reply" mine was "Not today thank you". Rob recalled he and his wife's time in the Middle East where they were offered refreshment by the poorest of people. Our attention was drawn to the pictures on each table of The Trinity an Orthodox icon depicting three angels representing God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy spirit. An explanation of the painting was given on the screen which we then discussed.

Each table was given a subject for Intercession and we were invited to take a few minutes to consider what we wanted to say. I was reminded of Pentecost celebrated last Sunday when the gift of tongues was bestowed on the gathering. The results were amazing!! Our topic was the World and Rob conjured up two or three sentences which mentioned wars in general and ended up with a plea that we value and appreciate our "beautiful world"

No one was pressured into contributing but from the hum of conversation obviously everyone became "Involved". We ended

with the Grace. Everyone who was present thanked Jill and Steve for a really inclusive and enjoyable hour in the presence of God.

According to my diary, the next Cafe Church will be at the end of August...make a note and give it a go.

Margaret Booles



Expressions of Faith from the Northumbria Community

Lord, You have always given bread for the coming day;
and though I am poor, today I believe.

Lord, You have always given strength for the coming day;
and though I am weak, today I believe.

Lord, You have always given peace for the coming day;
and though of anxious heart, today I believe.

Lord, You have always kept me safe in trials;
and now, tried as I am, today I believe.

Lord, You have always marked the road for the coming day;
and though it may be hidden, today I believe.

Lord, You have always lightened this darkness of mine;
and though the night is here, today I believe.

Lord, You have always spoken when time was ripe;
and though you be silent now, today I believe.



Ann's Transcripts.

Manthorpe, although not [named] in the [Domesday] Book of 1086, is described as having "5 villeins and one border and 8 sokemen with two carucates and 20 acres of meadow and land of Bishop Osmond" (C.W. Smith, author of Lincolnshire-Rutland)

Christian Aid Week 2026



Where HARDSHIP means HUNGER, urban farmers can grow hope
Grateful thanks are again extended to all who contributed to
Christian Aid during their designated Week (May 10th-16th). You
donated £155-00. £75 was Gift-aided, giving an extra 25% to their
vital work.

Christina Banks, Christian Aid church rep



The Playgroup

The children enjoying hanging up their forestry work in their forest
garden area.



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All opening times are subject to change depending on the number of children booked.
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St John's Community Hall

To book the hall please contact

Joan, Administrator 07434 516116

Regular bookings

2nd Mon. am New Layers of Stitch, Mary Bompfrey 07715 171808

3rd Mon. am U3A STEM, John Down 01746 576204

4th Mon. am Bobbin Lace Group, Jean Breckenridge 07929 990708

Mon pm weekly Daisy Chain Yoga, Rachel Metcalfe 07920 096439

Mon eve weekly Pilates, Kristina Hammond 01476 577796

Tues am weekly Exhale, Jette Rasmussen 07901 555499

Tues pm term time First Class Learning Steven Newman 07990 500111

2nd Tues eve Manthorpe W.I., Judy Payne 07913 536 698

Last Tues eve Grantham Sunflower W.I., Janis E-Dowling 07890 618640

1st Wed. pm National Trust, Paul Skelton 07818 435 808

Wed. pm weekly (except 1st) Parkinsons UK, Ian Askew 01400 282712

Wed eve weekly Exhale Therapy Jette Rasmussen 07901 555499

3rd Thurs pm National Trust, Paul Skelton 07818 435 808

Thurs pm School Tuition, Karen Shaw 07701 096842

Thurs. eve weekly Bridge Club, Peter Simpson 01949 842481

Friday am weekly Daisy Chain Yoga, Rachel Metcalfe 079200 96439

1st Fri pm Church Whist Drive, Joan Lincoln 07434 516116

4th Fri pm (Sept - Apr)U3A Gardening, Caroline Bowman 01476 566411

2nd Fri eve (Oct -Apr) Lincs Wildlife, John Chadwick 01476 561413

4th Fri eve Soundbath, Liz Langford 07971 400769

Sat am term time First Class Learning, Steven Newman 07990 500111

One-off hall bookings for June

12th Baptism party. Noon to 3.00pm

17th Cliffedale School Prom. 5.00-9.00pm

Parish Matters

Vicar: Father Stuart W. Craddock 01202569582

Church warden: Linda Vincent

PCC secretary: Rob Vincent

Safeguarding officer: Fr. Stuart Craddock

Parish Administrator: Joan Lincoln 07434516116

www.stjohnmanthorpe.org.uk Email: stjohnmanthorpe@gmail.com

Registers for May

Baptisms	Reayah-Heaven Boldock
Weddings	None
Funerals	None
Ashes Burial	None

Cleaning rotas for July

Church	
6th	Rev & Mr Potts
20th	Mr & Mrs Hamlyn
Brasses	Linda & Rob Vincent



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Articles for Jottings

To ensure entry to the following
month's Jottings, please send
reports, social events, news
and information to Jill Potts
jilldallygate@gmail.com
by the 18th of each month.

-0-

Don't forget!

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anniversary, birthday or
remember a loved one, you are
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