

# St John the Evangelist

## Manthorpe



### Jottings – October 2026

News and views from church, village and estate

#### Minister's Letter

“Jesus is the true vine, and my father is the gardener.” John 15.

When we attend church for a Eucharist on a Sunday, we will say the creed as part of that service, which begins with: We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty.....

When we say these words, we affirm that God is real for us and acknowledge that we have a close and loving relationship with him. But what can we possibly know about God? The scriptures tell us that he knew us in our mother's womb and has counted the very hairs on our head! So how can I bother this great and glorious God who knows so much about me with the small concerns of my heart? I cannot imagine being on friendly terms with the king of England, or any of the important leaders of this world, yet this wonderful God loves me!

During his ministry on earth, Jesus described God in many ways to help us to understand his nature. The one that I can really relate to is “my father is the gardener”. Being a gardener is hard work, not a matter of coming in once a week to cut the lawn and trim hedges. I once heard a talk from an English vineyard owner who said that he tended his vines every day. He was even in his vineyard on Christmas Day. He thought about his vines constantly and his one pleasure was to see them flourish and produce good fruit.

We have the image of God as a hard working gardener and, accepting that he knows us so well, who only wants what is best for us. Instead of constantly striving to go our own way, we can believe and trust in him, and like the vines, can and will flourish and produce good fruit.

Joy Hobbs

## October

|                |                                 |         |
|----------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| Sunday 4th     | Harvest Festival Morning Prayer | 10.00am |
| Wednesday 7th  | BCP Eucharist                   | 10.00am |
| Sunday 11th    | Trinity 19 Eucharist            | 10.00am |
| Wednesday 14th | BCP Eucharist                   | 10.00am |
| Sunday 18th    | St Luke Morning Prayer          | 10.00am |
| Wednesday 21st | BCP Eucharist                   | 10.00am |
| Sunday 25th    | Bible Sunday Eucharist          | 10.00am |
| Wednesday 28th | Simon and Jude BCP Eucharist    | 10.00am |



## Dates for your Diary in October

|               |                                                  |         |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Friday 2nd    | Whist drive                                      | 2.00pm  |
| Saturday 3rd  | Harvest lunch                                    | 12.30pm |
| Tuesday 6th   | Social committee in office                       | 10.00am |
| Sunday 11th   | Baptism of Flynn Hamilton-Rutter                 | 11.30pm |
| Friday 16th   | Funeral and wake of Alan Wright                  | 12.30pm |
| Saturday 17th | Wedding of Richard Lloyd and<br>Marianne Clapton | 1.00pm  |



## Kindness of Friends

The August edition of Jottings included a generous tribute to my wife Delia who died in May. It reflected on our "transfer" from a long established relationship with St. Wulfram's to St. John's, a move occasioned by the increasing physical challenge of attending St. Wulfram's, and which was marked by the warm and embracing welcome we received in Manthorpe. Sadly Delia's illness meant that her part in the life of St. John's was neither as full or as long as she would have wished but it was a great comfort and support to both of us. Earlier this year Margaret Bowles wrote of the kindness of strangers, I hope it is not presumptuous of me to write of the kindness of the friends that we met at the door of St. John's which meant much to Delia and continues to be so to me.

Rob Hearmon

## Whist Drive and Cottage Pie evening

Clearly a very popular event. I have received three reports of it. Read and enjoy!

An enjoyable evening was had by all who attended the evening on 18th September. We had a selection of cottage pies and dishes which catered for all dietary needs. It was a veritable feast followed by a selection of desserts which were enjoyed by everyone. Then we followed this meal with 12 rounds of Whist and the drawing of the raffle. We had a few beginners who quickly picked up the game and everyone seemed to enjoy their successes and failures. All in all it always comes down to the cards you are dealt! As a Whist drive is a game of moving round the tables to play with different partners everyone got to meet new people at every table or just catch up with those they already knew.

Linda Vincent

On Friday 18th September, a Cottage Pie and Whist evening was held in the church hall. It was well attended, and we all enjoyed a selection of delicious home-made pies. Various dietary needs were catered for, and this was followed by a variety of hot and cold desserts. Food and good conversation in abundance!

To follow we then enjoyed a few rounds of Whist. For anyone who is dubious about this card game, it is interesting to note that there were many there who were not too familiar with the rules, but this was not a problem, as a guide to play was on the table, and those who were not too sure, were given help along the way by the more seasoned players. It is interesting to note that the winning or losing at the table is mostly to do with luck, rather than skill, and what was a great end to the evening, was that there were 2 players who took part and had never played the game before, who came top, and took the first prizes to a round of applause!

Worth a try when we next hold this event! Joy Hobbs

On Friday evening the 18th September, 20 friends old and new, gathered in the Hall for an evening meal followed by a Whist Drive. The Ladies of the Social Group had spent the afternoon cooking very tasty cottage pies, a vegetarian pie and a moussaka, which were now displayed on the kitchen worktop filling the air with mouth

watering smells. Apple, and apple and strawberry crumbles, apple strudel and a summer pudding with choices of cream or custard followed the savoury meal and were much enjoyed.

When all was cleared away and tables re-set for the evening entertainment, the Whist Drive began. Church members played along with friends from the Bridge Club and Sudbrook Golf Club with Zoe's Auntie Sue and Uncle Con joining us for the first time. Eventual winners were (ladies section) Pam Barrett and (men's section) Uncle Con – both of whom said they had never played Whist before. The raffle was drawn and thanks were given to Joy Hobbs for the Whist organisation and to the ladies of the Social Group for the excellent food. Thank you to all who supported this enjoyable annual event.

Joan Lincoln

## Grandpa's Wishes

A little girl said, "Grandpa, suppose your ship came home  
And all you wished for you could buy,  
and where you wished you'd roam.  
What would you spend your fortune on and whither would you fly?"  
Said Grandpa, "That's not easy to answer, but I'll try.

How much then will it cost me, to hear a blackbird sing?  
How much to see the snowdrops and crocus's in spring.  
What price the dew upon the rose? To feel the summer rain  
Or walk beneath the trees along a country lane?

How much to walk a river bank and see a boat drift by?  
Or watch the rain and sunshine paint a rainbow in the sky?  
How much to watch a butterfly dance from flower to flower  
Or hear a church bell ringing, to mark the vagrant hour?

See cobwebs in the hedgerows, sparkling in the rain  
Like magic carpets men would try, to reproduce in vain  
How much to see your children grow,  
and you've done the best you can?

Your little girl's a woman now, and your son's become a man!  
So what's left of my crock of gold? Why goodness gracious me!  
I haven't spent a penny, lass, the things I love are free!"

Anon (contributed by Joy Hobbs)

# ***Harvest at Manthorpe***

**Harvest Lunch on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**at 12.30pm cost £10.00**

**with a short 'songs of praise'**

**Make sure you have your name on the list**



## ***Harvest Festival***

### ***Songs of Praise***

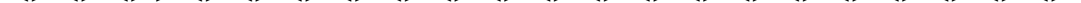
**Sunday 4th at 10.00am**

**Please bring  
your gifts  
of packaged food  
and toiletries  
for the Food Bank  
and the Passage**



**Harvest Lunch**

Come along and enjoy the lunch and the afternoon. The sign-up sheet is in church or contact Joan Lincoln or Linda Vincent to put your name down.



# Fish and Chips Quiz

The Fish and Chips Quiz Night is back. This will be held on Friday, 6th November at 5:30 pm. The cost will be £12.00 per person. We will be ordering from Wellies and there is a choice of Fish, Scampi, Pies and Chicken with Chips, Beans, Peas, Curry Sauce or Gravy. There is a maximum number of only 60, so put your names down as soon as possible with your 6 member team. Please see Joan Lincoln to let her know that you have a team to enter!

A decorative border consisting of a continuous row of small, stylized diamond shapes, each with a central dot, arranged in a repeating pattern.

# Christmas Fayre

St John's Manthorpe will again be holding a Christmas Fayre on Saturday 5th December from 10:00 until 3:00. We will have a variety of stall holders in the Hall and in the Church. We look forward to seeing you there.

There will not be a charge for admission but there will be a raffle in the form of a bottle stall. Tea/coffee and a cake will also be on sale at £2.50 per person. The variety of stalls will be just the thing for finding that unusual Christmas present or stocking up on treats for the family. If you wish to be involved with any of the church stalls or want a stall of your own, please contact Linda Vincent by email at [lvincent121155@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lvincent121155@hotmail.co.uk).



**British summer time end on 25<sup>th</sup>.  
Don't forget to put your clocks back.**

## **PRESSURE**

(The film currently showing in local cinemas)

We all have pressure in our lives but this film enactment of the D Day landings in 1944 was all about the weather pressure (high or low) and the ultimate pressure behind the decision of when to cross the Channel! If the wrong decisions were made it would cost thousands of lives!

The D Day landings were set for Monday 5th June 1944 and no one had questioned the decision made by the swaggering gung-ho American meteorologist Colonel Irving Krick to the Allied Supreme Commander 'Ike' Eisenhower, until the arrival of the dour Scottish but forceful Group Captain James Stagg, chief meteorologist for the British RAF.

A high pressure weather system was currently over the northern hemisphere giving settled weather and most importantly calm seas for the landings on the five chosen French beaches occupied by the German Troops. However, James Stagg was alerted by his team to a low pressure system developing in the Atlantic and fast approaching Ireland.

This would cause very windy conditions with possible 12 foot high violent waves making landing the thousands of troops with all their fighting equipment on the beaches, almost impossible without drowning them. Stagg advised Eisenhower and recommended that the landings be postponed until the following day 6th June when a possible small window of calm weather might allow a safe landing.

The pressure this put on Eisenhower's shoulders between the two conflicting forecasts from the American and British meteorologists was palpable!! If he agreed to the Monday landing it risked the lives of thousands of troops and destruction of the boats and the equipment on them. But if he delayed until Tuesday it could also risk the lives of the troops – unless Stagg was right.....

History tells us the rest!

This was a very costly human invasion with over 10,000 Allied Troops killed, wounded or missing on those five beaches. May we never forget their huge sacrifice to secure our freedom.

Joan Lincoln

## **Meet Manthorpe Preschool Playgroup!**

We're a small, friendly and homely preschool based in the heart of Manthorpe, welcoming children from 9 months to preschool age.

Our small setting means we really get to know every child and family, creating a warm, nurturing environment where children can learn, laugh and grow. We have three lovely outdoor areas, including our Forest Garden, a large private car park and a highly experienced team.

We've also had a fresh new look over the summer!  So if you haven't visited us for a while, why not come and take a look?

We currently have limited spaces available and would love to invite prospective families to arrange a FREE taster session and see what makes Manthorpe so special.

 [manthorpe.psp@gmail.com](mailto:manthorpe.psp@gmail.com)

 01476 573893

## **A little reminder about our car park**

As a local preschool and charity, we are very lucky to have a large private car park for the families who attend our setting.

We'd just like to kindly remind our local community that our car park and the land around the preschool are private land and are not a public footpath or public parking area. We do have signs displayed around the car park.

As we are a working preschool, safeguarding our children, families and staff is extremely important to us. When we are open, we therefore need to know who is on our land and why they are there.

At the same time, we really do want to be part of our local community and, where we can, we are happy to consider requests to use our car park for parking or local functions. As a registered charity, we would be grateful for a donation towards the preschool where appropriate.

If you would like to ask about using our car park, please get in touch and we'll always see what we can do to help.

 [manthorpe.psp@gmail.com](mailto:manthorpe.psp@gmail.com)

 01476 573893

Thank you for helping us to keep our preschool a safe and welcoming place for everyone. 

**Our refreshed playgroup, ready for the new school year.**



## **St John's Community Hall**

Our hall is busy with various clubs and societies.  
If you would like 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  
Last Tues pm St John's Fellowship, Jenny Twycross 07530 060541  
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  
1<sup>st</sup> Wed. pm National Trust, Jill Oakham 07771 855947  
Wed. pm weekly (except 1<sup>st</sup>) Parkinsons UK, Ian Askew 01400 282712  
Wed eve weekly Exhale Therapy Jette Rasmussen 07901 555499  
3rd Thurs pm National Trust, Jill Oakham 07771 855947  
Thurs pm School Tuition, Karen Shaw 07701 096842  
4<sup>th</sup> Thurs pm U3A Exploring Governance Steve Potts 07434464712  
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 (Oct - 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 October**

31<sup>st</sup> 2-5.30pm private booking

## Parish Matters

**Vicar:** Father Stuart W. Cradduck 01476 569582

Church warden: Linda Vincent

PCC secretary: Rob Vincent

Safeguarding officer: Fr. Stuart Cradduck

Parish Administrator: Joan Lincoln 07434516116

[www.stjohnmanthorpe.org.uk](http://www.stjohnmanthorpe.org.uk) Email: [stjohnmanthorpe@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnmanthorpe@gmail.com)

### Registers for September

|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| Baptisms     | Daisy Ann Fowler |
| Weddings     | None             |
| Funerals     | None             |
| Ashes Burial | Graham Burton    |

### Cleaning rotas for October

|         |                    |
|---------|--------------------|
| Church  |                    |
| 12th    | Margaret & Cynthia |
| 26th    | Rev & Mr Potts     |
| Brasses | Caryll Braunton    |



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Call: 01733 808531

### 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](mailto:jilldallygate@gmail.com)  
by the 18<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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### Don't forget!

If you wish to mark and special  
anniversary, birthday or  
remember a loved one, you are  
welcome to put flowers in our  
memorial window.



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