

All Saint's Church, Goulceby

United Parish of the Asterby Group



Service with Holy Communion

Last Sunday after Trinity

**Scripture & Notices for
Sunday 25th October 2026**

PLEASE TAKE THIS NOTICE SHEET WITH YOU

Service leader: Revd Andrew Roberts

Churchwarden: Caroline Taylor

Organist: Ken Shipley

Next Sunday, 1st November
Holy Communion, St Martin's Church, Scamblesby, 10am

The Word

Psalm 90.1-6,13-17

(from the Common Worship Psalter)

- ¹ Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
- ² Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the earth and the world were formed,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
- ³ You turn us back to dust and say:
‘Turn back, O children of earth.’
- ⁴ For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday,
which passes like a watch in the night.
- ⁵ You sweep them away like a dream;
they fade away suddenly like the grass.
- ⁶ In the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
- ¹³ Turn again, O Lord; how long will you delay?
Have compassion on your servants.
- ¹⁴ Satisfy us with your loving-kindness in the morning,
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
- ¹⁵ Give us gladness for the days you have afflicted us,
and for the years in which we have seen adversity.

- ¹⁶ Show your servants your works,
and let your glory be over their children.
- ¹⁷ May the gracious favour of the Lord our God be upon us;
prosper our handiwork; O prosper the work of our hands.

Readings

Old Testament - **Deuteronomy 34.1–12** (NRSV)

¹ Then 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, ²all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, ³the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar.

⁴ 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.’

⁵ Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord’s command. ⁶ He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. ⁷ Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigour had not abated.

⁸ The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab for thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. ¹¹ 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, ¹²and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

New Testament – **1 Thessalonians 2.1-8** (NRSV)

¹ You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, ² but though we had already suffered and been shamefully maltreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. ³ For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, ⁴ 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.

⁵ As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; ⁶ nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, ⁷ 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. ⁸ 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.

The Gospel

Matthew 22.34-46 (NRSV)

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' ³⁷ 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.'" ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴² 'What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?' They said to him, 'The son of David.' ⁴³ He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

⁴⁴ "The Lord said to my Lord,
'Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet'"?

⁴⁵ If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?' ⁴⁶ No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.



Oh, when the saints... 24th October – Felix of Thibiuca, the man who would not give up his Bible

Do you value your Bible? If so, Felix of Thibiuca (247 – 303) is a good patron saint for you. The year was 303, and Diocletian was emperor in Rome. In February of that year he decided that Christians were NOT a good thing. So he issued an edict: all copies of the Christian Scriptures and all liturgical books were to be surrendered and burnt. Diocletian had decided to 'wind up' this upstart religion.

The persecution began in Rome. By June of that year, the edict had reached North Africa, and Thibiuca, where Felix was bishop. Felix was arrested and interrogated. Yes, he said, he did have a copy of the Scriptures. No, he said, he would not hand them over.

Felix was a highly respected bishop, and even the authorities were loath to take immediate action against him. So they gave him three days grace to see sense, and back down. But Felix prayed and became only more certain that this was a conflict between the commandments of God and the commandments of men.

At the end of the three days Felix was referred to the proconsul. He still refused to hand over his Scriptures. His last words in public were memorable "God, I thank you. I have passed 56 years in this world. I have preserved my chastity; I have observed the Gospels; I have preached the faith and the truth. Lord God of heaven and earth, Jesus Christ, I bend my neck as a sacrifice for you, who abides for ever." He was condemned to be beheaded at Carthage, and became one of the first martyrs to die under Diocletian.

Needless to say, Diocletian did not succeed in destroying the Scriptures. Today there are hundreds of millions of copies around the world, and this month, Sunday, 25th October, Christians will thank God for the Scriptures when they celebrate Bible Sunday.

Horncastle with Bolingbroke Deanery Synod – Tuesday 27th October

The Deanery Synod meets on 27th October at St. James's Church, Spilsby, starting at 7pm, and the Dean invites all congregants and clergy to come along.

As this is the first meeting of the new Horncastle With Bolingbroke Deanery Synod there will be some business for members to get through BUT we will also have a discussion session when we will look at the Diocese of Lincoln's 'A Time To Grow Together' initiative.

Discussions will be in groups when we will consider the Diocesan Policy for growth and how the Deanery will manage Growth? And we will consider relations with the LMP and other neighbouring deaneries. We can shape the future of our Church.

Workshop on *Leading Intercessions and Reading Scripture in Church*

On Saturday 31st October the Deanery is hosting a Workshop on *Leading Intercessions and Reading Scripture in Church* and it is being led by Canon Dr Hugh Jones, the Warden of the College of St Hugh.

This is for anyone who already assists in prayers and readings and for anybody who would like to begin this ministry.

This is a new deanery initiative, and we want this to be a success.

There are still a few places available and enrolling is easy. Just call Debbie on 01507 525600. The venue is St Mary's Church Horncastle and parking is available in the churchyard. The workshop will start at 9:30am and finish approximately at 4pm.

Notices

Please join us for refreshments after the service.

Tuesday 27th October – Deanery Synod – 7pm
St James's Church, Spilsby

Saturday 31st October – Leading Intercessions Workshop – 10am
St Mary's Church, Horncastle

Sunday 1st November – Holy Communion, All Saints Day – 10am
St Martin's Church, Scamblesby

Sunday 8th November – Remembrance Sunday – 10:30am
St Helen's Church, Burgh on Bain

Wed. 11th Nov. – Remembrance service
with Donington Primary School – 10:45am
St Andrew's Church, Donington on Bain

Sunday 15th November – Holy Communion – 9:30am
St Andrew's Church, Donington on Bain

Sunday 22nd November – Morning Praise – 10am
St Martin's Church, Scamblesby

Sunday 29th November – Holy Communion – 9:30am
St Andrew's Church, Donington on Bain

The Parish **Prayer Circle** exists to meet some of the prayer needs of the community. You can make a request for prayer (confidential within the Prayer Circle) by contacting Ann South on 01507 313792)



Asterby Group website: www.asterbygroup.org



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