

Light *At The* Door

9.15am Eucharist St Margaret Langton - Revd Pam
9.30am Eucharist St Margaret's Roughton - Revd Sall
9.30am Morning Praise All Saints Horsington with David

HARVEST FESTIVALS ON NEXT PAGE

GAZA APPEAL – No one who has watched the news in recent months can fail to be moved and horrified in equal measure at the news from Gaza. Whatever your political viewpoint it is important to remember that children are the innocent victims of such brutality. They will grow up to believe that this is the norm and the cycle of violence will continue into the next generation. The UN has announced that more than half a million people are facing famine, that results in acute malnutrition and disease. Another million plus people are in crisis. This needs our practical help. For many years the churches in Bain Valley have contributed £25 a month to a disaster fund which allows us to send money to legitimate charities working in areas in urgent need of food and shelter and medical aid. The usual donation is £500. We have just sent that sum to 'WorldShare' for use by the 'Christian Ministry to Gaza' who are working on the ground to alleviate suffering. Even though we struggle to pay our parish share, our insurance and all the other costs that come from caring for small parish churches we consider that this is a important thing to do to care for our neighbours in crisis.

The Tea bar (as Sheila calls it) at Holy Trinity Church Tattershall also collects small change in a dish on the counter as donations for charities. This year they have sent £225 to the SMILE TRAIN which supports medical teams treating children born with cleft palates. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this wonderful life enhancing and very necessary work.

Collect for Trinity 15

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Our local schools who are part of the LAAT federation held their annual 'welcome' service in their parish churches. Holy Trinity School went into Tattershall church on 16/9, and St Michael's Coningsby all went into (guess where) the next day. We sang, we heard readings, and we said prayers and your priest enjoyed herself immensely.

SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION

Revd Sally Clifton 07949 556494

Woodhall Spa Group Safeguarding Lead

Margaret Forman 07931 574498

Bain Valley Group Safeguarding Lead

Tina Calvert 07718 884641

Childline: 0800 1111

EdanLincs (Domestic Abuse):

01522 510041

Men's Advice Line: 0808 8010327

Elder Abuse Hotline: 0800 0699 784

Safe Spaces: 0300 303 1056

Priest in Charge Revd Sally Clifton

07949 556494

sally.clifton@lincoln.anglican.org

Group Admin. Debbie Knight

01507 525600

swgadministrator@stmaryshorncastle.org.

Sheila Mullinger's FRIDAY SLOT is LIVE on
www.facebook.com/WoodhallSpaGoC

Readings for the Eucharists at St Margarets Langton, St Margaret's Roughton and Morning Praise at All Saints Horsington

DO NOT USE FOR HARVEST FESTIVALS - SEE OTHER SECTION

Amos 6: 1a, 4-7 Alas for those who are at ease in Zion, and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria, the notables of the first of the nations, to whom the house of Israel resorts! Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory, and lounge on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock, and calves from the stall; who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp, and like David improvise on instruments of music; who drink wine from bowls, and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

Psalms 146

1 Timothy 6: 6-19

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made^a the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honour and eternal dominion. Amen. As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Luke 16: 19-end 'There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames." But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us." He said, "Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house - for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment." Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them." He said, "No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead." '

Harvest Festivals Sunday 28th September

11am St Peter's Woodhall Spa Choral Harvest Festival

3pm Bucknall with Horsington at St Margaret's Bucknall

followed by Harvest Supper at 5pm booking essential

4pm St Leonard's Kirkstead Choral Harvest Festival

HARVEST FESTIVAL READINGS

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, 'Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.' When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.' You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

Psalms 100 – Can I suggest that you sing 'All People that on Earth Do Dwell' as one of your hymns.

Philippians 4: 4-9 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel Reading John 6: 25-35 When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.' Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which [g] comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They said to

him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.' Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

COLLECT for HARVEST

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season, grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

The Bishop's Office warmly invites you to participate in the designing of this year's Bishops' Christmas card. The theme of this year's card is 'Let there be light' inspired by John 1:4-5 – 'What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it' We invite entries that reflect this beautiful message of hope and light. Artwork may be painted, drawn, or a photograph – we welcome all forms of visual creativity that bring the theme to life. The deadline for submissions is Friday 17th October. Please ensure that your design is an original piece of work and the size is no larger than 151 mm x 151 mm.



2000 years ago, as Jesus Christ wandered around collecting his workers, I wonder what made him choose the men who joined his band of followers. I don't think that a top-quality education was high on the list of skills he sought. Apart from Levi, who we now know to be Matthew, who was a money man, an accountant, most of the others were skilled fisherman, builders, carpenters. Some of them were thugs, some were criminals. Yet Jesus did not sit them down and interview them, he just said, 'follow me.' He didn't insist they do hours of safeguarding training and complete DBS checks. Most of them would have failed at foundation level safeguarding and certainly would have failed a DBS check. For Jesus 'Safer recruitment' was not a priority. And yet Jesus would go on to trust these men to help with the most vulnerable people in society, women, children, the very ill and the dying. These men would, in a short space of time, (less than 3 years) go out to preach and teach, to heal the sick, cast out demons and deal with the very mentally ill and physically disabled. These twelve rough and ready men were transformed by their time with Jesus. Whatever skills they came with, they didn't use when they were with Jesus. Matthew wasn't the keeper of the common purse although he was an accountant, with Jesus he did other stuff! They developed a sense of compassion, a desire for justice and peace, they couldn't understand much of what Jesus said, especially Peter, yet somehow, they became the people God planned them to be as opposed to the people they had been. Jesus did not judge his followers, he regularly got a bit fed up because they did not always see the larger picture, but he just never gave up on them. He cared for them, he inspired them, he regularly bamboozled them, He appreciated what they had given up to be with him and he loved them. Now, what this tells us is that Jesus saw the potential in everybody. No matter what their background, their level of education, their honesty, their level of brutality, he didn't care. They were precious because they were made in the image of God. He valued them simply for who they were. And Jesus still calls us, not because of who we are, but who we can be when transformed by his love.