

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

Ermine, Lincoln

Thoughts, notices and reminders

20 June 2010

It is your grace that teaches us the truth,
tells us what way of life to follow,
brings light to our hearts
and comfort in our troubles;

it drives away sadness,
washes away fear,
feeds our devotion
and moves us to tears of repentance.

Without it,
what am I but a tree without rain,
a useless bit of timber fit only to be thrown out?

So let your grace, Lord,
always go in front of me and behind me,
to keep me constantly in mind of good deeds to be done.

From "The Imitation of Christ" by Thomas a Kempis

**Please feel free to contact Fr. Stephen at any time,
but please remember that his usual day off is Saturday.
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Any items for this weekly sheet should be received
Peter Sherlock by Wednesday evening. peter.sherlock4@ntlworld.com**

THE PRAYER PAGE

Saint's Day	Prayer in the parish	Prayer in the diocese
Sunday TRINITY 3	Community Police and Neighbourhood watch PC Andy Balding, PC Andy Woodcock, community beat managers, Lance, Amy, Pete and Stephanie, community support officers Residents of: Ridge View, Riseholme Road, Riverton Close, Riverton View	The Witham Group of Parishes Revd Dr Tom Broadbent Revd Sue Evans Chrystal Medcalf
Monday	Lenton Green & Cathedral View Court Residents of: Rolleston Close, Rothwell Road, Roughton Court, Ruckland Avenue.	Child safety Week 21 to 27 June Details below
Tuesday St ALBAN first Martyr of Britain	Yarborough School; Yarborough Leisure Centre; Youth Matters Project Residents of: Rusland Close, Rushlip Close, Sanders Close, Sanders View	Edenham Regional House Canon Andrew Hawes Revd David Bratley Heather Lee
Wednesday St ETHELDREDA Abbess of Ely	Organist, Choir, vergers and servers, the social and fundraising group Residents of: Scopwick Place, Searby Road, Sedgebrook Close, Stainton Gardens	Retired Clergy in the Deanery of Beltisloe Lincolnshire Show 23 to 24 June
Thursday The Birth of St John the Baptist	United Reformed Church Revd Hamish Temple; the elders and people of the church Residents of: Stapleford Avenue, Steeping Court, Sturton Close, Sudbrooke Drive	Swayfield, Irnham, Corby Glenn Revd Margaret Barton Vincent Hedley Lewis
Friday	The Estate Managers and council workers; postmen Residents of: Swaby Close, Tangshan Court, Tetney Close, Thoresway Drive	The Colsterworth Group of Parishes Revd Eric Lomax Canon Tom Williamson
Saturday	Sure Start; the Women's refuge Residents of: Thurlby Crescent, Torrington Road, Trelawny Crescent, Troutbeck Close	International Day in Support of Victims of Torture see below

Give thanks for:	The quiet day at Southwell yesterday
Special prayers this week for:	Daniel, Tabitha and Isabella as they give thanks today; students taking exams; the people of Cumbria as they begin to come to terms with the recent shootings; our armed forces in Afghanistan
People in need:	Emma Evans, Ann Gray, Colin Gray, Alison Greig, Beryl Grout, Jan Hunter, June Marshall, Elizabeth Nixon, Lee Richardson, Jean Stanney, Margaret Taylor.
Rest in peace:	Margaret Coates, John Pryke, Shaun Rossington.
Remembering:	Ben Allmond

Coming up this week:

Sunday 20 Mass setting: Murray	10:00am 12:00pm 5:15pm 6:00pm	Eucharist Thanksgiving service for Isabella Holt Rosary prayer group Benediction
Tuesday 22	7:00pm	Child protection and vulnerable adult training
Wednesday 23	9:30am	Eucharist Choir practice
Friday 25	2:00pm 6:00pm	Fr Stephen at Yarborough Sch - Community website meeting Pathfinders

Coming up soon:

Sunday 27 Mass setting: Rizza	10:00am 4:00pm	Patronal Festival Eucharist – Rev John Hodgkinson Songs of Praise followed by Strawberry Tea
Tuesday 29	9:30am 6:30pm	Eucharist Fr Stephen at Ermine Primary School governors meeting
Wednesday 30	9:30am	Eucharist
Thursday 1	9.15am 12:00pm 7.00pm	Fr Stephen taking assembly at St.Francis School Lunch club in the hall Craft and chatter
Friday 2	6:00pm 7:00pm	Pathfinders Eucharist
Sunday 4 Mass setting: Rizza	10:00am 12:00pm 7.00pm	Eucharist (St Thomas) Baptisms Foundation Course
Tuesday 6	1:30pm 7:00pm	Fr Stephen at Ermine Primary Sch – World of Work week Intercessors meeting
Wednesday 7	9:30am 10:00am 10:30am	Eucharist Fr Stephen talking to Bishops Advisory Group on Prayer and Spirituality about his research Ruckland Court Eucharist
Thursday 8	2:00pm	Mothers Union
Friday 9	3.30pm 6:00pm	Standing Committee Pathfinders
Sunday 11 Mass setting: Murray	10:00am 7.00pm	Family Eucharist Foundation Course
Monday 12	9:00am 7:00pm	Fr Stephen taking assembly at Ermine Primary School Hospitality Group - Christmas fair planning meeting
Wednesday 14	9:30am 10:00am 7:30pm	Eucharist Coffee Morning at Chris Priestley's Choir Practice
Thursday 15	1:30pm	Bingo and coffee in church hall
Friday 16	6:00pm 7:00pm	Pathfinders Eucharist

CHILD PROTECTION AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

The next training session will take place in church on June 22 at 7:00pm and will be run by Barbara Wellman. If you have a current CRB check and have not attended one of these courses, or have not attended one in the past few years, please make sure that you sign up straightaway.

EXTENSION OF PARKING RESTRICTIONS AT THE FRONT OF THE CHURCH

Last week I had a letter from the County Council informing us that they are intending to extend the parking restrictions at the front of the church. This would mean that there would be no waiting at any time for vehicles from the beginning of the paved area opposite the front door of the church extending around the corner to the bus stop. Equally there would be no waiting on the opposite side of Sudbrooke Drive or outside the medical centre or Ermine House.

I have established that the no waiting rules are waived for a maximum of three hours for:

funeral cars
wedding cars
cars with disability badges.

I do not know when the changes will come into being, but if you have any comments you can contact the County Council on 782070. The person to ask for is Mrs J Gibson. The plan for the changes is on the noticeboard in the porch.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

We are delighted to report that Fr Stephen's mother has been awarded the MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. This has been awarded for her services to Save the Children and she will receive the award later this year. Fr Stephen's father also received the MBE from the Queen several years ago for his services to nursing.

PATRONAL FESTIVAL

It is our Patronal Festival on June 27th (next weekend) and we are delighted that we will be welcoming Fr John Hodgkinson (the first parish priest here) to preach. Fr John will also be bringing copies of his new book on the creation of the parish which will be on sale after the service. In the afternoon, please do support our Songs of Praise service and Strawberry Tea.

ERMINE ECUMENICAL SERVICE

We have a date in the diary for an ecumenical service on Sunday 4th July. As we have our Songs of Praise service the previous week, we have decided that this will form our

ecumenical service instead. Please delete the evening service on July 4th from your diaries.

INTERCESSORS MEETING

Just to remind people who lead intercessions in church that we have a meeting on Tuesday 6th July at 7:00pm in church. This is a meeting we hold each year so that we can discuss how we offer our intercessions, to share our ideas and learn together. If you cannot make the meeting, please let Fr Stephen know as soon as possible.

THANKS

Jean Stanney and Beryl Grout would like to thank everyone for your prayers and good wishes, and particularly for the get well cards they both received last week. Jean is now at home recovering from her operation and is looking forward to seeing everyone at church again soon. Beryl is still awaiting her operation in hospital. They are very grateful for all your support and love and for the visits they have received whilst in hospital.



LUNCH CLUB

We were delighted to welcome the Bishop of Lincoln, the Rt Revd John Saxbee, to our lunch club on Wednesday. He was deeply impressed by the quality of the meal and service and enjoyed talking to everyone there. During the meal he presented certificates and boxes of chocolates to Alex (left), Gabrielle and Alexander the three students from St Francis School; this was their last time at the lunch club as three more students will

join the project in the autumn. The Bishop was also surprised and delighted to meet Ida, who had once been a live-in housekeeper at the Bishop's House. Ida was instantly whisked off for a tour of the house which she has not visited for many years. Many thanks to everyone for making this such a memorable occasion.

SONG OF CAEDMON & STRAWBERRY TEA

St John's Singers and friends present a performance of "The Song of Caedmon" on Sunday 27th June at 4.00pm as part of our Songs of Praise service. The service will include hymns for the congregation to sing. "The Song of Caedmon" is written by Donald Swann and Arthur Scholey and tells the story of the young monk Caedmon as he finds his voice to praise God and the wonders of the world. The concert is free, and will be followed by strawberry tea.



STRAWBERRY TEA

**Sunday 27 June 5.00pm
In the church hall**

£3.00 adults £1.50 children

Tickets now available

Don't forget to get your tickets for the strawberry tea on 27th June. The tea follows the Songs of Praise service which begins at 4:00pm. However, these things take a lot of preparation, so if you could give some time on the 27th to help with getting tables and chairs out, laying the tables and preparing the tea, please have a word with Sue Fleshbourne. Your help would be much appreciated.

MESSY FIESTA TRAINING DAY

Messy Fiesta training day – Saturday 17 July 10am to 3pm St John's College Nottingham – Speaker Lucy Moore. Find out what is being learned from the experience of leading Messy Church in a variety of difference contexts (rural/urban/large/small etc) and what this may be saying to the Church. For church leaders, youth workers or children's workers considering running Messy Church events, or Messy Church leaders considering the next steps. Price: £15 including lunch. If you are interested in going on this, please have a word with Fr Stephen.

SEPARATING PARENTS

The project aims to support parents and families who are in the process of separating or who have separated. It recognises that the well-being of children can be seriously affected when parents separate and aims to help parents to keep communicating for the benefit of their children. Two support workers are employed in Lincolnshire to advise parents and help them obtain further specialist advice and counselling. Michelle Brocklesby covers Boston, Skegness and Mablethorpe, while Becky Wright is the support worker based at Children's Centres in Lincoln and Gainsborough. Many parents have been referred to the project by health visitors, Parent Support Workers, schools, GPs and social workers, while others have got in touch through the project phonenumber, with a range of issues and problems. Becky said, "Some parents want to go straight for counselling with Relate, others come for benefits advice. I'm able to arrange appointments with the Citizens Advice Bureau almost straight away thus reducing a long wait and them having to repeat the information they have to give." "One couple who have recently separated want to go to see a counsellor as they can see that the

children are being affected. Another couple got in touch as they were constantly arguing about housing and benefit problems. Now they are seeing a counsellor at Relate and they can see that their problems aren't as bad as they thought. I'm hopeful that there will be a positive outcome." A parent who has been helped by the project said, "It's absolutely fabulous. We haven't now separated, and I couldn't sing its praises enough, it was the best thing we did." Another parent added, "It's worth giving it a shot, you can end up learning a lot of things you wouldn't have done otherwise. It provides an environment where you can listen, and you can see past the petty arguments and see the truth." The joint project with the county council and Relate has strengthened relationships with other organisations such as the Citizens Advice Bureau and as part of the project Options is now offering appointments in Boston and Lincoln to provide support on child maintenance options. Support for families and printed material is also available through a dedicated phone line 0845 604 6206 or they can visit <http://www.separating-parents.co.uk>

The Separating Parents Project support workers started in January 2010, the support worker for Lincoln and Gainsborough is to work in Sure Start centres Monday to Friday at allocated times. The project enables the support worker to offer appointments at times which suit the clients which are bookable at the centres or directly with the support worker, alternatively clients may drop in and have an appointment. The Lincoln/Gainsborough centres at where the support worker is based are:-

- Mondays 9am-12pm Central Sure Start and 1pm-3pm Birchwood Sure Start
- Tuesdays 9am-3pm Moorland Sure Start
- Wednesdays 9am-3pm Gainsborough Sure Start
- Fridays 9am-12pm Ermine Sure Start and 1pm-3pm St Giles Sure Start

It has also become clear that although the support worker is available at all these centres some clients still cannot get to them so the support worker does offer help and advice over the phone, which is proving to be popular. Initially the support worker was promoting the project and making sure that all parties that knew about the service were sure they had all the correct information. Since the post has been up and running the Lincoln/ Gainsborough support worker has found that it is becoming a popular service and has seen over 37 clients in person and has held over 53 telephone assessments or drop ins, a majority of which have resulted in either the client accessing the counselling package or gaining information or being sign posted. We are finding that we are getting referrals in from all places including health visitors, PSA's, social workers and clients are self referring.

FROM THE DIARY

Child Safety Week 21st-27th June

"Make time for safety"

www.capt.org.uk



Pray for Simon Payne, and his work as Diocesan Adviser on matters relating to Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults; for Dr Brian Roberts, Chairman, and members of the Diocesan Safeguarding Group.

International Day in Support of Victims of Torture

A thought...

For those who cling hopelessly to the bars of their prison so that we can walk free;
For those who moulder in the darkness so that we can walk in the sunshine;
For those who have had their ribs kicked in so that we can breathe freely;
For those who have been hit in the face so that we can walk without fear of attack from any hand;
For those who have been gagged so that we can talk aloud;
For those whose dignity lies in tatters on the floor of their cell so that we can walk proudly;
For those whose loved ones live in fear so that ours can live in happiness;
For those whose country is in chains so that ours can be free;
And for the jailers and for their torturers a thought, the saddest thought of all :
they are the ones who have suffered the worst mutilation.

St ALBAN

St Alban was the first British Christian Martyr along with his fellow saints Julius and Aaron. He lived in Roman Britain in the town of Verulamium – now St.Albans. He began life as a pagan but converted to Christianity but was beheaded for his beliefs in about 300 AD on a hill overlooking the town. St Alban's Abbey was later founded near this site.