

Notes from the Churchwardens September/October



An announcement!

The Bishop of Grantham has been incredibly supportive of the Parish since the announcement of Revd John Bennett's retirement.

Bishop Nicholas contacted us a few weeks ago with a proposal to provide dedicated pastoral support to the Parish for 6 months during the interregnum.

We are delighted to announce that, subject to a satisfactory DBS check, The Revd Canon Darren McFarland will be licensed on 1st October in Lincoln and we will welcome him to the Parish on Sunday, 6th October at our Harvest Thanksgiving service and Parish Lunch.

Revd Darren has just relocated to Lincoln from a Parish in Oxford Diocese. He will be working part time, spending a couple of days each week in the Parish. The Spalding Rectory Feoffees have generously agreed to fund the stipend.

We are very grateful to all the clergy who have supported us so far and will continue to do so. They have stepped up and led Sunday worship and officiated at baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Appointing a new Vicar

The process of appointing the new Vicar of St Mary & St Nicolas progressed well over the summer. With guidance from Emma Camm at the Diocese, the Parish Profile has been completed and an advertisement placed in the Church Times as well as being promoted elsewhere. The plan is to hold interviews in November.

Thank you to all those who put together the profile and advertisement and to the Spalding Rectory Feoffees, who as Patrons, not only fund the post but cover the recruitment costs.

If anyone would like to view the profile then it is available on the Diocesan website at <https://www.lincoln.anglican.org/about/vacancies/>

www.stmaryandstnicolas.org.uk

Thank you from the Choir

Nick Pitts writes:

'We are extremely grateful to parishioners, parents, Spalding Round Table and others who contributed in



any way towards the six summer trips for the choir. These outings would not have been possible without your generous help.'

Thank you all!

Money matters

The PCC is continuing to work to balance the budget for this year.

It costs about £2,000 each week to keep the church open, including heating, lighting, insurance and office staff, as well as choir expenses, and our contribution to local ministry and mission. Much of this needs to be covered by donations from the congregation.

We welcome regular giving, so please ask about the Parish Giving Scheme.

No collections are taken in church during services. There is a collection bowl at the back of church and a 'donation station' for card payments.

If you are a UK taxpayer, please take a few moments to complete a yellow gift aid envelope or select this option when giving by card. This increases the value of your gift by 25%.

Thank you!

Harvest Thanksgiving

As in previous years, gifts of cash taken at our services on 6th October will go to Christian Aid and we will also be accepting donations of non-perishable goods for the AgapeCare Foodbank.



Jean Hill & Val Fairbanks - Churchwardens