

THE CHAPTER LETTER



Sunday 26 November to Saturday 9 December 2017

Christine Wilson, *Dean* **Sal McDougall**, *Precentor* **John Patrick**, *Subdean* **Philippa White**, *Succentor*

“When people stop believing in God, they don’t believe in nothing. They believe in anything”, is a quote attributed to G K Chesterton and although its provenance has been questioned the sentiment of the statement rings true: in the darkness of unbelief we create a myriad of gods that we bow down before and worship.

This, the last Sunday of the Christian Year, is called Christ the King and draws our attention to the one true ruler of the world: the God who speaks to us about truth, justice, and peace; the God to whom all earthly rulers are subject to; the God that cares little for status or importance, our wealth or privilege, and much more about our service to the poor, and justice for the weak and needy; the God whom we worship and bow down before as the Child of Bethlehem at Christmas, but for whom we now wait for patiently during the days and weeks of Advent which starts with Advent Sunday (Sunday 3 December).

As we light the candles on the Advent Wreath we are invited to watch and wait for the coming of Christ as hope takes the place of despair and as the light of Christ replaces the darkness of evil and sin. We wait patiently for the one true God and with the words on our lips, Come, Lord Jesus.

“When people stop believing in God, they don’t believe in nothing. They believe in anything”. That is part of the darkness of a society that looks in the wrong places for meaning and purpose and fulfilment. May our Advent prayer and action shine the light of God’s life into our hearts and into the heart of the world.

John Patrick, *Subdean*

Advent Carol Service - Saturday 2 December, 6pm in the Nave. The Advent Carol Service is a beautiful candlelit service of readings and music, marking the start of Advent. The service, which will be sung by the Cathedral Choir, is a movement from darkness to light, mirroring the journey of the human race from the darkness of sorrow and death into the light of Christ’s dawning Kingdom of justice and joy. **Entry is Free.** For further information, please visit www.LincolnCathedral.com

The Librarian writes - a selection of seasonal books and manuscripts will be on display in the library which will be open to the public during the Christmas Market. The library will be open at the following times, Thursday 7th December 1pm – 5pm and on Friday 8th - Sunday 10th December between 11am – 5 pm.

La Nativité du Seigneur - Sunday 10 December, 7pm in the Nave. The annual performance of La Nativité du Seigneur on Sunday 10 December 2017 returns, played on the world renowned Father Willis Organ and performed by Lincoln Cathedral’s own Organist Laureate, Colin Walsh. The Organ concert is the perfect end to your Christmas market weekend. La Nativité du Seigneur is a Christmas tradition at Lincoln Cathedral and one not to be missed. Tickets are priced at £6 and available from the Lincoln Cathedral Website www.LincolnCathedral.com and from the shop.

Ceremony of Carols - Saturday 16 December, 7pm in The Chapter House. A seasonal favourite as the Cathedral Choir performs Benjamin Britten’s Ceremony of Carols in the Chapter House of Lincoln Cathedral, with Thea Butterworth as harpist under the direction of Aric Prentice. The 7pm performance will include drinks, canapés and a lantern light tour of the Cathedral. The 2pm performance has now – sold out, but tickets are available for the 7pm performance – priced at £25 and to include a glass of Gluhwein or squash and Christmas biscuits. Tickets are available from the Lincoln Cathedral Shop – 01522 561644 and the website. For further information please visit www.LincolnCathedral.com.

Volunteers needed for the Cathedral Choir - The Director of Music, Aric Prentice is looking for more volunteers to drive the Cathedral Choristers at the following times; 8.30-9.30am on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings OR 3.15-4.30pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons. We are also looking for drivers for the Choir minibus (17 seats) with the appropriate driving licence. All individuals must be willing to undertake an enhanced DBS check. For insurance purposes volunteer drivers would also need to be under the age of 70. If you would be willing to help or would like to discuss the role, please contact Rachel Woodward, Volunteer & HR Officer on 01522 561618 or volhrofficer@lincolncathedral.com or Shirley Jordan music@lincolncathedral.com 01522 504398.

Bible Readings

Sunday 26 November

Sung Eucharist

Mattins

Evensong

Christ the King

Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24; Ephesians 1.15-end; Matthew 25.31-end

Isaiah 4.2 – 5.7; Luke 19.29-38

2 Samuel 23.1-7; Matthew 28.16-end

Sunday 3 December

Sung Eucharist

Mattins

Evensong

1st Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 64.1-9; 1 Corinthians 1.3-9; Mark 13.24-end

Isaiah 2.1-5; Luke 12.35-48

Isaiah 1.1-20; Matthew 21.1-13

Sunday 10 December

Sung Eucharist

Mattins

Evensong

2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40.1-11; 2 Peter 3.8 – 15a; Mark 1.1-8

Baruch 5.1-9; Luke 1.5-20

1 Kings 22.1-28; Romans 15.4-13