

# The Chapter Letter



SUNDAY 16 FEBRUARY – SATURDAY 29 FEBRUARY

## It did not take long for the Church to canonise Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln: just twenty years after his death in 1220.

Perhaps it was not that surprising considering that he was such a towering figure in his life and in the legacy that he bequeathed to Church and Nation.

Saint Hugh from making his first profession with the Augustinian Canons to being a monk at Grande Chartreuse; from his reform of Witham to being Bishop of Lincoln; to repairing and enlarging the Cathedral was a bold, faithful and courageous follower of Christ Jesus. He strove in word and deed to bring in God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven even when that meant standing against the temporal leaders of his age.

Hugh's faith was one that had a hard centre but with soft edges. Hard on the inside as he remained faithful to his early monastic discipline: he said his prayers, read and studied the scriptures, made the good confession and had a moral and spiritual integrity. But soft on the edges as he showed compassion and concern for those in need, brought healing to those who were sick and supported the poor, the oppressed and the outcast.

As a Church I suggest that we have much to learn from Hugh as so often we seem to be in danger of getting it the other way around: soft in the middle and hard on the edges as demonstrated by the recent pastoral statement on civil partnerships by the House of Bishops. Almost afraid of our own shadow we seem to be forever asking the question, Is it allowed? And almost always coming back with the answer, No; or potentially even worse, We'll have to think about it!

Hugh knew, and we need to re-discover, the fact that churches and religions grow when they join hands with the world around them; give depth to moral convictions; support human hopes; and connect to something bigger – to God, to mystery.

JOHN PATRICK, SUBDEAN

### BIBLE READINGS

**Sunday 16 February**  
*Second Sunday before Lent*

**Sung Eucharist**  
Genesis 1: 1-2.3  
Romans 8: 18-25  
Matthew 6: 25-end

**Mattins**  
Job 38: 1-21  
Colossians 1: 15-20

**Evensong**  
Proverbs 8: 1, 22-31  
Revelation 4

**Sunday 23 February**  
*Sunday next before Lent*

**Sung Eucharist**  
Exodus 24: 12-end  
2 Peter 1: 16-end  
Matthew 17: 1-9

**Mattins**  
Exodus 34: 29-end  
2 Corinthians 4: 3-6

**Evensong**  
Ecclesiasticus 48: 1-10  
Matthew 17: 9-23

**Sunday 1 March**  
*First Sunday of Lent*

**Sung Eucharist**  
Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7  
Romans 5: 12-19  
Matthew 4: 1-11

**Mattins**  
Jeremiah 18: 1-11  
Luke 18: 9-14

**Evensong**  
Deuteronomy 6: 4-9, 16-end  
Luke 15: 1-10

## Worship & Mission

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### Sacred Space

Once a month on a Sunday at 6.45pm

This popular service is gentle and reflective with time to wonder and explore, encouraging everyone to use all their senses; it offers a different way to experience worship at Lincoln Cathedral.

The next Sacred Space service takes place on January 19, and the theme is 'Follow the Star.'

Themes for the coming months are:

February 16 - The Potter and the Clay

March 15 - Walking in the Wilderness

April 19 - Joyful Creation

May 17 - Doubt and Wonder

June 21 - Explore and Grow

July 19 - Community and Connected

### Stillpoint

Once a month on Saturday at 9am-9.45am

Please note Stillpoint now takes place in the Longland Chantry. Led by Revd Ann Mazur, this is a time of guided silent prayer to be still and aware of the presence of God.

Dates for the coming months:

March 14

April 18

May 16

June 13

July 11

September 5

## Community

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### Adult confirmation classes

Adult confirmation classes will be starting on Monday 23 February at 7pm at the curate's house. A forked supper will be provided. If you have already been confirmed but would like to use this as an opportunity for a refresher and interesting discussion surrounding God, the Church and Faith, you are most welcome. The sessions will be ongoing during Lent and Eastertide. If you are interested in being confirmed or coming along for the discussion, please email Rachel Revely, [assistantcurate@lincolncathedral.com](mailto:assistantcurate@lincolncathedral.com)

### LCCA Shrove Tuesday Supper

Tickets are still available for Lincoln Cathedral Community Association Shrove Tuesday Supper to be held on 25 February 2020 in the Chapter House, 7pm for 7.30pm. Please see Committee Members or tickets are also available in the Cathedral Shop. Tickets are priced at £10, which includes a meal and entertainment.

### Corona virus

Lincoln Cathedral already follows best-hygiene practices including advising congregation members with coughs and sneezes to refrain from handshaking during The Peace and to receive Communion in one kind only. At present, there is no Government advice that suggests the use of the Common Cup should be suspended. Intinction is not recommended as this represents an infection transmission route. You can find the full current advice from the Church of England by visiting the following page -

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-parishes>

## Events

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### Teatime Talks

The Friends will be holding teatime talks on Tuesdays in February, which will be taking place at the Cathedral Connected premises at 27, Minster Yard.

Tuesday 18 February - 'The mysteries surrounding George Elliot's visit to Gainsborough when writing "The Mill on the Floss," and celebrates the bi-centenary of her birth, 22nd November 1819.'  
by Margaret and John Crompton.

The talk will undoubtedly be most interesting and stimulating occasions and, as usual, will begin at 3.30pm, preceded by tea, coffee and biscuits.

### Cathedral Consort concert

Saturday 29 February, 1.10pm

Lincoln Cathedral Chapter House

Including music by Byrd, Stanford in Harris

Free entry, with a retiring collection supporting the Consort's tour to Schwerin, Germany.

### Passiontide Concert: John Passion

Saturday 28 March 2020, 7pm

Lincoln Cathedral Choir accompanied by Northern Baroque are joined this year by some talented soloists:

Mark Wilde: Evangelist

Jacob Feldman: Christus

This year's conductor will be Lincoln Cathedral's Director of Music, Aric Prentice.

John Passion is one of Bach's most famous pieces of sacred music, telling the Biblical story of Jesus' crucifixion.

### Save the date

As always, there are numerous great events planned for 2020. There will be more details to follow, but for now make a note of some of the following dates in your diaries.

- Jazz Concert - 9 May
- Cathedrals at Night - 30 May
- Come and Sing - 6 June
- Be a Chorister for the Day - 13 June
- Flower Festival - 29 July - 3 August
- Museum of the Moon - 12 October - 2 November
- The Hallé - 23 October
- Handel's Messiah - 21 November
- The Snowman - 12 December
- Carols by Candlelight - 16 December

### Organ Concert Series 2020

Four concerts to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the birth of Louis Vierne (1870-1937), organist of Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris.

All concerts will include music by Vierne and JS Bach.

Saturday 20 June - Jeffrey Makinson

Saturday 11 July - Colin Walsh

Saturday 12 September - Jeffrey Makinson with Soprano, Laurie Ashworth

Saturday 3 October - Jeffrey Makinson, Colin Walsh, Lincoln Cathedral Choir and Aric Prentice

Tickets £8.50 including a drink on arrival.

A screen will display a live view of the organ loft.