

# The Chapter Letter



SUNDAY 7 JULY - SUNDAY 21 JULY

Dear Friends,

On Monday evening the Cathedral hosted hustings for the Lincoln constituency. As I write this, the results of the General Election are coming in and by the time you read this, we will know who has been chosen to represent us in Parliament and who will form our next government.

Canon Brown knows that I write a weekly reflection on readings for the coming Sunday, so when he asked me after Evensong on Election Day if I could take over writing this issue of the Chapter Letter, I agreed readily. I know, as do many of you, how many responsibilities he carries as our Interim Dean. At the same time, I suspected that anything I wrote might well be drowned by the tsunami of post-election political commentary. I am not going to add to that flood, other than to say that whatever our political persuasion, as Christians we must pray for those who have been elected to serve in parliament and government. Theirs is an awesome responsibility, especially at a time when confidence in our politicians is at a low ebb.

'Election' is a theological word as well as a political one. It refers to God's choice of people. Last weekend the Cathedral hosted the ordination of new priests and deacons. They are people who, having sensed that God was calling them to serve the Church, had that vocation confirmed by the Church.

They sprang to mind when I looked at Sunday's readings. My immediate thought was that, after the excitement of ordinations, these readings would deliver a stark dose of realism about ministry.

Ezekiel, sent to preach to a "nation of rebels," is warned that there is a good chance that they will refuse to hear, but even if they do, they will know, says God, "that there has been a prophet among them."

The first time I preached in my home village was at my father's funeral, so the response from a congregation of family, friends and neighbours was much more sympathetic than that which Jesus received when he returned to his home town and preached in the synagogue. He's just the carpenter, Mary's son, so where has his wisdom and power come from? "And they took offence at him." So negative is the response that he is unable to do many works of power there.

It's important to remember that fruitful preaching involves not only the efforts of the preacher, there's God, whose word the preacher must hear to preach, and whose grace, as Paul says is sufficient, even in times of difficulty. Then there is the attitude of the hearers. Is it encouraging and prayerful, expectant of hearing something a word from God or dismissive of any such possibility? I am glad to say that this has not been my experience in the Cathedral, but is a known issue in many places. I have had conversations with two priests who have shared their experience of congregations which seem to have little desire to be taught or interest in growing in the faith. We need to pray for our preachers as well as for our politicians, while we should expect much from them, we have a part to play too.

ALAN MOSES, SUCCENTOR

## BIBLE READINGS

**Sunday 7 July**  
*Sixth Sunday After Trinity*

**Eucharist**  
Ezekiel 2.1-5  
2 Corinthians 12.2-10  
Mark 6.1-13

**Evening Prayer**  
Jeremiah 20.1-11a  
Romans 14.1-17

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**Sunday 14 July**  
*Seventh Sunday After Trinity*

**Eucharist**  
Amos 7.7-15  
Ephesians 1.3-14  
Mark 6.14-29

**Evening Prayer**  
Job 4.1; 5.6-end  
Romans 15.14-29

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**Sunday 21 July**  
*Eighth Sunday After Trinity*

**Eucharist**  
Jeremiah 23.1-6  
Ephesians 2.11-end  
Mark 6.130-34, 53-end

**Evening Prayer**  
Job 13.13-14.6  
Hebrews 2.5-end

## Worship & Mission

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### Weekly service schedule

Details of services and music can be viewed on the Cathedral's website. [Click here for more information](#) or visit: [www.lincolncathedral.com/orders-of-service/](http://www.lincolncathedral.com/orders-of-service/)

### Special Services

#### Sunday 7 July, 3.45pm

'Reading out' of choristers at Evensong

#### After hours: Reflective Worship

6.45pm, once a month on a Sunday

**14 July** - Sacred Space

**8 September** - Sacred Space

Enjoy a gentle and reflective space with time to wonder, and the chance to experience the unique atmosphere of the Cathedral as the day draws to a close.

#### Sunday 21 July

**10.30am** - Jazz Mass

**6pm** - St Mary Magdalene Parish Patronal Festival

#### Monday 22 July, 5.30pm

Festal Evensong for St Mary Magdalene

#### Thursday 25 July, 5.30pm

Festal Evensong for St James

#### Tuesday 6 August, 5.30pm

Festal Evensong for Transfiguration

### Stillpoint

This is a time of guided silent prayer to be still and aware of the presence of God. We meet in the Ringers Chapel from 8.45am to 9.15am on the following Mondays: **9 September**, and **7 October**.

### Choral Mattins during the Autumn Term

Our Choral Mattins services will return for the autumn term on the following dates: **22 September**, **13 October**, **17 November**, and **8 December**.

## Community

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### LCCA Summer Visit to Tattershall

Saturday 13 July

We are looking forward to a day of friendship with you at the Lincoln Cathedral Community Association's summer visit which this year will be in Tattershall. We will meet at Holy Trinity Church café where tea and coffee will be available from 10.30-11am followed by a free tour of Tattershall Castle. After lunch together (either bring your own picnic or use the church café), the day will finish with a talk by a local guide at 1.30pm at the church (donations welcome).

As our hosts in Tattershall need to know how many guests to expect, please put your name and contact details on our guest list either during refreshments after the Sunday morning Eucharist or by emailing Andrea, LCCA secretary at [lcca@lincolncathedral.com](mailto:lcca@lincolncathedral.com)

### Installation of Revd Canon Dr Simon Jones as Dean of Lincoln

All members of the Cathedral community are invited to attend the installation of the Revd Canon Dr Simon Jones as Dean of Lincoln at 3pm on Saturday 14 September. To help with the planning, please register your attendance by clicking the link below: <https://simonjonesinstallation.eventbrite.co.uk>  
Don't worry if you're unable to book: you're still welcome to join us for this significant event in the life of the Cathedral and Diocese.

### InHouse Summer Edition

The Summer edition of InHouse is now available to download on the cathedral website by clicking on this link - [www.lincolncathedral.com/latest-news/the-latest-issue-of-in-house-is-now-available-5/](http://www.lincolncathedral.com/latest-news/the-latest-issue-of-in-house-is-now-available-5/). The latest edition is packed full of interesting articles about the history of the Cathedral and the people who work and volunteer here. Although we are currently in "ordinary time" - the season of Trinity - this is still a place that is full of activity: services, concerts and more.

Also, we would appreciate your help in seeking sponsorship for the printing of InHouse so that it can be made accessible to those who do not have internet access and to distribute throughout the cathedral for both community members and guests. Sponsorship can be for one or multiple editions and details are available by contacting the InHouse team through Elaine Johnson at [elainejohnson2531@gmail.com](mailto:elainejohnson2531@gmail.com).

## Events

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### The Mindful Mile

Tuesday 9 July, 12.30pm

Join us for this month's Mindful Mile! For July's mile, you can join Cathedral volunteer Mike as he leads the summery mile.

Starting at the west front, we'll take a moment out of a busy day to reconnect with the outdoors as we complete three laps of the Cathedral. Afterwards, you are welcome to join us for a hot drink.

### Bitter Blossoms: Lunchtime Recital

Wednesday 10 July, 1.10pm

Combining folk songs and stories from England, Scandinavia and Bulgaria, Bitter Blossoms create an unusual blend of traditions in a strangely cohesive manner.

The Bitter Blossoms will be performing in the Chapter House at 1.10pm as an exciting lunchtime recital which is included in your admission!

### The Mindful Mile - An Evening Mile

Thursday 11 July, 6.30pm

Join us for a special evening mindful mile as we take a moment out of a busy day to reconnect with the outdoors as we complete three laps of the Cathedral. Our leaders are there to set a gentle pace, and to share a topic of interest. Afterwards you are welcome to join us at the terrace for a cold drink.

Meet at the West Front of the Cathedral at 6.30pm

### Lincoln Jazz Festival

Friday 19 - Sunday 21 July

Tickets are now on sale for the third Lincoln Jazz Festival weekend! Our historic landmark once again plays host to leading national and international jazz musicians, continuing the Cathedral's centuries-old tradition of celebrating live music. Enjoy a wide range of artists, a jazz carnival parade, and even a delicious festival dinner at the Cathedral Café.

**For more details of forthcoming events and to book your tickets, go to our website at**

[www.lincolncathedral.com/events](http://www.lincolncathedral.com/events)