

## Parish Notes and News continued

### First Communion for 7 to 11 year olds

Is your child ready to take a beautiful new step in their faith journey? We warmly invite parents to enrol their children in our 2026 First Holy Communion preparation programme.

Classes will be held during the Parish Eucharist at 10.30am on: Sunday 22 February, Sunday 22 March & **Sunday 3 May (note change of date).**

With a special **Service of First Communion** for all candidates to take place on **Sunday 10 May 2026.**

For more information or to book your child's place contact: [parish.office@stmaryandstnicolas.org.uk](mailto:parish.office@stmaryandstnicolas.org.uk)

### Step into the Sacred: An invitation to Confirmation

You are invited you to consider the **Sacrament of Confirmation**, an ancient rite that serves as a profound 'Yes' to the divine mystery. Confirmation is more than a tradition; it is a **spiritual ignition**. Whether you were baptised as a child or are just beginning to explore your faith, Confirmation offers a bridge between the seen and unseen. Confirmation is suitable for anyone aged between 13 and 100 years old. Preparation sessions will begin in 2026, with the **Confirmation service being conducted on Easter Eve**. Speak to a member of Clergy or contact: [parish.office@stmaryandstnicolas.org.uk](mailto:parish.office@stmaryandstnicolas.org.uk)

## The Week Ahead

The Church is open throughout the week for Morning and Evening Prayer at 8.30am and 5.00pm in St Thomas' Chapel.

It is usually led but there are resources available in St Thomas' Chapel to use if a member of clergy is not present.

*Friday Holy Half Hour with Silent Meditation*

### Wednesday 18 February Ash Wednesday

- |               |                                    |
|---------------|------------------------------------|
| 10.00am       | Ash Wednesday<br>Communion Service |
| 10.30am       | Morning Coffee                     |
| 3.30 - 6.00pm | <b>NO</b> Choir Club               |
| 6.30pm        | Ash Wednesday Service              |
| 7.00 - 8.30pm | Ringling practice                  |

### Friday 20 February

- |             |                           |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| 2.30pm      | Church cleaning           |
| 7.00-8.00pm | <b>NO</b> Choir rehearsal |

### Sunday 22 February First Sunday of Lent

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 10.30am | <b>Parish Eucharist Modern Language</b><br>Readings: Genesis 2.15-17, 3.1-7<br>Matthew 4.1-11 |
| 12.30pm | <b>Baptism</b> Valencia Julie-Marie<br>Breaker  |
| 6.30pm  | <b>Sung Evensong</b><br>Readings: Deuteronomy 6.4-9, 16-25<br>Luke 15.1-10                    |

Please take this notice sheet home with you.



# 15 February Sunday next before Lent

*Interest bags for pre-school children are available*

### 10.30am Parish Eucharist Traditional Language

Celebrant &

Preacher

2 Peter 1.16-21

Matthew 17.1-9

Fr Rob

Ann Cadwallader

Clergy

### Hymns - AHON

#### Entrance Hymn

10 All creatures of our God and King (vv 1, 2, 3 & 7 only)

#### Gradual

#### Offertory

#### Communion

31 Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks

33 Alleluia, sing to Jesus

242 God is love

424 Let all mortal keep silence

#### Post Communion

623 Praise my Soul

Please note that the whole service is livestreamed and then available on the Church's YouTube channel. If you would prefer not to appear when receiving Communion then please use the station at St George's Chapel.

*Refreshments are served after the morning service and the church shop will be open.*

*There are toilet facilities in church, please just ask!*

### 6.30pm

### Evensong

Officiant &

Preacher

Ecclesiasticus 48.1-10

Matthe 17.9-23

Fr Rob

Alan Stacey

Clergy

#### Entry

#### Responses

#### Psalm

#### Office Hymn

#### Magnificat

#### Nunc Dimittis

#### Anthem

#### Hymn

555 Praise my soul

Ferial

100

15 God that madest

Chant 211

Chant 22

Jesu joy of man's desiring

22 The day thou gavest

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

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!

**Clergy:** The Revd Rob Parker-McGee S.R.

Tel: 01775 421061 [vicarofspaldingmn@gmail.com](mailto:vicarofspaldingmn@gmail.com)

**Churchwardens:** Jean Hill and Valerie Fairbanks

#### Parish Office

open Tuesday to Friday 9.30am to 12.30pm  
closed on Monday to coincide with Fr Rob's rest day

1 Halmer Gate, Spalding, PE11 2DR

Tel: 01775 722772 [parish.office@stmaryandstnicolas.org.uk](mailto:parish.office@stmaryandstnicolas.org.uk)

[www.stmaryandstnicolas.org.uk](http://www.stmaryandstnicolas.org.uk)

## Collect

Almighty Father,  
whose Son was revealed in majesty  
before he suffered death upon the cross:  
give us grace to perceive his glory,  
that we may be strengthened to suffer with  
him  
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to  
glory;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## 2 Peter 1.16-21

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, 'This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.' We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

## Matthew 17.1-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!' When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.' And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.'

## Prayer after Communion

Holy God,  
we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:  
may we who are partakers at his table  
reflect his life in word and deed,  
that all the world may know his power to  
change and save.  
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## For your prayers

We hold before God all those who are ill, amongst them **Michael Blackshaw, Susan Lawton, Pat White, Marko Kala, Mateu Kala, Chris Thompson, Roxas Strife, Mavourneen DeSa, Anthony Downes, Peter Fitzpatrick, Chris Dyke, Alison and Henry Heath (Priest)**

We remember those who have asked for our prayers, including **Agnes Anna**

We hold before God those who have died, amongst them **Colin Harrison, Edith Chester, Russell Bycraft, Hannah Dryden and Monica Anderton**

**Thanksgivings - We are thankful for....**

## Psalm 100

1. O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands: serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.
2. Be ye sure that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
3. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.
4. For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting: and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

## Parish Notes and News continues overleaf

### 100 CLUB - HEATING FUND - FEBRUARY WINNERS

- 1st - David Jones £15  
2nd - Hilary Preston £10  
3rd - Wendy Futter £5

**NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!**

Please take a subscription form and return by 6 March with £20 for the remaining 10 draws in 2026