



From the Curate

The Reverend Sonia Marshall

Dear Friends,

Art and Music are two of the ways in which we express truths that we find difficult to put into words. An abiding memory for me was a trip we made a few years back to San Sepolcro in Italy, hometown of the Renaissance painter Piero della Francesca, to see his painting of the Resurrection.

In the fifteenth century the painting was something new, ‘out of the box’, as we sometimes say. Christ was depicted in vivid detail, wounded side still visible, emerging from the tomb, flag of victory in his hand, solid and imposing above his sleeping guards. A further key to interpretation is in the landscape forming the background to the picture; half is barren as in winter, the other half is in leaf, springing to life, with Christ marking the transition between the two states.

The Resurrection itself demands more than ‘out of the box’ thinking from us... it was the sort of event that is beyond our reasoning, that we call ‘miraculous’. There was no question of escapology... escape was the last thing on Jesus’ mind... ‘What should I say, save me from this hour? No it is for this that I have come to this hour’. Only by undergoing the death we all undergo, by God becoming human could the transition be made, could humans become united to God, and salvation made possible.

Over the last fifty years in particular, many things have happened which we once would have thought impossible... scripture tells us with God, all things are possible. It is the Resurrection which above all other gives meaning to life... that all the goodness, truth and beauty of creation will not go to waste but will be restored as Spring follows on from the barrenness of winter. This is God’s purpose for us, that those created from his love should be restored to eternal life.

True works of art call for sacrifice and striving on the part of the painter until the picture is perfected. The gospels reveal that new life has only been won through suffering. ...but that the victory which follows is every bit as real.

Happy Easter!

Sonia Marshall



Confirmation Service

11th March

Around one hundred people gathered in the Priory Church for this important occasion which was both a landmark in the spiritual life of those being confirmed and also a time for us all to reflect upon and re-affirm our own faith.

In his sermon, the Bishop of Grantham, The Right Reverend Dr Timothy Ellis, began with an amusing anecdote which went along the following lines: One night, Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson were gazing up into a clear sky. Holmes asked Watson, "What do you see up there?" "Well," replied Watson, "astronomically speaking I see millions of stars, perhaps representing millions of galaxies." "What else?" asked Holmes. "Well, astrologically speaking, I see that Saturn is in Leo, horologically speaking, I see that it is about a quarter past three, theologically speaking, I see that God is all powerful and it makes me realise how insignificant we are. Meteorologically speaking, I also see that tomorrow will be a beautiful day. And you, Holmes, what do you see?" Holmes paused for a moment and replied, "You fool, Watson; I see that someone's stolen our tent!" The Bishop then went on to say that those about to be confirmed would leave the building as different people from the ones they were when they had entered and went on to suggest three things that the candidates should take away with them.

Firstly, they should think of new beginnings, and see each new day as a free gift from God and life itself as a gift. He highlighted the Eucharist as the greatest of thanksgivings. The second thing was to focus on the mysteries of life. He gave as an example the arrival of a new baby - we understand something of the how and why of birth, but the feelings of joy at the birth and love for the child remain a mystery. The third thing was to see life as being meaningful and hopeful: Jesus himself shared our human existence and life should be valuable and seen as a pilgrimage towards God. The Resurrection speaks of the triumph of life over death. I feel sure that each of us present felt that the Bishop's words had something to say to all of us.

Also present at the Service were the Rector of St. Guthlac's, the Reverend Philip Brent, and the Assistant Curate of St. Nicholas and St Mary, Spalding, the Reverend David Clune.

Those confirmed comprised two from St. Guthlac's, Market Deeping, one from St. Nicholas and St. Mary, Spalding and the following from our own church: Kim Bayley, Calum Dawkins, Esther Flindall-Alderson, Georgina Gamman, Vivien Hamilton, Alessandra Hitchborn, Conor O'Sullivan, Edward Winston and Morag Winston. Alessandra, Edward and Conor read the lessons. After the Service, we went across to the Hall for refreshments, provided by

Margaret Flegg and her team of helpers and this gave us a chance to meet with the Bishop and other friends.

It was a stimulating, uplifting and joyful occasion.

John Worthington

Wardens' World



A Big “Thank You!”

Many thanks to everyone who responded to requests to help out with various tasks around the Church. It is enormously heart-warming when so many people come forward to offer their time and skills to keep the show on the road. Several of these jobs were for 'team leaders' so there are still plenty of opportunities for everyone to show off their talents for web site design, brass polishing, painting, gardening and cleaning.

John and Richard

APCM and Election of Churchwardens

The meeting for the Election of Churchwardens and the Annual Church Parochial Meeting will take place consecutively from 7:30pm in the Church Hall on 27th April. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there to review the past year, offer yourself for office and ask questions about the year to come.

A Personal Message

I have had five really enjoyable years as Churchwarden, a role which I took on when I felt that I was getting a bit stale in my work with the children's groups. I now feel that the time is right for us to try to restart a group for our older children. You may have noticed that we have a number of young people who come regularly to help with the younger group but have no opportunity for fellowship with mates their own age. I would be delighted to chat to anyone who would either like to consider taking on the role of Churchwarden next year, releasing me to do this, or who have the skills to start a youth group or help to run one. I'm available most evenings. Thank you.

Richard Gamman



News from the Tower

Why not join our lively team of ringers on Friday evenings between 7:30 and 9:00pm at the Priory Church?

Contact Richard, Brenda or Mike.

Planned Giving

Thank you, everybody who has responded to Simon Marshall's letter of 8th March. If you did not receive a copy or, if you have any questions regarding Planned Giving, please see Peter Wilde, Martin Fisher or Simon.

Celebrate DSJ People Who Most Make a Difference

In recognition of the number of people in our community who daily make a priceless contribution to the wellbeing of others, the Parish Council is launching its 'Making a Difference Awards'. The Awards will be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Parish on May 14th in the Church Hall. There are three categories:

- the Young Person (aged 11-19) to most make a difference
- the Citizen to Most make a Difference
- the DSJ Organisation to Most Make a Difference.

Whether working for the community at large or making a difference in a more personal way, provided that the nominees live or have lived in Deeping St James in the last year and the organisation is based or operates here, then the Council want to hear from you! Nominations to be in by the 24th April! Please contact the Clerk at clerk@dsjpc.org.uk

Judy Stevens

Aurora Christian Association

Working In Romania

www.rorahouse.org.uk/aca.htm

Some of you will recall Thelma Wilford's visit to The Priory Church last year when she spoke so movingly about her work with the poor in Romania.

In a recent newsletter she listed some items that are desperately needed. Anything you donate can be delivered to Doris Warner or arrangements can be made for this to be collected.

These are the items needed:

- Children's and babies clothes. Teens clothes especially trousers etc.
- Blankets, sheets, pillowcases, duvets, duvet covers, pillows, thick bedspreads
- Bottles, teats, dummies, baby milk, baby foods
- Rice, pasta, tinned meat, baked beans, flour
- Large saucepans, cutlery, cups and bowls for soup (NO saucers please)
- Kettles, vacuum cleaners, irons, toasters, cassettes/CD players (all in working order please)
- Bicycles, prams, buggies, cots.

Anne Smart

News from Children's Church

As ever, we've been very busy this month, with all three groups exploring Bible stories, at different levels, through reading, talking and creative activities. We now look forward to Good Friday, when there will be a special children's service in church at 9:30, followed by a morning of exciting activities, including making Easter decorations and flower arranging in the church hall.

Please join us at 11:30 to see our handicraft and share seasonal refreshments. We look forward to seeing you there.

Ian Templeton

We need empty A4 boxes with lids, and yoghurt pots. If you have any, please leave them in the box at the back of church. Many Thanks.

Explorers (7 - 11), Climbers (5 - 7) and Scramblers (under 5) meet every Sunday morning (except during the summer holiday period) at 9.50am in the church hall. They join older worshippers in church for their blessing, final hymn and refreshments. New members are always welcome.

**For more details, please contact:
Andrea (Climbers & Scramblers)
on 344926
or Ian (Explorers) on 380894.**



Thank You

Ted and I would like to thank all our friends who have been concerned about us during the ill health of us both. To know someone is praying for us, thinking of us and sending us such lovely cards and flowers is so very comforting.

Our grateful thanks to you all.

Sylvia and Ted Anderson

Edenham Regional House

Fostering and promoting Christian Spirituality

A programme of retreats, quiet days and study events
for Lent, Holy Week and Easter

Edenham Regional House is a place of hospitality and prayer, set in a rural vicarage (established 1989), offering space for individuals and groups to spend time away from their usual environment. It has residential facilities, including a self-catered flat and ground floor en suite room available for wheelchair use.

Day of Reflection

Convert any day into a mini-retreat by staying a night or two (suggested donation £17.50 for bed and breakfast).

Saturday 4th April 10:00am – 4:00pm - A quiet day for Passiontide. A traditional quiet day with addresses, time for quiet and worship. Led by Fr. Edmund Wheat SSM. Lunch provided. Suggested donation £12.50.

Saturday 25th April 10:00am – 4:00pm – Can you cook? A day to work with others in the Regional House kitchens, preparing food in advance for guests. This day is free – lunch provided!

Friday 5th June 10:am – 4:00pm – Song of Songs. Patrick and Andrew Hawes share the thought and prayer that inspired their latest choral work – released on CD in April, performed by the ECO, Conventus and soprano, Elin Manahan-Thomas. Lunch provided. Suggested donation £12.50.

Please inform of any special diets.

For enquiries, bookings or a brochure, please contact the warden / vicar:

The Revd. Andrew Hawes

Edenham Regional House, Church Lane, Edenham, BOURNE, PE10 0LS

01778 591358 athawes@tiscali.co.uk

www.erh.org.uk

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Hon. Treasurer	Simon Marshall	treasurer@dsj.org.uk
Covenant Secretary	Peter Wilde	
Electoral Roll Officer	Richard Gamman	
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CHURCH CALENDAR

5 TH	SUNDAY	PALM SUNDAY 8:00am Holy Communion 10:00am Sung Eucharist & Procession of Palms 6:00pm Evening Prayer
9 TH	THURSDAY	MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:30pm Eucharist of the Lord's Supper followed by the Watch of Prayer until midnight
10 TH	FRIDAY	GOOD FRIDAY 9:30am Way of the Cross for Children 10:30am Good Friday Liturgy with optional Communion from the Reserved Sacrament
12 TH	SUNDAY	EASTER DAY 9:00am Easter Liturgy with Eucharist followed by home Communion 6:00pm Festal Evensong
16 th	Thursday	7:45pm Church Ladies' Fellowship: Quiz Night <i>(No Junior Choir Practice)</i>
17 th	Friday	Practice night 6:45pm Choir 7:30pm Ringers
19 TH	SUNDAY	THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER 8:00am Holy Communion 10:00am Sung Eucharist 6:00pm Evening Prayer

Relevance

Through every door I see the tomb,
The cross in every tree;
Though in between thy life and mine
There lies eternity.

On every rose the waiting thorn,
The pain in every birth.
Each garden is Gethsemane,
Where man first learned His worth.

And every hill is Calvary,
Each road the way He trod;
While resurrection crowns each dawn
And every day is God.

Betty Mates

FOR APRIL 2009

21 st	Tuesday	Anselm, Archbishop and Teacher, 1109
23 rd	Thursday	George. Martyr, Patron of England, 304 9:30am Holy Communion 6:00pm Junior Choir Practice, Cranmore Farmhouse
24 th	Friday	Practice Night 6:45pm Choir 7:30pm Ringers
25 th	Saturday	1:30pm Wedding of Jason Raymont and Emma Rogers
26th	SUNDAY	THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER 8:00am Holy Communion 10:00am Sung Eucharist 3:00pm Stamford and Bourne District Scouts' St. George's Day Parade Service 6:00pm Evening Prayer
27 th	Monday	7:30pm Annual Meeting of Parishioners for Election of Churchwardens followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
29 th	Wednesday	Catherine of Siena, Teacher, 1380
30 th	Thursday	9:30am Holy Communion 6:00pm Junior Choir Practice, Cranmore Farmhouse

Gentle Tribute

It's only once a fortnight
These lovely ladies meet.
They're the ladies of the Priory Church
You'll meet on any street.

When they get together
Such pleasure they do bring.
They so welcome those
Who join the club,
Part of the church's wing.

The ladies that do cook
And organise the events
We do attend
Give up their times so willingly.
Our thanks to them we send

The Priory Ladies' Fellowship,
May it go on forever.
God bless all those who give so much.
He knows of their endeavour.

NPD



READINGS FOR APRIL

PALM SUNDAY				
5th	Morning	Isaiah 50: 4-9a	Philippians 2: 5-11	Mark 14: 1 - 15: end
	MAUNDY THURSDAY			
9th	7:30pm	Exodus 12: 1-4, 11-14	1 Cor 11: 23-26	John 13: 1-17, 31-35
	GOOD FRIDAY			
10th	10:30am	Isaiah 52: 13 - 53:12	Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9	John 18: 1 - 19:42
	EASTER DAY			
12th	Morning	Acts 10: 34-43	1 Cor 15: 1-11	John 20: 1-18
	Evening	Psalm 66: 1-11	Ezekiel: 37: 1-14	Luke 24: 13-35
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER				
19th	Morning	Acts 4: 32-35	1 John 1: 1 - 2: 2	John 20: 19-31
	THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER			
26th	Morning	Acts 3: 12-19	1 John 3: 1-7	Luke 24: 36-48
	THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER			
3rd May	Morning	Acts 4: 5-12	1 John 3: 16-24	John 10: 11-18



HOME GROUPS

All are welcome

The Bible Study Group: Fridays, 10:00am

House Group: Wednesdays, 7:30pm

ROTAS FOR APRIL

		Servers		Acolytes	S/Persons
5 th	8:00am	Geoff Armstrong			Bet Washbrooke
	10:00am	Simon Marshall John Sellars			F
MAUNDY THURSDAY					
9 th	7:30pm	John Sellars Chris Halley			
GOOD FRIDAY					
10 th	10:30am	Geoff Armstrong			
EASTER DAY					
12 th	9:00am	Chris Halley Simon Marshall		Hendriene Georgina	Noreen Scattergood
	6:00pm	John Sellars			A
19 th	8:00am	Paul Boswall			George Knowles
	10:00am	Simon Marshall John Sellars			B
26 th	8:00am	Geoff Armstrong			Jessie Turner
	10:00am	Paul Boswall Chris Halley			C
3 rd May	8:00am	Geoff Armstrong			Jim Haw
	10:00am	Simon Marshall John Sellars			D

		Readers		Inter- cessions	Bread & Wine
		OT	NT		
5 th	10:00am	Adrian Hallam	Liz Bridgeman	Niccy Fisher	Carole Mills Joy Cunningham
MAUNDY THURSDAY					
9 th	7:30pm	John Worthington	Simon Marshall	Bet Washbrooke	Diane Templeton Caroline Herron
GOOD FRIDAY					
10 th	10:30am	Joy Cunningham	Richard Gamman		
EASTER DAY					
12 th	9:00am	Bill Flegg Acts 10: 34-43	Graham Hardy 1 Cor 15: 1-11	John Marsh	Dick & Anthea Wray
19 th	10:00am	Bet Washbrooke Acts 4: 32-35	Roger Bridgeman 1 John 1:1 - 2:2	Richard Gamman	Bill & Margaret Flegg
26 th	10:00am	Ali Hitchborn Acts 3: 12-19	Peter Wilde 1 John 3: 1-7	Tony Masters	Martin & Niccy Fisher
3 rd May	10:00am	Liz Bridgeman Acts 4: 5-12	Adrian Hallam 1 John 3: 16-24	Sonia Marshall	Pat Feek Doris Warner

ROTAS FOR APRIL (CONTINUED)

	Sunday Coffee	Church Flowers	Church Cleaning	Brasses
5 th	Ann Bennett Penny Hebblewhite	LENT		
12 th	Bill & Margaret Flegg	EASTER	Josie Waghorn Joy Cunningham	
19 th	John & Sue Marsh	Carole Mills		Joan Dyke
26 th	Val Wilde Doris Bellairs	Joan Dyke	Pat Feek Doris Warner	
3 rd May	Pat Feek Doris Warner	Mr Bond		Jean Shepherd Doris Bellairs



REGISTERS FOR FEBRUARY

BAPTISMS: *We welcome into the Lord's family*

15th Jay Dunk

FUNERALS: *We commend to God's keeping*

6th Colin Watt (83) followed by burial in the Parish Cemetery

CRAFT FAIR

Saturday 16 May – 10am-4.00pm

The Mission Committee of the Priory Church will be holding another of their fund-raising Craft Fairs on Saturday 16 May in the Church Hall.

As usual, there will be a wide selection of crafts from around the area together with Georgio's Bistro which will be selling food all day, together with light lunches. As you probably know, all the proceeds from the Craft Fair go to good causes – both near at home and abroad – so your support is valuable. Do come – and bring your friends!

LET THEM EAT CAKE

The homemade cake stall is always very popular and usually sells out before lunchtime. We would be very grateful for any donations of cakes or biscuits to sell – if you could bring them to the hall on the morning of the Fair or, if you wish, we could collect them – just contact Anne Smart.

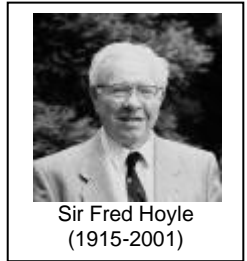


Carol and Hymn Corner

Onward Christian Soldiers

It may seem odd to introduce the late (and great) Sir Fred Hoyle into an article at the outset but there is, in this case, just reason. In his autobiography Sir Fred makes reference to this hymn as part of an appreciation of his great-grandfather, Yorkshire dialect poet, Ben Preston:

'Ironically, Ben's best known bit of writing, the hymn "Onward Christian Soldiers" is not attributed to him at all. At least Ben's younger daughters, (Fred Hoyle's great aunts) who were alive in my time, were always emphatic about his authorship of the hymn, and the actual words themselves, together with the circumstances in which they were written, would seem to bear the family out. The time was around 1864, and the annual Easter parade of schoolchildren in Bradford, who, by tradition, carried a large number of banners. There really was a "royal banner" and there really was a "cross of Jesus" carried at the head of the parade. S. Baring Gould, to whom the hymn is usually attributed, was, as I understand it, a young clergyman newly arrived in the Bradford district who wanted a special hymn to celebrate the occasion. Hearing of Ben Preston's reputation as a poet, Baring Gould asked my great-grandfather for words appropriate to the circumstances of the parade. No attribution was given at the time ... Eventually, the hymn was attributed to Baring Gould by default'.



The brilliant and widely accomplished Fred Hoyle, born near Bingley in 1915, was an astrophysicist who worked in radar during WWII and became the leading developer of the theory of how elements are manufactured inside stars, by the process of nucleosynthesis. Amongst Hoyle's achievements were science fiction novels including 'The Black Cloud' which has a section where the author's love of Beethoven is revealed. Sir Fred was a superb communicator who had more than his fair share of jealous colleagues. It may be that his bluntness and inability to suffer fools gladly brought problems on himself but he remains one of the world's greatest minds of the twentieth century. The above account in his autobiography, though, is littered with fundamental errors caused by his failure to investigate his great aunt's claims.

On Whit Sunday 1864 the widely travelled and experienced, 30 year old Sabine Baring Gould was ordained in Ripon. The following day he caught the train and travelled to his new living at Horbury near Wakefield. He walked into town and presented himself at the vicarage where he lived in the company of the vicar, Rev. John Sharp, two curates, a schoolmaster and a lady housekeeper. Next day the annual Whit Tuesday procession took place. This was in Horbury itself and not in Bradford as stated by Fred Hoyle, that city being at some distance and unconnected with Horbury. Rev. John Sharp

(1810-1893) was an accomplished and remarkable man. It was he, in 1840, who conceived and created the Whitsuntide procession, marking the anniversary of St. Peter and the founding of local schools. The event began at 1.30 p.m. and involved a great number of people who regularly totalled 700 plus. They consisted of robed clergy, schoolchildren, parents, teachers and local dignitaries.



Sabine Baring-Gould
(1834-1924)

SB-G was to reside at the Horbury vicarage briefly as barely three months later Rev. Sharp entrusted him to open a mission at Horbury Brig and work among the people and especially the poor. It was almost certain that OCS was conceived during this brief period as it appeared in the Church Times of 15th October 1864. Taking into account that OCS must have been submitted, accepted, proof read, returned and printed there would have been precious little time for SB-G to make the acquaintance of Ben Preston. My own view is that it was written in a flash of inspiration shortly after the Horbury procession. There is a copy in SB-G's handwriting but it is undated. He was often vague in

later years about dates and events and sometimes got muddled. Once he did not recognise one of his own children. Thirty years after publication he stated that he had stayed up all night writing it prior to the Whit Festival of 1865 forgetting that it had been published in the Church Times of the previous October. Here is part of SB-G's answer when interviewed by *Young Man Magazine*:

'The thing was written in a very simple fashion without any thought of publication. ... I wanted the children to sing when marching from one village to the other but I could not think of anything suitable, so I sat up at night resolved to write something myself ... nothing has surprised me more than its great popularity.'

The minutes of a meeting in May 1865 seem to indicate that the decision by the authorities to have the new hymn for the 1865 Whitsuntide festival may have been taken only a week or so before the actual event. SB-G had to search for a tune that would fit his words. Like *'Land of Hope and Glory'* and *'Vow to thee my Country'* things were done back to front. He had to arrange for OCS to be printed and for the tune he had selected to be arranged for the band, copied and rehearsed. We tend to forget that there were no instant photocopies in those times. This is in all probably the haste to which he refers. After a lot of searching and deliberation he selected the theme from the slow movement of Symphony No 15 in D major by Haydn. It is not known whether he had any help from the resident organist or a local musician in this matter.

(To be continued)
Philip Spratley



Cooking With Margaret

BANOFFEE FOOL



Ingredients

- 6 Digestive biscuits
- 25g melted butter
- 2 large ripe bananas
- 1 tbsp lemon juice
- 5 tbsp banoffee toffee dulce de leche caramel
- 142 ml double cream
- 200 ml custard
- chocolate flake to decorate.

Method

1. Put the biscuits in a strong food bag and, using a rolling pin, crush them.
2. Mix with the melted butter.
3. Slice the bananas and mix with the lemon juice and banoffee toffee caramel.
4. In another bowl, whip the cream until it just holds its shape, then fold in the custard.
5. Spoon 1 tbsp biscuit crumbs into the base of each of 4 tumblers.
6. Spoon over half the banoffee mix, then half the custard mix.
7. Repeat these layers, reserving a few crumbs for the top.
8. Sprinkle the top of each fool with crumbs and chocolate flake.
9. Chill until ready to serve (up to 4 hours).

Thank you to those who have sent in articles for Priory News. Contributions and suggestions are very welcome. Please let us have your prayers, poems, reminiscences and anything else you'd like to share.

Please note that the deadline for copy to be included in the May edition of Priory News is Friday 24th April.



Bishop's Letter

Going for Growth

Recent statistics indicate that percentage growth in Church attendance has been greater in the Diocese of Lincoln than in any other Diocese in England. This includes children and young people as well as adults, and Electoral Roll registrations showed an increase where there was virtually universal decline elsewhere.

Clearly we must take encouragement from this, and pay tribute to all those whose faithful lives of service and witness to Christ attract new people to the worship of God.

But note Bob Jackson's comment when the national statistics showed a modest increase a couple of years ago: "For one year only, the Church of England is able to say: 'Good News, there are more of us on the Titanic than we thought' - but the ship may still be going down".

This is a salutary warning against reading too much into one set of statistics, but we should still want to celebrate evidence of growth however we encounter it, and these figures speak of growth. Set them alongside significant increases in the number of people testing their vocation to Lay and Ordained ministry, and a steady expansion in Fresh Expressions of Church initiatives, and we have good reason to be in good heart as we take our mission forward into God's future.

And mission will be the watchword as we seek to live out the good news of Easter and Pentecost in the months ahead. Mission Forums are already in place around the Diocese, Mission Roadshows and easy-to-access resources are being promoted by the Fresh Expressions Group, and we Bishops are renewing our role as leaders in Mission.

Mission means many things, and we will want to take forward an holistic approach to Mission in this Diocese. At the heart of it all is our common calling to grow the Kingdom, and going for growth will remain our primary purpose because the Risen Christ commissions us to nothing less.

+ John Lincoln