



From the Curate

The Reverend Sonia Marshall

Dear Friends,

I write these words on what is an historic occasion for the United States of America. The inauguration of President Obama is a symbolic moment fulfilling the hopes and dreams of the Reverend Martin Luther King for racial justice and harmony, an overturning of past inequalities and a raising up of those who in past generations had been forced into first slavery and subsequently lowly positions solely on account of ethnic origins, the accident of birth.

In contrast, as I turn to home news, the media is full of depressing stories of bad debts – loans which have been defaulted on with serious repercussions on the country's economy. The prophet Amos, whose writings are coincidentally set for this week by the Common Worship Lectionary, has much to say about social justice and especially about financial malpractices which add to the burdens of the poor and disadvantaged.

Though issues can seem to be unclear in the short-term, ultimately God's ways are seen to be vindicated. The prophet Amos had a vision of a plumb line that the Lord was going to use to measure up his people Israel. Our dreams for a better future will only come to pass if our actions, both as individuals and as a nation, are measured up against God's standards of truth and justice.

Sonia Marshall

“A Big Thank You” from Mark

11th January 2009

It is hard to express adequately the gratitude I feel towards the people of Deeping St James for the kind words and kind gifts of today. I have had a wonderful eleven years in this parish and it has been its own reward: all of the gratitude shown to me and my family today is a bonus, and a really substantial one. Thank you so much.

We shall, of course, thank you often — this has been a very big section of our lives, and still is while Alison is at the Deepings School.

Yours ever, Mark.



After Mark's final service, he was delighted to receive a digital projector from us all.

By the time you read this he will have been installed as the new Vicar of All Saints, Stamford. We wish him and Alison every success and happiness.

Photo courtesy of Oliver Fisher.

Roll up for a Tasty Treat at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party

Everybody is welcome to come along to the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party at 7:30pm on 24th February in the Church Hall.

Please be sure to sign the list in the Church Hall so that we know how many to cater for.

Church Fellowship Funding Lunch

A lunch in aid of Church Fellowship Funding will be held in the Church Hall on 27th February at noon for 12.30.

Tickets are £6.50 each, available from Margaret Flegg or any committee member. We look forward to seeing you.

Churches Together in Deeping Lent Lunches

The first Lent Lunch in Deeping will take place on Saturday 28th February in the Open Door Church between noon and 1:30pm. Lunch will consist of soup, bread and cheese, tea or coffee. A minimum donation of £2 per lunch is suggested towards the work of Christian Aid and CAFOD.

Further Lent Lunches will be held at the other Deeping churches at the same time on Saturdays during March:

7 th March:	Catholic Church
14 th March:	St Guthlac's Church
21 st March:	Methodist Church
28 th March:	Priory Church

Ecumenical Lent Course -

Faith, Hope and Love

Please join us for this year's preparation for Easter, exploring these central themes, following the York 2009 Lent Course. The course will run for five weeks from 2nd March to 3rd April. Cost per person is £4.50 to cover the cost of course materials

Please add your details to the form at the back of the church by 16th February, indicating when would suit you best, so that times for the course can be finalised. Thank you.

25th January was World Leprosy Day

Leprosy is a disease of poverty. It's caused by a bug similar to TB and more than 90% of the 250,000 new cases each year are in the developing world. The disease is curable, yet sufferers typically endure tremendous fear and stigma.

For the last few years people at the Priory Church have been supporting the work of Belgaum Hospital in Southern India via donations to the Leprosy Mission.

Special collection boxes allow people to put aside small change. I forward all donations on to the Leprosy Mission, and provide receipts for all donations.

If you feel you could contribute to this work in Southern India, please talk to me.

If you are one of the people who helped raise £225 last year, Belgaum Hospital was able to offer treatment to more than 70 people. Thank you.

The Leprosy Mission Hospital, Belgaum in the state of Karnataka has been in operation for 93 years. Set up in 1912, it is the only referral hospital in the state to provide treatment and care to leprosy affected patients. More than 400,000 people from the surrounding villages and districts are covered by the hospital.

To find out more about the Leprosy Mission Trust India, please visit their website

www.tlindia.org

Diane Templeton

Christian Aid in The Phillipines

At our 10:00am service on 22nd February we will welcome Mandy Loveder as speaker. Mandy will speak about Christian Aid and, in particular, about her work in the Phillipines.

Rose and Sweet Pea Show 27th June

The Rose and Sweet Pea Show seems to be quite a long time away but, like most things, it will suddenly 'arrive'. John and I have been tasked to act as a co-ordination point for the Rose and Sweet Pea Show. As we've only been to two shows – and spent much of the time on the raffle stall – we clearly need the help and assistance of others. We need to check what **stalls and activities** there usually are.

The following come to mind:

Raffle	Plants	Books	White Elephant	Tombola
Golf competition	Childrens Activities	Tea/cakes in the hall	Open Tower	Horticultural Show (in church)
Mission display	Vicar's Beer tent	Hot food: burgers, hotdogs etc	Displays 'in the ring'	

It would be helpful if those that normally organise these could confirm the stall/activity they are taking responsibility for - either organisation or person (contact name if possible).

Have we missed anything out?

Are there other new stalls or activities that anyone wants to suggest/run? For instance could we have a hog roast?

Volunteers will be required to help run stalls and to set up and put away tables, banners, flags etc etc. Can you help?

We need **a volunteer to act as MC** to announce the acts in the ring, to 'drum up business' and to announce the prize winners at the end.

We need someone to deal with **publicity**.

Can anyone provide **ideas for displays for the events ring**? Do you have a contact with the local primary school, gymnastics group, dance group or others that might be happy to do a display for us?

Rose and Sweet Pea Raffle

This is one of the major fundraising activities linked with the Rose and Sweet Pea Show. Alison has handed over the prizes to me that she had already been given towards the raffle. However, more prizes needed. Can you help?

Also last year one of the three main prizes was a hamper. It was extremely popular with those that bought raffle tickets and on the day we could have 'sold it' several times over. Last year a member of the congregation kindly made the hamper up with M&S goods and donated it. Is there anyone else who feels that they would like to do the same this year? We can provide a basket to put the goods in if that would help. It could be goods from one store – M&S, Waitrose, Fairtrade etc or it could be a mix. The choice would be yours.

We intend to put a list at the back of the church for volunteers to sign up. Alternatively, if you have any ideas or prizes or you'd like to volunteer, please do contact us.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sue & John Marsh.



News from the Tower

A quarter peal of Plain Bob Doubles was rung on 10th January as a tribute to Rev. Mark Warrick who has recently moved on to pastures new. Once again we would like take this opportunity to say a big "THANK YOU, MARK" for your support over the past 11 years.

The Bell Ringers A.G.M. will be held on 13 February 2009 in the ringing chamber.

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

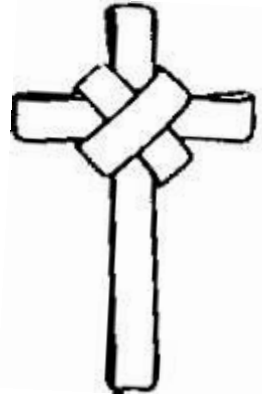
Contact Richard, Brenda or Mike.

Ash Wednesday

This year Ash Wednesday falls on 25th February. It is a day of penitence, marking the start of Lent, preparing for the central Christian celebration of Easter. During the 7:30pm service, ashes made from Palm Sunday crosses will be used as a symbol of repentance for past wrongs.

Marking an ash cross on worshippers' foreheads symbolises the power of Christ's death and resurrection to free us all from sin. There is no obligation to receive this sign, though many find it helpful.

We do hope that you will come to this important service if you can. Please bring last year's Palm crosses by Sunday 22nd February, so that the ashes can be prepared. Thank you.



CMS Collection Boxes

As usual, we are supporting the Christian Mission Society during Lent. Please take a gift box, which will be available in church from Ash Wednesday, to support this vital Christian work.

The Mission Committee

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Assistant District Dean	The Reverend Peter Garland	peter@stjohnsspalding.org
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CHURCH CALENDAR

1ST	SUNDAY	THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE 8:00am Holy Communion 10:00am Sung Eucharist 6:00pm Choral Evensong
3 rd	Tuesday	Anskar, Bishop, Missionary, 865
4 th	Wednesday	Gilbert of Sempringham, Diocesan Celebration
5 th	Thursday	9:30am Holy Communion 6:00pm Junior Choir, Cranmore Farmhouse 7:30pm Worship Committee, Cranmore Farmhouse
6 th	Friday	Home Communions Practice Night 6:45pm Choir 7:30pm Ringers
8TH	SUNDAY	THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT 8:00am Holy Communion 10:00am Sung Eucharist 6:00pm Evening Prayer
11 th	Wednesday	11:30am Deanery Clergy Chapter
12 th	Thursday	9:30am Holy Communion 6:00pm Junior Choir, Cranmore Farmhouse 7:00pm Parochial Church Council
13 th	Friday	Practice Night 6:45pm Choir 7:30pm Ringers
14 th	Saturday	Cyril and Methodius, Missionaries, 869, 885
15TH	SUNDAY	SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT 8:00am Holy Communion 10:00am Sung Eucharist and Holy Baptism 6:00pm Evening Prayer

FOR FEBRUARY 2009

17 th	Tuesday	Janani Luwum, Archbishop and Martyr, 1977
19 th	Thursday	9:30am Holy Communion 6:00pm Junior Choir, Cranmore Farmhouse
20 th	Friday	Practice Night 6:45pm Choir 7:30pm Ringers
22ND	SUNDAY	NEXT BEFORE LENT 8:00am Holy Communion Sung Eucharist 10:00am We welcome Mandy Loveder, who will speak about Christian Aid and her work in the Philippines. 6:00pm Evening Prayer
23 rd	Monday	Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr, 155
24 th	Tuesday	Shrove Tuesday 7:30pm Pancake Party in the Church Hall.
25TH	WEDNESDAY	ASH WEDNESDAY 7:30pm Sung Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes
26 th	Thursday	9:30am Holy Communion 6:00pm Junior Choir, Cranmore Farmhouse 7:30pm Deanery Synod at Gosberton
27 th	Friday	George Herbert, Priest and Poet, 1633 Noon for Church Fellowship Funding Lunch in the 12:30pm Church Hall Practice Night 6:45pm Choir 7:30pm Ringers
28 th	Saturday	Noon - 1:30pm Lent Lunch at the Open Door Church



READINGS FOR FEBRUARY

PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE (“CANDLEMAS”)				
1st	Morning	Malachi 3: 1 - 5	Hebrews 2: 14 – end	Luke 2: 22 - 40
	Evening	Haggai 2: 1 - 9	Psalm 122	John 2: 18 - 22
8th	THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT			
	Morning	Isaiah 40: 21 - end	1 Corinthians 9: 16 - 23	Mark 1: 29 - 39
15th	SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT			
	Morning	Proverbs 8: 22 - 31 (8:00 ONLY)	Colossians 1: 15 - 20	John 1: 1 - 14
22nd	SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT			
	Morning	2 Kings 2: 1 - 12	2 Corinthians 4: 3 - 6	Mark 9: 2 - 9
25th	ASH WEDNESDAY			
	7:30pm	Isaiah 58: 1 - 12	2 Corinthians 5: 20b - 6: 10	John 8: 1 - 11
1st Mar	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT			
	Morning	Genesis 9: 8 - 17	1 Peter 3: 18 - end	Mark 1: 9 - 15



HOME GROUPS

All are welcome

The Bible Study Group: Fridays, 10:00am

House Group: Wednesdays, 7:30pm

ROTAS FOR FEBRUARY

		Servers	Acolytes	Sides- persons
1 st	8:00am	Geoff Armstrong		Ken Rimmer
	10:00am	Paul Boswall John Sellars	Rebecca Fay	C
	6:00pm	John Sellars		
8 th	8:00am	Paul Boswall		Rita Gostick
	10:00am	Simon Marshall Chris Halley	Alessandra Hendriene	D
15 th	8:00am	Geoff Armstrong		Bet Washbrooke
	10:00am	Simon Marshall John Sellars	Tom Ben	E
22 nd	8:00am	Geoff Armstrong		Noreen Scattergood
	10:00am	Paul Boswall Chris Halley	Georgina Hendriene	F
25 th	Ash Wednesday			
	7:30pm	Simon Marshall John Sellars		
1 st Mar	8:00am	Geoff Armstrong		George Knowles
	10:00am	Simon Marshall Chris Halley	Rebecca Fay	A
	6:00pm	John Sellars		

		Readers		Inter- cessions	Bread & Wine
		Old Testament	New Testament		
1 st	10:00am	John Worthington	Joy Cunningham	Richard Gamman	Dick & Anthea Wray
8 th	10:00am	Bill Flegg	Richard Gamman	Martin Fisher	Diana Templeton Caroline Herron
15 th	10:00am		Ali Hitchborn	Tony Masters	Bill & Margaret Flegg
22 nd	10:00am	Roger Bridgeman	Graham Hardy	John Marsh	Carole Mills Joy Cunningham
25 th	Ash Wed 7:30pm	Peter Wilde	Ann Bennett	Sonia Marshall	Martin & Niccy Fisher
1 st Mar	10:00am	Niccy Fisher	Trevor Harwood	John Marsh	Pat Feek Doris Warner

ROTAS FOR FEBRUARY (CONTINUED)

	Sunday Coffee	Church Flowers	Church Cleaning	Brasses
1 st	Liz Spratley Maureen Brown	Ann Bennett	John & Linda Sellars	Sonia Marshall Nancy Titman
8 th	John & Sue Marsh	Eileen Day		
15 th	Bill & Margaret Flegg	Sue Marsh	Dave & Margaret Dawkins	
22 nd	Ann Bennett Penny Hebblewhite			
1 st Mar	Pat Feek Doris Warner	LENT	Janet Lill Sylvia Anderson	



REGISTERS FOR DECEMBER 2008

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

14th Matthew William Leslie Sutton

MARRIAGES: *We congratulate*

20th Daniel Johnson and Rachel Whitehouse

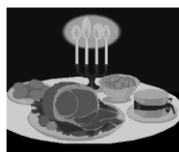
27th Sam Longworth and Claire Dilkes

FUNERALS: *We commend to God's keeping*

19th Lisa Wilson (78) followed by cremation at Peterborough

22nd Leonard Dillow (64) followed by burial in the Parish Cemetery

Thank You



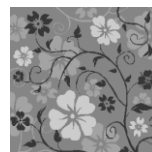
I would like to thank everyone who contributed with the buffet for Mark, either by making, baking or just bringing food.

It was so encouraging to find that so many people were willing to help to give Mark and his family the send off they deserved.

Thank you all, *Margaret*

On behalf of Christine and myself, I would like to thank everyone who helped by decorating or contributing to the Christmas flowers. Also for your continued support during the year.

Thank you again. *Pauline Brooksbank*



News from Children's Church

In January we made thank you cards for Alison for looking after us on Sundays for so long. We gave them to her in the vicarage with some flowers and a picture of all the children who come on Sundays. It was a surprise so we didn't tell anyone in Church what we were doing.

We have been learning about Jesus' early life and a bit about John The Baptist. John spent ages waiting for Jesus to come and he had a very simple life while he was waiting. He lived on honey and locusts. We ate honey and locust sandwiches but the locusts were really sultanas, I think.

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)
or Ian (Explorers).**

Adam Templeton (9 years old - Explorer)

Carol and Hymn Corner

More on Carols



When we ended with a quick word about 'The Holly and the Ivy'. An examination of the words will reveal that this carol can be sung up to Passiontide. And so it was in the old days and there were carols for every season right through the year.

Gradually carols for the seasons began to diminish except for places in the country which were remote from the big towns and cities. There were reasons for this the first being the Civil War when many customs went 'underground' for fear of Puritan reprisals. When Charles II was crowned all England rejoiced in the hope of greater freedom forgetting or being unaware of the great achievements of Cromwell and his establishment of greater justice and democracy.

In the 18th century Wesley frowned upon most of folk music and in some places, especially Cornwall, caused it to be wiped out. Then in the 19th century creeping industrialisation and the migration of country people to the



John Wesley
(1703-91)

towns gradually eroded the singing of carols as village life began to disappear.

People of all ages sometimes wonder how our ancestors, with little or no formal education, could create and craft some of our country's greatest musical treasures. The answer is simple. The Education Act of 1870 established compulsory education but did not suddenly make the population intelligent. There were many skills and crafts, including music, in every country but most of these were handed down from father to son and mother to daughter

by word of mouth. As these same crafts began to disappear it was fortunate that there were some people with great foresight who saw what was happening and took action.

Although there were a number of folk song collectors in Britain the greatest of these are undoubtedly Cecil Sharp, (who copied down The Holly and the Ivy) and Vaughan Williams. Copying down on music paper could be a long and difficult business and often required great patience. Success was often greater in the local pub where the singer was plied with liberal quantities of ale.

Initial contact with singers and collectors was sometimes embarrassing. We readily forget the class barrier that still existed in the early years of the 20th century. Singers probably regarded their songs as intimate possessions that were not to be shared by learned gentleman who might make fun of them. Some songs were quite explicit and 'earthy' which added to their misgivings.



Cecil Sharp
(1859-1924)



Ralph Vaughan Williams
(1872-1958)

When Sharp and Vaughan Williams tried to publish some of their collection several publishers took the attitude that they were not fit for the ears of polite society.

It was at this time that V.W. was engaged as musical editor of a new hymn book (The English Hymnal). Rather than waste some fine tunes he adapted many to some of the finest hymns in the English language. One such tune was called 'The Ploughboy's dream. In it the ploughboy curses his

horses, only mildly, but enough for it to be returned from the publisher. Vaughan Williams found that the tune was a straight fit to words by an American writer, Bishop Phillips Brooks. Its name? 'O Little Town of Bethlehem'.

(To be continued)
Phillip Spratley

Cooking With Margaret



SAUSAGE & PASTA BAKE



Ingredients

- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 lb pork sausage meat, chopped
- 1 x 295g Hearty Condensed Vegetable Minestrone Soup
- 5 fl oz milk
- 6 oz Cheddar cheese, grated
- 5 oz pasta twists
- 2 oz fresh white breadcrumbs.

Method

1. Fry the onion and sausage in a non-stick pan for 10 minutes approx.
2. Spoon off fat.
3. Stir in the diluted soup (with milk) and half the cheese.
4. Simmer gently for 15 minutes.
5. Cook the pasta and drain well.
6. Stir into the sausage mixture.
7. Spoon into a Pyrex dish (2½ pint), and sprinkle with the breadcrumbs and remaining cheese.
8. Either place under a pre heated grill for 5 minutes or into a hot oven (Regulo 6, 200°C, 400°F) for 10 minutes until the top is brown.

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 March edition of Priory News is **Friday 20th February**.



Bishop's Letter

Back to the Future

Somehow our minds think about the past in terms of centuries, and the future in mere decades. I guess this is a kind of defence mechanism. The further back into the past we can push those events we would rather not remember, then the less we have to concern ourselves with them. After all, as L.P. Hartley put it, "the past is another country, they do things differently there".

On the other hand, the demands of the present and immediate future are such that it is tempting not to take a long-term view of what lies ahead. A decade or two is about as much as we can handle, so that what is more urgent takes precedence over what is most important.

It is not difficult to find examples of this going on around us at the moment. Our Government's chosen response to the global economic downturn is to borrow money which might see us through the immediate crisis, but it is money which the future will be required to repay.

Likewise, in spite of protests to the contrary, it is likely that many plans to develop alternative sources of renewable energy supplies will be put on hold until the economy takes a turn for the better. It is our children's and grandchildren's futures we are jeopardising when the urgent takes precedence over the important, and it is our short-sightedness in this respect which means that we may leave a toxic legacy for those who come after us.

I am writing this in January named after the two-faced Roman god Janus, who looked to the past and the future at the same time – and you are probably reading this in February which is the month in the Christian year which begins in Epiphany and ends in Lent thereby looking back to Christmas and forward to Eastertide. So it is a good time for Christians to be reflecting on how the past and future impact on our lives.

For example, one response to the present economic situation would be to decide that our immediate and short-term well-being and security requires us to cut back on our commitments to good causes, including our commitment to the ministry and mission of God's Church. Yet how short-sighted is that! Few of us would want the long-term future of our Church to be put at risk, yet that could be the result of prioritising what is urgent and neglecting what is ultimately far more important.

These are tough times, and there may be tougher times ahead. But let us beware of mortgaging our future when the lessons of the past teach us that this is always long-term folly masquerading as short-term gain.

+ John Lincoln

(<http://lincolnfriends.org.uk/files/bishopsLetterJan.pdf>)