



From the Curate

The Reverend Sonia Marshall

Dear Friends,

By now the news will have gone round that after 170 years service as the vicarage of this parish no 16 Church St. is, after an interim period, to pass from diocesan ownership. While it is sad to learn of this news it is not entirely unexpected. Before Mark Warrick was appointed around eleven years ago the PCC were informed that, owing to the high cost of maintaining the house, it was likely to be the last time it would be used as a vicarage.

As the property market is uncertain at the present time and also because they have been able to find a suitable property in Market Deeping, the Diocesan authorities are housing the new curate of Market Deeping, Stephen Hearn, together with his wife Venetia, in 16 Church St for the duration of his curacy, following which we understand it is their intention to place the property on the market. Stephen will have no responsibilities in Deeping St James parish so to make the situation clearer and to prevent unnecessary mail and calls for this parish, the sign designating the house as a 'vicarage' will be removed. We welcome the Hearn's as residents in this pleasant and historic village and wish Stephen well as he takes up his duties at St Guthlac's following his ordination on 5th July.

Some of you may have been wondering about the viability of parish events, in particular our annual fete, the 'Rose and Sweet Pea Show'. The PCC is pleased to say that 'the show will go on'. A large part of the grounds between the Church Hall and the former vicarage is the subject of a deed of trust relating to the Church Hall. We are therefore able to hold our regular activities on the lawn but in doing so we would ask that everyone respects the privacy of areas immediately surrounding the house.

Sonia Marshall

Annual Meetings

27th April 2009

Election of Churchwardens

Tony Masters was elected to act as churchwarden for the coming year.

Parochial Church Meeting

The meeting was well attended. A number of questions were raised regarding the continued running of the church during the vacancy, as well as some concerning the possible appointment of a new parish priest. Questions were asked about the proposed alterations to the church hall and when they would begin. Richard did a great job of keeping the meeting running smoothly and, as always, the refreshments were fabulous!

Copies of the full minutes are available at the back of the church.

Election to the Deanery Synod

Ian Templeton was elected.

Election to the Parochial Church Council

The following were elected:

Cled Bennett	Roger Bridgeman	Pat Feek
Martin Fisher	Richard Gamman	Adrian Hallam
Chris Halley	Tim Hitchborn	Alison Roberts
Linda Sellars		

Election of Deputy Churchwardens

The following were elected:

Roger Bridgeman	Richard Gamman	John Worthington
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Election of Sidespersons

Jim Haw has stood down from the 8:00am team.

The following were elected:

Doris Bellairs	Cled Bennett	Liz Bridgeman
Joy Cunningham	Calum Dawkins	Bill Flegg
Margaret Flegg	Rita Gostick	Adrian Hallam
Kim Hallam	Margaret Hamilton	Viv Hamilton
Graham Hardy	Trevor Harwood	Tim Hitchborn
George Knowles	Christine Masters	Ann Meekings
Ken Rimmer	Noreen Scattergood	Jane Thompson
Jessie Turner	Bet Washbrooke	Val Wilde

Extracted from APCM minutes provided by Roger Bridgeman.



News from the Tower

The Bellringers had an outing to five different towers on the 2nd May. We started the day at Billingborough where they have a nice ring of eight light bells, the tenor being only 7cwt 3qts 11lb. The church itself is set in the village adjacent to a very pretty pond. Within the ringing chamber there is the pendulum from the clock swinging merrily across the centre of the chamber. Fortunately it is inside a framework. 11 ringers were available for ringing at this tower.

Next stop was at Sempringham Abbey which is some distance outside of the village and surrounded by farm land. A unique feature here is the fact that there is no electricity laid on to the church. The ringing chamber was illuminated by a chandelier which holds a dozen candles. Once again a lightweight ring of six bells with the tenor being 7cwt 0qts 23lb. The same 11 ringers rang here.

On now to Rippingale. Situated within the village and a nice ring of six bells with a 12cwt 3qts 2lb tenor. We were joined here by two other ringers, and as one of the earlier ringers had an old injury and did not want to trust ringing the heavier bells, it left 12 to carry on the ringing. Having rung the bells we all retired for lunch, and guess what was opposite the church, yes you're right, it was the local public house.

After lunch had leisurely been taken, we journeyed on to Witham-on-the-Hill where they have six bells, with a tenor of 13cwt. 3qts 24lb. The church is in the village and has a playing field next to it. The 3 young children we had with us all had a very good time on the various swings and roundabouts etc. that were there. Eleven of the ringers rang here. The ringing chamber here is situated on the ground floor of the tower, no steps to climb to the benefit of some.

The last tower of the day was in Rutland at Ryhall. The bells here had been re-hung in 2004. There are six bells with a tenor in the region of 15cwt. (The weight is disputed by some). An upstairs ringing chamber which has a very large window overlooking the inside of the church. The church is in the very heart of the village. Just 11 ringers took part here.

All in all a good day out was had by one and all and a big thank-you to Brenda and Hilary who did the arranging between them.

On the 29th of this month, Priory Players are performing in the church hall so we are hoping to be able to ring at West Deeping where we normally ring once a month and support them with events whenever we can.

Mike Gentle.

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.

News from Children's Church

This month the children will be looking forward to the Rose and Sweet Pea Show. Our open classes for children this year will hopefully have something for everyone. For the under 8s, have a go at making a 'house for a mouse' from absolutely anything you like. Alternatively, you may enjoy designing a party invitation. If food is more your thing, then you could turn your hand to decorating three biscuits.

For the over 8s, we're asking you to have a go at making a small piece of cross stitch or tapestry (perhaps you've got one you did earlier that you'd like to show). If you like cooking, then this is your chance to bake 3 muffins, any flavour welcome. We'd also like the over 8s to have a go at designing a poster to advertise the Rose and Sweet Pea Show 2010 - how would you like to see your poster up all around Deeping St James next year?

Finally, for all ages, have you got a really enormous weed growing somewhere in your garden? Forget the weedkiller, put on some fertiliser and enter it in the 'weedus majesticus' class. Please have a go; it's always great when the Church is full of exhibits.

Andrea Gamman.

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).**

Happy Birthday, Nancy

I recently asked Nancy Titman if she would contribute some of her fascinating writing about local history. Little did I expect such a quick and full response. Nancy told me that she was Christened at the Priory Church, which makes her our longest-serving parishioner (unless, of course, you know different ...!)

Happy 91st birthday on 2nd June, Nancy, with love and thanks from us all.

Bet X.

Now read on ...



Tales of the Church Hall

When the Church Hall was modernised and extended in 1957 the original porch was demolished. A sealed bottle was found under one of the lintels containing the following enclosure:

' This Stone (being a principal one at the entrance of a building intended for an Infant Schoolroom, in which the children of the Poor may receive a Christian Education in accordance with the Articles of the Church of England as by Law now established) was placed this 7th day of August in the year of our Lord, One thousand eight hundred and forty-nine, by

John George M.A., Vicar.

When praises were sung and Prayer was offered to Almighty God that He would for Jesus Christ's sake, send down his blessing on the undertaking. It is to be erected at the expense of several members of the Whichcote family and the Vicar.

Edward Browning, Architect.

Thomas Swann, Builder.

7th August 1849

" To God be all the praise " "

John George was twenty five years old when he became vicar of Deeping St. James in 1841. He lived in style in the new Vicarage, and with youthful enthusiasm began to get things done in the church and in the village. He was a bachelor, autocratic and with private means. One can imagine the Service of Praise when his school was finally built and the Vicar escorted the be-whiskered Victorian gentlemen and their ladies through the imposing porch to the spacious Hall, lofty with an open equilateral roof of Welsh slates and heated by a fireplace in the west wall.

The 'Poor Infants', who probably sat in tiered seats paid one penny per week for their schooling, and learnt by chanting the alphabet, tables and poems while practising writing and sums on slates. There were books too, but there cannot have been many because the expenditure of the school for a year, including Staff salaries was £41. Social events also took place in the hall, for in the Peterborough Advertiser of 2nd October 1866, a meeting of the Mutual Society is reported:

' The Vicar occupied the Chair and after some preliminary remarks by the Chairman, entertainment commenced with an address, delivered extempore by Dr.Poole, a gentleman who has recently taken up residence in Deeping Gate. The address was lengthy and very interesting. Several pieces were sung by the church choir during the evening. Miss Cooper presided at the pianoforte and executed

several pieces in a masterly style. Mr Dean officiated at the harmonium. There was a good attendance. ’

Enthusiasm may have waned by December of the same year because we note - ‘Readings were given at the Vicar’s Schoolroom on Monday last. They were interspersed with suitable music. The attendance was pretty good’.

As the infants grew older the boys went to Tyghe’s School in Church Street (now the Scout Rooms) while the girls stayed on. Eventually the number of children outgrew the space, so in 1873 an additional room was built (now the Hall kitchen) to house the infants. The Vicar’s School continued to flourish until 1889, when there was a reorganisation by a School Board. The Cross School was extended and modernised to become the Mixed School for Juniors and Seniors while Infants all went to the “Little School” in Church Street. The Vicar’s room was only used as a school on Sundays, serving as a Parish Hall for the rest of the week. The old Vicar died in 1898, by which time he had been Vicar of Deeping St. James for fifty seven years.

To be continued.

Nancy Titman.

This article first appeared in “Glimpse of the Past”, published by Deepings Heritage, 1998.

Craft Fair 16 May

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of the Craft Fair which raised £456.90. The stallholders commented - once again - that this is one of their favourite fairs and we had quite a few comments about the friendly atmosphere.

It is a good opportunity to show people that we are a living, working church and to spread the word about the need to help others less fortunate than ourselves.

Anne Smart.

Music on the Lawn

You are invited to a concert on the Priory Church Hall Lawn on Saturday 4th July. Enjoy the music of Vox Mondiale, a female harmony group with songs from across the globe, with Alan Bolt (vocals/guitar). Bring your own picnic, wine and candelabra. Evening dress is optional. There will be a raffle.

Tickets: Adult £6.00, Concessionary/Children £4.00, Family (2 + 2) £15.00, available from Linda, Johanna, Bill. Gates open at 7:00pm and the concert will start at 7:30pm. If wet, the concert will be held in the church.

Bill Flegg.

PARISH DIRECTORY

Assistant District Dean	The Reverend Peter Garland	peter@stjohnsspalding.org
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Hon. Secretary	Roger Bridgeman	
Hon. Treasurer	Simon Marshall	treasurer@dsj.org.uk
Covenant Secretary	Peter Wilde	
Electoral Roll Officer	Richard Gamman	
Synod Members		
Diocesan Synod	Canon Niccy Fisher <i>The above plus</i> The Reverend Sonia Marshall	
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Temporary Organist	Philip Spratley	
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Church Coffee Group	Pauline Brooksbank Christine Masters Doris Warner	
Church Flowers		
House Group		
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CHURCH CALENDAR

1 st	Monday	Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth 8:00am Holy Communion 10:00am Sung Eucharist 6:00pm Evening Prayer
3 rd	Wednesday	6:00pm & Wedding rehearsals 8:00pm
4 th	Thursday	9:30am Holy Communion <i>No Junior Choir Practice</i>
5 th	Friday	Practice Night 6:45pm Choir 7:30pm Ringers
6 th	Saturday	1:30pm Wedding of Tony Wright and Nicola George
7th	SUNDAY	TRINITY SUNDAY 8:00am Holy Communion 10:00am Eucharist with Holy Baptism 6:00pm Evening Prayer
10 th	Wednesday	11:30am Wedding of Philip Watson & Sarah Witherington
11 th	Thursday	Corpus Christi 9:30am Holy Communion 6:00pm Junior Choir Practice, Cranmore Farmhouse
12 th	Friday	Barnabas the Apostle (Transferred from June 11th) Practice Night 6:45pm Choir 7:30pm Ringers
14th	SUNDAY	THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY 8:00am Holy Communion 10:00am Eucharist with Holy Baptism 6:00pm Choral Evensong

FOR JUNE 2009

16 th	Tuesday	Richard, Bishop of Chichester, 1253 7:30pm Deanery Synod at Market Deeping 7:30pm Churches Together at the Priory Church
18 th	Thursday	9:30am Holy Communion 6:00pm Junior Choir Practice, Cranmore Farmhouse
19 th	Friday	Practice Night 6:45pm Choir 7:30pm Ringers
21ST	SUNDAY	THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY 8:00am Holy Communion 10:00am Sung Eucharist 6:00pm Evening Prayer
22 nd	Monday	Alban, first Martyr of Britain, 250
23 rd	Tuesday	Etheldreda, Abbess of Ely, 678
24 th	Wednesday	The Birth of John the Baptist
25 th	Thursday	9:30am Holy Communion 5:30pm Wedding rehearsal 6:00pm Junior Choir Practice, Cranmore Farmhouse
26 th	Friday	2:00pm Wedding of Adaniyi Aje & Emma Griffiths Practice Night 6:45pm Choir 7:30pm Ringers
27 th	Saturday	Cyril, Bishop of Alexandria, 444 1:00pm Rose and Sweet Pea Show
28TH	SUNDAY	THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY 8:00am Holy Communion 10:00am Sung Eucharist 6:00pm Evening Prayer



READINGS FOR JUNE

7 TH	TRINITY SUNDAY			
	Morning	Isaiah 6: 1-8	Romans 8: 12-17	John 3: 1-17
14 TH	THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY			
	Morning	Ezekiel 17: 22-24 (8:00am only)	2 Cor 5: 6-10, 14-17	Mark 4: 26-34
	Evening	Psalms 39	Jeremiah 7: 1-16	Romans 9: 14-26
21 ST	THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY			
	Morning	Job 38: 1-11	2 Cor 6: 1-13	Mark 4: 35-41
28 TH	THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY			
	Morning	Wisdom 1: 13-15, 2: 23-24	2 Cor 8: 7-15	Mark 5: 21-43
5 TH JUL	THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY			
	Morning	Ezekiel 2: 1-5	2 Cor 12: 2-10	Mark 6: 1-13



REGISTERS FOR APRIL

FUNERALS: *We commend to God's keeping*

23rd Ian Michael Gostick (49), followed by cremation in Peterborough.



HOME GROUPS

All are welcome

The Bible Study Group: Fridays, 10:00am

House Group: Wednesdays, 7:30pm

ROTAS FOR JUNE

		Servers	Sidespersons	Intercessions
7 th	8:00am	Geoff Armstrong	George Knowles	
	10:00am	Chris Halley Paul Boswall	C	Richard Gamman
14 th	8:00am	Paul Boswall	Jessie Turner	
	10:00am	Simon Marshall John Sellars	D	Nicky Fisher
	6:00pm	John Sellars		
21 st	8:00am	Geoff Armstrong	Ken Rimmer	
	10:00am	Chris Halley Simon Marshall	E	Tony Masters
28 th	8:00am	Geoff Armstrong	Rita Gostick	
	10:00am	Paul Boswall John Sellars	F	John Marsh
5 th Jul	8:00am	Geoff Armstrong	Bet Washbrooke	
	10:00am	Simon Marshall Chris Halley	A	Bet Washbrooke

		Readers		Bread and Wine
		Old Testament	New Testament	
7 th	10:00am	Liz Bridgeman	Ann Bennett	Bill & Margaret Flegg
14 th	10:00am		Joy Cunningham	Diane Templeton Caroline Herron
21 st	10:00am	Roger Bridgeman	Graham Hardy	Martin & Niccy Fisher
28 th	10:00am	John Marsh	Ali Hitchborn	Carole Mills Joy Cunningham
5 th Jul	10:00am	Trevor Harwood	Nicky Fisher	Doris Bellairs Christine Masters

	Sunday Coffee	Church Flowers	Church Cleaning	Brasses
7 th	Val Wilde Doris Bellairs	Joan Dyke		Christine Masters Doris Bellairs
14 th	Ann Bennett Penny Hebblewhite	Liz Spratley	John & Linda Sellars	
21 st	Pat Feek Doris Warner	Sonia Marshall		
28 th	John & Sue Marsh	Eileen Day	Dave & Margaret Dawkins	
5 th Jul	Diane Templeton Johanna Jones	Vacant		

Christian Aid Lunch

On Sunday 10th May members of the Church Social Committee served lunch to 30 members of the Priory Church, which raised £103.20 for Christian Aid.

Many thanks to those attending.

Margaret Flegg.

Priory Church Coffee Group

On Thursday 14th May a Coffee morning was held to coincide with the distribution of funds to local good causes. Treasurer, Margaret Flegg, handed out:

- £100 to the Deepings Men's Group
- £100 to the Deepings Visually Impaired Group
- £100 towards the cost of running the Age Concern Bus
- £100 towards the lighting of the Priory Church Spire
- £350 towards the cooker fund for the Church Hall.



During the morning a further £165 was raised towards the funds. Our thanks to all who help and support the events.

Margaret Flegg.

Church Hall



I would like to record my thanks to Geoff Armstrong who during the past months spent many hours painting various parts of the Church Hall, thereby saving us the expense of employing a professional painter.

I think you will all agree with me that the hall now looks much better for Geoff's work.

Bill Flegg.

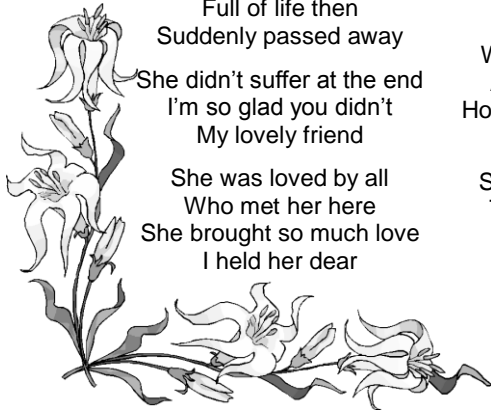
Roll up! Roll up!

Any donations for our Tombola Stall at the Rose and Sweet Pea Show will be gratefully received. Your surplus could be our money-spinners.

Please put donations in the box at the back of the church. Many thanks.

Liz Spratley.

Ode to Dorothy



I lost a dear friend
The other day
Full of life then
Suddenly passed away

She didn't suffer at the end
I'm so glad you didn't
My lovely friend

She was loved by all
Who met her here
She brought so much love
I held her dear

The loss had made me
Want to say
How much I could have
Said but nay

We don't tell our friends
And those we care for
How much they mean to us
So therefore

Spend a little time today
To cherish your family
And friends so dear
It's not too late

To show your love
Just follow the way
Of Him above

NPD



Carol and Hymn Corner

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

This hymn has a unique history but, although a great favourite with many, only reached its present form long after the author was dead and six years after the death of the composer with whom we associate the tune. That year was as recent as 1924 and was the result of an inspired piece of adapting by a public school music master.



John Greenleaf Whittier
(1807 – 1892)

The words are by John Greenleaf Whittier who began life as a farm boy and then made a living as a slipper maker. The family hailed from Haverhill, not the Suffolk town but its namesake in Massachusetts U.S.A. He was modest about his writings but his sister sent some examples to a newspaper editor called William Garrison who saw their worth and came to visit the young man. This led to Whittier becoming a journalist and later an editor of at least three important periodicals including the New England

Review. These positions gave him ample opportunity to express his views on the slave trade about which he was an ardent abolitionist. His political ambitions were thwarted because he alienated the Northern industrialists and

the southern slave-holders. Several times his speeches ended with crowd violence; he was mobbed, stoned and sometimes run out of town. In 1838 his newly opened newspaper office in Philadelphia was burned to the ground. He continued to write poems about anti-slavery until the tide turned and Abraham Lincoln's legislation came on the statute books.

In 1872 Whittier wrote a poem called *The Brewing of Soma*. This is a ritual Indian Vedic drink, a drug which gives hallucinations. Whittier's poem describes the whole population getting drunk. He ends his poem by stating the true method of contact with the divine is not by this method but that as practised by Quakers. The verses we sing are five of the last six of a poem of 23 or so verses.

Whittier's hymns were ignored by the hymn book compilers of the Victorian age and were sniffed at contemptuously because he was a Quaker. As this worthy sect refrains from the use of music it would be interesting to know how he would feel today about the singing and popularity of his hymn.



Sir Charles Hubert
Hastings Parry, 1st Baronet
(1848 – 1918)

The tune we sing is by the great Hubert Parry, composer of 'I was Glad' and of course, 'Jerusalem'. This great teacher of Vaughan Williams and Holst (to name but two) wrote a huge amount of music but is only remembered for a handful of works. Perhaps he found writing too easy. As an athlete, yachtsman and football player he broke just about every bone in his body but managed to survive to be revered by his pupils. The music for *Dear Lord and Father* comes from a contralto aria in an oratorio called

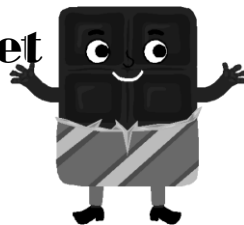
Judith and the idea of adapting was by Dr. George Gilbert Stocks, music master at Repton public school, whose name the tune now bears. This was in 1924 six years after Parry's death. Despite the need to repeat the last line of each verse the tune and its mood is a perfect fit. In 2005 a BBC poll revealed this as the nation's second most favourite hymn.

A last word about Whittier. Such is his esteem in his own country that a new town in California, near Los Angeles, which began as a Quaker settlement was named after this gentle, honest, sincere yet determined writer and reformer.

Philip Spratley.

Cooking With Margaret

Butterscotch Chocolate Bars



Ingredients

- 140g butter, plus extra for greasing
- 2 eggs
- 350g light Muscovado sugar
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 250g self-raising flour
- 100g bar milk chocolate, cut into big chunks
- 100g macadamia or pecan nuts, coarsely chopped
- icing sugar for dusting

Method

1. Heat oven to 180°C / fan 160°C / gas 4.
2. Butter a 20 x 24 cm shallow tin.
3. In a bowl beat the eggs.
4. Melt the butter, cool for 5 mins, then add to the eggs with the sugar and vanilla.
5. Tip in the flour and stir in the chocolate with three-quarters of the nuts.
6. Spread mixture in the tin, scatter over the rest of the nuts.
7. Bake for 25 – 30 mins.
8. Cut into 12 bars.
9. Dust with icing sugar before serving.

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 July edition of Priory News is Friday 19th June.



Bishop's Letter

Do not pass Go...

Do you like to be a top hat, a flat iron or an old boot?

It is nearly 100 years since Lizzie Magie of Chicago invented Monopoly. Originally called "Landlord", it was the first continuous path game. Up until then board games started in one space, ended in another, with spaces in between e.g. Snakes and Ladders. But Lizzie's game was a continuous path of spaces to be traversed time and again - you go round and round the board, doing transactions on the way, until only one player is left in the game. Since then, most new board games have followed this model.

We can learn two lessons from Lizzie's invention.

First of all, Monopoly simply used the streets and stations of London to enable people to go round and round, ending up making money, but not much progress. Many would see this as a parable of life in the City of London over the past few years. Yet we would want to see the streets of London or Lincoln or Long Sutton as a means of progressing on a journey of living and learning and discovery. There is more to life than going round the track, and then going round the track again even if you are making shed-loads of money on the way. That "something more" is what the Bible sums up in the two great Commandments as love for God and love for one another.

This brings us to the second important lesson we can learn from Monopoly.

Before Lizzie Magie invented her game, board games were designed so that you eventually got from start to finish, and even if you were not the first to finish you could finish all the same. However, Monopoly meant you went round and round the streets of London and the winner is the only one left when everyone else has been eliminated through becoming bankrupt. In other words, winner takes all and the others end up empty-handed. Again, this could be a parable of modern times where Big Brother, Strictly Come Dancing and Britain's Got Talent encourage us to think in terms of processes of elimination until only one is left standing.

But God wills that no-one should be eliminated from the race of life, and that is why the woman goes in search of the lost coin, the father in search of the lost son and the good shepherd in search of the lost sheep. It is not only the winners who matter.

As a parable of how life should be lived in all its fullness (John 10 verse 10), Monopoly gets it wrong on two counts. Life is not circular, it is a journey ever onwards following the way of Christ until we enter God's eternal Kingdom. And no one is eliminated from this journey. There is no winner who takes all. All are equally loved and valued by God, and even if we don't come first in the race of life, at least we are given a chance to finish it.

So let us go on enjoying Lizzie Magie's invention, but as we do so let us remember that life is not a game of Monopoly but a journey of discovery, and whether you choose to be a flat iron, a top hat or an old boot, may you find the risen Christ, Jesus the Good Shepherd, leading you on to the place He has prepared for you at journey's end.

+ John Lincoln