

# ST PETER AT GOWTS CHURCH

10TH SEPTEMBER 2017

13TH AFTER TRINITY

9.30AM SUNG EUCHARIST

## Readings

First reading; Ezekiel 33 v 7-11

Second Reading; Romans 13 v 8-end,  
Gospel; Matthew 18 v 15-20

## Collect

Almighty God, who called you Church  
to bear witness  
that you were in Christ reconciling  
the world to yourself:  
help us to proclaim the good news of  
your love,  
that all who hear it may be drawn to  
you;  
through him who was lifted up on  
the cross,  
and reigns with you in the unity of  
the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

## Priest in charge:

Revd Jeremy Cullimore.

The Vicarage,  
Sibthorp St, Lincoln.  
tel 01522 542908

email; jscullimore@btinternet.com.

**Lay ministry** Mrs Mary Rose

## Church Wardens

Mrs Mary Rose, Mrs Margaret Simpson

**Hall caretaker** David Hansell

**Hall bookings & baptisms**

01522 528215

## Please pray for;

**the sick;** Dan Bishop, Fred Bowskill, Ian Fixter, Elizabeth Graham, Pam Goodman, Joy Gray, Joan Hill, Peggy Jefferson, , Lynn Oldham, Claire O'Neil, Stuart Rose, Michael Vaughan , Tim Wheeldon.

**Death** Mary Arden

## Years Mind;

10 Louis Thompson  
Eve Thompson  
11 Lillian Ross  
14 Steven Vickers  
15 Horace Howsam  
Edgar Sendall

- The PCC meeting (12th)
- Remembering that Christ died for us (Holy Cross Day 14th)
- Those continuing to suffer from major national disasters around the world.
- Stability in the far east, and a peaceful outcome of the Korean crisis
- Those who contemplating suicide (Suicide prevention day 10th)

**Upcoming events ;**

12th	Tuesday	10am	Women's social group	church hall
		7.30pm	PCC meeting	church hall
13th	Wednesday	10am	Keep fit	church hall
14th	Thursday	9.30am	Holy Communion	church
		1pm	Mary Arden's Funeral	church
10th	Sunday	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	church

Dear Friends,

One of the privileges of being involved in public ministry is that I am occasionally invited to help celebrate anniversaries. These can often be of significant events, such as weddings or ordinations. I can remember many a good party for a golden wedding anniversary or the fortieth anniversary of an ordination!

If something has been good, it can be so important to celebrate the anniversary – to say 'thank you' to all involved and 'thank you' to God for having been part of the occasion itself and the years since.

Just this summer, I had the joy of taking part in the twentieth anniversary celebrations for the admission of girls and women to the choir at St Wulfram's Church in Grantham. It was a great occasion!

As 2017 turns towards 2018 I expect that there will be much thought given as to how we might remember the anniversary of the ending of the First World War. We have remembered the outbreak of war, the Battle of the Somme, the Battle of Jutland, the Battle of Passchendaele. What will be foremost in our thoughts and prayers as we remember the centenary of the armistice?

I mention this now, before 2018 begins, because I have been struck in recent months by the number of events that I have seen that have helpfully provoked reflection about the importance of even quite distant happenings, such as the Battle of Lincoln and the Charter of the Forest, and because we still have time to prepare for November 2018.

There is a difference between the kind of anniversary event that leads us into reflection, and thus towards the future, and the kind of anniversary event that, surely unwittingly, locks us in to nostalgia, and holds us in the past.

The joy of the Christian, both as an individual and as part of a church community, is to shape our lives on, and with, Jesus, so that we proclaim the kingdom that is to come. We do not look back to a past that seems somehow better than the present and the future. We look forward to the future that is coming to be and towards which we have so much to contribute as Christians: 'because with God, all things are possible' (*Matthew 19.26*).

As autumn begins and 2017 turns to 2018, as negotiations continue about Britain's future place in the world and in Europe, and as we prepare to remember the end of the First World War, may we look forward confidently, humbly, generously and with faith in God.

With every blessing,

Bishop Nicholas