

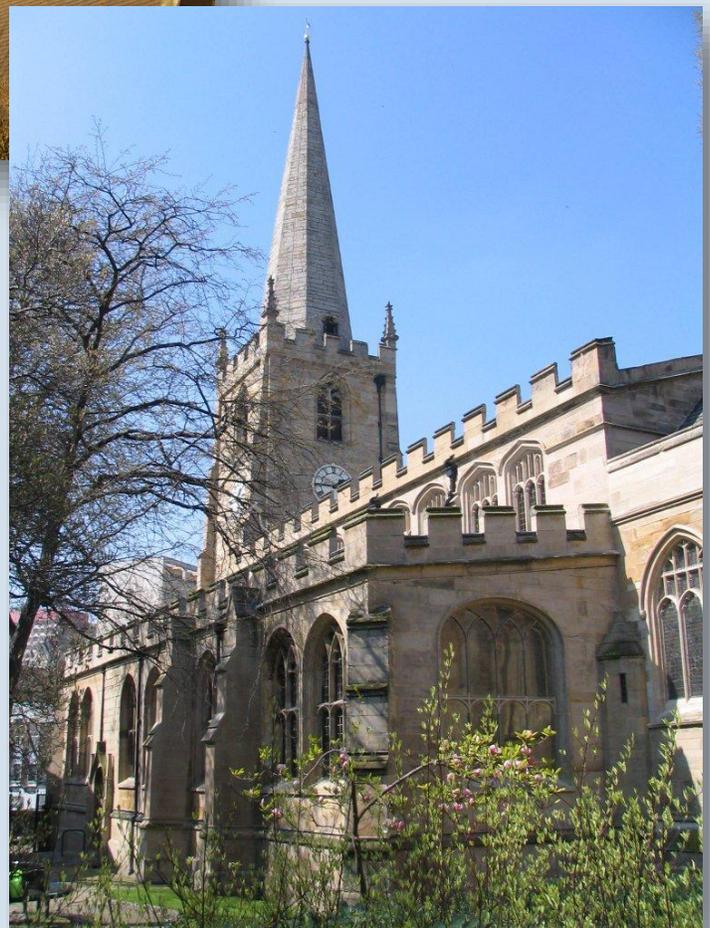


# ST PETER & ALL SAINTS NOTTINGHAM



**March 2018**

## **Parish Magazine**



*This magazine is provided free of charge but donations are invited to help cover costs; please use the donations boxes in the churches*

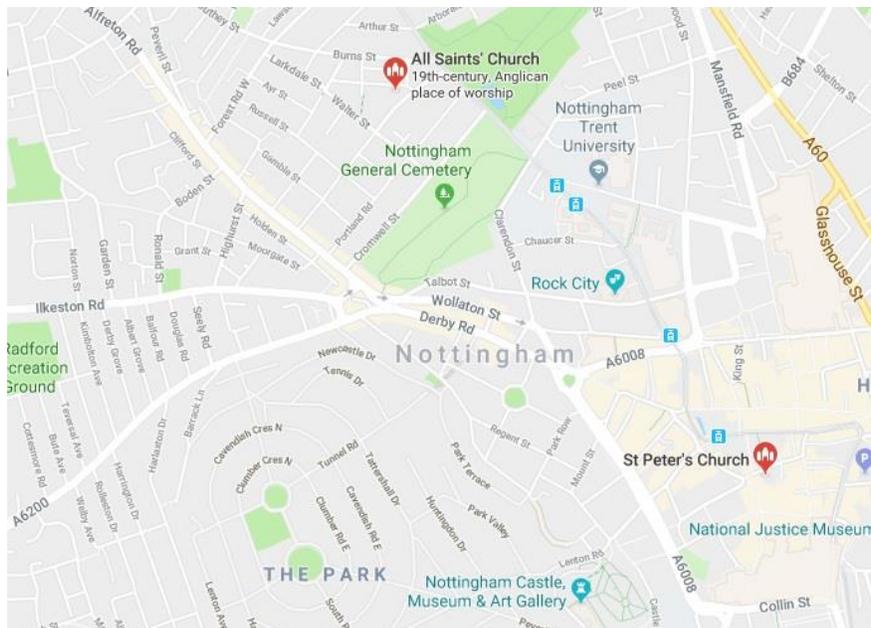
# THE PARISH OF ST PETER AND ALL SAINTS, NOTTINGHAM



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## CHURCHES

St Peter’s Church, St Peter’s Square, Nottingham NG1 2NW  
 All Saints’ Church, Raleigh Street, Nottingham NG7 4DP



Jesus said, 'When you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing' (Matthew 6.3). I heard only recently that, some time ago, a member of St Peter's church had bought a small number of Bibles and donated them for use by people who might come to the church. This quiet and discreet act of generosity was a wonderful example of faith in action; a gift made not so that others might see it and applaud, but a contribution made for the building up of the Church and to strengthen those who might come in search of God's guidance.



I could of course also highlight any of the myriad ways in which members of All Saints' and St Peter's make valuable contributions to the life of our churches, day by day, week by week, month by month, quite often behind the scenes and noticed by only a few people. The Coffee Room would be a pale shadow of the thriving community cafe which it is, if it were not for the many hours of voluntary work devoted to it by church members and others, alongside the invaluable work of the paid staff. All Saints' church building and churchyard have been undergoing a quiet but very significant transformation, thanks to the efforts of a small but committed group of its members who have taken on the challenge of carrying out a programme of cleaning, tidying, making repairs and carrying out other minor improvements.

Alongside such activities there is also a wonderful network of people in both churches who look out for and care for those in need and difficulty, giving support at times of illness and other forms of distress suffered by church members, and remembering those in special need in their prayers. Some of the most vulnerable people in our midst, such as asylum seekers and the homeless, have also benefited from the sacrificial generosity of those who have felt called to respond to their need.

During this season of Lent, God calls us all to reflect upon our spiritual life, and on the extent to which it is, or isn't, modelled on the life of Jesus Christ. This doesn't necessarily mean going in for grand gestures of goodwill and lavish expressions of kindness; the two modest coins given to the Temple by the poor widow meant much more to Jesus than the contributions made by the rich from the abundance of their wealth (Luke 21. 1-4). If we take seriously the image of the Church as the Body of Christ, whose members all depend on one another, we will begin to make it more and more a priority to look for ways of building up the Body, rather than merely pursuing our own individual paths. Carrying out small acts of kindness; being attentive and responsive to the sorrows and joys being experienced by others; giving of our time to those people who might value this; putting disagreements and irritations aside in the interest of the greater good; remembering that the point of view of others is just as valid as our own: these are just a few examples of how, through our words and deeds, we can create a church community where God's love is visible and the dignity of all people is respected.

May you all be blessed by God through this Lenten period, as we journey with one another and with Christ, and as we look forward to the joy and hope of Easter.

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### **Are you interested in learning more about theology?**

You are invited to the first meeting of a new theology discussion group, which will take place on Tuesday 20th March from 1.30 - 3.00 pm at the St Peter's Centre. It is anticipated that those who attend the group will study an introductory theology book together, and meet every few weeks for discussion. The group will be led by Rev. Christopher Harrison.

## NEWS FROM ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

The Occasion for Remembering Homeless People who have died came from an idea by one person in St Peter's taken up by the Care for our Common Home group formed of people from both churches.

This is the first time I have seen an idea, a thought become an actual living event. This, done through brief meetings, emails and phone calls and I believe, Twitter and Facebook. It all seemed so tenuous. Bishop Tony agreed to come, then it was on local radio and talk of TV. The one person available to help became unavoidably, unavailable. More frantic phone calls and emails and a few promises. It seemed inevitable that in the morning Christopher didn't appear as he was too ill. I visioned me and Bishop Tony echoing around All Saints'. Norman said to pray about it. No Norman, I've got to do something!!!

But it all happened. People appeared to prepare the promised refreshments. Faces appeared before me. I pointed and flapped around and they made sense of it. Amelia and Fiona smiled and nodded and worked. Help came too from Emmanuel House as they greeted and handed out the order of service. Again, the spirit arrived with the people.

I cannot cover the actual service - I don't have the words. I hope though that it might have spawned an idea, a thought in maybe one person.

*Lorraine Smedley*

## NEWS FROM ST PETER'S CHURCH

**Stewarding at St Peter's:** Stewards (or Sidesmen to use the historic title) provide a much valued ministry at the 10.45am (and occasional evening) services. There are three choices of commitment stewards can make, namely (i) every Sunday throughout a complete calendar month, once or twice a year; (ii) on specified Sundays at a pattern of their choice in liaison with the coordinator and (iii) if unable to commit on a regular basis, a willingness to step in when a vacancy arises on the day. Stewards arrive in time to welcome regular and visiting worshippers; hand out books and service sheets and take the collection during the service. After the service, they either count and record the collection or replace hymn books in the appropriate cupboard and generally help as people leave, particularly inviting visitors over to the Coffee Room!

Regular members of the St Peter's congregation wishing to know more about stewarding can contact Keith Charter after a service or speak to one of the Churchwardens.

*Keith Charter*

### **Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)**

This is advance notice of the APCM which is to be held in St Peter's Church on Wednesday 25 April 2018 - more details in next month's edition.

## LAUNCH OF NEW PARISH WEBSITE

We are delighted that a new parish website has now been launched; do visit [www.nottinghamchurches.org](http://www.nottinghamchurches.org) and explore the various pages it contains. We extend our grateful thanks to Richard Ward, Peter Siepmann, Adele Siepmann and Mike Leuty for all their work in setting up, maintaining and supporting the previous parish website; they have also been key contributors to the process of setting up the new site, which was designed by the website design team of Damien and Ashley Appadoo.

Visit [nottinghamchurches.org](http://nottinghamchurches.org) regularly for news and other updates relating to St Peter's and All Saints' Churches.

*Christopher Harrison*

## MOTHERS' UNION

### **5th March**

Mothers' Union Archdeaconry Meeting at St Jude's, Mapperley, 10.00 for 10.30am. The speaker is Sarah Parks, who will talk about her visit with her son to Rwanda. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

### **17th March**

Mothers' Union Monthly Meeting - Our Rector, Christopher Harrison will be giving reflections in preparation for Holy Week and Easter. Everyone is welcome at this or any of our meetings, we meet at 10am at All Saints Church for tea/coffee and the talk begins at 10.30am. We finish by 12noon.

### **9th April**

Mothers' Union Diocesan Lady Day Service at Southwell Minster, 2.00pm followed by refreshments.

## Lent

**'Where were you when I needed you most?'**  
**Seeing, reflecting, acting:**  
**our response to acute need in the community**

A series of talks for Lent at St Peter's Church, Nottingham  
Wednesdays at 1.00 pm (tea/ coffee & sandwiches from 12.30)

*We usually see only what we want to see or expect to see, and tend to reach the same conclusions we have always reached. These talks will explore new ways of seeing and reflecting so that our actions correspond to the vision of a world based on love, mercy and justice to which Christ calls us.*

7<sup>th</sup> March: Maggie Jones (Refugee Forum)  
14<sup>th</sup> March: Ruth Shelton (Theologian & Poet)  
21<sup>st</sup> March: Alistair Paylor (Emmanuel House)

During Lent copies of selected chapters from the book *Radical Jesus* by Dr John Vincent of the Urban Theology Unit, Sheffield, will be available in the churches, for personal study and reflection. There will be a series of four evening discussion meetings about the Lent talks and the texts from *Radical Jesus* at The Rectory, 24 Pelham Crescent, Nottingham NG7 1AW; these will take place on Thursdays 22<sup>nd</sup> February and 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March from 6.30 - 8.00 pm.

## PARISH LOGO

The PCC has agreed to bring back the previous St Peter's logo for use by the whole parish. This was commissioned by Rev Malcolm Goldsmith in 1980 from the artist Michael Gregory of West Hallam. Malcolm explains the design as follows:

Central to it is a cross, but the cross is implicit rather than explicit - symbolising an approach to mission which does not thrust the cross at people but allows them to see it for themselves. There are many ways into the heart of the logo, suggesting that there are many ways into the heart of the church. Some people may wish to move in and reach "the centre of things", whilst others are quite prepared to move in, but stay more on the edges. All the routes in and out are open - anyone can come in and anyone can leave - there is a freedom which allows people to take control of their own spiritual journeys, which does not require them to pass over any boundary mark, and which allows them the freedom to move away.



## POEMS

### 'Economics'

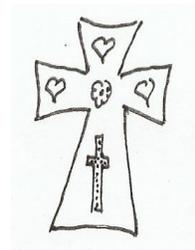
Dull green or brown spent Leaves;  
fives or tenners, dispersing  
from their branches into wintry air  
or banking up along the gutters.  
No change given.

Spent and stark against grey skies,  
the trees look bankrupt.  
Hard times ahead. Nothing left  
for future claimants, scams  
or even real necessities.

There's no alternative. Only  
to wait while weathering the  
storms.  
Do trees, remembering spring, rest  
assured that fresh green leaves will  
come,  
along with rising sap, blossom  
fruit and flourishing again?

*Ann Parker*

If you walk with uncertainty  
As if on ice,  
Your way will be long  
And full of anxiety.  
If you stride with confidence  
Knowing your Faith is Solid and  
True,  
There is nothing that you cannot  
do!



*David - All Saints', February 2018*

## CALENDAR FOR MARCH

<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	2.00pm	Saturday Matinee	All Saints'
<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	8.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45am	Matins* Responses <i>Radcliffe</i> The Lamentations <i>Bairstow</i> Civitas sancti tui <i>Byrd</i>	St Peter's
	5.00pm	Holy Communion with prayers for healing	St Peter's
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	1.15pm	Meditation	St Peter's
<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	1.15pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
<b>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	2.00pm	Saturday Matinee	All Saints'
<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup></b> Mothering Sunday	8.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	9.45am	Family Service	St Peter's
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45am	Sung Eucharist	St Peter's
	5.00pm	Evensong* Responses <i>Tomkins</i> Third Service <i>Moore</i> Lo, the full final sacrifice <i>Finzi</i>	St Peter's
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	1.15pm	Meditation	St Peter's
<b>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	1.15pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
	12.00pm	Holy Communion	All Saints'
<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30am	Mothers' Union Meeting	All Saints'
	2.00pm	Saturday Matinee	All Saints'
<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	8.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45am	Sung Eucharist* Sancte Deus <i>Tallis</i> Agnus Dei <i>Merbecke</i> Salvator mundi <i>Tallis</i>	St Peter's
	5.00pm	Taizé Service	St Peter's
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	1.15pm	Meditation	St Peter's

<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	1.15pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
<b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	2.00pm	Saturday Matinee	All Saints'
<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup></b> Palm Sunday	8.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45am	Sung Eucharist* <i>Pueri hebraeorum Victoria</i> <i>Christus factus est Anerio</i> <i>Agnus Dei 'O quam gloriosum' Victoria</i> <i>O vos omnes Victoria</i>	St Peter's
	5.00pm	Tenebrae* St Mark Passion (extracts) <i>Wood</i>	St Peter's
<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	1.15pm	Meditation	St Peter's
	6.00pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	1.15pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	6.00pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup></b> Maundy Thursday	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	12.00pm	Said Communion	All Saints'
	7.30pm	Sung Eucharist for Maundy Thursday* <i>Missa Brevis Palestrina</i> <i>O sacrum convivium Tallis</i> <i>The Reproaches Sanders</i>	St Peter's
<b>Friday 30<sup>th</sup></b> Good Friday	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints'
	12.00pm	The Three Hours	St Peter's
	2.00pm	Good Friday Service	All Saints'
<b>Saturday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	2.00pm	Saturday Matinee	All Saints'
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April</b> Easter Day	5.30am	Easter Vigil & Dawn Eucharist	St Peter's
	8.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45am	Sung Eucharist* <i>This joyful Eastertide Owens</i> <i>Agnus Dei II (Missa Brevis) Palestrina</i> <i>Sing joyfully Byrd</i>	St Peter's

Avid followers of the Music List will have noticed that the Sundays in Lent are 'bookended' by motets by Thomas Tallis: *In ieiunio et fletu* on the First Sunday of Lent and *Salvator mundi* on the Fifth Sunday of Lent. Another Tallis motet, *O sacrum convivium* will be sung at the Maundy Thursday Eucharist. All three of these wonderful pieces (members of the choir will testify to my enthusiasm for this particular composer's work!) come from the collection that Tallis published jointly with his young colleague, William Byrd. The pair were granted a monopoly over the publishing of music in England by Queen Elizabeth I and this collection, published in 1575, was their first project. The volume bears the somewhat cumbersome title *Cantiones, quae ab argumento sacrae vocantur* (essentially "Songs which are called sacred on account of their texts"). It was designed to showcase the best of English choral writing, and was dedicated to the monarch in celebration of the seventeenth anniversary of her accession to the throne. Byrd and Tallis accordingly each contributed seventeen motets to the collection.



Thomas Tallis  
1505-1585

Tallis was seventy years old in 1575 (whilst Byrd was in his thirties), having survived what were tumultuous times for Roman Catholics, as both men were. Tallis had the ability to create masterpieces in whatever style was the currency of the day, from the strictly chordal Protestant style of Edward VI's reign to the contrapuntal, Catholic style under Queen Mary. In his contributions to *Cantiones Sacrae*, we see a culmination of his life's work in a combination of both styles; we see a man who, now nearing the end of his life, was, I suggest, less concerned with the threat that surrounded those of his faith (and indeed, Queen Elizabeth seemed to be very much of the view that if Catholics were loyal to her and discreet in their worship, she would tolerate them, particularly if they were as talented as Byrd and Tallis!) and more concerned with his legacy as a composer: in *Cantiones Sacrae*, therefore, I believe we see the music that reflects Tallis's truest self.

*In ieiunio et fletu* (which was sung by the choir at the Sung Eucharist on the First Sunday of Lent, and one of my favourite anthems of our repertoire), was probably one of the last pieces Tallis wrote, and has often been compared to his other late motet, *Derelinquit impius* and indeed to his famous setting of the Lamentations of Jeremiah. The text is taken from Joel 2.17 (is the verse number merely a coincidence?!):

"In fasting and weeping the priests prayed: Spare, O Lord, spare thy people, and give not thine inheritance to perdition. Between the porch and the altar the priests wept, saying: Spare thy people."

Joel was a post-exilic prophet who writes about living under the heathen. For a Catholic living under Protestant rule, the sentiment behind this verse could surely be construed as aggressively Catholic! The music Tallis writes to set this text is quite exceptional in a number of regards illustrating, perhaps, his own sympathy with these anguished prayers on behalf of an oppressed priesthood.

The motet is written at an extremely low pitch (when performed at St Peter's, we transpose it up a full major sixth), and presumably therefore intended to be sung by men only, the lack of boys' voices giving it a similarly sombre (priestly?) timbre to the Lamentations. From the outset, this extraordinary motet largely avoids the contrapuntal, imitative textures common to much of Tallis's other Latin music (such as *Salvator mundi* and *O sacrum convivium*); instead he adopts a markedly more chordal, homophonic style (interestingly owing more to Tallis's Protestant style, adhering to Archbishop Cranmer's preference for syllabic word setting). Only towards the end of the motet, in the numerous repetitions of "*parce populo tuo*", does a more contrapuntal texture appear. But arguably the most remarkable aspect of this piece, and what struck me so strongly when I first encountered it (and every time I return to it on the First Sunday of Lent each year) is Tallis's approach to harmony – the piece contains a number of extremely exotic chord progressions and represents Tallis at his most harmonically inventive, even experimental – a composer in his twilight years, throwing caution to the wind!

## Overseas Committee

Lina Morgan

In the last edition of this magazine, Dorothy shared with you an overview of the work of the Overseas Committee. One of the many projects our parish supports is Mercy Ships. This is an international charity that operates the largest non-governmental hospital ship in the world providing humanitarian aid such as free health care to some of the world's poorest people.



Mercy Ships was founded in 1978 by Don and Deyon Stephens. They purchased a retired ocean liner and gradually transformed it into a hospital ship with state of the art facilities. There are five operating theatres and 82 beds in the latest ship where life saving and life changing treatments are carried out. The ship is staffed by committed and dedicated volunteers from all over the world, who raise their own finances to pay for all the costs associated with their service, including monthly crew fees. Not only do they give their time and expertise, they pay for the opportunity to do so.

The ship has visited over 580 ports in West and South Africa, Central America, Asia and Pacific performing countless medical miracles that transform the lives of people living in areas where the majority of the population has little or no access to basic health care. They train local health professionals, participate in community development projects and agricultural projects.

Funding is largely by fundraising and the support of individuals, churches, schools and various organisations such as Rotary Clubs. Our parish has been raising funds to support this charity for the past few years by hosting Easter Breakfast. The next one will be held on Easter Monday, 2nd April 2018 at 48 Marshall Drive, Bramcote, Nottingham NG9 3LD starting at 10am. Look out for the signing - in sheet at the back of the church or speak to any of the committee members (to help with catering). A hearty breakfast and good company guaranteed. Please come along whether or not you get to sign the sheet, and help support a worthy cause.

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## Getting Involved

There are many ways in which you can serve God by contributing to the life of St Peter's and All Saints' Churches, including:

- Volunteering in the Coffee Room at St Peter's
- Helping to maintain the Peace Garden at All Saints' Church
- Being a steward for church services
- Reading or leading the intercessions at church services
- Helping in the Fairtrade and Christian Book Shop at St Peter's
- Joining the 'Caring for our Common Home' working group, which is developing the churches' work on community and environmental issues
- Singing in the St Peter's Choir (by audition)
- Joining the Drama Club or the singing/instrumental group at All Saints' Church
- Helping the vergers with their work of keeping the churches in good order

If you have other skills or experiences you might be able to offer, do let us know. The churches have links with partner charities which can offer additional opportunities for volunteering, such as Emmanuel House in its work with rough sleepers and other vulnerable people.

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

### The Lindchester Chronicles

by Catherine Fox

From the opening lines of chapter 1 of 'Unseen Things Above' the all-seeing narrator is not afraid to tell us where she is taking us on our journey through the diocese of Lindchester. We recognise immediately the Church of England and Middle England. Fox is in turn witty, irreverent, compassionate and profound about the state of The Church of England; she will either take you with her and you will take Lindchester to your hearts or she won't and you won't!

Any of the three novels can be read as standalone, but it is recommended that you start with "Unseen Things Above" before moving on to 'Acts and Omissions' and the finale volume "Realms of Glory". What self-respecting Anglican can resist such titles?

Lindchester is not Barchester. Although there are ways in which the sense of place Fox creates reflects Trollope, Anthony, Angela Thirkell and, dare one say it, sometimes Trollope, Joanne. Fox's description of the diocese from its Close to its rural and urban parishes and beyond is clearly based on a reality she has experienced in her role as priest not to say a Bishop's wife....

Usefully there is always a *dramatis personae* at the beginning of each book, an essential aide memoire in remembering some of the lesser characters among the well-stocked inhabitants of Fox's world. However, rest assured, you will never need to check out who is Freddy May, the errant Cathedral lay clerk, nor The Deanissima (the name given to that poised and professional person by her somewhat risqué husband). Anyone with a heart will warm to Father Wendy as she walks her dog, praying for her people and grieving for her lost child.

To be fair there is a whiff of marmite about these novels. People seem to love them or loathe them. Catherine Fox does not pack her punches as she explores all the besetting sins of all sorts and conditions of men and women and the state of play in her beloved Church of England. Is there a current synodical issue? Then expect to find Fox taking it on and weaving it into the fabric of her narrative and the presentation of her well-rounded characters.

The final volume 'Realms of Glory' was written as a blog over that significant year: 2016. All human life is there giving this last book an immediacy and edge. It made me laugh out loud but also, in parts, moved me deeply. Like the other volumes in the trilogy this is not a book one for the fainthearted; Fox's world is visceral and real, but also joyful and full of hope.

Acts and Omissions: Lindchester Chronicles 1

Unseen Things Above: Lindchester Chronicles 2

Realms of Glory: Lindchester Chronicles 3

All price £9.99 available by order from The St Peter's Fairtrade & Christian Book Shop

By 'Bramcote Book Worm'

Magazine contributions are welcomed by **20<sup>th</sup> of the month** to Adele Siepmann:  
office@nottinghamchurches.org

If you don't have access to email, hand written pieces will be accepted!

*Please note that it may not be possible to include all submissions*

## Poem – Agnus Dei

The lamb is symbolic of innocence, purity, and freedom from the slavery of sin (new life). Israel was delivered from God's judgement through the sacrifice of the Passover lamb. John the Baptist, no doubt had this in mind when he called Jesus the Lamb of God.

"The next day John saw Jesus coming towards him and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" *John 1.29*

The husbandry of all God's gifts  
And nature of all being one,  
The chain of death that leads to life,  
And sacrifice of God's own Son.

I looked for answer to the fields  
Where cattle graze and lambs do play,  
And thought upon their future plight,  
For human need, the price they pay.

The shrew caught by a coursing owl  
With hungry chicks to feed:  
Would that it knew his death gave life  
To succour others in their need.

My earthly frame Christ's body be,  
To house the wondrous mystery  
Of bread become his sacred flesh,  
That he might be reborn in me.

*Rev. John Davey*

## Saturday Matinee

A short season of "vintage" films dating from 1928-1964. Saturday afternoons (2pm) at All Saints'. All are welcome, bring your friends!

**3<sup>rd</sup> March** – Black Narcissus

Anglican nuns establish a small community in the Himalayan foothills, but the atmosphere and associations of the place threaten their vocation.

**10<sup>th</sup> March** – The Passion of Joan of Arc

A silent classic directed by Danish master director Carl Theodor Dreyer, based on the real documents of Joan's trial.

**17<sup>th</sup> March** – Here comes Mr Jordan

Joe Pendleton (Robert Montgomery) is killed in an air crash "fifty years too early" and the angelic Mr Jordan (Claude Rains) sorts things out in this light comedy. Are human beings essentially 'souls', bodies, both or neither?

**24<sup>th</sup> March** – Night of the Hunter

Good battles Evil as 'Preacher' Harry Powell (Robert Mitchum) and devout older woman (Lillian Gish) struggle over the lives and perhaps souls of two children.

**31<sup>st</sup> March** – The Gospel according to Matthew

Perhaps the finest life of Jesus film ever made. Watch this to begin your Easter observance.

## Prayers for March

*Rev. James Saxton*

'Teach us to care and not to care  
Teach us to sit still'

*T. S. Eliot (1888-1965)*

During this continuing Lenten season, we pray for those things we have failed to do, offer up the words said in haste, and out of anger: 'O Lord forgive, what I have been, sanctify what I am, and order what I shall be'.

Creator and loving God help us to be mindful of a world often in chaos, often violent, often uncaring:

We pray for victims of gun crime, especially in the USA; we continue to pray for those places in the world where there is war – for the countries of the Middle East, especially Syria; we pray for the peoples of the Congo, and for the forgotten places.

If in these past days we have not hallowed you, if we have cursed heaven and asked why, and expressed horror and confusion in equal measure, do not hold it against us. Take it as the worship of our sorrow, for you meant us to care and not be neutral.

What shall we pray for what we cannot understand? Words are too thin to cradle complexity, so if we are silent, it is not to show indifference, but to show solidarity with those who are homeless, helpless, speechless.

There is always hope - we hang on to the Easter promise: 'O Lord our God, our Father. You are the light that can never be put out; and now you give us a light that shall drive away all darkness. You are love without coldness, and you have given us such warmth in our hearts that we can love all when we meet. You are the life that defies death, and you have opened for us the way that leads to life eternal.'

# Regular Activities in our Churches

*For regular services, see the calendar pages in this magazine*

## All Saints'

- Community Coffee Morning (part of the Places of Welcome network):  
Tuesdays from 10.30 am – 12.30 pm
- Women of Faith activities and lunch, first Thursday of every month from 11.00 am – 1.30 pm
- Mothers' Union: Third Saturday of every month, 10.00 am – 12.00 pm
- The All Saints' Drama Club meets from time to time to prepare and present short dramatic items
- Series of 'Saturday Matinee' film showings take place at 2.00 pm from time to time
- The Nottingham University Society of Change Ringers (Bell Ringers):  
Tuesdays in term time, 7.00 – 8.30 pm
- The Nottingham Enlightening Word Church (Chinese) meets in All Saints' Church on Sundays from 2.00 - 4.00 pm and on Friday evenings from 7.30 pm.

## St Peter's:

- Rough Sleepers' Drop-in: Wednesdays from 11.00 am – 12.30 pm
- Gateway Drop-in for anyone with particular mental health needs:  
Wednesdays from 1.30 – 3.30 pm
- The Thursday communion service at 11.00 is followed by coffee and fellowship
- Bible Study group: Thursdays from 12.15 – 1.00 pm
- St Peter's Bell Ringers: Thursdays 7.00 – 9.00 pm

The Parish Overseas Committee meets every other month; the Caring for our Common Home working group also meets on a regular basis. Please contact the Rector if you would like to know more about these. Our churches also support the work of the Mount Zion foodbank at Bobbers Mill; collection boxes for gifts of food are available in the churches.

## PARISH OFFICE

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