

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of the British Isles and Ireland

The Orthodox Christian Parish of All Saints of Lincolnshire

meeting at
St Matthias Church Centre
Burton Road, Lincoln, LN1 3TX
Archbishop: Metropolitan SILOUAN.

Come and See!

No 148

January 2018

From Metropolitan SILOUAN:



Beloved Fathers and Faithful of this
God-Protected Archdiocese,

Two thousand years ago a star from the east appeared to the Magi to show them the Child in the cave. The Magi followed it and offered their gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh to our incarnate God. If Christ came these days, what would we give Him? Do we have a gift to offer Him? We all know that God does not need anything. All He wants us to offer Him is a loving heart. St. John Chrysostom

further adds that we can offer Him no gifts better than our "knowledge, wisdom and love".

Knowledge is necessary for our lives. It is natural for us to study, specialise in a field and for some, obtain a degree. This knowledge makes humanity and the world better. However, we do not obtain knowledge of God in the universities of this world, but through prayer, Holy Communion and love. And the fruit of this knowledge is not the sciences and technology, but the salvation of humanity.



God seeks our salvation, not just the improvement of the condition of the



Behold, this year, you are the Magi and you offer to the Lord who was born in a cave these three gifts: the knowledge of God, the wisdom of the Scriptures and the love for all Mankind. These gifts are given to you by God through the spiritual life of the Church, and now you give God these very same gifts in return.

human race. Wisdom is certainly useful for our development and success in this world, but Divine Wisdom is of a different kind and is essential for our salvation. Such Wisdom comes only from the Word of God through the Scriptures.

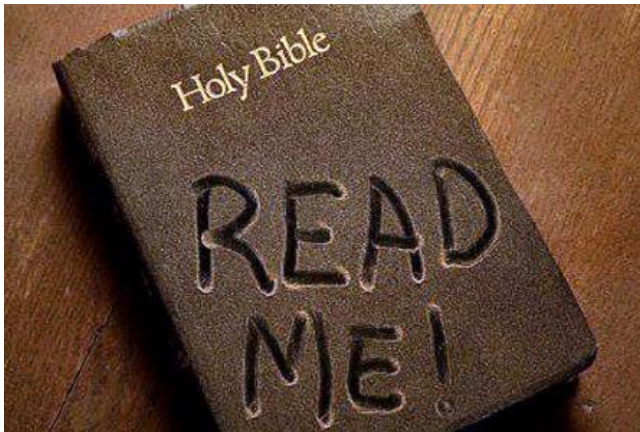
Lastly, Love is the greatest gift in the life of human beings. God so loved us that He offered His only begotten Son, who died for our sake on the Cross. Such self-sacrifice and Love without limits towards God and all mankind is the only way to heaven.



Pray for the world that does not know God. Pray for others who do not know that the true wisdom exists only in the Bible, because only God is all-knowing. Pray for people who do not know that the purpose of this life is the Kingdom of Heaven, which we can obtain only by love. Pray for everyone on this earth that they may learn that Peace comes only from knowing God, His wisdom and His love.



Today is the Nativity of our Lord, a day to be born in our hearts, our lives and our country. Today the angels cry: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men!" (Luke 14: 2). May we join the angels in this hymn for the whole universe. Today the God of Love and Peace is coming. Let us spread love and peace in the world. Today, Christ is born in a cave in Bethlehem. May He be born in our hearts, our homes and our lands.



Peace, no Love, and no real Joy without God.

I wish to the whole world and especially to the Middle East an end to all this constant warfare. May true Peace reign in all the world.

I wish to you and yours good health and well-being in God.

The whole world celebrates the Nativity in its own way; let us celebrate the Feast as Christians in the way of the Church. Let this Nativity seal our hearts with Knowledge, Wisdom and Love. Let the knowledge of God, the wisdom of the Bible in the Church, and our love for God and the world reign in our hearts! Then Christ will be born today not in a cave but in our hearts!

May the Lord console everyone who has lost their dear ones and touch their hearts.

May the Good Lord offer us a new year filled with knowledge, wisdom and love.



Christ is Born! ... Truly He is Born!

Happy and Blessed New Year 2018!

+ Metropolitan Silouan

Metropolitan of British Isles and Ireland.

I wish Wisdom to all our world. May we all realise that there can be no





Followers!

Every Sunday, after the Post Communion Prayers, those who are 4 – 9 years old meet in the Library for having fun and to learn about Christianity.

There will be explanations, songs, activities, talking and observing.



This will last about 15 to 20 minutes: plenty of time to allow the parents to have a nice cup of coffee, a chat and a snack before heading for home!



Christmas Weekend:

A big thank you and well done to everyone who helped with the Christmas celebrations. The Temple looked wonderful with a glorious tree and magnificent flowers and amazing food (including a wonderful Yule Log (actually a wood-pile!).



Eleni and the Tree.



Natasha and the flowers.



The turkey and Fr. Philip.



Part of Najib's Yule Log.



Calendar for January.

3rd: Wednesday 6pm: Clergy Meeting.
6th: Saturday. 10am. Divine Liturgy for the Holy Theophany followed by blessing of the Brayford and lunch in the Square Sail restaurant nearby.
6th: Saturday. Great Vespers 4pm. (Confessions).

7th: SUNDAY 9.15am Matins. 10am Divine Liturgy. 31st Sunday after Pentecost. Tone 6. St. John the Baptist.

10th: Wednesday. Church open 10am until 4pm for private prayer, confessions and services.
10th: Wednesday. Parish Council 6pm.
11th: Thursday 2pm-3pm: Choir practice in the Hall.
13th: Saturday. Great Vespers 4pm. (Confessions).

14th: SUNDAY 9.15am Matins. 10am Divine Liturgy. 32nd Sunday after Pentecost. Tone 7. Leavetaking of the Theophany.

17th: Wednesday. Church closed all day.
18th: Thursday 2pm-3pm: Choir practice in the Hall.
20th: Saturday. Great Vespers 4pm. (Confessions).

21st: SUNDAY 9.15am Matins. 10am Divine Liturgy. 24th Sunday of Zacchaeus. Tone 8.

24th: Wednesday. Church open 10am until 4pm for private prayer, confessions and services.
25th: Thursday 2pm-3pm: Choir practice in the Hall.
27th: Saturday. Great Vespers 4pm. (Confessions).

28th: SUNDAY 9.15am Matins. 10am Divine Liturgy. Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee (Start of the Triodion). Tone 1.

31st: Wednesday. Church open 10am until 4pm for private prayer, confessions and services.

1st February: Thursday 2pm-3pm: Choir practice in the Hall.

1st: Thursday 6pm Divine Liturgy. The Meeting in the Temple of Our Lord.

3rd: Saturday. Great Vespers 4pm. (Confessions).

4th: SUNDAY 9.15am Matins. 10am Divine Liturgy. Sunday of the Prodigal Son. Tone 2.

As well as these services there are services in our sister parishes as follows:

All at 10.30am

14th: Louth: Archimandrite Philip.

20th: Grimsby: Fr. Paulinus.

21st: Louth Fr. Paulinus.

28th: Fr. Æthelwine.



Metropolitan SILOUAN

<http://www.antiochian-orthodox.co.uk/>

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<https://www.facebook.com/Fr.Philip> twitter.com/FrPhilip

<http://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/comeandsee>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfWMAefJYqFEZkYiK2WmeEw>

Assistant Priests: Fr. George, 01522 533854, fathergeorge@macace.net

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Newsletter Editor: Fr. Philip.

St Matthias Church Centre, Burton Road, Lincoln, LN1 3TX Parish

Website: www.allsaintslincs.org.uk

www.facebook.com/groups/AllSaintsLincoln/

www.facebook.com/COG.Lincoln

www.youtube.com/channel/UCfWMAefJYqFEZkYiK2WmeEw

Safeguarding Officers for all three Communities:

Emma Bonner and Svetlana Simpson (Assistant)

Kidnapped Bishops:

Pray, love, forgive!

Metropolitan JOHN and Metropolitan PAUL are still missing.

It is now 4 years and 8 months

since Metropolitan JOHN and Metropolitan PAUL were kidnapped.

There is still no news of either of them.

The people of Syria still suffer.

Pray and act for peace.

An Annual Spiritual Rule:

Last time I wrote about having a monthly spiritual rule so this time let us consider having an annual spiritual rule of life.

Just as we circle the sun and each year we have different seasons so it is with the life of the Church and with your life as a child of the Church and of God. Each year has a rhythm of Christian feasts, festivals and fasts and ordinary days.

We have ordinary days that come and go unnoticed. We all know about birthdays but it is worth considering, though, that every year you pass by your own deathday without knowing it! Therefore it is always worth considering your own mortality each day and making the most of each one that God grants to you. A day spent without prayer is a day entirely wasted.

Then there are special days that everyone celebrates (like Pascha) and special days that only those who love us celebrate (like name days – the day of the saint or the feast from whom or which you get your name.) It is really worth making a lot of these days.

On the Great Feasts and Pascha make sure that you get to Church and receive Holy Communion, make sure that you FEAST also. Get together with Christian Orthodox friends and celebrate fully with them. Pray, sing and eat together. Perhaps we should eat together at Church more often!

Find out about the Christian customs for each festival and start doing them.

Everyone knows about the fasts so I won't say anything more about them EXCEPT do the fasts SECRETLY!

Every year you will try and go on holiday. So every year go for HOLY DAYS. pilgrimages, trips to shrines, staying at a monastery, go to a "traditionally Orthodox" country and learn from what you find there (you'll often find horrible complacency but you'll discover an immense amount that you didn't begin to know before). Start developing a relationship with a holy place and let that place change you little by little, year by year.

Barnados Shoe Boxes:

We collected over 60 shoe boxes this year! WELL DONE! God bless you richly in return for your generosity.



Barnardos

If you are able to receive this Newsletter by email then please let us know as it will save us a lot of money over the year.

Please email:

Fr.Philip@gmx.com

So that he can add you to the Newsletter emailing list. Your email will not be seen by anyone else on the mailing list.

Children's Space:

Troparion — Tone 1

When You, O Lord were baptised in the Jordan The worship of the Trinity was made manifest For the voice of the Father bore witness to You And called You His beloved Son. And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, Confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ, our God, You have revealed Yourself And have enlightened the world, glory to You!

Kontakion — Tone 4

Today You have shown forth to the world, O Lord, and the light of Your countenance has been marked on us. Knowing You, we sing Your praises. You have come and revealed Yourself, O unapproachable Light.

Icon Colouring for January:



Read: Mark 1:1-8

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. St. Mark starts his Gospel by talking about godly men who could tell about things that were going to happen. What is the special name for people who do that?

2. The prophets in this story said that someone would come to help people.

What does it say that they would help the people to get ready to do? Is that good?

3. Do you think that St. John the Forerunner got people ready to meet and follow God? How did he do that?

4. What about you? You get to meet God a lot. You meet God whenever you take communion. You meet Him when you talk to others He has created. You meet Him when you hear His words in the Bible and in Church.

Do you follow Him, too? Pray, and ask God to help you to be ready when you meet Him, and to help you follow Him as the people in this story did.

Jesus Baptism –

Theophany 6 January

Why is Theophany so important?

Firstly, it reminds us of the day when Jesus was baptised by John in the Jordan.

Secondly it reminds us of when the Holy Trinity was shown to the world: God's voice was heard as He spoke, Jesus (the Word made flesh) was seen as He was baptised, and the Holy Spirit was present in the form of a dove as He descended from Heaven.

Jesus was not baptised because He needed cleansing, but to fulfill the Law, to show people the Holy Trinity, to bless the water, and give us the example of Baptism.