

Christ Church

Green Lane

Stamford PE9 1HE

Vicar of Christ Church	Rev. Nikki Bates	01780 766026
Church Wardens	Dawn Field	01780 753645
	Brian Stephens	01780 480000
Operations Manager	Martin Purnell	01780 766466
Lay Readers	Paul Darley	01780 759100
	Martin Purnell	07799763771
Authorised Lay Ministers	Jed Bates Julie Bates	01780 752290
PCC Secretary	Lisa Garwood	01780 757877
PCC Treasurer	Pamela Cook	01780 751713
Events Information & Publicity	Nigel Garwood	07921461683
Social & Events Ministry	Lesley Foulkes	07759166508
Prayer Network	Lisa Garwood	07540405181
Day Centre	Catrina Batey	07949605217
StartaFresh	Geraldine Crowley	07950464093
Teenzone	Ali Rigby	01780 766446 EX. 4
Transport Scheme	Ian Collis	01780 766446 EX. 5
Tots n Toast	Rev. Nikki Bates	01780 766026
CAP Job Club Manager	Linda DePellette	07774811793
CAP Job Club Coach	Lisa Garwood	07851944700
Magazine Editor	Linda DePellette	07715534731
Admin Assistant	Lisa Garwood	01780 766446 EX. 1
Friends of Christ Church		

Visit our website or Church Notice Boards for details of events and much more. www.christchurchstamford.com



@Christ Church-Stamford or



Twitter @christchurchpe9

From the Vicars desk.....

How is your Lenten fast going? I'm three weeks in to my mobile phone and tablet fast (my tablet is a Samsung android just in case you're wondering what tablets?) In the last couple of years I have become really techie, my calendar is no longer a desk diary, its an app on my mobile and tablet. My telephone address book has had no entries in it for a number of years now, in fact I don't even know where it is! Facebook, Messenger and texts are now so integrated into our phones that we don't even have to look up a number any more...just the name will suffice! In fact even names aren't needed – as a lovely photo of our nearest and dearest pop onto the screen as the phone peeps, buzzes or plays a quirky tune! I love my phone photo of Tony taken on London Bridge, he looks so relaxed and happy, just seeing his picture makes me smile...The people who make phones are very clever!

So you might ask “how's it going then Nikki, this high tech Lenten fast?” Surprisingly well! I'm really enjoying the freedom of not responding to every pip and buzz! and I'm also, to be honest, enjoying Tony not telling me endlessly to “put that phone down!”

It has helped me to refocus these past few weeks, the house has seemed quite quiet as even the land line rings infrequently these days (one would think mobile use will sure rend them obsolete at some point?)

The peace at home has helped me to listen for God in the wee small voice. Remember Elijah fleeing to Horeb in 1 King 19 and how the Lord passed by – not in the powerful wind that shattered rocks, not in the earthquake and not in the fire, but in a gentle whisper the Lord drew Elijah into his transforming presence.

I pray that you might be finding the days and the ways this Lent to listen for His voice through whatever you have decided to set down or pick up, as we prepare our hearts for our Lords walk towards Jerusalem, the cross and His glorious resurrection.

God bless you

one, and all.

Nikki

Bishops Letter

**We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Familiar words from the Communion Service, which many of us use every week – but words which also came alive for me in a fresh way on two particular occasions over the past year.

The first was at the ‘Shared Conversations’ – those regional gatherings of people from across the East Midlands, including some from our own diocese, gathering for three days to explore some of the current issues regarding human sexuality and how we handle together the different views and feelings that issue evokes. To be able to be part of a group of people, who, despite our differences on that particular issue, met around the communion table, were able to break bread together and so recognise the Jesus in each other, was, for me, an incredibly moving and profound experience.

The second, and more recent occasion, was sharing ten days, with almost thirty other relatively recently new bishops, from across the different countries of the Anglican Communion. And again, that real sense, as we took communion together, of being united because of our common faith and trust in Jesus, despite all the different cultural and theological understandings contained in the room.

An experience of the Risen Jesus, which then unites across time, place and some of the theological differences we may have with each other. That, it seems to me, is at least part of what is happening as we take communion, as we break bread, together. It is one of God’s gifts to his Church.

I pray, says Jesus, that they be ‘one’. Not the same, not identical, but ‘one’. Able to recognise, rejoice and celebrate the reality of the Risen Jesus in each other, despite our differences, as we share in bread together. That’s been my experience, on those two special occasions. I pray that it might be yours as well.

The Rt Revd Dr David Court

Bishop of Grimsby

Easter Flowers

The flower ladies and gentleman, will be decorating Church for Easter on Saturday 26th March at 9.30am. If you wish to contribute to the cost of the Easter flowers, in memory of a loved one, please let Dawn have your donation by Sunday 20th March.

If you would like to come along and help us decorate the Church, we would love to see you on the morning.

Blessings

Dawn

100 Club

Two lucky winners this month.

The numbers drawn were – 7 Cicerly Wise and 71 Joyce Thomas.



15th – 22nd May

Local co-ordinator required for Christ Church Parish – please have a word with Nikki if you can help. It will be great if we can continue to support this brilliant charity.



Hi everyone,

Hope you are all enjoying the lent season. Everyone at StartaFresh is doing well and appear to be enjoying the current programme of activities. Some members enjoyed doing a “Healthy Eating” course recently with the Pelican trust.

We have an opportunity for another befriender volunteer to join the group so If anyone would be interested in joining the team, we would love to hear from you. You can contact me on the number below, or pop into the office on Monday, Thursday and Friday for a chat.

Kind regards

*Geraldine (StartaFresh Coordinator, **07950464093**)*

Ruthie and all at Befrienders



We are still short of drivers so if you can spare some time – it can be as much or as little as you like- please contact **Ian** on **01780 482380**.



Hello everyone,

We would like to start by welcoming a new member to our group, Rose (Betty) Bull.

We have enjoyed February's activities and were lucky to have a talk and slides on the "Osprey" from R.S.P.B based at Rutland Water. We also had a talk on how to save on energy, which was very informative to our members. Oh! And good old Bingo, you can't beat a bit of "legs eleven"!

We have had Ann and Fiona come in once a month to manicure and paint the members nails.

On the 2nd and 13th March we have The Foot Man coming in.

9th March is Holy Communion.

Please note that we **will be closed** on the **30th March** and the **6th April** for Easter.

God Bless you all,

Catrina and Barbara



The Food Bank is still in need of various items. Please consider buying one or two extra items when you do your weekly shopping and drop them into the box at church. Some of the items currently needed are:

Tinned meats, sugar, long-life milk and shampoo.

Please look out for leaflets with updates of most needed foods which will be in the 'food box' at church.

Thank you

Andrew

Woodhouse

Independent Family Funeral Directors

Sandon Barns Casterton Road, Stamford, Lincs PE9 4BP

01780 751719

email: woodhouse.andrew@sky.com

www.stamfordfunerals.com



Mondays 5pm – 7pm Activities in the basement

6.30pm – 7.30pm Sports at Welland Academy

Wednesdays 5pm – 7pm Activities in the basement

Thursdays 5pm – 7pm Activities in the basement

Tots and Toast



Hello everyone,

We are enjoying our Thursday mornings together. It's a well attended get together. Some great clapping to accompany "Joshua fought the battle of Jericho". A lovely picture made to accompany the story as well. A rather confused version of "Abraham had many sons"

Love you all.

The Tots Gang.



I don't like this cold weather at all. Bring on the sunshine please. Im very lucky to have mummy Ruthie and all you lovely folks to keep an eye on me and make sure I am well fed and kept very warm. Im very lucky and a very spoilt puddycat!



Love

M.D



Our new course starts Tuesday 1st March and, as always, we are looking forward to helping others on their journey to finding work, and in the process we hope, to discovering the glory and love of our Lord. Both projects of course are not easy, but as always we strive to do our best.

Linda, Lisa and Paul.

Coffee Morning **5th March**

10 – 12. With lovely cakes, coffee or tea,
why not bring someone with you!



Services for March

Sunday 6th March

10am Mothering Sunday Family Communion

11.45 Sunday Crunch

6.30pm Holy Communion

Wednesday 9th March 11.15am Day Centre Holy Communion

Sunday 13th March

10am Café service

6.30pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 20th March

10am Palm Sunday Service with lunch for all

6.30pm Evening Prayer

Maundy Thursday 24th March

7.30pm Holy Communion

Good Friday 25th March

10am Reflection – flowed by CTiS walk of witness

Easter Day Sunday 27th March

10am Family Communion

Children's work takes place every Sunday morning
with crafts, activities and fun!

Weekly Activities through March

Mondays	1.00pm - 3.00pm	StartaFresh & Befrienders
	5.00pm - 7.00pm	Teenzone
	7.45pm	Home Group at Ruthie's
Tuesdays	10.00am - 2.00pm	CAP Job Club
Wednesdays	10.00am - 2.30pm	Day Centre
	11.30am – 2pm	Alpha Course at Vicarage
	5.00pm - 7.00pm	Teenzone
	8.00pm - 10.00pm	The Garwoods Home group
	8.00pm - 10.00pm	The Nicholls Home group
Thursdays	1.00pm - 3.00pm	StartaFresh & Befrienders
	5.00pm - 7.00pm	Teenzone
Fridays	1.00pm - 3.00pm	StartaFresh & Befrienders

R. J. Scholes



Peace of mind at a time of need

Traditional and alternative style funerals and monumental services

24 HOUR SERVICE

St Georges Street, Stamford PE9 2BJ

4 Horsegate, Deeping St James PE6 8EN

(01780) 763092

(01778) 380659

Funeral Pre-payment Plans Available



An aroma came through the doorway,
Exciting the taste buds within,
As we came here again this Wednesday
To meet and enjoy our meal.

The welcome received from each other,
Our time of sharing and caring with new friends,
All very enjoyable and a grateful thanks said,
As we sing or dance with laughter,
And a sense of belonging,
For a truly wonderful day.

Cathy Wootton (For the Day Centre)

St Patricks Day Concert

By the Empingham Mission Band

On Thursday 17th March

7pm at Christ Church

Free entry

Retiring collection in aid of Day Centre and StartaFresh

Refreshments available

Stamford Horticultural Society

Regular meetings at Christ Church, Green Lane.

1st Thursday of the month, 7.30pm

Visits and Social Events, Spring and Summer Shows,

Open and Members Classes.

Annual Subscription £10

Contact

Chairman: John Burrows 0780 763761

Treasurer: Kitty Beck 01780 757416

Membership Secretary: Sheila Mason 01780 753577

Next meeting, Thursday 3rd March - **How to grow vegetables all year round,**
with ***Nick Hamilton***



From your Magazine Editor



Hello everyone.

First of all, I would like to say a big thank you for your prayers concerning my health. After talking to my doctor, I'm glad to say that my heart function is fine, so no surgery at the moment, my arteries will be checked at a later time but for now I have a murmur which they will keep an eye on of course. Just got to get the rest of me sorted with more appointments in April, then I will be "cooking on gas" as the saying goes.

9 Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, 10 because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay. 11 You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Psalm 16:9-11

Could I ask that all information for the **April magazine**, be with me **no later than Thursday 24th March** please, to allow us time to edit before printing. Don't forget you can email me at **ldepellette@gmail.com**.

Linda.

Please note:

The weekly Sunday service notice sheet has the most up to date details, and there is usually a spare copy available in the lobby at church.

A FREE GIFT

from Stamford Lions...
the opportunity to listen to the
Stamford Mercury every week!

Do you know someone who can't read
the Stamford Mercury?

We can provide a free weekly audio copy
direct to their home.

We have been producing the Talking Newspaper for over
25 years, provided free of charge to those who need it. It
helps people to keep in touch with their community and
know what's going on in their area.

If you know someone who would enjoy this
free weekly gift, please call 08458 334327



Stamford & District Lions Club
Reg. Charity 1032398

Support Group for parents/carers with children who have additional needs

(diagnosed or undiagnosed)

Stamford Children's Centre

Green Lane, Stamford, PE9 1HE. Tel: 01780 764072



**Would you benefit from having a 'cuppa' with adults who
have shared similar experiences?**

This friendly, adult only support group is run by Volunteers. Sessions are held once a month at Stamford Children's Centre. No need to book, just drop in (you will be made to feel very welcome).

The group aims to provide a place where you can laugh about the same things, where you can discuss similar challenges, celebrate your children's achievements and where you can offer a listening ear to one another!

**Forthcoming sessions 10a.m till midday:
18 March, 29 April, 27 May, 24 June and 15 July 2016**

Please call us if you would like more information or have any queries