

The Three Towers

December 2019 & January 2020

Serving the communities in and around
Edenham, Swinstead, Witham on the
Hill, Toft, Lound and Manthorpe





GLENSIDE COUNTRY PRACTICE

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR OPENING TIMES

Wednesday 25th December 2019 - closed

Thursday 26th December 2019 – closed

Friday 27 December 2019 – normal opening times

Wednesday 1 January 2020 – closed

Thursday 2 January 2020 – normal opening times

**If you need medical advice over the
Christmas and New Year period please call 111**

If you have an emergency call 999.



Dates for your Diary

Friday 6th December, St Andrew's Parish Hall - 2 plays on one night!!

The St Andrews Parish Hall committee have arranged for a play at the Parish Hall. The group, Last Chance Saloon, will perform a 'Sherlock Holmes' double bill, The Blue Carbuncle and Curse of the Mummy. Tickets are £9.95/each from Richard - 590433 or David - 590331.

Sunday 8th December, 2pm and 6pm, Edenham Village Hall - Steam Action presents PETER PAN

Pantomime - Adults £4, children £2
Please contact Nikki Gunn for tickets.

Tuesday 10th December, 6.30pm. Christmas Carols around the Tree in Edenham. Please meet in the field between the church yard and the bridge. Light refreshments available. Carol sheet provided.

Sunday 15th December, 6pm, Manthorpe Christmas Carols around the village - meet at the Post Box. If you are interested in joining in with the annual Christmas carols, please come along with warm clothes and loads of enthusiasm. All contributions are in aid of St Andrews.

Sunday 15 December, 6pm, Order of St John Carol Service at Grimsthorpe Castle. Traditional Carol Service with Stamford Brass followed by wine and

canapés. Proceeds in aid of St John Ambulance and St John Eye Hospital, Jerusalem. Tickets £10 and (£3 under 16). Contact Fr Andy Hawes (County Chaplain) 01778 590035 or frandrewhawes@gmail.com

Sunday 22 December 6pm Carol Singing Witham on the Hill, meet at the church. All singers and musicians most welcome. Come and join us to help raise funds for our church, and to bring festive spirit to our community. Refreshments always greatly appreciated!

Sunday 29 December, WOTH Historical Society Grantham Canal Winter Walk. Meet at 9.45 at St Andrew's Parish Hall in Witham to arrange lifts. Vaughan will lead a longer walk starting near Harlaxton, and walking to the Dirty Duck pub at Woolsthorpe by Belvoir, approx. 1 hour walk (each way).

Peter and Sue will lead a shorter walk at the same time, setting off from the Dirty Duck pub and meeting up with the other group on the towpath.

Thursday 23 January, FOOD FOR THOUGHT Eucharist at 10.15am in St Andrew's Church, Witham on the Hill, with bible study at 11am followed by a simple lunch at noon – donations to Christian Aid. **Note: 12 December meeting is cancelled due to the general election.**



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Parish News

EDENHAM POPPY APPEAL - Once again, Mr G Atter has made a tremendous effort on behalf of the British Legion's annual Poppy Appeal. The total amount raised this year was £476.39: Edenham school £172.26; 5 Bells pub £29.13; Grimsthorpe £86.42; Grimsthorpe shooting ground £14.83; Edenham village £173.75. A heartfelt thanks to everyone who donated to this important appeal.

FLU VACCINATIONS GLENSIDE COUNTRY PRACTICE - Flu vaccination is now available at the surgery. If you are eligible for a free vaccination, please contact the surgery to make an appointment to have this done.

Eligibility for free flu vaccine: Those aged 6 months to under 65 years in clinical risk groups, eg: asthma, COPD, diabetes, stroke; pregnant women; those aged 65 years and over; those in long stay residential care homes; carers; close contacts of immunocompromised individuals.

CONGRATULATIONS to Tom & Liz McWilliams on the birth of their grandson, Finley Jack, born on 28 September.

GET WELL SOON Andrew Harris. Wishing you a very speedy recovery from your heart operation. God bless you.

CONDOLENCES to family, friends and neighbours on the passing of Jean Joyce from Scottlethorpe Lane in Edenham. A much loved lady who will be greatly missed by so many people.

CONDOLENCES to Maureen Coventon, family, friends and neighbours on the loss of Ronnie, of Witham on the Hill, who passed away on 17 November.

SAMARITAN'S PURSE, OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD. Thank you to all those generous people who filled shoeboxes with goodies. The gifts will be greatly appreciated.

YOU CAN HELP EDENHAM VILLAGE HALL. LotterySK sends 60p from every £1 to local causes. It also donates 50% of all sales' proceeds to the host Fundraising organisation. By buying an SKLottery ticket through the Edenham Village Hall Committee page, you will have the opportunity to win £25,000 and half of the price of your ticket will go directly to the Village Hall funds.



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The Vicar Writes

As I type this message the works at the Vicarage are nearing their completion and rehearsals for the Steam Action Pantomime at Edenham are gathering momentum (oh yes they are!). It's a busy time to be sure, especially with a General Election and Christmas only around the corner...

In all honesty it takes me quite a while to get into the 'Christmas spirit'. The tree nearly always goes up late on Christmas Eve in our house and I try to avoid TV during December in order to forgo the endless Christmas adverts (it was something of a shock to discover that the builders working at Edenham Vicarage had been listening to a dedicated Christmas radio station from the middle of November).

It's somewhat ironic that, being a Vicar, I don't get the time to appreciate Christmas until it's really happening! That said, the Christmas memories I've amassed since I was first ordained are among the most special. Back when I was a curate in Nottingham the three-year-old daughter of a couple in the congregation was suddenly taken ill with a dramatic swelling in her throat that left her unable to breathe or

swallow and quickly put her life in danger. The little girl, Emily, underwent emergency surgery just days before Christmas and afterwards her parents kept vigil at her bedside praying for her recovery and reading her the Narnia stories by C. S. Lewis. After finishing my morning commitments, I went to see them in the ICU at Queen's Medical Centre on Christmas day. Emily still hadn't regained consciousness and things were looking bleak. I felt utterly useless making small talk with Emily's parents whilst their daughter fought for her life. It was then that they asked me to celebrate the Eucharist for them in the ICU. They wanted to recall the birth of the Son of God, to receive him as bread and wine and to pray for Emily's recovery in the middle of all that was happening. So that's what we did. We laid out the all the necessary elements at the foot of Emily's bed and joined in the Mass of the Shepherds (the first Eucharist of Christmas morning). We heard the familiar account of the shepherds being first to glimpse the Christ-child after hearing the song of the angels on the hillside near Bethlehem. Emily remained unconscious for a few days more but eventually made a full recovery and it was a sheer delight to see her back to her energetic self,

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running around the Church on a Sunday.

Another memory that comes to mind each December was the time I spent with a lady called Anne at St Andrew's Hospice in Grimsby on Christmas day. Anne was an absolute treasure! She sat just inside the Church entrance in Grimsby on a Sunday and greeted everyone as they arrived each week. Sadly, Anne was diagnosed with terminal cancer and bravely carried on regardless until being taken into hospice care. It was there in the hospice that I saw her after the last of my services on Christmas morning. Anne didn't much feel like Christmas Communion. Her sense of taste was all higgledy-piggledy (her words) and all she really wanted to do was to eat ice-cream! The brilliant hospice staff happily obliged so that Anne and I sat watching the "Strictly..." Christmas special whilst feasting on a ready supply of vanilla soft-scoop and orange-flavour Callipos. Anne passed away not long after Christmas. Her funeral was a truly moving occasion and her daughter went on to complete a charity skydive in her memory.

But perhaps the most cherished Christmas memory of all for me happened when I was aged ten or so. I attended Midnight Mass with my

mother in the tiny village Church of St Cecilia not far from Collingham near Newark. An elderly retired Priest dressed in a crumpled linen surplice took the service and preached the most wonderful sermon story... He told of how a rich couple arranged a lavish party at their home following the baptism of their new-born son. The infant was becoming a little crabby after the service and was sent away to put down to sleep upstairs. As the guests arrived several enquired where they should put their fine fur coats and were told to deposit them in any of the available rooms upstairs (it didn't matter which). Soon the party was in full swing until someone asked if the child at the centre of the celebration could make an appearance. But where was he? No one could quite remember! He wasn't in the nursery – where could he be? No one could remember when they last saw him! A search was made but to no avail! Then, acting on a hunch, one of the maids started to lay aside the many heavy coats in one of the bedrooms and there, beneath all the finery, she 'found the babe' sound asleep! The child at the centre of the celebration (and the reason they'd gathered in first place) had been laid aside and forgotten but now he had been found once more.

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Sometimes it's hard to remember that a single, vulnerable child, Emmanuel, God-with-us lies at the heart of Christmas. Sometimes we need to stop and lay aside all the tinsel and finery in order to 'find the babe' and rediscover the joy, wonder and hope of Christmas. I'm really hoping that somewhere amongst all the business this year you'll find the time to join us for one or two of our Christmas services – there are plenty to choose from! Wherever we are and whatever our situation might be there is something for us to discover and be encouraged by in the story of that first Christmas. All we need to do is to 'find the babe'.

With every blessing,

Fr Edward

WITHAM ON THE HILL CHURCH AND SCHOOL ESTATE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The Foundation has 2 vacancies for trustees. This is open to anyone living or working in the "Ancient Parish" of Witham on the Hill. The charity is responsible for the upkeep of the St Andrew's Parish Hall, helps maintain the fabric of the church and gives grants for educational purposes. We hold 2 meetings per year, in March and in October. If you are interested please contact the clerk at Edenham Regional House at

edenhamoffice@gmail.com

This charity is able to make grants to those residents of Manthorpe, Toft, Lound and Witham on the Hill who are undertaking courses at colleges and universities and also those who are on apprentice schemes.

Application details from:

The Clerk to the Trustees, Witham Church and School Estate, c/o The Vicarage, Church Lane, Edenham PE10 0LS



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100 years ago this month

(From entries made by the Rev L H Cooley into the Parish Magazine—reproduced by kind permission of The Witham on the Hill Historical Society)

December 1919

The Memorial. A request. - A list of the fallen hangs in the church, near the font. Should there be any omission or error, we ask the relatives to notify the Vicar *before the new year*, as the names will shortly be cast in bronze for fixing to the memorial, and it is most important that the list should be absolutely correct.

Editor's note: We have no record of any entry for January and February 1920.

January 1915

1915 - Our wish to all our readers on this occasion shall be for a happier New Year. The year that is gone has been one of the saddest in the annals of our parish, and the Christmas Festival has only served to remind us afresh of our loss. For Christmas was ever a season particularly dear to our late Squire (*Walter Lionel Fenwick died 13th August 1914*), and which he loved to mark by thoughtful acts of kindness to us all. His irreparable loss and the added gloom and anxiety of war have combined to make 1914 a year of sorrow which we shall never forget.

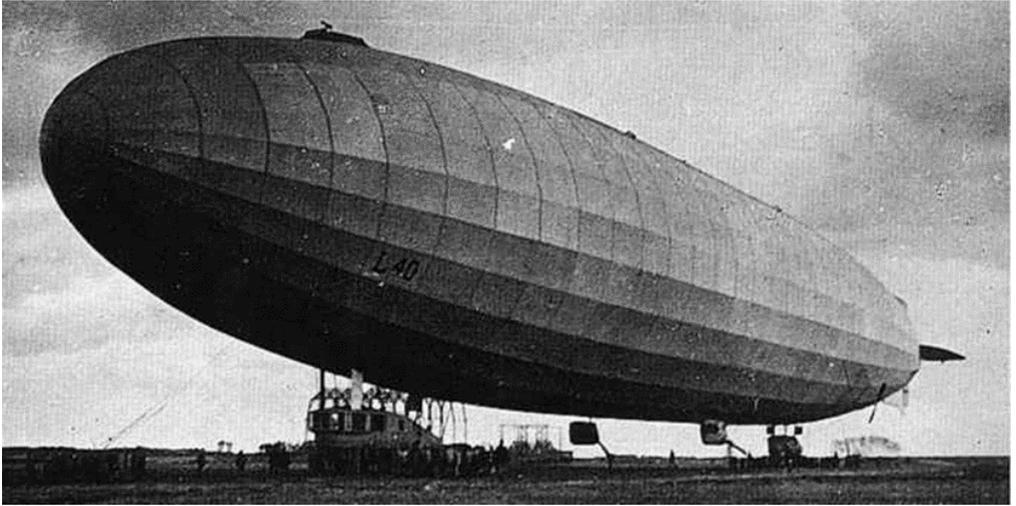
Germany Willing for Xmas Truce If--

A Berlin wireless, via Sayville, says: "Included in information given to the press from official sources is the following: 'Germany replied immediately to the pope's suggestion of a Christmas truce. The German reply is in the affirmative, under condition, of course, that all of the other belligerents—.'" A break in the wireless at this point occurred, but it is apparent sender intended to say if other powers would do likewise.

Day of Intercession. - Sunday the 3rd of January, has by request of the King, been set apart as a day of solemn intercession for Divine guidance in the hour of national crisis. The day will be observed by every religious body in the kingdom and we trust that all the parishioners will take part in one or other

of the special services in church, which will be held at 8-30, 11-15 and 6-30.
Forms of service will be provided and special hymns will be used.

January 19th The first Zeppelin raid on Britain took place



HUNDREDS AND THOUSANDS

Hundreds and thousands and millions
Of poppies fall.....

Hundreds and thousands and millions
Of tears release.....

The dye..... like blood from soldiers
Fallen in the flooded fields of
Flanders
In days gone by.

Today we honour, one by one
With tears and flags and tribute gun.
Think back you people who wield
power-

“Shall we remember them”?
Mown down like corn, fodder food
Torn and bleeding... screaming...

drowning... dying...

In the stinking mire of war.

Broken bodies, interred by broken
minds,

Rolled in putrid holes with shell case
and helmet

To mark their shallow graves!

But who will see the carnage miles?

The tanks that follow...More
exploded flesh

To join the rest who lie in peace
Beneath the raped, contaminated soil
of France.

M.A.Rine 2019

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Raffle drawn on the night

Notes from the Edenham Parish Council Meeting - 12th November

Open Forum Meeting:

The chairman welcomed 4 members of the public who were present. Mr Steve Brooks, Onlincolnshire, gave a brief on the 'Gigabyte Voucher Scheme' available to assist rural area business and private home holders to upgrade their broadband access to full 'fibre capability'. Detailed scheme information is to be sent to the council where it will be circulated to councillors for dissemination to local business and private householders encouraging uptake of the scheme. Interested parties should contact any council member.

Mrs Pat Smith, Edenham Village Hall committee, gave a brief update on their fund-raising plans to upgrade the Hall's kitchen area, in particular the issue of the renewing of the property's lease from Grimsthorpe Estate and associated costs.

Chairman also invited Mrs Carole Sands (Scottlethorpe Rd) who has applied for the vacancy of Parish Clerk/RFO to introduce herself to the council along with a brief summary of her working life/experience. The chairman thanked Mr Brookes, Mrs Smith and Mrs Sands for their time and input, formally closed the Open Forum and opened the Parish Council

Meeting.

All parishioners are again reminded that the Open Forum at each Parish Council meeting is their opportunity to voice concern/raise local issues with their councillors. Details can be obtained by contacting the parish clerk at edenham.pc@gmail.com – or contacting any of your current councillors. (Please note new email address)

Parish Council Meeting

- i. Street Cleaning, Ongoing - Grant received from SKDC for period Oct/ Mar20.
- ii. Speed Warning Sign (SID): equipment re-located to Edenham - (opposite the Church)

Financial Matters

- i. Cheque signed - £54 - Wicksteed Leisure Play area safety inspection
- ii. Proposed Budget and Precept 2020/21. Secretary presented a proposed budget for the forthcoming year and after discussion it was agreed that the budget be accepted and the precept set against SKDC for the year 2020/21 be set at £2,950.

Clerk/RFO Vacancy. Chairman reported - 2 applications had been received (details circulated to council members prior to meeting). One candidate has extensive experience of the role and could step into the role with minimum of disruption.

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However, she lives some miles away from the parish. Also, since applying she has subsequently notified the chairman of her intention to emigrate in the next 18-24 months. The second candidate, present during the open forum, though having no practical experience of being a clerk, displayed a willingness to undergo training and more importantly to become an active member of the parish. After discussion it was agreed that the post be offered to Mrs Sands on the understanding that the current clerk would provide a suitable handover/training period.

Parish Christmas Tree. Tree is available and will be in place and lights installed within time for the Carol Singing event around the parish tree as per previous years - date now confirmed as **10th December (6:30pm)**. Please pencil the date into your diaries and join us and Steam Action for carols and light refreshments.

Parish Assets. Secretary requested that a review of the condition of the parishes assets (benches, notice boards, picnic tables etc) be carried out ready for any remedial works to be carried out in the spring. Members to report at next meeting.

Other Business.

Cllr Biggs reported - All were saddened to hear of the recent passing of Mrs Jean Joyce (ex-councillor/chairman). Jean's determined and passionate contribution to not only the Parish Council but the whole of the community will be greatly missed. Condolences to all of her family.

Cllr Hill, LCC, reported that following concerns raised by Mr Whyles, 'Agrilinc' Scottlethorpe, he has raised the issue of poor drainage and the condition of the road by Randall's Farm with the Highways Dept. He is also aware of the blocked drain on Main Street, Edenham (Pillarwood Farm), and the poor condition of the drainage dykes alongside Gunborough Hill both of which he will endeavour to expedite their rectification.

Cllr Whadcock reported - Steam action is still progressing the purchase of Memorial Benches.

Local Crime. Parishioners are reminded to be observant in their local area and pass on any details of suspicious vehicles or activities that you see to the Police on their 101 tel no.

Highways. LCC Website (<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/>) holds information on Lincs Highways such as planned works/ road closure etc along



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The next meeting of Edenham Parish Council will take place on Tuesday, 14th January 2020 in Edenham Village Hall commencing at 7:30pm.

Council Meetings take place on the second Tuesday in Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep & Nov in Edenham Village Hall at 7:30pm.

Witham on the Hill WI

It's been a busy time for Witham on the Hill Women's Institute. We were joined in October by members from other Lincolnshire South WI groups for "An Evening with the Bard". Mike Harrison, an actor and director from Tolethorpe Hall, entertained us with a fascinating history of Tolethorpe. After our "Shakespearian Supper" served by members in costume, Mike performed a series of Shakespeare monologues.

In November's meeting Sue Jakeman, dressed in a beekeeper's suit, came to talk to us about keeping bees. She was so enthusiastic and animated about the importance of bees to our environment, it seemed a real shame she has discovered she is allergic to bee stings and so can no longer keep bees. There are about 50,000 bees in a hive; 48,800 are female worker bees with 200 male drones and one queen. The queen mates with about 17 drones over 3 days and then spends the rest of her life laying eggs. The drones die after mating. Sue explained the difference between bumble bees who live in groups of about 60 and mason bees which are solitary & live in walls.

Sue Renner gave the vote of thanks. The raffle winner was Angela Clifford.

The competition was a bee item. Sue Renner won, Kaye Mundy came 2nd and Trudy Templeman 3rd.

Our next meeting is our Christmas Party on Tuesday 3rd December at 7.30pm. All visitors are sure of a warm welcome.

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Results of the Open Art Competition 2019



Left Peter Nelson, centre Joshua Booth-Carlton, right Daniclla Batisk Pistola,

CLASS 1 Ages 5 – 7 Key Stage 1

FIRST: Kimberley Hester Hope, Belmont Community Primary School

SECOND: Charlotte Branton, Copthill School

THIRD: Isla-Mae Seagar, Bourne Abbey Primary Academy

H.COM: Alfie Joynes, Isaac Newton Primary; Thomas Boyd, Copthill School; Emily Lu, Bourne Abbey Primary Academy; Olivia Coudert, Bourne Abbey Primary Academy; Dottie Erskine, Morton Primary School; Mihail Stavrov, Bourne Elsea Park Primary Academy

CLASS 2 Ages 8 – 10 Key Stage 2

FIRST: Nathan Fribence, Morton Primary School

SECOND: Ellie-Jo Wilson, Bourne Abbey Primary Academy

THIRD: Amjao Kebbeh, Copthill School

H.COM: Isaac Cottam, Morton Primary School; Justas Turuta, Belmont Community Primary School; Mia Singleton, Colsterworth Primary School; Wren Erven, Copthill School; Ned Dangerfield, Corby Glen Community Primary School

CLASS 3 Ages 11 – 14 Key Stage 3

FIRST: Daniclla Batisk Pistola, Kesteven and Grantham Girls School

SECOND: Arnus Pakulnis, Priory Ruskin Academy



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CLASS 4 Ages 15 – 16 Key Stage 4

FIRST: Jack Cunnington, Spalding Grammar School

SECOND: Joshua Booth-Carlton, Charles Read Academy

THIRD: Gabby Lucas, Walton Girls' High School

H.COM: Ksenija Sadilova, Spalding Academy; Anya Adcock, Bourne Grammar School, Amy Seprini, Walton Girls' High School; Joseph Kelly, Priory Ruskin Academy; Madhawila La, Walton Girls' High School; Kiera Horner, Priory Ruskin Academy, Abigail Clayton, Individual; Aimee Davies, Charles Read Academy; Phoebe Mason, Bourne Grammar School

CLASS 5 Ages 17 – 18 Key Stage 5

FIRST : Jasmine Flowers Walton Girls' High School

SECOND: Emily Tupholme Kesteven and Sleaford High School

THIRD: Taylor Graham Spalding Grammar School

H.COM: Natalia Sobczak, Walton Girls' High School; Curtis Hammond, Bourne Academy; Zeta Hoyes, Walton Girls' High School

CLASS 6 Open over 18

FIRST: Peter Nelson H.COM Roger Heaton

SECOND: Will Illsley H.COM Jackie Shaw

H.COM: Alan Parker; Mark Nightingale; Peter Lloyd Bennett; Chris Illsley; Desmond Avery, Liz Underhill

Images of all the prize-winning entries can be seen on the gallery website

The gallery is closed for the winter and will reopen on 1st April 2020

www.willoughbygallery.com

Swinstead News

St Mary's Church Christmas Eve service - 3pm

Flower rota: Altar - Mollie Lunn - Rest of the church is open to all.

No flowers during Advent and none in January.

Next Bingo: 9th December at 7.30pm

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Jane's seasonal recipe

We have loads of pumpkins this year – not huge, just big enough for one meal, so this is a perfect veg accompaniment to a meat dish – perhaps even your Christmas dinner! Chilli can be left out if preferred.

CRISPY PUMPKIN BAKE

1 kg pumpkin

5 tablespoons olive oil

12 shallots

1 red chilli

1 tablespoon rosemary

2 tablespoons parsley

1 orange zest

120g fresh breadcrumbs

Put shallots in ovenproof dish, toss in 1 tablespoon oil. Bake in oven for 15 mins at 200c. Chop pumpkin into 2 inch chunks. Add to onions & mix well, cook for further 15 mins. Heat rest of oil in frying pan, add chopped chilli, rosemary, parsley & orange zest, stirring constantly. Add breadcrumbs & seasoning, mixing well. Cook for 1 min. Reduce oven to 180c. Tip breadcrumbs over pumpkin & onions. Bake for 30 mins until golden & pumpkin has softened.

SERVES 4



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PARISH SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2019

	Swinstead	Witham	Edenham
1 st December Advent Sunday	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist 6pm Advent Readings & Carols
8 th December Advent 2	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evening Prayer & Benediction	11.15am Parish Eucharist
15 th December Advent 3	8.45am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evening Prayer	10am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist
20 th December		6pm Service of Readings & Carols	
22 nd December Advent 4	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist 4pm Crib & Christingle
24 th December Christmas Eve	3pm Carols & Crib Service	4.30pm Crib Service 11.30pm Midnight Mass	9.30am Eucharist (Stable Chapel) 6pm Carol Service (Grimsthorpe)
25 th December Christmas Day	8.30am Parish Eucharist	9.30am Parish Eucharist	10.30am Parish Eucharist
26 th – 28 th December			12noon Eucharist (Stable Chapel)
29 th December Christmas 1			10.30am Joint Benefice Patronal Eucharist & Baptism

PARISH SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2020

	Swinstead	Witham	Edenham
5 th January Epiphany	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evening Prayer
12 th January Baptism of the Lord	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evening Prayer & Benediction	11.15am Parish Eucharist
19 th January Epiphany 2	8.45am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evening Prayer	10am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist
26 th January Epiphany 2	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evening Prayer & Benediction	11.15am Parish Eucharist

FOR BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, BANNINGS OF MARRIAGE, CONFESSIONS, OR ANY OTHER PASTORAL OR SPIRITUAL NEED CONTACT:

VICAR: THE REVD FR EDWARD MARTIN 01778 591358 - Edward.Martin@lincoln.anglican.org

LICENSED READER: MRS HEATHER LEE 01778 591338 - beltislobelle@btinternet.com