

# The Parish of Saint Peter, Doddington

(serving the villages of Doddington and Whisby)

**Rector: Rev Richard Billingham**

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## Bulletin No.19

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Welcome to the nineteenth edition of the Church Bulletin,  
bringing you up to date with news and developments at Saint Peter's.

### A Summer thought from the Rector

What a good summer, so far! Or is it? There was a recent debate, and the TV weather forecasters have been asked to change their words, as to whether it is appropriate to describe dry weather as "good" and wet weather as "bad", or similarly loaded words. Because, for example, farmers, and those of you with nicely kept lawns, are crying out for some rain. Good and bad weather is a very subjective judgement. (Except during Wimbledon!)

This led me to think about the more general use of value loaded words, good, bad, etc. Is it good to kill a terrorist? Is it bad to smack a naughty child? Is higher rate income tax good or bad? What about the "Social" benefits system? Did Dr Beeching get it right when he took away our railway station and line? Is it good to win the lottery? Is it good if someone else wins, not you?

Our welfare and happiness (they can measure it now!) is so important, and obviously depends on other people behaving well. But what happens when one person's good is another's ill. So "good" and "bad" can be very subjective in general. We could try to measure it. Do the best for the most. Choose the lesser of two evils. But do we think widely enough? Can we be aware of "the big picture"? Where can we turn for help and guidance.

Cue God. The Bible says that when God made the world, He looked and saw that it was good. When He placed us within His creation, it was "very good". When we started making our own decisions, things went very wrong. The only objective, absolute way to measure if something is good or bad, right or wrong, appropriate or misplaced, is to take God's judgement, His decision. So I would define "good" as "what God says is good".

Sometimes we agree. Ten Commandments. Murder is wrong. Theft is wrong. etc. But other bits are harder. Sex outside marriage is wrong? Worshipping God is compulsory? If God really has got it right, we may have some rethinking to do, and some decisions to make. It affects the welfare of us all!

**Richard Billingham**

### Doddington Church Services for the next few months

19 <sup>th</sup> June	6.30 pm	Evensong	Trinity Sunday
24 <sup>th</sup> July	6.30 pm	Evening Communion	Saint James's Sunday
2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	6.30 pm	Festival Evensong	Harvest
20 <sup>th</sup> Nov	6.30 pm	Evening Communion	Christ the King
18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	7.00 pm	Candlelight Service	Christmas Carols
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	8.00 am	Early Communion	Christmas Day

## Ordination of Frances Clarke

Frances Clarke will be ordained Deacon at Saint Wulfram's, Grantham, at 10.30 am on Sunday 3 July, when she will become **Curate of Doddington & Whisby**. Please advise Richard Billinghamurst if you would like to attend. Frances will become "Priested" next year on 1 July in the Cathedral.

## Annual Church Meeting

The following officers were elected at the Annual Church Meeting on 14 April:-

Church Wardens:	Antony Jarvis & Jane Marsden
Sidesman:	Ian Macalpine-Leny
Deanery Synod Representative:	Ian Macalpine-Leny
Lay Vice Chairman of PCC:	Jane Marsden
Buildings Officer:	Antony Jarvis
Secretary:	Ian Macalpine-Leny

There is one remaining vacancy for a lay member of the PCC.

## Church Security

Following the number of local Churches that have had their lead stolen, the church security has been reviewed and strengthened. Thanks to Antony Jarvis who has master-minded this and also installed a number of Health & Safety improvements inside the tower.

## Fund Raising and Social events

- **Saturday 2 July - Roving Dinner - Note New Date.**  
6.30 pm starting at the Old Rectory. Tickets £10. Contact Ian Macalpine-Leny.
- **The 3<sup>rd</sup> Dogs Around Doddington** organised by Amy Claridge raised **£560** before Gift Aid, split jointly between Saint Peter's and the Lincolnshire Greyhound Trust.
- The very enjoyable and well supported **Quiz Night** run by Moira Kerry on 6 May raised **£81**. Watch this space for future dates.
- Ged and Jane Marsden are proposing to run another **Church Fair** over the weekend of **28 & 29 August**, but if this is going to be viable, **they need contributions of nice bric-a-brac - no clothes please**. Please get in touch with Ged and Jane on 694 412.
- **Harvest Supper - Monday 3 October in the Littlehouse** at 7.00 pm. £8 a head.

## Re - Lime-Washing the inside of the Church

The Parish Project to scrape down the walls and apply new lime wash to the inside of the Church under the direction of Antony Jarvis has been delayed because of the extensive rebuilding work at Doddington. Cost indications are currently being obtained to have this done professionally. Further details to follow.

## Monthly Prayers in Church

Richard Billinghamurst and Frances Clarke hold prayers and bible reading in Church at 10.00 am usually on the first and third Wednesdays of the month for 45 minutes. Everyone is very welcome. They are then available in the village for a while, starting with coffee in the Farm Shop Café. The next dates are 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> July, 17<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> August, 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> September, 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> October.

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**Ian Macalpine-Leny, Secretary to the Parochial Church Council**

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