

Binbrook St Mary and St Gabriel Church

Services and Events

Sunday 10th May - Holy Communion 10.30am

Sunday 24th May - Holy Communion 10.30am

We hope you will be able to join us

This has been a very interesting time for everybody connected with our Church. Recently, Binbrook Church has received a certain degree of attention, as I am sure you will have seen in the local press or on social media.

Sadly, a stone cross has fallen from the roof and smashed onto the ground. It happened in the night, so luckily nobody was in danger, and all the damage was confined to the roof and guttering. Our Church is well over one hundred and fifty years old and despite constant monitoring of the building this was a totally unforeseen accident. The building is a grade two listed building and of some national significance as a 'Fowler' Church named after a very prominent Victorian architect. Binbrook is one of 'Fowler's' finest examples. As a result of this the cross will have to be replaced in stone as an exact copy of the original. We are currently working closely with our insurers and the Lincoln Diocese to see how this can be done. Even with insurance there will still be some cost to Binbrook Church.

We have also been shocked to discover that the Church oil tank was emptied, and thieves took £500 worth of oil. This is the second time this has happened this winter. Binbrook Church is a large building, and we feel it is important to heat the building for services. Last year we had over ten funeral services and the last thing we want is a cold building for families attending. As we have said on social media and in the local press, we understand times are hard for many people and if we had been asked for help, we would have offered suggestions. To take the oil to sell on for personal gain seems a very selfish act and is more difficult to understand. Many people believe that the Church of England is a wealthy organisation however it is important to know that every Church has to be self-sufficient so every penny we receive is vitally important. If Binbrook relied on collections only, our Church would have to close. Fortunately, we have some very small sources of income to supplement our collections. The cost of the stone cross and new security for the Church heating will offer new challenges. We are very grateful for some donations we have received due to the press coverage.

Please remember the Church is not just a place of worship but is also a cultural time capsule for the village and one we have to ensure is available for future generations. We have many requests for information about baptisms, weddings and funerals that have taken place in the church sometimes from

people who now live abroad. Binbrook St Mary and St Gabriel's Church means a great deal to many people.

As we look back over the last financial year it is pleasing to recall some of the help that your local Church has given to Binbrook Church of England School. You may not realise that the Church Trustees manage a fund specifically to support children of the village and extra-curricular activities at the school. This year for instance we have helped fund swimming lessons, farm trips, trips to places of worship and a residential visit for the children.

We think it is also very important that the children enjoy their visits to the church and understand that it is there to help support their growth and learning. We welcome the children to take part in their own services several times throughout the year.

Their thankyou letters, cards and pictures are always appreciated and brighten up the Church.

During the weekend of the 9th and 10th of May Binbrook Church will be open as part of the West Lindsey Open Churches Festival. We hope you will be able to join us even if it is only for a few minutes. You will receive a very warm welcome.

We are holding our coffee and chat sessions in The Plough fortnightly from 10am-12.00 on a Wednesday, to support them and to raise funds for the Church Toilet and Served. Please pop along if you fancy a coffee/tea and cake, £2.50 everyone is welcome.

For enquiries concerning BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS or FUNERALS please contact the Louth Deanery Office which is open 10am-1pm on weekdays.

Telephone 01507 610247

Email: louthesk@lincoln.anglican.org

Any other issues relating to Binbrook Church please contact the Church wardens.

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