



YOUR MINISTRY WITH US



St. Leonard's South
Cockerington



St. Adelwold's
Alvingham



St. Peter's
Saltfleetby



St. Mary's
Manby

Mid Marsh with Saltfleetby & Theddlethorpe



St. Helen's
Theddlethorpe



St. Edith's
Grimoldby



St. John the Baptist
Gt. & Lt Carlton

Welcome

The Benefice is located in an area rich in history, culture and areas of outstanding natural beauty. Our pattern of worship includes support to the Rector, within and between Parishes, to allow a minimum of two services per month in the churches serving our villages.

As we seek to build up a community of faith that is 'faithful in worship, confident in discipleship and joyful in service' we are looking for someone who will;

- Have oversight of the church's ministry in the Benefice
- Share with us in the general ministry of the Church in Prayer, Discipleship, Pastoral Care and Service to the wider Community.

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

- To develop the worshipping communities to enable us to grow in faith.
- To further our outreach to the community.
- To embrace the surprises and joys that are presented to us.

As we await the appointment of a new Incumbent the PCC's are meeting regularly during the Interregnum to continue to grow together in faith and personal discipleship so we can welcome you with an active benefice.

CONTENTS

Page 3	Background on Lincoln Diocese and Louthesk Deanery
Page 4-5	About the Benefice and its worship
Page 6-9	Description of individual churches
Page 10	Appendices 1 - Role Profile and Person Profile
Page 12	Appendix 2 - Map showing Location of parishes
Page 13	Appendix 3 - Sources of further information on the area

‘ Is it I LORD? ’

We hope that the information in this document will help you decide whether this position is for you.

The Background

The present Bishop of Lincoln was enthroned in 2011 and, after time listening in the Diocese, in 2013 he outlined his vision for the Diocese of Lincoln to be:

- ‘faithful in worship;
- confident in discipleship; and
- joyful in service’,

so that we become ‘a healthy, vibrant and sustainable church, transforming lives in greater Lincolnshire’.

At a diocesan level much work has gone to reshaping the structures of the Diocese so that they better support the work of parishes in prayer, worship, mission and service. This work is ongoing, with a new Strategic Plan being prepared for presentation to Diocesan Synod to emphasise this approach to supporting parishes.

At a local level, parishes were asked to look at their local context to identify ‘Mission Communities’ that would provide the best patterns for partnership in mission and ministry. Each Mission Community was asked to reflect and draw up a vision for its future life and ministry as part of the wider Developing Discipleship Programme. This is now being developed further by establishing Learning Communities of churches in similar situations across the Diocese who can share good practice and support each other.

Building a pattern of ministry for the future

Whilst offering some immediate challenges, the present situation, where all but one benefice in the Deanery is vacant, also provides an opportunity to shape the pattern of ministry in the local church in a way that prepares it for the future. The challenge that faces us is building up rural communities so that they are resourced from the largest communities rather than mimicking other service providers and centralising everything in one place – the need is to build up community rather than chase efficiency. An important aspect of this is to develop a pattern of ministry in which clergy can share in ministry and support whilst retaining the identities of individual churches and the communities they serve.

There are already patterns of partnership working in place that lead to a natural grouping of two pairs of benefices into new Mission Communities: including Louth and Legbourne Woldmarsh, which have shared ministers in the past, and Fotherby/Somercotes, which already share a lay ministry team. The two other benefices in the Deanery (Binbrook and Midmarsh) could naturally join these two groupings to create the following Mission Communities:

- **LOUTH & EAST WOLDS MISSION COMMUNITY**
 - Building on links between the ‘Parish of Louth’ and ‘Legbourne Woldmarsh Benefice’.
 - Develop a group of three benefices providing mutual support by exploring including the ‘Binbrook Benefice’ within this grouping.
 - Develop the identity of the benefices serving the western side of the Deanery.
- **LOUTHEK MARSHES MISSION COMMUNITY**
 - Maintaining the existing Ministry Team to serve the new ‘Fotherby & North Thoresby’ and ‘Somercotes & Marshchapel’ benefices.
 - Including the ‘Midmarsh Benefice’ so that there is mutual support for the incumbent serving those parishes.
 - Provide a focus for the parishes serving the Marsh.

Under this pattern each benefice would retain its relationship with an incumbent who would have responsibility for the ‘cure of souls’, whilst collegial patterns of prayer, lay ministry and mutual support would be developed, as appropriate, both within the Mission Communities and the wider deanery.

The wider Church context

In the wider context, there is a warm relationship between various parish churches in the Deanery and their partner Methodist chapels, and a number of common interests with Eastgate Union Church in Louth (a Baptist-URC church serving the local area). These existing relationships provide the foundations for exploring how we engage in mission across the local area and develop partnerships that build up local communities.

The Benefice

The Benefice of Midmarsh with Saltfleetby and Theddlethorpe comprises seven parishes that lie between the market town of Louth and the east coast of Lincolnshire. They have been in their current format since 2006, and make up one of three benefices in the Louthesk Marshes Mission Community.

See Appendix 1, page 10 for Role Description and Person Profile

ABOUT THE BENEFICE

The Benefice to the north and east of Louth, known as the Coastal Marshes (see Appendix 1), is archaeologically rich in sites dating back to Neolithic times. There is an abundance of historical locations and nature reserves, the latter known nationally for their flora and fauna, including migratory and resident bird populations, rare amphibians such as the Natterjack toads and a large colony of Grey Seals.



Farming is the principal industry of the county; however, the predominant rural community is increased by seasonal influxes of visitors that boost the seaside towns' economies. Many of the villages, all with long-established families at their core, have evolved into centres for commuting to Louth and Grimsby or working from home. The area is an attractive place for young families as well as retired people, with many new homes being built and planned.

The Rectory is a modern recently refreshed detached dwelling with five-bedrooms and reasonably sized maintained gardens. It has a separate entrance to the office area. It is situated in Grimoldby opposite the church and within walking distance of the Primary School, Village Hall and a flourishing CO-OP store. Manby Post Office and Marsh Medical Practice are close by. Grimoldby has a regular Service Bus to Louth.



Louth (10 minutes drive from the Rectory) is a thriving county market town nestling under the Lincolnshire Wolds, an Area of Outstanding National Beauty. It retains its significant role as a local hub, has three street markets a week and a weekly livestock market. Louth supports a wide range of independent businesses, including many good quality food shops. It has all the facilities that are normally needed including a hospital, and secondary schools one of which is a Grammar School. With its architectural heritage Louth remains a place of much character and is a significant draw for tourists visiting the area. It was recognised as the UK's favourite market town by BBC's Countryfile magazine and has been listed as one of the most desirable places to live.



Within East Lindsey there is a thriving cultural scene and excellent leisure facilities with swimming pool. There are daily coach services from Louth Bus Station on several routes, including direct to London. There are good train services from Grimsby and Lincoln.

Worship across the Benefice of Mid Marsh with Saltfleetby and Theddlethorpe

This arrangement allows a minimum of two services per month at each parish.

	Alvingham	South Cockerington	Grimoldby	Manby	Great Carlton	Saltfleetby	Theddlethorpe
<i>Sunday 1</i>	10:30 HC		11:15 MP			11:00 MP	
<i>Sunday 2</i>	10:30 Chapel	9:30 MW	11:15 MP	11:00 HC	9:30 MP	11:00 MS	09:30 HC
<i>Sunday 3</i>		9:30 HC	11:15 MP			11:00 HC	
<i>Sunday 4</i>			11:15 HC	11:00 MW	9:30 HC	11:00 MS	16:00 / 18:00 ES
<i>Sunday 5</i>		10:30 Benefice Holy Communion allocated on a rota.					
Methodist Links	Shared			Shared		Ecumenical	Shared

Plus a mid week service of MP or HC, each Thursday at 10:30 in Grimoldby.

HC = Holy Communion Services taken by the Rector

MP= Morning Prayer

MW = Morning Worship

ES =BCP Evensong

MS=Methodist Service including one Communion service

The Rector is supported by retired locally ordained Priests. Four villages have Methodist links of which one is a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) in a shared building. There are persons trained in leading worship to cover Morning Prayer or similar services.

The Rector will be supported by the proposed new Louthesk Marshes Mission Community (LMMC) and would have responsibility for the cure of souls within the Benefice, whilst patterns of prayer, lay ministry, discipleship could be developed as appropriate within the LMMC.

Ecumenical Links. The parishes work closely with the Methodist Circuit to share our strengths and support each other. St. Peter's Saltfleetby is an LEP with the Methodist Church and functions as a single congregation with shared pastoral oversight, a collaboration which started back in 1974. Cooperation and shared activities with both lay and ordained involvement can be found across the Group.

Benefice PCC representatives are meeting regularly during the interregnum to coordinate activity and maintain the Benefice website www.midmarsheschurches.org.uk which includes the latest Monthly Newsheet. We are looking forward to developing further support networks within the benefice and the LMMC to assist overall ministry.

The Villages and Churches

All the churches are in reasonable repair and Quinquennial recommendations are acted upon. All Parishes consistently pay their Parish Share in full and cover all clergy expenses.

The table below shows detail on population, major repairs and improvements and where primary schools are located.

	Alvingham	South Cockerington	Grimoldby	Manby	Great Carlton	Saltfleetby	Theddlethorpe
Population served by the church	596	245	995	759	265	1111	690
Repairs & Improvements In last 10 years	Tower Repairs	Tower Repairs and new kitchen/toilet	Re-roof and internal stone repairs. New toilet/kitchen	Tiling of Chancel floor	Church Roof & Ceiling. Tower roof, new toilet and tea station	Roof and walls	Roof repairs
Primary Schools	North Cockerington C of E		Grimoldby				Theddlethorpe Academy

St Adelwold's Church, Alvingham



An unusual setting of two Churches within one churchyard – St. Mary's, formerly serving North Cockerington and currently in the care of the Church Conservation Trust, and St. Adelwold's now ministering the communities of Alvingham, North Cockerington and Yarborough.

Both buildings stand in the former grounds of a 12th century Gilbertine Priory, and St. Mary's church, believed to be an eleventh century Priory chapel, has examples of Saxon and Norman stonework and a Saxon window on the

north side of the Chancel.

St. Adelwold's stands on the site of a Saxon church and has a rare thirteenth century west tower. Victorian and early twentieth century restoration has masked much of the original interior.

Parking is available at a small car park adjacent to the ancient Alvingham Water Mill and the short walk to St Adelwold's will take you past 'Puddleducks' Nursery school, over the Mill Race, through Abbey Farmyard, to the gate into the churchyard.

Alternatively there is a delightful ten-minute footpath walk across the fields from North Cockerington, with our Millennium Bench overlooking the churches and canal providing a moment for rest and reflexion.

The pupils of North Cockerington Church of England Primary School worship at St. Adelwold's, and the children attending 'Puddleducks' often explore the churchyard.

Holy Communion is held on the first Sunday of each month, and we share worship with our Methodist friends on the second Sunday. An evening Christingle Service takes place each year with a welcoming candle-lit path to the Church.



St Leonard's Church, South Cockerington



St. Leonard's Church is an early-fourteenth and fifteenth century building situated among the farms and houses of the village, providing ministry to the community of South Cockerington. It is open daily from 10am to 4pm. We have a service of Holy Communion on the third Sunday of each month and Morning Prayer on the second Sunday.

Visitors are often surprised to discover an unusually life like monument in the church to Sir Adrian Scrope (1563 -1623). Sculpted out of white alabaster it is

almost certainly the work of Epiphanius Evesham 1570-1633, a major English sculptor. Sir Adrian appears to be very dignified, listening attentively to the service and much at ease on top of his tomb located in front of a fifteenth century rood screen.

The Church is the only public building in the village so we recently decided to advertise the benefits and potential of the church for regular community events. In April 2017 we distributed an Information Flyer to each household in the parish and began to improve our contact and interactions with the wider village community. As a result of that determination we are receiving more support at our Services and regular events, including an annual dog show, coffee mornings, quiz nights and concerts.

The church has recently benefited from newly-installed kitchen facilities and toilets, allowing us to consider many more ideas for future community events.



St Edith's Church, Grimoldby



Our lovely Church of St. Edith, the Parish Church for Grimoldby, is open every day from ten o'clock in the morning to mid-afternoon. Founded in the thirteenth Century, the first Incumbent is listed as Master William de Brauncewell who held office from 1239. The churchyard contains a restored medieval cross, known locally as 'Preacher's Cross'.

Our Churchwardens play an active role in our weekly worship, with Holy Communion on the fourth Sunday of the month, and Morning Prayer on the other Sundays and at 10 am every Thursday morning. Grimoldby Primary School hold End-of-Term Services and a Christmas Carol Service.

Repairs to the roof and high-level stonework are now complete, and new building work inside has provided a toilet for the disabled, a storage room and a new refreshment area. Display boards have been installed, explaining all the expert and volunteer hard work that has taken place to enhance the experience of worship and social activities.

Children from the schools have presented a magnificent Mural as part of the renovations. We also benefit from the school's use of the Church for exhibitions and this year they participated in our Flower Festival.

Among our regular events is the annual Walsingham Pilgrimage, providing us with an opportunity to devote a whole day to prayerful reflection and thanksgiving.

We also stage Concerts, Fashion Shows, Lunches, a Harvest Supper, and we celebrate our fourth year of a successful 'Saturday Shop'. This is a thriving meeting place for all the local community serving home-made snacks, tea and coffee, with proceeds divided equally between local charities and St Edith's.

Website: www.stedithsgrimoldby.co.uk

St Mary's Church, Manby



The Parish Church of St Mary is open during the day for quiet reflection and prayer. It is built in the late fifteenth century perpendicular style. A late Anglo-Saxon slab discovered during Victorian restoration work suggests the Church may occupy the site of an earlier building. The churchyard contains many war and service graves for British, Commonwealth and Polish air-men. They become the focal point for our Remembrance Sunday Service.

St. Mary's served as the School of Air Warfare Chapel until the Royal Air Force Base closed in 1974. The land and buildings of the former Base are currently occupied by East Lindsey District Council headquarters and small businesses. A new housing development of 56 homes is currently being constructed.

Our programme of monthly worship includes Holy Communion in St Mary's on the second Sunday, and supporting a Tea and Breakfast Church held in Grimoldby and Manby Village Hall on the first and third Sundays respectively. We share worship in St Mary's with our Methodist friends on the fourth Sunday. Evening Taizé worship is held during the summer.

The broader village community are fully involved in church life; our uniformed organisations take part in the Remembrance Day and Christmas Carol services. The village restaurant is the venue for our annual Harvest Supper, preceded by a short Service. Volunteer Befrienders visit lonely and isolated people in the community, and we collect food for the 'Community Larder' in Louth.



St John the Baptist Church, Great Carlton



The villages of Great and Little Carlton have a long history dating back to Neolithic times. Artefacts from that period are on display in the Parish Church of St. John the Baptist, situated at the end of a long, tree-lined driveway. In 1861 James Fowler largely rebuilt the church in the style of the thirteenth century, but retained the fifteenth century tower.

The church is open daily from 10am to 4pm, and we have a morning service of Holy Communion on the fourth Sunday in the month and Morning Prayer on each second Sunday. An annual Lambing Service attracts families and young children, and our

Christmas Carol Service involves the village Children's Group. Seventeen men of the two villages who died in World War I are remembered each year on Remembrance Sunday.

The building underwent major repairs and some improvements between 2008 and 2011 resulting in a useful area for serving refreshments and the installation of a toilet.

St John the Baptist's church is a popular venue for Weddings and Baptisms and works closely with the wider village community, covering social and community events in both the church and the Village Hall, organising themed events such as a Christmas Tree Festival, Teddy Bear Abseiling afternoon, and a Wedding Festival.

A Belleplate group, known as the Carlton Junior Clangers, is popular with 6 to 11 year old children and regularly perform at special services together with the Carlton Children's Group.



St Peter's Church, Saltfleetby



St Peter's Church has the unusual distinction of not being in its original position. The main body of the building was moved about half a mile in 1877 to its present position at the crossroads near the centre of the village. The fifteenth century tower, known locally as 'The Stump', remains where it was built and is cared for by the Charity 'Friends of Friendless Churches' since 1976.

Serving the parishes of Saltfleetby, Saltfleet and Skidbrooke, St. Peter's has



been in a formal Local Ecumenical Partnership with the Methodist Church since 1974, alternating between Anglican and Methodist worship. Morning Services are held at 11 o'clock every Sunday and an Anglican service of Holy Communion takes place on the third Sunday of each month and one Methodist Communion Service on another Sunday in the month. We have a play corner to welcome children into our worship, and seasonal services such as Maundy Thursday are celebrated.

A 'Coffee, Cake and Company' social event is held in church on the first Wednesday of each month, and we host regular Art classes, W.I. meetings and charity bingo, along with lunches, suppers, music nights and concerts throughout the year.

The area around the village is a rich wildlife habitat, with nearby Saltfleetby-Theddlethorpe Dunes designated a National Nature Reserve. The reserve is one of only five in the country where the natterjack Toad is found and there are orchids and samphire. Superb sandy beaches are a short distance from the village.



St Helen's Church, Theddlethorpe



St Helen's church, serving the parish of Theddlethorpe, dates from the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Inside the church is a fourteenth century font and a stone medieval reredos, although much of the interior is primarily nineteenth and twentieth century

A service of Holy Communion is held on the second Sunday of each month and a Book of Common Prayer Evensong on the fourth Sunday. Each Easter Sunday we have a First Light Communion Service at 6am on the nearby beach - followed by breakfast in

the church. Our candle-light Carol Service is a popular community event and well attended at Christmas.

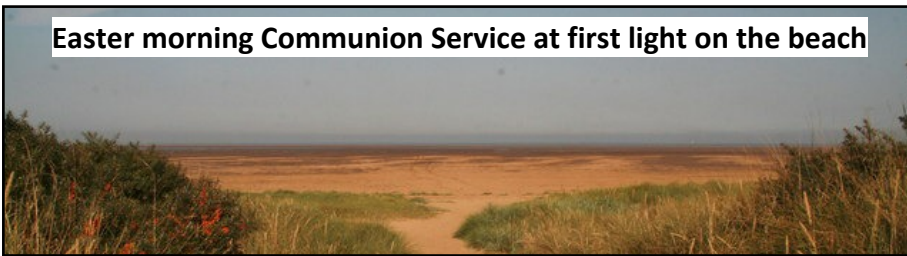
We have regular social events, including a monthly lunch, coffee mornings, plant sales and strawberry teas. The highlight is our Annual Flower Festival which takes place each August bank holiday weekend and is always well attended by the our local community and people that live further afield.

We often welcome children from Theddlethorpe Primary School Academy for acts of worship, and work very closely with the Village Hall.

Saltfleetby-Theddlethorpe Nature Reserve is close by with easy access trails, display boards, and views across the dunes and marshes. The parish also has a fourteenth to fifteenth century redundant church with Norman origins: Theddlethorpe All Saints, known as the Cathedral of the Marsh, has fine exterior carvings and an interior that includes a fifteenth century Brass, carved Chapel Screens filled with mythical creatures, a medieval Rood Screen, a Jacobean pulpit and a Georgian Altar Table.



Easter morning Communion Service at first light on the beach



We hope that this provides a picture of our communities, the churches that witness to Christ's presence amongst them, and the joys and possibilities that we feel we are called to continue among them.

If you feel called to join us, more information can be found:

- by calling the Rural Dean on 07901 852198 or e-mailing nick.brown@teamparishoflouth.org.uk
- by visiting our website at www.midmarshparishes.org.uk

Application Forms can be downloaded from the Diocese of Lincoln Website (www.lincolndiocese.org/)

We look forward to hearing from you.

'I WILL GO LORD, IF YOU LEAD ME'

THE ROLE OF RECTOR OF THE BENEFICE OF MIDMARSH WITH SALTFLEETBY AND THEDDLETHORPE

Role Description

1. Details of post

Title: Rector of the Benefice of Midmarsh with Saltfleetby & Theddlethorpe

Deanery: Louthesk

Archdeaconry: Lincoln

2. Role

The Rector of Midmarsh with Saltfleetby & Theddlethorpe will exercise oversight of the local Church as expressed in the sharing of the cure of souls with the Bishop of Lincoln. In this they will share responsibility for fostering a community of faith within the Benefice of Midmarsh with Saltfleetby & Theddlethorpe that is 'faithful in worship, confident in discipleship and joyful in service'.

- As a priest sharing the cure of souls it is expected that the post-holder will faithfully undertake the duties outlined in Canon Law, including:
 - praying the Daily Offices of Morning and Evening Prayer;
 - celebrating holy communion on Sundays, greater Feast days and Ash Wednesday, and administering the other rites and sacraments of the Church;
 - preaching (or ensuring that a sermon is preached) on each Sunday;
 - instructing parishioners in the Christian Faith, including visiting all the schools that are open to their ministry;
 - preparing and presenting candidates for Confirmation;
 - regularly visiting those who are sick or infirm, and providing opportunities for people to meet them for spiritual and pastoral advice;
 - consulting with the PCC on matters of concern or importance to the parish; and,
 - ensuring that there is appropriate provision when they are absent from the parish.

The parishes within the benefice have reflected on the needs of the communities they serve and have identified the following areas of focus within the ministry of the Church in this benefice:

- to develop the worshipping communities to enable us to grow in faith.
- to improve the mutual support between churches.
- to further our outreach to the community.
- To embrace the surprises and joys that are presented to us.

3. Responsible to: Archdeacon of Lincoln

4. Key relationships

- Members of the PCCs
- Ministry Team members, including Lay Readers, Church Wardens, Members of the Ministry Teams in each church
- Rural Dean of Louthesk
- Colleagues within the Louthesk Deanery, and particularly those serving in parishes within the Louthesk Marshes Mission Community
- Deanery Administrator
- Churches Together in Louth
- Headteachers and staff of North Cockerington (C of E) and Grimoldby Primary Schools

5. Appointed by:

Bishop of Lincoln

6. Housing:

The Rectory, Tinkle Street, Grimoldby



Person Profile

We seek an ordained priest with a commitment to help the Benefice to continue growing in its commitment developing the worshipping communities. Enabling us to grow in faith, improving the mutual support between churches within the group and furthering our outreach to the community; supporting the Diocese in responding to its calling to be 'faithful in worship, confident in discipleship and joyful in service'. Within this context we are looking for someone who:

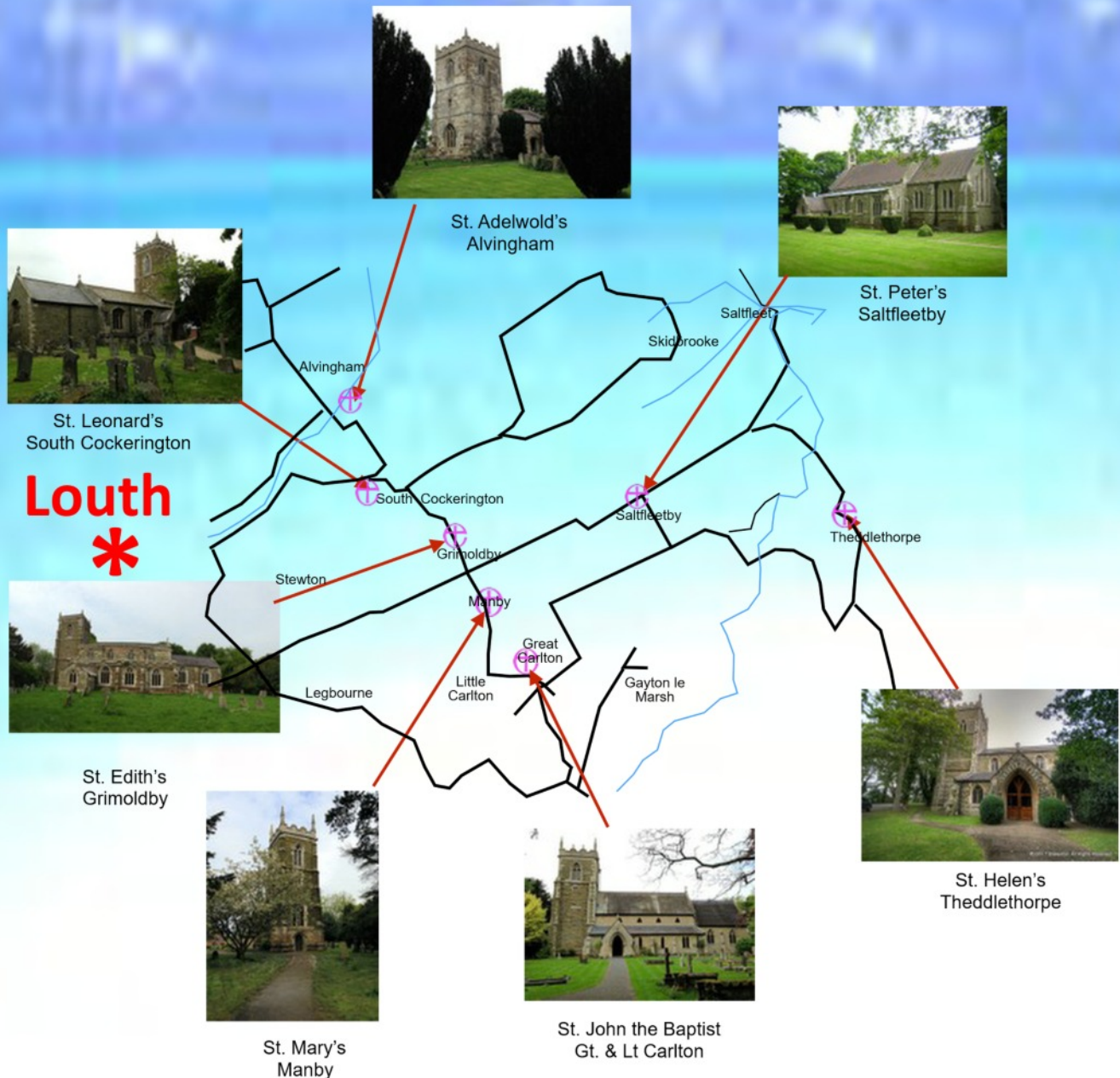
- is committed to God, and sharing the Gospel message through the Holy Spirit in an accessible way;
- will enable us to share an understanding of the scriptures, guide us prayerfully, and equip us in discipleship and outreach;
- can communicate sensitively, compassionately and with empathy for people of all abilities regardless of their status within or outside the church;
- will challenge the status quo, to develop and nurture our congregations, leading us to develop our gifts and ministries;
- will share the Christian faith in the communities, and strengthen the bonds with our Methodist colleagues to oversee the growth of our Churches;
- possesses sustained enthusiasm and competence to work with young people and local schools, encouraging students to participate in the life of the church;
- will help us to discover a variety of opportunities for meaningful worship;
- enjoys their ministry with energy, enthusiasm, a sense of humour, and has the ability to create and organise a sensible Work-life balance.



Appendix 2

Benefice of Mid Marsh with Saltfleetby and Theddlethorpe

Location of Parishes



Appendix 3

Sources of further information on the area

Churches

- Lincoln Diocese - www.lincoln.anglican.org
- Louth Deanery - www.teamparishoflouth.org.uk
- Mid Marsh with Saltfleetby and Theddlethorpe Benefice - www.midmarshchurches.org.uk
- Louth Methodist Circuit - www.eastlincolnshiremethodistcircuit.org.uk

Schools

- Grimoldby Primary School - www.grimoldbyschool.net
- North Cockerington C of E School - www.north-cockerington.lincs.sch.uk
- Theddlethorpe Academy - www.theddlethorpeacademy.co.uk
- King Edward VI Grammar School - www.kevigs.org
- Other Secondary Schools - Louth Academy - www.louthacademy.co.uk

Health

- Mid Marsh Medical Practice - www.marshmedicalpractice.com

Local Government

- Lincolnshire County Council - www.lincolnshire.gov.uk
- East Lindsey District Council - www.e-lindsey.gov.uk

Sport and Leisure

- Leisure Centres and Sports - www.magnavita.org
- Cadwell Park - www.cadwellpark.co.uk
- Lincolnshire Tourism Guide - www.explorelincolnshire.co.uk
- Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust - www.lincstrust.org.uk
- Theatre - www.louthriverheadtheatre.com
- Playhouse Cinema - www.louth.parkwaycinemas.co.uk

Music

- Allegro Appassionato - 40 concerts per year - www.allegroappassionato.webs.com
- Louth Concert Society - 6 concerts per year - www.louthconcertsociety.uk
- Music Link - lists concerts throughout Lincolnshire - www.music-link.net
- Choirs - over 6 including Louth Choral Society - www.louthchoral.co.uk
- Instrumental groups - over 4 including [Louth Ukulele Band](#)

History and further Education

- Louth Museum with information on Tuesday evening lectures - www.louthmuseum.org.uk
- Louth U3A - www.louthu3a.org.uk