

Lincoln Orthodox Messenger No 54  
OCTOBER 2009

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## STUDENTS VISIT LINCOLN ORTHODOX CHURCH

At the start of the autumn term eight post graduate students from Bishop Grosseteste University College Lincoln came with theology lecturer **Mark Plater** ( far right of photo ) to visit the Orthodox Chapel in St Matthias Church Centre. They heard a talk on the history, faith and practice of the Orthodox Church from Fr George and the visit concluded with a service of Artoklasia for which our **Maximos** and **Dunstan** ( centre of photo ) served and chanted. The students are all training to be RE teachers in the State Schools.

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### Why attend the Liturgy ?

Without the visible Holy Church there could not be the Holy Mysteries of Christ which cleanse our souls from the stains of sin and nourish us for eternal life.

Prayers during church services have so much power and significance that just the words “ **Lord have mercy** “ surpass all the spiritual exercises performed in one’s private room at home. ( *Elder St Anthony of Optina* )

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## DIVINE LITURGY

every Sunday

St Matthias, Burton Rd,  
Lincoln, LN1 3TX

**10 am**

**Bring and Share breakfast  
in hall after service.**

## BIG SHAKE UP FOR ORTHODOX CHURCHES IN ENGLAND.

Since the 19th century the gradual increase of Orthodox parishes in England has taken place along ethnic lines. This is because Orthodoxy returned to this land not as a mission to convert the natives - but as a network of chaplaincies to serve the needs of Slav and Greek refugees. By the 21st century the picture had changed dramatically.

**Orthodox Christians of Slav and Greek origin have realised that they are not 'going home.'** England is now home and they are here to stay. Add to that the unexpected but continual flow of **English folk asking to be received into the Orthodox Church** and it becomes clear that the "Ethnic Chaplaincy Model" of the Orthodox presence in this country is rapidly becoming out of date.

Furthermore it is contrary to the **Canon Law** of the Orthodox Church to organise a parish or diocese on ethnic lines. "Russian" "Greek" "Serbian" and "English" parishes are an anomaly! Of its very nature the Orthodox Church and Faith is for every race in every place. Universal.

The 14 Orthodox Patriarchs have now made a joint decision to move from the '**Ethnic Chaplaincy model**' to a Missionary or '**Local Church model**' in the West. The Bishops of each ethnic jurisdiction in England will meet together and form a **Regional Episcopal Assembly** tasked with the job of moulding the several jurisdictions in this country into one united "**Orthodox Church of Great Britain and Ireland.**"

## CALENDAR for OCTOBER

### Fasting days:

Every Wednesday and Friday abstain from meat, milk, eggs and cheese. **Why ?** In remembrance that on **Wednesday** Judas agreed to betray Christ and on **Friday** our Lord was crucified.

**Sun 4th** 17th after Pentecost.

**Sun 11th** 18th after Pentecost.

**Sun 18th** Saint Luke's Day.  
Apostle & Evangelist.

**Sat 24th** St Demetrius memorial  
day of the dead.

**Sun 25th** 20th after Pentecost.

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