

May 2023

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THE PARISH OF
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

HOLY TRINITY • ALL SAINTS' LUDDINGTON • ST. HELEN'S CLIFFORD CHAMBERS

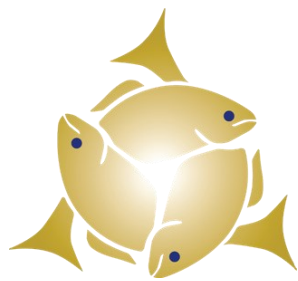


TRINITY TIMES



Lives changed through God's love

 **THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND**



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Please note that views expressed in Trinity Times are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Parochial Church Council.

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#HolyTrinityonsocialmedia



*Front cover :- Sprinkling Water at Easter Service
Photograph by George Reah*

Holy Trinity Team



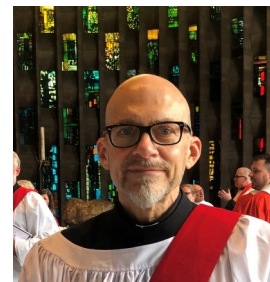
Revd. Patrick Taylor
Vicar



Revd. Steve Jarvis
Associate Vicar



Revd. Kay Dyer
Associate Priest



Revd. Thomas Powell
Curate



Phil Harper
Children and Families Minister

The Kings of May by Thomas Powell

The month of May brings celebrations of birthdays, anniversaries, and kings.

In the church we celebrate Pentecost Sunday, when the Holy Spirit fell upon the apostles in Jerusalem and 3,000 people were added to the church.



For the Hebrew people, Pentecost was called Festival of Weeks, which came fifty days after Passover. This was a farming festival, celebrating two harvests: the end of the barley harvest, and the beginning of the wheat harvest.

And so, on Pentecost Sunday, fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the birthday of the church: the end of the old harvest of salvation by righteousness under law; and the beginning of the new harvest of souls, through faith in Jesus Christ.

I'm also reminded that in May 2021 I finished a placement at Holy Trinity Church, as part of my ordination training at Ripon College Cuddesdon. That was my first posting at Holy Trinity, the year before I began my curacy in July 2022.

And of course, May 2023 brings the coronation of a new king, on whom we bestow this title: King Charles III, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland and of His other Realms and Territories, King, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

That's an interesting title, and useful too. As Christians, we recognize Jesus Christ as King, The King of Kings, who reigns over the Kingdom of God. As subjects of Jesus Christ, we prefer not to give the title "king" to any mortal person, unless we attach serious qualifications as to realms and powers.

And it isn't only because we're Christians. Given a choice, people generally prefer not to worship other persons or to give them unqualified powers. For the benefit of everyone – including himself – we expect Charles to recognize One who is greater than himself, by whose grace his power is given.

I say this as a person born and raised in America, whose instincts about British royalty are very unreliable. My first American ancestor was a man named Thomas Powell, who sailed from Plymouth in the time of James I, the same James who commissioned the King James Bible.

Thomas Powell was cook on board the vessel *Sea Venture*, which was sent by James to support the struggling community in Jamestown, Virginia. Thomas arrived in America on 24 May, 1610.

The *Sea Venture* did not make it to America, but was shipwrecked in a hurricane off the coast of Bermuda. Everyone survived, and from the remains of the *Sea Venture*, the survivors built two smaller ships – *Patience* and *Deliverance* – which arrived in Jamestown in May of 1610.

Cont...

On board the *Deliverance*, aside from Thomas Powell, was the writer William Strachey, who sent a letter to a friend in England telling of the shipwreck of the *Sea Venture*. Scholars believe that this letter was passed on to William Shakespeare, who used it as a source for *The Tempest*.

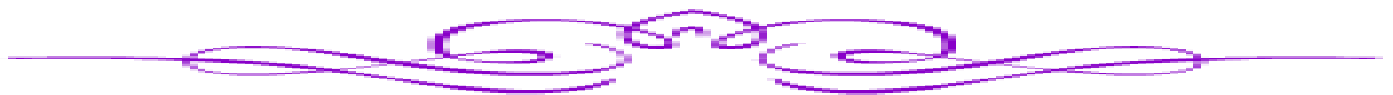
In *The Tempest*, Antonio famously said, "The past is prologue." And it is good to remember this as we enter our May celebrations. If the Feast of Weeks was prologue to Pentecost; and if King James I was prologue to King Charles III; and in my own story, if Thomas Powell the cook was prologue to Thomas Powell the curate; then perhaps we can say that May 2023 is the prologue to every month to come!

Our gospel reading for Pentecost is taken from John's gospel, where the resurrected Jesus Christ appears to his disciples and says, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, so I send you!"

And this is our commission from the King of Kings, to celebrate the month of May, harvesting souls and crowning kings, and creating a better tomorrow.

Every blessing,

Thomas



May is an interesting month this year, with something particular happening every Sunday:

Sunday 7 May 10am Special Parish Eucharist to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III. A service for all ages.

Sunday 14 May Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting. The sermon at the Parish Eucharist is the Vicar's Address and then afterwards in the Parish Centre we meet to elect our Church Wardens, new PCC members and other office holders. We also receive a report on the life of the parish in 2022. All are welcome to attend.

Sunday 21 May The Civic Service takes place as part of our usual 10am Parish Eucharist. We look forward to praying for God's blessing on our new Mayor. The Town Council Chaplain will preach. This is an important occasion when we have the privilege of placing the Christian faith at the heart of our town and praying for our local civic leaders.

Sunday 28 May Pentecost Along with Christmas and Easter this is one of the most important festivals of our church year, when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. This day marks the end of the Easter Season.

Also, don't forget to put in your diary another important day in the church year:

Thursday 18 May Ascension Day There will be the traditional early morning Eucharist at 7am at Holy Trinity, concluding with the blessing given from the roof of the North Porch! Followed by breakfast in the Parish Centre, and all finished in time for work and school!



EASTER AND BEYOND FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



It was wonderful to have the return of the *Good Friday Journey to the Cross* service on Good Friday, after a pandemic-sized pause. All generations came together to explore the story of Holy Week through a selection of prayer

stations and activities, and finishing the service standing and dancing around the cross.



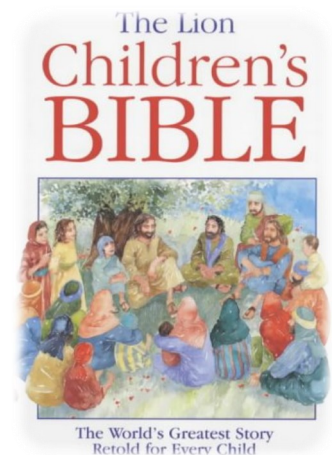
For those enjoying the Easter sunshine there were a selection of prayer stations around the churchyard. Each one had a Bible passage, questions to ponder, and an outdoor activity to do if they wished.



Before Easter the Toddlers at Tots@Trinity had great fun, making Easter cards and searching for Easter eggs around St Peter's Chapel. We also shared together the story of Easter. The next service is on Weds 24 May 2:30pm in St Peter's Chapel (in Holy Trinity Church). Please spread the word to anyone who'd be interested.

At the end of the month the next Time Out Service is happening on 21 May 4pm in the Parish Centre. This informal service with music group is a great way to have some space in busy lives to reflect and spend some time closer to God. We also begin with refreshments, even with hot chocolate on offer.

As we enter the final term of the year, it won't be long until the leavers' service for the Year 6 at Holy Trinity Primary School who are moving onto secondary school. As you may have seen previously we want to be able to give each of the children a Children's Bible when they leave the school. We also want to improve the gift we give children at their Christenings.



Cont...

A new Bible Gift fund has been established and I'll like to say a huge thank you to all those who have already donated. The idea is for this not to be an ongoing thing, but to raise enough money to cover the cost of Bibles for the school leavers and those being Christened. If you'd like to make a donation it can be made via internet banking. The information you will need is:

To:- Stratford-upon-Avon PCC

Sort code:- 40-43-19

Account number:- 20649430

Reference:- Books + (your surname). That will allow us to claim gift aid if appropriate.

Alternatively, by cheque made out to Stratford-upon-Avon PCC and sent to the Parish Office. Please write on the back of the cheque that it is for the Bible Fund.

Phil Harper



**Altar of Repose
Maundy Thursday**



**Reserved Sacrament
for Good Friday**



**Morning Prayer
at the foot of the cross**



**Lilies before the flower
teams work their
magic**



**Arranging
flowers in
church**



**Arranging the porch
flowers**

Easter photographs by Phil Harper

SUNDAY SERVICES IN MAY

Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon

7 May - 5th Sunday of Easter

10am - Parish Eucharist - Coronation Special
5pm - Taizé

14 May - 6th Sunday of Easter

10am - Parish Eucharist - APCM
5pm - Choral Evensong

21 May - 7th Sunday of Easter

10am - Parish Eucharist - Civic Service
5pm - Holy Communion - Traditional

28 May - Pentecost

10am - Parish Eucharist - Pentecost
5pm - Congregational Evensong



St Helen's Church, Clifford Chambers

7 May - 5th Sunday of Easter

9.30 - Morning Praise

21 May - 7th Sunday of Easter

9.30 - Holy Communion



All Saints' Church, Luddington

7 May - 5th Sunday of Easter

9.30 - Holy Communion

14 May - 6th Sunday of Easter

9.30 - Holy Communion

21 May - 7th Sunday of Easter

9.30 - Holy Communion

28 May - Pentecost

9.30 - Holy Communion

Eco Church Report by Kevin Bond

Report of Meeting Saturday 1 April 2023

Holy Trinity, together with the other Christian Churches of Stratford, has been a part of a shared agenda of environmental change to live the life of doing more to safeguard our planet and all that live on it. Each month our Methodist friends host in their Gold Awarded Eco Church premises those sharing our concerns. April's meeting was to hear from representatives of Stratford District Council about their Environmental Agenda for Change.

The Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Darren Pemberton and Councillor Susan Juned (leader of The Liberal Democrats) attended the meeting which attracted thirty attendees.

Stratford District Council has been working with Warwick District Council on a joint action plan to take both councils forward with a strategy which looks out to 2050. The target is to achieve Net Zero (or in simple language, a balance whereby emissions are in balance with compensations equaling overall a zero outcome!). Both councillors were clear that we all face challenges which will require us all to make changes in the way we live our lives if we are to leave a planet which will sustain our children and their successors. Councils are going to have to make decisions which many of us will not like such as restricting the use of personal vehicles and increasing taxes to fund necessary changes.

There were very frank acceptances that our planning laws are inadequate. Indeed, whilst the District Council is the lead planning authority for our area they have traditionally been reluctant to demand more from developers. When challenged about lack of solar panels and inadequate green space on new developments they pointed out that central government has been slow in updating regulations! Whilst this exercise in 'shifting the buck' brought a strong response from Councillor Juned, the audience was unhappy too. Councillor Juned pointed out that there were many planning opportunities to force reluctant developers to improve their performance but that our District Council had proven weak.

To give an example of missed opportunities, it was explained by Councillor Juned that to fit a new house (such as those being built in Shottery) with solar panels would cost about £4000 per house but to retrofit the energy saving opportunities is likely to cost around £24,000. Both an environmental and economic loss!

To be fair to Councillor Pemberton he too felt unhappy that too many opportunities had been and were still being lost but he made the point that the councillors had a big job to do to bring more of our fellow residents up to speed with both the challenges and the opportunities.

The discussions moved to look at the significant changes which are required to provide a public transport system which could meet the needs of our town and surrounding area. There was agreement across the room that current bus provision was very poor and that significant improvements would be needed and this would cost a lot of money. The willingness of us all to pay or indeed use public transport after having a society of private car availability is going to present real challenges. Of course, there will be many unable to pay more so the burden of the necessary changes will impact unequally.

Cont...

The meeting lasted for a full hour and a half and could have gone on longer with the level of interest being expressed. What is clear is that the level of interest and awareness of the challenges we face are rising all the time. We have our own HT environment group with Anthony leading the process of improvement and achievement of Eco Church Silver award (no mean feat for a church with an 800 year old building with little in the way of modern energy standards).

The coming monthly meetings will include one looking at the role of Warwickshire County Council — responsible for transport, parking and a range of other county wide services. We have previously heard from Councillor Jenny Fradgley about the limited role of our Town Council.

The way in which we tackle the challenges is, at the end of the day, in our hands. Councils can regulate and tax but it is we together who have to empower the councils and we who have to live differently.



TRINITY LADIES

I am hoping, that by the time you read the May issue of the Trinity Times, summer will have arrived and that the May outing which we have arranged for an hour's cruise with Bancroft Cruises, on the river, with tea, scones and strawberries, will be a really lovely afternoon out. When we had a similar trip a few years ago it was a most enjoyable afternoon. This year the cost is £18 payable to **STRATFORD-UPON-AVON PCC NOT Trinity Ladies**. The boat can accommodate thirty-two passengers. Unfortunately it will have to be first come first served, so book your place as early as you can if you really want to come with us on this river trip. The boat will leave its mooring at the back of the Crowne Plaza hotel at 2pm. To get to the boat take the driveway past the main entrance of the hotel and through a small wooden gate. The boat is moored in the inlet of the Avon. **Do not go to the canal basin**. The boat is covered so should we be unfortunate to have rain we will still be able to enjoy the trip without getting wet.

In June we will be having a talk about the work of the Coventry City Mission and in July we have arranged for Mr Barry Jukes, a well known local singer, to come and entertain us before we enjoy a strawberry tea together. More information about this in the June magazine.

Our meetings start at 2pm in the Parish Centre. If you would like to join us please come along; we shall be delighted to see you.

Gina Lodge
Chair.



PCC MINUTES from 21 March

The meeting was held at Holy Trinity School and commenced with a site tour for the PCC followed by some questions.

The meeting was then updated with the current situation regarding outstanding items from the agenda.

There followed a power point presentation by Ursula Russell on the history and work of the Trinity Players and the causes that have benefited from their funding. Trinity Players would welcome the assistance of a Publicity Officer, and support with costumes and storage.

The Good Friday Services will be as they were pre-Covid.

Coronation Weekend is a good opportunity for outreach, with the congregation joining in with community events. Holy Trinity Church will host a wedding on the Saturday, whilst showing the ceremony of the Coronation on a large screen in the Parish Centre.

The Annual Accounts were approved ready for the ACPM.

The Terrier for St Helen's has been approved and signed off.

The current Safeguarding Officer has offered her resignation and will be replaced at the first PCC meeting after the ACPM by Lynn Suter as Parish Safeguarding Officer. Subject to agreement at this evening's Standing Committee, Paul Suter's title will be Parish Safeguarding Administrator.

The Rev. Kay Dyer is to be relicensed for a further twelve months.

The team at St Helen's now have volunteers to mow the churchyard and there is a proposed link up with Clifford Chamber charities for a special service on 9 July.

Work is continuing with the fund raising for the Church Organ refurbishment.



ADVERTISE HERE

This could be your advertisement in Trinity Times

TRINITY PLAYERS PRODUCTION OF "WITNESSES"

WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

Directed by Ursula Russell



**Graham Wilcox
as Simeon**



**John Ryder
as Caiaphas**



**Michael Shanebeck
as Reuben**



**Margot McCleary
as Veronica**



**Val Cubitt
as Miriam**



**Brian Russell
as Andrew**



**Ruthie Copeman
as Mary the mother**



**Orion Johnson
As Mary of
Magdala**



**Pete Cubitt as Peter, Tim Raistrick as Pilate
and John Ryder as Caiaphas**

Photographs by George Reah

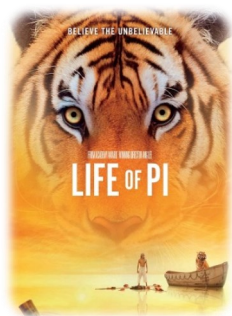


DELIVER US FROM EVIL by James Sorel-Cameron

Lent study courses are usually based on some theological text, such as this year's excellent *The Things He Carried*, or even on relevant passages from the Bible. Those of us who love film, however, felt that the issues of Lent might be addressed by way of certain selected feature films. In pursuit of this, we selected, carefully and with some considerable discussion, five films which were shown on the successive Wednesday evenings of Lent, in the Sixth Form Common Room of King Edward's School, by kind permission and support from Mike Hawley the school's bursar.

We chose as our theme, *Deliver Us From Evil*. We selected films of the highest quality to show and to use as points of discussion. Each film showing was followed by discussion, in the venue and, thereafter, more freely, in the Windmill Public House; and the Sunday following, a further discussion time was afforded by means of ZOOM, in the comfort of our own homes.

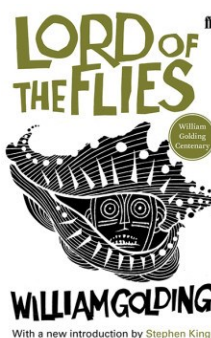
The films were all commercial feature films, each regarded highly and each a particular favourite of one or other of us; we being Paul Gifford, Steve Jarvis, and James Sorel-Cameron.



We began then with *Life of Pi*, multi *Oscar-winner* directed by Ang Lee. Pi is a boy who survives a shipwreck which takes the life of his family. He is alone on a lifeboat which he shares with Richard Parker, a Bengal tiger. It is a glorious film which, literally and metaphorically, shows a human boy pitted against the ferocity of nature, which is overwhelmingly beautiful, as well as, as far as the tiger is concerned, *red in tooth and claw*. It is a vivid and exciting narrative giving a first sight of the perspectives and problems of evil that we need to be able to recognise and engage with – as

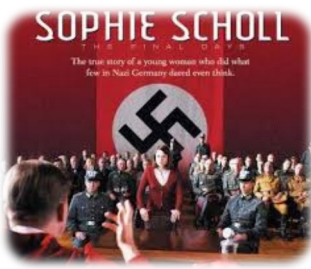
humans, as people of faith, and as Christians.

Then, in stark contrast, we had *I Daniel Blake*, directed by Ken Loach, the British social realist director. It dramatizes one man's poignant struggle with the welfare system of the consumer society, the unwitting cruelties of which finally kill him. The word 'evil' is never mentioned, but our unconscious complicity in manifest evil is challenged by its Christlike hero. What is gained, what may be lost, by our discovery of 'systemic evil'? we asked ourselves.



Next we had Peter Brook's vivid film of William Golding's novel, *Lord of the Flies*. The 20th century parable of a group of English Prep school boys abandoned in the wake of a nuclear war on a tropical island. The film shows things falling apart with apocalyptic effect; the loss of childhood 'innocence', 'the darkness of man's heart' and 'the fall'. 'Evil' is situated in our own time: at the threshold of a *post-Christian* culture and civilisation.

Cont...



Then, a more direct confrontation with evil: ***Sophie Scholl: the Last Days***, directed by Marc Rothemund, a gripping and deeply moving account of German student resistance to the Nazi State in 1943. It is a powerful exploration of political power as evil, confronted by suffering and martyrdom – all raised by ‘Christlike’ allusions developed around the key-figure of Sophie. The writer Clive James wrote, *If there can be any such thing as a perfect person beyond Jesus Christ and his immediate family, Sophie Scholl was it.*

And to conclude we had ***Shadowlands***, directed by Richard Attenborough. Anthony Hopkins plays C. S. Lewis, academic and Christian apologist who finds love late in life, only to lose his beloved wife to cancer. Lewis’s confrontation with the ‘last enemy’, death, starkly presents the major questions of this Lenten course.



What is *evil* ? Is it in nature itself (as in *Life of Pi* and *Shadowlands*), or only the way in which human beings treat one another (actively in *Sophie Scholl*, or passively in *I Daniel Blake*)? Is it, as in *Lord of the Flies*, part of our human nature? Recognising *evil*, how should we then confront it?

Such questions sprang out of our five films. And no, we did not find any final answers, any answers at all, really. We, by way of these films, stared a little more intently into the darkness at the heart of life, which is perhaps the first step forward.

Any thoughts on these ideas, whether or not you saw the films, would be gratefully received (at sorelcameron.james@gmail.com). We think this course, give or take the odd technical hitches, went well, and we are already thinking of the films for another such course next year.

James Sorel-Cameron



*See that no one repays anyone evil for evil,
but always seek to do good to one another
and to everyone.*

1 Thessalonians 5:15



By the time you read this, we will be in the middle of an exciting time in our church's life. Holy Week and Easter, closely followed by the Shakespeare celebrations – and then, coming up in May, the celebration of the Coronation, our Civic Service, Pentecost.....perhaps after the long “winter of our discontent”, brought on by Covid and its restrictions, we needed all this! But people react differently to excitement and change. To some they are invigorating – to others disturbing. Some of you may have seen a recent series of TV programmes on autism. Autistic people often prefer to call themselves “neurodiverse”; they do not have a sickness or disability, but their brains are wired differently from those of others. That can be a strength, but it can also make life difficult. My own elder daughter, a gifted music teacher, was diagnosed in her 40s as autistic – and I suspect that a good few of us are “somewhere on the spectrum” as they say. We should not generalise about this condition. A saying familiar amongst the autistic community is “If you have met one person with autism...you have met just ONE person with autism”! But, broadly, we are talking of people who are unusually intense and inward-looking, and may find some aspects of forming relationships and communicating very difficult. They can often find change, and/or excitement - including a lot of noise and light for example - particularly disturbing. All of us must be sensitive to such people's needs, which seem to be manifested increasingly amongst younger people in particular, no doubt made worse by the experience of the Covid years.

I have a friend, a young theologian in Northern Ireland, who is herself autistic and has thought and written much about the impact of autism on belief and spirituality. For anyone who finds it hard to relate in any real way to someone visible sitting opposite them, the idea of a “relationship with God”, as often understood, can be exceptionally difficult or even impossible. Fortunately the Christian story and the Christian community are, or should be, big enough to give a place to such people. I would be happy to share some of her wisdom with anyone who would find it helpful – or perhaps even introduce them to her via email or Zoom, though I doubt whether she would want to become a counsellor to every such person!

We at Holy Trinity call ourselves an “inclusive” church. That phrase often refers mainly to people with perceived physical disabilities, and the need to make the church accessible to them. We have some of those amongst our number. One example - Sarah Paine - is one of the bravest people that I have ever met, and not simply because of her obvious physical problems. But there are many other categories of people who may not be “disabled” in any usual or visible sense, but are just “different” – and sometimes, like Sarah, have magnificently transcended any disadvantages which this brings, and may manifest some very special gifts of the Spirit.

I certainly claim no particular talent in understanding and relating to people different from myself – but I am constantly thrilled, after some twenty-five years' membership of Holy Trinity, at the sheer diversity of personalities and gifts, sometimes hidden or unexpected, within the congregation. As we move on from these current exciting times in our church life to the long Trinity season, which some have called “boring”, maybe we can learn to rejoice in this diversity in a new way.

FROM THE REGISTERS - APRIL 2023

CHRISTENINGS

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 16 April | Charlie Atkinson with a blessing for Molly Atkinson, whose baptism took place during Covid restrictions |
| 16 April | Marcel Kowalski |
| 30 April | Henry Twiney |

WEDDINGS

FUNERALS

- | | |
|----------|---------------------------|
| 14 April | Tony [aka David] Young |
| 24 April | Robin Christopher Jackson |
| 25 April | Diana Helen Austin |



HOLY TRINITY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The next meeting of the Support Group will be on Wednesday 3 May. If you think it would help to meet with other people who are in a similar position at this difficult time in your life please come and join us. Just come to the Parish Centre at 2pm and we will finish at about 3.30pm.

There is no need to make an appointment; we shall be delighted to see you. Come and join us in the lounge area of the Parish Centre.

David Harrison
Bereavement Co-ordinator

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Question: What has eight benefices, twenty-four parishes, and thirty church buildings to maintain?

Answer: **THE FOSSE DEANERY**



As many of our parishioners will know, our Vicar Patrick Taylor has been Area Dean for the Fosse Deanery for the last five years. I meet Patrick to find out exactly what an Area Dean does.

Firstly, the ministry of Area Deans has its origins in the mission of the Church, helping it to grow into new areas. As the Church became more established, the ministry of the Dean developed into a pastoral role both for priests within their parishes, thus forming a vital link between the Bishop, and the missional activity of each area.

Patrick says, “ One of my main tasks is to take pastoral care of all the stipendiary clergy, of which there are currently eight within the Fosse Deanery. Some of these parishes are small rural communities and our priests may have to cover several churches over a large area. Being a Vicar can be a tough job both physically and mentally.”

As well as the eight stipendiary priests, we are lucky to have several self-supporting ministers and, even more fortunately, we have about twenty active retired members of the clergy living within the Fosse Deanery. They generously give their time to assisting the clergy with services throughout the deanery. Again we are fortunate to have several chaplains and around a dozen readers to support the clergy.

The Fosse Deanery comes under the Diocese of Coventry, with Alcester Deanery to the west, Warwick and Leamington north, Southam east and Shipston to the south. Our Deanery stretches from Shottery St Andrew in the west right across to Warmington and Shotteswell in the south-east, and even covers Chesterton and Avon Dassett across the M40. Within our area, there are about thirty church buildings, ten church schools, as well as many vicarages and village halls. Maintaining these buildings, especially old churches with extremely high insurance costs, is an expensive exercise which presents many financial challenges.

Patrick explains, “All the members of the clergy within our Deanery meet regularly, offering both fellowship and support to one another. This way, as Area Dean, I am able to understand any problems within a particular parish, and I’m also in a position to report any issues to the Diocese, acting as a channel of communication both ways. For example, the recent decision by the General Synod on the blessing of same-sex relationships has been discussed at the clergy Chapter meetings and feedback provided to the diocese and to the Bishops.”

As well as the Clergy Chapter and the Deanery Synod, there are regular meetings between the Area Deans and the Archdeacons, and also with our two Bishops, so that any issues can be tackled and new initiatives brought forward. From this parish, our lay members are Anthony Woollard, who is Deanery Treasurer (and is our Diocesan Synod Representative) and our Deanery Synod Representatives are Jane Armitage, Beckey Barton, Richard Hartley and Teresa Kristunas.

Cont...

The second responsibility concerns the financial and administrative affairs of the deanery. The Deanery Synod organises the whole finances for the area, including the division of the "parish share" so that poorer or more rural parishes with much smaller congregations, can be supported proportionately. These financial decisions are made with regard to which parish might need help and support, and the Area Dean is closely consulted when drawing up financial strategies.

A further responsibility for our Area Dean is ensuring that all parishes have access to priests when needed, for example during times of vacancies or illnesses. Naturally, if there is an interregnum the Area Dean is involved in the recruitment process for a new appointment within our area, and sits on the interview panel.

Finally, I ask Patrick, "Is being Area Dean a lot of extra work?"

"Being an Area Dean as well as a full time parish incumbent is certainly challenging" he answers, " but I feel I have benefitted from the insight into the functions of the diocese, and I find working with members of the clergy particularly rewarding; I'm happy to encourage and support all the clergy, Readers and church wardens within the Fosse Deanery. We call our Deanery Synod "Faith in Fosse" and it's great to have a strong team that can really focus on nurturing faith and discipleship within our deanery."

Judith Dorricott

SOUNDBITES

Wednesday 3 May - Orpheus Wind Ensemble - USA

Wednesday 10 May - RBC Piano Duo

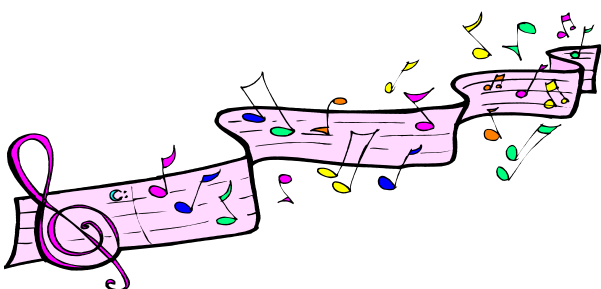
Wednesday 17 May - RBC pianist - Carlos Alfonso Ferri

Wednesday 24 May - Miami Glee Men's Choir - USA

Wednesday 31 May - Fumi Violin

Sandwiches and drinks available to purchase from 12.15pm

Recital starts at 1pm



PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION



**Photographs by
George Reah**

EASTER DAY SERVICE

Photographs by George Reah



Patrick welcomes the congregation



Charlotte and Arthur ready to carry the Cross and Bible in the procession



The congregation renewed their baptismal vows before being sprinkled with Holy Water and Patrick even got the children to help



Share the celebration of

THE CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III

on Saturday 6th May at 11am
(coffee & cake served from 10:30)

Watch together live on the Big Screen
in Holy Trinity Parish Centre

Join us afterwards at 1pm for a celebratory lunch
(Bring and Share)
& a loyal toast to our new King

Please reserve your places by scanning the QR code or by clicking the link in the church e-bulletin

EVERYONE WELCOME



SOCIAL
EVENTS



For more information
please contact
Chris on 01789 204 273

HOLY TRINITY
CHURCH
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON



EASTER FLOWERS FROM HOLY TRINITY, STRATFORD-UPON-AVON



EASTER FLOWERS FROM ST HELEN'S, CLIFFORD CHAMBERS



Thank you to everyone who made our churches so beautiful over Easter .

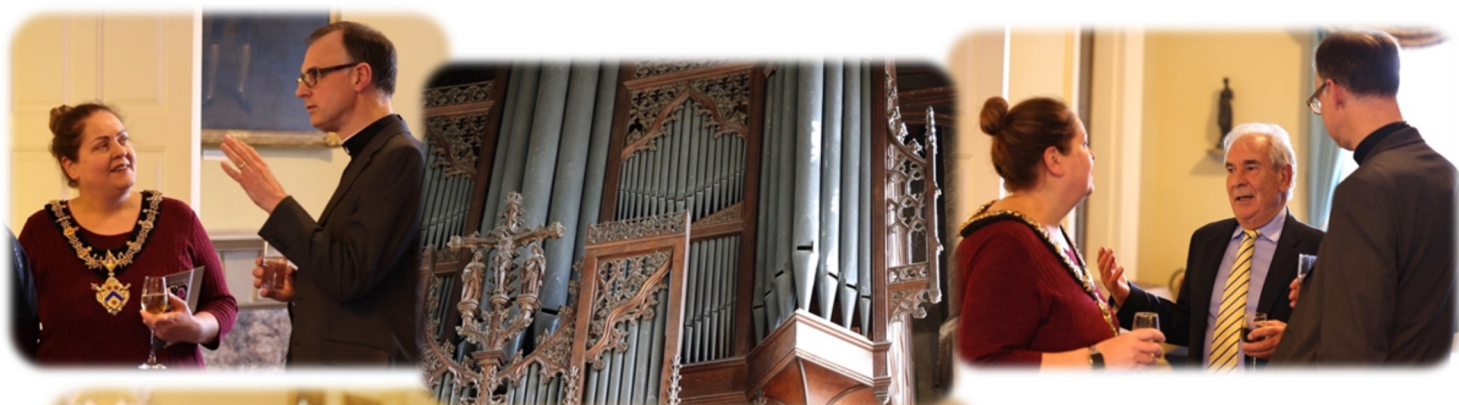
EASTER FLOWERS FROM ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, LUDDINGTON



Fund raising for the restoration of the Organ at Holy Trinity

There has been a Town Hall in Stratford-upon-Avon since the reign of King Charles I. On 30 March this year it was the venue for the launch of the Holy Trinity Church Organ Restoration Appeal. A reception with drinks and canapes took place in the ballroom - an elegant setting, looking much as it did when it was refurbished in 1863. The Vicar, Rev. Patrick Taylor, and Director of Music, Douglas Keilitz, gave brief presentations, explaining why the organ at Holy Trinity needs to be restored. Guests were also able to see for themselves just what a complicated instrument a pipe organ is, in a short film made by James Willetts, that was shown in the ante room throughout the evening. With very many pipes, the largest up to sixteen foot tall, the smallest the size of a pencil, operated from a console with three keyboards, lots of stops and big wooden foot-pedals, it is no wonder that repairs and refurbishments are needed from time to time. Richard Hartley and Eve Archer have been co-ordinating the campaign to raise £50,000 to restore the organ.

Supported by Tony Bird, our patron, they organised a silent auction for which a variety of gifts were donated. These included a signed print, the chance to have a portrait drawn by a well-known local artist, a short break in Canterbury, and a variety of treats like dinner at Vinters, and hair styling at Matthew Curtis's award-winning salon. As a result, the Restoration Fund campaign got off to a good start. On the night we also raised money by sponsoring an organ pipe. Follow the link to our website at <https://www.stratford-upon-avon.org/organ-restoration> to help pay for the restoration of a pipe. Sponsorship of any amount will be very welcome.



Words and pictures by
James Willetts



Fund raising for the restoration of the Organ at Holy Trinity cont...

If you were unable to attend the event, you can still see the film about the organ, at *Organ Restoration Appeal* on YouTube - video link: https://youtu.be/sW_RVxloCKc and, perhaps, be inspired to pull out all the stops (groan) to add your support.

Post script - The Mystery Parcel that sat on the edge of the stage throughout the evening, somehow became the Missed-ery parcel and was not listed for the auction. It contains an interesting collection of books that include a rare First World War novel published in 1916, a First Edition of *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, and several other First Editions of books around 100 years old. Totting up the prices shown on www.bookfinder.com makes the reserve price of £75, in aid of the organ fund, look like a bargain! If you would like to make an offer, or find out more about the books, please email jameswilletts@btinternet.com



James Willetts

save THE DATE

SKITTLES & BBQ

Come and join the Summer fun
and games for all ages

AT HOLY TRINITY PARISH CENTRE

FROM 5-9PM

ON SATURDAY 10TH JUNE

(Cost £5 per person)



SOCIAL
EVENTS

For more information about this event
please contact Chris on 01789 204 273

HOLY TRINITY
CHURCH
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON



From Psalm 25:4-11

**Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths;
guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my Saviour,
and my hope is in you all the day long.**

**Remember, O Lord, your great mercy and love,
for they are from of old.**

**Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways;
according to your love remember me,
For you are good, O Lord.**

**Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.**

He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way.

**All the ways of the Lord are loving and faithful
for those who keep the demands of his covenant.**

**For the sake of your name, O Lord, forgive my iniquity,
though it is great.**

Photograph from Iona

Some useful fire safety tips from Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service

Please take a few minutes to read the following simple tips to help prevent fire, and do give some thought about how you would escape from your home.

Smoke alarms - The most important thing you should do to protect yourself, family and home from fire is to make sure that you have working smoke alarms.

There should be at least one per floor level and fitted to the ceiling. Once fitted don't forget to test them regularly as the batteries do eventually run out. It is suggested that smoke alarms are tested once a week. If you cannot reach the test button, use a broom or a broom handle to reach it.

Cook safely – do not leave cooking pans unattended, turn them off if you need to leave them. Keep combustible items away from the cooker and hob area. Always double check that the cooker is off when you have finished cooking. We suggest turning electric cookers off at the main cooker switch when not in use to avoid knobs being accidentally turned on.

Smoking – use a proper ashtray. Never smoke in bed. Make sure smoking materials are fully extinguished after use. Keep matches and lighters out of children's reach. Do not leave a lit cigarette lying around. Take care if you have to use prescription drugs which may make you drowsy, if this is the case take extra care and avoid smoking.

Candles – Always put candles out if leaving them unattended for more than a short time. Make sure they are out before going out or to bed. Use a proper candle holder and do not leave them where they might be knocked over by a pet or a gust of wind near a window.

Plan a safe escape – keep exits clear and leave keys in a safe place where they can be accessed quickly. The best route is usually the normal way in and out of your home but think of alternative routes if your first one is blocked.

What to do if there is a fire – Try to stay calm, raise the alarm and alert others. Get out, stay out and call 999 Fire. Do not waste time rescuing valuables or investigating the fire. Do not tackle the fire yourself. If there is smoke, keep low where the air is clearer. If you are trapped by fire, stay in one room, get to a window and call for help. If you have a phone, call 999. Sheets can be used to stop smoke entering from the bottom of the door. On ground and first floor you may be able to escape through a window, however this should only be considered if it is not possible to leave via normal routes.

For more fire safety advice go to www.warwickshire.gov.uk/firesafety or call 01926 466282 to book a free safe and well visit from a local fire crew.



Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service

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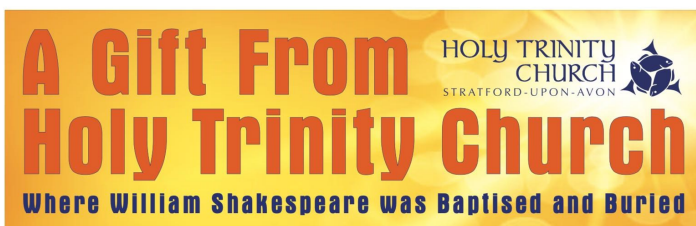


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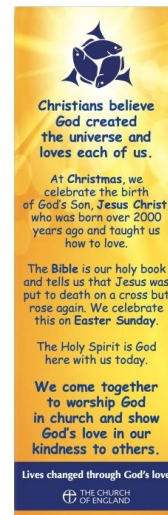
A NEW BOOKMARK FOR CHILDREN

Last year we had many large groups of primary school children visiting our church, but volunteers noticed the visits were so rushed and the teachers so busy, there was little time for the children to understand the meaning of Christianity. Many of the visiting children came from backgrounds of other religions or from families practising no religion at all. Jane Cole and Judith Dorricott had the idea of designing a bookmark to be given as a gift to children aged five to eleven as they left the church, and Patrick, our Vicar, agreed that this was a simple but effective way of supplementing our outreach programme. The most difficult part of this assignment was describing Christianity and its core values to children in under 100 words!



A Gift From
Holy Trinity Church
Where William Shakespeare was Baptised and Buried

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON



Christians believe
God created
the universe and
loves each of us.

At Christmas, we
celebrate the birth
of God's Son, Jesus Christ,
who was born over 2000
years ago and taught us
how to love.

The Bible is our holy book
and tells us that Jesus was
put to death on a cross but
rose again. We celebrate
this on Easter Sunday.

The Holy Spirit is God
here with us today.

We come together
to worship God
in church and show
God's love in our
kindness to others.

Lives changed through God's love
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

PARISH CONTACTS

The Parish Office, Old Town
Stratford upon Avon, CV37 6BG

Tel. 01789 266 316

Email: office@stratford-upon-avon.org

Clergy Team

Vicar	The Revd Patrick Taylor	01789 508 155	vicar@stratford-upon-avon.org
Associate Vicar	The Revd Steve Jarvis	01789 296 590	steve@stratford-upon-avon.org
Associate Priest	The Revd Kay Dyer	07857 821 168	kay@stratford-upon-avon.org
Curate	The Revd Thomas Powell	01789 266 316	thomas@stratford-upon-avon.org
Children & Families Minister	Phil Harper	07791 005 696	phil@stratford-upon-avon.org

Assistant Ministers (Hon)

The Revd John Hall-Matthews	01789 414 182
The Revd Penny Harrison	01789 266 316
The Revd Diane Patterson	01789 266 453
The Revd Jenny Rowland	01789 415 548
The Venerable Brian Russell	01789 266 316
The Revd Graham Wilcox	01789 551 759

Readers

Paul Gifford
David Harrison

Staff

Operations Manager:	Liz Marshall	01789 266 316	liz@stratford-upon-avon.org
Parish Administrator:	Sarah Cushing	01789 266 316	sarah.cushing@stratford-upon-avon.org
Director of Music:	Douglas Keilitz		douglas.keilitz@stratford-upon-avon.org

Church Wardens

Paul Lageu	07434 328 484	Tim Raistrick	01789 509 885
Helen Warrillow	01789 298 928	Sherron Guise	07855 248 610

Village Contacts

All Saints', Luddington	Jane Beeley	01789 269 618
St. Helen's, Clifford Chambers	Pat Woolvin	07989 318 965

Other Contacts

Head Server	Chris Cornford	01789 295 066	
Bell Ringers	Charles Wilson	01789 295 467	
Bereavement Support Team	David Harrison	01789 612 634	e-mail preferred - davidianharrison@hotmail.com
Safeguarding Officer	Jane Armitage	01789 297 652	
Trinity Ladies	Gina Lodge	01789 204 850	
Electoral Roll Officer	Tim Raistrick	01789 509 885	
Friends of Shakespeare's Church	tba		
Friends of St Helen's Church	Angela Wylam	01789 268 156	
Holy Trinity in the Community	Steve Jarvis	01789 266 316	
Lay Chaplains	Keith Payne	01789 266 316	
PCC Secretary	Elizabeth Roome	01789 565 743	Mobile: 0790 531 4751
PCC Treasurer	Mike Warrillow	01789 298 928	
Friends of the Music	Caroline Thomas	01789 266 316	
Home Communion	Steve Jarvis	01789 266 316	
Stewardship Officer	Chris Kennedy	01789 299 785	
Trinity Players	Ursula Russell	01789 204 923	
Trinity Tots	Phil Harper	07791 005 696	
Pastoral Contacts	Parish Office	01789 266 316	or office@stratford-upon-avon.org
Welcome Team	Eve Archer	07826 574 854	or ega1912@yahoo.uk
Sunday Coffee organisers	Tina Hillyard	01789 551 739	
	Diane Edwards	01789 296 396	
Churchyard Maintenance			
Volunteer Team	Lindsay MacDonald	01789 293 110	



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Many hands make light work as a team of ladies put together posies of flowers for the children to distribute on Mothering Sunday.

We were sorry to learn that former Organist and Choirmaster, John Strickson, has recently died at the age of 92. John was appointed to the position at Holy Trinity in 1954 and left in 1978 to become first a butler to Lord Weinstock and then to manage a succession of National Trust properties. He was also the conductor of the Stratford Choral Society and the Warwickshire Symphony Orchestra as well as teaching music at Shoterly Grammar school and KES.

Our thoughts and sympathies are with his family and friends.

May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

