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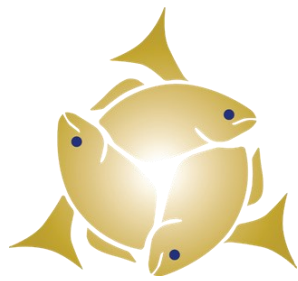
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Please note that views expressed in Trinity Times are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Parochial Church Council.

The next magazine will be the **May 2022** edition  
**The copy date is 19 April**

If any item is left until the very last minute, or received after the copy date, there is no guarantee that it will be able to be included in the magazine.

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#HolyTrinityonsocialmedia



Front cover :- Easter Cross—"He is Risen"

## Holy Trinity Team



Revd. Patrick Taylor  
Vicar



Revd. Steve Jarvis  
Associate Vicar



Revd. Kay Dyer  
Associate Priest



Phil Harper  
Children & Families Minister

## Keeping the Faith in Ukraine

As I write in mid-March, I don't of course know what the state of the war in Ukraine will be by the time you read this. But it looks, distressingly, as though things are going to get worse. The stories and images of the suffering of innocent civilians are truly horrifying. However, one of the images that has left a particular impression on me is not one of destroyed buildings or bewildered refugees: rather, it shows a small group of volunteers carefully lowering a large figure of the crucified Christ, which was being taken out of the Armenian Cathedral in Lviv to be stored in a bunker for protection. The last time it was removed was during World War II. The photo was posted on Twitter by a Cultural Property Protection Officer and has been widely shared since.



Photograph @TimLeBerre

A number of people have reflected on how removing the statue means so much more than just saving a work of art or piece of cultural heritage. It's about making sure something deeper and

more profound is

preserved: the faith that, in the end, love conquers violence and death. I think one of the reasons the image struck me so much was the resonance it has with one of the traditional Stations of the Cross, entitled *The Body of Jesus Is Taken Down from the Cross*. We have put up the Stations in Holy Trinity Church for Lent, and you can see this one hanging on the pillar behind the lectern. Jesus suffered and was killed at the hands of an occupying force (the Romans). As Ukrainians find themselves at the receiving end of violence and destruction from another invading force, their suffering brings them closer to Jesus. What makes the death of Jesus unique and so powerful is that as God, he doesn't respond to violence with violence: pure love chooses



not to express itself with force. Yet in Christ's resurrection we see how, at the same time, love cannot ultimately be overcome by violence.

The Ukrainians have rightly committed themselves to fighting back to protect their nation and people. In the Christian tradition there is a very well developed "Just War" principle. This does permit violence, but only as a last resort in certain circumstances, such as self defence or to prevent an aggressor from committing further acts of war. So the Ukrainians are justified in fighting - but of course war cannot in itself provide the means of lasting peace. Before Jesus died on the cross he said, "Father forgive them for they do not know what they are doing." These words may feel particularly apt as we think of all those Russian soldiers, many young conscripts, who were misled about what they had been sent to Ukraine to do. It's probably too soon to expect the people of Ukraine to think about forgiveness. But I hope that in safely putting away that figure of the crucified Christ, Ukrainians might also have been saving a space, somewhere deep inside their own hearts, where there will remain the capacity for rebuilding not just their homes and cities, but also shattered lives and relationships. I hope also, that as we make our own spiritual journeys through Holy Week and Easter this year, we might find our hearts enlarged both with compassion for those suffering as Christ did, and also with the joy of the the Resurrection. As the Easter hymn puts it, we celebrate that, "the strife is o'er, the battle done".

*Patrick*

**TRINITY PLAYERS PRESENT**  
**THE MESSAGE OF THE CROSS**



**We tell the Easter Story from Palm Sunday to the Resurrection**

**Saturday 9 April 2022 at 2.30 and 7pm**  
**Holy Trinity Church Stratford-upon Avon**  
**Refreshments**

**Admission Free: Retiring collection for Stratford Town Centre Chaplaincy and a  
Charity for the children of Ukraine**



## SUNDAY SERVICES IN APRIL



### Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon

**3 April - The Fifth Sunday of Lent - Passiontide Begins**

10am - Parish Eucharist ~ *Growing in Prayer* ~ *Lament*

5pm - Holy Communion

**10 April - Palm Sunday**

10am - Parish Eucharist ~ *Palm Sunday* ~ *Passion Gospel*

5pm - Choral Evensong

**17 April - Easter Day**

8am - Holy Communion

10am - Parish Eucharist

5pm - Festal Choral Evensong

**24 April - The Second Sunday of Easter**

11.15am - Shakespeare Service

5pm - Holy Communion

### St Helen's Church, Clifford Chambers

**3 April - The Fifth Sunday of Lent - Passiontide Begins**

9.30 - Morning Worship

**10 April - Palm Sunday**

9.30 - Holy Communion

**17 April - Easter Day**

9.30 - Holy Communion

**24 April - The Second Sunday of Easter**

9.30 - Holy Communion



### All Saints' Church, Luddington

**3 April - The Fifth Sunday of Lent - Passiontide Begins**

9.30 - Holy Communion

**10 April - Palm Sunday**

9.30 - Holy Communion

**17 April - Easter Day**

9.30 - Holy Communion

**24 April - The Second Sunday of Easter**

9.30 - Holy Communion



# Holy Week and Easter

## Saturday 9 April

2.30pm and 7pm the Message of the Cross, by Trinity Players

## Sunday 10 April Palm Sunday -Holy Week begins

10am Parish Eucharist with blessing and procession of palms and reading of the Passion Gospel

5pm Choral Evensong for the start of Holy Week

## 11 April Monday of Holy Week

7.30pm Stations of the Cross

## 12 April Tuesday of Holy Week

7.30pm Holy Communion with homily

## 13 April Wednesday of Holy Week

7.30pm Passion Play (performed by Caramba)

## 14 April Maundy Thursday

7.30pm Eucharist of the Last Supper, followed by The Watch, concluding with:

11.45pm Compline

## 15 April Good Friday

9.15am Morning Prayer before the Cross on Good Friday

12noon-3pm Good Friday walk-through service. Come at any point during the Three Hours for prayer and reflection, including music, readings and the Stations of the Cross.

## 16 April Holy Saturday

8.30pm The Easter Vigil including lighting the Easter fire and Paschal Candles for the parish and first Holy Communion of Easter.

## 17 April Easter Day *Alleluia! Christ is risen!*

8am Holy Communion in the Chancel

10am Parish Eucharist -a service for all ages

5pm Festal Choral Evensong



## Village Services for Good Friday

St Helen's Church - Cifford Chambers

2.30pm Good Friday Reflection

All Saints' Church - Luddington

2.30pm Good Friday Reflection



## Shakespeare Weekend Is Back



Pre-Covid, one of the highlights of the Stratford year was the Shakespeare Weekend, attracting tens of thousands of visitors to the town. The last such unrestricted weekend was held in April 2019, which now feels like a lifetime ago. The Stratford Town Council recently announced that they are re-introducing the Weekend this year, in a full celebration of William Shakespeare, not only as arguably the world's greatest and most famous playwright but also as a son of Stratford.

The celebrations start at noon on Friday, 22 April. In front of an invited audience in the Town Hall, Judi Dench and Kenneth Branagh will be bestowed with the titles of Freewoman and Freeman of the town of Stratford-upon-Avon. Once the honour has been bestowed, don't be surprised if you find them driving their sheep across Clopton Bridge, one of the privileges which goes with the honour!!

Following the ceremony, at 1pm, they will be unveiling the restored statue of Shakespeare, in the alcove on the outside of the Town Hall. The statue was originally donated to the town by the Shakespearean actor, David Garrick, who himself was made a Freeman of Stratford in October 1768. Revd Paul Edmondson has been the driving force behind the project to restore the statue.



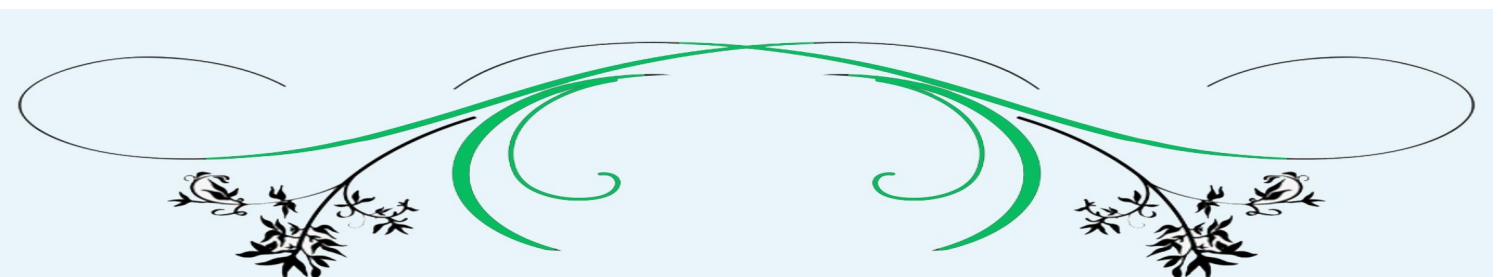
Judi Dench and  
Kenneth Branagh

On Saturday 23 April, the 458<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Shakespeare's birth and 406<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death, the main feature of the many activities taking place in Stratford will be the parade. Our very own Clergy will lead a procession of Civic dignitaries, invited guests from around the world, representatives of local organisations and the school children of Stratford through the streets of the town carrying flowers and/or sprigs of rosemary for remembrance. Arriving at the West Door of Holy Trinity Church, at around 11.30am, the procession will proceed down the centre of the church to the Chancel, where the flowers and rosemary will be laid all around Shakespeare's grave and the High Altar. The church will be open in the afternoon for visitors to take in the breath-taking sight of the flower laden church.



On Sunday, a Civic Reception is being held in the Town Hall for invited guests. As part of the reception, Mr Shakespeare will ceremoniously offer a Quill to William Warner, the Head Boy of King Edward VI school, who will then take the Quill, in Procession, to Holy Trinity church. At the start of the annual Shakespeare Service (11.15am), William will process down the church carrying the new Quill which he will place in Shakespeare's hand on the bust on the wall above his grave.

The Shakespeare Service is open to everyone but please arrive early as seating is limited.





# Happy Birthday Will!

by Lori Shanebeck



Shakespeare and I have had a long history together. It began in a library when I was eleven as I opened up a copy of *Tales From Shakespeare* by Charles and Mary Lamb given to me by the librarian I had struck up a friendship with after my family moved to California. A kind and wise woman, she recognized all the signs of a lonely child in the slightly pudgy and awkward young girl who turned up all the time to read for hours and check out piles of books. "Try this one," she told me as she handed me the book. "I think you will like it." She was right. I knew next to nothing about William Shakespeare before that afternoon, and as I devoured the stories about fairies, kings, queens, and tragic lovers a fan was born, captured by the colorful characters, their all too human emotions and amazing stories. However, things hit a snag when I tried to read the plays. The language was difficult to understand and the plots hard to follow, and it was safe to say that none of my friends were interested in starting a reading club. I have no idea why I persisted in this strange fascination, but I did, and I have never regretted one moment spent reading the works of William Shakespeare, although he didn't help much with learning accurate history. His plays have taught me about human emotions, encouraged me in difficult times, and enthralled me as I watched great and even not so great actors portray kings, queens, clowns, statesmen and lovers. I think I even have him to thank (at least partially) for the fact that I now live in his hometown. As we look forward to celebrating his birthday this year, I have been reflecting on how I came to love the works of Shakespeare so much. The answer came, as it generally does, through the plays themselves.

"Speak the speech...trippingly on the tongue." - *Hamlet*

Laurence Olivier came to my rescue when I had all but given up understanding the words and plots of the plays with his 1948 film. I sat in a darkened living room absolutely riveted with his portrayal of the tragic story of the Prince of Denmark. While I cannot say unequivocally that I loved his acting style, I was thrilled because I finally had begun to understand some of the words and definitely the plot.

"Oh that I were a glove upon that hand that I might touch that cheek..." *Romeo and Juliet*

It is hard to describe what it was like to sit in a cinema packed with sobbing adolescent girls as Leonard Whiting drank poison and died, but it was quite an event. The movie was beautiful, the music glorious, and I was thrilled that Shakespeare understood how two adolescents could fall in love at first sight and gave voice to our teenage emotions. It's the first play I memorized huge chunks of because I listened to the album of the movie hundreds of times.

"If music be the food of love, play on..." *Twelfth Night*

The first live production I ever saw was outside on a summer evening and performed by a regional theatre company. I loved Sir Toby, ached for Viola's unrequited love, and laughed at Malvolio's yellow cross garters, learning that Shakespeare and comedy were a perfect pairing.

"Double, double, toil and trouble..." *Macbeth*

My most favorite play of all because it has it all. A powerful story, compelling characters, witches, and a good man who becomes a murdering monster as he grabs a crown and kills everyone around him. It is also a story that sadly is way too familiar in modern history as Shakespeare demonstrated that he completely understood the dark side of mankind. This play also gave me the gift of a topic for my recent dissertation and the joy of spending six months with the witches. I still miss them.

I have loved his words through most of my life. They have become old friends who have taught me about the human condition and the capacity of mankind for evil, given me larger than life characters who have caused me to laugh until it hurt, and stories of love and tragedy that have made me cry. During a dark period in my life it was the words of Henry VI I identified with when I read "sometime the flood prevails, and then the wind." Ultimately, it was his glorious words that called me to be courageous and embrace an adventure that would take me across the pond to a new life in the place where he grew up. No wonder I love him so much. Happy birthday Will...and thanks...for everything.

# He is Risen

As we approach Easter, we would like to fill our beautiful church with Easter Lilies to celebrate our Lord's rising from the dead.

The church will be open on Easter morning from 9.30 to 11am, and if you would like to donate towards the Lilies in memory of a loved one, or just feel that you would like to, the Flower Team would be extremely grateful.

Donations can be made either by cheque and posted into the Parish Centre, marked Easter Lilies, with your dedication (if required), or by direct bank payment to:

Bank Name: HSBC  
Account Name: Stratford-upon-Avon PCC  
Sort Code: 404319  
Account No.: 20649430  
Reference: EL(and your Surname)

If you are donating by direct bank payment, in memory of a Loved One, can you please email the Loved One's details to [office@stratford-upon-avon.org](mailto:office@stratford-upon-avon.org)

## Review of the new intergenerational approach to the 10am Parish Eucharist

The PCC, and the Review Group in particular, would like to thank all those members of the congregation for their thoughtful comments on the new intergenerational approach to the 10am Parish Eucharist. We received 122 comments from around 100 different people. What a wonderful response!

An early decision had been taken not to distribute a questionnaire but to give everyone a free rein to express their thoughts. You all took full advantage of this and the comments we received ranged from one word to three pages of text. As you can imagine, these expressed a wide range of opinions and made consolidating the content rather more difficult. However, after careful review, some useful common themes evolved. The PCC is now working out how best to take these comments forward and reflect them in our regular worship pattern. We'll keep you posted!



Helen Warrillow

# Children and Families

It's been really encouraging to re-start both our Toddler Groups. The Tuesday morning *Stay and Play* at the Ken Kennett Centre (9-10:30am) and the Thursday afternoon *Trinity Tots* (1:30-3pm). It is wonderful to be able to, once again, serve and help those beginning their journey through life. Please spread the word about our groups so that we can continue to grow and reach out into our community.

I, and Claire from St James' Alveston, have recorded a *Bible Adventure Box Service* for Easter. It'll be available soon on the church Facebook page and YouTube channel. The services are great for all ages and a chance to think about and celebrate Easter. Each service has songs, prayers, a story and talk and lots of fun. We also provide a free box that can be used with the service and has everything needed for the craft and a sweet treat. If you know of someone who would like a box please drop me an email ([phil@stratford-upon-avon.org](mailto:phil@stratford-upon-avon.org)).

*Phil Harper*



Helpers cleaning the toys ready for Trinity Tots to re-start

Trinity  
Tots



Every Thursday (during Term Time)

1:30pm-3pm

Holy Trinity Parish Centre



Every Tuesday (during Term Time)

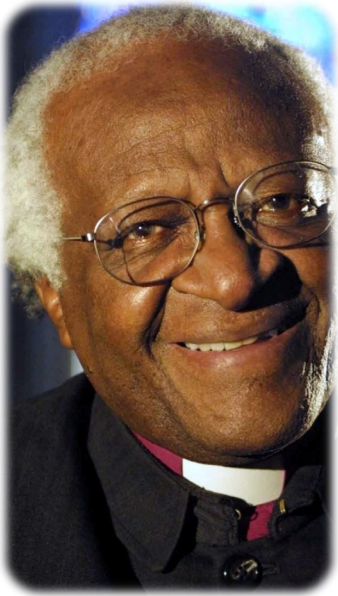
9am-10:30am

Ken Kennett Centre

The Bible Adventure box



## DESMOND TUTU REMEMBERED



Reading Anthony Woollard's excellent article about Desmond Tutu in February's "Trinity Times" took me back to my younger days when I had the great privilege of knowing the Archbishop personally. He was not a close friend, but he certainly was someone whose acquaintance I treasured.

I first met him when I was a student back in the 1960s. He and my godmother both taught at the Federal Theological Seminary in the town of Alice in South Africa's Eastern Cape Province. Those were the dark days of Apartheid and Christian churches were not allowed to train their darker skinned seminarians in the same college as their white counterparts. The Anglican, Methodist and Congregationalist churches decided to join forces to build this college in Alice. They opted for the model of English collegiate universities, like Oxford, Cambridge and Durham, where each college functioned independently, but shared resources such as teaching staff and libraries. Each college had its own accommodation for students and staff, and its own chapel.

I used to spend weekends with my godmother, who was a friend of Desmond Tutu. When she died many years later, he wrote me a beautiful letter of condolence in which he remarked that she was one of a small number of white people who, at the height of Apartheid, helped him and others hang onto their belief that not all white people were proponents of that evil system. So I was indeed blessed to have her as my godmother and come under her sphere of influence.

Later, when he became Archbishop of Cape Town, I was a member of the congregation of St George's Cathedral, which was his metropolitan seat. I saw him from time to time after that and was always impressed by the warmth of his humanity. One weekday afternoon, at a time when I was suffering from depression, I had gone to the Cathedral to seek solace, and was sitting there rather miserably, trying to pray. Desmond Tutu came walking down the aisle, saw me sitting there, and stopped to ask what the matter was. He went on to say that if I needed a listening ear and some spiritual guidance, I should phone his secretary at Bishops court and make an appointment. I was able to tell him that the Dean of the Cathedral was already helping me, as was my doctor. However, I know he meant it, and I'm not sure how many other archbishops would clear space in their diaries to be of pastoral support to a not-very-important lay person.

Anthony alluded to the Archbishop's wonderfully infectious laugh. It was never inappropriate, and certainly lit up the venue, even in the darkest days of Apartheid. He gave us courage to carry on, even when there seemed no end to the evil surrounding us. White people like me, who hated Apartheid and felt totally useless in the face of it, were made to feel that, by hanging in there and doing whatever little things we could to effect reconciliation between people of different races, we were making a significant contribution. He made us feel valued.

Anthony quite rightly focused on Desmond Tutu's massive contribution at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, where he showed all those watching it on TV, as well as those in the venue, that, when appropriate, he could and did weep too. He felt the pain of what was being revealed there, and, in so doing, somehow helped whites like me feel less awful about being white. In his weeping, he was following the example of Christ, his master, and somehow by his suffering, so evident in those tears he shed, he was helping to set us free of the white guilt which had crippled us for so long.

I am indeed privileged to have crossed paths with this deeply spiritual man during the course of my life.

Liz Roome



# Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party

The response to this new initiative by the Social Team was very encouraging. Sixty places were booked, well in advance, to sample the delights of "Lily's Pancakes and Waffles". Marta and her team provided a wide range of delicious fillings both sweet and savoury to accompany the pancakes that we could watch being cooked.

As each table in turn made their choice of filling, the rest of the company were challenged to see how many times they could toss and catch a pancake in twenty seconds. This ended in a tense play-off between the Tenpin Bowling champion and vicar, Patrick, and Terry Joynes, with Terry just winning the contest.

The Pancake Race saw three, mixed aged, teams complete a relay circuit from the Hall and through the carpark, handing on their frying pan and pancake to the next team member. Intellects were also challenged with a quiz and a word game.

What a delight to see the whole age range of our church family represented! Pre-school toddlers, families, teenagers, and young choristers joined those of an older generation to have fun together! Thanks go to all those who worked hard to make this Pancake Party such a success and all those who supported it.

Chris Cottrell



Making the pancakes

Marta and her mum

The finished product

Adding the filling

An evening of fun for all ages

Catching The pancake

Logan MacDougal tossing the pancake

This is such fun

## THE WINTER'S TALE

reading by Trinity Players



How could Trinity Players not be enthusiastic supporters of Paul Edmondson's community project to restore the statue of Shakespeare given to the town by David Garrick, one of the greatest actors of all time, the man who helped introduce Stratford to the world (details in last month's Trinity Times).

Perhaps the one thing everyone knows about 'The Winter's Tale', is the stage direction, 'Exit, pursued by a bear!' But we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves exploring and then reading a Play which starts as a tragedy, moves into comedy and has a fairy tale ending. And what's more, we are on course to meet our target donation of £1000.

Our heartfelt thanks and admiration to Paul for his inspiration and also his stamina - taking part in three Plays a day for twelve days must be a record breaking feat! Thanks also to our own Lori Shanebeck, his Assistant.

Ursula Russell

**Photograph of Trinity Players, in costume, before their play reading.**



### ITINERARY OF TENET VOCAL ARTISTS

Cambridge Early Music Festival with organist Benjamin Sheen  
Wednesday, 27 April, 2022 at 19:00

Ely Cathedral with organist Benjamin Sheen  
Thursday, 28 April, 2022 at 19:30

Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford with organist Benjamin Sheen  
Friday, 29 April, 2022 at 19:30

**Evensong at Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon with organist Douglas Keilitz  
Sunday, 1 May, 2022 at 17:00**

St. Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh with organist Jordan English  
Wednesday, 4 May, 2022 at 19:30

Hexham Abbey with organist Michael Haynes and Hexham Abbey Choir  
Friday, 6 May, 2022 at 18:00



# THOMAS TOMKINS @ 450

by Douglas Keilitz

TENET Vocal Artists is visiting England and Scotland for a two-week tour highlighting the music of celebrated Tudor composer Thomas Tomkins. Known for his gorgeous text-painting, chromaticism, and anachronistic polyphonic writing, TENET's performance celebrates the 450th anniversary of Tomkins' birth, and it will feature vocal and organ works by Tomkins and his contemporaries including William Byrd, Thomas Morley, and Orlando Gibbons in collaboration with celebrated local organists.

**Evensong at Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon**

**TENET Vocal Artists with organist Douglas Keilitz**

**Sunday, 1 May, 2022 at 17:00**

<https://tenet.nyc/uk-2022>

Preëminent New York City-based ensemble TENET Vocal Artists has won acclaim for its innovative programming, virtuosic singing and command of repertoire that spans the Middle Ages to the present day.

Highlights of recent seasons include performances of J.S. Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*, *St. John Passion*, *Christmas Oratorio* and motets, Handel's *Messiah*, a three-year cycle of Carlo Gesualdo's *Tenebrae Responsories*, music by, for, and about 17th century Italian women, and programs exploring medieval repertoire. TENET's highly praised Green Mountain Project performed Claudio Monteverdi's *Vespers of 1610* and other *Vespers* for a decade, culminating in a finale performance in Venice, Italy in January 2020.

TENET Vocal Artists has performed at Carnegie Hall, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Columbia University, Yale University, and numerous other venues in and around New York City. Further afield, TENET appears at Festival Casals de Puerto Rico, Costa Rica International Music Festival, Montreal Baroque Festival, and other festivals and prominent locations throughout the United States, Latin America, Scandinavia, and in Europe.

*Renowned for their interpretations of Renaissance and Baroque repertoire, TENET Vocal Artists' distinguished soloists have been praised for their pristine one-voice-to-a-part singing "to an uncanny degree of precision"*

—THE BOSTON GLOBE



Thomas Tomkins



## TENET Vocal Artists

Jolle Greenleaf *soprano and artistic director*

Molly Quinn *soprano*

Meg Dudley *soprano*

Elisa Sutherland *mezzo soprano*

Doug Dodson *countertenor*

Timothy Parsons *countertenor*

Donald Meineke *tenor*

Jacob Perry *tenor*

James Reese *tenor*

Thomas McCargar *baritone*

Steven Hrycelak *bass*

Jonathan Woody *bass*

See page 14 for itinerary of Tenet Vocal Artists UK tour.

## TRINITY LADIES

This month, on 20 April, we have Alexandra Messervy coming to speak on 'Her Majesty the Queen's Seventy Glorious Years' which is very appropriate as we all prepare to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee. Alexandra has worked at Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle. I think that this is a talk not to be missed. Alexandra is not taking a fee for this talk but wishes us to make a donation to The Shakespeare Hospice.



At a recent Committee meeting it was decided to ask members to put £1 in the pot as you come in if you can afford it. The cost of speakers has risen considerably and so we need to raise more funds. We appreciate that costs on food and heating are rising and so if you are struggling please just pay what you can afford. We do not want anyone to stop coming because they are finding things difficult. We also decided that it would be nice to improve our Raffle by asking four or five members each month to bring a good prize i.e. a bottle of wine, box of chocolates, box of biscuits or a plant. If we all take it in turns hopefully it will only be necessary to bring one prize per year each.

For our May outing we are planning to visit the Botanical Gardens in Birmingham. We will leave the Parish Centre at 10.45 a.m. and return by 4.15 p.m. The cost will be £15.00 which includes the coach and entrance to the Botanical Gardens. Please pay Diane Edwards in April if you would like to come with us on this day out. If you are paying by cheque please make it payable to Stratford upon Avon PCC. This is because our funds are now part of the PCC accounts. Our funds are held in a separate part of the Church accounts and are only used at our instruction, this came about when HSBC closed their cashier facility and we were unable to pay any cash into our account. Our coach for this trip holds thirty-five people so please join us and bring your friends and family. I look forward to seeing you all at our April meeting.

Our meetings start at 2 p.m. and are held in the Parish Centre, new members are always welcome.

Gina Lodge

Chair

## St Helen's Welcomes Swifts

Two swift boxes have been fitted into the west window of the belfry at St Helen's in Clifford Chambers. The boxes are c320mm x 220mm x 140mm with a small hole to let the birds in and a 'nest area', a slight circular depression to prevent the eggs rolling away! They are secured tightly to the wire mesh by zip ties and then stabilised with a wooden batten secured to the floor boards. There is room for two more boxes, the same design, in the north window but these will be left for another year once we are (hopefully) successful in attracting some swifts. From the end of April through to the end of June we'll install a small box broadcasting swift calls. We are not expecting to get any swifts nesting this year (but you never know), more likely next year.

Trevor Acreman  
Clifford Chambers







Pontius Pilate did what he had to do. He was a functionary of the Roman Empire. He had to keep the peace in one little colony. He may have wanted to set Jesus free – but, if he had, there would have been riots at least. And the course of history would no doubt have been dramatically different. Maybe he “did what he had to do” in more senses than one.

Writing well before our publication date, I cannot foresee what will be the outcome of another imperial struggle – that between Russia and Ukraine. It is ironic and tragic that Ukraine, like Israel, is older than its “coloniser”, and indeed that Kyiv (or Kiev) was in a real sense the “mother” of Moscow and of Russia, and certainly of the Russian Orthodox Church. Whatever happens over the next few weeks and months, many more people, both soldiers and civilians on both sides, will “do what they have to do”, trapped in the game of imperialism. At the moment, anything seems possible, from some kind of fudged settlement to the outbreak of a possibly nuclear war which could engulf Europe. I hope and pray that all will be clearer by the time you read this; whether it will be happier, I cannot say.

It is easy to say that this horror is the fault of one madman – and it is probably truer in this case than in the case of many of the crimes committed by nations and people in the pursuit of power. But we do well to remember that imperialism has many causes. Our own nation, whatever good things may have come out of the British Empire, is hardly innocent. Nor are any of us as individuals. The pursuit of power – whether nationally, or between races and classes in a single nation, even within our friends and families (and even in the Church) – is an all too human search for security, for self-affirmation against all that we feel would belittle us. The Romans had to hang on to power, not just for their own enrichment, but also because they felt threatened by other powers such as Persia. And most of us feel threatened by something or someone. We may dress up our responses in terms of idealism, as the Romans did with their strong pride in the peace which their rule gave across the Mediterranean, or some subsequent imperialist powers by their dedication to spreading religious values such as those of Christianity or Islam. Idealism is a good thing, but how easily it can be perverted.

At this time of year, those words of Dietrich Bonhoeffer come back to haunt us: “only a suffering [and therefore **powerless**] God can help”. The search for power is not a bad thing in itself; self-affirmation is human and seems to be part of the way in which we were created. But the true power of God is not demonstrated as Caesar (or Putin) has sought to demonstrate it, but by a Man silent before his accusers and left hanging on a Cross. That is what was necessary for the salvation of the world, and necessary for the unlooked-for power of the new creation which began on Easter Day.

Yet, despite Easter, He still in a sense hangs on that Cross, and the people of Ukraine have experienced their own crucifixion. May they at last come to resurrection. But Pilate - that archetypal civil servant in whom I sometimes see myself - did what he had to do, and, without that, there would be no hope for the world.



# SOCIAL EVENTS PROGRAMME 2022

SAT 8TH JANUARY  
FISH & CHIP SUPPER  
WITH BINGO



TUES 1ST MARCH  
Pancake event

SUN 5TH JUNE  
PLATINUM JUBILEE STREET PARTY



SAT 9TH JULY  
WIMBLEDON LADIES' FINAL DAY  
& STRAWBERRY TEA



SAT 16TH JULY  
BUTTERFLY WALK, CLIFFORD CHAMBERS



SEPTEMBER DATE TBC  
SATURDAY WALK IN LUDDINGTON



SAT 8TH OCTOBER  
HARVEST CEILIDH

For more information about our social events please contact Chris on 01789 204 273



SOCIAL  
EVENTS

HOLY TRINITY  
CHURCH  
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON



# The Message of the Cross



Once again, Trinity Players will present their Easter Play, **The Message of the Cross**.

Actors, Readers, Singers and Musicians explore the emotions and motivations of those who took part in the greatest story.

Sarah Cushing, Pete and Val Cubitt and Colin McDowall will play the same parts as in the first production in 2008 but the script changes slightly at every staging as we welcome other actors, readers and musicians. Once again, we are delighted that Sam Bridges will provide the music.

There are no tickets and admission is free as the Players see sharing the Easter story as part of our ministry but we have always made a collection for Charity.

Afternoon tea will be available at the 2.30 performance and Wine and Nibbles in the evening at 7pm.



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[GuildChapelcoordinator@stratfordtowntrust.co.uk](mailto:GuildChapelcoordinator@stratfordtowntrust.co.uk)



A lovely postcard we have received at Holy Trinity.  
It's from a vicar in Cambridge who says good things about our Ash Wednesday service.



To all at Holy Trinity, Stratford  
Upon Avon,

BEECH  
*Fagus sylvatica*



I am a vicar from Cambridge and started a 3 month sabbatical on 1st March. I am visiting various churches during this time and started by coming to the 10am Ash Wednesday service at Holy Trinity. I just wanted to say thank you for the service - exactly what I hoped for to start Lent! - and especially thank you for a very warm welcome - from the sidesman to the couple I sat next to. Thank you!  
with love + prayers, Rachel

High in the woods, the oak speaks to from any oak. From The Last Spools by Robert Macfarlane & Jackie Morris

## FROM THE REGISTERS - MARCH

### CHRISTENINGS

19 March  
29 March

### WEDDINGS

Daniel Brown and Stephanie Warrillow  
Richie Wilmot and Grace Stevens

### FUNERALS

4 March  
8 March

Brian Allard  
Robert Marshall

### HOLY TRINITY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The next meeting of the Support Group will be on Wednesday 27 April. 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 2.30 p.m. We usually finish at about 4 p.m. There is no need to make an appointment. We will be very pleased to see you.

Gina Lodge

Bereavement Co-ordinator



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# NEWSLETTER FROM UGANDA by Tom and Verity Clare - CMS Partners



We hope you are well and having a calmer day after the recent storms. We are in the middle of dry season here, temperatures around 34 degrees, so a slightly different climate to be dealing with.

## Rigorous Recruitment and Awful Acoustics

Since we last wrote, the weeks have been pretty full! Tom has overseen the recruitment of a new full-time Assistant Diocesan Health Coordinator ('ADHC') and also a new manager (aka 'In-Charge') of St Luke's Katiyi Health Centre III in Madi-Okollo district. The new ADHC is called Esther, a local friend of ours who spent part of her childhood studying in the UK, and Tom is really looking forward to training her on the administrative side of the work in the office and to working closely with her going forward.

Alongside recruitment, there have also been a range of other administrative issues for Tom to deal with since we returned:

- an ongoing frustrating saga in negotiating the Church of Uganda systems to appoint a new Board of Governors for Kuluva Hospital, which is now needed urgently after eight months without a Board
- one health centre that is struggling with poor performance and the prospect of closure if things do not improve and where the in-charge had taken time off due to stress
- arranging and coordinating the usual quarterly Diocesan Health Board and in-charge meetings, including work to support the in-charges with appraising their staff performance plans

From a personal perspective, Tom has been struggling for the past few weeks with feeling unsettled here in Arua. Triggered by a slightly comical scenario where he spent seven hours in a meeting in the old Cathedral unable to understand anything that was said due to the acoustics and the intermittent speakers, his initial humorous query of "What on earth am I doing here?!" quickly developed into a deeper questioning of his role and our place here in Arua.

This struggle, combined with various ongoing frustrations around the culture here and always feeling like an outsider, has been something he's been grappling with over the last month or so. Having had an unexpectedly turbulent couple of years, with all the impact of COVID-19 and our return to the UK, with the loss and ongoing grief of losing Angela, that may not be a surprise, but please pray with us as we lean in to God to seek a fresh vision for our time here and for clarity on the future for all of us.

Tom and Esther (next to him in the pink) receiving some missionaries from Global Link Afrika to work in the health facilities.



*Cont.....*

## **'Ba mviki sukulia**

('Let's go back to school' in the local language, Lugbarati

Back at home, we're still figuring out the best way to manage school between the three older boys and some days seem a lot easier/harder than others in that respect. It's been particularly lovely for Verity to be teaching Simeon right from the start, seeing his excitement in learning to read and hearing him around the house and as he goes to sleep, sounding out random words and sentences from his head. He, like his brothers, also really enjoys Maths and is generally a joy to teach.

Ezra has calmed down a lot physically these days and has got into art and writing stories, which he takes himself off to do most afternoons. He still loves playing football every day but also has a brilliant imagination and a great way with words. This is something that Verity's mum was blessed with and it's lovely thinking about how they share that particular connection.

Eli still loves playing card games and board games and doing Lego and is always the first to be finished with school, sometimes needing some encouragement to slow down a bit.

As we were anticipating in our last update, the local schools went back in January. It's been so wonderful to see all the children heading to and from school in their uniforms, something which we haven't seen on such a full scale since we first arrived in Uganda. From the tiny little ones, dressed up smartly in their jumpers and coats, clinging onto each other in rows on the back of motorbikes, to the teenagers heading back late in the day. Some friends are still struggling with school fees and the initial grace period will soon be coming to an end, so we pray they'd be able to find the money to continue educating their children.

Because of the two-year delay, a good number of our neighbours are still only in the lower classes, finishing at midday, so they come and play in our compound in the afternoons.



A rare art lesson in school, working on reflections. Joel often asks to paint and couldn't believe his luck.

## **Comings and Goings**

Over the last five weeks we have had the pleasure of hosting four different CMS Mission Associates in our guesthouse on the compound. It's been lovely getting to know them and hearing of God's story in their lives and how they've come to be here. Two were working in the area for two or three weeks and we have just said goodbye to a couple who are on their way to work in Aru, across the border in the DRC.

We both enjoy meeting new people and sharing life together but it has been a bit of an experience in learning how to host well with boundaries, when life can be pretty chaotic and generally more tiring here. One person who has particularly loved the added company is Joel, who seems to thrive on having people around and has been a wonderful host, making sure our guests have everything they need.

*Cont...*

*Newsletter from Uganda cont...*

Dry season here means bricks. These brick 'castles', as Joel calls them, have been popping up on every spare bit of land over the last couple of months. They mould the bricks from mud, dry them out, stack them up and cover them, then burn them for a few days running with fires underneath.

### Looking Forward

We still feel very privileged to be living in this corner of Uganda but know that we will always be outsiders here. There is so much about this culture that we don't understand and are shocked and confused by. We've been reminded of the fragility of life here once again, hearing of various local deaths recently – two from a nasty vehicle crash involving two people linked to the football team Tom has been involved in. Others from family disagreements involving goat theft and drunken fights, leading to someone dying. It seems rightly shocking to us to hear of these things but for people here, it's just part of daily life. The idea of justice and criminal punishment is something that seems to be enacted very differently here as well.

As we look towards the next few months, we are trusting in God's plans and timings for us as a family. We will be heading down to Kampala in mid-April in preparation for the birth, hopefully being joined by Tom's parents who are coming over from the UK. We'll then be heading back to the UK for a few weeks in June/July to celebrate Verity's sister's wedding, trying to figure out the best timings and travel plans with a new baby and changing Covid regulations.

The last couple of months haven't been particularly easy in terms of us feeling settled here but it has meant that we have had to press into God more and really be seeking his will for our time here. We are so thankful for the missionary community here-for their faith, wisdom, experience and encouragement and for good friends who have been standing with us in this time. As always, we are hugely appreciative of your ongoing prayers for us as a family as we serve God here in Arua.



Can you guess which football team we support?

### Prayer points

- Finalisation of accommodation of the baby's birth in Kampala April/May
- Space to hear from God as we seek His wisdom and plan for our time in Arua
- For Esther as she gets to grips with the various aspects of her role
- For the boys to feel at peace with all our upcoming movements - a good number of our expat friends are going on furlough over the next few months and the boys have been quite unsettled thinking about travelling to Kampala and the UK and the thought of doing life here in the absence of a lot of their good friends

Blessings,

Verity, Tom, Ezra, Eli, Simeon, Joel and bump.



## SOUNDBITES



06 April	Brass Minute	Brass Quintet
13 April	No recital - Easter break	
20 April	No recital - Easter break	
27 April		Harpist
04 May	Fumi Otsuki Sarah Kershew	Violin Piano



## SOUNDBITES

American Choir from 9 March 2022

Photograph by Harry Lomax

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**PLATINUM JUBILEE**  
**STREET PARTY LUNCH**

**SUNDAY 5TH JUNE**  
**at 12:00NOON**

Extra helpers will be needed  
to help set up on Saturday  
evening and Sunday morning

For more information about our social events please contact Chris on 01789 204 273

**SOCIAL EVENTS**

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH**  
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON



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**Coffee Morning**  
**Tuesday 5 April 2022**  
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Our first Coffee morning for 2 years! Please support if you can and feel free to bring a friend. If you can't attend and would like to make a donation please visit [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/stratfordfundraisingcommittee](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/stratfordfundraisingcommittee)

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# 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
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 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

## Staff

Operations Manager:	Andy Winter	01789 266 316	andy@stratford-upon-avon.org
Parish Administrator:	Sarah Cushing	01789 266 316	
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	01789 264 256

## Other Contacts

Head Server	Chris Cornford	01789 295 066
Bell Ringers	Charles Wilson	01789 295 467
Bereavement Support Team	Gina Lodge	01789 204 850
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	Alan Haigh	01789 290 128
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	Josephine Walker	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	Gillian Nunn	01789 415 830
Sunday Coffee organisers	Tina Hillyard	01789 551 739
	Diane Edwards	01789 296 396
Churchyard Maintenance Volunteer Team	Lindsay MacDonald	01789 293 110



**Happy  
Easter**



*I will be  
with you  
always*

*Matthew 28:20*