

Trinity Voice

The Parish magazine for
Holy Trinity, Weymouth
Diocese of Salisbury
June 2025

£1.00



SUNDAY SERVICES

Weekly Services are detailed below.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN US FOR OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP. Coffee and tea are served after our 10am Sunday service. **IF YOU ARE NEW TO OUR CHURCH** please introduce yourself to Reverend Juliet Stephenson, Vicar, Trudi Shaw or Philippa Walker our Church Wardens

If you are new to our Church Family and wish to join the Electoral Roll (another way of belonging) then please take one of the forms from the notice board at the back of the Church and give it to someone in Church or put it through my letterbox. Thank you! Christine Buffrey, 1 Portwey Close, DT4 8RF

GENERAL INFORMATION: For any general information please contact the Parish Office on enquiries@holytrinityweymouth.org or telephone 07554709236.

FOR ALL MATTERS RELATING to Weddings, Baptisms, Funerals, Confirmation and matters of pastoral care for the sick and dying as well as home visits, home communions and the Ministry of Reconciliation (Confession), please **telephone the Vicar on 01305 562766 or 07729 505924**
Email: enquiries@holytrinityweymouth.org

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT is perpetually reserved for the sick and infirm.

Holy Trinity Website: www.holytrinityweymouth.org
General enquiries: enquiries@holytrinityweymouth.org

Vicar:	Revd Juliet Stephenson 07729 505924 Vicarage 01305 562766
HT Churchwardens:	Trudi Shaw 07973 560705 Philippa Walker 07928 488993
PCC Secretary:	Angela Kerigan Email angelakerigan@gmail.com
Electoral Roll:	Christine Buffrey 01305 778765
Safeguarding Officer:	Krys Fursman 07916 097606 emmaaleks04@gmail.com
Sunday pew sheet:	To be sent to Philippa Walker on philippa@holytrinityweymouth.org Wednesday 12 noon each week

Services at Holy Trinity

Sundays

8 a.m. Said Eucharist

10 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Sunday 1st June

6.30 p.m. Open Table meeting

Sunday 22nd June

6.30 p.m. BCP Evensong

Wednesdays

Midweek Eucharist at 10.00

The church is open at 8 a.m. most days for a morning prayer.

From the Vicar... for the last time...



So - the day is fast approaching, when you will be freed from the Geordie Vicar that landed upon this seaside town of Weymouth not quite 2 years ago. Most of you didn't know what to expect, I wonder now perhaps, did you get what you were anticipating?

I came here, from Liverpool Cathedral, to the (what the American's call) "The Cathedral of Whey-mouth".

-I came from a job that was daily filled with goodbyes, farewells, funerals.

-I came from a ministry that was rooted in a Cathedral as a Canon, in a Chapter of Canons, red trimmed cassocks, red buttons and colleagues that mainly supporting the RED Liverpool football club.

-I came from a church that was inclusive, held Open Table, swung incense and devoted prayers to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

We had a food bank, asylum seekers, and candle prickets. We had new toilets and a new kitchen - We had **terrible heating**, uncomfortable chairs, an uneven floor, no car park and no proper disabled access.

I guess what I'm highlighting, is that most churches are pretty much the same in what they do and don't have. And churches **are all the same** really. They gather people who are like minded and enable us to have a relationship with one another and with God.

And, all Vicars are pretty much the same. We gather people, we enable encounters with God through prayers, and sacraments. I have done this to the best of my ability and feel that in my time here I have worked hard to get this church known and love by even more people. I am delighted that together we have joined Inclusive church and have welcomed OPEN TABLE.

I may not have been here for as long as we all expected. But, in my time here at Holy Trinity, I have done some lovely things with your blessing and embarrassment!

- Dressed as an orange...
- Blessed a lifeboat...
- Did a secret wedding...
- Followed a star with the Salvation Army...
- Flung chocolates from the pulpit...
- Decorated the church with fairy lights and bunting...
- Blessed tortoises, hamsters, dogs, cats and donkeys...



- Brought in Franciscans...
- Ran a bar, asked you to guess my underwear, sold raffle tickets, begged for prizes, mopped the floor, painted the toilets, baked cakes, made soup, sang sea shantys, enjoyed folk festivals,
- I've pulled pints at The Swan....
- Encouraged and watched our wonderful children at school grow up – and helped to gift them a minibus...
- Went to Monkey World with YR2, did a residential with YR6, ran after school clubs, and played parachute games at Chapelhay park.

AND I have Celebrated the Eucharist and met with the Lord on many, many times! I have smiled and laughed with you....cried over you.....partied with you! And I will miss you.

Where am I going?



My new title will be 'Rector of St Columba's by The Castle.' I am leaving the Church of England, that means leaving the structures and restraints of the C of E. The Diocese of Edinburgh is the Scottish Episcopal Church. Disestablished, we have no role in the Scottish Government as the C of E does in the House of Lords. Its Synod makes its own decisions for its churches. I will still have a bishop, and clergy colleagues, but no parish. My role is to be the Rector of a church and its congregation. To minister to them, and to widen the scope of mission and outreach in the city of Edinburgh. I will be working closely with my Ecumenical colleagues in a covenantal way, ministers at St Augustine (United Reformed) and Greyfriars Kirk (Church of Scotland). Shared services, bible studies and worship.

I will be involved with the Edinburgh Fringe, Tattoo, Pride, Pilgrimages to Iona and other tourist opportunities that the church engages with. I will support the equivalent Open Table (Our Tribe) church community and be able to celebrate same sex weddings and blessings (which is magnificent).

The church building is at the end of the Royal Mile, in the shadow of Edinburgh Castle. We shall hear a constant lilt of bagpipes, laid on especially for the many tourists, and enjoy city life once again.

And so my new challenge will be to be the Rector to one church. Traditions will continue, they will be added to, they may be broken...but my calling to priesthood tells me that if we are to hold onto a true faith, then we shall be drawn into true worship. No doubt the people there will be worried about what to expect with Rev Juliet. They will be anxious, they will be wishing their old vicar had not left, they will be pondering how to cope if things are going to change...perhaps I should **get you to tell them** NOT to worry! After all, you have all managed to cope with me for the last few years!

I have had a wonderful ministry here, you have allowed me into the secret places of your hearts, I have walked with those preparing for their Christening, marriage and their death...and that is a wonderful privilege for which I say a huge THANKYOU.

You need to realise that in your midst you have a wonderful church community, faithful, loving, encouraging and responsible. I pray that you will work closely with one another during the vacancy. I pray that you will continue to support the church in the ways you have been doing with me – and before. And I pray that when the new vicar comes, you will welcome them and support them as much as you did with me and my family.

The Chief (who never liked the sand – weird for a seaside dog!) will be the 5th black dog to join the congregation at St Columba's, and he will get used to different pubs, different parks and a different window to look though to bark as passersby.

Phill and I are going to be grandparents in the autumn and so being able to jump on a train and be with our family in an hour and a half (mum, sisters, kids and friends) will really be quite something. Ellie is staying here at Pilson near Bridport – so still connected with Salisbury Diocese in a different community of prayer and hospitality. And we will reconnect with the Franciscans in Alnmouth at the friary there – a place we both grew up with in our home churches.



God has already called someone to this parish...they may not know it yet, and neither will you. But if you pray for the right person, the right person WILL be sent to you!

Vacancies are a time of great anxiety and perplexities. We have to engage with a system that seems to be working against us rather than for us...and yet, as we all well know, there is a time for everything, and getting something right DOES take time.

And so to goodbyes! This is the right time for me to leave; God has called me to do some other piece of work in his Kingdom. I will be sad to leave you but am happy to have journeyed with you.



**Blessings from the
Stephensons xxx**

Holy Trinity and our Choral Tradition

Philippa Walker

A Year in the life of Holy Trinity Church - Weymouth 1931

Serious cracks in the west wall of the church, which were likely to cost £500 to repair, appeared at the beginning of 1931. These had not been noticed at the restoration two years before and were probably due to the work on the new bridge.



The parish magazine was appealing for 'more choirmen and choirboys...of the right kind'! A new psalter - Nicholson's Parish Psalter was on sale for 1 shilling and 6 pence, and the congregation were encouraged to attend a psalm practice in January. This practice replaced the sermon at evensong!



Nicholson's Psalter

The Dorset Journalists had planned a masked ball and entertainment for the first day of Holy Week, but realising the implications of this date, they postponed it. Because of their gesture the Vicar encouraged everyone to support the newly chosen date.

A parish competition asked the question 'Who is the best looking man in Weymouth?!' It is unclear who won the competition, but 29 people said 'the clergy'.

In Holy Week, the Vicar gave talks with lantern illustrations on 'Some of our favourite hymns'

1931 had the wettest summer in forty years, but the Holy Trinity Fete got two gloriously fine days. A magnificent £466-12-3 was raised towards the work to be done on the west end.

The vicar had two months away and apparently in this time he heard 'some glorious and some dreadful music'. He returned full of gratitude for the high standard of singing (especially the psalms) at Holy Trinity!!

A special service of Christmas Music took place on 20th December and two mixed choir sang Vaughan William's 'Fantasia on Christmas Carols'

Ralph Vaughan Williams



Days of Yore

Clare Page

It is March 1976 and Ash Wednesday is on the way. The vicar gives a brief lesson on the etymology of the word Lent and is enthusiastic about the season as a time to focus on individual relationships with God amid busy lives.

On Mothering Sunday, the Youth Club present a play with a somewhat unseasonal title – ‘Let’s Be Devils’. I hope their mothers saw the funny side.

Speakers of the month included a nun from St Francis, Compton D’Urville, giving a glimpse into convent life, ‘The History of the Postcard’, ‘Wild Birds’ and ‘Stones and Polishing’. It is interesting to see how many such evenings were planned – the talk by an expert or enthusiastic amateur seems to have been all the rage in previous decades – all swept away by the internet and Youtube.

Mr Tom Venner announced his retirement from the headship of Holy Trinity Junior School and a well-regarded and musical parishioner, Reginald Swindells, who wrote one of the hymns played at his funeral, was eulogised.

There was canvassing for more membership for Toc H (is that still going?) and the Youth Fellowship debated the motion ‘There should be equality of opportunity in education’. Quite a difficult one to speak against!

At a Christian Unity Week visit to the convent of Our Lady of Mercy on Wyke Road by curious parishioners, the nuns were asked ‘What programmes do you like to watch on television?’ The answer isn’t provided but I can reveal that my great aunt and her fellow nuns were huge fans of Downton Abbey...

VE Day Afternoon Tea

By Clare Page



A wonderful afternoon tea was held on Sunday 11th May to celebrate the 70th anniversary of VE Day.

The church was beautifully festooned with flags and bunting (making sure the Union Flag was the right way up!) and tables were arranged in front of the organ pipes to make an impressive setting.

The food was plentiful and delicious, all arranged on three decker cake plates – some was more ‘authentic wartime fare’ but in view of changing tastes, most enjoyed a selection of sandwiches and cakes. Large jugs of Pimms – both alcoholic and abstemious – filled to the brim with fruit made the perfect accompaniment. At the end, a cup of tea and Philippa’s very impressive shortbread rounded off the culinary delights.

Pre-meal entertainment was provided by Nicky, who played and sang a medley of forties classics to get us in the mood.

The grand finale was a flag wave along to some patriotic songs – ideal post-food exercise!

Thanks and compliments on a terrific spread go to Alison and her catering team who did a thoroughly splendid job. Top hole!





Holy Trinity School New Minibus

Holy Trinity Primary School in Weymouth has been blessed with receiving a significant donation from the Holy Trinity Church in Weymouth to enable it to buy a brand new minibus for use by its pupils.



Rev Juliet Stephenson carried out a blessing ceremony and unveiling of the minibus on Monday 19th May. The donation has been possible due to a bequest that the church received around 200 years ago

from a local businessman and philanthropist called John Groves.

The Sidney Groves fund was established to support young people in the parish of Holy Trinity Weymouth and makes grants to individuals and organisations.

John Groves was a Brewer in Weymouth, a member of Holy Trinity Church and a generous benefactor. In 1897 his son Sidney who was an officer in the Weymouth Company of Rifles and the

Gordon Boys' Brigade died from pleurisy aged only 26. In his memory John decided to erect a building which was opened in 1900 as the Sidney Groves Memorial Hall.

Sadly the building became a drain on church resources and was sold and subsequently demolished in 1987 and the site used for Asda supermarket.

The money released from the sale was used to establish the Sidney Groves Memorial Hall (Fund), which has made the grant to buy the minibus.

Headteacher Miss Fordham said "By buying a minibus so many children can benefit from the money, all the children currently at Holy Trinity School can now go out on trips, visits, sporting events, concerts and residential trips. The minibus will continue to benefit pupils joining the school in the future for many years because it is brand new and will last for a very long time'.

She added that this is a fantastic legacy from the Church and the gentleman that left that money for it to make a difference to so many children.

Reverend Juliet completed the ceremony by blessing holy water and sprinkling it across the bus, asking God to keep all of the drivers safe and all of the children safe. She then cut the ribbon to unveil the bus and officially make it ready for use.

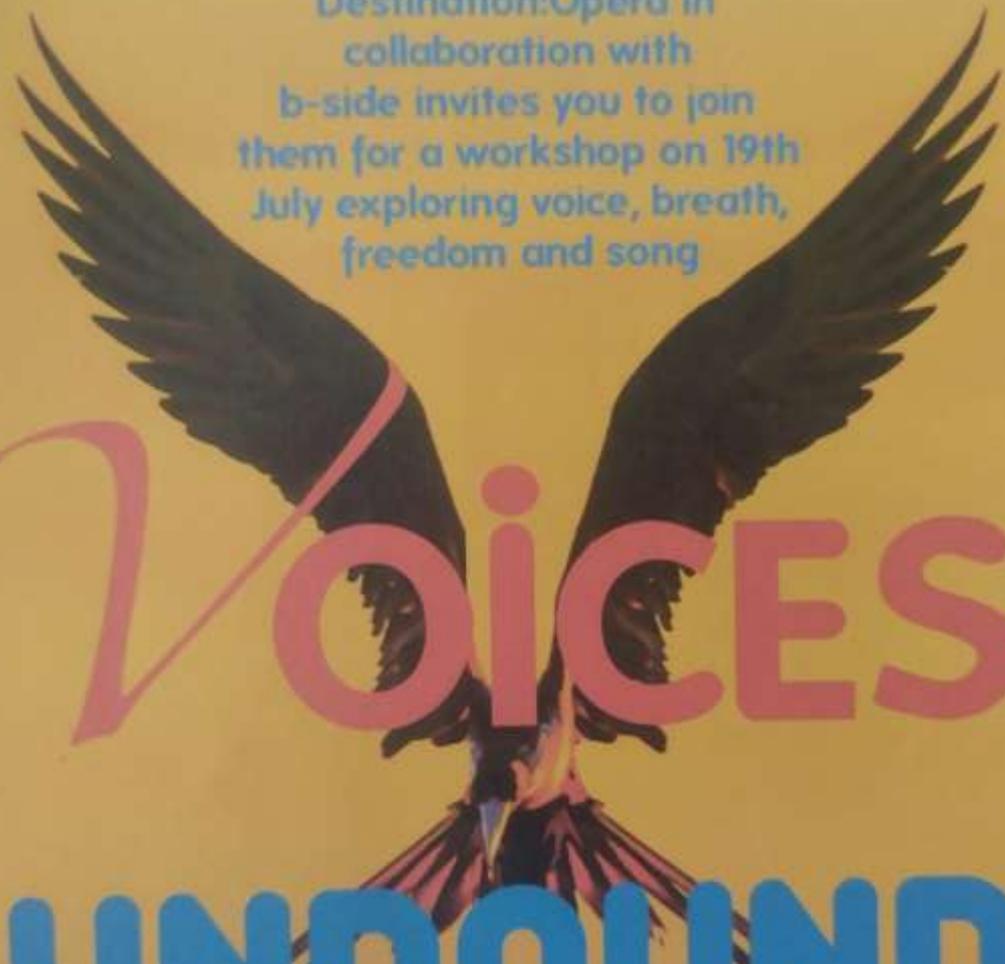
The ceremony was attended by pupils and staff at Holy Trinity Primary School and members of the parochial church council of Holy Trinity Church.



Towns of Culture
2025
PORTLAND & WEYMOUTH

REVEAL  b-side

Destination:Opera in
collaboration with
b-side invites you to join
them for a workshop on 19th
July exploring voice, breath,
freedom and song



VoICES

UNBOUND



Dorset
Council



FINE FAMILY FOUNDATION



Come and share the joy of singing in a supportive workshop. You will be given all the tools you need to raise your voices to the skies in singing famous choruses from some of the great operas! There will be 7 voluntary rehearsals in the run up to the event - the more you are able to attend the more empowered you will feel, but if you can't you can't! The pressure is low so we can keep the enjoyment to the max!

Reasons to join us:

Experience the Joy of Singing - Feel the thrill of making music with others

No Experience Needed - Open to all voice types and skill levels

Build Confidence - Strengthen your vocal and performance skills learning with experienced opera singers

Make New Friends - Connect with a welcoming and supportive community

Be Part of Something Bigger - Experience the power of collective voices in harmony

Learn and Grow - Explore new music together

Perform with Passion - Share your voice in an inspiring and engaging setting

Stress Relief - It's not an accident that we will rehearse on Sundays - come and beat the end of weekend blues with joy and song!

DATES Sundays 6:30-8pm

1st, 15th, 29th June 13th July

St Nic's Gallery, Weymouth

11 St Nicholas Street DT4 8AA

8th, 22nd June 6th July

Portland Community Venue,

Three Yards Close, DT5 1JN

Saturday WORKSHOP DAY

19th July - High Angle Battery

Portland, DT5 1LF

2-5:30pm workshop

6-7pm presentation

To register interest or more
information email Jon Valender
jav@destinationopera.co.uk
and join the conversation at
Insta @destination.opera
FB @destination.opera

Thoughts & Prayers for June 2025

By Christine Buffrey

Lord, how patiently you wait for us to turn to you.
Like fishermen patiently waiting for fish to bite, you wait for us.
Even if we turn to you at the eleventh hour of our lives
or even with midnight fast approaching, you do not turn us away.
How patiently you wait,
perhaps even after we have spent all our time and energy
on pursuing selfish goals in life, without a thought for you,
still, you never turn us away!
It is never too late, no matter how far our lives may have strayed from
you,
you do not turn us away.
If we come to you, sincerely asking forgiveness,
for the offences or hurts we have caused others,
for harbouring resentments or grudges
or straying from you, you never turn us away.
For this we thank you, Lord. Amen

Bible Statistics

Old Testament

39 books, 929 chapters, 23,214 verses, 593,493 words

Longest book – Psalms

Shortest book – Obadiah

17 historical books, 5 poetical books, 17 prophetic books

New Testament

27 books, 260 chapters, 7959 verses, 181,253 words

Longest book – Acts

Shortest book – 3 John

4 Gospels, 1 historical book, 22 letters

In you, Lord is our sure refuge
from all the turmoil that can beset us.
You are our firm support, firmer than any castle,
The one who never lets us down, whose support never crumbles
the one to whom we can all turn

in time of trouble or if under attack.
For you wish to lead and guide us all
and rescue us from all that assails us
from all that could take us away from the support of your love
so that under your protection we can stand firm and feel safe. Amen

Magazine Editor: Clare Page

*Contributions to the June magazine will be gratefully received. Please let me have articles or ideas by **June 15th***

Email: Clare.page@outlook.com