Trinity Voice

The Parish magazine for
Holy Trinity, Weymouth
Diocese of Salisbury
October 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 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 church 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:	Vacancy
HT Churchwardens:	Trudi Shaw 07973 560705
	Philippa Walker 07928 488993
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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 5th October

6.30 p.m. Open Table service

Wednesdays

Midweek Eucharist or Morning Prayer at 10.00

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

September News

The quiet summer season for Holy Trinity church has come to an end with a busy autumn in prospect. Although the interregnum continues, changes are afoot, with Rev. John MacKenzie of All Saints parish agreeing to oversee both congregations – of course this does not mean we won't get our own vicar later on. Churchwarden Trudi is on the pathway towards ordination, with all our support, so a replacement is being sought and will be voted in this month. We have been fortunate to have a number of supportive priests in the area, ready and willing to help us out with our services, not to mention the tireless efforts of churchwarden Philippa in plugging any gaps.

Harvest Festival was celebrated on the final Sunday of the month, both with morning services and a BCP Evensong later – I think every harvest hymn I have ever heard was sung at some point during the day. Many thanks for all the gifts of produce, which will go to the Weymouth food bank.

We hosted a fascinating exhibition of drawings and maps by the late Weymouth architect and local historian Eric Ricketts and also raised the amazing sum of £500 at an evening concert of music and dance, of which more later.

Finally, amid all the good news, a sad note on the passing of our dear friend Dr David Picton. The church was well attended for a beautiful funeral with some moving tributes, including a wonderful musical performance by two of his cousins. It was a privilege to be there, and his quiet, gentle presence will be much missed. His eulogy is printed here for those unable to attend.

David Picton

31st January 1955 – 28th August 2025

I know that many of us were very sorry to learn of David's death and I thought it would be good to share some details of his life with you. This was written up a number of years before his passing by David and his beloved partner Oliver.

David was born in Bolton and was brought up as a Quaker. He was educated at various schools in Bolton, including Bolton School. David's father John worked in senior management at Chloride Limited. He died in 1987 at the age of 57. His mother Rachel remarried but her second husband George died in 1994. She died in 2011 at the age of 81.

David went to Birmingham University in 1973 where he studied for a BSc in Physics, graduating in 1976. He went on to take an MSc in the Physics and Technology of Nuclear Reactors, awarded in 1977. Thereafter he continued at Birmingham to undertake research for his PhD, followed by a series of post-doctoral research projects in the field of nuclear science. The projects included calculations for the pulsed neutron source at the Rutherford Laboratory at Harwell in Oxfordshire. He also worked on a borehole logging project for an oil company and a cancer research facility in Birmingham.

In 2005 David was accepted for a position at the Winfrith Laboratory. He worked as a radiation shielding consultant for the nuclear industry and for other companies handling radioactive materials. Nearly all his work was safety related – it was about keeping people safe, not blowing them up! In 2015 David's office was moved to Poundbury and during that time he

received a visit from the then Prince Charles. David retired in 2016.

David met Oliver Burr in 1984. They lived together from 1985 and did everything together until Oliver's death in 2019. While in Edgbaston both of them served on the Committee of the High Point Residents' Association. David and Oliver had a Civil Partnership ceremony on 2nd June 2006 with a church blessing at St Peter's church, Harborne followed by a reception hosted by Lady Brenda Howell.

After he met Oliver, David became an Anglican and was confirmed in 1993. They were very active in all the churches they belonged to. They served as sidespersons and on the Deanery Synod at St Peter's church in Harborne, Birmingham and also here at Holy Trinity. Other churches they attended included Birmingham Cathedral and St Paul's in the Birmingham Jewellery Quarter.

They were involved in historical societies in Handsworth and South Yardley and were both Friends of Weymouth Library. David also became a Friend of Weymouth Choral Society whose concerts he regularly attended.

David had many happy holidays throughout his life. Throughout his childhood his annual family holidays were spent at his grandmother's house in St Mawes. After meeting Oliver his main annual holidays were spent on the Isles of Scilly. David and Oliver also regularly stayed in Torquay to visit Oliver's aunt until her death in 2002. David has an aunt and uncle in Cornwall whom they visited on their way to the Scillies, also visiting the Minack Theatre and other beauty spots.

Oliver's death in 2019 inevitably hit David very hard, but he continued doing many of the things they had done together. He became quite solitary but was supported by friends, neighbours and

Holy Trinity church. Sadly he was afflicted by cancer which progressed more quickly than expected. We shall all miss this kind, gentle man.

Canon Richard Franklin

Days of Yore

Clare Page

It's August 1976 and the hosepipe ban is becoming a bore now. Holidays are on everyone's minds, and the vicar reminds us that the word 'holiday' derives from 'holy day' – a day off from your hard agricultural work to celebrate a saint or event of the Christian calendar. Not a package to Torremolinos.

Parish curate Revd. John Cook is preparing to take up a new role in Felixstowe and both Holy Trinity and St Nicholas churches have invited the Church Army Mission Team to preach during the month. Who saw the recent documentary about this group? This paragraph in the newsletter sent a shiver up my spine.

Congratulations are due to Ann Rogers on achieving a First Class degree in Indonesian from London University, not to mention her engagement to fellow congregant Martin Grinter – what a summer for her!

G Winzar relinquishes the leadership of the St Nicholas Working Party for health reasons, reminiscing about all the great fundraising activities he was involved with, from chopping firewood to serving cream teas.

Tribute is paid to the outgoing headteacher of Holy Trinity Junior School, Tom Venner, after 19 years in post. Retirement gifts included a magnolia tree, a pen, a garden seat, a greenhouse and two original paintings of the school – he was clearly very highly appreciated.

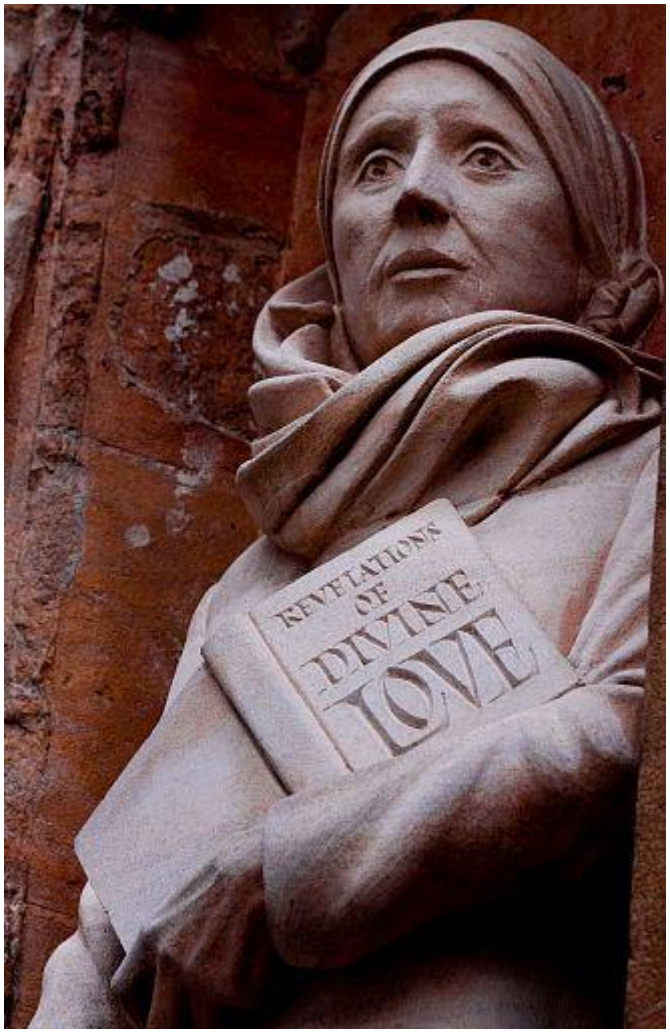
A charity sale in aid of Shelter is advertised with the reminder that one person in six is homeless in 1976 – an earlier remnant party raised £23.

Julian of Norwich

By Philippa Walker

Julian was born in Norwich in 1342. She is thought to have been the first woman to write a book in English which has survived. Nothing of Julian's early life is known but we know that she lived through very difficult times. When she was 6, Norwich experienced its first wave of the Black Death, during which 40% of Norwich's population died. Later, in 1361, the second wave of the Black Death struck Norwich, when about 20% of the population died including a high proportion of children. In 1369 the third wave hit and a further 13% died. It was also a difficult time for the church which was struggling with the schism that followed the Pope's return to Rome from Avignon. Life must have been very hard at this time. It is thought that Julian may have married and had a child because her writings showed her to be knowledgeable and sympathetic to the role of mother and wife. It is likely that she was widowed and also lost her child.

When Julian was 30 and a half years old, in May 1373, she was suddenly stricken with a very serious illness that in three days seemed to be carrying her to the grave. She received a visit from a priest who administered the last rites and stood holding a crucifix at the end of her bed. At this time she experienced what we now call a near death experience. She received 16 'revelations' which she subsequently wrote about in her book 'Revelations of Divine Love'.



It was following these revelations, which showed her the strength of God's love for her and all humanity, that she decided to become an anchoress, living in a cell attached to the church of St Julian in Norwich, from which she probably took her name.

The life of an anchoress is a strange one but not, it seems, an unpopular one. Writings from the time show that she would have had to 'apply for the job'. She would then take part in a church service not unlike a funeral, after which she would be sealed in a tiny cell and never emerge from the cell for the rest of her life (which is thought to have continued for many years). Strangely though she did have a maid, Sarah, who lived in another similar cell next to Julian's, and a cat.

Her writings are essentially optimistic and uplifting, her theology based on mysticism and spirituality. Her book, Revelations of Divine Love, contains a message of optimism based on the certainty of being loved by God and of being protected by his providence. God is both our mother and our father, nurturing and protective in turn.

In the first revelation, Julian has a vision of a hazelnut lying in the palm of her hand. This would have been a very commonplace object in medieval Norwich, and she asks the question 'What may this be?' In other words, 'Why are you showing me this?' In the revelation she receives the reply, 'It is all that is made'. Julian sees that the nut is precious simply because it exists and as such it encapsulates 'all that is made'. The fact that God made, loves and protects the very commonplace and tiny hazelnut showed her how he loves us as humans.

In the final revelation, Julian was shown in a vision the answer to her question regarding why God allowed the onset of sin and of the suffering she must have seen around her on a daily basis. In the vision she asked Jesus this question and he answered with these words: 'It was necessary that there should be sin, but all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well.'

She said that "He attributes no blame, out of love... Peace and love are always in us, being and working, but we are not always in peace and love. But he wants us to pay attention to this: that he is the foundation of our whole life in love."

Musical Marvels

Clare Page

On the evening of 26th September audience members were treated to a concert of musical performance by some of the town's most talented local artists.

Our own Gary Smith set the bar high from the start with a dazzling performance on the newly-tuned organ, which is sounding wonderful; even more so when it was put to work on a version of Queen's 1975 classic *Bohemian Rhapsody*. I half expected fireworks to shoot out from the top of the pipes at the end.

Other solo performers were the talented Katherine Wyatt on the piano, interpreting works by Beethoven and Liszt.

Nicky Footer demonstrated her astonishing versatility, giving performances on two different instruments – the viola, which she

has only been playing for a short while, not that you would have guessed, and the saxophone, which gave us some popular jazz tunes. She was ably accompanied by Freda Mulvany.

The concert closed with West End performer Damaris Fowler, ending on a high note with a variety of pop classics covering all moods, from the beautiful Running Up That Hill to the energetically feelgood Walking on Sunshine (I got the feeling Trudi was enjoying that one).

Alongside the solo performers, three ensemble groups entertained with dancing and song. First of all, the young dancers of Weymouth School of Ballet and Theatre Arts showed us two sides of their repertoire – a bouncy Latin number and a delicate ballet piece. Their wonderful costumes and graceful energy lit up the space.

Finally, two choirs of different age groups – the children of Holy Trinity Primary School taught us all the actions to three lively worship songs, while the adult Wacapella group kept the energy up with sea shanties and pop standards to get us humming and toe-tapping into the interval.

It was a night to remember, and the proceeds will help enormously towards all the exciting plans for the church. Thank you to everyone involved, especially Brian Crump, whose finely-tuned compering skills kept the show on the road from start to finish.

Holy Trinity Women's Fellowship

Pat Reeves

Inspired by Philippa and Clare's notes from the Holy Trinity archives I started thinking of the many years that Women's Fellowship meetings had taken place. Sadly, I had the questionable honour of being almost their last Chairperson.

In 2010 the Fellowship was in need of a new leader when Heather Byfleet was unable to continue because of ill health. A number of people rallied round and we formed a team when Evelyn Fuggle agreed to be secretary and Edna Weeks wanted to continue, as she had for many years, as Treasurer. A team of tea ladies was formed and, with Rev. Ruth Milverton as our President, we were ready to start.

We held monthly meetings at St Nicholas Church which Ruth started with a prayer, hosting a variety of speakers. The afternoon ended with a cup of tea and a chance for a chat, thanks to Tricia (who later became our Secretary) and her team of helpers. There were travel talks, with slides, and before Christmas a florist did a demonstration of floral arrangements, and she brought Christmas decorations for sale. Charlie Wheeler, the warden from Chesil and Fleet nature reserve, gave an interesting talk, and Joe, my son-in-law, brought in slides of the beautiful birds he photographed. We had talks from charitable associations, such as Mercy Ships; Dogs for the Disabled; and numerous other important charities, which we were able to donate to. We helped with a Tombola stall at Holy Trinity Christmas Fair and other sales, when Daphne usually raffled one of her beautiful knitted dolls.

In the summer school holidays we were invited to the Holy Trinity School garden by Stella Read and her husband, Michael, who had volunteered to help care for the garden. It was a special treat as

Stella made delicious cakes for an afternoon tea. There was time to wander around the garden, which was beautifully cared for, with areas of interest for the children to learn about plants and birds, and with special areas for them to relax in if needed.

Before the August and December breaks we had a celebratory cream tea, with entertainment by a variety of singers from Weymouth and Portland. Robert Smith sang and played the piano for us and there was home-spun drama by members. It was a time to relax and enjoy ourselves. At the Christmas party Holy Trinity School Choir used to come to sing carols to us, which was very enjoyable.

Twice yearly we embarked on a coach outing to different destinations. In summer usually to Wareham to the Flower Festival at St Mary's Church, or Wimborne, or to Sidmouth to visit the Donkey Sanctuary and to spend some time by the sea (and shops!). In winter we would go to a Garden Centre for pre-Christmas shopping at Haskins or Otter Nursery. I must thank Linda and Charles Deremeaux whose help was invaluable when the group became too small for a large coach- Charles hired a mini-bus and Linda helped with the not so able ladies. Most trips went without mishap until dear Edna fell and fractured her hip in Sidmouth. She was not distressed by this and, at over 90 years of age, insisted on continuing as Treasurer from home, although I never did find the Petty Cashbox, which was kept in a margarine tub which was apparently located either in the sideboard or upstairs in the wardrobe! However, the cash was meticulously recorded, and the loss of the petty cash was dealt with by some 'creative accounting'!

At New Year we held a formal lunch at the Crown Hotel which was always popular. A small gift was available for all members and a raffle to reward the staff. Outings were also held on the MV Freedom, with visits to Portland Harbour or to Lulworth, depending on weather conditions.

The closure of St Nicholas church, Buxton Road in 2018 came upon us and we tried various venues. For some time we met at the Hope United Reformed Church in Hope Square. A good deal of help (provided by Joe) was needed with arrangement of chairs for the meetings and it was a distance from the kitchen for our much-needed cups of tea to be transported. There were many doors to lock before leaving and on one occasion the Fire Alarm was set off by mistake and no-one had any idea how to re-set it! Fortunately, the Church Warden was passing the church and was able to come to our rescue!

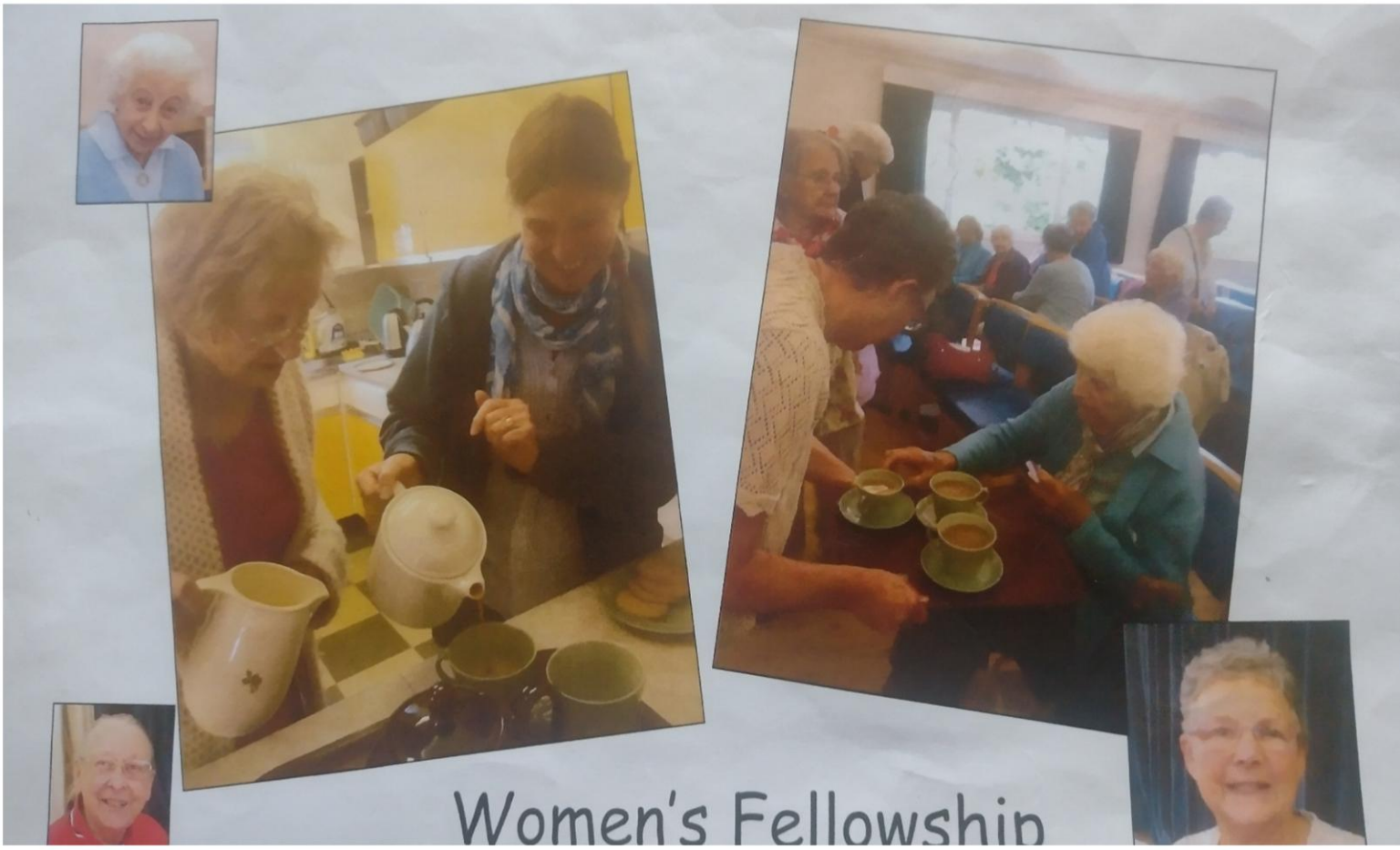
Our final summer party was held at Hope Church on 5th July 2019 with tea and entertainment by Louise and her accordion, and songs by Robert Smith. At the AGM on 9th September we elected Janet Hall as our leader and meetings were moved to Pilgrim House for a while. It was finally decided to close the Holy Trinity Women's Fellowship after so many years and the remaining monies were distributed to various charities.

It was a pleasure and an honour to have known all those lovely ladies of the Women's Fellowship and a great sadness when we were not able to continue as before.

Here I must pay tribute to all the leaders who kept the Women's Fellowship meetings going for more years than most of us can remember – too many to be named but all appreciated for the fellowship enjoyed by so many generations of ladies from Holy Trinity Church.

P.S. from Tricia Donovan

First of all, it was not me who set off the fire alarm. You can't prove it, and anyway it was very dark in that passageway and easily done.



I got involved in Women's Fellowship because of Pat and her 'puppy dog eyes'....when she asked me to help with the summer cream tea, who was I to refuse? I found myself going to my first meeting, and before I knew it I was making tea and clearing up on a regular basis. I must say I wasn't the best candidate for the job and was often rebuked for the laughter coming from the kitchen. A bit unfair as it was all Daphne's fault really, but I got the blame!

I was Secretary in 2020 when Covid struck and our meetings had to stop. But our members were not forgotten: a telephone tree was

established, and I would ring my five ladies every week to check on how they were doing and have a chat. It was a difficult time. When restrictions were lifted, a lot had changed. Janet was concentrating her energies into All Saints Church where she started a similar group, and I was concerned with family issues and was unable to devote the time needed to starting things up again in Weymouth as before.

Pat was a wonderful Chair for so many years, and her energy, care and commitment made it such a welcoming, stimulating and popular monthly event to look forward to. It meant a lot to many people, and I would like to say a huge thank you to her for everything she did.

I have enjoyed reading Pat's account of the Women's Fellowship years. Perhaps others reading it will also recognise what a Good Thing it was, and maybe even be prompted to start something similar in the future. Who knows?

Holy Trinity and our Choral Tradition

Philippa Walker

A Year in the life of Holy Trinity Church - Weymouth 1934 - 5

It seems that news was thin in 1934. There was a concert in the Sydney Hall on 31st January, with the choir taking part. Unfortunately their contribution was not detailed. The main news appeared to be that Miss Miskin, pianist, was, in fact, Miss Muskett and an apology was made. Great news indeed!!

On Sunday 8th April at Mattins, the voluntaries and hymns were played by the band of the Green Howards. They played Wagner's 'March of the Holy Grail' and the Largo from Dvorak's 'From the New World Symphony'.

The badge of the Green Howards

The choirmen had an outing to Southampton and the Isle of Wight.

The following year, 1935, provides us with much more news. The printer of the Magazine, Messrs Sherren, gets a mention. As you will know this is a well-known Weymouth printing company who have recently printed some posters for our September concert. It appears that special mention was given to Miss Wilkins of this company who could now decipher the Vicar's writing and type from it!

The choir was represented with a dozen others at a Festival Service at St Mary's, Dorchester conducted by Dr Armstrong (then at Christ Church Cathedral in Oxford).

St Mary's Church in Dorchester

At Holy Trinity celebrations of the King's Jubilee Service the music was advertised to be 'almost exactly that being used in St Paul's Cathedral'.

Despite bemoaning that Holy Trinity 'had no real Patronal or Dedication Festival' the Rev F W Baggallay came to preach on Trinity Sunday. He was the son of a former Vicar, who left 'because there seemed no end to the constant anxiety about finance in the parish'. Times do not change!!

A funny story which was published in this year's Magazine was thus: A Bishop asked his clergy, ‘Does your organist exercise a good, spiritual influence over the choir?’. One replied ‘My Lord, I dare not enquire. She is my wife’!!

On December 7th there was another Choirs’ Festival Service, again conducted by Dr Armstrong. This time the Service was of Nine Lessons with special music.

Dr Thomas Armstrong

Thoughts and Prayers for October 2025

Christine Buffrey

A few years ago, a friend made this tiny cross (only 3cm x 4cm) in an equally tiny pouch together with the following poem on a concertinaed piece of paper tucked inside. I don't always carry it in my pocket, but it is a treasured possession that is never far away, and the prayer poem is part of my life, so I hope you will enjoy sharing it too.

I carry a cross in my pocket
A simple reminder to me
Of the fact that I am a Christian
No matter where I may be

This little cross is not magic
Nor is it a good luck charm
It isn't meant to protect me
From every physical harm

It is not for identification
For all the world to see
It's simply an understanding
Between my Saviour and me

When I put my hand in my pocket
To bring out a coin or a key,
The cross is there to remind me
Of the price He paid for me

It reminds me too, to be thankful
For my blessings day by day
And to strive to serve Him better
In all that I do or say

It's also a daily reminder
Of the peace and comfort I share
With all who know my Master
And give themselves to His care

So I carry a cross in my pocket
Reminding no one but me
That Jesus Christ is the Lord of my life
If only I'll let Him be

(by Verna Mae Thomas)

Coming Soon…….

Holy Trinity 2nd Annual Christmas Tree Festival

6th - 14th December

Holy Trinity will be lit up by Christmas Trees to the delight of children and adults alike!

Coffee, tea & cake will be available

Competition to find favourite tree!

If you would like to advertise your business or charity and put up a tree, please contact Alyson@holytrinityweymouth.org

Magazine Editor: Clare Page

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

Email: clare.page@outlook.com