

Trinity Voice

The Parish magazine for
Holy Trinity, Weymouth
Diocese of Salisbury
December 2022

£1



SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday Services for December are detailed below.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN US FOR OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP. Coffee and tea are served after our 10am Sunday service. This is a great opportunity for us to talk to each other. **IF YOU ARE NEW TO OUR CHURCH** please introduce yourself to Trudi Shaw or Philippa Walker, our Church Wardens.

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 Warden on 07554709236**

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

HT Churchwardens: Trudi Shaw 07973 560705
Philippa Walker 07928 488993

PCC Secretary: Angela Kerigan Email angelakerigan@gmail.com

HT Youth worker: Connor Hansford connor@holytrinityweymouth.org

Sunday School: Connor Hansford (as above)

Electoral Roll: Philippa Walker: 01305 785939

Verger: Peter Rendall: 01305 782546

Safeguarding Officer: Krys Fursman 07916 097606
emmaaleks04@gmail.com

Children's Society: Val Sewry 01305 776155

Sunday pew sheet: To be sent to Philippa Walker on philippa@holytrinityweymouth.org Wednesday 12noon each week.

SERVICES AT HOLY TRINITY DURING DECEMBER

The Second Sunday in Advent - 4th December

8 am Morning Prayer led by Connor Hansford

10 am Family Service led by Connor Hansford

The Third Sunday in Advent - 11th December

8 am Said Eucharist led by Reverend Ed Tildesley

10 am Sung Eucharist led by Reverend Ed Tildesley

Service of Nine Lessons and Carols - 16th December

6.15 pm led by Reverend Ed Tildesley

The Fourth Sunday in Advent - 18th December

8 am Said Eucharist led by Reverend James Menzies

10 am Sung Eucharist led by Reverend Ed Tildesley

Christmas Eve - 24th December

8.00 pm 1st Mass of Christmas led by Reverend Ed Tildesley

Christmas Day - 25th December

9.30 am Sung Eucharist led by Archdeacon Penny Sayer

Welcome to the December Edition of Trinity Voice.

As you have now come to expect, we have a packed edition for December. Trudi, brings some excellent news regarding the building works as we look forward to holding our Christmas Services and inviting new people into the church.

We hear more from the newly formed Wayfarers and see the prize winning art works. There is also a chance to re-read some of the homilies given by Connor in November.

We find out about the life and times of Barbara Wilson who sings in the choir and helps the church in very many other ways.

Connor continues his series on the lives of Saints and puts the spotlight on St Dymphna. Our look at the choral tradition of our church has reached 1893 and the start of fund raising for St Pauls Church on Abbotsbury Road. There is also an interesting article from Geoff Pritchard about his vision for Holy Trinity, Weymouth.

As always I hope you enjoy the December edition and look forward to receiving your feedback, contributions and ideas for inclusion.



Message from Church Warden Trudi

At last I bring good news regarding the building works!

Whites have now completed all the work to the Warrior Window. New guttering has been put in and loads of re-pointing has taken place so the window is now watertight - so no more water pouring into our church. Danny, our stonemason will start work on the main west window on the 1st of December. The PCC agreed that the work will stop during the week of the 12th December, so that we can hold the school carol concert and our Nine Lessons and Carols service without being covered in dust. Danny will return the following week and finish on the 22nd in time for us to clean the church for our First Mass of Christmas Service on Christmas Eve. Danny returns to work on the 3rd January and hopefully will finish at the end of January. Sheriffs are on standby to start as soon as Danny finishes to put the windows back in. So pending weather etc all work should be finished by the end of February. Plans are in progress for a grand opening, details to follow.



Wayfarers - Holy Trinity Primary School

Connor Hansford



Congratulations to Charlie for winning our half-term Creation competition with his amazing drawing of the Garden of Eden, featuring a flaming sword which God puts at the gates to stop Adam and Eve and through them all of humanity for gaining access, that is until Jesus comes to free those trapped in Hell and gives us life eternal. Charlie wins the latest novel from award-winning children's author and comedian David Walliams, 'Spaceboy'. Well done Charlie!!

Wayfarers church club takes place after school on Mondays at HT Primary and is open to pupils in KS2. We currently have 9 places available. Contact the school office for more information.

GOD'S GARDEN



The Kneelers or Hassocks

Christine Buffrey



The Kneelers Holy Trinity are a sight to behold, with a great variety of designs, stitched by many people back in the 1970s.

They are mostly dated and with the initials of the faithful sewing folk, representing life as it was at that time – activities, weddings, organisations, groups, interests and Church life.



Sue Wells, who is usually to be found at the 8am Service on Sundays, worked five of the hassocks. One of them is at the bottom of the page – for Brownies – as she was Brown Owl at Holy Trinity at the time. Note her initials SMW – the date 1978 is on the opposite edge.



There are about 150 hassocks stacked at the back of the Church, which represent lots of hours of work. If each one took two months to make, 150 x 2 months means they took a combined total of the equivalent of about 25 years to make!



How can we preserve these treasures for the future? Maybe we could clean them, and make them into pew runners or wall hangings (banners) or what? Your ideas, to Christine, please.

Just a last thought. Do you confuse Hassocks with Cassocks? Cassocks for Clergy, Hassocks for Kneeling (but not used much as such nowadays)

An Introduction to

Barbara Wilson



Barbara Wilson is a very well known face at Holy Trinity. She sings Alto in the choir and is always to be found helping both on a Saturday cleaning the brasses and on a Sunday washing up the coffee cups!

She has been worshipping at our church for a number of years but hails from many miles away in the North East of England.

Barbara was born in Darlington during World War II. Her father, Hugh Corden, was a vicar at Witton-le-Wear which was a training camp for those enlisted to join the army. At the end of the war, her father went to Burma as a padre, where he was promoted to the rank of Major. Barbara and her mother moved to Bishop Auckland where her brother was born in 1943. On Major Corden's return after 2 years away, he became vicar at Stanley in County Durham where he stayed for 10 years. Barbara's sister was born during that time and all three children loved life in the vicarage. This was a big, cold, Victorian house where there were always lots of people doing church business, having meetings etc.

Barbara went to a boarding school called Casterton. This is located in the Lake District and was also attended by Charlotte Bronte. Barbara loved school life and enjoyed walking in the beautiful countryside which surrounded the school.

Just after the birth of her third sibling, Barbara's father moved to become a Rector of four churches in Gateshead.

When she left school Barbara trained to become a teacher at Alnwick Castle in Northumberland, specialising in teaching infants. She taught first in Cheshire and then in Derbyshire where she met her husband. Her son was born in 1969 in Chapel-en-le-Frith in the beautiful Peak District. Barbara's husband applied for a job 'down South'. Barbara still sees herself as a Northern lass and was not too keen on the move South, but is still here nearly 50 years later.

Barbara has had a number of jobs whilst in Weymouth including working as a school cleaner and 17 years at Dorchester prep school. She also spent some time at the Royal School of Needlework.

Barbara is a great walker and has enjoyed climbing Snowden, Ben Nevis and a number of other Scottish mountains. She also spent a number of years acting at the Weymouth Arts Theatre.

A vision for Holy Trinity

Geoff Pritchard



St Martin's in the field

In the 1960s, I visited St Martin's in the Field, in London and, in a book, I found a vision for that church described by the Reverend Sheppard, the vicar of St Martin's at the end of the First World War. The church was poorly attended at the time, but whilst lying in trench, waiting for the firing to cease the Reverend Sheppard had a vision which he went on to fulfil and make St Martin's the wonderful church it is today.

I feel that this is very appropriate for Holy Trinity.

I saw a great and splendid church standing in the greatest square of the greatest city in the world [...] I saw it full of people, dropping in at all hours of the day and night. It was never dark, it was lighted all night and day, and often tired bits of humanity swept in. And I said

to them as they passed: 'Where are you going?' and they said only one thing: 'This is our home. This is where we are going to learn of the love of Jesus Christ. This is the Altar of our Lord, where all our peace list. This is St Martin's.

Thoughts and prayers for everyday

- Look after each other so that not one of you will fail to find God's richest blessings. Hebrews 12:15
- Count your blessings, name them one by one.
- As God's chosen people, holy and deeply loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgives you. Over all these virtues put on love, which binds all together in perfect unity. Colossians 3:12-14
- Father God, take all the broken bits of our lives: our broken promises; our broken friendships; our differences of opinion; our different backgrounds, shapes and sizes; and arrange them together, fitting them into each other to make something beautiful like an artist makes a stained glass window. Make a design, your design, even when all we can see are broken bits. Amen
- Read Psalm 23 or Psalm 121 carefully and prayerfully.

- God grant me the **serenity** to accept the things I cannot change, the **courage** to change the things I can, and the **wisdom** to know the difference. Amen
- The world around us may be like shifting sand but **Jesus us the same, yesterday, today and forever.**
- What a gift it is to find joy in small things.
- Try saying and thinking: **I'm too blessed to be stressed**
- These are difficult days in our world and for our loved ones, but the good news is that God is bigger than all our problems. God loves us and protects us ... God remains steadfast .. God is watching over you.
- The sea is so large and my boat is so small, protect me, O Lord.
- **Rejoice in the Lord always.** I will say it again: rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:4-7

In the Bleak Midwinter

Connor Hansford



I'm writing this on a dark wet evening in November but already the shops are full of Christmas decorations, seasonal chocolates, alcohol galore, parents pushing carts full to bursting with wrapping paper and tape, and fruit cake, which I love (why do we only seem to eat it at Christmas? It's delicious!) Waiting in the dark for the last bus the other night I started singing In the Bleak Midwinter, a serious contender for my favourite ever Christmas carol – I like Bert Jansch's version best. In it we hear of a person pondering what they could bring to the stable. They're not rich like the Magi, and not being shepherds, they don't have any lambs. 'What can I give Him,' our anonymous narrator wonders, 'poor as I am?' Singing this not only gave me an idea for what to talk about at our upcoming children's carol service, it also got me wondering, what would I bring to the stable? It's hard sometimes when speaking to children about the Bible to get across that rarely are things in it as simple as they appear. The story of the Magi and the shepherds speaks to us

through the ages, asking us, what about you? What do you have to offer?

What I want to say is that the Three Kings brought gifts of gold, frankincense, myrrh; the shepherds, a lamb; in all cases something representative of them. They brought themselves, in other words, wholly and completely, sinners all. Holy Trinity preaches the Inclusive Gospel of Jesus Christ, but what does that mean? It means you are valid and loved exactly as you are. Plenty of people whether they're LGBT, young, disabled, disadvantaged, or from another country, feel like they don't fit in or that all Christians are alike. A shepherd and a king – talk about chalk and cheese! Epiphany, which is what I'm talking about rather than Advent (wrist slap, what will I write about in the January edition?) reminds us, gently, that lovers of Christ come in all shapes and sizes. As Nirvana said, come as you are. Every year now that I'm a grown-up I ask my Mum what she wants for Christmas and every year she says the same thing: 'you being here is enough'.

God made you; he wants you to come home (oh dear now Chris Rea's stuck in my head). That's the message of Christmas in my book. You might say, that's what Jesus wants for Christmas! So, as you place (or try to, mine never seem to sit right) your Three Kings in your stable, remember that the greatest gift can't be bought because the greatest gift is Love.

Reflections on All Souls

Connor Hansford



All Souls' Day, painting by Jakub Schikaneder, 1888

Usually, I write homilies in advance and send them to Philippa to be printed. When she asked me this week if I would send her the one I delivered on All Souls I had to fess up that I'd made it up on the spot! What did I talk about? First of all, I quoted the famous comic novelist Terry Pratchett who sadly died of Alzheimer's in 2015. He said, 'don't think of it as dying, think of it as leaving early to avoid the rush'. We Brits are particularly good at devising flippant ways to cover up our fear of death, but as we all know when it comes down to it, it doesn't matter how we dress it up, death is scary and horrible and sad. Jesus knew this, it's partly why he warned his disciples time and again that he would die. There's a peculiar scene in Matthew in which Peter says, 'surely not, Lord!' Jesus is the son of God, if anyone can cheat death it's Him, right? Jesus reacts somewhat surprisingly with fury, 'get behind me, Satan' he shouts. This is Peter the Rock we're talking about, Fisher of Men, Son of Thunder – talk about an overreaction.

Jesus' anger comes from his experience in the desert where Satan tempts him, saying 'on their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone'. Salvation without sacrifice. The Cross is anathema to Satan because through it, Christ conquered hell and death. Peter's albeit well-intentioned petition to his friend to stay alive reminds Him and us of Satan. Without death there is no life. Christ died so that we could live. The Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden is the Tree of (Eternal) Life; before Eve was tempted there was no death, only life eternal. Whatever you think about Eden, whether you think it was a real place or just a metaphor, it is described as paradise, the same term that is applied to Heaven. Through His death Christ gives humanity the keys to paradise, allowing us once more to live forever. The angel with the flaming sword is pensioned off, the gates flung open! I wrote in a previous issue of *Trinity Voice* my experience of attending a requiem mass in the chapel of the Guild of All Souls, an Anglo-Catholic society which exists to pray for the deceased. Membership costs £20 per year and you can join online at <https://www.guildofallsouls.org.uk/>. Rest eternal grant to them O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them: May their souls, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace. May they rise in glory.

Holy Trinity and our Choral Tradition

Philippa Walker

A Year in the life of Holy Trinity Church - Weymouth 1893

In 1893, all the debt on Holy Trinity had been paid off and a further fundraising appeal was launched to raise funds to assist in the building of a new church at Westham (St Paul's).



The choir continued to go from strength to strength, their anthems being much enjoyed by the congregation (although a request was made in January 1893 for the words of anthems to be made available (these sold at one penny each!))

Easter Day was reported to be very beautiful with 'crowds' arriving for the services. However, the Vicar complained that similar weather on Good Friday, kept his congregation away!!

On 22nd March, Stainer's Crucifixion was sung by the choir and the Rev Stanhope was a popular soloist at concerts and various church organisations.

On 9th May the Choirboys' Sports Day took place at Connaught House, this seemed to be a very egalitarian affair where 'no boy was allowed to take off more than three prizes' but everyone managed to get at least one prize for 'coming first, last or somewhere, nowhere'

The schools were reported to be free from debt in June and a note confirmed that 'our parish has now schools which for beauty, convenience, and efficiency are second to none in the diocese'

Choir practice for the boys had been changed to Tuesday, the full practice being on Fridays at 8.00 am.

The boys went on an outing to Bindon Abbey on 2nd August. It appeared that two of the boys had to be 'fished' out of the lake, one who slipped and another who fell in when playing a game of 'Fox and Hounds'. According to the book, one 'hound' spotted a 'fox' in a deep ditch which contained much water he spent the rest of the afternoon in front of the fire at the Lodge whilst his clothes were drying.



Come and Sing with us for Christmas



We will soon be singing Carols for our Christmas Services and would love to welcome new members. We practice a Friday evening at 6.30pm until about 7.45 pm and sing each Sunday at the 10.00 am Eucharist. We are particularly keen to recruit a tenor and a bass to complete our ensemble. If you are interested please contact Philippa on 07928 488993 or just turn up on at the Friday rehearsals.

Saints In Focus

Connor Hansford

Saint of the Month: Saint Dymphna



Saint Dymphna may well be my favourite saint of all. I keep an icon of her in my pocket at all times. It might seem wrong not to make December all about Saint Nicholas, progenitor of everyone's favourite jolly fat man and patron saint of children, but pictures and prayer cards of 'Jolly Old Saint Nick' abound, whereas poor Saint Dymphna gets forgotten. Not by me and hopefully not by you now, either!

Dymphna was born in Celtic times, the daughter of a pagan king and his Christian wife. When Dymphna's mother died, her father was distraught. His courtiers bade him find a new wife, but none came close to his beloved. None that is except Dymphna, his daughter. Dymphna, loyal to her mother's Christian faith, rejected her father's advances and fled to Belgium where she founded a hospital and a school. Spies followed her however and before long her father arrived and asked her once more to marry him. When she refused, he killed her. Soon after her grave became a place of pilgrimage until eventually she became Saint Dymphna, patron of nervous disorders, including anxiety and depression, autism, runaways, sexual assault victims and victims of incest. Let us pray.

Good Saint Dymphna, great wonder-worker in every affliction of mind and body, I humbly implore your powerful intercession with Jesus through Mary, the Health of the Sick, in my present need. Saint Dymphna, martyr of purity, patroness of those who suffer with nervous and mental afflictions, beloved child of Jesus and Mary, pray to Them for me and obtain my request.

The Heart - How you think is programming what your future is going to be like.

Irene Leader

“For as he ‘thinks’ in his heart so is he. Eat and drink, he says to you (manipulating in his behaviour), but his heart is not with you (he is begrudging the cost)” Prov 23:7.

In Hebrew, the ‘thinks’ used here are two-fold: gate, portal, door & janitor, keeper, guard. The way you think is the doorkeeper to the heart.

In Addictions we speak a lot about stinkin’ thinkin’.

When a person is ‘born again’ they undergo a spiritual rebirth (2 Cor 5:17). Leading to ‘in Christ’ we no longer have a sinful nature but a righteous nature.

There are a vast number of scriptural verses which tell us to guard our heart; for example, Prov 4:23, Phil 4:7. For out of it flow the issues of life. It tells us to keep guard over the entrance of your heart because it is what is in your heart that influences everything you do or think. Allow only to go in what builds up and to keep out what corrupts. If the bible warns so much about this, it must be important. Deut 30:19 tells us we have the choice to choose life and not death, and so it is up to us to choose life.

I mention meditation a lot. For example, everyone gets angry about something. We ruminate on a wrong somebody has done to us and

think about it constantly, rehearse it, what we could have said but didn't, etc. That is all meditation.

Then we begin to experience the emotions which go with it. It is the amount of meditation, contemplation, reflection, pondering, study, thought that we give to anything until we experience the emotion, which writes it on our heart. It is what is in our heart that comes out under periods of stress; it is our default position; the way we perceive things, and is reflected in our behaviour, views, and opinions. Prov 18:21 says the power of life and death is in the tongue, which speaks out of the abundance of the heart.

The bible is quite clear that we should meditate only on God's Word both day and night (Josh1:8; Ps 1:2).

The Parable of the Sower (Lk 8:5-15) is a core text. Mark 4:13 Jesus says, 'you do not understand this parable? How are you going to understand any parable?' The seed that fell on the path, Jesus explains, the devil steals the Word from their heart before they can believe and be saved. The Greek root word for devil is to oppose. This is a philosophy which lucifer uses where we will talk ourselves out of something before it gets planted in our heart.

The seed we sow is what we get more of. We cannot plant apple seed and expect to get grapes, or corn seed and expect to get marrows. If we plant the seed of the Word of God, we will find we will become more Christ-like as time goes by and the seed comes to fruition. If we plant stinkin' thinkin' meditation into our heart, then we will get more thorns planted into the garden of our heart and are told this will choke out any good seed.

The world says fake it 'til you make it, but this is not biblical. It is what is in the heart, not the knowledge one has. To get it from the head to the heart, one needs to experience it by actually applying it

to life. For example, one can have a good knowledge of soil, but unless one becomes a gardener and plants the seed, one will not get any fruit.

Rom 4:3 Abraham believed God and his faith was reckoned to him as Righteous. It took Abraham decades to reconcile in his heart, to bring it to reality, to sacrifice Isaac as God asked and also to know that God has promised him a nation through Isaac (Gen 22:2,8,12-13), so that whatever God did, he had faith in God's goodness and trusted Him. That is what is meant by Faith Righteousness, and why Abraham is the father of Faith Righteousness.

Jeremiah 17:9 tells us the heart is deceitful and cannot be trusted. That is a paradox, isn't it? Your heart is your sense of identity. It is the overlap of your spirit and your soul. It is the five senses of the world and the five senses from the spirit – you choose which, leading to you becoming what you are. The heart is covered by footprints of pain, wounding, corruption, confusion.

However, Jeremiah is telling us that human beings are born into sin/born with a sinful nature, and apart from Christ we can do nothing to make ourselves righteous because righteousness is a free gift that we experience only by a new birth into Christ. The good news is that when we are born again, we are given a new heart. Not physically, but it is cleansed, and we could choose to start again with a new identity. The trouble is that if we do not renew our mind through Christ our heart will just get reprinted with what was there before. Paul calls this the 'old man'.

God speaks to us through our heart. The brain is merely a processor which interprets what He is saying but this is filtered by what is in our heart (Mk 7:20-23). The heart is always ahead of the brain and perceives things before they happen – God can save your life before

the event or threat. However, it takes a heart that is open to the leading of Holy Spirit to hear and obey.

Therefore, your heart is your life because your life is directed by what is in your heart, and you are programming what your future is going to be like. 2 Cor 3:3 says, 'We are a letter of Christ, not written in ink, but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone, but on the tablets of the human heart'.

Christmas Lunch for the elderly and vulnerable - 24th December

Neil Riches

01305 773943 / 07989 540412 / neilsriches@gmail.com

November 2022

Dear friends,

Christmas Lunch at Quayside Bar and Kitchen – Christmas Eve

As you may know, Mike and the staff at Quayside in the Old Harbour are offering to provide a full Christmas meal – free of charge – at lunchtime on 24th December. This is intended for the elderly and vulnerable, particularly those who may be struggling financially this Christmas. Arrival time is 12 noon, for a meal at 12.30pm.

Most diners will be seated upstairs – accessibly only by a flight of stairs – but a limited number of seats are available downstairs, for those who would otherwise struggle. Help may be available with transport, for those who would otherwise be unable to attend. I will coordinate the list of names of those attending; I will need name(s), a contact number and menu choices – see below. It is hoped that you will be able to use your many contacts and then pass on the relevant details to me by 8th December, so that I can let Mike know by 10th December.

Please don't hesitate to get back to me directly if you have any questions.

Every good wish,

Neil Riches

(Rev.) Neil Riches

Weymouth Mobility

**Thank you to Weymouth Mobility for gifting a
Wheel Chair to Holy Trinity Church.**

**For wheelchairs, mobility scooters and a host of
other mobility aids call 01305 760575**

Magazine Editor: Philippa Walker -
*Contributions to the January magazine will be gratefully
received. Please let me have articles or ideas by
December 15th*