

HOLY TRINITY TAUNTON

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July 2023

Holy Trinity Service Times

Public services are as follows:

Sunday

8.00am, 10.00am & 6.30pm

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10.00am

Friday 12.30pm

Saturday

10.00am and 6.00pm

All services will continue to be streamed,
except for Saturday 6pm and Sunday 8am.

Service times may occasionally vary – please see
weekly notice sheet for details.

To access streamed services:



@ Holy Trinity Taunton



Holy Trinity Taunton

Fr Julian can be emailed directly: frjulianssc@gmail.com



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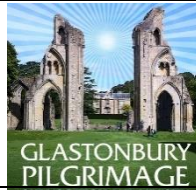
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JULY



2023

FR JULIAN WRITES...

It's 36 years ago that I went to my first pilgrimage at Glastonbury. I was in primary school then... (not)! Actually I was doing a placement in St Paul's Bristol as part of my ordination studies, and the parish always took part in the annual coming-together of Christians from all over the country. I can remember my pleasure at seeing Glastonbury Tor for the first time, and then the wonder of taking part in a act of worship which was thronged with people – literally thousands.

All that has changed now, sadly. Far fewer parishes make the journey, whatever the distance, and if there is only a thousand people there, then that's actually quite a good number. But I'm not looking back with rose-tinted specs, thinking 'those were the days'. Rather, I'm looking forward to this year's pilgrimage knowing 'these are the days' and praying for 'these will be the days'.

Those of you who have known Glastonbury for more years than I, will have seen how it, as a town, has changed. And not for the better. It is easier to buy a book of spells than a book of stamps, shop muzak is more likely to be weird chants, strange smells are more likely to be some esoteric brand of incense rather than the wacky-baccy of the hippy age, and there are far more crystal and magick shops than the ubiquitous tattoo and barber shops which abound in Taunton.

Last year after the mass, I thought I'd have a look at St John's church, after its re-ordering had been completed – and very nice it is, too. On leaving the church, an exotically-dressed woman, clearly with an alternative outlook shouted at me to leave 'their' premises, the churchyard. My response wasn't very ecumenical. This highlights the sad fact that the Christian faith is under pressure and persecution even in one of the oldest places of Christian pilgrimage in the country.

After all, legend has it that St Joseph of Arimathea brought the infant Christ to Glastonbury, and from St Joseph's staff grew the famous 'Glastonbury thorn'. What is certain is that this particular thorn is a middle-eastern one, and unusual in its flowering twice a year.

The Glastonbury Pilgrimage is a very important time of the year, as it is a chance for us Christians to reclaim our own. With hundreds of pilgrims still coming to bring Christ in to the midst of the town as we celebrate the Mass. After a picnic lunch, there is a procession of the Blessed Sacrament through the town preceded by robed parish parties (including Holy Trinity) and the singing of hymns. That'll show them (says he, ecumenically-minded as always!).

We are not often called upon to be 'martyrs', even if our alternative friends believe we're on the back foot. We are not called to sacrifice our physical lives as did Christians across the years, and still are doing so under some oppressive regimes across the world. However, we are called to be 'martyrs' in its truest meaning – witnesses'. Every act of worship we attend and join in, is an act of witness, of our faith and trust in God, and to all those who look on. bemused, unimpressed or even hostile.

Increasingly, we are called to witness to our faith. Christianity seems to be under attack in always in our society and lives. No longer can we assume that people are familiar with even the most well-known parables; some are ignorant of Jesus himself. In today's pick-and-mix society even the definition of Christianity and its purpose is confused. There are over 5,000 New Religious Movements out there. There are websites such as 'Become a Living God' and others which (con)fuse Jesus with the ancient Egyptian god Horus. All this may seem shocking, as indeed it is, which is why it is all the more necessary to be active and committed witnesses to the faith which we profess, and use every opportunity collectively and individually to be martyrs for Christ.

With my prayers and good wishes

Fr Julian

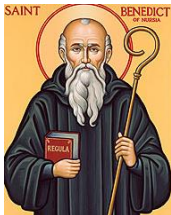
JULY SAINTS - Fr Julian's selection of this month's saints

3rd St Thomas the Apostle (d. 72) Known as 'doubting' Thomas because of his initial disbelief of the resurrection, it is believed that Thomas travelled to Kerala in India, where he established the Christian faith. In 1258, some of his relics were transferred to Abruzzo in Italy. Thomas is the patron saint of India.

6th St Thomas More/St John Fisher (TM 7 Feb 1478 – 6 July 1535; JF 9 Oct 1469 – 22 June 1535) Both men were martyred because of the refusal to accept the Act of Supremacy which transferred the headship of the Church to Henry VIII from the Pope. More was a senior politician, and Christian apologist, writing 'Utopia' describing the political system of an imaginary island state. At his execution, he declared that he died 'the King's good servant, but God's first.' Fisher was Bishop of Rochester, and also Chancellor of Cambridge University. He again could not accept Henry as head of the Church, and was made a cardinal shortly before his death. Both men were canonised – made saints – by Pope Pius XI in 1935, sharing the same feast day.



11th St Benedict (2 March 1480 – 21 March 548) Benedict was a monk, writer and theologian. He is renowned for his 'Rule of St Benedict', a handbook for monastic life. He founded 12 communities in Subbiaco, 40 miles East of Rome, and after his death, these and other largely self-autonomous communities merged under the Order of St Benedict, which still exists today. Some Anglicans are 'oblates' (lay members) of the Benedictine community, living out St Benedict's Rule in their own homes and daily lives.



15th St Swithun (d. 683) was an Anglo-Saxon bishop of Winchester and subsequently patron saint of Winchester Cathedral. His historical importance as bishop is overshadowed by his reputation for posthumous miracle-working. According to tradition, if it rains on St Swithun's bridge (Winchester) on his feast day (15th July) it will continue for forty days.

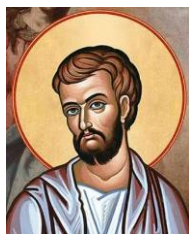
21st St Lawrence of Brindisi (1559 – 22 July 1619), born Giulio Cesare Russo, he was a Roman Catholic priest and a theologian as well as a member of the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin. An accomplished linguist, in addition to his native Italian, Lawrence could read and speak Latin, Hebrew, Greek, German, Czech, Spanish, and French fluently. Lawrence was ordained a priest at the age of 23. Lawrence was beatified on 1 June 1783 and canonized as a saint on 8 December 1881.



22nd St Mary Magdalene All four gospels say was one of Jesus' followers and was a witness to his crucifixion and resurrection. She is mentioned by name twelve times in the gospels, more than most of the apostles and more than any other woman in the gospels, other than Jesus's family. 'Magdalene' comes from the name of a fishing village on the west shore of the Sea of Galilee.



25th St James the Apostle (d. 44), Known also as St James the Great, to distinguish him from others of the same name, was one of Jesus' apostles. According to the New Testament, he was the second of the apostles to die (after Judas Iscariot), and the first to be martyred. Saint James is the patron saint of Spain and, according to tradition, his remains are held in Santiago de Compostela in Galicia.



29th St Martha (29 July) Martha is described in the gospels of St Luke and St John as being the one who did the washing up whilst her sister, Mary sat listening to Jesus' teaching. With Lazarus, their brother, whom Jesus raised from the dead, she lived at Bethany, near Jerusalem.



COMBINED SERVICE WITH THE GOOD SHEPHERD

As is now our usual custom, we shall be having a joint Parish Mass with our friends from the Good Shepherd, this time at Holy Trinity, on Sunday 30th July. Do come along and join in this wonderful act of worship and witness, and get to know our new friends better!

CALENDAR FOR JULY

The Sundays, readings and themes, and Saints days for July are listed below.

2 TRINITY 4 *Theme: Giving Him Room*

Readings: Jeremiah 28.5-9; Romans 6.12-23; Matthew 10.40-42

3 Mon S. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

5 Wed S. Antony Zaccaria, Doctor & Priest (1539)

9 TRINITY 5 *Theme: He Comes in Humility*

Readings: Zechariah 9.9-12; Romans 7.15-25a; Matt 11.16-19, 25-30

11 Tue S. Benedict, Abbot of Monte Cassino (550)

15 Sat S. Swithun, Bishop of Winchester (862)

16 TRINITY 6 *Theme: The Fruitful Word*

Readings: Isaiah 55.10-13; Romans 8.1-11; Matthew 13.1-9 & 18-23

19 Wed S. Macrina, Sister of S. Gregory of Nyasa (379)

20 Thu S. Margaret of Antioch, Martyr (4th C)

22 Sat S. MARY MAGDALENE

23 TRINITY 7 *Theme: The Judge*

Readings: Wisdom 12.13, 16-19; Rom 8.12-25; Matt 13.24-30, 36-43

26 Wed SS. Joachim & Anna, Parents of Our Lady

29 Sat Mary, Martha & Lazarus, Companions of Jesus

30 TRINITY 8 *Theme: Seeking God's Treasure*

Readings: 1 Kings 3.5-12; Romans 8.26-39; Matthew 13.31 & 44-52

31 Mon Ignatius of Loyola, Founder of Society of Jesus (1556)

SHIELD ME

*O may God shield me, and may God fill,
O may God watch me, and may God hold;
O may God bring me where peace is still,
To the King's land, eternity's fold.
Praise to the Father, praise to the Son,
Praise to the Spirit, the Three in One.*



From The Creed Prayer, poems of the Western Highlanders

THE ANNUAL MEETINGS – ELECTION RESULTS

On the Feast of Pentecost, the day the Church came into being, Holy Trinity held the two annual meetings required by law. The first was the Annual Meeting of Parishioners, at which Church Wardens are elected. Many churches are struggling to find two, or even any, wardens, so we are fortunate in that John Godley and Jenni Llewellyn stood and were re-elected for another term, being formally admitted to their office at the Archdeacon's Visitation on 5th June.

At the Annual Parochial Church meeting, immediately following, elections were held to the Deanery Synod and Parochial Church Council (PCC). Holy Trinity is entitled to two representatives on synod, and these are Geraint Jones and Jane Laurence. There was one vacant place on the PCC which was filled by the election of John Rudge, whose term of office expired this year.

The full membership of the PCC is:

John Godley (ex officio)	Jenni Llewellyn (ex officio)
Geraint Jones (ex officio)	Jane Laurence (ex officio)
Emma Gregory (ex officio – General Synod)	
Wendy Burge	Sue Gill
Julie Harland	Pat Hitchcock
Liz Hathway	Margaret Jordan
Jean Keitch	John Rudge

The number of elected members is limited to the number on the electoral roll; we are entitled to 8 places, which all have been filled.

In addition the PCC is allowed to co-opt up to three additional members, so if you think you've missed the boat, please speak to Fr Julian.

We are also building up teams of people from the congregation to oversee social events, finance, building and mission. If approached by any of the conveners (to be confirmed), please don't say 'no' immediately!

A RECIPE FOR JULY

NO BAKE GIN CHEESECAKE

Serves 4

Prep time 10 minutes

Chill time 30 minutes

Ingredients

100g ginger biscuits, chopped

50g butter, melted

200g cream cheese

2 tbsp icing sugar

1 lime, zest and 1 tsp juice

3 tbsp gin

200ml whipping cream

To decorate

Lime slices



Method

- Reserve 2 tablespoons of crushed biscuits to decorate. Mix the remaining crushed biscuits and melted butter in a small bowl.
- Divide between 4 serving glasses and chill whilst you prepare the cheesecake topping.
- Place the cream cheese, icing sugar, lime zest, lime juice and gin into a bowl. Mix until smooth.
- Pour the cream into a bowl and whisk to soft peaks.
- Fold the whipped cream into the cheesecake mixture. Divide between the serving glasses and chill for 30 minutes.
- To serve, scatter over the reserved crushed ginger biscuits and decorate with lime slices.

This recipe also works really well with zesty lemon. Swap the lime for lemon and add 3 tablespoons of lemon curd in place of the gin to make this an alcohol-free summer dessert.

Contributed by Fr Julian



GLASTONBURY PILGRIMAGE

Saturday 8th July 2023

Our Lady Queen of Peace

12.00 noon: Solemn Concelebrated Mass sung in the Nave of the Abbey Church
Preacher: Bishop Paul Thomas

3.00 pm: Procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Abbey for Solemn Benediction in the Nave of the Abbey Church

CHURCH BARBECUE

Saturday 19th August

The annual barbecue will be on
Saturday 19th August starting at 7.00 pm.

Liz Hathway will have tickets available from mid-July.

The price this year to £7.00. This is an increase on last year but it's still excellent value for two courses.

The first drink is free, thereafter a small charge will be made.

For more information please see Wendy or Liz.



DEDICATION SERVICE 11TH JUNE 2023

To commemorate the restoration and re hanging of the newly restored Bells at Holy Trinity Church, Taunton.

On Sunday the 11th June 2023, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, the Right Reverend Michael Beasley, conducted our long awaited, Blessing and Rededication ceremony Service, of the newly restored Church bells, at Holy Trinity Church.

The Service was conducted as a sung Evensong, directed by our Choir master, Simon Gaunt, with Geraint Jones playing the organ and augmented by a number of Choristers from The Good Shepherd, Chard. The order of service included a fabulous array of hymns and anthems, with appropriate words appertaining to the provision, value and purpose of the newly refurbished bells.



Fr Julian Laurence gave a special thanks to Mike Hansford, Bishops Lydeard, for all his hard work and the team of helpers, not least Taylors of Loughborough, where they were refurbished. In addition a new bell frame was constructed and installed, to hang the bells.

We also welcomed our visiting ringers, who all had a chance to ring before and after the Dedication Service. The whole work was made possible, through the generosity of a single donor and a grant from the

Bath and Wells bell Charity. Holy Trinity cannot express its gratitude sufficiently, for this wonderful act of kindness.

We would also like to thank Liz Hathway and Wendy Burge for providing a lovely nibbles and wine treat afterwards for all to enjoy.

We all hope everyone who has the opportunity to ring the bells at Holy Trinity in the future will appreciate the sound and the facility for many years to come.

Margaret Jordan, Tower Captain, Holy Trinity
John Godley. Church Warden

An Invitation to join the Good Shepherd, Furnham, Chard at a

SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

Sunday 6th August

2.00pm – 3.30pm

At Upton Barn, Upton Lane, Seavington St Michael, TA19 0PZ

Cream Tea = Sandwiches + Scones + Cake
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Tickets £15

Tickets are available from Liz Hathway.
All tickets must be purchased in advance.



BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN 1965

Russia's conflict with Ukraine has its origins going back to the end of World War 2, when Russia and the West defeated the Nazis. Sadly Russia imposed communism on the liberated countries she then occupied, for some years until they finally threw off communism and reduced the Russian 'empire' considerably. Russia's recent loss of Ukraine must have been the last straw.

In the 1960s communism had secured its hold on what was then Czechoslovakia (now Czech Republic and Slovakia) since 1948. In the words of Sir Winston Churchill an 'Iron Curtain' in post war Europe had descended between the liberated West and the communist controlled East.

I used to take a magazine called 'Unesco Courier' which advertised for young people to make contact with communist countries. So it was that I began writing to a pen friend called Jiri in Prague, and was invited to Prague for a holiday in July 1965.

To prepare me for this visit, Jiri was given permission by the Czech communist rulers to visit relatives across the Iron Curtain in Vienna and it was from there that he wrote to me the truth about his country and the



communist restrictions on all their lives in Czechoslovakia. He told me for instance that his uncle who was a land owner and director of a brewery had his business removed and had been replaced with communists who knew very little of the kind of work his uncle had been involved in. He advised me that when we met in Prague I was to say nothing about this except behind closed doors where such opinions could not be heard and reported to the authorities. Under communist restrictions Jiri was not allowed to take any money out of the country,

so we had a reciprocal arrangement that he would pay all my holiday expenses in his country and when he came to England the following year July 1966, I would pay all his expenses.

So it was a few weeks later I set out from London Victoria station via Dover to Ostend, a couchette to Stuttgart and from there by a slow train to Prague. When I arrived I had to report to the British Embassy.

Czechoslovakia is a beautiful country and I enjoyed the trips we took over the next three weeks starting from a tour around Prague and then by train to Pilsen and Strakonice, to Moravia, and Bratislava in Slovakia and then to Northern Bohemia where Jiri's parents were living at that time. It was a pleasant holiday and an interesting experience full of variations. There were many good times such as visits to friendly people, home cooking, the lovely countryside and meals in some really good restaurants. All this was set against the dreary communist restrictions and drabness, noticeable especially in ancient churches which had been allowed to decay. Any sparse permissible private enterprise made little difference to the effects of totalitarian and atheist control.

I am pleased to say that the communists left in 1989 and the Czech Republic was formed. Jiri then decided to use his new freedom to leave his country and settle in Cambridge, England to teach. Here he got married and raised a family and later his widowed mother was able to join him.

George Coles

HOLY TRINITY WINNERS

May 2023

1st	Wendy Burge	£53.25
2nd	Ann Carlisle	£31.95
3rd	Pat Franklin	£21.30

MAGAZINE DEADLINE: Wednesday 19th July 2023

ALL IN THE MONTH OF JULY

It was:

- 400 years ago, on 4th July 1623 that William Byrd, English Renaissance composer, died. Regarded as one of the greatest British composers, and best known for his sacred music.
- 175 years ago, on 7th July 1848 that Waterloo railway station in London opened.
- 150 years ago, on 19th July 1873 that British-born Australian explorer William Gosse discovered Ayers Rock and named it in honour of Sir Henry Ayers, the Chief Secretary of South Australia. It is now known as Uluru/Ayers Rock.
- 125 years ago, on 30th July 1898 that Henry Moore, British sculptor and illustrator, was born. Best known for his monumental semi-abstract bronze sculptures.
- 100 years ago, on 13th July 1923 that the Hollywood Sign was officially dedicated in Hollywood, Los Angeles.
- 80 years ago, on 25th July 1943 that Britain's RAF bombed the Fokker aircraft factory in Amsterdam.
- 75 years ago, on 5th July 1948 that the National Health Service (NHS) began operating.
- 65 years ago, on 26th July 1958 that debutantes were presented at the British royal court for the last time.
- 60 years ago, on 1st July 1963 that the British government revealed that intelligence officer Kim Philby was a long-term Soviet spy and that he was the 'third man' in the Cambridge spy ring.
- Also 60 years ago, on 12th July 1963 that the Moors murderers, Ian Brady and Myra Hindley, killed their first victim, 16-year-old Pauline Reade, on Saddleworth Moor.
- 25 years ago, on 15th July 1998 that during the second Sudanese Civil War, both sides declared a ceasefire because of the famine. It lasted until April 1999, then the war continued until 2005.
- 20 years ago, on 27th July 2003, that a team from the BBC reported that the Loch Ness monster did not exist. They had combed every inch of the loch using 600 sonar beams guided by satellite navigation, and still found nothing.
- 10 years ago, on 19th July 2013 that Mel Smith, British comedian and screenwriter, died.

From the Parish Pump



THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB

will be visiting the following:

9 July	The Orchard, Hillcommon
13 August	The Maypole, Thurloxton
10 September	Hankridge Arms, Taunton
8 October	Pickeridge Golf Club
12 November	Oake Manor Golf Club
10 December	The Maypole, Thurloxton

All bookings are for 12.15. Please let me know if you would like to go to any of the venues at least *1 week prior to the date of the meal* so that I can confirm numbers with the venue.

Wendy Burge

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH SUMMER FAIR

A very big Thank you to everyone who supported this year's Summer Fair, for all the hard work and effort, on and before the day itself and for the clearing up after.

Unlike last year the sun came out in all its glory for us which made for a good attendance, and it was great to see and welcome some new faces amongst the visitors.

An excellent amount was raised, so thanks again to you all.

John and Cheryl

IT'S ALL IN THE SPELLING...

G – God
R – Ran
A – Alongside
C – Carrying
E – Everything



From the Parish Pump

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