

HOLY TRINITY TAUNTON

Including news from The Good Shepherd, Furnham

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March 2026

Holy Trinity Service Times

Services are as follows:

Sunday

8.00am, 10.00am & 4.00pm

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10.00am

Friday 12.30pm

Saturday 6.00pm

**All services are streamed on Facebook except
Saturday 6pm & 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



Please use this QR code if you would like to make a donation to Holy Trinity

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Website: www.holytrinitytaunton.org

Email: holytrinity01@outlook.com Facebook: Holy Trinity Taunton

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH HALL

is available for hire for a special function or regular meetings

To book please contact the Church Administrator

Tel: 01823 354800 Email: holytrinity01@outlook.com

Taunton Funeral Service

A helping hand at a time of need



Independently and Family Run - 24hr service
Private Chapels of Rest
Caring Personal Service

01823 321077

55 Bridge Street,
Taunton, TAI 1TP

01984 624149

Broad Meadow View, West Road,
Wiveliscombe, TA4 2TB



E: info@tauntonfuneralservice.com

W: tauntonfuneralservice.com

THURLOXTON MANOR HOUSE



Small, non-institutional residential care home for up to 5 elderly people to live comfortably in their own space alongside our family. Home cooked meals shared together in the farmhouse kitchen.

Contact Emily: 07915 175358
emily@thurloxtonmanor.co.uk



FR JULIAN WRITES...



March 2026

‘Because I said so!’ Parents frustrated at the umpteenth ‘Why?’ from offspring, may well have fallen back on that response when reason seemed to have failed. And just as inquisitive children want to know the answer to ‘why’, so perhaps as adults we do also. Don’t worry – I’m not going into a great moral or philosophical debate! There is a story that a philosophy student when faced with the question ‘why’ on an examination paper, wrote ‘because’ and left it there!

We have begun Lent, a season of repentance. We all know that – or we should do. And of what are we repenting? Sin. And what is ‘sin’? That’s the \$64,000 question, because if we don’t know what sin is, then we can’t repent. Sin is simply doing something which is wrong in God’s eyes. So why?

An example. It is a sin to steal. Why? It is against one of the 10 Commandments (no. 8!) and also against the law of the land. So why? ‘Because the bible or the law says so’ is not in itself a sufficient answer. As intelligent, sentient, human beings, we have risen above the rest of created beings because of our ability to question, asking ‘why’. It is in answering that question, that we have grown in knowledge and wisdom. The ‘God of the gaps’ theory won’t hold in today’s cynical and scientific age. That everything we don’t know the answer to must be God no longer holds true.

When we steal, we are taking something of another, without regard to their need or consideration of them as a person. Were the wronged person to find out who the thief is, a classmate stealing another’s sweet, some raiding Mum’s handbag for extra cash, taking the family car without permission. The relationship between the two is significantly changed for the worse.

You probably know what it is like when you have an argument with someone, and how things between the two of you is changed, until one says 'sorry'. Then things are restored, although not necessarily immediately; it could be a process of healing. This is an example of repentance, putting things right and recovering the previous relationship. Until acceptance of wrongdoing is admitted, that relationship between the two is impaired.

It is God's wish that we should live together in love and peace. He was wronged when Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit, although he explained the consequences of such an action. That led to a separation between God and humanity, and although the one who was hurt, God sought reconciliation, through the various covenants of the Old Testament and finally the New Covenant, his own Son, who showed God's love and forgiveness to everyone in every respect.

Repentance is when we recognise the need for forgiveness in order that we might have right relationship with one another and God, and the recognition how our own sin has a disruption to loving relationships. It is more than being magnanimous when, although feeling wronged ourselves, that we make the first moves in seeking forgiveness, in seeking reconciliation. It is grace.

It is not in today's culture to accept being in the wrong. Such as Russia and Ukraine – Russia will never accept it was the originator of the 'special military operation'. Accepting that what we pump out carelessly into the atmosphere as wrong – no. Arguments with fellow motorists on the road. No way. Tussles with supermarket trolleys and fellow shoppers – their fault. Impatience with loved and harsh words – they deserved it.

When we can answer 'why' when we feel coolness between those around us, can help us to repentance, and above all, to forgiveness. 'Because I said so' is never enough reason.

With my prayers and good wishes

Fr Julian

WHY AND WHAT...?

I was reading John Clarke's article last month about Canon Guy Carleton *OGS*, and it got me thinking about priests' societies. Many clergy in the Catholic tradition belong to such 'societies' as a means of fellowship and support beyond deanery chapters, and as such societies have their 'rules of life' and binding their members together spiritually as well as socially. These societies are quasi-religious orders, like monks, although members do not live together in a physical community, and are not always celibate, unmarried.



OGS stands for the 'Oratory of the Good Shepherd'. This was founded in the University of Cambridge in 1913. It is a celibate order of priests, but there lay and ordained 'companions' in provinces across the world. Its superior General is Bishop Lindsay Irwin.

Then there's **CMP** – the Company of Mission Priests, founded by 3 religious orders at the beginning of WW2 to provide priests to work in situations outside the normal parochial ones, sharing homes and resources, and remaining unmarried. The Bishop of Chichester is their 'Visitor' and amongst its members is the Bishop of Burnley.



I belong to the Societas Sanctae Crucis – **SSC** – the Society of the Holy Cross. This was founded by Fr Charles Lowder in 1855, and has members across the world. It was founded to defend and strengthen the spiritual life of the clergy, to defend the faith of the Church, and to carry on and aid Mission work both at home and abroad. The logo a gold cross, inscribed with the words, 'In hoc signo' – in this sign [conquer]. There is a rigorous rule of life, but it is open to both married and celibate clergy.



There is also the Society of Catholic Priests (SCP). This is the newest priestly society, founded in 1994 for the liberal catholic tradition; women priests are welcome. It now has branches in N America, started in 2009, and describes itself as 'inclusive'.



Fr Julian

FROM THE REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

Luca Martin Parker, baptised on Sunday 15th February. Please pray for him, his parents and Godparents as he is welcomed into the family of Christ.

EVENTS IN LENT

Holy Trinity's programme for Lent is as follows:



Stations of the Cross:

Fridays, 6.00pm. A simple devotion as we follow the journey of Jesus from his trial to his burial.

Discussion Group:

Theme: Discipleship

Thursdays, 7.30pm, at the Vicarage.

Each week is an individual look at a particular aspect of 'Discipleship' so even if you can't come every week, you'll still be welcome!

Seder Meal

Saturday 28th March, 7pm. A traditional Passover meal such as Jesus might have shared with his disciples at the Last Supper

Chrism Mass

26th March, Exeter Cathedral

11am Concelebrated Mass, followed by a buffet lunch

2.15pm Catechesis, 3pm Benediction

EASTER LILIES

There will be an opportunity as usual to remember loved ones through Easter lilies this year. Forms are available at the back of church. Please return forms by *Mothering Sunday, 15th March.*



CALENDAR FOR MARCH

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

1 LENT 2 *Theme: Discernment by the Spirit*
Readings: Genesis 12.1-4a; Romans 3.1-5 & 13-17; John 3.1-17

2 Mon S. Chad, Bishop of Lichfield (672)

4 Wed S. Casimir, Patron of Poland & Lithuania (1484)

7 Sat SS. Perpetua, Felicity & Companions, Martyrs (203)

8 LENT 3 *Theme: Living Water*

Readings: Exodus 17.1-7; Romans 5.1-11; John 4.5-42

9 Mon S. Frances of Rome, Widow, Patron of Motorists (1440)

11 Wed S. Sophronius, Patriarch of Jerusalem (638)

15 LENT 4 *Theme: Mothering Sunday*

Readings: Exodus 2.1-10; Colossians 1.3-7; Luke 2.33-35

17 Tue S. Patrick, Bishop, Missionary, Patron of Ireland (460)

18 Wed S. Cyril of Jerusalem, Archbishop (386)

19 Thu S. Joseph of Nazareth, Husband of Our Lady (1st Cent.)

20 Fri S. Cuthbert, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary (687)

21 Sat Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr (1556)

22 LENT 5 PASSION SUNDAY *Theme: Lazarus: New Life*

Readings: Ezekiel 37.1-14; Romans 8.6-11; John 11.1-45

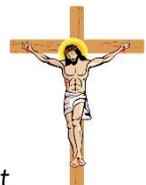
24 Tue Walter Hilton, Mystic (1396)

25 Wed THE ANNUNCIATION

29 PALM SUNDAY *Theme: The Entry into Jerusalem*

Readings: Isaiah 50.4-9a; Philippians 2.5-11; Matthew Passion

*The cross is a picture of violence, yet the key to peace;
a picture of suffering, yet the key to healing;
a picture of death, yet the key to life;
a picture of utter weakness, yet the key to power;
a picture of vicious hatred, yet the key to love;
a picture of supreme shame, yet the Christian's supreme boast*



Holy Week and Easter Services



Come Worship With Us!

PALM SUNDAY

6.00pm Solemn Evensong & Benediction
at the Good Shepherd, Furnham

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday in Holy Week

7.00pm Holy Eucharist & Address

MAUNDY THURSDAY

7.30pm Mass of the Last Supper & Passion Vigil

GOOD FRIDAY

10.00am Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
(Followed by Hot Cross Buns in the Church Hall)

2.00pm Last Hour Before the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY

8.00pm Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter



EASTER PARTY



Fr Julian and Jane warmly invite everyone to celebrate Easter with them at a party in the Church Hall following the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday.

EASTER DRAW

To win a prize in the Easter Draw please choose a square on the £1-A-Square board, add your name and telephone number to the square for a £1 a go.



There are at least 10 prizes to be won and the Draw will take place on Easter Sunday in the Hall after the 10am service. Good Luck!

Spotlight on...



Dianne Newton

I went to see Dianne Newton and was met by her cats, Groucho and Trevor.



Dianne, thank you for talking to me today tell me, how long have you lived in Taunton, do you have any family and what brought you to where you are today?

I was born in Musgrove Park Hospital the eldest of two girls. Mother was a shorthand typist but in the war was called up and went to work for the Americans at G50, Norton Manor Camp. We heard all about the American soldiers which may have influenced my holiday decisions later in life.

Dad worked for the gas board and later as odd job man at Van Heusen. I grew up in the house I currently live in and went to Holy Trinity School and later Asquith. I was baptised at St Andrews and confirmed in St James – and later married at Holy Trinity!

I used to have a photograph that was taken at the Queen's Coronation party held on Eastleigh Road. I am sad that I lost it because right in the front was me as a little one and in the back one of the 'big boys' from Eastleigh Road. When I was about 6 the group of 'big boys' were cycling past my house at the same time as I was coming out of the front door - they fired peas at me – little did I know that I was later to marry one of them!

When I left school I too went to work for Van Heusen in the specials department of the planning office, dealing with the bespoke shirt measurements of the Fire Brigade, Ambulance and Police. When I first started I was told that I would be doing the mail run. I was delighted, thinking that I would be going around the various branches in a little van - but no - they meant that I would take the post to other departments in the same building.

I didn't see the 'big boy' again for years – he did an apprenticeship when he left school at Devon and Somerset Stores which was on the corner of High Street, but he wanted to join the navy when he was old enough. When he left the Navy he became warehouse manager at County Stores. Gerald and I met again and married in 1969. We went to live in Churchinford and I went to work in the Motor Tax department at County Hall. When I was there I looked up the very first car to be registered in Somerset (it belonged to a Lady Something-or-other, but I can't remember her name). We dealt with the log books and one funny application we had, came from a farmer. The question asked on the form was: is the vehicle for business or pleasure use? He put on his form 'neither it's for shopping!'.

I stayed there until 1975 when it was centralised and moved to Swansea. My next move was to BT (which was called Post Office Telecoms in those days). I worked mostly with engineers and timetabling works but a vacancy came up for a roving temp to fill in vacancies, holidays and sickness so I gained a lot of skills, enjoyed the work and stayed nearly 30 years. I even won a bottle of wine at a company event – for having a weird sense of humour! However, this job was then transferred to Exeter so I left and took early retirement. After some time at home, I went back to County Hall, this time as a temp for Somerset Staffing.

Living in Churchinford had its issues. In the really bad snows in the 80's we were stranded. People working at Culmhead radio station on the Blackdown Hills, couldn't get home and had to stay put for 2-3 days. I wasn't a driver and the isolation weighed very heavily so we moved to Cheddon Road in Taunton. When my mother passed away we moved back here, to the house I had lived in when I was first born. It was a much nicer house than ours!

Before we married I knew that children were not in our future so we decided to travel and we went to many places in Europe, and to North America and Canada many times and have seen the Rocky Mountains, Niagara Falls, visited Vancouver and San Diego. Once in Los Angeles we joined a trip to see the homes of the stars – what they didn't tell us was that we would tour Hollywood in the dark! Fat lot of use that was. One time we went jet boating on the St Laurence river. We didn't realise, as

we rounded a rock, that we would be sunk up to our necks in freezing water. All this for someone who hates flying - it makes me feel sick but the end result was worth it!

What do you do in your spare time, what are your hobbies?

I used to enjoy gardening but now enjoy listening to the Archers, I am a fan. I love jigsaw puzzles sudoku and reading and we used to enjoy London shows. Also, I love history and read and watch documentaries. However, I seem for the most part to collect cats - for some reason they just seem to move in with me. At one time I had 5 and we once collected 2 kittens from a lady down the road, but the mother cat followed us and also moved in. I think I am turning into my paternal grandmother – she had 100's and was a proper cat lady!

What would you say is important to you and what does your faith and Holy Trinity mean to you?

I used to go to St James' church with school friends but drifted away when I left school. I first came to Holy Trinity with a neighbour and it felt welcoming and homely. It was strange in a way because I suddenly felt an urge to come, this desire came out of nowhere but was to prove a life saver just a few months later when my husband died. I love the format of the services and my faith has been a support in time of need. I guess that church has been a thread throughout my whole life.

Thank you Dianne. It was interesting to hear all about your work with BT and your travels over the pond not to mention the cat collecting!

Pauline Holt



**Nigeria
2026**

You are invited to join with this ecumenical celebration which is taking place all around the world on this day, to be held at

St George's Catholic Church, Taunton at 10.30am
(Or there will be a shortened service there at 1.15pm)

MONDAY COFFEE MORNING

16th March, 10.30am – 12noon
at 32 Holway Road, TA1 2EY
(home of Fr James Finnemore)



Raffle
Produce stall
(all contributions welcome)
All welcome



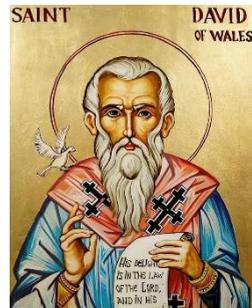
“BE JOYFUL, KEEP THE FAITH AND DO THE LITTLE THINGS” (a poem for St David’s Day)

These were the final words of St David, the patron saint of Wales, before his death in 589 AD. This message encourages finding joy, maintaining faith, and making a difference through small, daily, and meaningful actions rather than focusing solely on large tasks

He said “Be joyful, keep the faith
And do the little things”
Words spoken by a Celtic Saint
To common folk and kings.

The joy of the Lord is our strength
And faith in the goodness of God,
He has a path for us to walk
One He’s already trod.

All that He plans for us to do
May seem of little worth,
But they’re the very things He’ll use
To bring His love to earth.



By Megan Carter from the *Parish Pump*

A RECIPE FOR MARCH

QUICK SALMON AND LEEK QUICHE

Eating in the season of Lent traditionally may include an element of fasting and simplified meals. One way of fasting, which is followed by many Christians, is to choose not to eat meat on Fridays in Lent but to have fish and vegetable dishes instead. This recipe is one which you could have on a non-meat day. It is quick and simple to do - you don't even have to make the puff pastry for it!

Ingredients

2 Small salmon fillets, cooked
1 Small leek (or ½ a large one)
3 tbsp Crème fraîche
2 Eggs
Ready rolled puff pastry
Seasoning to taste



Method

- Pre-heat the oven to 180°C (160°C fan)/gas mark 4.
- Beat the eggs and crème fraîche together.
- Finely chop the leek.
- Flake the salmon.
- Fold the salmon and leek into the egg/crème fraîche mixture.
- Roll out the puff pastry, enough for a 7” or 8” flan tin, and line the dish (if the dish is deep, then a 7” will suffice).
- Add the filling to the pastry-lined dish.
- Place on a pre-warmed baking tray (we don't want any soggy bottoms!) and bake for 45 minutes until well browned.

Serve hot with baby potatoes and vegetables or cold with salad and enjoy!

Contributed by Fr Julian

THE DONKEY

By G K Chesterton (1863 - 1936)



Gilbert Keith Chesterton considered himself a mere 'rollicking journalist', however he published 69 books before his death and a further 10 were published after he died. He created the Father Brown mystery stories which have since been made into films and television programmes. He was a poet and a Christian thinker and some credit him with being the father of the 'Small is Beautiful' movement. He was an ebullient speaker with strong views which he defended with great talent, he often vehemently disagreed with H G Wells and G B Shaw but was still able to stay friends with them.

This is a short poem which manages to say a great deal very clearly, many will be familiar with it, as its often taught in schools. Our lord chose a poor beast of burden to enter Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, not a gilded chariot or a white charger. All donkeys carry the mark of a crucifix on their backs and this suggests to me that a poor donkey was always a part of God's Eternal Plan.

*When fishes flew and forests walked
And figs grew upon thorn
Some moment when the moon was blood
Then surely I was born*

*With monstrous head and sickening cry
And ears like errant wings
The devil's walking parody
On all for footed things*

*The tattered outlaw of the earth
Of ancient crooked will
Starve, scourge, deride me; I am dumb,
I keep my secret still*

*Fools! For I also had my hour
One fierce hour and sweet:
There was a noise about my ears,
And palms before my feet.*



Pat Hitchcock

THE REVOLTING REV - Canon Guy Carleton OGS Part 2

I returned to the UK in September 1975 from Anguilla and kept in close contact with Canon Guy Carlton. Luckily, I have kept our letters as well as an article written by Osamu Takahashi, a Japanese reporter at the time. Osamu met Canon Carleton, who had been rector of the Anglican church during the Revolution and had made Anguilla his home. The Canon had been a missionary in Africa for 30 years, and during this time had joined the army and even fought against the Japanese in Burma.

The Canon wrote : "I am settled in my house in Norwich and life is much easier and pleasanter than when I lived in the UK 40 years ago. Cold winters, cold water, draughts, icy bedrooms are all things of the past. I keep my bedroom at a Caribbean temperature of 65F and have Hoover for the carpets. With a 'Continental Quilt', not even a bed to be made. A spins dryer is a great help. Many layers of thermolactyl garments protect me from the bitter winds from the east.

There are said to be 120 retired clergy around Norwich so I don't expect to find immediate clerical employment though I have arranged to do a 3 month spell of one Sunday service a month at a local church. The University has asked me to tape-record books for the Blind. The first is on 'Stuart and Cromwellian Policy' starting at Chapter 5 which is all about my ancestor, Sir Dudley Carleton, Ambassador to the Hague in the 1620's.

I attend morning services in the Cathedral which involves early rising for 8am. The Sunday morning service is stately and reverent, and satisfies the four essentials (in my mind) of public worship:

- A. A service that finishes almost within the hour.
- B. A sermon lasting no more than 17 minutes, preaching the Gospel. The GOOD news about God and not the bad news about man.
- C. Not more than four good hymns.
- D. Plenty of silence.

Having had no newspaper for 40 years, I did not take one at first. A month's bill for the paper is the same as a bottle of Scotch. I had to choose between the two, I chose both. "

Canon Carleton returned to Anguilla in 1997. I tried to keep him supplied with new books on the new understanding of the Christian Faith and devotional study of the New Testament.

“Easter was spent on Montserrat, just taking a sermon in my pocket and found myself landed with St Anthony’s parish for the whole of Holy Week till the week after Easter.”

“I applied to the Bishop for a licence, as Anguilla has its own constitution. His answer was no. I have reason to believe that the matter is being taken up by the Anguillan Government as a slight on Anguilla’s constitution.” “I am completely unused by the new Rector, who is doing well and has all three churches packed out. I am not sure of the ultimate value of all this church going. It is the pastime of West Indians. And even with the packed churches there are as many who never darken the doors.”

John Clarke



THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB

will be visiting the following:

8 March	The Maypole, Thurloxton
12 April	Pickeridge Golf Club
10 May	Monkton Elm

All bookings are for 12.15. Please sign the list at the back of Church if you would like to join us. If you need a lift please ensure you arrange this before signing up.

Wendy Burge

HOLY TRINITY ²⁰⁰ Club WINNERS

January 2026

1st	Jenni Llewellyn	£61.25
2nd	Lindsay Edmunds	£36.75
3rd	David Gill	£24.50

MAGAZINE DEADLINE: Wednesday 18th March 2026

NEWS FROM THE GOOD SHEPHERD, FURNHAM

HANNAH NEWITT – Growing up in Argentina

Hannah is a member at Chard Baptist Church, now 87, and a very busy lady. She is very active - involved with the Christmas Shoe Box campaign every year, is a keen gardener and part of the Helmstedt Twinning Group, to name just a few of her activities. She is very well known in Chard and attends the Bereavement Café at the Good Shepherd too.



My childhood was quite different from most British children! My parents heard the missionary call to an indigenous people in Chaco, Argentina; a forested swampy jungle and hunting ground for natives. Dad was a priest in the UK, but he and Mum trained for mission work, then in 1946 we travelled to S. America, in a warship, sleeping in bunks, head towards the portholes! We were there till 1970. No furlough. Dad said Mission money should be used for the people. The Society were unhappy with that. Dad left and we moved into the forest to be independent. The Indians helped us build our first mud hut! We were self-sufficient, buying and rearing animals to sell. Rearing them was my job – I was then 9. Dad ‘self-trained’ as a doctor and treated everyone. The Govt heard of his work and gave him an official paid job. God’s amazing provision! Mum bartered with natives in her ‘shop’ and taught me and native children to read and write.

Indians taught Dad to make mud bricks for a hut (at 108F (42C) bricks dried well) We had 2 bedrooms, a big living room, and down the garden was a shack with a wooden seated toilet, where you had to lift the seat to be sure there were NO wasps, tarantulas, scorpions or dangerous snakes. One night our dog barked and Dad seeing a snake grabbed it and threw it as far as he could. A small boy with a poisonous snake bite was rushed to us, and I carried him over a mile for help. Mum ‘fostered’

18-20 well behaved native kids over the years. We taught ourselves Spanish and just 'got on with it all'. I learnt to make wooden beds, saw trees down, plane wood. I loved carpentry. We used strong, soaked cow hides as straps for beds or chairs. Pillows and chairs were filled with dried leaves. I'd shear sheep for wool to spin and dye. In the local market I'd buy sacks of flour and sugar. Our kitchen was away from the house, around a hole in the ground full of dead wood. This would be lit and when red hot we could make bread in the embers, or roast meat on an open fire. We made own charcoal with leaves and wood, covered then burnt. Our 'bath' was the lagoon, the alligators were scared of us.

Sadly, after 5 years, our home flooded and the natives advised a move. We put everything into carts and started living outside, all over again. We had another flood years later when Dad was in town with the mule cart 6 miles away. We were desperate for food and the water was so high we tied the bed to a tree, or it would have floated away. I lay in bed and felt water splashing my hand.

We had dogs, cats, goats, pigs, cows, chickens, rabbits, ducks, sheep, and a parrot! Plus, horses, mules and donkeys. Local folk came every 2 months with forest food to sell. We gathered beans/berries for the animal's winter fodder. I milked our 200 goats for cheese and the animals had any spare milk. It was 8 hours by cart to the nearest town, so we'd go 5 miles twice a month to the airport for post and a small shop. There were no radios or newspapers. Friends would come from town with news and letters and we'd kill a pig and have a feast. We kept some foods in earthen pots for months. Goats would often be given to our native neighbours. When a cow was killed the meat was cut into wafer thin slices and hung on the line to dry for soups and stews (after we'd removed all the maggots by hand!)

Dad made our boat for fishing on the lagoon. Mum taught me and the local children to do embroidery. At midday we'd sit and sew – I even made Dad's surplice and cassock. There was little rain, but I grew maize, marrow, sweet potatoes, watermelons, pumpkins and onions. Drinking water was from the lagoon half a mile away! Permanganate of potash would purify it, but every drop had to be boiled as well. Dad and I got lost one day and drank from a stream – praise God, we were not ill afterwards.

Dad took 2 Sunday services, and many walked in from miles away. I played the harmonium that we'd brought with us from UK. All services were outside under trees. Mum never took services so at 17, it fell on me. Local people might do a Bible reading, but most were illiterate. They all wanted to learn so they could read the Bible, and then some got a city job. There were 2 friendly tribes, Toga and Mataco Indians, but they didn't mix. A blind girl helped us with the washing as her 'job'... .. A different life indeed.

We were there 24 years. When we returned, I really disliked all the noise and busyness in the UK.

TUESDAY MORNING MASS

On 7th April, the Tuesday after Easter Sunday, at 10.30am, Mass will be held at the Good Shepherd.

From that date, there will be a monthly Mass at the Good Shepherd, on the first Tuesday morning of every month. Please make a note of this in your diaries.



PCC

A précis of the Minutes of the PCC meeting held at the Good Shepherd on 28 January 2026, to be approved at the next meeting on 25 March.

1. *Vacancy*

Father Julian reported that when Bishop Paul visited Holy Trinity in Advent he was very optimistic about the continued association between the Good Shepherd and Holy Trinity, if that is what both parishes wished and, certainly in Bishop Paul's mind, his intention would be to try and find a new incumbent, following Father Julian's retirement, as quickly as possible.

2. Safeguarding/policy review

Barbara Dale, as safeguarding officer, had circulated information to PCC members, ahead of the meeting, on the safeguarding action plan, policy on lone working, appropriate boundaries and safer environments for activities. The PCC approved all of the matters, as presented. It was also discussed and approved that lanyards would be purchased and worn by church representatives at various fundraising and social activities that are organized, perhaps for those serving tea and coffee, taking tickets at the door, assisting in crafting events.

3. Health and safety

Two new stands for fire extinguishers are to be purchased, following a recent fire inspection.

4. Chard Churches Together

At the last meeting there was a talk/presentation about 'Project Romania' and its future, with the management of the charity being handed over to another charity in Romania. It was also decided that a workshop/retreat was going to be organized, although the exact date is not yet known and Chard Churches Together will be manning a stall at 'Chard Together Day' at the Guildhall.

5. Building and fabric

The font application for faculty is progressing. The removal of the pews has been shelved for the time being. All of the plaster has now been taken off the walls that needs to be removed, although the builders will return to have a look at the purlins near the bell, as it is feared damage may have been caused by water ingress in that area.

As regards the repairs to the Calvary, the stainless steel shoe which has been requested, has now been designed, cost is currently unknown.

6. Mission, worship and evangelism

The Greek Antiochian church has started its use of the church, hopefully on 4 Saturdays throughout the year, and the service is open to all.

It is intended to start a monthly mass on a Tuesday morning.

A discussion took place about the bereavement café, which takes place on the first Friday of every month, whether any activities need to be organized for each occasion, possibly the purchase of prayer cards, available for those who wish to take them.

ALL IN THE MONTH OF MARCH

It was:

- 300 years ago, on 26th March 1726 that Sir John Vanbrugh, architect and playwright died. Best known for designing Blenheim Palace and Castle Howard.
- 175 years ago, on 11th March 1851 that the premiere of Italian composer Giuseppe Verdi's opera *Rigoletto*, was held in Venice.
- 150 years ago, on 10th March 1876 that the world's first telephone call was made. Alexander Graham Bell used his telephone to call his assistant for help, after spilling acid in his laboratory.
- 100 years ago, on 30th March 1926 that Ingvar Kamprad, Swedish businessman, was born. He founded IKEA, the furniture retail company, in 1943, when he was just 17 years old. (Died 2018)
- 90 years ago, on 4th March 1936 that the German airship Hindenburg made its first flight. It was the largest airship ever constructed, and was destroyed in a fire in May 1937, ending the era of airship travel.
- 80 years ago, on 25th March 1946 that Heathrow Airport opened as London Airport. It was renamed Heathrow Airport in 1966.
- 70 years ago, on 23rd March 1956 that Pakistan became the world's first Islamic Republic.
- 65 years ago, on 6th March 1961 that George Formby, the 'Ukulele King,' comedian, singer and actor died. Known for his comic songs.
- Also 65 years ago, on 8th March 1961 that Sir Thomas Beecham, British conductor and impresario, died.
- 40 years ago, on 3rd March 1986 that Queen Elizabeth II signed the Australia Act, severing Australia's remaining legal ties with Britain and granting it full independence.
- 30 years ago, on 13th March 1996 that the Dunblane Massacre took place when a former Scout leader, entered the Primary School, shot dead 16 children and a teacher and wounded 15 more.
- 20 years ago, on 21st March 2006 that Twitter, the online social networking/micro-blogging service, was founded. Its website went live on 15th July that year.
- 10 years ago, on 31st March 2016 that Ronnie Corbett, Scottish films and tv comedian, actor, screenwriter and broadcaster died.

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SAFEGUARDING

At Holy Trinity we take safeguarding very seriously and are committed to the safety of all our members.



If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact the Parish Safeguarding Officer by email htsafeguarding@outlook.com, or through a dedicated Safeguarding Line 07771 908514

All contacts are confidential unless you give us permission to share it, or unless someone is at immediate risk.

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WILDERNESS

Put off your sandals –
this is holy ground.
Put aside the flock you are ever tending
in the pasture of your mind.
Let go..... be still.

The Beloved waits to draw you into his mystery,
into his loving embrace.
His gaze rests on you and
for God to look is for God to love.
That gaze draws you – focuses you.

Enter into the deep reaches of the wilderness –
the wilderness of your own heart –
into the secret place,
There one awaits you in the silence and the darkness.
Where, where? But I KNOW you are there.

Deep within, you leave your beauty's trace.
Traces of your beauty in creation
come to consciousness in our human heart
and flow back into creation
transformed in your love.

So..... come apart..... and let go..... and be still.