# HOLY TRINITY TAUNTON

O U pentecost L O C K

May 2024

# Holy Trinity Service Times

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:

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



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MAY



#### FR JULIAN WRITES...

I'm a bit of an old school person. Rather than keeping Ascension Day on the Sunday after the event, I prefer it to be kept on the day itself. After all, we can't transfer all festivals to Sunday, just because it makes life easier for us, not having to go to church (shock, horror!) TWICE in one week! And Maundy Sunday, Good Sunday, don't have the same ring about them, do they? George Herbert's hymn, 'King of Glory, King of Peace' has the lines, 'Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee' which we sing without blushing.

Ascension Day is one of the 10 'holy days of obligation', meaning that we are 'obliged' to attend mass. Before 1917, there were 36 holy days of obligation, which was cut down to today's 10. That's less than one a month, so hardly a hardship, is it?! However the 'obligation' is not a matter of us being told to do something because it's the in rules, but rather an obligation laid on us as Christians, motivated not by command, but by faith.

There are four which pertain to Christ: the Nativity, Epiphany, the Ascension and Corpus Christi. Easter isn't amongst them because it is always on a Sunday, of course. Others include festivals of Our Lady and Saints.

I'll be writing about Corpus Christi next month, as it falls in June, so I just want to focus attention on Ascension Day (9th May). Forty days after Easter, Christ ascended to heaven to resume his eternal reign with his Father and the Holy Spirit. His earthly work is done: having been crucified, through his resurrection he has conquered death, the consequence of sin. Ascension is a convenient and easy term to describe the mechanics of Jesus' leaving earth, in the same way that we talk of the Assumption with regards to Mary.

We talk about 'going up' a class, but we don't mean that in a physical sense in our schools. Rather, it is a way expressing a progression from one state to another. And that's what the Ascension is about. Human imagery and imagination can be a little restricted at times, and so the carvers of the huge roof boss in York Minster quaintly portray a pair of feet disappearing into a cloud. The biblical accounts of the ascension don't have Jesus taking off like a space rocket, but rather leaving the disciples' sight. As heaven was considered to be 'up there', then a physical ascension makes it more understandable.

But the truth is that we don't know about the physical mechanics, even if we focus on the 'how' rather than the 'why'. Jesus warned his disciples that unless he ascended, they were unable to receive the Holy Spirit. And Mary Magdalene was told not to cling on to him after his resurrection, as he had not yet 'ascended to my Father and your Father.' His earthly stay at end, his work on earth complete, Jesus has to withdraw, physically, so that we, his followers today, may continue his work as his body in the world.

Inevitably, at funerals there is an immediate sense of sadness at the loss of a loved one. We find the pain of separation hard beyond words. But gradually, the sense of joy in remembrance will take over from the pain of loss. This is a comfort, as well as the Christian hope of the resurrection which means that death is not the end. We are enabled to 'ascend' through Christ's resurrection to be with those whom we have loved and lost. We don't how, but we do know why.

Holy Days of Obligation are not something forced on us by the Church, but rather a drawing of our attention to a specific act of salvation in Christ. Because of this, there will be a Sung Mass that Thursday evening, when we are afforded an opportunity to rejoice in Christ's ascension to heaven where he awaits us.

With my prayers and all good wishes

Fr Julían

### FROM THE REGISTERS

#### **Holy Matrimony**

Rosie Clarke and Swapnil Patra were married at Holy Trinity on Saturday 27 April. We wish them every joy and blessing in their married life.

#### Funeral

Geoffrey Cooke, priest (Wednesday 17 April) at St Giles, Thurloxton. May he rest in peace.

### **ANNUAL MEETINGS**

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners, at which the Wardens are elected, and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, where reports are given about 2023's activities will both be held on Sunday 19th May at 11.30am in the Church Hall. The reports will be circulated in good time, so that you may have time to peruse them and raise any questions at the APCM. Book the dates now!

### THANK YOU

Fr Julian is most grateful to Fr Robin Lodge, Fr Mark Smith and Bishop Michael for celebrating Mass when he was on leave recently. We are most fortunate to have such faithful clergy willing to help out.

#### MAY SAINTS - Fr Julian's idiosyncratic selection of saints

1st: St Philip and St James (P – d 80; J – d 62) St Philip was one of the



12 Apostles. Like St Peter and St Andrew, he came from Bethsaida in Galilee; later tradition has it that he preached in Greece, Syria and Asia Minor. He has long been 'twinned' with St James, known as the

'lesser' to save confusion with his greater namesake. He was the son of Alphaeus, and again came from Galilee.

**2nd: St Athanasius** (296/8 - 373). St Athanasius was a powerful defendant of the Trinity in a time of heresy, and was a noted Egyptian

Christian leader, arguing that Jesus and the Holy Spirit were *consub-stantial* (of the same being) with the Father, as we profess in the Creed. The 'Athenasian Creed' was used on Trinity Sunday.

**8th:** Julian of Norwich (c 1343 – after 1416) was an anchoress, someone who lived permanently in a cell attached to a church. She is remembered as a mystic, and the first recorded woman author of her work, 'Aspects of Divine Love'. I'm named after her, I believe, but that's a long story...

**14th: St Matthias** (d c80). He was the only apostle not to be chosen by Jesus, but rather by the other apostles to replace Judas, and before the events of Pentecost and after the Ascension.

**19th: St Dunstan** (c 909-988) He was Abbot of Glastonbury, Bishop of Worcester, Bishop of London then Archbishop of Canterbury. – quite a career! He was made a saint in 1029, and among others under his patronage are bellringers.

**25th: The Venerable Bede** (c673-735) St Bede was a monk who lived in the monastery in Jarrow, rarely leaving it. His abiding fame was his seminal book, 'The History of the English-Speaking People', which earned him the title of 'the father of English history'.

26th: St Augustine of Canterbury (early C6th - 604). Known as the



'Apostle to the English', sent to bring Christianity to England (leaving to one side it already was established in the north!) by St Gregory the Great, the Pope. He landed in Thanet at a place called Ebbsfleet. He became the first Archbishop of Canterbury.

**31st:** The Visitation This is the visit of Mary to her kinswoman, Elizabeth, as recorded in St Luke's gospel. Both women were pregnant: Mary with Jesus and Elizabeth, by now an old woman, with St John Baptist. Their meeting was the first acknowledgement of the divinity of Christ as the unborn John leapt in Elizabeth's womb in the presence of Christ.







#### CALENDAR FOR MAY

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

1 Wed SS. Philip & James, Apostles S. Athanasius, Bishop, Teacher (373) 2 Thu 4 Sat English Saints & Martyrs of the Reformation Era 5 EASTER 6 Theme: The Spirit of God's Love Readings: Acts 10.44-48; 1 John 5.1-6; John 15.9-17 Mother Julian of Norwich, Spiritual Writer (1416) 8 Wed Theme: The Ascension of Our Lord 9 ASCENSION DAY Readings: Acts 1.1-11; Ephesians 1.15-23; Luke 24.44-53 S. John of Avila, Priest, Doctor (1569) 10 Fri Theme: Going to the Father 12 EASTER 7 Readings: Acts 1.15-17 & 21-26; 1 John 5.9-13; John 17.6-19 14 Tue S. Matthias the Apostle **19 PENTECOST** Theme: Come, Holy Spirit Readings: Acts 2.1-21; Romans 8.22-27; John 15.26-27 & 16.4b-15 20 Mon S. Alcuin of York, Deacon (804) S. Helena, Empress, Protector of the Holy Places (330) 21 Tue 24 Fri John & Charles Wesley, Evangelists (1791/1788) S. Bede the Venerable, Monk, 1st English historian (735) 25 Sat **26 TRINITY SUNDAY** Theme: Father, Son and Holy Spirit Readings: Isaiah 6.1-8; Romans 8.12-17; John 3.1-7 27 Mon S. Augustine, 1st Archbishop of Canterbury (604) Lanfranc, Monk & Archbishop of Canterbury (1086) 28 Tue **30 CORPUS CHRISTI** Theme: The Body and Blood of Christ Readings: Genesis 14.18-20; 1 Corinthians 11.23-26; John 6.51-58 31 Wed Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth



Ascension Day 9th May Mass at 7.30pm



## 8TH JUNE 2024 11am – 2pm

This year's Summer Fair at Holy Trinity will include our usual stalls, along with a few new ones and we hope you will be able to support it in any way you can to make for a successful fundraiser for our Church.

A list will be placed shortly at the back of the Church of the Stalls and Stall holders. Please take a look at the list for any donations or help that you can give. If donating an item please indicate which stall your donation is for. New Stalls and ideas are always very welcome. A lot of work is involved not only on the day but leading up to the event itself, so any help is much appreciated.

On the day help is required in setting up for the fair and clearing away at the end. If you are only able to help for 1 hr it would make a lot of difference to people who will be there all day.

Raffle tickets will be available soon to purchase, please let us know if you would like to take some to sell to your friends and family before the day.

Posters for display will also be available shortly at the back of the Church, and will include all the details.

For further information please contact John Godley, or Cheryl Grindle. Thank you.

#### PRAYER FOR PENTECOST

Come, O Holy Spirit, Fill the hearts of your faithful And kindle in them the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit, and we shall be created And You shall renew the face of the earth.

# Spotlight on...

## Mary Patey

Good morning Mary, thank you for agreeing to share a little of your story with us. It is lovely to get to find out just a little more of the people who we see in Church.



Tell me, how long have you lived in Taunton, do you have any family and what did you do for a living?

I was born to farming stock in Dodington near Nether Stowey. I was involved with the little church there that belonged to the manor house. I used to collect primroses and put them in little meat paste pots and stand them around the font for Easter – you wouldn't be allowed to do that now I guess!

I was head girl at Williton Secondary Modern School and after that, cared for children and stitched shoes for Clarkes and bras for M &S. I have always enjoyed sewing and have made wedding dresses in my time.

I married and had a son and daughter and worked for the Probationary Service training under privileged young adults to sew. At one time I worked for Lady Harvey, of Pewsey in Wiltshire, as cook/housekeeper. She was a lovely kind soul and taught me a lot. It was a wonderful 9 months.

In 1984 I married my second husband John and we came to Taunton. (We were very happy and I miss him a lot). By this time my parents were elderly and we all lived together so that I could care for them at home.

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

These days I enjoy coming to craft club at church and enjoy the company – I have always been a people person. I am still a visitor at the care home where I worked as Activities Coordinator until I retired. I can offer the residents company; a listening ear and we can share our stories.

#### What would you say is important to you?

I am pleased and privileged to have worked in the care industry. I am proud of my family and now have time to sit and talk and give time to my children and my grandchildren.

#### What does your faith and Holy Trinity mean to you?

I see Holy Trinity as part of my family. There is a strong feeling of belonging and that everyone is here for one another. My faith is strong and I am firm in the knowledge that one day I will see my John and my parents again.

Thank you for telling your story Mary – I had no idea you had done so very much! I love the meat paste jars part, a lot!

Pauline Holt



SATURDAY 11th MAY 10.30 – 12.00 In the Church Hall

There will be a coffee morning on 11th May in aid of the Barn Chapel at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham.

Helpers are needed on the day and also offers of cake/biscuits would be welcome. If you can help in any way please email or call Julie Harland: <u>juliecharland@btinternet.com</u> or mobile 07989122515.

The Barn Chapel at the Walsingham Shrine site provides a place of stillness and peace and is a place of welcome for religious and non-religious pilgrims. Sadly due to damp levels major renovation work needs to be done to restore it for use by current and future generations of visitors. The Barn Chapel is one of the Shrine's most loved buildings.



Please do all you can, in whatever way, to support this event.

## A RECIPE FOR MAY

#### **RHUBARB CAKE**

Ingredients 150g margarine 125g caster sugar 150g self raising flour 3 beaten eggs 350g rhubarb, cut into 1½" lengths

Topping 25g margarine 50g plain flour 1 tbl demerara sugar



#### Method

- Line a 20cm/8" round deep sided cake tin. Preheat oven to 190°C.
- In a large bowl beat together the margarine, caster sugar, self raising flour and eggs with a food mixer.
- Spoon the mixture into the cake tin and scatter over the rhubarb.
- Rub together the topping ingredients and sprinkle this over the top.
- Cook for about 1 hour, covering with foil if the cake becomes too brown.
- When the cake is cooked bring it out of the oven and leave for 10 minutes before removing the cake from the tin onto a rack.
- Serve warm with crème fraiche.
- Store in the fridge. Is equally good eaten cold.

#### PENTECOST CAKE

I've included an additional recipe this month as I thought it might be nice to do something for the Feast of Pentecost and I came across this Pentecost Cake recipe on the internet from *Catholic Cuisine*. It is not a cake recipe as such but is about the cake decoration eg as with a



Simnel cake which has marzipan balls representing the apostles, the decoration of this cake represents the feast of Pentecost.

The other name for Pentecost was 'Whitsunday' or White Sunday and because of this there is a tradition (though not one that I particularly knew) to serve white foods then. For example to have chicken, rice, cauliflower or other white vegetables. The other colour associated with Pentecost is red for the tongues of fire on the apostles and this cake is decorated in both white and red.

- Start with a white or plain cake representing 'Whitsunday.' The cake can be home-made or shop bought, which ever you choose.
- To decorate, cover with white frosting to represent 'Whitsunday'
- Put a large candle in the centre, representing Christ our Light, who promised to send the Holy Spirit.
- Add 12 birthday cake candles around the large candle. These represent the 12 Apostles and the tongues of fire.
- Make 7 red hearts from icing and put them on the cake, representing the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit
- Decorate further with 12 strawberries, representing the 12 fruits of the Holy Spirit.
- Before cutting the cake, blow out the candles to represent the mighty wind from heaven.
- Serve with vanilla ice cream and even more strawberries!!

## QUINQUENNIAL SURVEY

The Quinquennial inspection or Quinquennial Survey is a type of building inspection that is unique to churches or religious buildings. The inspection involves a qualified chartered surveyor visiting the church in person to conduct a visual inspection of the buildings current state of repair.



In February of this year the time had come around for Holy Trinity to have their survey done. This inspection is mandatory and the PCC pays the fee for the inspection, the level of which is set by the Diocese each year. For inspections carried out in 2023 the fee is £1190 plus VAT, which will be due very shortly. We have just received the survey report back and as expected there are a number of recommendations ranging in severity from immediate action or to do at a later date.

Some things from our inspection report such as removal of ivy, ensuring drains are kept clear and removal of Valarian on the stonework can be undertaken by ourselves and come under the 'self-help' category.

We are a very small community and it is hard to see going forward where we could form a working party to do these things and it may in time require the services of others to assist us in keeping our lovely building going.

If you wish to see a full copy of the Quinquennial report speak to me or Jenni Llewellyn who will be happy to help.

John Godley

HOLY TRINITY $\frac{200}{Club}$ WINNERS				
1st	Jean Dalzell	£54.50		
2nd	Julie Harland	£32.70		
3rd	Jean Keitch	£21.80		

## NEW LADY CHAPEL KNEELERS

Twelve new kneelers for the Lady Chapel made by members of the Craft Group have now been completed. Each kneeler is based on an apostle, giving the symbol of the apostle on the top and their name on the side.



The kneelers were on display in the chancel of the church on Easter Day and were blessed and dedicated at the end of the Parish Mass.



They have now been placed in the Lady Chapel where they make a lovely addition to the chapel, brightening it with their colourfulness.

If you haven't seen them already, do go and have a look at them in the chapel.



Jane Laurence

### ALL IN THE MONTH OF MAY

It was:

- 200 years ago, on 7th May 1824 that the first performance of Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 took place in Vienna. It is regarded as Beethoven's greatest work.
- 150 years ago, on 9th May 1874 that Howard Carter, British archaeologist and Egyptologist, was born. He discovered the tomb of the Pharaoh Tutankhamun in 1922.
- Also 150 years ago, on 29th May 1874 that the British writer G. K. Chesterton was born. A novelist, short story writer, philosopher and critic, he was best known for his Father Brown stories.
- 100 years ago, on 4th May 1924 that the British children's writer E. Nesbit (Edith Nesbit) died. Best known for The Railway Children.
- 90 years ago, on 25th May 1934 that the British composer, Gustav Holst, died. Best known for The Planets.
- 75 years ago, on 12th May 1949 that the Soviet Union lifted its blockade of Berlin. The blockade had led to the Berlin Airlift, in which British and American planes had delivered millions of tons of food, coal and medical supplies to isolated people of West Berlin.
- 70 years ago, on 6th May 1954 that Roger Bannister became the first person to run a mile in under four minutes in Oxford.
- Also 70 years ago, on 20th May 1954 that Bill Haley & His Comets released the song Rock Around the Clock.
- 60 years ago, on 2nd May 1964 that Nancy Astor, American-born British politician died. She was the first female Member of Parliament to take her seat in the House of Commons.
- 40 years ago, on 19th May 1984 that John Betjeman, British poet, writer, and broadcaster died. He was Poet Laureate 1972-1984.
- 30 years ago, on 6th May 1994 that the Channel Tunnel linking England and France was officially opened.
- Also 30 years ago, on 10th May 1994 that Nelson Mandela was inaugurated as South Africa's first black president.
- 25 years ago, on 6th May 1999, the first general elections for the Scottish Parliament and the National Assembly for Wales, took place.
- 20 years ago, on 19th May 2004 that the world's first stem cell bank opened at the National Institute for Biological Standards and Control in Potter's Bar, Hertfordshire.



## THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB

will be visiting the following:

12 May	The Maypole, Thurloxton
9 June	Pickeridge Golf Club
14 July	Rumwell Farm Shop
11 August	Hankridge Arms
8 September	Oake Manor Golf Club
13 October	The Greyhound, Staple Fitzpaine
10 November	The Maypole, Thurloxton
8 December	Pickeridge Golf Club

All bookings are for 12.15. Please let me know if you want to come along, on the previous Sunday. If you have booked a space but are unable to attend please let me know as soon as possible.

Wendy Burge

### ASCENSION

By Malcolm Guite

We saw his light break through the cloud of glory Whilst we were rooted still in time and place As earth became a part of Heaven's story And heaven opened to his human face. We saw him go and yet we were not parted He took us with him to the heart of things The heart that broke for all the broken-hearted Is whole and Heaven-centred now, and sings, Sings in the strength that rises out of weakness, Sings through the clouds that veil him from our sight, Whilst we ourselves become his clouds of witness And sing the waning darkness into light, His light in us, and ours in him concealed, Which all creation waits to see revealed .

MAGAZINE DEADLINE: Wednesday 22nd May 2024



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