

# HOLY TRINITY TAUNTON

Including news from The Good Shepherd, Furnham

*Outlook*



The Most Holy Trinity

June 2026

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**BISHOP MICHAEL  
WRITES...**



For over three decades the church and parish of Holy Trinity have been served by the same parish priest, and on Trinity Sunday we were able to offer heartfelt thanksgiving to Fr Julian and Jane for their devoted and faithful ministries over that time. As they prepare to move to their new home in retirement they will, I am sure, leave a little bit of themselves behind. And it is right that they should do so – they deserve a continuing place in our hearts and in our prayers. We go on giving thanks for what has been, and praying for them that they may know the grace, strength and guidance of God in all that lies ahead.

And we pray too for ourselves and our future together. In his final piece for this magazine Fr Julian wrote of the feelings of uncertainty that are inevitable at such a time as this, and maybe a degree of anxiety as well. But in facing these things, he reminded us too, we also have the promise of our Lord Jesus Christ both that he will always be with us, and that he is constantly gifting the Holy Spirit to us to encourage us and direct us in the way that we should go.

And a focus on that also helps us to get immediate concerns and anxieties into a proper perspective. I am an avid reader, and have recently discovered a wonderful series of novels by a Canadian writer, Louise Penny. In the one that I am currently reading, one character is jokingly accused of living in the wreckage of her future. Faced with a time of uncertainty, or an unknown future how easy it is not only to fret and worry about the big things, but all the small things too – all those things that need to be done to keep things ticking over, all those regular tasks that are required to keep the show on the road.

In fact, in so many walks of life I see people feeling over stretched and pressurised, at times wondering how on earth they will cope. But then there also comes to mind these wise words from Archbishop Oscar Romero, one time Archbishop of San Salvador, which I share with you now:

It helps now and then to step back and take the long view.  
The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts,  
it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction  
of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work,  
Nothing we do is complete,  
Which is another way of saying that the Kingdom always lies  
beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said  
No prayer fully expresses our faith.  
No confession ever brings perfection; no pastoral visit brings  
wholeness.  
No programme accomplishes the Church's mission.  
No set goals and objectives include everything.

This is what we are about.  
We plant the seeds that one day will grow.  
We water seeds already planted,  
Knowing that they hold future promise.  
We lay foundations that will need further development.  
We provide yeast that produces effects beyond our  
capabilities.

We cannot do everything,  
and there is a sense of liberation in realising that.  
This enables us to do something, and to do it well.  
It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way,  
an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.  
We may never see the end results,  
But that is the difference between the master builder and the  
worker.

We are the workers, not the master builders,  
ministers, not messiahs.  
We are prophets of a future not our own.

Our future, our hope, is in God's hands. It falls to us to simply be  
faithful in the small things that fall to us, each doing  
what we can with gratitude and love.

# Holy Trinity Church, Taunton

## SUMMER FAIR

**CRAFTS – BBQ – PLANTS – CAKES – BOOKS – JAMS,  
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There's something for everyone!

The list is still at the back of the Church of the Stalls and Stall holders if you wish to donate something or offer your help to stallholders who would be glad of assistance on the day.

Raffle tickets are available to purchase, please let us know if you would like to take some tickets in advance to sell to your friends and family.

Also please take a poster to display, or some leaflets to put through your neighbor's doors to advertise this event.

With prizes to be won, delicious refreshments, and stalls to browse, we look forward to seeing you.

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

**13th June 2026**

**11am – 2pm**



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# BEING A CHRISTIAN AND A FREEMASON



There are few subjects that generate as much curiosity, and at times misunderstanding, as the relationship between Christianity and Freemasonry. For some, the two sit comfortably together, for others, the pairing raises questions. Yet for many Christian men who are also Freemasons, the two are not in conflict, but exist in a quiet and meaningful harmony.

At its heart, Christianity is a faith rooted in the person of Jesus Christ: a relationship with God expressed through love, grace, forgiveness, and service. Freemasonry, by contrast, is not a religion. It offers no system of salvation, no sacraments, and no theology of its own. Rather, it is a fraternity, an association of men who seek to live by moral principles, support one another, and contribute positively to society.

This distinction is important. A Freemason is not asked to set aside his faith, but to bring it with him.

Freemasonry encourages its members to believe in a Supreme Being, but it does not define that belief. It welcomes men of many faiths, each understanding God according to their own tradition. For a Christian Freemason, that belief is clearly grounded in the God revealed in Jesus Christ. The teachings of Freemasonry, often expressed through allegory and symbolism and drawing on biblical imagery, promote values such as integrity, humility, charity and brotherly love – virtues that resonate deeply with the Christian life.

One of the clearest examples of this is in charitable giving. In the year ending December 2024, the United Grand Lodge of England gave over £53 million to good causes. These include support to hospices, medical research, community initiatives, and individuals facing hardships. Much of this work is done quietly and without recognition, reflecting a

principle shared with the Gospel – that generosity is not for show, but for the service of others.

For a Christian, the call to discipleship is not confined to Sunday worship. It extends into every part of life, family, work, and community. In that sense, Freemasonry can be one of the places where faith is lived out in practice: in acts of kindness, in accountability to others, and in a shared commitment to doing good.



From a personal perspective, being both a Christian and a Freemason has led me to reflect carefully on how these two aspects of my life sit together. My faith in Christ is the foundation of who I am; it shapes my understanding of grace, purpose, and hope. Freemasonry does not replace that foundation

but provides a setting in which those values are tested and expressed.

I have found myself asking, from time to time: *Does this deepen my faith? Does it help me to live more Christ-like?* In my own experience, the answer has been yes. I have seen generosity expressed not just in words, but in action. I have witnessed kindness offered without expectation of reward, and a genuine concern for others that reflects something of the love we see in the Gospel.

That is not to say that questions do not arise. They do – and rightly so. Faith should never be unexamined. But for me, the answer has been found in ensuring that Christ remains at the centre of all I do, and that everything else is measured against that.

Freemasonry has, at times, been viewed with suspicion, often through misunderstanding. Whilst it uses private ceremonies, these are symbolic rather than secretive in any troubling sense. It does not ask its members to compromise their faith or neglect their religious duties. A Christian Freemason remains fully committed to the life, worship, and the teaching of the Church.

Ultimately, the question is not simply whether one *can* be both a Christian and a Freemason, but whether it helps or hinders one's walk

with Christ. For some, it may not feel appropriate, and that conviction should be respected. For others, it offers a way of expressing and reinforcing values that are already central to their faith.

In a world that can often feel divided, both the Church and Freemasonry, each in their own way, seek to build community, encourage moral living, and care for those in need.

For the Christian Freemason, these are not competing loyalties, but complementary callings – grounded in faith, and lived out in fellowship and service.

And perhaps, at their best, both point us towards the same truth: that we are called to love God, and to love one another.

*Dr Lindsay Edmunds*

## Afternoon Tea

25<sup>th</sup> July

(the Feast of St James) - 2pm-5pm

Cake & Produce stall. Raffle in aid of Holy Trinity Church. (donations to the raffle, cake stalls always welcome)



32 Holway Road TA1 2EY - Some parking tickets available.

All very welcome

# NEWS FROM THE GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH, FURNHAM

## MEMORIES FROM BURMA



Irrawaddy River



In 2012 I travelled to Burma, now Myanmar, on a personal journey of discovery. My father often visited and fell in love with the country and its people. My godmother was of Burmese heritage, and I needed to find out more about her, and some of my father's cousins with Burmese heritage. Having both grown up in Southeast Asia, I instantly knew what my father had seen and felt.



Travelling down the Irrawaddy River I saw groups of children running along the muddy banks. One boy stood out in that group. He was running with the group with crutches, and it was plain to see that one leg rested on the cross support. I asked myself, what can I do for that child but also mindful that his disability was not stopping him from enjoying time with his friends. Was this however, just a snapshot of his life and what future and opportunities awaited him as he grew into adulthood.

The Royal Palace Mandalay



**2016 - Silkroad Surgery for Children** was created, a charity to specifically assess the needs of children with physical limb deformities and what surgical interventions we could provide to improve their life prospects, e.g. education, employability.



**2017-** a team of international multi-disciplinary healthcare professionals and trained medical and nursing education professionals went to Mandalay and performed reconstructive/ corrective surgery.





Unfortunately the 2019 Returning team were not able to travel due to COVID. Following which the change in political atmosphere determined that the collaboration could not continue face to face.



All members of the teams were volunteers and donated their time to an amazing collaboration.

Some stayed on after the working week to enjoy the culture and country. One of the admin team proposed to his girlfriend in Bagan.

**She accepted!**



*Jane Nicholas*



**The Royal Palace, Yangon**

## GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY – APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup> 2026



What a wonderful day – celebrating our patronal festival with the Rt Revd Bishop Michael Langrish presiding, and Fr's Hugh, Mark, Michael, and Stephen taking part. (Plus, so many sheep one couldn't count them - 99 were left to graze as the Good Shepherd searched for the 1 lost sheep).



Guess who took pride of place – all appreciated him (with many offers to 'tend him' permanently!)

Bishop Michael started his homily with a question – 'How many of us had seen the film 'Babe'? A few eyebrows went up but he soon revealed why he'd asked the question. In the film a small pig learns 'sheep language' and so they listen to his voice and trust him. He asked us, 'Do you listen to your Good Shepherd – and trust Him with your lives?' He went on to say, 'We should watch for His presence and heed His loving words to us always.'



Afterwards, we were treated to a splendid Church lunch.

Many thanks to the ladies who organised and prepared it all.

Good Shepherd, may we sing your praise within your house for ever

**Don't forget –**



**June 20<sup>th</sup> Day  
of Prayer at church - Come learn, enjoy.**

I know, I know! It's not even summer yet and poppies are a November thing!! But – remember, remember Baden-Powell .... BE PREPARED

This is the Bereavement Café hard at work on the first Friday of May. They didn't come expecting to sew poppies onto green, netting but were such good sports that they each deserve a medal.

There are still over 100+ to sew on so ... ALL stitchers, speak to any in the photo or Jane Nicholas.

It was good to have this happy time with one new friend too.



**Don't forget! 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday each month, 10.30. Said Mass at Good Shepherd.**

**May 1<sup>st</sup> at the Bahrain Zoom prayer service we had a beautiful collect - Saint Joseph, patron saint for domestic workers –**



O God, who set Saint Joseph as an example devoted to labour, obtain for me the grace to work conscientiously, putting the call of duty to serve others and to work for their benefit above my own inclinations and desires, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

(To join the meeting & support Rob, chat to Dawn.)

Finally, from all at Good Shepherd Thank you, Father Julian and Jane, for all the hard work and care during your time at our church here in Chard. For the many journeys over the hill in all weathers, the many sermons given, PCC meetings, communion taken to residential homes and all other tasks.



We will pray for you both as you settle in your new home, that the Lord will be close to you; that you will find a place to serve Him and enjoy the fellowship of a new church family.... and share your Gospel Gossip. Enjoy the closeness of Walsingham. God bless you both and keep you in His love.



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# Spotlight on...



*I had a very sunny walk to John Clarkes' house today, to share a cup of tea and have a natter, learning a lot about the British Virgin Islands along the way.*



**John Clarke**

**John, 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 Wakefield in the West Riding of Yorkshire in 1951, the eldest of three. Four years later we moved to my father's home of Whitchurch, Shropshire, where I went to school and lived until we moved to Taunton in 1987.

I was involved with the Saint Alkmund's church from being a server. We had 7am services then on Christmas morning and not the best time for a teenager. I was secretary of the church youth club and was fortunate to attend a week at Scargill, a Christian conference in the Yorkshire Dales which inspired me being with other like-minded youngsters enjoying themselves.

Summer holidays were spent in Louth or Sutton on Sea in Lincolnshire where we were involved with the C.S.S.M. (Children's Special Service Mission).

Following 'A' Levels, Durham University beckoned and I went off to Hatfield College. However, after a year I transferred to St. John's College, York to complete my degree.

On leaving college I embarked on a year of Voluntary Service Overseas on Anguilla in the West Indies. The island at that time had no electricity nor fresh water. Oil lamps provided lighting and we had to buy drinking water as ground water was brackish.

I travelled extensively through the Caribbean on the local trading schooners, from British Guiana to Haiti and Puerto Rico.

On returning home I secured a post at my old junior school where my colleagues were my old teachers. I was there for 15 years!

My father retired from teaching and became Verger at Saint Alkmund's greeting many visitors to the church as well as dealing with other church matters. Liz and I were obviously married there, we even invited my class to the wedding where they sang a hymn!

We moved to Taunton in 1987 where I started teaching at Holy Trinity Primary School. I remained at Trinity for 25 years, during which time our daughter was born. I retired in 2012.

We have worshipped at Trinity from moving to Taunton and it was natural to attend Trinity with its close ties to the school and proximity to home.

I was fortunate to do a teacher exchange to Vancouver Island in 1990 which was a fantastic experience to move to Canada with Liz, live in a house with 10 acres of forest as a garden and a second home without running water on an offshore island looking out onto the Pacific Ocean. We found time to cycle from Vancouver to California catching the Amtrak train back to Seattle and ferry then to Victoria. We then cycled back to Comox where we lived.

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

On retirement in 2012 I worked as the Chapel assistant at the Crematorium for 6 months. It was a privilege to do, rather than a job. I volunteer at the Museum of Somerset in town and with the charity 'On Your Bike'. The crafting group also is a great stimulus to keep up with my art, as well as the camaraderie it offers. Gardening is another pursuit I enjoy; we recently had raised beds built which my wife filled with 2 tons of top soil.

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

My faith has helped and guided me through life. God has been there in very tricky times and also happy times. I love the traditions of Holy Trinity Church and the feeling that God is in this place.

*Thank you John, it was a pleasure to hear your history and to explore your fabulous garden and hear of your fantastic adventures – I am quite jealous!*

*Pauline Holt*

# *As we say Farewell to Fr Julian and Jane...*



We say a big thank you to Bishop Michael and Fr James Finnemore who will be helping us through the vacancy.

Bishop Michael was the Bishop of both Birkenhead and Exeter and Fr James was a Parish Priest in St James Manston, All Saints Hessle and between 1992-2016 in Garrowby Hill Benefice.

Things will be a little different going forward due to their other commitments and in particular to

service times, please keep an eye open for our new services page and the Sunday Notice Sheet.

*Jenni Llewellyn & John Godley (Church Wardens)*



## **THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB**

will be visiting the following:

21 June	Pickeridge Golf Club
12 July	The Greyhound, Staple Fitzpaine
9 August	Pickeridge Golf Club
13 September	The Merry Monk, Monkton Heathfield
11 October	Pickeridge Golf Club
8 November	Rumwell Farm Shop
13 December	Pickeridge Golf Club

All bookings are for 12.15 unless otherwise advised. 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*



## From the Sacristy

**What does the Sacristan do?** He or she cares for and prepares the sacred vessels and vestments that are used at the Mass. Ideally all these items would be in one room set aside for the purpose but at Holy Trinity we share a room with the Choir and the Office – amicably.

Occasionally I am asked how I became a Sacristan. It is usual for the role to be appointed by the priest. Originally I was asked by the Vicar at Saint Mary Magdalene, Rev Nicholas Maddock as the Sacristan was leaving. The person had been a Religious (a Nun) and taught me, so became my mentor for her remaining time at St Marys.

I moved to Holy Trinity in 2012 and joined the serving team later that year.

When Peter Deal was going away Fr Julian asked me to deputise for Peter. It was a privilege to do so and when sadly Peter died a year ago, I took over the role.

So, what do I do?

Daily I prepare for Mass – apart from Monday as it was Fr Julians Day off. Wash the sacred vessels and ‘small linens. It gives time and space with God, as I handle the chalice or paten I can pray for the priest who will administer the elements and the unknown persons who will receive them.

Wine, candles, oil, hosts (wafers) need to be purchased and I ‘shop around’ to obtain the best prices. Often this results in my purchasing wine from one supplier, candles another and so on. I am mindful of our need to be careful with our money so lovingly given.

The liturgical colours are changed according to season with the help of the serving team – not only the colours but the but the smells too! ‘Let my prayer be counted as incense before you O God’ – Psalm 141 v1. There is a huge range of incense available and it is interesting to try and match the smell with the occasion – some have a much lighter perfume than others - it is fun to try something new. We have recently been using Valle Crusis produced at Mucknell Abbey, as Rosa Mystica is no longer available, or Basilica produced at Prinknesh Abbey.

I was recently given a copy of 'The Sacristans Handbook' written by hermitage Day and first published in 1931 (mine is a reprint of 1947). It is interesting to see how little has changed in comparison to today however my modern copy of 'The Sacristan' has illustrations!

I could not but try to find out about Ernest Hermitage Day and that took me into what is my favourite hobby – Genealogy. Perhaps more about that another time!

I mentioned 'small linens' earlier, those used at Mass. There are also the large fair linens that cover the altars and are changed when needed. I am pleased that they do not have to be washed as frequently!

*Jenni Llewellyn*

## A Sacristan's prayer by Thomas J.D. Robertson

O Lord, you have called me to serve you in the Sanctuary of your Church.

Inspire me so to order all things that our worship may reflect in holiness.

Bless all who minister to this altar; all who receive here the holy Sacrament,

That we may grow in grace, and become partakers of eternal life, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

© *Thomas J D Robertson 1988 author*

© *1992 Kevin Mayhew Ltd publisher*



## HOLY TRINITY CALENDAR FOR JUNE

Date		Time
1 <sup>st</sup>	Mass The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth	12.30pm
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mass	10.00am
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mass	10.00am
4 <sup>th</sup>	Mass	10.00am
5 <sup>th</sup>	Mass St Boniface (Winfred) of Crediton, Bishop & Martyr d.754	12.30pm & soup lunch
6 <sup>th</sup>	Vigil Mass	6.00pm
7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>TRINITY 1 CORPUS CHRISTI</b>	8.00am
	Mass	10.00am
	Evening Prayer & Benediction	6.30pm
9 <sup>th</sup>	Mass St Columba d. 597	10.00am
10 <sup>th</sup>	Mass	10.00am
11 <sup>th</sup>	Mass St Barnabas d. 61	10.00am
12 <sup>th</sup>	Mass Sacred Heart	12.30pm & soup lunch
13 <sup>th</sup>	Vigil Mass	6.00pm
14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>TRINITY 2</b>	8.00am
	Mass	10.00am
	Evensong	6.30pm
16 <sup>th</sup>	Mass St Richard of Chichester d. 1253	10.00am
17 <sup>th</sup>	Mass	10.00am
18 <sup>th</sup>	Mass	10.00am
19 <sup>th</sup>	Mass	12.30pm & soup lunch
20 <sup>th</sup>	Vigil Mass	6.00pm
21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>TRINITY 3</b>	8.00am
	Mass	10.00am
	Evensong	6.30pm

Continued:		
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mass St Alban d. 304	9.00am
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Mass	10.00am
24 <sup>th</sup>	Mass Nativity of St John the Baptist	10.00am
25 <sup>th</sup>	Mass	10.00am
26 <sup>th</sup>	Mass	12.30pm & soup lunch
27 <sup>th</sup>	Vigil Mass	6.00pm
28 <sup>th</sup>	<b>TRINITY 4</b>	8.00am
	Mass	10.00am
	Evensong	6.30pm
29 <sup>th</sup>	Mass Saints Peter & Paul	9.00am
30 <sup>th</sup>	Mass	10.00am

**Sunday 10.00am services are streamed on Facebook.**

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

To access streamed services:



@ Holy Trinity Taunton



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

**The deadline for the July edition is  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June**

# 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](mailto:htsafeguarding@outlook.com), or through the dedicated Safeguarding Line

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

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## Poetry Corner ...

### **To a Fat Lady Seen from a Train - Frances Cornford**

**(1886 - 1960).** Frances Cornford was a granddaughter of Charles Darwin. She was brought up in Cambridge and was educated privately. She married Francis Cornford and they had five Children. She was an active feminist. This poem was first published in 1911 and it provoked a response from G K Chesterton with a counter viewpoint of the same event. Two poems for the price of one!

O Why do you walk through the fields in gloves  
Missing so much and so much?  
O fat white woman whom nobody loves,  
When the grass is soft as the breast of doves  
And shivering-sweet to the touch?  
O why do you walk through the fields in gloves,  
Missing so much and so much?

### **The Fat White Woman Speaks – response**

#### **G K Chesterton (1874 - 1936)**

Why do you rush through the field in trains  
Guessing so much and so much;  
Why do you flash through the flowery meads,  
Fat head poet that nobody reads;  
And why do you know such a frightful lot  
About people in gloves as such?  
And how the devil can you be sure,  
Guessing so much and so much?  
How do you know but what someone who loves  
Always to see me in nice white gloves  
At the end of the field you are rushing by,  
Is waiting for his Old Dutch?

Reading these two poems together is quite amusing and perhaps there is an underlying message in so doing, we can all make differing judgements of the same event, it just happens to be when, where and how we see it, that can influence our opinion.

*Pat Hitchcock*



## News from the PCC

### Annual Meetings

Twenty-four people attended the Annual Meetings on 3rd May. The Meeting of Parishioners elected John Godley and Jenni Llewellyn as Churchwardens for 2026–7. and at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting Pauline Holt and Geraint Jones were elected as Lay Representatives on the Taunton Deanery Synod. Simon Gaunt and David Gill were elected as representatives of the Laity on the Parochial Church Council. All these posts are for up to three years' duration. Fr Julian thanked Jane Laurence for her years of representing the parish on the Deanery Synod. The Electoral Roll stood at 59. At the meeting of the PCC that followed the Annual Meetings, the following were elected: Vice Chair: Lindsay Edmunds; Treasurer: Pauline Holt; Secretary and Electoral Roll Officer: Keith Penny; Parish Safeguarding Officer: Melanie Robson.

Fr Julian, in his last Annual Meeting at Holy Trinity, thanked all those who had supported him in friendship and love: Jane, the Churchwardens and the elected representatives, Pauline Holt as Administrator, Liz Hathway for her unrecognised and unacknowledged work, the retired clergy (Bishop Michael Langrish and Fr James Finnemore). Looking to the future, Fr Julian did not foresee problems: the vote for the Letter of Declaration that asked for the continuation of a male priesthood at Holy Trinity stood and did not need renewing, and it would be for the PCC to elect representatives to participate in the appointment process. Four parishes in Taunton were in vacancy, and there might be boundary changes. Fr Julian had gained official acceptance of the 'Affinity Parish' model, as at Weston and Clevedon, for Holy Trinity and The Good Shepherd, Chard, and he recommended a formalising of that connection.

Fr Julian accepted that lay ministry had not been developed, partly because of the tradition of a Mass as the main Sunday act of worship, but there would be possibilities for Lay Worship Assistants to lead

Evensong. Reviewing the work of the Lay Pastoral Assistants, Fr Julian thanked Jenni Llewellyn and especially Jane Laurence, who had created the parish website from nothing and who had developed electronic outreach through the streaming of services. He accepted that congregation numbers had declined, but not as far as had happened in other parishes.

As he looked through the reports provided for the meeting, Fr Julian expressed satisfaction that Melanie Robson had completed the training to become the Parish Safeguarding Officer, and noted that there were at present no outstanding issues. He highlighted buildings problems: cracks in the structure of the Choir Vestry and a Hall with a felt roof and Crittall windows that did not meet people's requirements or provide a commercial rent. He thanked Liz Hathway for looking after the Hall. The proposal would be to combine these buildings in a new structure linked to the church. £255,000 was available from the sale of the old Club building. A further expected legacy might well be used to pay for repairs deemed necessary in the Architect's Quinquennial Inspection. Plans to re-order the space at the Chancel steps awaited advice on the heating system. Fr Julian thanked Simon Gaunt for developing the music of the church, albeit with a small number of singers.

Fr Julian thanked Pauline Holt for getting the parish accounts into order. He noted that Benefice Share would only increase – the Diocese was short of money with which to pay clergy. Holy Trinity had paid its Share in full, and that should lead to finding a replacement Vicar. Thanks were proposed to Keith Penny (PCC Secretary), and Fr Julian ended the meetings by giving God's Blessing.

*Keith Penny, PCC Secretary*

## HOLY TRINITY <sup>200</sup> Club WINNERS

### May 2026

1st	Pat Deal	£61.25
2nd	Aart Dourleyn	£36.75
3rd	Jason Stevens	£24.50



*School of Prayer  
Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
10am – 4.00pm  
(At the Good Shepherd,  
Furnham, Chard TA20 1AE)*

## **What is a human being?**

Our understanding is rooted in ancient words in the Book Genesis (genetics, genealogy, origins) man and woman formed from the dust of the earth, moulded by God in his image and with the breath of life breathed into them. It's an intimate understanding – if you've ever made a cake, baked bread or used your hands to do anything – you know that something of yourself has gone into whatever you created; such is our relationship with God. You could call this ancient science; you could call it an understanding of what we are. Prayer is acknowledging this relationship. In faith we believe we are not random but with a purpose.

In prayer all human characteristics come into play (some of this is going to be part of our School of Prayer).

**The Community:** Fr Alex Honey is going to talk about gathering together to pray and what happens when we do. The words 'Church' and 'Synagogue' both mean gatherings.

**Words:** Bishop Michael Langrish is going to look at the Psalms, the ancient Hebrew Prayer Book. Jesus used the Psalms to pray aloud himself and to teach.

**The Mind:** Jenni Llewellyn will be speaking about mental prayer, the silent engagement with the Mystery of God. How can you put silence into words? How do we listen to God?

**Seeing:** Fr Mark Jackson is going to teach about icons and the way in which we can see in prayer the Glory of God and the saints., even living in the here and now.

**Jesus Himself:** For Christians, the gift of God incarnate in Jesus of Nazareth is the revolution in the history of creation. Fr. Ben Rabjohns will be exploring 'The Jews Prayer'.

**Physical Work:** I will be demonstrating prayer with beads in which the memory is used to avoid distraction. This is much more than the Rosary, but if you do have a Rosary it would be useful to bring it along.

“Lord,  
teach us to  
pray...”



The day will begin with a Mass at 10.00am if you can get there in time. There will be tea and coffee and cakes provided but you might want a packed lunch. There is plenty of car parking.

There is no charge but donations are always welcome!

As Saint Paul wrote to the Colossians 'Devote yourselves to prayer' (Thanks to Alison Cruickshank for having the idea!

*Fr James Finnemore.*

# **Wordsearch - Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth**

Mary - the virgin mother of Jesus. Her visit to Elizabeth, when both were pregnant, is a moving account of two humble, ordinary women, suddenly caught up in a great event that would shape world history. Their trusting faith in God and acceptance of His will, shine through.

After Jesus is born, Mary makes few appearances: when the family visits Jerusalem and she loses her Son on the way home; when she urges Him to help the wedding party in Cana with its wine problem; and when Jesus gives her into the keeping of the beloved disciple when He is dying on the cross. Mary's last appearance is in Acts, just before Pentecost.

Mary, chosen to be the mother of Jesus Christ, one who is both God and Man, holds a unique place in history. Down the centuries that have followed, the Church has paid special honour to Mary – and well deserved it is. "All generations shall call me blessed..." **(25 words)**



# **All in the month of JUNE**

It was:

- 250 years ago, on 11 June 1776 that the Second Continental Congress appointed John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Robert R Livingston and Roger Sherman to create the first draft of the Declaration of Independence.
- Also 250 years ago, on 11<sup>th</sup> June, that John Constable, British landscape artist, was born.
- 150 years ago, on 19<sup>th</sup> June 1876 that Nigel Gresley, railway engineer, was born. He designed some of the best-known steam locomotives in Britain, including the Flying Scotsman.
- 100 years ago, on 1<sup>st</sup> June 1926 that the American film actress, model and sex symbol Marilyn Monroe was born. Remembered for *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*, *The Seven Year Itch*, and *Some Like it Hot*, among others. Died 1962.
- 100 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> June 1926 that Antoni Gaudi, Spanish architect died. Known for his unique Modernist style. Best remembered buildings such as the *Basilica de la Sagrada Familia* in Barcelona.
- 90 years ago, on 14<sup>th</sup> June 1936 that G K Chesterton died. Novelist, short story writer, journalist, essayist, poet, social/literary critic and theologian, and remembered for his stories about the priest-detective Father Brown.
- 65 years ago, from 4<sup>th</sup> June to 9<sup>th</sup> November, that the Berlin Crisis of 1961 took place. It led to Berlin being partitioned into East Berlin and West Berlin, and the erection of the Berlin Wall on 13<sup>th</sup> August.
- 50 years ago, from 23<sup>rd</sup> June to 27<sup>th</sup> August, the 1976 British Isles Heat Wave took place. One of the hottest and driest summers on record, it dried up rivers and evaporated reservoirs. Domestic water supplies were rationed, and public standpipes were installed in some areas. September and October both saw very heavy rainfall.
- 30 years ago, on 4<sup>th</sup> June 1996 that the Second Severn Crossing was officially opened. The bridge spans the River Severn and links England and Wales via the M4 motorway.
- 20 years ago, on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2006 that American bishop Katherine Jefferts Schori became the first woman to be elected as a primate in the Anglican Communion. She became the Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church from November 2006 until 2015.
- 10 years ago, on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2016 that the UK European Union (EU) membership referendum was held. 52 per cent of voters voted to leave the EU, and 48 per cent voted to remain. The UK left the EU on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020.

*From the Parish Pump*



Wordsarch answers:  
Mary Virgin Mother Elizabeth Pregnant  
Ordinary World History Great Event  
Family Jerusalem Wedding Cana Wine  
Beloved Disciples Dying Cross Keeping  
Unique Place Centuries Church blessed

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