



St John's, Pevensey Road



Pews News & Service Sheet for Sunday 30th May 2021

Trinity Sunday



Welcome to this Parish Mass - held each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. with a sociallydistanced congregation; recorded and broadcast via our church website, by about Sunday lunchtime, technology permitting...

Morning Prayer THIS WEEK will be on MONDAY AND FRIDAY ONLY, at 9 a.m.

NO Wednesday Midweek Mass this week.

Online "Zoom" service: 10 a.m. on Wednesday. Send Rev Jill or Deacon Michael an email and they will send you the necessary "link".

People for whom our prayers are asked:

Jean & Geoff, Geraldine, Brenda R, Jane G, Jo, Amber, Shirley, Andrew N, Linda, Alison N, Don F, Sue T, Eve G, Cynthia C, Sally L, and Rob.

Please pray also for ...

...the repose of the souls of the recently departed, especially Alan, And those whose Years Minds fall around this time: Leslie Sheppard, Carol Burgess, Michael Jennings, Hannah Dormon, and Dennis Rodd,

...and all who mourn.

HYMN OF THE WEEK: "Holy, Holy, Holy", sung by Nicola from the Choir

Reginald Heber (1783-1826) wrote this hymn to reflect and complement the words of the Nicene Creed, which we declare in our worship today. This Creed was formulated at a convention of Church leaders in 325 A.D, meeting in the town of Nicaea, Bithynia, (now known as Iznik, Turkey) to establish a firm belief in the doctrine of the Trinity. This was to refute the teachings of Christian priest Arius, who did not believe that Jesus was fully divine. The hymn tune, composed by John B. Dykes for Heber's text, is also entitled *Nicaea*. The words evoke a sense of awe at the majesty of God, and call on all of creation – humans (verse one), saints and angels in glory (verse two) and all creation (verse four) – to praise the Godhead three-in-one.

The expression "Holy, Holy, Holy" reflects the hymn of praise sung in the heavenly courts as described in Revelation chapter four, which was the prescribed reading for Trinity Sunday in the Book of Common Prayer.



The Foodbank's currently most needed items are:

- •Tinned meat (not corned beef or pork)
- •Tinned fruit and vegetables (especially peas and carrots)
- •Tinned spaghetti in sauce
- •Longlife milk: full fat or semi-skimmed

Also welcomed:

- Toiletries, toilet rolls
- •Tinned fish, potatoes, rice pudding
- •Tea, coffee, long-life fruit juice.

The container for donations is at the back of church **Thank you!**

Mass for Trinity Sunday



The Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *All* **Amen.**

The Lord be with you *All* and also with you.

Prayer of Confession

God the Father forgives us in Christ and heals us by the Holy Spirit. Let us therefore put away all anger and bitterness, all slander and malice, and confess our sins to God our redeemer.

All O King enthroned on high, filling the earth with your glory: holy is your name, Lord God almighty. In our sinfulness we cry to you to take our guilt away, and to cleanse our lips to speak your word, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The priest says the Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Gloria in Excelsis is said:

All Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Amen

The Collect

Let us pray:

Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *All* **Amen.**

A reading from Isaiah

Isaiah 6.1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

'Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;

the whole earth is full of his glory.' The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!'

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: 'Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.' Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'

For the Word of the Lord *All* **Thanks be to God**

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans

Romans 8.12-17

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh - for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ - if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

For the Word of the Lord <u>All</u> Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessèd Trinity! Holy, Holy, Holy! All the saints adore thee,

Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and Seraphim falling down before thee,

Which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Though the darkness hide thee,

Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,

Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,

Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea; Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessèd Trinity! *Reginald Heber (1783-1826)*

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, one God, who was, and who is, and who is to come, the Almighty. *All* **Alleluia**

The Lord be with you *All* **And also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John *All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 3.1-17

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. *All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Nicene Creed

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate: he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of

the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,

who has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

In the power of the Spirit let us pray to the Father through Christ the saviour of the world.

High and holy God, robed in majesty, Lord of heaven and earth, we pray that you will bring justice, faith and salvation to all peoples. [*Especially we pray* ...] Lord, hear us. *All* Lord, graciously hear us.

You chose us in Christ to be your people and to be the temple of your Holy Spirit; we pray that you will fill your Church with vision and hope.

[*Especially we pray* ...] Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

Your Spirit enables us to cry, 'Abba! Father!', affirms that we are fellow-heirs with Christ and pleads for us in our weakness;

we pray for all who are in need or distress.

[Especially we pray ...]

Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

In the baptism and birth of Jesus, you have opened heaven to us and enabled us to share in your glory: the joy of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit from before the world was made. [*Especially we remember* ...] May your whole Church, living and departed,

come to a joyful resurrection in your city of light.

Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

Merciful Father, *All* accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace is introduced

Peace to you from God our heavenly Father.

Peace from his Son Jesus Christ who is our peace.

Peace from the Holy Spirit, the life-giver.

The peace of the triune God be always with you. *All* and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We may exchange a sign of peace

Preparation of the Table

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Music: Largo from Concerto in D minor - A. Vivaldi (1678 - 1741)

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, give us the bread of everlasting life, and make us branches of the true vine. *All* **Amen.**

The priest takes the bread and wine.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here *All* **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts. *All* We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *All* It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks,

holy Father, almighty and eternal God. For with your only-begotten Son and the Holy Spirit

you are one God, one Lord.

All that you reveal of your glory, the same we believe of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, without any difference or inequality.

We, your holy Church, acclaim you, Father of majesty unbounded,

your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,

and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

Three Persons we adore, one in being and equal in majesty. And so with angels and archangels, with cherubim and seraphim, we proclaim for ever your glory:

All Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;

grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,

and according to your holy will,

these gifts of bread and wine

may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,

took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you;

this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith: All Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,

we bring before you this bread and this cup

and we thank you for counting us worthy

to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup,

so that we, in the company of Saint John the Evangelist, Saint Peter, Mary the Mother of God, and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. *All* **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As God's children, and heirs with Christ we cry in the Spirit, 'Abba', Father:

All Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Agnus Dei is said:

All Jesus, Lamb of God, Have mercy on us Jesus, bearer of our sins, Have mercy on us Jesus, redeemer of the world, Grant us peace

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

Communion is received

Music: Berceuse - L. Vierne (1870 - 1937)

Prayer after Communion

The priest prays the Post Communion for the day:

Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

All Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off, you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Notices

The Blessing and Dismissal

Priest The Lord be with you *All* **And also with you**

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you

and remain with you always.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

We are encouraged to sit and listen to the Organ Voluntary before leaving, which today is Festival Toccata by Percy E. Fletcher (1879 - 1932)



Next **Saturday**, **5th June**, we will be taking part in the "Churches Count on Nature" project - counting the wildlife, insects etc to be seen in St John's Churchyard. Volunteers welcome!





Do you have a soft spot for the peace and quiet of Cornwall? This Friday, 4th June: the Church commemorates **Saint Petroc, the founder of Padstow.**

This 6th century abbot is Cornwall's most famous saint. Petroc sailed from South Wales, and founded a monastery at Lanwethinoc – now called Padstow, (from *Petroc's Stow*).

Later in life, Petroc moved on to build another monastery at Little Petherick (Nanceventon). Here he must have decided to try some 6th century equivalent of 'Fresh Expressions', because he engaged with his local community by building a mill and a chapel.

In time, he tramped off to the remote wilds of Bodmin Moor, where he lived as a hermit – until some 12 monks turned up to join him. Firmly, Petroc kept them all housed in a monastery on a hilltop, while he enjoyed his private space in a cell by the river.

One day a terrified stag came rushing through the woods, pursued by the hunt. Petroc flung open the door of his cell, and the panting animal took refuge. When the hunters arrived on the scene, they did not dare to argue with the famous holy man, and went their way. The stag's gratitude made him tame, and Petroc

would come to be portrayed with a stag as his special emblem.

Where are you? Remember the story of Jacob, and how God met him in a dream when he was sleeping on the desert floor with a rock for his pillow? The story in Genesis 28 says this: 'When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it."'

I wonder what place you find yourself in today, and if you are aware of God's presence with you there?

It may be a geographical place, the place where you live or work. That may be a beautiful place to be, or it may be a very hard place to be, and you would much prefer to be somewhere else. Either way, God is with you there, for He is everywhere, and there is no place where He is not.

It may be an emotional place, as when we say, 'I'm not in a good place right now'. How are you feeling today – up or down? Again, whatever mood you are in, God is with you for He knows us through and through. Having become human, He understands all our fluctuating emotions. He can comfort us right where we are.

It may be a phase of life that you are passing through, a stage on life's journey or a transition as you move from one situation to another. You may be passing through the valley of grief and loneliness, or anxiously waiting for news of a loved one who is ill. No matter where you are, you are not alone, for God is with you whether you can feel His presence or not.

What is needed is for us to become more aware of God's surrounding presence, to wake up to His closeness as did Jacob.

Lord, wake me up to your abiding presence, even this day.

By Tony Horsfall

