

Philemon 1-21

The letter to Philemon is one of the shortest books of the Bible, yet St Paul packs in so much into so few sentences. First, there is much needed encouragement to remain faithful to Christ's teaching, and to keep the fellowship of love. When we do so, heaven rejoices, and those in the world who are wearied by sin will find refreshment among us (vv 4-8). Second, we learn of how apostolic authority works: the teachings of the apostles carry the weight of Christ's commandments – yet these commands do not coerce, but entice us: what God desires is not our blind submission, but our love for his will (vv 8-9). And finally we see one of the most subversive examples of being obedient to Christ's commands of faith and love: Onesimus is sent back to Philemon officially still as a slave in social rank. But Philemon has to now receive him as a 'beloved brother' in Christ Jesus! When we turn to Christ, our world may look the same, but the message of the Gospel will transform it radically on the inside. The Kingdom of God is truly within us!

Saints & Heroes

Never found in a bun

There are at least three saints having the name of Ethelburga, a name reminiscent of a fast food, but the one who we celebrate on 8th September has the shortest history but who is the most relevant in the spread of Christianity in the north. She was the daughter of Ethelbert, King of Kent, and he married her off to the powerful King of Northumbria, Edwin. Being a Christian, she took with her a tall Italian chaplain, Paulinus, and they persuaded Edwin to join her in the faith. This set off a chain of mass baptisms. Northumbrian kings had a short shelf life and Edwin met his untimely end at the hands of Penda of Mercia, who thoughtfully chopped his body into nice chunks for use as relics. Ethelburga returned to Kent to become Abbess of Lyming.

8th September
2019

Twelfth Sunday
after Trinity
Twenty-Third
Sunday of the Year

Priorities



Jesus' harsh words about hate for our family members, if we want to be followers of his, only makes sense if we acknowledge and embrace our new and heavenly family. This family of peoples of which our church communities are a part needs to be loving, welcoming, open and friendly so as really to be the place of love and friendship where those disappointed by their own peers and family members will find a new home. When Mary and Christ's brothers came to him but could not reach him because of the crowd he said: 'My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and keep it.' Mary, like no other, models this attitude and says: 'Do whatever he tells you.' We too can become members of this heavenly family if we manage to listen to Christ's words and do them. And when all are brothers and sisters in Christ, there will be no more room for hatred and division at all. Until then our priority should be to build up the body of Christ, the church.

Prayers to Remember

O Christ, tirelessly you seek out those who are looking for you and who think that you are far away; teach us at every moment, to place our spirits in your hands. While we were still looking for you, already you have found us. However poor our prayer, you hear us far more than we can imagine or believe.

Brother Roger of Taizé (1915 – 2005)



The Parish of Hawley

Registered Charity No. 1130589

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NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Welcome to our services today

9.15am Sung Mass at All Saints'

11am Sung Mass at Holy Trinity

1 pm Baptism at All Saints'

6pm Evensong and Benediction at Holy Trinity

WEEKDAY MASSES (23rd week in ordinary time Year C)

Mon 9th Feria

9.30am at Holy Trinity

Wed 11th Feria

7.30pm at Holy Trinity

(7pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament)

Thurs 12th Feria

9.30am at Holy Trinity

Sat 14th Holy Cross Day

6.30pm at Holy Trinity

NEXT SUNDAY – 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.15am Sung Mass at All Saints'

11am Sung Mass at Holy Trinity with Baptisms

6pm Evensong and Benediction at Holy Trinity

Psalm Response:

See service sheet

Gospel Acclamation:

See service sheet

RIP - Joan Tass, a long standing member of the Holy Trinity congregation, died on Sunday, 11th August. The funeral will take place on **Monday 16th September at 1pm at Holy Trinity Church**. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time.

HAMS - Monday 9th September, 8.15pm in Trinity Hall - our visiting speaker is Keith Smith from the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance Service. Please book the date now and come along to hear about the importance of this life saving work. This is an open meeting, **everyone is welcome**, we look forward to seeing you for what should be an interesting talk

CONFIRMATION - If you would like to know more, or would like to be confirmed, please have a word with Fr William or the Churchwardens, Rita or Roy. Once we have an idea of numbers we can make the necessary arrangements.

MOTHERS' UNION meeting this month is on Monday September 16th in Holy Trinity hall at 8 pm.

We look forward to meeting our guest speaker Kate Cottrell, who will be giving an interesting talk about 'Helping the Environment'.

HGPCC SECRETARY URGENTLY NEEDED

The PCC needs a secretary by the end of September. The main tasks are: Send out calling notice and agenda items for PCC meetings; Take PCC minutes; Distribute minutes; Do the same for the APCM; Liaise with Vicar & Churchwardens as required. For more information contact Cathy Mansell. Tel: 01276469086

INTERCESSORS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to do the intercessions in Church each Sunday. It is not an onerous task, with sample prayers available online, and help from the current (few) intercessors. For more information please contact Dave Powers.

dave.powers@outlook.com

TRINITY HALL PLANT POTS

A big thank you to staff at M&S and the Hawley Pre-School for the plant pots and bark chippings outside Trinity Hall. The visual impact it has on visitors is very welcome. Upkeep of the area will be done by Pre-School, a good hands-on for the children.

ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH, EASTBOURNE - Saturday, 21st September, Mass, picnic and free afternoon by the seaside. Pick up from All Saints' at 8.50am and Holy Trinity 9am. Return at 4pm. (The cost is £12 or £20 if paying for both this trip and the recent one to St Alban's.) A sign up sheet is in the porch.

KEBLE COLLEGE OXFORD is celebrating its 150th Anniversary in 2020. As part of its celebrations it is hosting a Victorian symposium on **Wednesday 25th September 2019** to look at the forces and personalities behind the foundation of the College. Part of that story is to be found in the controversial religious politics of the period; part of it in the question of the relationship of the wider University to new social and intellectual currents. Speakers at the symposium will address topics such as the relationship of the College to the Oxford Movement, Keble's poetry, the architecture of Butterfield, Lavinia Talbot and Victorian womanhood, the cause for women's education, among others. The aim is to address a wide audience, and not a narrow academic one - all are welcome. There is a modest registration fee of £15 which will include lunch and a wine reception. The day commences at 10.30am and finishes at 5.30pm. For further details please visit -

<http://www.keble.ox.ac.uk/victorian-symposium>

FRIDAY 27th SEPTEMBER - "Tea at Two" is holding a Tea and Cake afternoon from 2pm to 4pm in All Saints' Church Hall in aid of Macmillan Cancer Care. Donations of cake etc will be gratefully received. Please contact Joan Young for further information.

DISABLED PARKING AT HOLY TRINITY

There is room for 4 normal sized cars parked at the front of Holy Trinity. There are occasions where larger gaps than necessary between cars results in a reduction to 3. Please ensure you have parked in such a way as to maximise this space. Thank You -

PLEASE NOTE THAT WEEKLY SHEET ITEMS FOR NEXT WEEK should be sent by Wednesday morning to pauline_scott@icloud.com thank you.