**TRINITY**

The Newsletter of

**Holy Trinity Church Ilkeston**

**Sunday 28th April 2024**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**11.00am THE PARISH MASS**

**Celebrant and Preacher: Fr Paul Waters**

**Music at Holy Trinity this morning:**

*Today’s hymns are from*  ***New English Hymnal (Green)***

**Introit** 104 At the Lamb's high feast we sing

**Gloria** Gloria 4

**Psalm** Psalm 21

**Gradual** 114 Love's redeeming work is done

**Offertory** 445 Rock of ages

**Sanctus** Sanctus 1

**Agnus Dei**  Agnus Dei 1

**Communion**  275 Blessed Jesu, Mary's son

**Recessional** 120 Thine be the glory

**Regina Caeli**

**We are pleased to welcome Fr Paul Waters**

**as Celebrant and Preacher at Mass this morning**

**Services for the week ahead at Holy Trinity**

**Tuesday 30 th April 9.30 am Morning Prayer**

**Thursday 2nd May 7.00 pm Mass Fr Bob Boyle**

**Next Sunday 5th May 6th of Easter**

**11.00am THE PARISH MASS**

**Celebrant and Preacher: Fr Robert Breckles**

**PLEASE KEEP A TIME OF QUIET AND PRAYERFUL REFLECTION AS WE PREPARE TO CELEBRATE THE EUCHARIST TOGETHER.**

Welcome to our worship this Sunday. Baptised and communicant members of any Christian denomination are welcome to receive Holy Communion; if you’d prefer to receive a blessing, please carry a Mass booklet or hymn book with you when you come to the communion point. Gluten-free communion hosts are available – please let a sidesperson know if you require one. Large-print copies of the Order of Mass and children’s Mass Booklets are also available. Refreshments are served after Mass in the Hall – please join us.

**This week's news:**

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**Flower Fund**

Our sincere thanks go to our Flower Arranging Team who worked so hard to produce such a magnificent display of flower arrangements for our Easter worship, along with a beautiful Easter Garden.

However the fact is that the Flower Fund is now exhausted, and needs replenishing if we are to continue to have our usual flower displays over the coming months. The Treasurer will be very glad to receive whatever you can afford for this purpose, and all contributions will be carefully used. **Geoff** **and Sharon.**

**Lectio Divina – Bible Study in the Benedictine Style**

We meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month, in the Church Hall at 1:20pm for 1.30pm and the study aims to finish just before 3:00pm, for a time of prayer. A few dates for your diary: 22th May, 26th June, 24th July, 28th Aug. . Helen has kindly agreed to lead the study whilst I’m laid up. Everyone is welcome! **Andrew Smith**

**New external notice boards**

We now have two new boards which update the information about the church - and also give a tidier and more welcoming impression. The work has been carried out by Sign Systems (UK) Ltd at Manners Industrial Estate and we think they have done a very professional job. John Rollisson was of great assistance to the Churchwardens in getting this project completed and we thank him for his help. One board will be paid for by an anonymous donor and we thank that individual for their very kind generosity. The other one will be paid for from Friends of Holy Trinity Ilkeston. This separate charity is funded from the monthly lottery and also easyfundraising.com so thank you to everyone who supports this. **Geoff Raby & Sharon Wright**

**At St Laurence's Church Hall Saturday 11 May 2pm**

People from Holy Trinity are invited to join with our friends at St Laurence's for ***'Elishwah's Ploughman's Lunch'.*** Tickets are £6.50 and you should phone Andrew Sheasby on 07799 398585 to reserve your place.

**Please remember in your prayers:**

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Those who are sick: we include at this time His Majesty King Charles and HRH The Princess of Wales as well as Pam Bailey, Margaret Barton, Colin Booth, Irene Bostock, Fr Michael Brinkworth, Carole Chapman, Frank Clewes, Chris Dickinson, Betty Fisher, Anne and Nigel Gamble, Jean Jarvis, Richard Pykett, Anne Riley, and Andrew Smith.

All who have recently died, especially Charlotte Walford. Please remember also those whose anniversary of death falls this week: Jean Hallam, Joyce Alexander, John Dickens, John Spibey, Alan Limb, Ian Brown, Stenson Hardy, Agnes Cordon, Peter Fryatt, Margaret Mills, and Maurice Chapman.

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week in memory of the late Dennis Fisher.

**Contacts at Holy Trinity:**

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**For all parish enquiries please either email info@holytrinity.org.uk or phone 07842 719682**

**Churchwardens:**

Geoff Raby: 07905 323116, Email: *geoffreyraby@aol.com*

Sharon Wright: 07794 366310, Email:*spwright38@gmail.com*

**Parish Secretary:**

Mrs Sue Rollisson: 0115 9321087, Email: *sue.rollisson@gmail.com*

**Parish Treasurer:**

Mrs Margaret Breedon: 0115 944 0020 / 07951 060667, Email: *margaretbreedon45@gmail.com*

**Parish Safeguarding Link:** Mrs Nicky Bailey 07809 680034, Email: *nickybailey1938@gmail.com* (Nicky also has the honorary title of Churchwarden Emerita)

**Newsletter** Please send material for each Sunday's Newsletter to Richard Pykett as soon as it is ready, and at the latest by 12 noon on the previous Wednesday. 07850 428299.

Email: *richard.pykett@techademic.net,* Copies of the Newsletter are available in Church each Sunday morning, on our Website, and by email. Please let me know if you would like to be added to or removed from the email distribution list **Richard Pykett**

**Website / Facebook** For more about Holy Trinity, visit our website:-

w*ww.holytrinityilkeston.org.uk*. Follow us on Facebook: 'Holy Trinity Church Ilkeston'.

**5th Ilkeston Holy Trinity Brownies:** Brown Owl: Bev: 07747 142501

**5th Ilkeston Holy Trinity Rainbows**: Sue: 07722 929226

**Holy Trinity Tiny Tots** (Parent and Toddler Group) Helen Crisp

07790 876015

**Contact for Church Hall Bookings:**Mrs Christine Hudson

Tel. 0115 932 2796, or email: hudson.owlhudson@btinternet.com The Church Hall is a community facility and we welcome bookings especially from local people and groups. Please contact Christine for further details and availability.

**About today’s Mass readings: Andrew Smith writes:**

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**Commentary for the Readings for the Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**The Theme of the Readings: Our Union with the Lord in the Community of the Church**

By the ministry of the Holy Spirit, God has granted His children the power to bear the abundant fruit of good deeds. He has grafted us onto the True Vine (Jesus Christ), so we can bring forth the Fruit of the Spirit that is ‘love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.’ We live by the Spirit the more we renounce self-interest and the more we ‘walk by the Spirit’.

**First Reading: Acts 9:26-31**

In our first Reading from Acts 9, we hear about St. Paul's introduction to the Jerusalem Church. Earlier, on a journey to Damascus, Paul encountered the resurrected Jesus, who transformed his life. He came to believe Jesus was the promised Messiah and submitted to Him in the Sacrament of Baptism.  However, Paul understood that he needed to become part of the united Church family founded by his Lord and Saviour and instructed by the Apostles' authority if he genuinely wanted to serve Jesus Christ in spreading the Gospel of salvation.

**Responsorial Psalm 22:26-28, 30-32**

Today’s Psalm (Psalm 22) vividly describes the crucifixion of Jesus centuries before the Persians (not the Romans) invented crucifixion as a form of capital punishment. Jesus quoted the first line of Psalm 22 as He hung on the Cross: ‘My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?’ Parts of Psalm 22 are the most frequently quoted of the psalms in the New Testament. It is one of several psalms that Jewish scholars call a toda/todah psalm, a Hebrew word that means ‘thanksgiving.’ A ‘toda’ psalm begins as a heart-wrenching lament but concludes in a song of praise for the mercy of God and the psalmist's confidence in God's deliverance.

**Second Reading: 1 John 3: 18-24**

In our Epistle Reading, St. John writes, in his first letter to the Church's different faith communities, that true love is more than words.  Jesus showed His love when he laid down his life for us, and so we ought to lay down our lives for our brother. The Apostle reassured the readers of his letter in every generation that God knows everything: He knows our sins, the secrets in our hearts, our repentance, and our desire to do good deeds.  John's message is that the love of God and His mercy are greater than our sins. This knowledge should cause us to be overwhelmed with gratitude and love for God, and we should express that gratitude by sharing His love with others.

**Gospel: John 15: 1-8**

In today's Gospel Reading, at Jesus' Last Supper discourse, He identified Himself to His disciples as the ‘True Vine,’ and all who believed in Him as the ‘branches’ united to Him. Jesus used the metaphor of the vine and its branches to emphasize the importance of divine grace in joining the lives of Christians to the glorified life of God the Son, the Redeemer-Messiah, who is the source of divine life and wisdom. For those of us who believe in Him as our Lord and Saviour, He unites us to Him in the same way the branches of a plant are connected to the main stem or trunk. If we have faith in Him, we abide/remain in Him, and He abides/remains in us.  We become reborn sons and daughters of God by the power of the Holy Spirit through the Sacrament of Christian Baptism, who are united to Christ and each other. As branches draw life and grow from the parent stalk, so too do our souls receive life from Christ as we grow, spiritually nourished by His word and by the Eucharist in the arms of Mother Church. In the assembly of the faithful, we share our love and sing hymns to praise God who abides in us, as in today's Responsorial Psalm, we sing: ‘We bless you from the house of the Lord; You are my God, I thank you.’

**Saint of the Week:**

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**Saint of the Week: 4th May The Forty English Martyrs of England & Wales**

These are a group of men and women made up of Priests and Religious, Laymen and women, who were executed for practising their Catholic faith during the English Reformation between 1534 and 1680. One such martyr was John Houghton, OCart, a Priest of the Carthusian Order and the first martyr of the English Reformation, and women, such as Margaret Clitherow ‘the Pearl of York’ as she was affectionately known, and Margaret Ward. Following the excommunication of Queen Elizabeth I by Pope Pius, the English Parliament, such as it was, introduced Laws making it Sedition and High Treason for anyone to follow the Catholic faith or harbour a Catholic Priest. The punishment for doing so was a most gruesome death carried out in public as an attempt to deter Popery. On the 25th October 1970, forty such Catholic martyrs were Canonised in St Peter’s Basilica by Pope Paul VI.