

June 2019

£1

THE PARISH OF
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

HOLY TRINITY • ALL SAINTS' LUDDINGTON • ST. HELEN'S CLIFFORD CHAMBERS



TRINITY TIMES



Lives changed through God's love

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Fantastic Cleaning at Fantastic Prices

GECKO CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

**Leather
Curtains
Mattresses
Stain Removal
Stain Protection
Fully Insured with Treatment Risk**



Tel: 01789 296164

Mob: 07894906773

Freephone: 0800 8 247 343

www.geckocarpets.co.uk

Quote Ref: 001 for 10% off

Unique
Senior Care

People, above all else

A unique approach to delivering care.

What makes us unique?

- Our Caregivers are carefully matched with their clients to help ensure they build meaningful relationships
- Wherever possible we always send the same person, and we will never send a stranger
- We don't believe that care can be delivered in fifteen minutes or half an hour – with us it's always a minimum of an hour
- We pride ourselves on being punctual – we're always there when you need us
- We don't wear uniforms – our Caregivers look like a family member or friend.

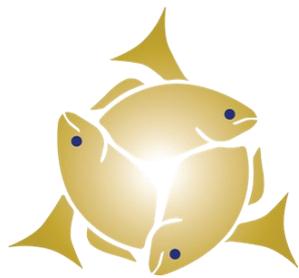
Unique Senior Care provides outstanding home care services to older people in their own homes, where they are most happy and comfortable.

We believe that by supporting older people to remain in their own home instead of in residential care, we can enable them to live more fulfilling lives.

Families can relax, safe in the knowledge that their loved ones are in excellent hands, being cared for by a care company that specialises in one thing: people. It doesn't matter how simple or complex our clients' needs are, our Caregivers ensure that each individual is cared for with respect, dignity and compassion.

From an hour a week to 24 hours a day, seven days a week, our care is highly personalised, individually tailored to meet the needs of the individual and is always in accordance with your wishes.

To speak to a team member, please visit www.uniquecare.co.uk or contact us at:
Coventry 02476 616262 | Stratford-upon-Avon 01789 204040 | Warwick 01926 629030



This month celebrates Pentecost, when the fire of the Holy Spirit came down to the disciples, and Kay's editorial reminds us of that special time. There is also an update on the two Syrian refugee teenagers who came to talk to us in 2016.

Remember we love to receive articles and photographs for the magazine which can be sent to the e-mail address below.

Editor - Revd Patrick Taylor

Design Editor - Felicity Howlett

Features Editor - Judith Dorricott

Associate Editor - Anthony Woollard

Subscriptions & Distribution - Carole Askew & Paul Lageu 01789 298302, paullageu@hotmail.co.uk

Advertising - Karen Hollis

Email: karen@klpbookkeeping.co.uk

PCC Representative - Ruth Poulten

Please note that views expressed in Trinity Times are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Parochial Church Council.

The next magazine will be the July/August 2019 edition and will be in church on 30 June

The copy date is 14 June

If any item is left until the very last minute, or received after the copy date, there is no guarantee that it will be able to be included in the magazine.

Please send any contributions of articles or pictures as attachments to:

timestrinity@gmail.com

The Annual Subscription to Trinity Times for 2019 is £8 and runs from January to December. Anyone taking out a subscription part way through the year will be charged on a pro rata basis. If you are interested in taking out an

Annual Subscription then please contact either Paul Lageu (01789 298 302) or Carole Askew (01789 266 940)

#HolyTrinityonsocialmedia



Front cover :- "Flames"

Holy Trinity Team



Revd. Patrick Taylor
Vicar



Revd. Steve Jarvis
Associate Vicar



Revd. Kay Dyer
Associate Priest



Phil Harper
Children & Families Minister

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO WHITSUN?



As the first holiday of the summer, Whitsun was one of the favourite times in the traditional calendar for a celebration. This took the form of fêtes, fairs, pageants and parades. There were Whitsun ales and Morris dancing in the south of England and Whit walks in the north.

In Manchester during the 17th century the nearby Kersal Moor Whit races were the great event of the year when large numbers of people turned the area into a giant fairground for several days. With the coming of industrialisation it became convenient to close down whole towns for a week in order to clean and maintain the machinery in the mills and factories and this often happened at Whitsuntide.

Since 1871 Whit Monday had been officially recognised as a bank holiday in the UK, but lost this status in 1972 when the fixed Spring Bank Holiday was created. This meant that the seventh Sunday after Easter, which commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on Jesus' disciples in the upper room, lost some of its impact on non-church goers. Perhaps it is now better known as Pentecost and this year it falls on Sunday 9 June.

In 2016 the Archbishops of Canterbury and York sent out an invitation from the Church of England to join them in praying '*Thy Kingdom Come*', as a call to pray for more people to come to know Jesus. Over the last three years, it has grown into an international and ecumenical event, with churches across the world committing to pray during a nine-day period.



This Novena of prayer now runs from Ascension Day (Thursday 30 May this year) to Pentecost Sunday and at Holy Trinity Church we hope to have a variety of Prayer Stations. Visitors and congregation might find these helpful in using creative ways of praying. There have been a variety of popular Prayer Stations over the years. On several occasions St. Peter's Chapel has held a "Sin Bin", where people from across the world have been able to write down things they wanted to say sorry for, and then consign them to the bin, knowing that through their repentance Jesus has forgiven them.

The Social Justice Prayer Station by the Clopton Chapel has also attracted many visitors to sit and pray for situations and peoples across the world. The Becket Chapel has offered those who come to light a candle for a loved one, the opportunity to sit in a comfortable chair and spend time in contemplation. These are only a few of the possibilities for prayer, as new ideas can appear each year, particularly in the children's corner, where they can write their own prayer to stick on a cross or hang as a leaf on a Prayer Tree.

Of course, this time of prayer and preparation leads us up to Pentecost, a major celebration in the church's calendar, when we remember the coming of the Holy Spirit that Christ had promised to his disciples. This was the occasion when they received "power from on high," and began to preach and bear witness to Jesus as the risen Christ, their Lord and King, and this moment has traditionally been called the birthday of the Church.



So, I pray that this year we will all be able to celebrate this event in a really special way, after our time of prayer together.

Kay Dyer – Associate Priest

St Helen's Patronal Festival was held on Sunday 26 May this year.

Helena, sometimes known as Helen of Constantinople, is considered by the Anglican Communion and many other denominations to be a saint, famed for her piety. Her feast day is celebrated, with her son, on 21 May, the "Feast of the Holy Great Sovereigns Constantine and Helena."

It has been suggested that she met her husband-to-be Constantius while he was serving under Emperor Aurelian and stationed in Asia Minor for the campaign against Zenobia. At their first meeting they were wearing identical silver bracelets; and Constantius saw her as his soulmate sent by God.

Upon her marriage Helena became an Empress of the Roman Empire, and later mother of the Emperor Constantine the Great. She ranks as an

important figure in the history of Christianity because of her influence on her son, who was the first Roman emperor to convert to Christianity. He played an influential role in the proclamation of the Edict of Milan in 313, which declared religious tolerance for Christianity in the Roman empire.

In her final years, she made a religious tour of Syria Palaestina and Jerusalem, during which she allegedly discovered the True Cross, the name given to the physical remnants of the cross upon which Jesus was crucified. Helena died around 330, with her son at her side. She was buried in the Mausoleum of Helena, outside Rome on the Via Labicana. Her sarcophagus is on display in the Pio-Clementine Vatican Museum and her skull is displayed in the Cathedral of Trier, in Germany.



TRINITY LADIES

For our May meeting we organized a visit to the Other Place to see the RST costumes and other parts of the theatre, followed by tea and scones. As I am writing this report before our visit to the RST I am hoping that it will be an enjoyable afternoon.

On the 19 June we look forward to seeing a DVD film about a trip David and Barbara Ellis made to Estonia. The film is about a visit of an ecumenical group of church members to deliver a hundred Christian books to a church in Parnu. Over a period of ten days they explored some of the towns and cities of Estonia, including Tallinn, as well as the rural area and learnt much about the history, art and culture of Estonia and the emergence of the Church there from the communist era and its lingering fears of Russian intentions.

We have arranged another trip, on Wednesday 17 July. This is a cruise on the Avon including tea while we cruise. The cost is £12.50 and we will be leaving the Bancroft Cruise site which is at the back of the Crowne Plaza Hotel at 2.30 pm. We will meet at the mooring stage at 2.15 pm. There are only thirty six places available on the boat so unfortunately it will be 'first come first served'. We don't usually have as many as thirty six members joining our outings so I am hopeful that there will be enough places for all those wishing to come. Please pay Diane Edwards at our June meeting if you would like to join us on this trip.



We would love to see new members, so come and join us in the Parish Centre at one of our meetings. We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2 pm.

Gina Lodge.

SUNDAY SERVICES IN JUNE

Holy Trinity Church

Sunday 2 June - 7th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Eucharist

6.00pm Choral Evensong

Parish Centre 10.00am TrinityCentre@10

Sunday 9 June - Pentecost

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am All-Age Service

6.00pm Evensong

Sunday 16 June - Trinity Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Eucharist

6.00pm Festal Choral Evensong

Parish Centre 10.00am TrinityCentre@10

Rosebird Centre 10.00am HolyTrinity@Rosebird

Methodist Church 6.00pm Open to God

Sunday 23 June - 1st Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Food4thought

6.00pm Holy Communion BCP

Parish Centre 10.00am TrinityCentre@10

Sunday 30 June - 2nd Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Joint Service with Methodist Church in Holy Trinity

6.00pm Healing Service

Parish Centre 10.00am TrinityCentre@10

St Helen's, Clifford Chambers

Sunday 2 June 9.30 Morning Worship

Sunday 9 June 9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 16 June 9.30am Morning Worship

Sunday 23 June 9.30am Holy Communion - Traditional

Sunday 30 June 9.30am Morning Worship

All Saints', Luddington

Sunday 2 June 9.30 Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 9 June 9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 16 June 9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 23 June 9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 30 June 9.30am Holy Communion



WORSHIP NOTES

from Revd Steve Jarvis



From Ascension Day until Pentecost, as part of the Archbishop's prayer initiative, *Thy Kingdom Come*, there will be prayer stations sited around the church with which visitors and congregation members can engage. Also, during this period, Morning and Evening Prayer will be using the specially produced "Thy Kingdom Come" prayer book.

On Sunday 9 June the All-Age service celebrates the birthday of the Christian Church including admission to Holy Communion.

Tuesday 11 June remembers Barnabas the Apostle with 10.00am Holy Communion in the Chancel of Holy Trinity Church.

On Thursday 20 June, Corpus Christi (A day of thanksgiving for Holy Communion), there will be a 7.30pm Eucharist in the Chancel to appreciate the institution of the practice of regular Holy Communion in the worship life of the Christian Church.



Monday 24 June celebrates the birth of John the Baptist with 9.15am Holy Communion in St. Peter's Chapel.

On Sunday 30 June, at the Healing Service, there is an opportunity to receive the laying on of hands and anointing with oil.



*But I will restore you to health
and heal your wounds.*

Jeremiah 30:17

If you use one of the advertisers mentioned in the magazine please tell them that you saw their advertisement in Trinity Times.

Contemplative Prayer Group

Come and join us on the first Tuesday of each month, at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre Lounge for talk and refreshments followed by a time of silent prayer,

Everyone is welcome

Contacts: The Revd. Jenny Rowland 01789 415 548
 Tricia Hall-Matthews 01789 414 182



Introducing our Church Team Leaders

Following last month's item about the new staffing arrangements in church it is good to introduce you briefly to the new team of Church Team Leaders, two of whom may be completely new to you and one of whom you will already know well. They will be taking up their duties over the summer and if you catch them in a quiet moment then a personal welcome and introduction will be really appreciated.



Sherron Guise

I am a single parent to a wonderful daughter, Alexandra, and a very beautiful cat, Bandit. I moved to Stratford upon Avon in 2001 to be closer to my family. I went to college on an Access to University course. This was followed by four years at Warwick University studying English Literature and Child Education Studies. I left university and spent the next eleven years working at The Willows Primary School as a teaching assistant. I discovered Holy Trinity in 2003. Katherine Gorick got me involved in Junior Church (as it was then) and then FAB. Jan Craven introduced me to the Parish Magazine and I became a co-editor for a year and also helped out at the shop. I have also been a member of the Children, Youth and Families Team

for a couple of years.



Ian Hurst

I am a family man who has lived and worked across Coventry and Warwickshire most of my adult life. I was brought up in the Christian Church and have always tried to live out Christian values. I have always had a strong affinity with Stratford-upon-Avon and its Shakespeare connection and I hope that this will be a wonderful opportunity to use my skills and experience within a context that brings many things together for me. I worked mainly within engineering and design at Jaguar Land Rover. I enjoy all sports and outdoor pursuits and was also for a time Chair of the Scout & Guide group in Barford.



Tim Skinner

While studying tourism at Lincoln University I began to investigate the truth of the Christian claims. I started university as an aggressive atheist and graduated a committed Christian. Thereafter, I trained as a teacher of English as a Foreign Language (EFL) and moved to Paraguay. Since returning from my South American adventure in 2003, I have been teaching in local Further Education colleges and recently the University of Birmingham.

As I have continued to walk with God, I have grown in Him and a few years ago I completed my Master of Theology degree. Though I have a lot further to go, and my spiritual fruit is far from ripe, I have seen God's work in my life and have a passion to share this.

Most of my energies are directed at being a full time Dad but I spend my spare moments making YouTube videos on Narnia and Apologetics.

Cont.....



David White

I have been married to Heather, who is the Church Retail Manager, for twenty five years. We live on the outskirts of Stratford near Snitterfield in a farm cottage. We joined the congregation of Holy Trinity Church some ten years ago, and quickly became volunteers in various aspects of church life.

My working life before retirement was at Jaguar Land Rover, now JLR, but in various forms over forty years. It gave me experience in planning, communications, human resources and finally in product launches of new models which gave me world travel and chances to meet a fabulous

variety of people.

People and my faith have always been a key part of my life, so when I was asked to become involved with church visitors and to learn about the liturgical side of Holy Trinity I became a verger, and have loved every moment in that role. An absolute privilege, not a job!

David has been confirmed by the PCC as Honorary Head Verger.



**Congratulations to Jack Crimp
on his 90th birthday**



Four generations of Crimps enjoying Jack's birthday celebrations on Sunday 28 April.
Son, grandson and great granddaughter, Valentina Rose. Ages range from ninety years to eight months.



ORCHESTRA
OF THE SWAN

SHAKESPEARE SONGS

Holy Trinity Church

Tuesday 25 June 2019, 7.30

Richard Rodney Bennett

7 Country Dances

Lucia Caruso and Pedro H. Da Silva

Shakespeare Songs

Vaughan Williams

Fantasia on Greensleeves

Lucia Caruso and Pedro H. Da Silva

Echoes of Nature

Orchestra of the Swan Chamber Choir

conductor

Bruce O'Neil

Portuguese Guitar

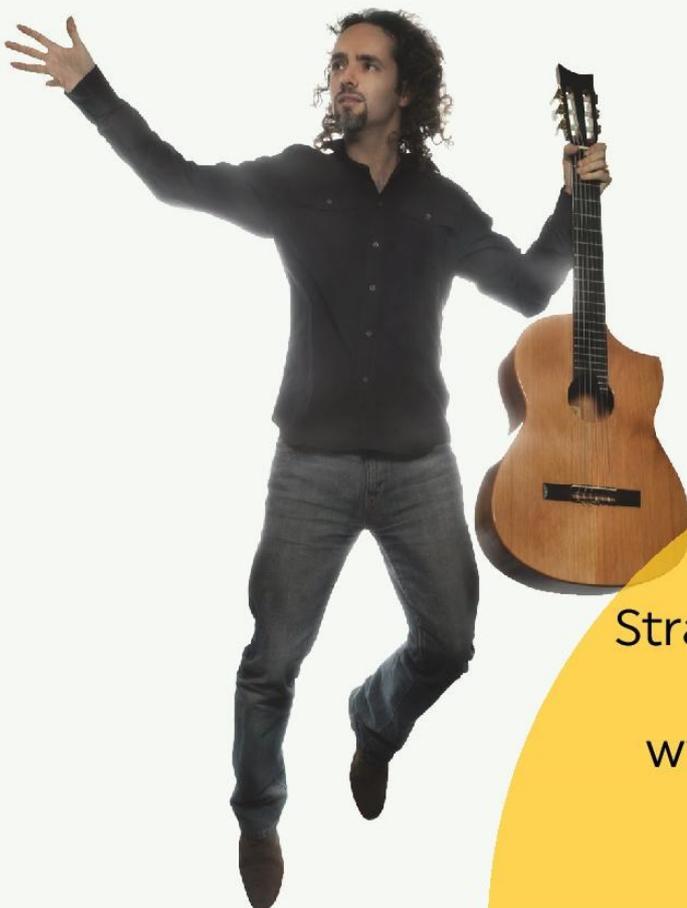
Pedro H. Da Silva

Keyboard

Lucia Caruso

Soprano

Laetitia Spitzer



BOX OFFICE

RSC, Waterside

Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6BB

Tel 01789 403 493

www.orchestraoftheswan.org

Tickets: £12 -25



FROM THE REGISTERS - MAY

Christenings

- 5 May Cara Davies
Hayley Oxton-Morris
12 May Lucas Chapman-Wheeler
Charles Marchington

Weddings

- 4 May James Wilson and Clara Smith
18 May Daniel Arbon and Charlotte Webb

Funerals

- 3 May John Griffiths
8 May Charlotte Rousell
17 May Robert Wilkinson
20 May Dorothy Huckvale
21 May Diana Sholl
23 May Pamela Berry



Footsteps
Foot Health Practitioner

Treatment & Advice on

- Fungal Nail • Athlete's Foot
- Nail Trimming • Reduction of Thickened Nails • Verrucas • Callus Reduction
- Removal of Corns.

Tel **01789 269541** or **07989 196857**

Email jayneatfootsteps@gmail.com

www.footstepsfootcarestratford.co.uk

Home Visits available

Jayne Clarke DipCFHP MPSPract

Registered member of the
Professional Standards Authority

**This could be
your
advertisement
in Trinity Times**

Email:

karen@klpbookkeeping.co.uk

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Currently we have a new cohort of children undertaking the preparation for their First Communion. Over the course of the preparation they cover the four "B's"; belonging, believing, being and bread and wine. What it means to belong to the Church family, what it is we believe as Christians, how we put our faith into practice and how we become closer to God through Holy Communion.



Photograph by Harry Lomax 2017

It is always a great privilege to journey with the children over the course and each time I find myself learning new things; seeing our faith through their innocent eyes and sometimes not so innocent eyes! Since beginning to allow children to receive Communion before Confirmation, we have had twenty-six children admitted (not including this year's group). For those who have previously been admitted, you can see how it has had a positive impact on their journey of faith and their deepening relationship with God. Please come and support our new group of children, who will be admitted to Communion at the 10am All-Age service on 9 June. That date is also a special occasion in the church's calendar, as it is Pentecost. So, as we celebrate the disciples being filled with the Holy Spirit and the start of the

early church, it seems very appropriate to mark it with these children continuing the work of that Spirit.



Following the service, we are having the Parish Picnic in the RSC Gardens (opposite the Parish Centre). I really hope you will bring your food and a chair to celebrate our whole church family.

Phil Harper



Sunday 9 June

Parish Picnic following Parish All-Age Eucharist at 10.00am

Meet from 12 noon in the Theatre Gardens.

Bring your own picnic and chairs.



LIVE CONCERT

VENUE
 Concert on behalf of The Friends of St Helen's Church Clifford Chambers
 Holy Trinity Church
 Old Town, Stratford-upon-Avon
 CV37 6BG
DATE + TIME
 29 June 7.30pm – 10.00pm

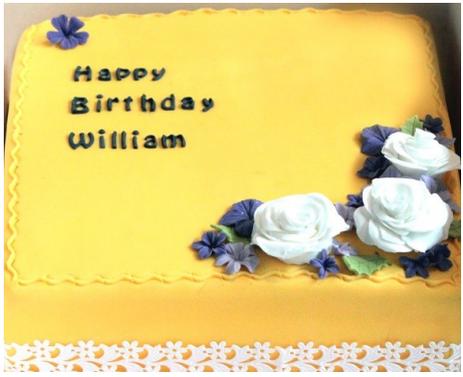
PRICE
 Adults - £12.00 per ticket
 Children under 16 - £6.00 per ticket
 Tickets on Sale at the Gift Shop Holy Trinity Church
CONTACT
 Holy Trinity Gift Shop
 website: <http://www.stratford-upon-avon.org/friends-of-st-helens-welcome-page>
 Email: friends@st-helenschurch.co.uk
 Contact: Roger Morris, tel. 01789 297361 – Sarah Crang tel. 07990 791934

LET US ENTERTAIN YOU.
 A superb blend of talented voices offering audiences a variety of entertainment not to be missed.
 To learn more about Tarantara visit www.tarantara.org.uk

tarantara
 A CHOIR TO SUIT ALL TASTES.

Coffee, Cake and Shakespeare

Trinity Players
 Readers
 Orion Johnson
 Margot McCleary
 Tim Raistrick
 Ursula Russell
 David Thurburn-Huelin
 Saul, Logan and Kade
 McDougall



Faces in the Crowd
Shakespeare Saturday 27 April 2019

Burgers and Prosecco



Selling tickets



Photo by Harry Lomax

Flower Collectors and Flowers



FACES IN THE CROWD
Shakespeare Saturday 27 April 2019



Photo by Harry Lomax



The Lady Chapel at Holy Trinity Church – Part 1: Mary in traditional Christian faith

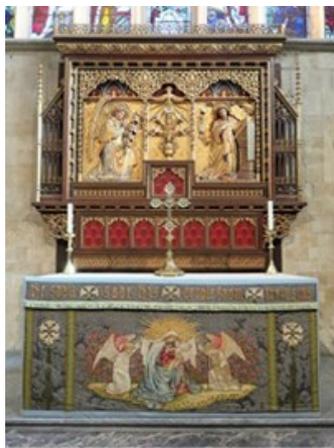
This six-part series by Lindsay and Sandra MacDonald examines the changing fortunes of the Lady Chapel over the past 600 years and how it might be restored to its original function.

In the Middle Ages, the veneration of Mary, mother of Jesus, grew to encompass devotions through prayer, pious acts, visual arts, poetry, and music devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary (BVM). Belief in the incarnation of God the Son through Mary was the basis for calling her the Mother of God, as adopted at the Council of Ephesus in 431. Mary was elevated to be Queen of Heaven, bearing a crown of twelve stars (Revelation 12:1-5). Marian feast days included the: Annunciation (March 25); Visitation (May 31); Assumption (August 15); Nativity of Mary (September 8); and Immaculate Conception (December 8). These were key points in the annual calendar, of significance to everyone, and they have continued to be celebrated up to the present day in the Catholic church.

Many saints reported Marian apparitions, the locations of which became places of pilgrimage. Pious veneration of the BVM was encouraged by Popes in the canonical coronations granted to popular images of Mary all over the world, while Marian movements and societies with millions of members arose from belief in events at Fátima and Lourdes. Approximately one third of all churches built in the period 1300–1500 were dedicated to Saint Mary.



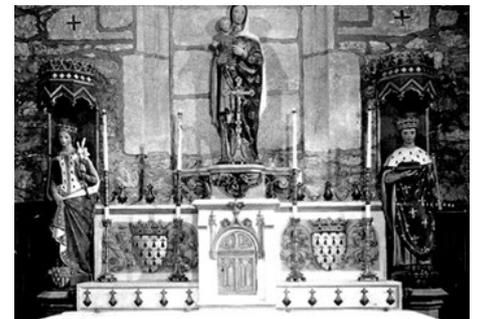
*The Virgin and Child
Rogier Van Der Weyden
(Flemish, 1399–1464)*



*Altar of Lady Chapel
in Winchester Cathedral*

There is a traditional association of the north side of the church with devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, as revealed by the widespread foundation of Lady Chapels. In the medieval church of Holy Trinity, the Lady Chapel was at the eastern end of the north aisle, and was maintained by the Guild of the Blessed Mary. The first reference is in the accounts, when in 1403 the Guild of the Blessed Mary was amalgamated with the Guilds of the Holy Cross (founded in 1269) and St. John the Baptist. Following this amalgamation, the accounts reveal that the Marian altar was an important focus of worship for Guild members, both 'bretheren' and 'sisteren'. Legacies were left by members for the altar, and money was spent on lighting, provisions, washing and repairing vestments, as well as chests, chalices, etc.

There is no description or drawing of the medieval Lady Chapel in Holy Trinity. We do not know whether there was a statue or a carving or a painting behind the altar, although there are regular references to 'image' (*ymagine*) in the Guild accounts. An idea of its possible appearance may be gained from the surviving altar in the 15th century Lady Chapel in Winchester Cathedral. Other medieval altars are still preserved in France, for example at the Chapel of Our Lady of Bongarant in Brittany, thought to date from the 14th century.



*Statue of the Virgin of Mercy at an ancient altar in the
Chapel of Our Lady of Bongarant, Sautron, Bretagne.*

The Guild accounts for 1468–69 itemise "8d for a 'curteyn' (curtain) hanging before the 'ymagine' (image) of the Blessed Mary at the 'finem' (end) of the Altar of the Blessed Mary in the Church". According to one historian, Reverend Harvey Bloom, writing in 1904, Mary's image was placed at the back of the altar in the Lady Chapel, before which a light burned. The altar had a pair of latten candlesticks, a painted table, and its own chalice and a paten, missal, pyx and sanctus bell. Candles burned at the altar day and night, with the wax paid for by 'light silver' offerings from the Guild. The Lady Chapel was a focus of devotion for the people of Stratford, as a counterpoint to the splendour of the St Thomas Becket Chapel in the south aisle.

The second part of this series will consider the destructive effects of the Reformation in England and how both the Lady Chapel and Becket Chapel were erased from the church.

A Little Kindness Can Go A Long Way

By Paul Lageu



Some of you may remember that, in conjunction with The Children's Society, two teenage Syrian refugees came to Holy Trinity in early 2016 and talked about their experiences in escaping war torn Syria and trying to start a new life in the UK. I thought that you might like to hear about what has happened to them in the last three years.

The younger of the two was Maya Ghazal, who was only fifteen at the time. When Maya first arrived in the UK in 2015, she felt isolated and missed her home. She turned to The Children's Society's *MyPlace* service in Birmingham to help her make friends and settle into life in England.

The charity has supported young refugees and migrants to stay safe and rebuild their lives in the UK for over 70 years and this project runs sessions for young refugees and migrants so they can cook meals together, have fun and get advice from legal and translation services.

Maya is now nineteen and despite initially struggling with English and facing rejections by schools, she is now pursuing Aviation Engineering with Pilot studies at Brunel University, London and has recently had her first flying lesson. She is a prominent speaker for UNHCR's refugee family visa reunion rights campaign, an ambassador for The Children's Society and an advocate for refugee rights. In 2017 she was a recipient of Diana's Legacy Award, the Inspire Midlands Diana Award, and was presented with her award by Princes William and Harry at a ceremony in St James' Palace. Recently she received an Asian Women of Achievements Award as a Young Achiever. She tries to inspire people through her speeches and aims to encourage the idea that the smallest act of kindness can make a huge difference in someone's life.



The older of the two, Aboude, is now in his second year of studying aerospace engineering at the University of the West of England in Bristol.

When you hear about the plight of refugees or anyone else struggling with life in a strange place and you feel that there is nothing you can do to help or make a difference then remember Maya and, as she says, know that even the smallest act of kindness can make a huge difference to someone's life.

If you would like to hear Maya speak then go to the following website and scroll down to her name:

<https://tedxplacedesnationswomen.ch/content/2018-videos#overlay-context=content/2018>

If you would like more information on the work of The Children's Society then go to their website:

www.childrenssociety.org.uk

If you would like more information on how you can help the Syrian refugees now living in Stratford please contact Tricia Hall-Matthews on 01789 414182 or email at: jttricia@btinternet.com





Fun Wine Tasting

Saturday 11 May



I was very excited, not having ever attended a wine tasting evening before. The event was advertised as fun wine tasting, and it was, although the tasting part was serious.

There were some who were particularly appreciative having been on a 'dry' for the past forty days. The organisation of such an evening is immense and we are grateful to Hazel for her organisational talents. Thanks to her wide knowledge she was able to explain the different types of wine, what to look for and the method of tasting, not just 'quaffing' but smelling [though I don't think that's the right expression!] and deciding if one could discern the various aromas.



I must mention here the delicious canapés, prepared by Annie Morris, and served as each wine was sampled. How tasty they were and how they cleared the palate before we attempted to describe the next wine with its subtle flavours. Interesting, also, to hear the

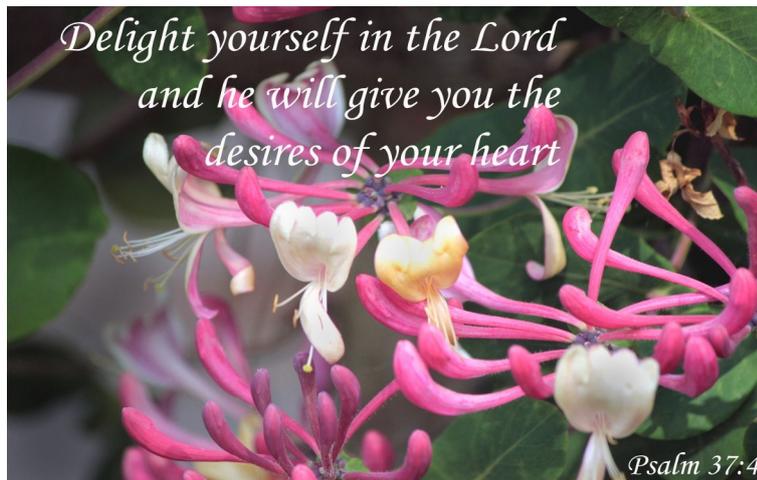
diverse views around the table, such as 'citrus'! I didn't think so, but thought of something more fruity, like mango, instead.

There was even a quiz on wine [of course] and it was clear that those who scored highly had studied in depth the fascinating subject of vinology. The relaxed atmosphere of the evening provided another opportunity for members from different congregations to get to know each other better.



Mary Cox

Photographs by Harry Lomax



A.E.BENNETT & SONS
INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS
Family owned and run since 1848
Private Chapel of Rest
Members of the N.A.F.D.
Pre-payment plan available
Tel: (01789) 267035 (24hrs)
34 SHEEP STREET, STRATFORD-UPON-AVON, WARWICKSHIRE. CV37 6EE

WINDOW ON THE WORLD



There has rarely been a more shocking Easter. Alongside the terrorist attacks in Sri Lanka, in which so many Christians and others died, we saw the murder of the young journalist in Northern Ireland. But in both cases, too, we saw a coming together of old opponents in protest against these atrocities. That was particularly true when representatives from nearly all political parties both north and south of the border joined to mourn at Lyra McKee's funeral and to pledge their opposition to anything which would disrupt the Northern Ireland peace process. Lyra did not die in vain.

This is surely a reminder, if we needed one, that "the Irish question" remains at the heart of the politics of what is still (just about) the United Kingdom. The issue of relationships between the UK and the Irish Republic was not, so far as I can remember, mentioned at all at the time of the 2016 referendum, but it has subsequently become central to the Brexit process.

Perhaps, for some, Northern Ireland is "a faraway country of which we know nothing", and the Irish tail simply must not be allowed to wag the Brexit dog. But we in Holy Trinity should know better, having in our congregation people from both sides of that border, and having recently lost in Ronnie Mulryne a most distinguished Ulsterman. And some of us remember the Troubles of the 1970s and 1980s; I recall waiting at a bus stop in central London when a bomb went off in the next street.

Should that influence our attitude on Brexit, and on the call for a second referendum and a rethink of the whole process? At the time of writing we still do not know where the process is going. We do know that, for many people, for good or bad reasons (or a mixture of both), the sooner we leave the European Union the better. For many others, such a step would be a tragedy. Our country is deeply divided, and we desperately need some new initiative which will heal that division.



By the time you read this, we will have elected new representatives to the European Parliament. Some will see that as a farce. Perhaps many will not have bothered with voting, and left it to the extremists. That will do nothing to heal the divisions. If, after all we have been through over the past three years, it is still the will of a majority that we leave the EU, then we must do so in a way which recognises the vital importance of continuing good and deep relations with our neighbours, and not least those in Ireland.

All the stuff about customs unions and backstops is both highly political and highly technical. But it is vital to the well-being, and continued unity, of the whole of the UK – and, crucially, not just across the Irish Sea but in Scotland also. I hope and pray that our newly elected MEPs will acknowledge this.

Faced with the even greater crisis of climate change, it is equally important that they recognise the need for international co-operation – whether through the EU or otherwise – in tackling a threat far too great for any one country to resolve. We live in a global world and face a global apocalypse.

Donald Trump's state visit will no doubt remind us that there are forces in the world which do not recognise these facts. Once upon a time, the world looked to the UK for leadership and wisdom in such matters. Let us make sure they can do so again.

Poster designed by a
Primary School child



What kind of inheritance for our grandchildren?

Lim and Evelyn Ho, Stratford Methodist Church

Students from primary and secondary schools in Stratford have joined with thousands around the country in recent months to hold a **Youth Strike 4 Climate**. Our young people are expressing their frustration with the insufficient actions of our government to tackle climate change as they can see their futures are under threat.

Since the industrial revolution material wealth has been growing and our lives, particularly in the developed nations, have altered beyond recognition. It has been achieved mainly by energy generated by fossil fuel. As this time of global warming is caused by the excess emissions of CO₂, we have to support our young people and put pressure on our government to set a new target for a carbon zero future.

We can support the renewable energy industry as advocated by the Christian Aid campaign **Big Switch**. Our church has switched to Good Energy, a 100% renewable energy supplier. In the first year, the payment for our increasing energy consumption is comparable to the old supplier. We as individuals can also change to a renewable energy supplier with minimal fuss. We can install **solar panels** or an **air heat pump** at home. This helps the renewable energy industry to fulfil the demand of a low carbon economy as well as saving money long term.

We can reduce our reliance on fossil fuel in transport by using more **public transport**, **car sharing** with friends, change to a **hybrid car** or **electric car**. The battery technology has been greatly improved in the last ten years and now some electric cars can travel more than two hundred miles on one charge.

We can change our life style by cutting down **unnecessary consumption** of goods and food, reducing the demand on energy. By eating more vegetables and less red meat in our diet, we will not only have better health but also reduce the CO₂ emissions caused by agriculture.

We can take up all these things to combat global climate change but we need to talk about it and help each other to act on it.

The Green Group at our church has worked with **Stratford Friends of the Earth** and **Stratford Quakers** to form **Stratford Climate Action Forum** and we plan to hold a **Stratford Climate Action Day** on **Saturday 22 June** this year in the Methodist Church Centre. In order to inspire and help people to take action to save the planet in the next twelve years, this event will have a lecture, workshops and exhibitions.

Please come with your friends and neighbours to the **Climate Action Day** to learn and to share with each other our concern for our planet. We can do a lot more to give our grandchildren a better inheritance. As one of the placards said at the Stratford Youth Strike 4 Climate **There is no Planet B!**

FINDING SPACE FOR YOUR SOUL

Would you like to find out more about the Christian faith? Do you want to consider the bigger questions of life and death? Are you interested in reading the Bible more closely? If your answer to any of these questions is "yes" or even "maybe", why don't you join the next **Soul Space** course which is starting in September?



Soul Space is a workshop held over ten weekly evening sessions in an informal café setting in Stratford. The course is designed to give everyone a chance to listen, learn and discuss issues relevant to our faith, whether we are new to Christianity or simply want to learn more. The first set of sessions in the spring proved very popular so Pauline Newbury is organising a second workshop, starting on 9 September 2019, and there is space for twelve to fifteen participants.

Each **Soul Space** session tackles a particular topic such as 'Believing in God', 'Death and Resurrection of Jesus' and 'Learning to Pray'. The idea was suggested by Revd Patrick Taylor, who, with other members of the ministry team, attends most of the workshops. Every meeting starts with a welcoming chat and cup of tea or coffee, followed by a discussion-led session with different leaders. Following this, smaller groups are formed so that people can voice their own opinions, thoughts or even doubts.

Pauline, who organises **Soul Space**, lives in a picture-postcard cottage in the charming village of Clifford Chambers, where she was Church Warden of St. Helen's Church for many years. Pauline has a busy life as she works for a software company within business development, as well as spending much of her free time socialising with friends and singing in a choir, but still finds time to organise the workshops.

The feedback from the first course was very positive, Pauline tells me, with members of **Soul Space** saying that they enjoyed meeting new people, sharing their spiritual journey with fellow Christians and that their beliefs were strengthened through attending the workshop. Pauline herself felt that she grew in faith and, through the course, understood more about God and the Holy Spirit. Tim Smallman, who, with his wife Jan, also attended the first workshop said "the course was really helpful and interesting and confirmed our beliefs". Sarah Sibbald enjoyed the course greatly and said it was good to find out about other people's faith journeys. An added bonus for all participants was the sense of Christian fellowship that grew from the discussions and the strong friendships that have continued after the course.

If you are interested in signing up for the autumn workshop of **Soul Space**, you can book online at www.stratford-upon-avon.org. Otherwise telephone the Parish Office on 01789 266316 for more information.



Judith Dorricott



SPIRITUAL ENCOUNTERS IN GOJRA

Our exploration of Christianity in Pakistan took us next to Gojra, the former home of a handful of Pakistani Christians in Huddersfield. From the railway station we attempted to board a tonga for St John's Church but our lack of experience was immediately obvious. We had not yet learnt to balance bodies and luggage equally across the wheels. Consequently to the great consternation of the driver the poor horse was all but lifted into the air.



News of our arrival spread quickly and people crowded into the vicarage to welcome us, including the churchwardens who shared a hubble-bubble, a somewhat unusual version of the churchwarden's pipe. We now enjoyed the loving hospitality of the Maseeh family though Revd Maseeh was far away at the diocesan synod which always lasted several days. 'Maseeh' is the name given to all clergy families. We enjoyed reading Bible stories in English to the children at bedtime as a special treat for them. On the Sunday morning Fr Bernard and I celebrated Holy Communion very early. Much emphasis was given to healing ministry at St John's. Some, hearing by bush telegraph of our presence, had travelled miles to be there. We were astonished by the excitement and faith of our visit, feeling a bit like Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey!

Sadly, in 2009, an extremist attack led to the massacre of Christians in Gojra. There were two possible causes. One was a malicious rumour that pages had been torn from a copy of the Qur'an at a nearby village wedding. The other was outrage that American aid was being channelled exclusively to Christian families. This made the Christians very fearful of receiving foreign aid, poor as they were, and they placarded the message, 'We want justice, not aid.' The struggle to repeal Pakistan's notorious blasphemy law still goes on.

From Gojra we took a highly decorated bus to a remote village where Harry, our Scottish Jew, had a contact to visit the grandparents of Glaswegian immigrants. This gave us our first experience of the Islamic 'bismillah', a short prayer which can precede any daily activity from cooking to going to bed. For us it was a prayer fervently offered by the driver at the start of our journey, after which he drove like the wind, confident that our fate now rested with Allah. Along a country road the driver was confident enough to change places with the teenage conductor without stopping. The result was not good. We lurched into the ditch, for which the trainee suffered the ultimate reprimand of a shoe-clout over the head. After another long and jerky tonga ride we reached Chak 250, one of 40,000 tiny hamlets in rural Pakistan.



Ibrahim and his wife, the aged grandparents, were out in the fields tending the goats. It seemed odd to see the walls dividing the fields made of smoothed hardened mud as indeed were the farm buildings. The fuel in use was oil for light and dried cow dung for heating. To occupy the long waiting time we were offered a large bowl of oranges. Eventually Ibrahim and his wife tottered home, he with a bristly white beard and she with a gnarled stick and both of them profoundly deaf. Communication was restricted to smiles and nods, the old couple having no idea who these strange men were or from whence they had descended.



Then suddenly a man on a home visit from Rochdale appeared as interpreter and, cupping his hands to their ears, made all clear. There was great rejoicing as news from Glasgow was shared until eventually we went on our way with more oranges. By the grace of God we got back to Gojra and the following day, with fond farewells to the Maseeh family, we took the train onward to Dar-ul-Ehsan, the renowned monastery where Sufi Bakat Ali held sway and things grew stranger still!

Revd David Ellis

Chancel Concert Series 2019



The Friends of the Music are proud to present three top-quality concerts in the intimate setting of Holy Trinity's beautiful Chancel.

These concerts feature young, professional musicians who are pursuing exciting careers in the classical world. There will be a chance to speak to the performers after the concerts whilst enjoying a glass of wine.



This year's series features some exceptional performers:

Saturday 18 May – The Nox String Quartet, who recently wowed the *Soundbites* audience with their delicate rendition of Haydn's Lark Quartet;

Saturday 25 May – Iida Lymi, violin, and Maria Kustas, piano, with a programme to include Sibelius, Schubert, Messian and Ravel;

Saturday 1 June – Antonio Oyarzabal, acclaimed pianist who returns to Holy Trinity by popular demand, this time bringing us works celebrating female composers.

All concerts start at 7:30pm and tickets (£10, under 16s free) are for sale on the door. All profits go to the Friends of the Music supporting all forms of musical activity at Holy Trinity.

The Climate Emergency: What Can Stratford Do?

Climate Action Day

Saturday 22 June – 10.00 am to 4.00 pm: Stratford Methodist Church, Old Town, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6BG

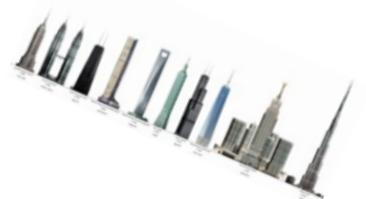


Exhibitions and Workshops

Lecture by Dr Lisa Schipper, Climate Change Institute, Oxford:
"Climate change – why we can still do something"

Free entry – and something for everyone!

More at www.stratfordclimate.org/climate-action-day/
www.facebook.com/events/708137196246689/
Email: stratfordclimate@tutanota.com



EASTER DAY - TRINITY VOICES

The Glory of God and the Risen Christ were joyously celebrated at Holy Trinity's All-Age Parish Eucharist on Easter Day. The service was led by Patrick with a crescendo of Alleluias, and Phil's talk announced most emphatically, with the help of a mallet and large chocolate eggs, that Jesus lives. Our spirits soared with beautiful music and songs from Benedict and the choir, the band, the organ, our own singing and Trinity Voices.

The children of Trinity Voices have become a welcome, heart-warming addition to the music of Holy Trinity Church. In their striking, semiquaver-designed T-shirts they sing together, delightfully, at the front of the church, conducted by Rebecca Mills. Rebecca, a member of the choir, who helps Benedict by also teaching Choristers of our Choir their music, became involved, at Benedict's invitation, with musical outreach work in six local primary schools in 2015.

Encouraged by this broadening of children's musical education Rebecca formed Trinity Voices, in 2017, giving a group of children many joy-of-singing opportunities. On Easter Day, children of Trinity Voices sang *A New Day of Joy*, exhorting us, with its child-friendly words, to - Go shout to the world everywhere...This third day of sadness is a new day of joy! The song was written with an accompanying oboe. Rebecca was fortunate to be able to contact William Sherratt, a Year 10 student at King Edward VI School who plays the oboe. He accompanied the children for their performance, beautifully, along with Benedict on keyboard. At the rehearsal earlier in the week, William added to the children's musical education by giving them a lovely talk and a demonstration of his oboe.

Trinity Voices had a busy weekend three weeks earlier on 30-31 March. On the Saturday they sang at the afternoon performance of Trinity Players' moving telling of the Easter story, *The Message of the Cross*, with uplifting songs depicting two Episodes - Palm Sunday and The Resurrection. Mothering Sunday followed at which they entertained the family congregation with two Andrew Carter songs, the light-hearted *Grannies and Grandads* and the lyrical *Butterflies and Moths*. They have also provided joy in the community singing carols at Christmas in two care homes and many of us heard some members of Trinity Voices entertain us, along with many other of our talented musicians, at the most enjoyable Live at Lunch event on 3 March.

What musical treats and joys we are blessed with from so many musicians across the age-range and we are, indeed, grateful to the time, teaching and encouragement that Benedict, Rebecca and others give to our musical youngsters. Many thanks also to their parents and families for supporting and encouraging their children to participate.

Up to twenty children have performed with Trinity Voices. Rebecca looks forward to welcoming new members, up to the age of ten, who like singing and would like to sing with Trinity Voices.

Carole Askew



Trinity Voices
on Easter Sunday

Photograph by Harry Lomax

HOWLERS!

Compiled by Pat Pilton

ONE LINERS:

I was having dinner with a world chess champion and there was a check tablecloth. It took two hours to pass the salt.

Somebody actually complimented me on my driving today. They left a little note on the windscreen. It said 'Parking Fine.' So that was nice. *Tim Vine*

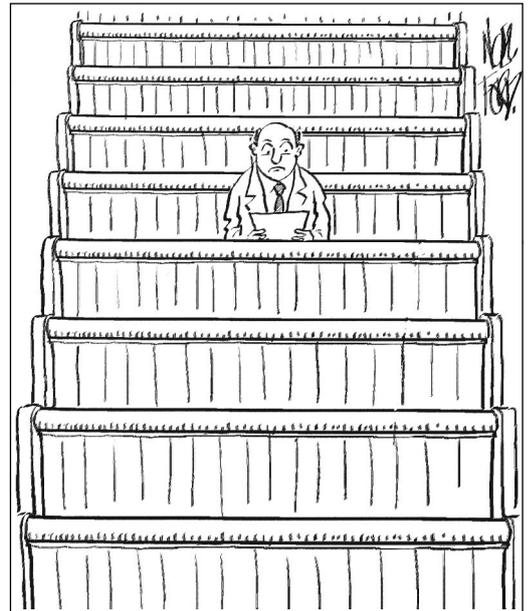
Toughest job I ever had? Selling doors door to door.

APOLOGY sent to the membership of the Real Ale Society in Leicester: "As one or two eagle-eyed members have pointed out, there was a minor error in our previous newsletter. I would like to confirm that our next meeting will feature a pub crawl rather than a pub brawl". *Radio 4's News Quiz*

From an on-line horse racing result website:
The 15.40 race at Wetherby has a non-runner: Never Give In.

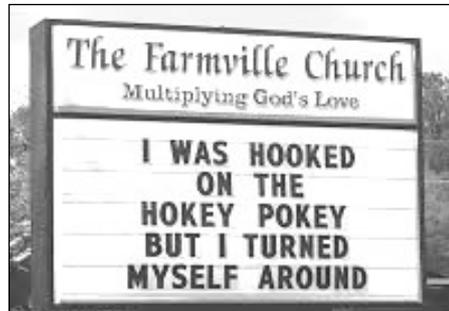
Actress Emily Mortimer has told how she used to get her father, Rumpole creator Sir John Mortimer, to write her essays. On one occasion she received an end-of-term report that said her stories were good but lacked imagination. She said she had to stop her father complaining to the school.

The Times



With the congregation depleted by the bug that was going around, it suddenly dawned on Roy that he wouldn't be able to get away with just miming the hymns this week.

Ha,ha. When my wife and I got married one gift was a silver-embossed edition of Scrabble. We play every week and while all the consonant tiles are fine, the A, E, I, O and U tiles have worn badly. So this Christmas we've decided to renew our vowels



SHE SAID IT... *Doris Day*

'If a man does something silly, people say, "Isn't he silly?" If a woman does something silly, people say, "Aren't women silly?"'

'Wrinkles are hereditary. Parents get them from their children.'

 **Local** 
Plumber

ALL PLUMBING WORK UNDERTAKEN

**FULL BATHROOM DESIGN
AND INSTALLATION SERVICE**

**Reliable Friendly Service
No job too small · No VAT**

CALL HUGH ON

Call: 07768 360 420

hughducksss@gmail.com

References Available On Request · Fully Insured



PARISH CONTACTS

The Parish Office, Old Town

Stratford upon Avon, CV37 6BG

Tel. 01789 266 316

Email: office@stratford-upon-avon.org

Leadership Team

Vicar	The Revd Patrick Taylor	on sabbatical
Associate Vicar	The Revd Steve Jarvis	01789 296 590 steve@stratford-upon-avon.org
Associate Priest	The Revd Kay Dyer	07857 821 168 kay@stratford-upon-avon.org
Children & Families Minister	Phil Harper	07791 005 696 phil@stratford-upon-avon.org

Assistant Ministers (Hon)

The Revd Neville Beamer	01789 263 435	The Revd Jenny Rowland	01789 415 548
The Revd Canon Andrew Dow	01789 417 852	The Venerable Brian Russell	01789 266 316
The Revd John Hall-Matthews	01789 414 182	The Revd Graham Wilcox	01789 551 759
The Revd Diane Patterson	01789 266 453	The Revd Roger Taylor	01789 778 471

Staff

Operations Manager:	Andy Winter	01789 266 316	andy@stratford-upon-avon.org
Head Verger	David White		
Vergers:	Sarah Moore, Joanna Pinnington		
Parish Administrators:	Sue Holt	01789 266 316	
	Rebecca Rumsey	01789 266 316	rebecca.rumsey@stratford-upon-avon.org
Bookkeeper:	Wendy Steinheimer	01789 266 316	wendys@stratford-upon-avon.org
Director of Music	Benedict Wilson	01789 266 316	
Gift Shop:	Heather White	01789 264 598	heather.white@stratford-upon-avon.org

Church Wardens

Hilda Craig	01789 551 234	Paul Lageu	01789 298 302
Hilary Newman	01789 296 771	Rhod Mitchell	07983 985 474

Village Contacts

All Saints', Luddington	Jane Beeley	01789 269 618
St. Helen's, Clifford Chambers	Pat Woolvin	01789 264 256

Other Contacts

Head Server	Chris Cornford	01789 295 066
Bell Ringers	Charles Wilson	01789 295 467
Bereavement Support Team	Gina Lodge	01789 204 850
Safeguarding Officer	Jane Armitage	01789 297 652
Trinity Ladies	Gina Lodge	01789 204 850
Electoral Roll Officer	Tim Raistrick	01789 509 885
Friends of Shakespeare's Church	Alan Haigh	01789 290 128
Holy Trinity in the Community	Steve Jarvis	01789 266 316
Lay Chaplains	Keith Payne	01789 266 316
PCC Secretary	Miriam Dow	01789 417 852
PCC Treasurer	Mike Warrillow	01789 298 928
Friends of the Music	Josephine Walker	01789 266 316
Home Communions	Steve Jarvis	01789 266 316
Stewardship Officer	Chris Kennedy	01789 299 785
Trinity Players	Ursula Russell	01789 204 923
Trinity Tots	Phil Harper	07791 005 696
Pastoral Contact Co-ordinator	Gillian Nunn	01789 415 830
Welcome Team	Helen Warrillow	01789 298 928
Sunday Coffee organisers	Tina Hillyard	01789 551 739
	Diane Edwards	01789 296 396

CHURCH ACTIVITIES - SUNDAY 12 MAY



Traidcraft Stall



Plant Stall
in aid of the
defibrillator



Volunteer Fair

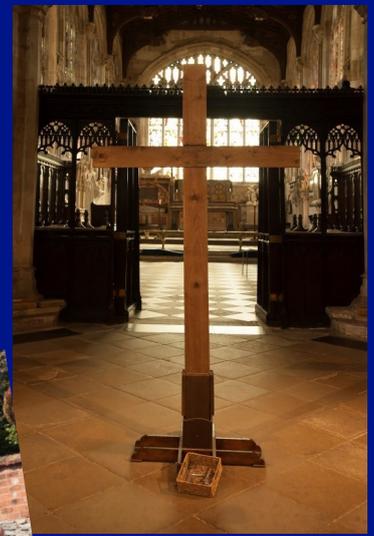
Photographs by Harry Lomax

Some images from Palm Sunday 14 April and Good Friday 19 April

Photographs by Harry Lomax



Patrick on Palm Sunday



Good Friday - Cross



Good Friday - Walk of Witness

Easter Flowers from the three churches



All Saints' Luddington

St. Helen's Clifford Chambers



Holy Trinity Stratford-upon-Avon