**TRINITY**

The Newsletter of **Holy Trinity Church Ilkeston**

**Sunday 1st December 2024 First of Advent (Year C)**

**11.00am THE PARISH MASS**

**Celebrant and Preacher: Fr Ian Falconer**

**Music at Holy Trinity this morning:**

Today's hymns are from New English Hymnal (Green)\* omit starred verses

**Introit** 6 Hark, the glad sound

**Gloria**  Gloria 4

**Psalm** 25 To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul

**Gradual** 33 Of the Father's heart begotten \*

**Offertory** 5 Hark, a herald voice is calling

**Sanctus** Sanctus 1

**Agnus Dei**  Agnus Dei 1

**Communion**  295 Let all mortal flesh

**Recessional** 9 Lo, He comes with clouds descending

**Angelus**

**We are pleased to welcome Fr Ian Falconer as Celebrant and Preacher at Mass this morning**

**Services at Holy Trinity for the week ahead and next Sunday**

**Monday 2nd December 7.00 pm Christingle Fr Bob Boyle**

**Tuesday 3rd December 9.30 am Mass Fr Neil Broadbent**

**Thursday 5th December 7.00 pm Mass Fr Robert Breckles**

**Next Sunday 8th December 2nd of Advent**

**11.00am THE PARISH MASS Celebrant and Preacher: Fr Neil Broadbent**

**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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**Appointment of a new Parish Priest**

 The following announcement from the Bishop of Derby's office was read out at church on Sunday 17th November: "The Revd Max Marsh, Assistant Curate of St Mary the Virgin Lewisham, Diocese of Southwark, has been appointed Priest-in-Charge of Ilkeston Holy Trinity and of Long Eaton St Laurence, Diocese of Derby."

 Further details about his Licensing and when he will be starting his ministry among us will be given when known.

 We were delighted to bring this news to the people of the parish and we are sure we speak for everyone when we say that we are very much looking forward to Fr Max's arrival. **Geoff and Sharon, Churchwardens**

**Anniversary of Dedication of Holy Trinity 24th November**

This year on the Solemnity of Christ The King we celebrate the 137th anniversary of the dedication of the church founded back in the 1880s. We remember those who contributed to the building of the church and also those countless individuals who over the years have contributed their money, their time and their skill to keeping the church alive and flourishing. We owe such a debt of gratitude to this enormous generosity but we also need to look to the future in ensuring we are able to continue to flourish.

 As is customary at this time, we invite parishioners to show a sign of their own appreciation for the past, their hope for the future and indeed for the endless generosity that God shows to us all. Blue gift envelopes will be available in church on Sunday 24th and Sunday 1st December to enable you to make a one-off donation and if you pay tax please complete the gift aid information which means that the church can recover a further 25% from the Revenue. Alternatively you can send your donation direct to the church's bank account as follows: NatWest 60-11-37 Holy Trinity PCC account number 05406153 Ref: Dedication, or send a cheque made payable to Holy Trinity PCC

to the Treasurer, Margaret Breedon at Babbington House, Babbington, Nottingham, NG16 2SS. **Geoff and Sharon**

**Christmas Tree**

 Another big thank you for more generous donations received to cover the cost of our new artificial Christmas tree, with £25.00 left over which will go towards our usual Shelter appeal we have in lieu of sending individual Christmas cards. Much appreciated. **Rosemary**

**Advent/Christmas Party Tuesday 10th December 6.30pm for 7.00pm**

 Tickets (£12.00/children £6.00) are now available for the party. The main course will be turkey and all the trimmings with a vegetarian option. Dessert is either Christmas pudding or chocolate log. As usual the evening will be interspersed with a quiz/games so get your tickets and get in the Christmas spirit. **Rosemary**

**Sanctuary Lamp Dedications**

The Sanctuary Lamp burns constantly as a sign of Our Lord's presence in the Reserved Sacrament, and each week of the year is available for members of the congregation to dedicate the burning of the Lamp in memory of departed loved ones. The cost is £3 per dedication and our Treasurer Margaret Breedon will be available after Mass for remaining Sundays of this year to

accept your dedications for weeks in 2025. These are then included week by week in our intercessions.

**Christmas Floral Workshops - Tues 3rd and Wed 4th December, 6.30pm**

 Our popular floral workshops will take place on the above dates. A really fun evening where, with expert tuition and guidance, everyone takes

home a delightful festive arrangement or Christmas wreath. All materials are provided - you just have to bring along a pair of scissors.  Tickets remain at the same price as last year, £12.50 and, as well as materials, refreshments will be included.  Bring along friends and family to get in the mood for Christmas.

Tickets available from me after mass on Sundays or by contacting me on 07751 028556. **Rosemary**

**Christmas flowers**

The Flower Fund is in need of your help if we are to have the usual Christmas displays this year. We hope to rely on your generosity in giving whatever you can afford, please, to Margaret or Sharon Breedon. The Flower Team will be very grateful for even the smallest amounts, and will make very good use of all monies received.

**Derby Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham**

 We are seeking to revitalize the Derby City Cell ofthe Society of Our Lady of Walsingham, with a gathering on Saturday 7th December for the Feast ofthe Immaculate Conception  in St Luke’s Crypt, Parliament Street, Derby. The Rosary will be prayed at 10am, and a Mass with Healing Ministries will be offered at 10.30am. This will be followed by refreshments & fellowship. All most warmly invited.

**Fr Peter Jackson SSC tel: 07443 294480   email: Priest@stlukesderby.org.uk**

**Please remember in your prayers:**

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 Those who are sick: Pam Bailey, Colin Booth, Fr Michael Brinkworth, Carole Chapman, Frank Clewes, Sue Coman, Pat Daniel, Anne, Esme, and Nigel Gamble, Ann Henshaw, Helen Jarvis, Jean Jarvis, Margaret Lacey, Kev Lea, Richard Pykett, Anne Riley, Andrew Smith, Paul Smith, and Paul Underwood.

 All who have recently died. Please remember also those whose anniversary of death falls this week:.Martha Ann Sisson, Elizabeth Storey, Sidney Adams, and Elsie May Allen.

**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)

**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

**About today's Mass Readings:: Andrew Smith writes: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**The Theme of the Readings: By Perseverance You Will Secure Your Lives. The First Sunday in Advent:**

 Advent is like awaiting the birth of a child with an odd mixture of happiness and contentment accompanied by nervousness concerning that which is coming. For this reason, Advent can be described as a season of waiting. And for what are we waiting?  The entire community of the Church is waiting for what the prophet Isaiah wrote about in chapter 25 of that same book. We are waiting for the day when God will remove the veil separating people and nations from one another and from God. When that day comes, God will ‘wipe away the tears from every cheek,’ and we shall see things for what they truly are.  At this season of the Liturgical year, we are looking back in time to Jesus' First Advent, when He came to earth as God enfleshed as a tiny baby boy.  But we are also looking forward in time to His promised Second Advent. The word ‘advent’ means ‘arriving,’ and at time's end, as we know it, Jesus will return, arriving as the divine King and Judge to gather all of His Church to Himself.

 The readings for this Sunday come from Luke 21:19, a verse that precedes our Gospel Reading when Jesus said: ‘By your perseverance, you will secure your lives.’ At this point in salvation history, we are between Christ's two comings: His first Advent when God the Son came enfleshed to live all that humanity experiences and to preach the Gospel of salvation, and also the promised Second Advent of His return. The angels revealed to the Apostles and disciples this future event at Jesus's Ascension. They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven.’ We know the promise that death and evil will be destroyed when the King of kings arrives to claim His Church, but when? We pray and wait, but is God listening?

 The Advent readings address these questions. Waiting on the timing of the Lord requires patience and the perseverance of faith. We must accept God's will in the ‘not yet’ with the hope and trust in ‘the better that is to come’ as to why He is taking so long to return.

 In the Old Testament reading the prophet Jeremiah **(*Jeremiah 33: 14-16*)** gives the people of God the promise of a Davidic Messiah who will re-establish justice and peace in the land and shepherd a spiritually renewed covenant people.

 The Responsorial Psalm ***(Ps 25(24))*** reminds us that God is merciful to sinners and gracious to the humble. When we are depressed by injustice in the world, weighed down by personal suffering, and tempted to lose patience in waiting for the Lord's return, we should make the Responsorial Psalm our prayer. We should cry out: ‘Guide me in your truth and teach me; for you are God my salvation. … Good and upright is the Lord, to the humble he teaches His Way.’

 In the Epistle ***(1 Thessalonians 3:12- 4:2)*** St. Paul writes about the necessity of persevering in holiness until Christ returns, he speaks in the ‘name of Christ’ and refers to Jesus' teaching on the love of God and love of neighbour, as well as the need to pray for persistence in holiness for self and each other.

 Jesus speaks in the apocalyptic language of the Old Testament prophets in the Gospel Reading ***(Lk 21:25-28, 34-36)***, describing the cataclysmic event of the return of the ‘Son of Man’ (Bar na’sha)whose arrival will impact all creation. The present age of the Kingdom of the Church of Jesus Christ is the Final Age of humanity that will end when Christ returns to judge the righteous and the wicked. He will condemn the wicked to everlasting punishment and welcome the righteous to eternal bliss. Advent should be a time for self-evaluation and humble repentance.

 The Church is waiting for Christ's renewed arrival at Christmas in one perspective and for His Second coming, which will determine our eternal future when we hear His call. We must persevere in holiness and obedience to His commands to present ourselves in a state of grace, ready to greet our King and Saviour!