**TRINITY**

The Newsletter of **Holy Trinity Church Ilkeston**

**Sunday 9th March 2025**

**First Sunday of Lent (Year C)**

**11.00am THE PARISH MASS**

**Celebrant and Preacher: Fr Max Marsh**

**Music at Holy Trinity this morning:**

Today's hymns are from New English Hymnal (Green)

\* Omit starred verses \*

**Introit** 358 Father of Heaven

**Gloria**  Gloria 4

**Psalm** 91 Be with me, O Lord, in my distress

**Gradual** 74 O for a heart to praise my God

**Offertory** 67 Forty days and forty nights

**Sanctus** Sanctus 1

**Agnus Dei**  Agnus Dei 1

**Communion**  63 All ye who seek a comfort sure

**Recessional** 64 O thou my guardian and my guide

**Angelus**

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

**Tuesday 11th March 9.30 am Mass**

**Thurs 13th March 18.300 pm Stations of the Cross followed by Mass**

**Next Sunday 16th March 2025 2nd Sunday of Lent**

**11.00am THE PARISH MASS**

**Celebrant and Preacher: Fr Max Marsh**

**At St Laurence during Lent**

1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday of Lent 18.00 Benediction and Compline

Wednesdays at 11.30 am Lent Study Group, Mass and Soup Lunch Saturdays at 9.30 am Mass followed by Stations of the Cross

**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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**Shrove Tuesday Supper**

Huge thanks as usual to all who contributed to the splendid success of our Shrove Tuesday supper, especially to Christine, Lorna, and all who helped in the kitchen. Thanks also to Caroline for deputising for John as quiz master (in addition to selling raffle tickets) and to Simon and Nigel for acting as waiters! We were overwhelmed by the generosity of the number of lovely raffle prizes which raised a total of £138.00. The total raised for church funds was £530.00. **Rosemary**

**Lectio Divina Wednesday 26th March**

Our next Bible Study session will take place on Wednesday 26th March at 1:45 for 2pm in the Church Hall and then monthly on the 4th Wednesday (except August and December) finishing about 3pm in the Hall. At each study we will be using the following Sunday’s Gospel reading. Everyone is welcome and I will be leading the meetings for the time being. **Helen**

**Oswestry Chrism Festival Monday 14th April**

This is an advance notice of the Chrism Festival which, for this part of the See of Oswestry, will be held in Lichfield Cathedral. Bishop Paul is encouraging the laity to attend on this day and, depending on numbers, we may be able to coordinate travel arrangements.

The programme is as follows:

11am Solemn Concelebrated Mass of the Chrism *followed by a hearty buffet lunch*

2.15pm Catechesis

3pm Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

**Electoral Roll**

In compliance with Church Representation Rules (CRR) an entirely new Electoral Roll must be prepared in advance of the Annual Parochial Church meeting (APCM) in every parish in the Church of England. Everyone on our existing Roll is required to complete an application form and newcomers wishing to be on the Electoral Roll will be given an application form on request. All applications are required to be returned to the Electoral Roll Officer before Sunday 27th April 2025. **Maureen West – Electoral Roll Officer**

**Easter flowers**

The Flower Fund is in need of your help if we are to have the usual Easter 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.

**Please remember in your prayers:**

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Those who are sick: Pam Bailey, Colin Booth, Oliver Bostock, Fr Michael Brinkworth, Carole Chapman, Margaret Clayton, Frank Clewes, Sue Coman, Pat Daniel, Anne, Esme, and Nigel Gamble, Gwen Hallam, Ann Henshaw, Helen Jarvis, Jean Jarvis, Richard Pykett, Anne Riley, Andrew Smith, Paul Smith, Bryan Straw, and Yvonne Wilcockson.

All who have recently died, Marion Kimber; please remember also those whose anniversary of death falls this week: Gladys Moore, Connie Oxley, Elsie Draper, Florence Mary Hooley, Hannah Bullock, Ernest Wood, Reginald Smith, and Edith Bradley.

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week in Memory of the late Minnie and Robert Smith, also of the late Lois Bilsbrough, and also of the late Kenneth G Smith.

**Contacts at Holy Trinity:**

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**Parish email address:** info@holytrinityilkeston.org.uk

**Parish phone number**: 07842 719682

**Priest-in-Charge:** Fr Max Marsh

**Email:** priest@holytrinityilkeston.org.uk

**Phone**: 07713 883340

**Address:** The Vicarage, Regent Street, Long Eaton, Nottingham NG10 1JX

Fr Max's usual day off is Friday

**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*

Donations to Holy Trinity may be made at any time using the QR code below:

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**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*

**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.

**Commentary on the Readings for the First Sunday of Lent: Andrew Smith writes:**

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**The Theme of the Readings**: **Professing our Faith**

Professions of faith are formal statements that declare what the collective body of the faithful believes. These confessions determine the identity of the unity of believers, which they often repeat to strengthen the mutually shared commitment of the community. It was the practice for the first profession of faith for the Sinai Covenant in the Old Testament. The faithful swore an oath affirming belief in Israel's historical origins on the Jewish feasts of Firstfruits and Weeks when offering the first fruits of the barley and wheat harvests before Yahweh's holy sacrificial altar along with their confession of belief. They also made a profession of faith called the Shema ( שְׁמַעיִשְׂרָאֵל ) , which is still faithfully repeated by Jews today, and for the Christian confessions of faith that Catholics profess in praying the Rosary and during the various forms of Liturgy. Like the first Old Testament profession of faith, all Creeds are confessions of belief in the origins of a unified people and what they believe.

The early Christian professions of faith are in the letters of St. Paul, the Apostles' Creed (that tradition dates to the era of the Apostles), the Nicene-Constantinople Creed, which dates to the Councils of Nicaea and Constantinople in 325 and 381 AD respectively, and several other early creeds written by the Church Fathers. The Christian creeds originated in the early Church as a threefold profession of faith in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit made by those receiving the Sacrament of Baptism. Later, the Church included a statement of fundamental beliefs about the Christian faith in the baptismal professions. The Council of Nicaea (325AD) expanded the original Apostles' Creed in response to heresies concerning the nature of the Holy Trinity that caused division within the Church. It was slightly revised into its present form in the First Council of Constantinople (381AD) and introduced into the Liturgy of Worship in the Introductory Rites of the Mass as the Nicene-Constantinople Creed.

Today's liturgical readings refer to professions of belief in the Old and New Testaments in our First and Second Readings. Our First Reading **(Deut 26:4-10)** introduces a historical precedent for a publicly professed creed on the God-ordained feast of Firstfruits celebrated on the day after the Saturday

Sabbath of the Holy Week of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, on the first day of the week. The celebration of this feast in AD 30 became what the Christian Church knows as Resurrection Sunday or Easter Day.

Our Responsorial Psalm **(Ps 91(90)**) this morning allows the congregation to reflect on its beautiful confession of faith and trust in God on this First Sunday in Lent. We begin our Liturgical celebration in the entrance antiphon by quoting from the same psalm. In our reading, the psalmist proclaims the Lord as his refuge and God in whom he places complete trust. He has confidence that no evil or affliction can destroy him because he has recourse to his Lord. He has faith that God will send divine help to enable him to cope with any difficulty, from snakes to wild beasts, literally and figuratively, in animal and human form. In response to his faith, God promises the psalmist that he will be heard and saved when calling for help.

In the Epistle **(Romans 10:8-13)**, St. Paul repeats an early Christian baptismal creed in his letter to the Christians in Rome: If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Our baptismal vows are more elaborate today, but the confession is essentially the same. Only the Lord Jesus Christ offers us the gift of eternal salvation, and everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. To believe in the ‘name’ of Jesus is to follow His commandments, exercise obedience to everything He taught, and adhere to the deposit of faith that He entrusted to His Church.

In our Gospel Reading **(Luke 4:1-13)**, we hear about the three tests of a covenant ordeal to which Satan subjected Jesus after His forty days in the wilderness. In each trial, Satan tried to lure Jesus into the sin of rebellion against God, but each time, Jesus affirmed His obedience to the will of God the Father. He refused to test God. Instead, He put His trust and faith in His Father's Divine Plan for His life and the future salvation of humanity.

In the celebration of the Mass, our publicly confessed Creed contains everything we must believe as Christians. In the Nicene-Constantinople Creed, we give our answer as a Catholic Christian family and as individuals to Jesus's question first posed to St Peter in Caesarea Philippi, ‘Who do people say that I am?’. As the inspired writer of the Letter to the Hebrews **(Heb. 10:23)** wrote: Let us hold unwaveringly to our confession that gives us hope, for He who made the promise is trustworthy.