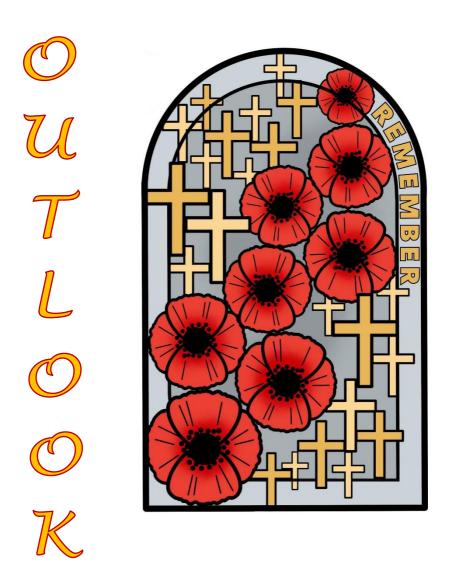
HOLY TRINITY TAUNTON



November 2024

Holy Trinity Service Times

Services are as follows:

Sunday 8.00am, 10.00am & 4.00pm

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10.00am Friday 12.30pm

> Saturday 10.00am and 6.00pm

All services will continue to be streamed, except for Saturday 6pm and Sunday 8am.

Service times may occasionally vary – please see weekly notice sheet for details.

To access streamed services:



@ Holy Trinity Taunton



Holy Trinity Taunton

Fr Julian can be emailed directly: frjulianssc@gmail.com



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FR JULIAN WRITES...



November 2024

We just can't wait! I'm not talking mere impatience here, but the way the retail industry promotes the next big thing so aggressively, so that people cannot avoid it, and are sucked into colluding with an over-early anticipation.

I first saw Christmas cards on sale in August, and also Hallowe'en merchandise and displays at the same time. I was somewhat shocked to see in mid-October, Fr Christmasses and icicles hanging in the streets of Ilminster. Once the commercial interest is over, it's time for the next, so listen out for (or not!) Christmas carols being sung as 'muzak' in shops, pubs and restaurants. Come 26th December, not only will the New Year sales have come and gone, but Christmas itself.

It is sad that Guy Fawkes has largely disappeared from public consciousness. Yes, there will be people (like me) who will buy the odd firework or sparkler to enjoy on the 5th, and there will be some who will be going to the great public displays. At least there is some reason behind it. But Hallowe'en?

Truly I cannot understand the obsession with death and ghouls. Why do we have to buy plastic gravestones, skeletons and other macabre objects? I was astounded to see a major soft drinks manufacturer labelling its bottles as an 'afterlife' version. And will someone please explain to me what is the morality and ethics of trick or treat?

OK, I'll admit to becoming a grumpy old man, out of touch and out of date with my views. But behind my moaning is a genuine concern for the way in which people are regarding death and the afterlife. What may seem like harmless fun can become the norm in our attitudes.

Increasingly, few people are aware of, let alone, believe in the resurrection of Christ and the new life his death and resurrection has won. It is the Christian goal that, sins forgiven, we will be received into God's presence, in that place which we all know as 'heaven'. That does not stop people assuming that as soon as someone dies — whatever their beliefs or not — that they are up there, 'looking down'. 'Fraid not.

Eternal life is a gift, not a right. In some ways it can also be seen as a reward. It's is God's prerogative, not an automatic assumption. That is why Christians struggle to live the life on earth which is epitomised in heaven, so that when death comes, as it does to us all, its effects may be welcomed and not to be afraid of. That's why we pray for the departed - to assist their journey.

Now, laughter is way of controlling people and things. If we laugh at someone or something, we effectively break its hold over us. Ghosts, ghoulies and long legged-beasties may be comic (in intent), but we would do well not dismiss the concept of them as a medieval bygone. St Peter writes, 'Brethren, be sober, be vigilant, because the devil as a roaring lion prowleth about seeking someone to devour.' The deliverance ministry of the Church has never ceased to be active in its dealing with the supernatural, and takes it very seriously.

So, I'm spoiling everybody's fun. And I'm not sorry! The Church has failed, by and large, in her proclamation of the gospel message and her teaching. It is also easy to criticise rather than provide alternatives — partly because we, the Church (I suggest) feel powerless and unable to challenge. So, a positive thought: celebrate Hallowe'en as with the theme of light and darkness. The Baptist church in Chard has a 'stall' on the street at Hallowe'en, with free candles for passers-by to light. I believe that over 2000 did so over the evening last year.

With my prayers and all good wishes

Fr Julian

THANK YOU!

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Peter Deal who for an incredible amount of time has acted as sacristan and server at Holy Trinity. Sadly, it is not possible for him to come to church because of health problems, and so we must thank him for all he has done over the years, ably assisted by his wife, Pat! Thank you, Peter.

DAVID WATKINS, RIP

We were very sorry to hear of David's death on 19th October. He had been in hospital for a week, but has been poorly for a long time. He and his wife Trudi have worshipped at Holy Trinity over several years, usually on Saturdays at 6pm, or else at 10am when they were reading or on coffee duty. David was our data manager, and held all the email addresses and phone numbers, and ensured we are data-protection compliant. In the past he also served on Deanery Synod.

His Funeral Mass will be at Holy Trinity on Friday 15th November at 11.00am, followed by a private cremation. Refreshments will be available in the hall after the service. Sincere condolences and prayers to Trudi, and Gowan, their daughter. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

NOVEMBER SAINTS — Fr Julian's idiosyncratic selection of saints

6th: St Illtud (b. 5th Cent.) One for the Welsh! Illtud is venerated as the abbot teacher of the divinity school, Bangor Illtyd, located in Llanilltud Fawr (Llantwit Major) in Glamorgan, Wales. He founded the monastery and college in the 6th century, and the school is believed to be Britain's earliest centre of learning.

At its height, it had over a thousand pupils and schooled many of the great saints of the age, such as David, Samson of Dol, and the historian Gildas.

15th: St Alfred the Great (c849-899) Alfred was the son of King



Aethelwulf; his three brothers reigned before his accession in 886. Alfred encouraged education, proposing that primary education be conducted in English rather than Latin, and improving the legal system and military structure and his people's quality of life. He

was given the epithet 'the Great' from as early as the 13th century. He is the only native-born English king to be labelled as such.

16th: St Edmund of Abingdon (c1174-1240) He was an Archbishop of Canterbury. He became a respected lecturer in mathematics, dialectics and theology at the Universities of Paris and Oxford, promoting the study of Aristotle. His policies earned him hostility and jealousy from the king, and opposition from several



monasteries and from the clergy of Canterbury Cathedral. He died in France at the beginning of a journey to Rome in 1240. He was made a saint in 1246.

23rd: St Clement (1st Cent.) Clement I, is also known as Pope Clement



I. He is considered to be the first of the Apostolic Fathers of the Church, and a leading member of the Church in Rome in the late 1st century. He wrote an epistle to the Corinthians to resolve a dispute. The Emperor Trajan executed him by tying him to an anchor

and throwing him into the sea, probably in Greece, but St Cyril found bones buried on dry land, assumed to be those of Clement. Tradition has it they are now buried, with the anchor at St Clement's Basilica in Rome.

25th: St Catherine of Alexandria (c287-c305) Catherine is a Christian saint and virgin, who was martyred in the early 4th century at the hands of the emperor Maxentius. She was both a princess and a noted scholar who became a Christian around the age of 14, converting hundreds of people to Christianity, and was martyred at 18. More than 1,100 years after Catherine's martyrdom, Joan of Arc identified her as one of the saints who appeared to and counselled her.



CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER

The Sundays, readings and themes, and Saints days for November are listed below.

1 Fri ALL SAINTS' DAY

2 Sat ALL SOULS' DAY Theme: The Faithful Departed

Readings: Wisdom 3.1-9; Romans 5.5-11; John 6.37-40

3 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY Theme: All the Saints

Readings: Wisdom 3.1-9; Revelation 21.1-6a; John 11.32-44

4 Mon S. Charles Borromeo, Archbishop of Milan (1584)

5 Tue SS. Zachary and Elizabeth, Parents of John the Baptist

7 Thu S. Willibrord of York, Bishop (739)

10 3RD BEFORE ADVENT Theme: Calling Disciples

Remembrance Sunday

Readings: Jonah 3.1-15, 10: Hebrews 9.24-28; Mark 1.14-20

11 Mon S. Martin of Tours, Bishop (307)

15 Fri S. Albert the Great, Dominican Friar and Bishop (1280)

16 Sat S. Margaret, Queen of Scotland, Reformer (1093)

17 2ND BEFORE ADVENT Theme: It will be Soon

Readings: Daniel 12.1-3; Hebrews 10.11-14 & 19-25; Mark 13.1-8

20 Wed S. Edmund, King of East Anglia, Martyr (870)

22 Fri S. Cecilia, Martyr at Rome (230)

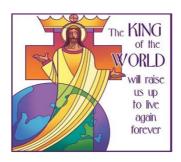
23 Sat S. Clement, Bishop of Rome, Martyr (100)

24 CHRIST THE KING Theme: Divine Kingship

Readings: Daniel 7.9-10 & 13-14; Revelation 1.4b-8; John 18.33-37

25 Mon S. Catherine of Alexandria, Martyr (4th Cent.)

30 Sat S. ANDREW THE APOSTLE



FEASTS OF ALL SAINTS & ALL SOULS

All Saints: the Feast of All Saints will be kept on Sunday 3rd November (All Saints' Sunday).



All Souls: because of the way the calendar works out this year, the All Souls Requiem Mass will be on Friday 1 November at 12.00pm. There will be a soup lunch afterwards as usual. Cards for you to write the names of loved ones you wish to remember at the Requiem Mass are available from the back of church.

GIFT DAY

Thank you all for your generosity and support of our Gift Day on 6th October. The incredible total of £3605 has so far been raised.

Well done and thank you again!

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday 30th November 11am - 2pm

The Christmas Fair is now only 4 weeks away!



Items are needed for the bottle stall; cake stall; savouries, pick a straw, Christmas stall (pre loved or new Christmas items, decorations etc NO general bric a brac though).

Please take some raffle tickets to sell to friends, neighbours, colleagues. Unsold tickets, money and counterfoils to be returned to Liz Hathway by 24th November.

Hamper gifts can now be placed in the gold coloured box at the back of Church, Sundays only please. If you would like to make a monetary donation towards the meat hamper please see me.

Help is also needed on the day to set up from 9am or pack away from 2pm. The more people who help the sooner we'll be finished.

Please make every effort to attend this major fundraising event.

Wendy Burge

Spotlight on...



Sheila Ridgway

Now I get to speak to Sheila Ridgway, who has lived in Taunton all her life and has been coming to Holy Trinity Church since the moment her mother took her in her pram as a new born baby.



Thank you so very much for speaking with me today, Sheila, it is lovely to speak with a true Tauntonian, whereabouts in Taunton were you born, do you have any family and what did you do for a living?

I was the youngest of five children and I was born in Alma Street, in fact I lived there until I married my husband, Denis. Our father passed away when I was only four but my mother, who worked at Kings School, always put her family first. Mother made sure that I never ate a school dinner in my life as she prepared my meal before work and my aunt, who looked after me during the day, would cook and serve it. When the time came, I went to Holy Trinity School which was in those days, next to Holy Trinity Church. My senior school was Asquith which stood where Holy Trinity School stands now. We always went to Holy Trinity Church, I was baptised, confirmed and married there, in turn my children have grown up being part of Holy Trinity too.

In 1963 I married Denis. We knew each other from school days and in fact the Midwife who attended my mother when I was born also attended Denis' mother when she had him! We had our wedding reception in the Club opposite the Church and set up our first home in Laburnum Street. We were there for thirteen years. On nice days Denis and I used to sit in the fields where Hillyfields now stands and look at a derelict house there. We used to say to ourselves that we would live there one day and sure enough it eventually came up at auction and there we were right in the front row. I am still there to this day.

Before my girls came along, I worked for Van Heusen, shirt makers in Victoria Street. There I made cuffs and our shirts were destined for Marks and Spencer who were very particular and if one stitch was out

of place the whole order was rejected, I think nearly every man in Taunton was kitted out in Van Heusen seconds!

Denis at that time was employed as a plumber, it was during the time when copper was in short supply and therefore a valuable commodity, so he stored it up our staircase! Friends used to ask me, 'how can you put up with that up your stairs?' and I replied, 'it's our living'! Later on, he went self-employed and never looked back. He was always busy and the merchant he used for his materials was called Double T Supplies. They took their customers seriously and we went on some wonderful holidays with them, I have seen Cairo, Morocco, Cyprus and lots of other places.

What do you do in your spare time, what are your hobbies?

These days I love my knitting and reading and of course Craft Club at Church, but in the past, I held the position of Brown Owl with the Brownies. This all came about because Denis nominated me to help out with one of the two local packs who were looking for assistance. After six months the then Brown Owl was giving up and I was thrown into the spotlight. I was there for eighteen months but then I was head hunted by Holway School who needed a leader so, as it was nearer, I moved over to be with them and served for twenty years. We always had trips to the Bath and West Show (in the pouring rain) and pack holidays where I would invariably forget to take something, Denis was always there on hand to save the day by dashing over to Exmoor or wherever, with the forgotten chicken legs or whatever it was I had not packed that year. He always encouraged me in everything I did. I am still a member of the Trefoil Guild and go to camp every year.

What would you say is important to you and what does your faith and Holy Trinity mean to you?

Holy Trinity has been woven into the fabric of my whole life and that of my own family and our predecessors. Holy Trinity and my faith are everything to me. It hasn't changed much over the years except when, in 1977 there were roof problems and for a year to eighteen months we had to worship at Holy Trinity School. At that time there were strong debates about closing the Church but fortunately it never happened and roof repaired, came the glorious day when we could return to where we belonged.

Thank you, Sheila, it has been fascinating to hear all about Holy Trinity and your involvement over the years.

A RECIPE FOR NOVEMBER

CREAMY BROCCOLI & CAULIFLOWER SOUP

What is better than having a nice warming soup on a cold day. This simple broccoli and cauliflower soup is perfect for cooler Autumn days.

Ingredients

1 medium onion, sliced
2 medium heads of broccoli
1 medium head of cauliflower
750ml Vegetable stock
200ml Cream
2 tbsp Cornflour
2 tbsp Fresh chopped parsley



Method

- Cook the onion in a little oil in a large pan until soft.
- Roughly chop the broccoli and cauliflower and add to the pot.
- Sauté for a couple of minutes until the broccoli is bright green in colour.
- Add vegetable stock and place the lid on pan.
- Simmer for 5-10 minutes until broccoli and cauliflower are soft and tender, but not overcooked to mush.
- > Blend, season to taste, then blend again whilst adding cream.
- Mix the cornflour with a little water or milk and add to pot.
- Add the parsley and heat until thickened (watch out for sticking at the bottom of the pan).
- Serve with crusty bread.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Harvest Supper: On behalf of those who attended the Harvest Supper on 5th October thank you to Cheryl for delicious apple pies and doing all the washing up; to Liz for selling the tickets, help setting up and help wiping up. Thank you to Fr Julian/Jane for the quiz. I think an enjoyable evening was had by all.

Pantomime

Tickets have now been purchased for Beauty & the Beast on 15th January 2025. Please could you pay me by 3rd November, £16.00 per ticket, no concessions I'm afraid (cash preferred). I have one ticket that is available, if anyone would like to purchase it please let me know.



Wendy Burge, Social Committee

HOLY TRINITY $\frac{200}{\text{Club}}$ WINNERS

September 2024

1st Cheryl Grindle £55.00
2nd Alys Williams £33.00

3rd Richard Tomlinson £22.00



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THE RBL TRIP TO DUNKIRK AND YPRES Thursday 12th – 16th September 2024

Part 1

45 Members of Taunton Royal British Legion, Taunton Branch, The Royal Marines Association, Royal Signals Association and the RASC/RCT Plymouth and Taunton branches enjoyed a weekend touring Dunkirk and Ypres, pausing at key locations to remember those who gave their lives in the cause of freedom...

There was an air of expectation as we all arrived at the Lawns Club, in Taunton, meeting friends old and new, for our weekend away in France and Belgium. Our trip was planned by Branch Secretary Liz Roughley. We arrived in Dover in the morning and boarded the DFDS ferry to Dunkirk, sailing on time. The sea was calm, with little swell, and suited most travellers.

Day 1: From Dunkirk landing, we drove to our first destination, which was only a 45-minute drive to the Dunkirk 1940 (dynamodunkerque.com) Museum. This was a quality museum to visit, and set the scene and tone for the trip overall. This building was the original HQ, a heavily fortified building, full of WW11 artefacts. There were a great range of exhibits, some of which we had not seen before on previous visits.

We visited Dunkirk water's sea edge where we discovered a brand new and modern beach front adorned with quality Memorials, Standards, and National flags, all flying freely in the fresh breeze. A glowing tribute to those who did not return from the beaches, a long, long time ago!

Then we were on our way to our accommodation, the 'Hotel O', in Ypres, just off the main square. A small, very well-appointed, hotel, where we took over almost every room.

After evening meals locally, we all dressed more formally and made our way to the Menin Gate ceremony where our four Standard Bearers represented us well, with our chaplain delivering the Exhortation. Everyone attending saw the splendour of the occasion. Members of the Last Post Association, Ypres, supervised the Last Post Tribute as they have done continually for the past 96 years.



Our Standard Bearers at the Menin Gate: Des Wilson, Paul Martin, John Fryers and Noel Margets

We were able to meet in a local hostelry for a quiet beer together after the event and a good night was had by all.

The following day saw us being driven to Talbot House – 'Every Man's Club', in the town of Poperinge, the safest and closest municipality to the front line, when it was opened in 1915. It is a remarkable house, where all were given respite from the rigors of war. We were all welcomed and given a 20-minute group briefing about the history, ownership, and original personalities that developed the club and its original purposes. Also know as Toc-H. This was a very good insight into the past, and the house was full of wonderful signs and artefacts from the past; a very interesting visit which we all enjoyed.

We were then driven to the Christmas Truce Memorial in Mesen. This was a photo opportunity beside the bronze sculpture of British and



Mike Phillips at the Christmas Truce Monument

German officers shaking hands before an impromptu game of football, played in 'No Man's land' on Christmas Day 1914. We then visited the Yorkshire Trenches, a series of preserved WW1 trenches, which are located in the industrial quarter of Ypres. This was only a short

stop but gave the impression of the brutality of war, when you were forced to live underground and face the futility of going over the top, to walk into a rain of machine gun bullets, which took the lives of so many men of the Yorkshire Regiment, and many more besides.

The afternoon was given to sight-see the town of Ypres. We saw the magnificent St Martin's Cathedral, large, Catholic, and peaceful, full of stained glass windows and one particular Rose Window presented by the RAF with outstanding colours. And St George's English Church, just across a wide boulevard. This is a little piece of England in the heart of Ypres in Belgium. The whole church was full of Brass Plaques, presented from the many public schools across the UK that had lost Old Boys in the Great War. The high walls were also adorned with the Standards of Regiments involved in the many campaigns; now hanging down above the heads of those who make a pilgrimage to the church to remember. This was a thought-provoking visit. Within the grounds was a very modern Art exhibition with a welcoming café bar run by church members. Both were beautiful in their own way.

John Godley and Mark S Corthine, Vice Chair of RBL Taunton Branch

Part 2 next month





THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB

will be visiting the following:

10 November The Maypole, Thurloxton

8 December Pickeridge Golf Club12 January Oake Manor Golf Club

All bookings are for 12.15, except the December one which is for 12.30. Please let me know if you want to come along, on the previous Sunday so I can confirm numbers with the venue. If you have booked a space but are unable to attend please let me know as soon as possible.

Wendy Burge



FAITH WITH FIREWORKS

By Shirley Penn (1932-2021)

Former Mothers' Union Archdeaconry President



1

A bush fire on the mountain And a voice that made Moses say, 'Oh Yes, Lord I'll give Pharaoh your order Your people he has to let go!'

3

Mary [Magdalene] was a red hot cracker
Attested by all of the men
But Jesus soon ended her antics
By saying 'Don't do it again!'

5

Martha was tied to her housework Like a wheel that's pinned to a tree Sending out sparks of annoyance 'till Jesus' soft words set her free.

7

A Centurion of Rome at the Cross Stood watching in horror and shame. Then a candle inside him ignited And his life was never the same.



2

God saw Gideon's large army And said, 'No it has to be small Your swords and torches flaming Will make the Midianites fall.'

4

Zacchaeus went up like a rocket And hid in a very tall tree But came to earth at Jesus' calling 'Zacchaeus, I'm coming to tea.'

6

Mary, her sister, was different. No squib or jumping jack she But gently glowing for Jesus She quietly stayed at his knee.

8

The disciples heard a loud
whooshing
And looked up to see a bright
flame.

Knew then that God's Spirit was with them So went out fired up in his name.

9

We all have a faith deep inside us Let Jesus' love set it alight Then, as his flame kindles with you Go out and spread your delight.



Contributed by Jane Laurence

MAGAZINE DEADLINE: Wednesday 20th November 2024

ALL IN THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

It was:

- 250 years ago, on 22 Nov 1774 that Robert Clive, 1st Baron Clive (Clive of India), died. He helped found the British Empire in India.
- 150 years ago, on 23rd Nov 1874 that Thomas Hardy's novel Far from the Madding Crowd was published.
- 100 years ago, on 2nd Nov 1924 that the first crossword puzzle to appear in a British newspaper was published in the Sunday Express.
- Also 100 years ago, on 4th Nov 1924 that Gabriel Fauré, the French composer, died.
- 90 years ago, on 30th Nov 1934 that the British steam locomotive,
 Flying Scotsman, became the first train officially to reach 100 mph.
- 70 years ago, on 3rd Nov 1954 that Henri Matisse died. This French artist was leader of the Fauvist movement and is seen as the most important French painter of the 20th century.
- 65 years ago, on 1st Nov 1959 that the first stretch of the M1 motorway opened in Britain.
- 60 years ago, on 23rd Nov 1964 that the Second Vatican Council allowed the use of vernacular languages (eg English) in RC sacraments and rituals, rather than Latin.
- 50 years ago, on 8th Nov 1974 that British aristocrat Lord Lucan disappeared from his home in London.
- Also 50 years ago, on 20th Nov 1974 that British politician John Stonehouse faked his death by leaving a pile of clothing on a beach in Miami, Florida. He was found alive and well in Australia.
- Also 50 years ago, on 25th Nov 1974 that South African heart surgeon Dr Christian Barnard performed the world's first double heart transplant.
- 40 years ago, on 25th Nov 1984 that 36 musicians gathered in London to record the Band Aid single Do They Know It's Christmas.
- 30 years ago, on 14th Nov 1994 that the first fare-paying passengers travelled through the Channel Tunnel.
- Also 30 years ago, on 19th Nov 1994 that Britain's first National Lottery draw was held.
- 10 years ago, on 27th Nov 2014 that P D James, British novelist, died. Best known for her crime novels featuring the detective, Adam Dalgliesh.



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