

HOLY TRINITY TAUNTON

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October 2024

Holy Trinity Service Times

Services are as follows:

Sunday

8.00am, 10.00am & 6.30pm

**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



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



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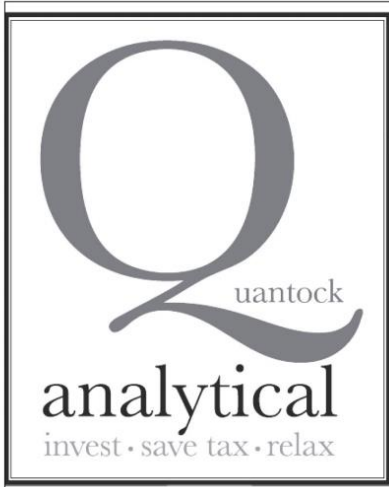
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OCTOBER



2024

FR JULIAN WRITES...

You may not have heard of Giovanni di Pietro di Bernardone (c1181-1226) but you will have heard of the man he was to become - St Francis of Assisi. He was a great favourite of my father, so it wasn't surprising that his first-born was named after him. The next brother had the middle name St Clare (Sinclair) as she was the companion to St Francis, and the next to come was named Damian, as it was the Christ on the cross in St Damiano's who told Francis to 'rebuild his church'. By the time I came along, obvious references to St Francis had been used up, or more likely, my mother got fed up with Franciscan references... His feast day is October 4th.

St Francis was a wealthy and dissolute young man, yet his encounter with Christ at St Damiano, a run-down chapel outside Assisi, made him reconsider his life. Rather than just thinking about the restoration of the physical building, Francis took it to mean God's Church. Eventually renouncing his family and wealth, Francis stripped himself of everything, including his clothes, and set about the task God set him (clothed!).

He founded the Order of Friars Minor (Franciscan Friars), the Order of St Clare (Franciscan nuns), the Third Order of Franciscans (people who took vows but not fully professed as friars or nuns) and was granted custody of the Holy Land. The religious communities he founded were preaching communities, not enclosed, and so were directly involved in mission and evangelism. Francis himself received the gift of the stigmata, the wounds of Christ in his own body, as seen in one of the windows in Holy Trinity.

It is a shame that today he is 'merely' associated with the care and love of animals, and considered a Christian Dr Dolittle – having a special way with animals of all kinds. But that is greatly to underestimate his continuing contribution to the Christian faith.

As well as his patronage of Franciscan 'religious', he is also patron of ecology, animals, merchants and stowaways – all very topical subjects today.

Much is said, but too little done, about God's gifts in creation. We might give a little nod to them at Harvest, but whereas we might all agree the need for conservation, too many of us are 'NIMBYS' – not in my back yard. We don't want to have to cut our coat according to our cloth in terms of our use of the earth's precious and finite resources, but look to other nations, usually those poorer than ourselves to make cuts and carry on as usual, resenting extra costs we might have to pay in our paltry efforts to redress the imbalance that exists at present.

You might think St Francis an unusual patron for merchants, but I look upon this as an imperative for us to trade morally and ethically. Again, we quibble at the extra cost of Fair Trade or organic goods. We will look to buy cheap clothing, usually made by grossly underpaid people and children. We enjoy eating vegetables and fruits out of season, again produced sometimes in unfair conditions, and clocking up hundreds of air or road miles before they end up in our kitchens.

We are all fond of animals, and many of us have pets. However, do we ensure that farm animals, cows, pigs, lambs or chickens which are raised solely for our plates always have the best, albeit short, lives? Animal charities raise more than those for humans, but we tend to define 'animals' solely as those which are domesticated, almost human, creatures and not those on farms or in the wild.

And finally, what could be more topical than stowaways? As successive governments and initiatives focus on 'stopping the boats', do we regard the displaced, those who risk their lives for safety, as burdens, or those for whom we should have genuine and heart-felt compassion, and act accordingly?

More questions than answers; may St Francis guide and pray for us.

With my own prayers and all good wishes

Fr Julian

FROM THE REGISTERS

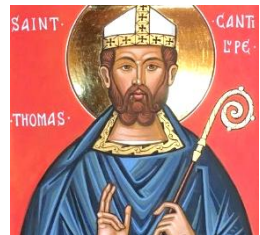
Holy Baptism

Hugo-Bleu Foreman-King, baptised on Sunday 1st September. We pray for him, his parents and Godparents and welcome him into the Christian family.

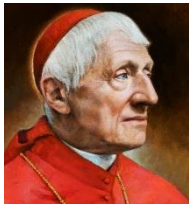
OCTOBER SAINTS – Fr Julian’s idiosyncratic selection of saints

As most of the ‘big’ saints have previously been covered, this month I’m looking at lesser-known, English saints.

3rd: St Thomas of Hereford (1218-1282). This St Thomas, also known as ‘of Cantilupe’ was Bishop of Hereford and also Chancellor of England. When he was declared a saint in 1320, his position regarding Jews was one of the reasons given for him being canonized, not something that would happen today.



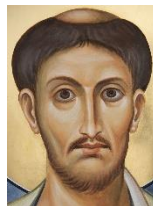
9th: St John Henry Newman (1801-1890). A leading academic at Oxford, he was one of the ‘Tractarians’ whose ‘tracts’ criticising the moribund Church of England, and recalling its true tradition. He was eventually received into the Roman Catholic church and made a Cardinal, and was made a saint in 2019.



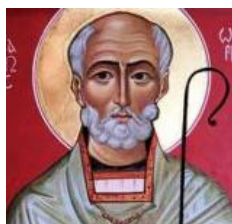
11th: St Ethelburga (d. c675). St Ethelburga (died around 675) was the first Abbess of Barking Abbey in Essex, England, and the first leader of a women's monastic order in the country. She was the daughter of Ethelbert, the first Christian King of Kent, and the sister of Erkenwald, the Bishop of London and founder of Barking Abbey.



Also the 11th: St James the Deacon (d. after 671) was a Roman deacon who accompanied Paulinus of York on his mission to Northumbria. He was one of those sent by St Gregory the Great, which went to England to convert the Anglo-Saxons.



12th: St Wilfrid (633-709/10) was an English bishop and saint. Born a Northumbrian noble, he entered religious life as a teenager, eventually becoming Abbot of a newly founded monastery at Ripon. Studying in this country and abroad, Wilfrid returned as Bishop of Northumbria. He took part in the Synod of Whitby, advocating the adoption of the Roman calendar and rules, and in particular the Roman method for calculating the date of Easter.



19th: St Frideswide (c. 650-727) Also known as Frithuswith, she was an English princess and abbess. She is credited as the foundress of a monastery later incorporated into Christ Church, Oxford. She was the daughter of a sub-king of a Mercia named Dida of Eynsham whose lands occupied western Oxfordshire and the upper reaches of the River Thames.



26th: St Chad (d. 672) & **St Cedd** (620-674) St Chad was a prominent 7th-century Anglo-Saxon monk. He was an abbot, Bishop of the Northumbrians and then Bishop of the Mercians and Lindsey People. His brother, St Cedd, features strongly in the work of the Venerable Bede and is credited, together with Bishop Wilfrid of Ripon, with introducing Christianity to the Mercian kingdom.



CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER

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

1 Tue S. Theresa of Lisieux, Carmelite Nun (1897)

2 Wed Holy Guardian Angels

4 Fri S. Francis of Assisi, Friar (1226)

6 TRINITY 19 *Theme: Harvest Thanksgiving*

Readings: Joel 2.21-27; 1 Timothy 6.6-10; Matthew 6.25-33

9 Wed S. John Henry Newman, Pr (1890)

10 Thu S. Paulinus, Bp of York, (644) S. Denys, Bp, Martyr (250)

11 Fri S. Ethelburga, Abbess of Barking (675)

12 Sat S. Wilfrid of Ripon, Missionary (709)

13 Fri S. Edward the Confessor, King of England (1066)

13 TRINITY 20 *Theme: True Riches*

Readings: Amos 5.6-7 & 10-15; Hebrews 4.12-16; Mark 10.17-31

14 Mon S. Callistus, Pope & Martyr (222)

16 Wed Nicholas Ridley & Hugh Latimer, Martyrs (1555)

17 Thu S. Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, Martyr (107)

18 Fri S. LUKE THE EVANGELIST

19 Sat Blessed Jerzy Popieluszko, Polish Priest & Martyr (1984)

20 TRINITY 21 *Theme: Servant of All*

Readings: Isaiah 53.4-12; Hebrews 5.1-12; Mark 10.35-45

23 Wed S. John of Capistrano, Franciscan Priest, (1456)

25 Fri SS. Crispin & Crispinian, Martyrs at Rome (287)

26 Sat Alfred the Great, King and Scholar, (899)

27 LAST AFTER TRINITY *Theme: Joy for the Blind*

Readings: Jeremiah 31.7-9; Hebrews 7.23-28; Mark 10.46-52

28 Mon SS. SIMON & JUDE, APOSTLES

31 Thu All Hallows (Saints) Eve



"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his love endures forever."
- 1 Chronicles 16:34

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

**'We make a living by what we get,
but we make a life by what we give'.**

(Winston Churchill)



This year our Harvest Thanksgiving will be on Sunday 6th October, which here at Holy Trinity, we have combined with our Gift Day. Traditionally, Harvest was a time to give thanks for Gods bounty and to celebrate the safe gathering in of the harvest. Gifts of fresh produce were made to those in need but in these days of food regulations and sell by dates, we have replaced this practice by financial contributions to our church.

The overriding theme that seems to come out of 'Spotlight' articles is that we all consider Holy Trinity to be our church family, our safe space, and the place where we all belong. In order to keep that special place going like many this year, we will be facing challenges such as keeping the heating on, maintaining the fabric of the building and of course meeting our Parish Share. But that does not mean that we do not keep the traditional spirit of Harvest going. This year we contributed £1910 (which represented 5% of our stewardship income), to others in need. Some of our receivers included the Taunton Food Bank, the British Legion Poppy Appeal, Trinity School and the Disasters Emergency Committee (plus more). Needless to say, Gift Day provides an extremely important part of our income.

But most importantly, we must not forget that Gift Day is a celebration of all that you give, not just in monetary ways but also a way of thanking those who give so freely of their time in very many ways.

For all you do, or give, thank you.

We look forward to welcoming you on the 6th October. 'And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.'

Galatians 6:9-10

Pauline Holt, Parish Treasurer

Spotlight on...



Geraint Jones

This month I collared Geraint Jones, one of our very own Eucharistic Lay Ministers, or Chalice Assistants as we know them!



Geraint thank you so very much for speaking with me today, tell me, how long have you lived in Taunton, do you have any family and what did you do for a living?

My father was a bank manager and we came to Taunton in 1973 as a family. I went to sixth form at Huish's grammar school where at Christmas in 1974, I played the organ at Holy Trinity for the first time. I never set foot in Trinity again until 2012 when I returned to Taunton.

I was brought up in Bala in North Wales and as a baby I would sit in my Silver Cross pram with a tiny red toy piano which would keep me amused for hours. The die was cast. Bala was a Welsh speaking area, my schooling was in Welsh but I don't remember actually learning either Welsh or English, it just seemed to come naturally somehow. My younger brother is eight years younger than me, we are closer now than we were, as eight years is quite a lot between a teenager and a small boy. He now lives in Norfolk where he is keen sailor and both he and his wife work part time for the Broads Authority.

I went to University in Aberystwyth but by no means was the first in my family, to do so, as the very first was around 1910. I did a bi-lingual post grad and I may have thought that would be useful, but as it turned out it didn't come in very handy because I took up a post in St Albans at the boys' grammar school. I was there twelve years as the Assistant Director of Music and following that I moved to the Girls' school where I stayed twenty-two years as the Director of Music and Head of Faculty in charge of music, art and drama. I was in St Albans for thirty-five years all told and in addition to teaching, I was organist for the Welsh Symphony Orchestra and organist at St Saviours, St Albans.

The assistant organist was often one of my pupils, I feel very honoured to have taught some incredibly academically able people.

On my retirement in 2012 they gave me a huge send off and I returned to Taunton, where I am continually delighted that I am remembered by so very many of my pupils from both my schools and I am still in touch with many. Some went on to be organists in their own right and quite a few became priests.

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

Well, there is my now infamous fountain pen collection, I think I have around 80 so far. I can't quite remember when my love of pens started but do remember that when, as a young boy and I got my pocket money I would hang around the stationery counter at WH Smiths admiring the pens and paper. I put my pens to use as I love writing letters and keeping a journal but struggle these days to get good quality writing paper. Perhaps I need a word with WH Smiths.

Travel is my other great love and particularly train travel, not just steam trains but all trains. I have travelled across Canada by train, done the garden route in South Africa and travelled to Beijing and travelled back from Shanghai by train in 1996. That journey was very special because we travelled through inner Mongolia, Khazakstan and Uzbekistan. Of course, there was a piano on the train. Actually, a train piano came in useful as in 1988 when on a Russia train trip with a steaming samovar in the corner of the carriage, I played the Russian National Anthem to a round of applause and free drinks all night.

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

I am very proud to be Welsh, that is important to me as are my memories of what I have seen and achieved. I think music and faith are complementary and I am a traditionalist at heart, I love the incense and the bells and the ceremony, it strengthens my faith. Becoming a Eucharistic Lay Minister opened yet another facet in exploring my faith.

Thank you, Geraint, I could have written pages and pages about your travels and I can't do your humour justice, you certainly know how to do it in style and I don't just mean the travel!

Pauline Holt

A RECIPE FOR OCTOBER

TEA CAKE

Tea Cake or Tea Loaf is a traditional British cake. Dried fruit is soaked in tea, then mixed with flour, sugar, spices and an egg. The loaf is then baked slowly and left to cool in the tin before cutting into slices.

Ingredients

8oz Sultanas
1 cup of strong tea
4oz Margarine
8oz Self raising flour
4oz Sugar (brown sugar is best)
1 tsp Mixed spice
½ tsp of Bicarbonate of soda
1 Egg



Method

- Preheat oven at 150° C. Line a loaf tin.
- Soak the fruit in the tea for at least 2 hours and roughly strain.
- Melt the margarine in a saucepan.
- Stir the dry ingredients together, then add fruit and margarine and stir well.
- Add 1 beaten egg and stir again.
- Put into the loaf tin and cook for about 1 hour, until a skewer a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean.
- Allow to cool in tin for 30 minutes, then place on a cooling rack.

Mary Patey

STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES

The new issue of Stewardship envelopes commences on the 3rd November. Even if you have had envelopes before please let Pauline know should you wish to receive these for the year 2024-5, or indeed join the scheme. All donations and sources are completely confidential.

If you are a UK tax payer and have not completed a Gift Aid form, please consider using the green Gift Aid envelopes available on the little table as you come into church. Every penny counts and Gift Aid incurs **no costs to yourself**, it is a bonus of 25%, on top of your donation that we can collect from the revenue.

Your donations, however they come are very much appreciated.

Pauline Holt, Parish Treasurer



The Taunton Food Bank are desperate for shampoo and conditioner as they have none in stock.

One of the senior volunteers has advised that they are getting more and more families/young people, who are in work but can't make ends meet (this week, two care workers in full time employment but on minimum wage, were referred to them).

The food bank staff are fearful about the autumn/winter especially with the projected hike in energy costs.

Volunteers take your donations of shampoo, conditioner, washing up liquid and other such products to the food bank regularly. Please give generously.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday 30th November
11am – 2pm



If you are willing to run a stall or need items for your stall please let Wendy Burge know. New stalls always welcome.

Raffle tickets are now on sale, please take as many books as you can to sell to friends, neighbours, colleagues or buy some for yourself.

A list is available at the back of church for items required for the grand draw hampers. If you are able to provide an item please sign the list and place any hamper items in the gold box which will be at the back of Church from the beginning of October. Please ensure the item is in date, sorry no homemade goods. Alternatively if you are unable to buy a hamper item, a donation would be appreciated and will be put towards purchase of a meat hamper.

Please do all you can to make this event a success.

WALSINGHAM 2025



Advance Notice:

Next year's parish pilgrimage to Walsingham will be from
16th – 20th June 2025.

Barn Chapel

Following the Coffee Morning which Julie Harland organised in May, in aid of the restoration of the Barn Chapel at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, we have received a thank you for our support from Fr Graeme Rowlands, the Priest Administrator at the Shrine.



In his letter he says that the Barn Chapel will be blessed on 15th October (the Feast of the Translation of the Image of Our Lady of Walsingham) and should be available for use once again after then.

COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME

Come, ye thankful people, come, Raise the song of harvest home!

This well known harvest hymn, (number 259 in the NEH hymn book) was written by the Revd Henry Alford, DD (1810 – 71).

He was a Victorian clergyman who had been a fellow student at Trinity College, Cambridge with the poet Alfred Lord Tennyson. Although born in London he was from a Somerset family and he married his cousin Frances Alford in 1835 in Curry Rivel.



His ministry began as Vicar of Wymeswold, Leicestershire in 1835. After 18 years, he moved to Quebec Street Chapel in London, before moving to be the Dean of Canterbury in 1857, where he lived until his death in early 1871. He was much loved for his amiable character. Theologically Alford was a moderate who attempted to keep good relations between non-conformists and the High Church Anglicans in the Church of England.

Alford wrote many books (around 50) and a number of hymns. 'Come, yet thankful people, come' was first published with seven verses under the title 'After Harvest' in 1844. In 1865, Alford revised the hymn, and it was republished with only four verses.

In the hymn the first verse is a celebration of harvest, calling for people to give thanks to God. Other verses are based on two of Jesus' parables: the story of the wheat and tares (Mt 13:24-30) and also the story of the seed that grows unbeknown to the sower (Mark 4:26-29) and the hymn finishes with the ultimate harvest of our souls before God.

During this lifetime we properly give thanks to God for our harvest of His gifts of creation, but maybe we should reflect on what seed we are sowing in our lives, and what harvest we may expect; as one day God will gather together His own for the eternal heavenly harvest.

Jane Laurence

ALL IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

It was:

- 200 years ago, on 21st Oct 1824 that British mason, bricklayer and cement manufacturer Joseph Aspdin was granted a British patent for Portland cement. His son William went on to develop a stronger version and is regarded as the inventor of modern Portland cement.
- 175 years ago, on 17th Oct 1849 that Frederic Chopin, Polish composer and piano virtuoso, died.
- 100 years ago, on 15th Oct 1924 that the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbour was designated a US National Monument.
- 90 years ago, on 24th Oct 1934 that the earliest known recording of the song *Santa Claus is Comin' to Town* was released.
- 80 years ago, on 2nd Oct 1944 that the Warsaw Uprising in Poland was ended. The Germans destroyed the city, killing 200,000 civilians and expelling 700,000.
- 75 years ago, on 1st Oct 1949 that the People's Republic of China was founded by Mao Zedong.
- 70 years ago, from 30th Oct to 13th Nov 1954 the first Rugby World Cup was held in Paris. Great Britain beat France 16-12 in the final.
- 65 years ago, on 11th Oct 1959 that Britain began introducing postcodes. They began in Norwich, and by 1974 had been rolled out across the whole country.
- 60 years ago, on 14th Oct 1964 that the American civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for combating racial inequality in the USA without violence.
- 50 years ago, on 9th Oct 1974 that Oskar Schindler, Austria-Hungarian-born German businessman, died. He saved more than 1,100 Jews during the Holocaust by employing them in his factories.
- 40 years ago, on 12th Oct 1984 that an IRA bomb exploded during the Conservative Party Conference at the Grand Hotel in Brighton, killing five people.
- Also 40 years ago, on 16th Oct 1984 that South African Anglican Bishop Desmond Tutu won the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize for his role in the opposition to apartheid.
- 30 years ago, on 13th Oct 1994 that the three main loyalist paramilitary groups in Northern Ireland announced a ceasefire following the IRA's ceasefire announcement on 31st Aug.

From the *Parish Pump*



THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB

will be visiting the following:

- 13 October The Swan, Kingston St Mary
- 10 November The Maypole, Thurloxtton
- 8 December Pickeridge Golf Club

All bookings are for 12.15. 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

HARVEST SUPPER

Saturday 5th October, 7pm

Tickets £8 (Please buy tickets before 30th September)

HOLY TRINITY WINNERS

August 2024

1st	Ann Carlisle	£55.00
2nd	David Gill	£33.00
3rd	Richard Tomlinson	£22.00



SMILE LINE



Visit: A bishop visited a primary school in his full episcopal attire – with his mitre, robes and bishop's crook or crozier. A little lad's mother asked him later what he had thought of the bishop's visit to his school. The little boy replied: 'It was great - now I know what a *real* crook looks like!'

From the Parish Pump

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