

Dec to March 2013-14 Calendar

Mists & mellow fruitfulness

Summary of PCC meeting

Highlights from Holy Trinity

Parish Registers

Parish Roundabout

trinity news



Quarterly Newsletter

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Dear friends

‘Oh Christmas Tree, how lovely are your branches...’

The Christmas tree, which later this month will become a beautiful feature of our church and many of our homes has a long and interesting history. Tradition credits St. Boniface with the invention of the Christmas tree. Boniface was born in Devon in the 7th century, and became a missionary and eventually a bishop in Germany. His missionary endeavours did not go without troubles: one story tells that the great ‘Oak of Thor’ at Geismar, which was an object of heathen worship, was chopped down by Boniface in a stage-managed confrontation with the old gods and local heathen tribes. A fir tree growing in the roots of the Oak was claimed by Boniface as a new symbol for Christians. "This humble tree's wood is used to build your homes: let Christ be at the centre of your households. Its leaves remain evergreen in the darkest days: let Christ be your constant light. Its boughs reach out to embrace and its top points to heaven: let Christ be your Comfort and Guide", he encouraged them.

Modern use of Christmas trees date from the sixteenth century, when a Christmas Tree is recorded to have been erected in Strasbourg Cathedral in 1539; the custom gradually spread across Germany. In Britain, the Christmas tree was introduced in the time of George III and Queen Charlotte, who came from Germany, and initially the custom did not spread much beyond the royal family. Now, of course, Christmas trees are everywhere – in many different shapes and sizes, real and artificial; and they come with many local traditions and folk tales. One that I particularly like is this:

“The Three Christmas Trees” is a Scandinavian folktale. It is the story of three young pine trees growing together on a hilltop. Each one of them had a different dream for their lives. The first wanted to be made into a beautiful treasure box, to hold the most valuable jewels in the world. The second wanted to become a wonderful ship, and carry the most important people on the oceans of the world. The third tree had a more simple and (he thought) humble dream: to stay right there on the hillside and grow tall and strong, pointing everyone towards God in heaven. When the big day for felling these trees came, they all were disappointed — the first was made into an animal’s feeding trough, the second into a small fishing boat, and the third was left just as logs in a lumber-yard. What had happened to their dreams? But, with time, all three came to see how they were caught up into the story of God in very special ways not of their own making. The first tree became the feeding trough that held the newly born Son of God, the second tree became the fishing boat from which the man of God stilled the storm, and the third — he became the cross on which Jesus the Messiah was crucified, pointing the way to God for all generations.

So enjoy your Christmas Tree, and may it be for you, along with many other traditions that we keep at this time of year, another pointer to the true meaning of Christmas, the birth of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Happy Christmas!

Your friend and Vicar



December 2013 Calendar

Daily Prayer in the Church 9.00 - 9.15am Tuesday and Friday (*Tuesday 17 December is the last morning prayer in December*) Holy Communion is celebrated Wednesday mornings at 10.30am followed by refreshments in the Green Lounge.

Sun 1st

Advent

	8am	Holy Communion BCP
	10am	Parish Communion
	10am	Family Service in the Hall Give Way Café in Parish Rooms
	11.45am	Healing Service
	4pm	Advent Carol Service
Wed 4 th	11.30am	Bible Study followed by lunch
Thurs 5 th	9am	HT School Communion Service
Fri 6 th	7.30pm	Paul Strickland Concert in Church
Sat 7 th	9am-12	Churchyard winter clear up

Sun 8th

Advent 2

	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Parish Communion
	10am	Children's Activities
	6pm	Evensong
Mon 9 th	6-7.30pm	Carols@Costa
Tue 10 th	1.30pm	HTS Nativity Technical
	6.30pm	Northwood Prep Carol Service in Church
Wed 11 th	1.30pm	Holy Trinity School Nativity
	7pm	St Martin's School Carol Service
Thurs 12 th	9am	HT School Christingle Service
	11.10am	Sing and Praise! Crib Service
	6pm	Holy Trinity School Nativity
Sat 14 th	1.30pm	Wedding Fiona Paterson & David Jones

Advent 3

Sun 15th

8am Holy Communion
10am Christingle Service - all age
6pm Advent Antiphons

Mon 16th

6.30pm St Helen's School Carol Service
and refreshments

Tues 17th

2-3.30pm Parish Tea in School Hall

Wed 18th

6.30pm Carols round the Parish - starting at
Sevenoaks, Copse Wood Way and
ending at the Green Man

Thurs 19th

9.45am Toddlers' Christmas party

Fri 20th

9am Holy Trinity School Carol Service

Advent 4

Sun 22nd

8am Holy Communion
10am Parish Communion
10am Children's Activities and
Nativity rehearsal
6pm Carol Service followed by mince
pies & mulled wine

Tues 24th

4pm Nativity
10.30pm Carols with the Choir
11.00pm Midnight Communion

Christmas Eve

Wed 25th

8am Holy Communion
10am Christmas Day Family Communion

Christmas Day

Sun 29th

8am Holy Communion
10am Parish Communion
10am Children's Activities
There will no 6pm Service

Christmas 1

January 2014

Daily Prayer in the Church 9.00 - 9.15am - Tuesday and Friday.

Holy Communion is celebrated Wednesday mornings at 10.30am followed by refreshments in the Green Lounge.

5th January

8.00am
10.00am
10.00am
11.45am
6.00pm

Epiphany

Holy Communion (BCP) and refreshments
Parish Communion
Family Service in the Hall, Give Way Cafe
Service of Prayer for Healing
Stations of the Nativity

12th January

8.00am
10.00am
10.00am
6.00pm

Baptism of Christ

Holy Communion
Confirmation Service with the Bishop of Willesden
Connect, Scramblers, Pathfinders & Crèche
Evensong

19th January

8.00am
10.00am
10.00am
4.00pm

Epiphany 2

Holy Communion
Parish Communion
Encounter Communion Service in the Hall
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at Fairfield Church,
Northwood Hills

26th January

8.00am
10.00am
12 noon
6.00pm

Epiphany 3

Holy Communion
Parish Communion and Connect
Baptism
Evensong

Thursday 30th January

8.15pm

Parochial Church Council

February 2014

2nd February

8.00am
10.00am
10.00am
11.45am
6.00pm

Candlemas

Holy Communion (BCP) and refreshments
Parish Communion
Family Service in the Hall, Give Way Cafe
Service of Prayer for Healing
Evensong

9th February

8.00am
10.00am
10.00am
6.00pm

4th Sunday before Lent

Holy Communion
Parish Communion
Connect, Scramblers, Pathfinders & Crèche
Evensong

16th February

8.00am
 10.00am
 10.00am
 6.00pm

3rd Sunday before Lent

Holy Communion
 Parish Communion
 Encounter Communion Service in the Hall
 Evensong

23rd February

8.00am
 10.00am
 10.00am
 6.00pm

2nd Sunday before Lent

Holy Communion
 Parish Communion
 Connect, Scramblers, Pathfinders & Crèche
 Evensong

March 2014**Sunday 2nd March**

8.00am
 10.00am
 10.00am
 11.45am
 6.00pm

Sunday next before Lent

Holy Communion (BCP)
 Parish Communion
 Family Service in the Hall, Give Way Café
 Service of Prayer for Healing
 Evensong

Wednesday 5th March

10.30am
 8.00pm

Ash Wednesday

Communion with the imposition of Ashes
 Communion with the imposition of Ashes

Sunday 9th March

8.00am
 10.00am
 10.00am
 6.00pm

Lent 1

Holy Communion
 Parish Communion
 Connect, Scramblers and Pathfinders
 Evensong

Sunday 16th March

8.00am
 10.00am
 10.00am
 6.00pm

Lent 2

Holy Communion
 Parish Communion
 Connect, Scramblers and Pathfinders
 Evensong

Sunday 23rd March

8.00am
 10.00am
 10.00am
 6.00pm

Lent 3

Holy Communion
 Parish Communion
 Connect, Scramblers and Pathfinders
 Choral Evensong with Chiltern Hundreds Bach Choir

Sunday 30th March

8.00am
 10.00am
 6.00pm

Lent 4/Mothering Sunday

Holy Communion
 All age Mothering Sunday Service
 Evensong



holy trinity events

Date	Forthcoming Events in 2014
Sunday 12 January	10am Confirmation Service with the Bishop of Willesden
Wednesday 5 March	Ash Wednesday 10.30am and 8pm Holy Communion with imposition of ashes
Saturday 15 March	7.30pm Quiz Supper in Church Hall
Friday 7 & 21 March, 4 April	Lent Lunches at 12.30 Simple bread, soup and cheese on Fridays of Lent
Sunday 23 March	6pm Chiltern Hundreds Bach Choir
Sunday 30 March	10am Mothering Sunday All Age Service
Thursday 17 April	7.30pm Maundy Supper
Friday 18 April Good Friday	10am Family Service 12 – 3 Three hour service
Saturday 19 April	8pm Easter Eve
Sunday 20 April Easter Day	10am Family Communion Service
Sunday 27 April	11.30am Annual Parochial Church Meeting in Church
Saturday 14 June	12 noon - 4pm Holy Trinity Family Fete

News and Events

Pet Service Sunday 22nd September



Held in September and another great success with more animals than people attending! and refreshments enjoyed by all afterwards.

Moor Park 10K Run Sunday 29th September



Our team did fantastically well and the results can be seen on the Linda Jackson Macmillan Centre website. Thanks to everyone who participated and especially the sponsors. In total Holy Trinity raised a magnificent £1,070. Our best yet!

Parish Tea

On the last Tuesday of each month between 2pm and 3.30pm we serve tea and home made cakes in the Parish Hall, Gateway Close. All are welcome. The choir from the Holy Trinity School have on a number of occasions come and entertained us and we have had an opportunity to share with the children some of our memories of school days and memories of living through the war. On 17th December Holy Trinity School have kindly invited us to tea in the School Hall. We aim to offer transport for anyone who would like to attend but is unable to do so without help. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested in attending as a guest or would like to come and be part of the team.



Dates for 2014: 28th Jan, 25th Feb and 25th March

Ann Clarridge

Harvest and Hog Roast Sunday 6th October



The pictures say it all! The church was beautifully decorated by our Flower Ladies and filled with produce for Watford New Hope Trust. In addition we are most grateful for the very generous donations we were able to send to **Us** for their work in the Philippines and around the world which totalled £1,101.07.

Harvest Supper turns into Hog Roast lunch

The hog roast was a great success and enjoyed by many people. I am not sure how we actually got them all in the hall but we did. Chairs were taken from every nook and cranny, even the choir lost their spares. The lunch-time slot was an absolute hit with over 150 people including 36 children. The activities in church kept the children occupied until the meal was served and we were able to sit outside as it was a beautiful day. The film session in the Green room was great for keeping children entertained between food and afterwards. The puddings were exceptional! Thank you to everyone who made one.

Jon Hooper entertained us on the keyboard and was very much appreciated by everyone, and added to the lovely warm atmosphere. The ultimate question remains. Will we do it all again next year? A resounding 'yes' is the answer.

Thank you to all the members of the Charity and Social Committee who worked so hard to make this event so successful.

Carole Hamwijk

Advent Groups

Our three Advent groups meet on Mondays during Advent at different times of the day so please contact the Parish Office if you would like to join one of them.

Posada 2013

Don't forget to sign up to host Mary and Joseph on their journey round the Parish, starting at the Advent Family Carol Service at 4pm on Sunday 1st December.



Parish Roundabout

Please give a warm welcome to our two student placements Dan Wilton and Becky Bailey whom you may already have seen in Encounter or in the Choir. They will be with us for this academic year.

I've been asked to introduce myself to all the lovely people of Holy Trinity Northwood, so hello! I'm Dan Wilton and I'm studying at London School of Theology. I'll be working, alongside Becky, on a placement for the next

year at Holy Trinity. I'm looking forward to being a part of the church and being able to take part in the exciting range of things that seem to be going on.

I've been a Christian for a few years now and, in that time, God has taken me on a bit of journey. I've been actively involved in my church and have had experience of everything from technicals to child care, which has proved to be an interesting education! I've got a real heart for learning more about who God is and studying His word and I love chatting to people about their experiences and outlook. Mission is also close to my heart and I spent six months in Uganda with BMS World Mission: a life changing time.

Now I find myself at HTN and I hope I can be of service and that I'll learn more from my experiences here. Please feel free to have a friendly chat; I'd love to get to know you more.

Dan Wilton

Dear Trinity News!

My name is Becky Bailey and I'm one of the two new interns from the London School of Theology where I'm studying for a BA Hons in theology, music and worship, as I'm a first study classical singer but also play keys. I'm from a little town called Bude in North Cornwall where the sun always shines! I live there on a farm with my mum, dad and two older sisters. I was brought up with a church background having always attended and taken part in church whether it's leading worship or dressing up as a Christmas elf for the kids! I'm really looking forward to getting to know you all at Holy Trinity Northwood and pray for a blessed year for us all. Thank you.

Becky Bailey

And a message from two very familiar members of our congregation:

A Golden Wedding

When we were married in 1963, thoughts of a Golden Wedding in 2013 were almost an impossible dream. Fifty years was a very long time. How long came home to us this year when we found amongst our wedding photos a copy of the local Gloucester paper carrying a photo of the wedding group alongside one of the two towers of the first Severn Bridge then in construction. That really brought it home!

We decided on a family occasion to celebrate and a weekend in a large country house on the edge of the Cotswolds provided us with just the

venue for a hugely enjoyable party with children, grandchildren and in-laws, eighteen in all. Earlier in September we had entertained our two nephews to a “page boys” reunion with their families and more recently the flower arranger with her husband. There were so many others we wished to include and so it was decided to offer an open invitation to members of the congregation to enjoy a glass of wine and a piece of cake after the 10am service on 13th October. This very informal gathering in the Church Hall worked beautifully thanks to the organisation of the Talking Point Group and the magnificent cake baked and iced by Colette Rees. Very many thanks to all of them for their hard work so willingly undertaken. For all your congratulations and best wishes a very heartfelt thank you. It has been a truly memorable and happy time.

Glyn and Mary Martin

Developments in RE at Holy Trinity School

We are delighted to be the first school in the diocese to have a Godly Play Room. This enables children to worship in small groups, re-enacting Bible stories and responding to them in various creative ways. Members of the congregation visited the school for coffee after Church on Sunday 17th November, where they were treated to a visit to the Godly Play Room and guided tour of the school. The room was also open to parents and children for this term’s Narnia- themed Messy Church. The Godly Play Room became a place where families could create their perfect world out of Lego.

Our RE week celebrated the work of C.S. Lewis and coincided with the 50th anniversary of his death. Children were able to reflect deeply on the meaning of Aslan’s sacrifice and draw parallels with the death and resurrection of Christ. Key Stage 2 enjoyed thought provoking workshops with a presenter from the Barnabas Trust. A film of Narnia week is currently available to watch on the school’s website, www.holytrinitynorthwood.org

Mair Henton, Deputy Headteacher

QUIZ

Season of Mists and Mellow Fruitfulness

1. Which presenter of the TV series 'Autumnwatch' has won the world 'Gurning' (pulling the weirdest face) competition and which would consign the giant panda to extinction?
2. Why is a 'bonfire' so called?
3. Who wrote "It was a dull, dark and soundless day in the autumn of the year when I came upon the view of the melancholy House of Usher"?
4. Which poisonous plant eases the pain of gout and its leafless flower led to it being called 'The Naked Lady'?
5. Which is the only European conifer to shed its leaves in autumn and from its resin is obtained turpentine?
6. Name the poem quoted in the quiz's title and its author.
7. Astronomically: Autumn is from the autumn equinox (Sept. 22nd) to the winter solstice (Dec. 21st). Define Equinox and Solstice.

PCC Meeting 26 September 2013

The PCC met on Thursday 26th September 2013, the main areas of discussion were as follows:

- Richard reported on another successful Holiday Club and recorded his thanks to all those who had worked so hard to make it a success.
- There was a Farewell Party after the Holiday Club for Kevin Draper and his family, and he was presented with a cheque for £1325 reflecting the generous donations from parishioners.
- During September Ann Clarridge had organised a quiet day at Chipperfield, led by Rev Lynn Phillips, who also preached at the 10am service on 7 September. There had also been the Pet Service and a Prayer Vigil for those suffering in Syria and Egypt.
- Following Kevin's departure, Richard has met with the leaders of Junior Church and reported that Deborah Layde has taken on the responsibility for organising leaders rotas and that the programme of activities on a Sunday will continue as before. The Saturday Morning

football is being led by Patrick O'Neill and Andrew Newell but the Friday Fries group will not operate until a new Youth Minister is appointed. There will again be two LST students on placement with us during term time.

- Looking forward, Holy Trinity was again entering a team in the Moor Park 10k run which was an important community event with sponsorship money going to a good local cause. Bishop Mauricio was also visiting at the end of September which provided us with the opportunity to celebrate his ten years as Bishop of Brasilia.
- Our Harvest celebrations on 6 October would provide support for the Watford New Hope Trust who would receive the produce offerings, and Us who would receive financial donations for their Harvest 2013 appeal.
- Richard was pleased to report that Bishop Pete has agreed that the parish should have a trainee curate, and Peter Godden will join us in June 2014 for 3 years. Richard confirmed that Ann Clarridge will be moving from Lees Avenue next year, but will continue to be part of the Ministry Team. Finally, it is also intended that a gap year student will come as a Youth Work Assistant for 2014 /15 and this student will be supervised by the new Youth Minister.
- Andrew Newell introduced a Heating Report that had been produced by a Heating Engineer on the Church Heating System. The report set out a number of options to improve the heating in Church with some ballpark estimates of likely costs. The PCC approved the establishment of a Working Group to meet with the Heating Engineer to work through the options and to make a final recommendation on which option to pursue at the November 2013 PCC Meeting. The aim would be to undertake improvements during the summer of 2014.
- Sally Rogers reported that the Vicarage was showing signs of wear and tear and that it was necessary to undertake a programme of refurbishment, including redecoration and new carpets. This was approved by the PCC.
- Graham Hamwijk reported on the state of finances as at 31 August, these showed a deficit to Budget of circa £8k on the general funds. It was agreed that the Finance Committee would discuss the accounts in more detail at their forthcoming meeting. Brian Watkins also undertook to provide the PCC with an update on the Future Projects Fund.
- Sally Rogers reported that the Parish Hall Improvements had been achieved over the summer in very tight timescales, there was a need for the floor to have a further coat of varnish at Half Term. All agreed

that the Hall has been greatly enhanced by the refurbishment. New Chairs are now required for the foyer area and it was proposed that we seek donations for these at £75 per chair, with up to 6 required.

- Richard thanked Sally Rogers and Nigel Washbourn for all their hard work in bringing this project to fruition.
- Richard reported that a job description and advert has been prepared for the Children, Youth and Family Minister role adverts were being placed during October with the aim of interviewing towards the end of November. The interview panel would comprise, Richard, the two Churchwardens and the Head Teacher of Holy Trinity School. Given the likely timescales for recruitment, it was intended to let the property in Tanworth Close on a short 6 month tenancy.
- Ann Clarridge reported that the Mission and Outreach Committee had met to consider Capital Vision 2020 implications for our Mission Action Plan; two further meetings are planned and a fuller update will be provided to the November PCC Meeting.
- Andrew Newell reported that the Church Guttering and downpipes were in urgent need of repair and repainting and the PCC approved a budget of £13,313 which would be met from the Designated Maintenance Fund. The Patio outside the Parish Rooms has been completed, and the cost has been met by the grant of £1k received last year and donations for the remaining costs, and garden furniture has also been donated.
- Brian Watkins proposed a budget of £1500 to redecorate Tanworth Close which was agreed.
- Andrew Newell recorded thanks to Richard Read for repainting the white lines in the car park, and to John Chapman, for leading the removal of the tree stump from the Churchyard.
- Andrew Newell reported that the defect in the lighting in the South Aisle has now been rectified, and a toilet has been replaced in the Parish Rooms. John Barraclough reported that the flat roof over the Parish Hall Kitchen is leaking, and he was authorised to seek an urgent repair at best price.
- The PCC agreed a budget of £306 to purchase a Who's Who Board for the Trinity Corner.
- Distribution of the Harvest edition of "Good News" had gone better than the previous distribution, although logistical challenges remained. The PCC agreed to persevere with the current in-house approach for the next edition.
- Carole Hamwijk reported on the arrangements for the Macmillan Coffee Morning on 27 September, and the Harvest Hog Roast on 6

October. It was also noted that the Autumn Bazaar would be held on 28 October.

- Carole Hamwijk presented the School report prepared by Mair Henton, this covered the extensive building improvements that had been made over the summer and in particular the provision of a Godly Play room at the School. The School are inviting the Church Community to come into School for coffee after the morning service on 17 November in order to see these new facilities. The School are holding their Christmas Bazaar on 30 November. The School Choir is also regularly attending the monthly Parish Tea, and on 17 December the Parish Tea will be hosted in the School.
- The PCC noted that a bequest has been received from the estate of Dr Joan Shaw, and the PCC agreed that this should be allocated to the Future Projects Fund.
- Future Meetings – The next PCC Meeting is scheduled for the 20 November 2013.

Andrew Newell, Churchwarden

Answers to Quiz 'Season of Mists'

1. Michaela Strachan in 2002. Chris. Packham who is vice-president of the RSPB stated he'd rather less money was spent on trying to save the panda allowing more to be spent on more worthy causes.
2. It was originally 'bone fire' when most cattle and sheep had been slaughtered at the end of the summer (their hides preserved and flesh salted) and their bones were disposed of in a large fire.
3. Edgar Allan Poe in the gothic novel The Fall of the House of Usher.
4. Autumn Crocus (Meadow Saffron) or Colchicum Autumnale (from Colchis, a province of Asia Minor where it grew abundantly). The drug colchicine quickly abates an attack of gout.
5. The Larch, whose Latin name is 'Terbinthina'.
6. 'To Autumn' by John Keats (1795-1821)
7. Equinox : when night and day are of equal length when the sun crosses the celestial equator. Solstice : When the sun reaches its extreme southern position (winter solstice), its lowest position in the sky resulting in the shortest day (Sol+sistere = sun stands still).

Thanks to Peter Connell

The Parish Registers
September to November 2013

BAPTISMS

22 nd September 2013	Cecilia Duffy Tai Knowles
13 th October 2013	William Davies Marley Goodhew
27 th October 2013	Rosina Thornley Joanne Thornley Michelle Thornley Jaycee Thornley Elyssa Thornley Lily Rose Jamie Gibbons Thomas Gibbons
24 th November	Harry Darge

FUNERALS

3 rd October	Ken Tiley
16 th October	Norman Rose
14 th November	Patricia Ramage
15 th November	Vivienne Harriss

Weekday events at Holy Trinity

Monday Bible Study on the last Monday of the month at 8.30pm in the Parish Rooms, starting 27th January

Parish Tea 2pm in Church Hall on the last Tuesday of the month:
28th January 2014, 25th February and 25th March

Wednesday 10.30am Holy Communion followed by refreshments and Bible Study on first Wednesday of the month, starting 8th January

Sing & Praise! starts back on Thursday 16 January 2014 at 11.10am for Toddlers and Nursery children and parents/carers. Every fortnight:
16, 30 January, 13, 27 February, 13 27 March 2014



holy trinity northwood
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