**TRINITY**

The Newsletter of

**Holy Trinity Church Ilkeston**

**Sunday 14th September 2025**

**Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)**

**11am Parish Mass  Celebrant and Preacher Fr Max**

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

**Tuesday 16th September 9.30 am Mass**

**Thursday 18th September 7.00 pm Mass**

(Mass is said also at St Laurence's, Long Eaton on Wednesday at 12.30 pm and on Saturday at 9.30 am)

**Next Sunday 21st September 2025 Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**11.00am THE PARISH MASS Celebrant and Preacher: Fr Max**

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 with you. **Please join us for refreshments afterwards in the church hall**

**This week's news:**

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**Dates for the diary/calendar**

Further details of the following events will follow nearer the time but it may be useful to get the dates in your diary or on your calendar to avoid any clashes. **Rosemary**

**Christmas Party Tuesday 9th December**

**Floral workshops Friday 12th December AND Tuesday 16th December**

**Christingle Monday 1st December**

**Carol Service Monday 15th December**

**Lectio Divina**

There will as usual be no meeting in August, and meetings then continue on the fourth Wednesday of the month, starting on the 24th Septemberl. I hope by then to be fit enough to attend and lead the session. At each study we will be using the following Sunday’s Gospel reading.  Everyone is welcome.  **Andrew Smith**

**Harvest Supper, Tuesday 7th October, 6.30pm for 7.00pm**

Tickets (£10.00, children £7.50) are now available. The choice of main course will be roast loin of pork or cottage pie. Maximum number 40 people so don’t delay!  Donations of suitable raffle prizes will be much appreciated. **Rosemary**

**Please remember in your prayers:**

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Those who are sick: including Pam Bailey, Ian Birkin, Colin Booth, Fr Michael Brinkworth, Carole Chapman, Frank Clewes, Anne, Esme, and Nigel Gamble, Ann Henshaw, Jean Jarvis, George Mills, Stuart Mills, Sheena Powell, Anne Riley, Len Shelbourne, Andrew Smith, Martha Smith, Paul Smith, Natasha Smith-Thorley, Bryan Straw, and Yvonne Wilcockson.

All who have recently died; please remember also those whose anniversary of death falls this week: Robert Smith, Susan Elliott, Nellie Smith, and Thomas Samuel Bostock

**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*

**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*

**5th Ilkeston Holy Trinity Brownies:** Brown Owl: Bev:  07747 142501

**5th Ilkeston Holy Trinity Rainbows**:  Fiona 07914 717248

**Tiny Tots** (Parent and Toddler Group) Helen Crisp 07790 876015

**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.

**Commmentary on the Readings for the Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Andrew Smith writes:**

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**The Theme of the Readings for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy**

**Cross: God Calls the Church to Glory in the Cross of Jesus Christ**

On the 14th September the Church celebrates the liturgical feast known in Latin as‘Exaltatio Crucis,’ Exaltation of the Cross, indicating that the Cross of Jesus Christ is not a sign of shame, as it was before the crucifixion and death of Jesus Christ. Instead, the Cross is the sign of Jesus's victory over sin and death and the hope of our eternal salvation. The feast day was adopted in the West about three centuries later. The 40-day period between the Feast of Transfiguration (6th Aug.) and the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (14th Sept.) became a celebrated time ofpilgrimage to the Holy Land for those who could not make the journey in the spring to celebrate the feasts of Easter and the Ascension forty days later. Ave Crux, spes Unica! ‘Hail the Cross, our only Hope!’ is the motto of the Congregation of the Holy Cross. Over the years here at Holy Trinity we have been fortunate to have been served faithfully by Priests who belong to the SSC (Societas Sanctae Crucis) whos motto is ‘In hoc signo vinces’. The Society of the Holy Cross (SSC) was founded in London in 1855 by a small group of Anglo-Catholic priests led by Father Charles Lowder. At a time when the Catholic Revival in the Church of England was threatened by persecution and misunderstanding, these priests came together for support, mutual prayer and encouragement. Fr Lowder spelled out the objects of SSC: ‘To defend and strengthen the spiritual life of the clergy, to defend the faith of the Church, and to carry on and aid Mission work both at home and abroad.’ If you have the time and are able I highly recommend going to the SSC website:www.sscholycross.com to read further about the SSC’s fascinating history

Today's First Reading from Numbers **(21:4-9)** relates how, near the end of their forty-year wilderness journey out of Egyptian slavery, the new generation of the children of Israel began to complain about their hardships and spoke against God and Moses. They accused God and His covenant mediator of conspiring to lead them to die in the desert by not providing food and water for them. As their punishment for such a ngreat sin as accusing God of evil, like the serpent Satan, He allowed poisonous snakes whose bites burned like fire to afflict the people and to call them to repentance before

dissatisfaction led to full-scale revolt. Unlike their fathers, the new generation of the children of Israel's response to Yahweh's redemptive judgment was to immediately acknowledge their sin, repent, and ask for divine intervention. God's response to the people's repentance was to provide a means of salvation. He healed them if they had the faith to look up to the image of a serpent that God instructed Moses to make and suspend on a wooden pole, and if they believed that God had the power to heal them.

Today’s Responsorial Psalm **(Ps 78)** recounts the history of Israel's relationship with Yhwh. The introduction in verses 1-2 invites the people of Israel to learn from the past and not repeat their ancestors' acts of rebellion against God's authority over them.

In the Epistle reading from Philippians **(2:6-11)**, it recounts how St. Paul gave a profound exposition of the true nature of Jesus Christ. He acknowledged Jesus's humanity, but he also clearly professed His divinity. Paul wrote that taking on a human body brought Jesus to a life of suffering and sacrifice, which reached its climax on a wooden Roman cross, where the soldiers stripped Him of everything He had, like a slave. Then, Paul described Jesus's exaltation in glory. Having completed His mission, Jesus is made manifest again, clothed in all the glory of His divine nature, which His human nature has merited. For this great act of bringing salvation to humankind, St. Paul declares that Jesus deserves the worship and praise of every living creature and the confession that He is Lord of all!

The Gospel Reading from St John’s Gospel **(3:13-17)** is from Jesus's conversation with a Pharisee and Jewish leader named Nicodemus, who came at night to question Him. Jesus told Nicodemus that he must be reborn from above through water and the Spirit of God to have eternal life. Then, the conversation turned to a revelation of Jesus's true identity and a prophecy of His Passion. Jesus compared Himself to the image of the bronze serpent that God had Moses construct and raise up above the heads of the people as a means of their salvation in the First Reading, saying, ‘... so must the Son of Man be lifted up so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.’ Jesus's comparison prefigured His crucifixion. Today, as St.Paul wrote, ‘...we proclaim Christ crucified’. We must also look to the crucified Christ, believe that He is the only Son of God, and be ‘lifted up’ with Him.