

Holy Trinity St Mary's



Friends,

A duty of care

Between the first Christmas Day, and the first Good Friday, Jesus changed. At the beginning, as a newly born infant, he was cared for, as he could do nothing for himself. That is a tender part of the Christmas story – that God was content to be completely vulnerable, in the care of others.

By the end of his life, Jesus was the one who cared, showing in word and action the tender compassion that brought hope and healing to many. His example is our inspiration to be carers ourselves. Yet, in the middle of his life, Jesus combined both: he offered and accepted care. Think of the story when he was thirsty, asking water from a stranger, unembarrassed to be in need (John 4.7).

It is part of our spiritual journey into mature adulthood that we can be both cared for and carers. If we never let anyone look after us, then we distance ourselves, probably in a proud and unhelpful way.

Now, as the regulations for this part of the country are tightened, however much we may feel constrained, we have a duty of care – to look after ourselves, our neighbours and friends, those we may meet in the street, and those we may be accustomed to sitting next to in church.

I am confident that you will make a responsible decision about church-going. I am

helped by remembering that this year, 2020, is so unusual – and that, God willing, we can look forward to a fully joyful Christmas at the end of 2021. Until then, please take care.



If you are coming to Holy Trinity, please wrap up warm so that we can ensure the building is as ventilated as possible. Please consider coming to one of the services apart from the 10am on Christmas Day, so that we can spread the congregations out as effectively as possible.

Please note that, for safety's sake, we have cancelled the Christmas Eve service at St Mary's (that was to have been at 9pm). All those familiar with worship at St Mary's (Methodist and Anglican) are specifically invited to the 6pm Christmas Eve service at Holy Trinity instead.

To give everyone a moment of ease, we are asking that the congregation at 10am on Sunday 27th December stays at home. Holy Trinity church will be open for ministers and the tech team, so that the service can be broadcast on [Zoom](#) and [YouTube](#) as usual. Of course, the doors will still be open if anyone turns up unexpectedly.

We are very grateful

Thank you to the "tech team" for all you have done this year to keep us together as one parish, one worshipping community. You have enabled us to remain united and to participate fully in worship, wherever we have been. In particular, thousands of people benefitted from your work in broadcasting and recording the Ordination service at Holy Trinity in October, for Tom and three other ministers. You have

overcome last minute problems, hosted breakout rooms, and made worship beautiful in a way that most of us had never even considered possible.

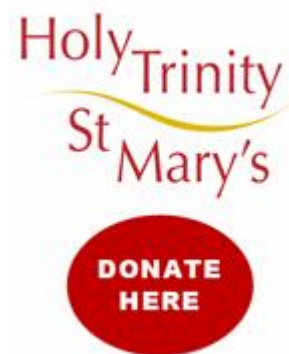
And also a BIG “thank you” to Susie Alcock who has circulated these weekly letters. Susie has designed the letters, making complicated information as accessible as possible. Each week, sometimes at the eleventh hour, Susie has helped us stay in touch with each other. Brilliant!

The next letter will be published on Thursday 7th January. Morning Prayer will continue until 23rd December, and re-start on Monday 4th January.

-Robert

Message from the Treasurer

Thank you so much to everyone who has given to the Parish in 2020. It has been a difficult year for us all individually and as a Parish but the response to requests for financial support have been humbling. As a Parish we have met fully our obligations to our employees and to our Outward Giving commitments.



At the same time we have developed new ways of making services and other resources available to those at home and made the churches safe environments for those wishing to come in person. We have done this despite losing significant income from the letting of our buildings and from collections in church.

The response to the CAF Donate Red Button on the web site, to the Contactless Giving handset in Holy Trinity and to requests to consider a review of Planned Giving commitments has been magnificent and means that although the Parish will still have a deficit in 2020 it will be much smaller than originally envisaged.

We will continue to minimise expenditure where we can but with the latest Covid restrictions the beginning of 2021 will be just as difficult as 2020 and the future remains uncertain.

We are very grateful for your continued support and if you are able to make further donations over this Christmas period please [click here](#) or on the 'DONATE HERE' button above. Or you can contact [Alan Brown](#) about [Planned Giving](#) or [contact the Treasurer](#) who will be pleased to assist. Thank you.

-Rogan Dixon



Pause to Pray (video)
[Lighting the fourth Advent Candle](#)

Holy Trinity Midweek Communion
Wednesday 23 December • 12pm

Christmas Services 2020 at Holy Trinity & St Mary's

Christmas Eve • Thursday 24 December

Crib service • Holy Trinity • 4pm
Christmas Communion (R) • Holy Trinity | Zoom | YouTube • 6pm
Christmas Communion • St Mary's • 9pm - CANCELLED
'Midnight' Communion • Holy Trinity | Zoom | YouTube • 10pm

Christmas Day • Friday 25 December

Holy Communion • St Mary's | Zoom • 8am
Festival Service (R) • Holy Trinity | Zoom | YouTube • 10am
Christmas Communion • Holy Trinity | Zoom | YouTube • 11am
Christmas Service • St Mary's | Zoom only • 10.30am

Sunday 27 December (Church-at-home)

Holy Communion • St Mary's | Zoom only • 8am
Church-at-home • Holy Trinity | Zoom and YouTube only • 10am
Church-at-home • St Mary's | Zoom only • 10:30am

Epiphany • Sunday 3rd January

Holy Communion • St Mary's | Zoom • 8am
Epiphany Eucharist (R) • Holy Trinity | Zoom | YouTube • 10am
Epiphany Communion • St Mary's | Zoom • 10.30am
Compline • Holy Trinity | Zoom • 6pm

(R) Recording of service will be available on the HTSM YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/HTSMGuildford>

Links for services can be found below

UPDATED - Click here for a printable version of HTSM Christmas Services 2020

Links to services and prayers • 23 December 2020 to 7 January 2021

[SUBSCRIBE](#) to this newsletter to receive the Zoom Links to services (sent by email only)

Service sheets may have several pages;
text for HT service sheets on 24th, 25th, 27th the same.

Christmas Eve 24th December • [Click here for Holy Trinity Service Sheet](#)

6pm HT Christmas Communion	<u>Live on YouTube</u>
10pm HT 'Midnight' Communion	<u>Live on YouTube</u>

Christmas Day 25th December • [Click here for Holy Trinity Service Sheet](#)

8am St Mary's BCP Holy Communion	<u>SERVICE SHEET</u>
10am Holy Trinity Festival Service	<u>Live on YouTube</u>
11am Holy Trinity Christmas Communion	<u>Live on YouTube</u>
10:30am St Mary's Christmas Service	<u>SERVICE SHEET</u>

Sunday 27th December • [Click for Holy Trinity Service Sheet](#)

8am St Mary's BCP Holy Communion	<u>SERVICE SHEET</u>
10am Holy Trinity Church-at-home	<u>Live on YouTube</u>
10:30am Worship from St Mary's with the Wey Valley Methodist Circuit	<u>SERVICE SHEET</u>

Epiphany Sunday 3rd January 2021 • [Click for Holy Trinity Service Sheet](#)

8am St Mary's BCP Holy Communion	SERVICE SHEET
10am Holy Trinity Epiphany Eucharist	Live on YouTube
10:30am St Mary's Epiphany Communion	SERVICE SHEET
6pm Holy Trinity Compline	SERVICE SHEET
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Pause to Pray videos • HT services on video	Walking with God
Weekday 8:30am Prayer until 23 Dec; restarts 4 Jan	WEEKDAY PRAYER
Sat 9:30am Prayer until 23 Dec; restarts 4 Jan	SATURDAY PRAYER

If there is news that we should know please pass it on:

Rev Robert Cotton rector@holytrinityguildford.org.uk 01483 575489

Rev Tom Pote curate@holytrinityguildford.org.uk 01483 511725

Robert and Tom are on annual leave from 26 Dec to 2 Jan

Parish Office office@holytrinityguildford.org.uk 01483 567716

Please make sure we have up to date contact details for you.
