

Holy Trinity St Mary's



Bishops Jo and Andrew with Tom Pote and fellow ordinands at Holy Trinity last Saturday

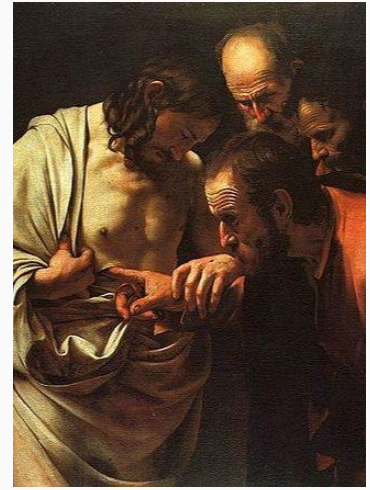
Dear Friends,

What a joy it was to be ordained priest last Saturday in Holy Trinity and to celebrate the Eucharist for the first time on Sunday with so many of you.

It has certainly been an unusual first year in ministry, but I have loved working in this parish and getting to know you all. This made last weekend all the more special for me. You've heard me say before that there can be no ordained deacons and priests without a community to serve and so, for me, being ordained in one of our churches and knowing that so many of you were watching online was really poignant. It felt like a parish celebration and I give thanks for you and all that we are here.

I would also like to repeat my thanks to those who helped put the service together – our musicians, churchwardens, tech team and flower arrangers did a fantastic job and I have had many messages from across the UK and Europe saying how wonderful the services were. Finally, thank you for the beautiful stole – I shall treasure and delight in wearing it for services.

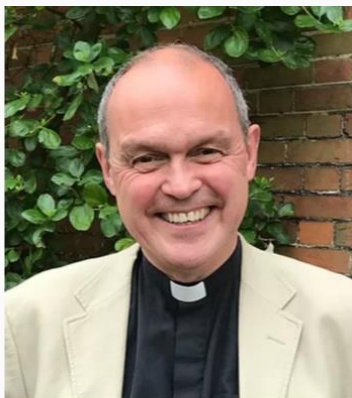
If you were in Holy Trinity on Sunday, you may have picked up one of the little cards showing this picture of Saint Thomas putting his hand in Jesus' side after the resurrection. (If you didn't get one, there are plenty left at the back of Holy Trinity.) I chose this image for two reasons. First, Thomas is 'my saint' and I have often found myself identifying with his 'I won't believe it until I see it'. I guess there is a bit in all of us like that. It's probably even more true when there is so much uncertainty in the world that we want tangible things to hang onto.



Secondly, when Thomas puts his hand in Jesus' wounds, he exclaims 'My Lord and my God'. This is said to be the first Christian creed as he recognises the resurrected Christ as the Son of God. To him the mystery is unveiled, but Jesus says, 'blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed'. That's you and me. St. Thomas teaches me to rejoice in the great mystery of faith – indeed on Sunday mornings at the Eucharist we proclaim our own Thomas-esque creed when we proclaim 'Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!'.

Thomas was able to look into Jesus' eyes as he said these words; we look at the face of Christ in one another. That's the final reason I chose this picture. We are called to look for the Christ in our midst, in friend and stranger, to recognise and welcome Him. It's a fundamental part of the priestly ministry in which we all share and in which we are to encourage one another. In this parish, we are Christ's body, we are His hands, His mouth, His feet – and I look forward to being part of it all in the coming years of my ministry here among you.

***Blessings,
Tom***



Robert Cotton
Rector

Keeping in touch

Please help us keep in touch with you, and those with whom you are close. As the season turns, and as the health of the nation feels precarious, it will be very good if we can continue to offer words of support and encouragement – and also offer practical help where needed. It is so good to see you on Sundays, either at home or in church – that's a great time for a quick word, so we know how we are each doing.

If you have not been to church recently – in either form – perhaps you can be in touch with me, Tom or Brian. I feel better knowing you are OK – and if you are not OK, I certainly feel better if I can pray and assist if appropriate.

Test and Trace

This parish fully supports all measures that are effective in reducing the levels of infection, and help us protect each other. Test and Trace QR codes are now on display. These are specific to each church and the Trinity Centre. Church of England guidance makes it clear that we have to display such posters, but we are not required to collect data (in a way that you may be experiencing in other hospitality venues). Some visitors and worshippers are giving us their contact details each week. This information is stored safely and disposed of securely after 21 days. We are working out what else we can do, not only to make us Covid-compliant, but also to make our churches as safe for everyone as possible. Please be in touch with me, if you have queries or concerns.

Susie Mackie Rest in Peace

Susie Mackie, with her family, have been a source of joy, encouragement and kindness at Holy Trinity for a generation. Susie, who bravely lived with cancer for a number of years, died peacefully last week. I was privileged to see her at home, surrounded by her family, in her last days. She remained calm and fun – laughter was ever-present. We prayed and had Communion. It was a very peaceful end. I treasure memories of Susie supporting and visiting Kwasa – she was a valued friend for Sharron, the school Head. Dom and Alex were both head choristers, not least contributing to the first Choir CD. Choir parties at their house enveloped you in warmth and generous hospitality. So much more could be said – and will be celebrated at a special Memorial Evening Service at Holy Trinity on Sunday 8th November at 6pm, when the boys and adults will be singing. May she rest in peace, and rise in glory!

- Robert



London Piano Trio - Beethoven Plus One: Music by Beethoven & Suk

Saturday 24th October 7pm at Holy Trinity Church

Programme: Beethoven Piano Trio in C Minor Op. 1 no. 3 and Suk: Piano Trio in C Minor Op. 2

For more information about Hennessey Brown Music concerts [click here](#) and to book tickets [click here](#).



Organ Recitals at St Mary's Church

St Mary's next Organ Recital will be Wednesday 11th November at 1:10pm with Carl Jackson (Chapel Royal). Admission is free.

For those wishing to attend the Organ Recitals at St Mary's Church please inform the Parish office by [email](#) or telephone: 01483 567716.

[Click here](#) for additional Organ Recitals planned at St Mary's Church.



Sources of Hope

A reminder that Prisons week continues until the 18th October. [Daily prayers](#) focus on those affected by prison or by criminal justice. We are also asked to reflect on what we as a church or as individuals might do or offer as part of our response. You can read more about the prison work members of the HTSM congregation already undertake in our [Sources of Hope](#) series (previously the Parish Blog).

Worship in the parish this week

- We celebrate St Luke whose feast day is 18th October.
- At 8am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion on Zoom
- 10am Holy Trinity – Sung Eucharist with Jonathan Hedgecock preaching on Luke 10.1-9.
- 10.30 am at St Mary's – Tom celebrates Holy Communion and preaches on Luke 14.1,7-14. This is the first Eucharist since St. Mary's reopened for worship and the girls' choir will be singing.
- 6pm at Holy Trinity – Choral Evensong sung by the boys' choir. Readings: Psalm 67, Isaiah 61.1-6 and Luke 14.1,7-14. Tom reflects on St. Luke.
- Morning Prayer weekdays at 8:30am and Saturday at 9:30am.
- A reminder that you can [view Robert's sermon from last Sunday](#) and watch [Jonathan Hedgecock's most recent Walking with God video](#) where he reflects on childhood, drawing on Matthew 18 and the poetry of Emily Dickinson.
- [Click here](#) for the full schedule of What's On in the parish.

Links to service (sent by email only) and service sheets: 16th - 22nd October

[Sunday 8am Holy Communion](#)

[SERVICE SHEET](#)

Sunday 10am Holy Trinity Eucharist

SERVICE SHEET

Sunday 10:30am St Mary's Worship

SERVICE SHEET

Sunday 6pm Evening Service

SERVICE SHEET

Pause to Pray

SERVICES ON VIDEO

Weekday 8:30am Morning Prayer

WEEKDAY PRAYER

Sat 9:30am Morning Prayer on Zoom

SATURDAY PRAYER

Download Zoom links and call-in details

HTSM NEWSLETTER

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

Rev Robert Cotton (on leave 17-22 October)

rector@holytrinityguildford.org.uk 01483 575489

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

Parish Office: office@holytrinityguildford.org.uk 01483 567716

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