



TRINITY TIMES

the parish magazine of Holy Trinity

FEBRUARY 2011

Issue number 73

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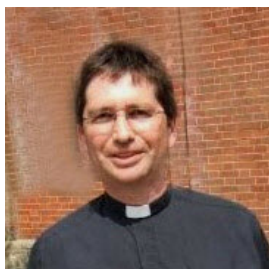
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CELEBRATE A HAPPY NEW YEAR WITH A “GREATY WAITY KATEY TATEY PLATEY”



This year there will be the OCCASIONAL mention of a certain Royal Wedding, and every royal wedding needs a souvenir plate. One spoof souvenir plate with a picture of Kate Middleton on it (who was – until William popped the question – known to some as “Waity Katey”) is great for eating your baked spud.....so it’s a “Greaty Waity Katey Tatey Platey”!

As I write this, the Bishop of Willesden in London is being threatened with action under the C.D.M. (which traditionally stood for “Cadbury’s Dairy Milk” but is now also the “Clergy Disciplinary Measure”) because he ranted rather intemperately on “Twitter “ and “Facebook”.....saying of the coming royal wedding that he would give it seven years. He also said:

"We need a party in Calais for all good republicans who can't stand the nauseating tosh that surrounds this event."

and:

"Marriages should be about family, not some piece of national flim-flam paid for out of our taxes, for a couple whose lives are going to be persecuted and spoilt by an ignorant media".

He criticised the monarchy for a history of broken marriages and a "corrupt and sexist" hereditary principle, before going on to attack the "gutter press" for "persecuting" the Royal Family.

Pretty intemperate language for any clergyman to use.....but could anyone honestly look at the pages and pages on intrusive, shallow stuff in some of our newspapers (and many of the important and serious stories glossed over as a result) and NOT agree that he at least had some serious points to make?

Yes, I guess the royal wedding will probably lift the spirits and do much to contribute to a “Happy New Year”, and it is a delight to celebrate two people in love, no matter who they are, but the excessive deference, the shallow celebrity culture, and the sidelining of serious challenges like economic hardship and climate change are real issues for all of us - clergy included - to be concerned about.

Achieving a truly “Happy New Year” is actually a deeply serious business, which requires honesty, clarity, selflessness, integrity and generosityon behalf of all of us.

With love

Father Andy

HOLY TRINITY - Your Parish Church

If you are new to the area and/or reading Trinity Times for the first time - Welcome. Set out below are a few details about the Church which we hope you will find helpful

Also check out our website at www.holytrinitygosport.co.uk



You will find us on the east side of Haslar Road; look for the steeple - you can't miss us!

We are a Church of England Church in the Anglican Diocese of Portsmouth and we are linked with Christ Church, Stoke Road.

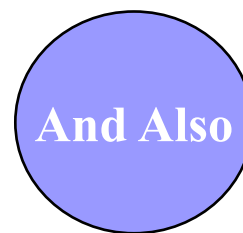
In addition to the times listed on the following page, we are normally open to visitors Monday to Friday 1.30 to 3.30 pm and Saturday 10.00 am to 2.00 pm.



Our vicar is Rev Andy Davis. (We usually call him Fr. Andy but Andy is OK) As our priest, he is always happy to see anyone who needs to talk with him about anything. He can be contacted at 9 Britannia Way, Gosport. Tel: 023 9258 0173 or Mobile: 077 0991 9602. email@holytrinitygosport.co.uk (He is not usually around on Mondays)



We worship 'in the round' which we find is a very friendly way of worshipping - it enhances the feeling of 'family' in the church. We use incense at our Sunday services (only) - in other words we are a "Smells & Bells" church. We have a hearing loop system installed. This work was funded by the National Lottery through Big Lottery fund



We have 2 meeting rooms available for hire; one holds a maximum of 60 people and the other 12 people. Kitchen facilities are available. There are toilets on the ground floor and a lift to the first floor. Telephone Fr Andy for details.

SERVICE TIMES

SUNDAYS**

Parish Mass 11.00 am
Vespers and Benediction 6.00 pm
(A quiet, reflective service to end one week and begin another)



MONDAYS

Father Andy's day off



TUESDAYS

Mass 9.30 am
(30 minutes, quiet, prayerful, peace-giving)



WEDNESDAYS

5.45 pm Prayer Group
*(An informal gathering, to pray – quietly and simply –
For the church, the world and those suffering and in need)*
Mass 6.30 pm
(30 minutes, quiet, prayerful, peace-giving)



FRIDAYS

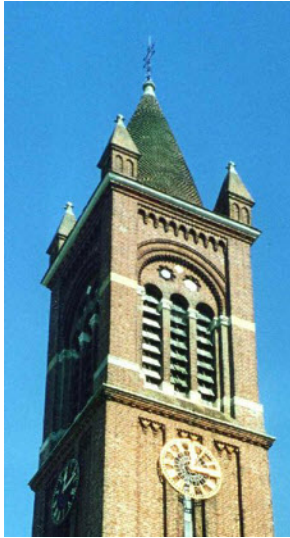
Mass 5.00 pm
(30 minutes, quiet, prayerful, peace-giving)

On each occurrence of a fifth Sunday in a month, a joint service will be held alternating between Holy Trinity and Christ Church. The next joint service will be held at **11.00 a.m. at Holy Trinity on Sunday 29th May 2011

Trinity Times is published by Holy Trinity Church, Gosport, Hampshire. It is distributed free of charge to more than 1,000 households and 160 shops in the Parish. You can also view in colour on our website: www.holytrinitygosport.co.uk

Editor: Joan Millard

CLOCK WATCH



First, the good news. All three survey reports and quotations for repair and restoration of the church clock have been received and following advice from the Diocesan Clocks Adviser a firm has been approved to carry out the work. In his letter to Fr. Andy the Clocks Adviser commented:

“The clock movement is a large and impressive piece of Victorian engineering made in 1890 by Gillett & Co of Croydon who were one of the best makers of turret clocks in the world. The firm you have chosen to carry out this work is Gillett & Johnston of Croydon who still carry on the history of that firm to the present day. Once restored the clock will have an almost indefinite life as it is so well made and future generations will thank us in achieving this task at this time. The clock has a ‘gravity escapement’ and ‘compensated pendulum’, the same as the Great Clock at the Palace of Westminster (“Big Ben”), so it will keep exceptionally good time for the church and the surrounding population.

“With the addition of electric auto-winding, which does not harm the integrity of the clock movement at all, the clock will function perfectly without having to be wound manually each week.

“Lastly the four skeleton dials on the tower will be restored to their former splendour by being re-painted and gold-leaf applied to the numerals and hands to complete the restoration.”

So what’s the bad news? That’s right. The work will cost a lot of money; in fact, it will cost in excess of £15,000 but as you will see from the above it will be well worth it. Now all we need do is raise that money.

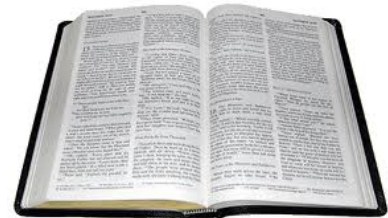
Those of you who attended our Lunchtime Carol Service in December will recall that Fr. Andy launched an appeal for the clock repair fund which resulted in generous donations. Obviously, the sooner we raise the necessary funds, the sooner the clock will be back in action. Hopefully we shall qualify for grants towards the cost of the work but we shall still have to raise some of it ourselves. If you would like to make a contribution, we suggest you place your donation in an envelope marked “Clock Fund” and drop it into church one afternoon or on a Sunday morning. We shall be grateful for even the smallest contribution.

THE KING JAMES VERSION: 400 YEARS ON

Which of these means more to you:

‘Happy are those whose greatest desire is to do what God requires; God will satisfy them fully!’ - or ‘Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled’?

Both are translations of Matthew 5:6, but the first is from the Good News Bible from the 1960s, while the second is the King James Version, or Authorised Version, of 1611 (KJV for short). For many people, the older version goes deeper, is more stirring and tells us more about God.



In 2011 we mark its 400th anniversary. There is a range of celebratory events—from talks by celebrities to readings in tiny churches. As we’ll be hearing often, the KJV has shaped the hearts and minds of English-speaking people throughout the world in these four centuries. It first coined many words and expressions that have become part of the language—so much so that most people wouldn’t necessarily think of them as biblical, and usually think that they’re from Shakespeare (especially as he was writing at about the same time). So we have: ‘loving kindness’ (Psalm 17 and elsewhere), ‘the signs of the times’ (Matthew 16), ‘the powers that be’ (Romans 13), and many more.

But the old-fashioned words aren’t just part of our heritage, like an ancient monument; their poetry can speak directly to our needs today. They can give a stronger and more immediate sense of God’s tender love and glorious majesty, from ‘I water my couch with my tears’ (Psalm 6:6) to ‘Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels ...’ (1 Corinthians 13:1).

It’s easy to be put off by the dark type and odd words: ‘thee’ and ‘thou’, ‘-eth’ endings, ‘abide’ and ‘sojourn’. Some parts, especially the Epistles, can be dense and tortuous. We can’t turn the clock back: the KJV can never be the only version for us now. But if we use both old and new translations together, we gain so much more.

In its heightened language, the KJV gives us a richer appreciation of wonder. So, just as we wouldn’t want to knock down old churches, we shouldn’t leave the KJV unread. It’s not just a cultural landmark, but it’s something that can shape our lives right now.

Rachel Boulding is a Deputy Editor of the Church Times, and the author of Celebrating the King James Version: Devotional readings from the classic translation (BRF, £9.99)



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TEA TIME CONCERTS 2011

At Holy Trinity we continue our “Tea-Time Concerts” at 3.30 pm on the first Sunday of each month. Admission to all the concerts is free although a retiring collection will be taken for the benefit of the organ restoration project. All the musicians give freely of their talents as their contribution to this project. Afternoon tea is served in the Capper Room after each concert.

These concerts, which last no longer than an hour, present the opportunity to hear fine music in the generous acoustic of this beautiful Church. Why not give it a try? It’s a very pleasant way in which to while away a Sunday afternoon.

Details of the February and March concerts are set out below.

SUNDAY 6th FEBRUARY

BAROQUE INDULGENCE

with Blockflute, Oboe, Bassoon and Harpsichord

yes, it’s the Phil-Will-Geoffrey Trio again!

and this time they are playing with the

MADRIGAL FRIENDS

in a concert that includes

Bach’s Jesu Joy and Monteverdi’s Ave Verum

SUNDAY 6th MARCH

An afternoon of entertainment from

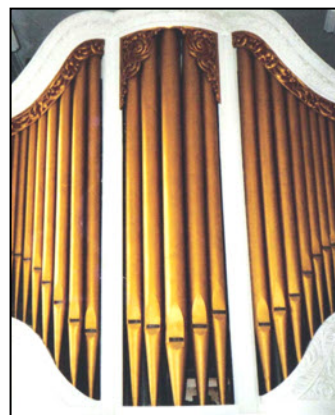
SOLENT CITY CHORUS - Barbershop

Contrasting with

MONINGTON DUO - Clarinet and Piano

ORGAN UPDATE

Some of our readers may not know that there is a famous historic organ in Holy Trinity Church. Many of the organ pipes came from an organ built in 1720 for the Duke of Chandos, whilst Handel - England's most famous composer - worked for him. So Handel advised on the design of that organ and often played it.



Your Holy Trinity organ was last rebuilt in 1897 – 104 years ago. Most pipes are fine, but some need skilled attention. The action, which connects the keys to the pipes, is in terminal decline (like an old car) and £150,000 is needed to keep it playing for the next 100 years.

We are busy raising money by our regular teatime concerts, which are advertised in Trinity Times. Many people are “adopting” pipes for sums between £80 and £2,000. We are also seeking help from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). Negotiations to date suggest we are in with a good chance – and work may start on the organ next October !

When the organ is restored by 2012, HLF and we want to tell everyone about it. So we plan

A DVD about the organ – origins in 1720 – coming to Gosport in 1747 – rebuild in 1897, and its restoration. Visitors to the church will be able to watch the DVD and buy one.

A working model of a small organ in the church that visitors (and children) can play.

Lots of visitors to see and hear the organ, with trained volunteers to receive them.

Many concerts in which the organ will feature prominently.

Working closely with the other heritage sites in Gosport and Portsmouth.

Trained volunteers visiting schools, colleges, societies and clubs with presentations about the organ, and invitations to come to hear it.

Visiting organists and students of all ages will be invited to come and play it.

GEOFFREY HOLROYDE

From: Great Aunt Pru <prudence.little@shewitters.com>
To: Tamsin Ozling
Subject: Happy to live in Gosport

My dear Tammy,

I've been keeping in close touch with your mum so I know that although it's pretty wet in your part of Queensland, it's nowhere near so bad as it is further south where they're experiencing such terrible flooding. Your mum says Brisbane is about 8 hours' drive away from Townsville - it's so easy for us to forget that Queensland alone is many times larger than the UK.

Reading of the dreadful time people are having, not only in your part of Australia but in other areas of the world such as Brazil and Sri Lanka, makes me appreciate how lucky we are in Gosport; we hardly ever suffer extremes of weather - even compared with other parts of the UK let alone your part of the world.

I've said it before, and I'll say it again, I'm more than happy to be living in Gosport. Often people are so busy "knocking" Gosport – perhaps because they think it's the thing to do – that they fail to see or recognise all the good points. I frequently read letters in The News telling us that the High Street is dying and complaining about empty shops. All I can say is that they don't go into the High Street as regularly as I do. It is no less busy during the week than many other towns and there are certainly fewer empty shops than there are in many other towns. As you know, I did almost all of my Christmas shopping in Gosport this time around; so much better than the faff (and expense) of going over (or round) to Portsmouth, or to Fareham or Southampton.

What really surprises me when your mum comes over is the way she raves about our (and by this I mean Gosport's) shops; she tells me that there is far more choice of goods than she finds in the shopping malls at home.

I suppose it's a case of the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence; let's just say I'm perfectly happy on my side of the fence!

Love to you and to the rest of the family - stay safe.

From your ever-loving

Great Aunt Pru



THIS MONTH'S HIGH DAYS....

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple/ Candlemas - 2nd February

In bygone centuries, Christians said their last farewells to the Christmas season on Candlemas, 2nd February. This is exactly 40 days after Christmas Day itself.

In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first 'public appearance'.



Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child - to "present him to the Lord". At the same time, she, as a new mother, was 'purified'. Thus we have the Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple.

So where does the Candlemas bit come in? Jesus is described in the New Testament as the Light of the World, and early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles in celebration of this day. The Church also fell into the custom of blessing the year's supply of candles for the church on this day - hence the name, Candlemas.

The story of how Candlemas began can be found in Luke 2:22-40. Simeon's great declaration of faith and recognition of who Jesus was is of course found in the Nunc Dimittis, which is embedded in the Office of Evening Prayer in the West. But in medieval times, the Nunc Dimittis was mostly used just on this day, during the distribution of candles before the Eucharist. Only gradually did it win a place in the daily prayer life of the Church.

Kew - 8th February

St Kew has nothing to do with gardens or the 'Q' of James Bond fame. This Kew lived in Cornwall in the 5th century, and should be the patron saint of girls with difficult older brothers.

Kew's older brother was a hermit who felt his younger sister was not worthy to even visit his cell. But big brothers often underestimate their younger sisters, and he was no exception. One day Big Brother saw a wild boar charge out of the woods towards his sister. She spoke to it kindly in tones of such purity and sweetness that it immediately slowed down to a peaceful walk. Big Brother was so shaken by this that he repented of his superior attitude. When he then bothered to spend time talking with young Kew, Big Brother discovered her

....AND HOLY DAYS

nature to be of “rare virtue and holiness”. Other people thought so too, and after her death they decided Kew had been a saint, and should have the parish church named after her.

Perhaps the moral of all this is that if you want to win over an difficult older brother, you should first practise on wild boars.

Matthias the Apostle - 24th February



Have you ever been in the position where someone is desperately needed – and you fit the bill perfectly? It is almost as if all your miscellaneous qualifications that never made much sense before now make PERFECT sense. And you sense that you have been chosen by God for the task....

If so, then Matthias is definitely the patron saint for you!

Matthias came into the picture shortly after the suicide of Judas.

The early church was missing an apostle, and so the remaining 11 apostles prayed for guidance on who to choose as a replacement for this key role.

The qualifications for the job were specialised: the person had to have been a follower of Christ from his Baptism to his Ascension, and a witness of the Resurrection. There were two possibilities: Joseph Barsabas and Matthias. How to choose?

Again, Matthias’ experience may mirror yours: the decision was out of his hands, and up to others. In this case, the apostles drew straws – and the ‘lot’ fell to Matthias. He had been chosen to replace Judas! The tragedy of Judas’ betrayal had led to an opportunity for service by Matthias – and he was well prepared for the task. Are you prepared for any task that God might suddenly open before you?

Like the other apostles, Matthias had been in Jerusalem and had received the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, and he went on to do a good job. It is said he preached the Good News first in Judea, and then maybe in Cappadocia and by the Caspian Sea. It is thought he was martyred by the axe or halberd, and his relics eventually ended up being taken to Rome by the empress Helen.

Matthias is an encouragement to us to be faithful in small things - because you never know what the future might hold!

MOLLIE'S TAILPIECE

My very special upright Auntie Jean came from London to see us and we went to the Half a Bank, where we'd been for a meeting. When the lady who worked there found out I'm called Mollie, she was really pleased because that's her name too, and she said that I must



write about her. She showed us a room where they were going to throw a ball. I thought it was a bit odd because it looked beautiful with all the tables and glasses and things on them and I thought it was a shame to throw a ball there because Sascha often used to knock things over when she was playing ball but uprights do all sorts of funny things that dogs don't understand.

We were sad that Bishop Kenneth has died. That's what happened to Sascha so that means we won't see him again which is sad because he was always pleased to see me and he waved to me when he was coming into the Cathedral and Mrs. Bishop wrote to Fr. Andy and said it was really good to see me in Church.

Upright Mary's dachshund Rudy has died too. Upright Mary was really kind to me when Sascha died so I hope she's not feeling too lonely though I think she must be very sad.

I nearly forgot; we were very busy when lots of people came to Holy Trinity for a meeting and upright Christie and I did all the washing up. Fr. John even said: "Thank you Mollie for helping with the tea." I always thought that he was the aerial dean, but Fr. Andy said that he's the area dream – so you learn something new every day.

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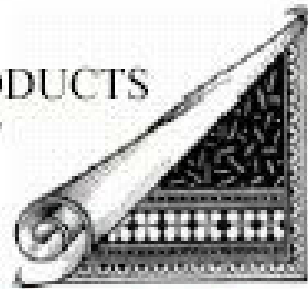
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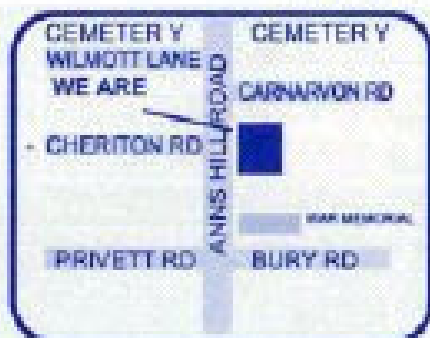
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