



TRINITY TRIANGLE

APRIL 2025



Easter Blessings



'Serving God, serving each other, serving community'

TRINITY CHURCH

Methodist/United Reformed/Church in Abingdon
Conduit Road, Abingdon

TRINITY'S WEEK

Sunday Services at 10.30 am, occasionally 4.00pm.

JAM (Jesus and Me) normally meets every 2nd and 4th Sunday morning during the Church Service. It is designed for children who are aged 3+ and parents may stay with their children if they wish.

Communion is normally on third Sunday of the month at 10.30am and as announced in the Calendar.

- Monday** 2.30 pm Evergreen Club: 3rd Monday in month.
5.30 pm Beavers.
6.45 pm Cubs.
7.30 pm Scouts.
- Tuesday** 7.30 pm Abingdon Operatic Society.
- Wednesday** 5.15 pm Brownies.
7.00 pm Guides.
- Thursday** 9.30 am Toddler Group.
7.30 pm Thursday Group. Ladies' Monthly Meeting 2nd Thursday in the month.
- Friday** 10.00 am Prayer Support Group (in their homes).
9.30am Coffee 10-10.45am. Abingdon Larder (SOFEA)
- Monthly** 7.30 pm Friendship Group - see calendar.

Conduit Centre, Conduit Road, Abingdon OX14 1DB

Church Office Manager: Eluned Hallas, Tel 520282

e-mail: trinity.abingdon@gmail.com

Office open : Thurs and Fri 9.30am -4.30pm. Closed Mon, Tues, Wed

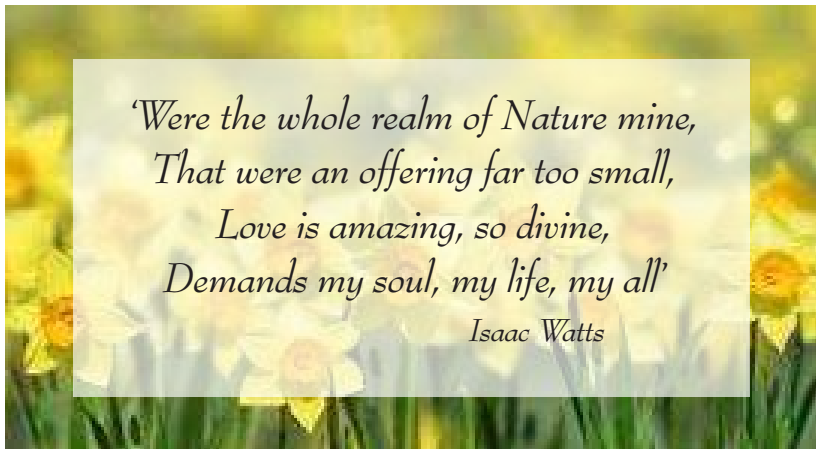
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Office

The editors reserve the right to edit articles.

Trinity Website: www.trinityabingdon.org.uk

Minister's Letter

Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

John 20:18

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

You may receive this before, on or after Easter Sunday. Whenever you do, join me and Christians all over the world in proclaiming - CHRIST IS RISEN! Nothing can be added or taken away from this fact and nothing can change it either - CHRIST IS RISEN, HE IS RISEN INDEED; HALLELUJAH!

Easter day: the pinnacle of the church year, the reason we continuously gather to worship our God whose love is stronger than hate and through whom our commitment to life results in overcoming death. This is the day when God offers us new life in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and a new path on which to walk the way of the Crucified and Risen One - the way of eternal life. The post-resurrection stories all point to this truth of the transformation that occurs when the risen Christ is encountered in people's lives. I am sure we have our own stories of transformation too.

Knowing that God entered fully into our human life - our joys and sorrows, hopes and disappointments, loves and losses - and rose victorious over death, gives us the confidence to face the unknown and helps us to look forward into the future with certainty and hope; in spite of "wars and rumours of wars". Christ's resurrection gives us that ultimate assurance that God will not abandon us - ever!

The resurrection story mandates everyone to proclaim the Good News of the Risen Christ, as Mary Magdalene did - "I have seen the Lord!" As Christians, we believe that the risen Christ lives within our hearts, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, helps us to imitate the resurrected Christ and live holy lives, lives as Easter people.

As we rejoice in Christ's victory, may we rediscover what it means to be Easter people - messengers of hope, heralds of righteousness, justice and truth and ambassadors of God's peace.

Jesus Christ is risen - He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Easter blessings,
Georgina

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

TrinityLearning set up a display in Church for schools to visit for 'The Easter Experience' and we think of Rosemary Perrow who began this for local primary schoolchildren to learn about the reason we celebrate Easter. Some of us will have happy memories of days spent in the church as the children visited with their teachers and some parents who came to help.

"In You, Father, we are one family in earth and heaven"

*Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me
Christ to comfort and restore me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.*

From St Patrick's Breastplate (5th -7th Century Gaelic)



Wed 2nd	5.15pm	Brownies	7.00pm Guides
Thurs 3rd	9.30am	Trinity Toddlers Group	
Fri 4th	9.30am	Coffee 10.00 – 10.45m SOFEA Larder	
	10.30am	Virtual Prayer Support Group	
		SCHOOLS FINISH FOR EASTER HOLIDAYS	
Sun 6th	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Revd. Georgina and Deacon Selina	
Thurs 10th	7.30pm	Thursday Group - Talk by Pauline Main - Visit to New York	
Fri 11th	9.30am	Coffee 10.00– 10.45am SOFEA Larder	
	10.30am	Virtual Prayer Support Group	
Sun 13th		PALM SUNDAY	
	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Deacon Selina	
Thurs 17th	7.00pm	MAUNDY THURSDAY	
		United Service at Trinity Church led by Revd. Georgina Bondzi-Simpson, Deacon Selina Nisbett and Revd. Rachel Hughes	
Fri 18th	10.00am	GOOD FRIDAY	
		United Service at Abingdon Baptist Church led by Revd. Rachel Hughes, Revd. Georgina and Deacon Selina followed by the Church in Abingdon Walk of Witness in the town centre at 11.45 am	

**Deadline for May issue of Triangle
Friday 19th April**

Please send contributions to Cynthia (cynbartlett@yahoo.co.uk)
AND to Val (vadalby17@gmail.com) or via the Office

Sun 20th		EASTER SUNDAY	
	10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led Revd. Carol Hamilton- Foyne	

Wed 23rd		St George's Day
Thurs 24th	9.30am	Trinity Toddlers Group
Fri 25th	9.30am	Coffee 10.00 – 10.45am SOFEA Larder
	10.30am	Virtual Prayer Support Group
Sun 27th	10.30am	Service led by Elizabeth Wood
Mon 28th	5.00pm	Beavers 6.45pm Cubs 7.30pm Scouts
Wed 30th	5.15pm	Brownies 7.00pm Guides



Sun 4th	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Revd. John Anderson
Mon 5th		May Bank Holiday
Thurs 8th	9.30am	Trinity Toddlers Group

Trinity Evergreen Club - Monday 14th April 2025

**We are having a Party and are delighted
that Pandemonium are coming
to entertain us.**

**We have so enjoyed their performances -
they were last with us in 2020.**

There will also be a Cream Tea.

The usual raffle and we start at 2.30.

Tricia Cook



Experience Easter – setting up and getting ready

We had a busy but fun morning setting up for Experience Easter this week. Every year, Trinity Church sees a team of staff and volunteers beavering away with a whole host of things from palm leaves to rolls of fabric, fresh greenery to brown paper to ‘transform’ the church into a series of Easter tableaux. Experience Easter uses a similar approach to Prayer Space and features a series of interactive encounters which provide an opportunity for KS2 students (7- to 11 year olds) to learn the Easter story and relate it to their own lives.



Freestanding notice boards and a row of chairs become the Garden of Gethsemane – with a roll of green material, ivy and lots of fresh greenery tied in bundles; beautiful goblets and plates are set up for the Last Supper, and large crosses and a swathe of red velvet represent the Crucifixion.

Perhaps our favourite tableau though is the beautiful ‘tomb’ created from hessian and cotton and lovingly built by one of our Trustees.

Each class of children that visits will work their way through the stations in order of the Easter story which means when we set up, we are able to leave more of the church looking as it usually would. This enables children and teachers to also really appreciate the beauty and perhaps some of the symbolism of Trinity Church.



If you are on Facebook, you can watch a short video of us all in preparation mode on our TrinityLearning page.

This year has been an exceptional year for our craft preparation as, in addition to our regular craft preparers, a wonderful team from All Saints church has met several times to chat over coffee whilst slicing plasticine, threading beads and filling packs. This all meant that we were ready in record breaking time so we are deeply grateful to all their work and the efforts of all our volunteers from across Abingdon.

A wider range of groups is taking part this year including 2 Beaver groups, classes from Church and state schools and 4 groups from Kingfisher school. We run adapted versions of Experience Easter to suit each group's age and learning stage and are very excited by its broadening appeal.

If you are interested in trying Experience Easter yourself please email Nicola at nic.trinitylearning@gmail.com for a link, password and resources to take part online.

Volunteer Crocheters Needed

Our fabulous, and ever-expanding group of knitters and crocheters have created over 60 tiny bears and rabbits over the last few years. These are added to two of our packs, bears in the Bereavement packs which support adults working with bereaved children and rabbits in our Thinking Books packs. I have been asked to speak at the Abingdon Partnership Head teacher's meeting in May to share details of our Bereavement and Family Change packs with all the local Head teachers. We would really like to have extra packs made up ready in case there is a surge in demand following the meeting. If you have knitting or crocheting skills and would like to have a go, please get in touch. We provide the pattern and all the resources.

More information about TrinityLearning and our volunteer opportunities can be found on our website at: <https://trinitylearning.org.uk/>

If you are interested in volunteering to crochet, knit or for any of our other volunteer opportunities, please email nic.trinitylearning@gmail.com.

Trinity 150th Anniversary

The first Sunday Worship at Trinity was likely to have been on Sunday 30th May 1875, following the church's official opening on Friday 28th May. The Trustees have agreed that this should be marked by a special service at 3.00 pm on Sunday 1st June 2025, replacing our normal morning worship. The hope is that the church will be filled to the rafters and an invitation will go out to all the past presbyters to participate in the act of worship in some way. We hope to invite 'our neighbours', other churches in Abingdon and their officials, the circuit, local dignitaries etc. We would like everyone who feels able to contribute to get involved in some way. There will be the usual sign-up sheets no doubt, but we would appreciate some volunteers to come forward to help Neil Oastler and Heather Townsend with the pre-planning. Please let them, or Revd Georgina, know if you feel you can help in any way, especially if you have an inspired idea of how to make our 150th birthday a very special one-off event.



Trinity Church: Alastair Fear

The Ballad of the Judas Tree

By Dorothea Ruth Etchells

In Hell there grew a Judas Tree
Where Judas hanged and died
Because he could not bear to see
His master crucified
Our Lord descended into Hell
And found his Judas there
Forever hanging on the tree
Grown from his own despair
So Jesus cut his Judas down
And took him in his arms
"It was for this I came," he said,
"And not to do your harm.
My Father gave me twelve good men
And all of them I kept

Though one betrayed and one denied
Some fled and others slept.
In three days' time I must return
To make the others glad
But first I had to come to Hell
And share the death you had
My tree will grow in place of yours
Its roots lie here as well
There is no final victory
Without this soul from Hell."
So when we all condemn him
As of every traitor worst
Remember that of all his men
Our Lord forgave him first.

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