

The Sacred Heart & Our Lady
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THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

Welcome to our Parish Newsletter

During the reciting of the Creed on Sundays, we say the these familiar phrases: "*I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth*", "*I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God*", and "*I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life*". Our belief in One God, but in Three persons, forms the foundation of our faith and is commemorated most especially today, on Trinity Sunday. Down the ages, famous theologians and academics have attempted to rationalise what the Trinity means in human terms. Yet, in truth, I doubt we can fully comprehend and express by the limits of our lives alone. The Trinity remains one of the mysteries of our faith that we believe in but do not yet fully understand. In His time, this mystery will be fully revealed when we will meet God "face to face". And what a great moment that will be.

In the meanwhile, Pope Francis best sums up what today's solemnity is about in more simple terms: "*The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity tells us that we do not have a solitary God up there in heaven, far away; no, He is the Father who gave us His Son, who became man like us, and who sends His own Spirit to be even closer to us.*" (June 16th, 2019). And in the words from St Augustine: *whenever there is Love, there is a Trinity: A Lover (God the Father), A Beloved (God the Son, Jesus) and a Fountain of Love (God, the Holy Spirit)*. May the love of God, Father Son and Holy Spirit be with you today and every day. With every blessing for this coming week!

Fr James

For the younger members Our Website has "child-friendly" bulletins and worksheets for you to either download or contact Fr James for an electronic copy to be sent to you, by email.

Warmest Congratulations to Eve and Mike Gage-Smith who this weekend celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary! *A great milestone!* Likewise, we also wish to both acknowledge and congratulate Maureen and Colm Englishby who, last Monday, celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary! Fantastic!

Rest in Peace It is with sadness that we announce the death, last Thursday evening, of Katie Chappell She died peacefully and enfolded in prayer at her Care Home in Banbury. May she indeed rest in peace and her family and friends be consoled in their grief. Katie's funeral will take place at Banbury crematorium on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart, Friday 19th June at 12 noon. There are still restrictions on the number of people who can attend such public gatherings, so live streaming the Service will be possible and further details will be announced in due course.

Re-opening of our Churches There is, sadly, not much further information to give you regarding this matter. Like Fr James, you may be feeling somewhat frustrated and confused by all going all around us, as we slowly emerge from lockdown: we might be able to visit our local DIY store, but not our local church. Cardinal Vincent Nichols and the Bishops' Conference advisors are in regular dialogue with the UK government to seek a way forward, to respond to the deep thirst in many souls. Government regulations still do not allow us to open the churches at present, and it may not be possible to open every church immediately the "green light" is given. Re-opening our churches is not a simple matter, but we remain hopeful! We are working to and engaging in the official preparation guidance provided; so that we may open our Church here in Aston le Walls for times of private prayer, possibly from the beginning of July.

With our Church here in Aston le Walls being small, this has presented its own set of additional challenges, as any number of people gathered within a smaller space does pose a higher risk of spreading the virus. However, there are also creative (perhaps even radical) opportunities to engage with in our preparations at the same time. We have made some initial changes to the seating arrangements downstairs that will facilitate our making the Church as safe a place as possible for everyone. *We will need stewards on hand* to ensure that we are complying with Government guidelines regarding hygiene and social distancing. These people cannot include those instructed to shield themselves, or, from groups considered more vulnerable to Coronavirus. However, if you do not fall into those categories, you might consider if you could give some time so as to open our churches once more for prayer. If you can help, you might like to telephone Fr James on

St Mary's RC Primary School: www.stmarysrc-astonlewalls.co.uk Tel: 01295 660258

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Sally Doran 07866 701666

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01295 660592 or email him at sacredheart_alw@btinternet.com. Thank you to those who have already put themselves forward. If you wish to keep up-to-date with the latest developments, do please refer to the Diocesan website <https://northamptondiocese.org/> or the Bishops' Conference website <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/> and most definitely, do keep this matter in your prayers.

Walsingham Pilgrimage With the annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham not able to take place this year, we are invited to join in this year's diocesan pilgrimage via the internet. The Diocesan Pilgrimage Director asks us to share in the spiritual pilgrimage to Walsingham on Saturday, 13 June. The Pilgrim Mass is at 12 noon and will be available following the link <http://www.walsingham.org.uk/>. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament details together with other times of Prayer and Mass from Walsingham are also available following this link.

Offertory Giving Many thanks to all who are continuing to support the parish financially; people have successfully made donations by bank transfer or other online facilities. Some are sending cheque donations (payable to the Parish, not Fr James) by post or dropping off donations through the presbytery door. This is very welcome; thanks to you all! You will find more on finances elsewhere on the parish website or give directly, via the Diocesan website: <https://northamptondiocese.org/donate/>. Please ensure the parish name and area are put in the notes section of the donate page: Sacred Heart and Our Lady, Aston le Walls. Alternatively, the Diocese has introduced a new way of making donations to the parish – 'Giving Tuesday'. All you need to do is telephone 01604 712065 and make a donation to the parish. You will need a credit or debit card to hand and you will be able to make a one-off donation to cover any missed Sunday offerings or simply call each week to make an offering. Patience may be needed, as only one person will be taking these calls, but if you leave details on the answer machine someone will get back to you!

Please pray for: Jeffrey & Terence H, Rev Stevie C, Fr Euan OP, Tess K, Tony B, Carmel R, Sarel S, Averil M, Bernard B, Paul C, Herman L, Colm E, Joy B, Catherine R, Joan T, Alan and Jean R, Josie M, Eileen E-L, Michael B. We enfold in prayer all those suffering with COVID-19 and all working within the NHS, Care Homes, hospices, our schools and all key workers.

In Memoriam Let us pray for all whose anniversaries occur in June, including Elizabeth Bunting, Theresa Delves, Anne Dewey, Thomas Hisom, Kathleen Keating, Alan Smales, Emma 'Emmie' Smith, Fr Jack Kearns, Fr Patrick Taylor, James Borley, and Fr George Smith. May they Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

O my God, Trinity whom I adore, help me forget myself entirely so to establish myself in you, unmovable and peaceful as if my soul were already in eternity. May nothing be able to trouble my peace or make me leave you, O my unchanging God, but may each minute bring me more deeply into your mystery! Grant my soul peace. Make it your heaven, your beloved dwelling and the place of your rest. May I never abandon you there, but may I be there, whole and entire, completely vigilant in my faith, entirely adoring, and wholly given over to your creative action.
(Excerpt from a prayer composed by St Elisabeth of the Trinity, Dijon Carmel, 1904)

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

(Prayer of St Alphonsus)



Gloria Patri...

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

