



THE PARISH OF OUR LADY & ST. WULSTAN

WOOD STREET, SOUTHAM CV47 1PP

Parish Priest: Fr Arul Samy Deacon: Rev. Terry Hum (Rtd)

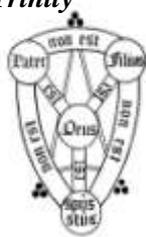
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The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No 234216



07.06.2020 - Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity Masses & Intentions

Sunday	<i>Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity</i>
June 07	People of the Parish
Monday	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>
June 08	Leo Hudson (Intentions)
Tuesday	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>
June 09	Mass
Wednesday	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>
June 10	Mass
Thursday	<i>St. Barnabas, Apostle</i>
June 11	Mass
Friday	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>
June 12	Mass
Saturday	<i>St. Anthony of Padua, P. D.</i>
June 13	Mass
Sunday	<i>Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ</i> (Solemnity)
June 14	People of the Parish



God of Love and Peace

Our celebration today is a song of praise to God who has taken us up to share in the very life of the Trinity. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with us all.

God so Loved the World (John 3:16-18): At first sight this part of the dialogue with Nicodemus seems to mention only the Father and the Son and not involve the Holy Spirit. A chief concern of the Gospel of John is to show the relationship of loving obedience between Father and Son. The love and equality in a perfect relationship between a human parent and a child is the nearest reflection of such divine love which we can envisage. In complete trust and confidence the parent gives to the child everything that is theirs. The parent's only interest is the advancement of the child. The child's only care is to please the parent and to be as close to the parent as they can be, in word, in action and in relationships. Each has a vibrant and continuous bond of love for the other. Such a relationship may be rare in human family life, but it can model for us a pale reflection of the loving relationship between the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit is the love between the Father and the Son, love in person, the living bond which unites them. We must, however, appreciate that any such language limps and belittles the divine relationship, which is of a different order of perfection and intensity. Human language can never fully explain the mystery of God which is beyond our total understanding.

We are familiar with St Patrick's clover-leaf image of the Trinity. Are there any other images of the Trinity which you find helpful? How are Father, Son and Spirit presented in this Gospel passage? How does the Holy Spirit bring us close to the Father? How can we respond to God's love for us?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you have already come and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen. — St. Alphonsus Liguori

Pope's Prayer Intention for June - (The Way of the Heart):

We pray that all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.

Our Church Leaders are in touch with government and are preparing for the gradual opening of our churches. But until then, **our churches will remain CLOSED for the public.**

Whenever it happens, our churches and church related premises will need a thorough cleaning and disinfecting. The diocese has sent the pastoral guidelines on this matter which has been circulated with small number of parishioners for the moment. We might need volunteers to help with this. More on this, in due course.

Social distancing, use of sanitizer, wearing face mask etc. are likely to continue for a considerable length of time. Parishioners are asked to bear these measures in preparation.

In the meanwhile, priests will continue to celebrate Mass on a daily basis, for your intentions and for any other specific intentions requested.

Parishioners are encouraged to continue taking part in online Masses and have 'Spiritual Communion'.

Those who wish to celebrate the *Liturgy of the Hours*, or have access to the Readings at Mass, please visit: <https://universalis.com> for assistance.

www.wednesdayword.org offers reflections (Lectio Divina) as well as reflections / activities for children & family.

RIP: Please pray for all those who died recently and for all the faithful departed. *May they all, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Telephone support: Some of our parishioners are supporting each other by telephone. Please phone 811703 (Shirley) or email (shirley@shirleyrush8.plus.com) if you want a chat or to receive calls or if you would like to join those who are calling others.

Rosary: The Parish Rosary group are continuing to pray the Rosary at 10am on Thursdays in their own homes, but connected spiritually. Please join if you would like to.

Welcome to Children's Liturgy: The Children's Liturgy at our Church normally takes place alongside Mass on Sunday mornings but of course this has not been happening in recent weeks due to the pandemic. Our Church is now proposing to hold the Children's Liturgy on-line using Zoom. The Liturgy is a time of worship and fun for children of primary school age and usually involves a bible reading, songs, prayers and handicraft activities. The first on-line Liturgy will take place on Sunday 14th June at 10.15 - 10.45. All children will be most welcome to attend even if you do not attend Church.

If you would like your child to take part please e-mail presbytery@stwulstan-southam.co.uk as soon as possible and further details including log in instructions will be sent to you.

Children's Liturgy Newsletters / Materials are also available at www.wednesdayword.org and Redemptorist Publication's newsletters are sent to all parishioners on the e-mail contact list.

PRAYER DURING CORONA-VIRUS PANDEMIC

God our Father, we come to you in our need to ask your protection against the Corona virus that has claimed lives and has affected so many people.

We pray for your grace for the people tasked with the studying the nature and cause of this virus and of stemming the tide of its transmission.

Guide the hands and minds of doctors, nurses, medical staff, experts and all health care workers – that they may minister to the sick with love, compassion, and skill.

We pray for all those who have died with Covid - 19 and for their families and friends.

May the Lord bring them to the glory of heaven.

We pray for all who are ill from the virus that the Lord may heal them soon through the ministry of others.

We pray for all who work in any way at this time to keep our society functioning – those who are involved with producing, selling and delivering food, those who keep our transport system and utilities going and all those in other frontline jobs.

We pray for all who are struggling with isolation, loneliness, depression and financial problems.

Give us all the grace to deepen our faith and trust in you O Lord, and so support each other in every way we can.

Our Lady, health of the sick. *Pray for us.*
St. Raphael the Archangel, *Pray for us.*
All holy men and women, *Pray for us.*

(With grateful acknowledgement to Corpus Christi Church, Headington, Oxford where this prayer is prayed daily during Mass at 10.00am.)



The Blessed Trinity is the mystery of one God in three Divine Persons and it is the central mystery of our Christian faith and life. We call it a mystery because it cannot be understood by reason alone. God reveals himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God has made it known to us.

The belief in one God comes to us through our Jewish ancestry. One of the primary prayers in the Jewish faith is taken from the Book of Deuteronomy:

“Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone! Therefore, you shall love the Lord, your God, with your whole heart, and with your whole being, and with your whole strength.” Deuteronomy 6: 4-5

God revealed himself to the Chosen People as the one and only God.

Our Christian belief that there are three Divine Persons in one God came later, as it was revealed by the life and words of Jesus Christ. The Apostles came to understand that Christ was God.

“No one has ever seen God. The only Son, God, who is at the Father’s side, has revealed him.” John 1: 18

The Apostles later came to know and understand that the Holy Spirit was also God. In the Gospel of John, Jesus says,

“When the Advocate comes whom I will send you from the Father, the Spirit of truth that proceeds from the Father, he will testify to me.” John 16: 26

Before the Passion, Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit as teacher, guide, and consoler. The appearance at Pentecost and at other events in the New Testament gives ample evidence of the Holy Spirit as the third Person of the Trinity.

The doctrine of the Trinity includes three truths of faith.

1.) **The Trinity is One.** We do not speak of three gods, but of one God. Each of the Persons is fully God. They are a unity of Persons in one divine nature.

2.) **The Divine Persons are distinct from each other.** Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are not three appearances or modes of God, but three identifiable persons, each fully God in a way distinct from the others.

3.) **The Divine Persons are in relation to each other.** The distinction of each is understood only in reference to the others. The Father can not be the Father without the Son, nor can the Son be the Son without the Father. The Holy Spirit is related to the Father and the Son who both send him forth.

All Christians are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. By the grace of Baptism, we are called to share in the life of the Blessed Trinity, here on earth in the

obscurity of faith, and after death in eternal light. The Trinity enlightens all the other mysteries of faith.

-United States Catholic Catechism for Adults

<https://stboniface-lunenburg.org/solemnity-of-the-most-holy-trinity>

St. Barnabas, Apostle, was a Cypriot Jew. The Holy Spirit destined him to a universal mission. It was Barnabas who introduced St. Paul to the other apostles, paving the way for a broad apostolate which required the approval of the pillars of the Church. He was with St. Paul in the first missionary journey and in the first Council of Jerusalem. After having converted many for Christ, Barnabas died a martyr for faith. He had preached at Cyprus during Nero’s reign. His name is included in the Roman Canon.

Are you a Barnabas? After his dramatic conversion on the road to Damascus (Acts: Ch. 9) Paul had a complete turnabout and became a passionate follower of Jesus. “He began at once to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God” (Acts 9:20). But, not unnaturally, he was viewed with suspicion. “Is not this the man who ravaged those who call on the name?” (v.21).

Could this be another ploy of Paul to get a tighter grip on the followers of Jesus so as “to take them back in chains to the chief priests”? One can almost feel the people’s suspicion, see their wary faces, and sense their reluctance to trust this man who had wreaked such suffering in their communities. But, “Saul grew all the stronger” (v.2) and preached Jesus ceaselessly in Damascus.

Nevertheless, “after a long time had passed,” when Paul went to Jerusalem about two years later and tried to join the disciples there, “they were all afraid of him.” Like the people of Damascus, they simply could not believe he had changed so radically and they shunned him. This was terrible for Paul because he really needed to be accepted by Peter and the other apostles.

It was at this low point, when he was getting nowhere, that this wonderful man, Barnabas, came along. His real name was Joseph but, very significantly, he was called ‘Barnabas’ meaning the ‘son of encouragement.’ In Chapter 11 we are told that he was “a good man, filled with the Holy Spirit and faith.” Now, with a holy boldness he “took charge of Paul and brought him to the apostles.” He must have been an eloquent man because after he had spoken out on Paul’s behalf there was an immediate acceptance and Paul, we are told, “moved about freely with them in Jerusalem and spoke out boldly in the name of the Lord” (v. 28). Barnabas had opened the door for him and Paul never looked back.

We all need people like Barnabas in our life, people who listen to us, affirm us and spur us on to be our best selves; people who look beyond our obvious and often distressing faults, our sometimes lamentable behaviour, and stimulate us to discover our real potential.

They are not put off by the mutterings of others, nor do they allow themselves be coloured by our pathetic past record. No, they listen to us deeply, with respect and without judgement, always looking for that little spark that will make the difference. Parents, teachers, colleagues - have they not been Barnabas to us?

Are you a Barnabas? Have the year begin with the determination to be an encourager of others, to uplift and not put down, to be on the alert to open a door for someone who is not making the grade. Be ready with a word of praise, a gesture of affirmation, a smile of encouragement. If you are to be a really effective Barnabas you too will want to be filled with the Spirit and full of faith. All you need from the Spirit will be given you - joy, wisdom, courage - to encourage others on their journey.

Drawing on the strength of this Spirit you will not be put off by difficult people, nor will you be crushed by the relentless negativity that so permeates our times. Like that first Barnabas, you may be the one to open the door for an unknown apostle today.

- Sr Redempta Twomey

[Sr Redempta Twomey was assistant editor of the Far East at St Columban’s, Navan, Ireland and died very recently]. Please pray for the repose of her soul. May she and all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.