

# REFLECTION - THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

*"The fundamental dogma, on which everything in Christianity is based"*

The dogma of faith which forms the object of the feast is this: There is one God and in this one God there are three Divine Persons; the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God. Yet there are not three Gods, but one, eternal, incomprehensible God! The Father is not more God than the Son, neither is the Son more God than the Holy Spirit. The Father is the first Divine Person; the Son is the second Divine Person, begotten from the nature of the Father from eternity; the Holy Spirit is the third Divine Person, proceeding from the Father and the Son. No mortal can fully fathom this sublime truth. But I submit humbly and say: *Lord, I believe, help my weak faith.*

Why is this feast celebrated at this particular time? It may be interpreted as a finale to all the preceding feasts. All three Persons contributed to and shared in the work of redemption. The Father sent His Son to earth, for "God so loved the world as to give His only-begotten Son." The Father called us to the faith. The Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, became man and died for us. He redeemed us and made us children of God. He ever remains the liturgist *par excellence* to whom we are united in all sacred functions. After Christ's ascension the Holy Spirit, however, became our Teacher, our Leader, our Guide, our Consoler. On solemn occasions a thanksgiving *Te Deum* rises spontaneously from Christian hearts.

The feast of the Most Holy Trinity may well be regarded as the Church's *Te Deum* of gratitude over all the blessings of the Christmas and Easter seasons; for this mystery is a synthesis of Christmas, Epiphany, Easter, Ascension and Pentecost. This feast, which falls on the first Sunday after Pentecost, should make us mindful that actually every Sunday is devoted to the honour of the Most Holy Trinity, that every Sunday is sanctified and consecrated to the triune God. Sunday after Sunday we should recall in a spirit of gratitude the gifts which the Blessed Trinity is bestowing upon us. The Father created and predestined us; on the first day of the week He began the work of creation. The Son redeemed us; Sunday is the "Day of the Lord," the day of His resurrection. The Holy Spirit sanctified us, made us His temple; on Sunday the Holy Spirit descended upon the infant Church. Sunday, therefore, is *the* day of the Most Holy Trinity.



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**Arrangements for Banns, Holy Matrimony & Baptisms:**  
May be made by contacting Fr Ross on 01908 562148

**Confessions:** May be made after Masses or by appointment.

**Parish Website:** [www.parishstonystratfordcalverton.com](http://www.parishstonystratfordcalverton.com)

**To Hire the Parish Hall:** 'phone Lesley Salter on 01908 567404



**St Mary & St Giles, Stony Stratford  
with All Saints, Calverton**

**THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**

11th June AD 2017



*Welcome to the Parish Church where, after the example of the early church, we celebrate the Eucharist: the "apostles teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42)*

# INFORMATION

**The Order of Mass** is on the laminated card. The references to the Scripture Readings, which may be either listened to or followed in the Bibles provided, along with the Psalm and the Prayer of the Faithful are also included in this Sheet. Hymns are unannounced but are indicated on the boards towards the front of the Nave.

**AA Large Print Orders of Service** are available at St Mary & St Giles. Please ask a Sidesman for a copy.



**A Loop System is in operation at St Mary & St Giles** - please set hearing aids to the "T" position.



**Access for the Disabled at St Mary & St Giles** is via the path on the north side of the church. **At All Saints** it is via the South Porch.



**Gluten-Free Hosts:** if you are on a Gluten-Free diet and would like a Gluten-Free Host when you receive Holy Communion please mention this before Mass to one of the Sidesmen who will arrange this for you. Please make yourself known to the Parish Priest so that he is aware of your need.



**Collections:** for the continuing mission of Christ are taken while the altar and gifts of bread and wine are being prepared. If you are a visitor and a taxpayer and would like to make a donation please use the Gift Aid envelopes provided at the end of each row - please fill in your details. This enables us to reclaim, from the Inland Revenue, 25p for every £1 donated.



**We observe a period of quiet prayer and reflection** before the celebration of Mass, between the end of the Organ Voluntary and the Sacristy Bell being rung, in order that we may be better prepared to worship almighty God.

**Reception of Holy Communion:** All Baptised and Confirmed Christians are encouraged to receive Holy Communion. If you are unwell or uncertain about receiving the Precious Blood please do still receive the Host. Our Chalice Assistants are not authorised to permit the intincting (dipping) of the Host.



Please join us at the back of church for tea or coffee after Mass. A priest will be near the main door, shortly after the end of Mass, should you need to talk with one.

Please take this Service Sheet home with you and use as part of your devotions during the week.

**At St Mary & St Giles this week:**

Sidesmen	Team 2
Serving Team:	Team 1
Offertory bearers:	Church Band
Church Gardeners:	Team 2
Church Cleaners	Team 2

**Worshipping Numbers last Sunday:**

**Weekday Worshipping Numbers w/e 27th May?**

## Prayer Thought:

Throughout history men and women have searched for the truth and yearned to know God. Today's liturgy celebrates the Christian belief that God in compassion searched for us and yearned to tell us about himself. Today we rejoice that God revealed himself to us first in the Old Testament but more completely in his son Jesus, and so we gratefully praise God who loved us so much he wished to be better known by us that he fully revealed himself to us.

## The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (SIT)

**The First Reading** Exodus 34:4b-6,8-9

Reader at SMSG: Margery Shaw

Reader at All Saints: Eilish Friedman

*(New Testament Page 66 in the Bibles)*  
Israel tells Moses that he is a God of tenderness and compassion, rich in kindness and faithfulness. The infinite love of the Father is shown to us in Jesus his Son who died for us, and in the Holy Spirit who inspires us to love God and all mankind.

**The Responsorial Psalm** (from Daniel 3)

**R/. To you glory and praise for evermore.**

You are blest, Lord God of our fathers. ®

Blest your glorious holy name. ®

You are blest in the temple of your glory. ®

You are blest on the throne of your kingdom. ®

You are blest who gaze into the depths. ®

Congo, Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Somalia, Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean, Ecuador and Peru.

F) SHIPWRECK: Seafaring remains one of the world's most dangerous occupations. The United Nations view it as the world's second most dangerous occupation, after coal-mining. Many fatal accidents at sea are caused by dangerous weather conditions such as storms, hurricanes and typhoons, which come on quickly and can be deadly. Other fatal accidents are caused by human error, such as with collisions and groundings.

Shipwreck and sinking vessels are becoming increasingly rare as modern navigation and satellite communications continue to improve. However, 2015 was regarded as one of the most deadly on record, with the Costa Concordia, the Bulk Jupiter, the Cemfjord and El Faro disasters claiming over 100 lives.

The Mission to Seafarers is very aware that shipwreck continues to threaten and take lives at sea and we strive to ensure that in the event of disaster at sea, we are on hand to provide comfort and care to the families left behind.

Our Mission to Seafarers' families' project in Manila the Philippines works to help those affected by shipwreck. Seafarers that survive shipwreck and other maritime accidents also require protection, care and support in the aftermath of serious incidents. They may need counselling, post-traumatic stress care and assistance with contacting home. We will always strive to promote safe working conditions for seafarers and support them and their families in times of need.

*Please read more about the work of the Mission to Seafarers in the accompanying leaflet in the Newsletter; and, if you are able to, make a donation to its mission by placing it in the envelope provided - filling in the Gift Aid section if you pay tax. Please return the envelopes to either of our churches on 9th July. Thank you.*

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

**TODAY: THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**

8:30am Morning Prayer at St Mary & St Giles

**9:30am PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles**

**11:00am FAMILY MASS at All Saints**

2:00pm Cream Teas and The Band at St Mary & St Giles

*Intention: Our Parish*

**Monday: Feria**

9:30am 'Squeals on Wheels' in the Parish Hall

8:00pm Bellringing Practice

*Pray for: the Sick, Housebound & Handicapped*

**Tuesday: St Anthony of Padua, Priest, Doctor**

10:00am Burial of Twins: Neron & Neriah

**11:00am Mass + Elevenses at All Saints**

12:30pm Burial of Larry Francis' Mortal Remains

*Intention: For all Parish Priests*

**Wednesday: Feria**

MK Deanery Chapter + MK New Communities Group

6:00pm Rector available in the Parish Office for the Arrangement of the Occasional Offices & Parish Business

**7:30pm Mass at St Mary & St Giles**

7:30pm SMSG School Full Governors'

*Intention: Her Majesty's Government*

**Thursday: Feria**

**10:30am Mass at St Mary & St Giles**

3:00pm Burial of Baby: Jesse

6:30pm Meeting for Walsingham Pilgrims

*Intention: Her Majesty the Queen*

**Friday: St Richard of Chichester**

**8:00am Mass at SMSG School (North)**

7:30pm Parish Singers Rehearsal

*Intention: The Diocese of Chichester*

**Saturday: Feria**

7:30pm Spem in alium at St Mary & St Giles

*Pray for: Visitors to our Parish Churches*

**Next Sunday: CORPUS ET SANGUIS CHRISTI**

8:30am Morning Prayer at St Mary & St Giles

**9:30am PARISH MASS with Procession & Benediction at St Mary & St Giles**

**11:00am FAMILY MASS at All Saints**

*Intention: Our Parish*

**Readings next Sunday:**

**Corpus et Sanguis Christi**

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16

Psalm: 147 (part)

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:16-17

Gospel: John 6:51-58

It is important for ship owners to understand that access to personal emails, Skype, Facebook and Whatsapp services is vital to ensuring that seafarers maintain healthy and lasting relationships at home. Access to broadband is essential for every seafarer's wellbeing and tackles chronic isolation, depression and work place stress.

The Mission to Seafarers is very aware that connections home are of vital importance to good mental health and happiness on board. That is why we supply SIM mobile top up cards, Wi-Fi services in port and help with access to the internet for seafarers as soon as they come ashore. Many of the Mission's 120 Flying Angel Seafarers' Centres have laptops and broadband access, as well as computers and landlines.

We are working with communications suppliers, such as iVitta and other mobile providers, as well as global satellite companies, to improve communications for seafarers in the workplace. The Mission has also set up a new joint partnership with the North American Maritime Ministry Association (NAMMA) to deliver a Digital Centre for Seafarers' Ministry - called the MARE project.

C) FATIGUE: working at sea is a 24/7/365 occupation. The ship never sleeps and seafarers work in shifts to make sure that the ship is safe and on course to deliver to a tight port schedule. Working long hours is part of life at sea, but the Mission is very clear that seafarers must be allowed proper rest periods according to the regulations laid down in the Maritime Labour Convention (2006).

D) MENTAL HEALTH problems on board ships is a key area of concern for The Mission to Seafarers and for seafarers and their families. There are a range of mental health conditions that Mission port chaplains are professionally trained to deal with including depression, despair, loneliness, workplace stress and post-traumatic stress syndrome.

Many mental health conditions are treatable if tackled quickly and effectively by health care professionals. Unfortunately mental health problems are still a taboo subject in many cultures and difficult to diagnose at sea, when other factors may be involved, such as alcohol or drug problems.

Mission chaplains offer friendship and support to all seafarers when they come into port. Ship-visiting services are particularly important to safeguarding mental health, as are our Mission Flying Angel Seafarers' Centres. Good mental health depends upon having proper rest and relaxation in the workplace.

The Mission to Seafarers' port chaplains have been professionally trained in advanced mental health care and post-traumatic stress counselling by expert psychological trauma consultant Dr Marion Gibson of the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation USA.

E) PIRACY: The Mission to Seafarers has campaigned tirelessly for more public attention to be focused on the issue of pirate attack and maritime violence. Whilst the incidents of piracy worldwide has thankfully continued to fall year on year, the rise of hijacking at sea, kidnap and violence has risen in new places, such as Nigeria and Equatorial Guinea in Africa; and in Malaysia and Indonesia.

The Maritime Piracy Human Response Programme (MPHRP) was set up to track incidents of piracy and help seafarers and their families to recover from incidents of pirate attack worldwide. The Mission to Seafarers supports the MPHRP and port chaplains are trained in post-trauma stress care to help support those affected.

Currently in 2016, piracy warnings have been issued for the following locations: Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Malacca Straits, Malaysia, Singapore Straits, South China Sea, Vietnam, Benin, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, The

You are blest in the firmament of heaven. ®

### **The Second Reading**

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Reader at SMSG: Anna Page

*(New Testament Page 156 in the Bibles) St Paul prays that the grace of each of the Three Persons of the Blessed Trinity may be with the Church.*

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: to God who is, who was, and who is to come. **Alleluia!**

### **The Gospel**

John 3:16-18

*(New Testament Page 80 in the Bibles) Our Lord speaks of the Father's great love for men. It is shown in the coming of Christ among us.*

### **The Prayer of the Faithful**

(Intercessor at SMSG: Fr Tunji)

*Priest:* My brothers and sisters let us come boldly to the throne of grace, praying to the almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit for mercy and grace.

*Intercessor:* Father of heaven, whose love profound a ransom for our souls has found: We pray for the world, created by your love, for its nations and governments . . . Extend to them your peace, pardoning love, mercy and grace.

**We plead before your throne in heaven.**

Almighty Son, incarnate Word, our Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, Lord: We pray for the Church, created for your glory, for its ministry to reflect those works of yours . . . Extend to us your salvation, growth, mercy and grace.

**We plead before your throne in heaven.**

Eternal Spirit, by whose breath the soul is raised from sin and death: We pray for families and individuals, created in your image, for the lonely, the bereaved, the sick and the dying... Fiddy Abraham, Polly Barclay, Gerry Bonner, Doreen Brooks, Shirley Brown, Steve Cooper, Peggy

Fisher, Russell Herbert, Jane Holman, Terry Mason, Sue Maton, Gum & Eva Newnham, Rosalie Osbourne, Pete, Ron Smart, Tony Oakley, Wendy ... Breathe on them the breath of life and bring them to your mercy and grace.

**We plead before your throne in heaven.**

Mysterious Godhead, three in one, Father, Spirit, Son: We pray for ourselves, for your Church, for all whom we remember before you... Babies: Neron, Neria & Jesse, and Terry Crook, Larry Francis, June Jeffery... and for those whose anniversaries of death occur during this week...**11<sup>th</sup>** Margaret Fountaine, Arthur Ollington, Ronald Mansfield; **12<sup>th</sup>** Peter Whetstone, Humphry Beevor (Bishop), George Froaggatt, Gerald Goodridge; **13<sup>th</sup>** Raymond Martin; **14<sup>th</sup>** William West; **15<sup>th</sup>** John Williams, Freda Smith, Edward Walker; **16<sup>th</sup>** Harry Rose, Leonard Fairclough ... Bring us all to bow before your throne in heaven, to receive life and pardon, mercy and grace for all eternity

**We plead before your throne in heaven.**

*Priest:* Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### **Communion Reflection:**

May God the Father bless us. Amen.

May God the Son heal us. Amen.

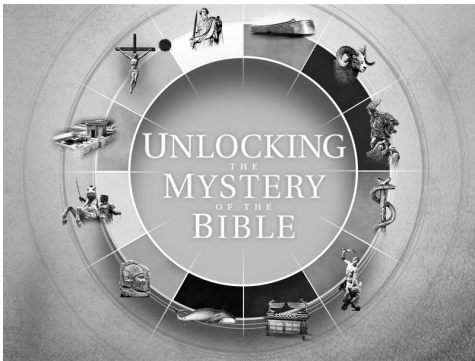
May the Holy Spirit send the angel of peace to watch over us and lead us at last by our Lord's gift to the kingdom. Amen.

*(Ancient Dominican Blessing, adapted)*



# PARISH NEWS & NOTICES

**Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible:** For many of us the Scriptures can seem a mystery, and the 'Cover to Cover' edition of the Scriptures can help us make more sense of its historical timeline. Of course, even aids like this can lead to further questions and even a thirst for greater knowledge. Therefore, to encourage us all in our reading of Holy Scripture I am preparing to launch an excellent DVD based Course on the Scriptures as soon as possible. The 8 Week Course is called 'Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible' and I have posted a trailer for the Course on the Parish Facebook page. If you are a Facebook member then simply send a request to join our group: 'Parish of Stony Stratford with Calverton.'



This Autumn will see the launch of this Course. Unfortunately, current diary commitments do not allow for a sensible running of the Course without having to stop and start. As well as an evening Course, there will also be a daytime Course as well; as I am aware that not everyone is able to attend evening sessions. Each participant will have a high quality booklet, Bible Timeline and bookmark to aid us as we go through the Course.

One session of the Course will be held at 7:00pm on Tuesday evenings

and another at 2:00pm on Thursday afternoons - both at the Rectory. The Course will begin in the week beginning 17th September with the meetings in that and subsequent weeks being at 7:00pm on Tuesday 19th September and at 2:00pm on Thursday 21st September. The Course is eight sessions long and there will be a break of two weeks after the first four sessions. The Course will be repeated twice next year, hopefully on different days, so as to allow as many of us as possible to participate.

The Programme is as follows:

Session 1  
Tues 19th/Thurs 21st Sept  
*Introduction & The Bible Timeline Chart*

Session 2  
Tues 26th/Thurs 28th Sept  
*Early World*

Session 3  
Tues 2nd/Thurs 4th Oct  
*Patriarchs*

Session 4  
Tues 10th/Thurs 12th Oct  
*Egypt and Exodus, Desert Wanderings*

Session 5  
Tues 31st Oct/Thurs 2nd Nov  
*Conquest and Judges, Royal Kingdom*

Session 6  
Tues 7th/Thurs 9th Nov  
*Divided Kingdom, Exile, Return*

Session 7  
Tues 14th/Thurs 16th Nov  
*Maccabean Revolt, Messianic Fulfilment Part 1*

Session 8  
Tues 21st/Thurs 23rd Nov  
*Messianic Fulfilment Part 2, The Church*

Please pray for the success of this course. A 'overview of the Course will be held in the Parish Hall before the Sum-

mer Holidays - as with the actual course on an evening and a daytime.

**The Memorial Registers:** Fr Ross is about to update the Memorial Registers in both of our Parish Churches and would be grateful if those wishing to add new entries to the registers would complete one of the forms (available at the entrances to our churches) by THE END OF TODAY. Please indicate on the form which Parish Church Register you would like the entry to be entered into. *Thank you.*

**Meeting regarding the Parish Weekend Pilgrimage to Walsingham:** A meeting for all those attending the Pilgrimage to Walsingham this August will be held at St Mary & St Giles Church on Thursday 15th June at 6:30pm. This will help to arrange transport etc. If pilgrims cannot be at the meeting please let Fr Ross know of any dietary and transport requirements/offers thereof. *Thank you.*

**Sea Sunday:** On Sunday 9th July the entire Church is committed to praying and promoting the work of its mission amongst sailors.

Most denominations support some form of mission amongst sailors or a particular charity. In the Church of England our Charity is the 'Missions to Seafarers', while the Roman Catholic Church's Mission is called 'The Apostleship of the Sea.' What matters is that we care about those who lead an often very hard working life, away from home and loved ones; not forgetting the many seafarers that, when they return to their home port, have no loved ones to share their lives with.

Some of the issues that the Mission to Seafarers are called upon to be involved are:

A) ABANDONMENT of ships and of the crews on board has been highlighted by

The Mission to Seafarers as one of the most important issues affecting seafarers. Ships are abandoned by unscrupulous ship owners when they have financial problems or become embroiled in legal disputes. Ships are left in port or at anchorage, as the money has dried up to pay for port costs, unloading fees and wages. Abandonment has a technical definition which is laid out in the Maritime Labour Convention (2006). A ship is technically abandoned once the ship owner has ceased to communicate with a ship for more than 8 weeks. However, during those 8 weeks, when seafarers are stranded, they will also need care and support.

The Mission provides emergency assistance for abandoned seafarers, including financial assistance for food, water and fuel. We work with port authorities, shipping companies, flag states and the International Transport Workers' Federation to mediate between parties to settle disputes.

Many seafarers have to remain on board abandoned vessels, to ensure that they are paid wages owing to them. Wages that are vital to feeding, clothing and educating their families at home.

B) COMMUNICATION: Access to email and the internet at sea is severely restricted for ordinary seafarers. Satellite communications are used as essential aids to navigation and ship to shore email for logistics. However, seafarers do not have access to often limited and expensive broadband services at sea. It is estimated that only 28% of seafarers have access to the internet when they are in deep sea locations. The situation continues to improve, and many reputable ship owners are making internet and broadband communications available to their crews, but much more needs to be done.