



## Holy Trinity Catholic Church

26, London Road, Chipping Norton, OX7 5AX

Father Clive Dytor [fr.clive.dytor@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.clive.dytor@rcaob.org.uk) 07484 158642

[holytrinity.chippingnorton@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:holytrinity.chippingnorton@rcaob.org.uk)

Website <http://holytrinityrc-chippingnorton.com>

Holy Trinity is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Trust

**Sunday 17 November 2024 – Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Readings: Year B**

---

**Dear Parishioners**

We are now a fortnight away from Advent and the start of the new liturgical year, as we prepare for the great feast: The Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. This Advent is going to be special as the whole Catholic Church across the planet switches to a new translation of the Holy Scriptures called the English Standard Version (ESV). This is the Universal Church at her most evident as every single parish and community throughout the world will march in step and adopt the new Lectionaries. Sunday Masses, weekday Masses, Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals...Ritual Masses for Ordinations, Votive Masses of Our Lady... every Catholic celebration of the Eucharist will fall into line, from West Oxfordshire to Outer Mongolia!

The Archbishop, his Grace Bernard Longley, has written a pastoral letter to be read out at every Mass this weekend, to explain exactly what and why this is happening. He will underline the central place of Holy Scripture in the Faith once delivered to the Saints, which we call the Catholic Faith and which we try to proclaim week by week in word and deed.

The Archbishop also urges us all to make contact with our local MP, Mr Sean Woodcock, to urge him to vote against the upcoming Bill which will make assisted suicide legal. Proponents say that there are strict guidelines around this measure but the experience of other countries, like Canada, is that these restrictions are swiftly removed and we enter a dystopian world where juvenile depression can become a legal ground for taking one's own life. This Bill, if passed, will place great pressure on the vulnerable, the disabled, the elderly, to "do the right thing" and terminate their lives. Catholics and others are asked to make their misgivings heard.

Archbishop Bernard Longley's Pastoral Letter is at the end of our Newsletter.

**God bless everyone as we gear up for Advent...and Christmas! Fr Clive**

## Parish Notices

**Masses this week: Holy Trinity** - 9:15am Monday, and Thursday (The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary).

**Holy Trinity First Communion Class** Friday 4:15pm **Confirmation class after Sunday Mass Holy Trinity**

**Tuesday 19 November 11 am: Requiem of Josephine Thompson at Holy Trinity**, erstwhile organist and parishioner of Holy Trinity. May she rest in Peace. **If anyone would like a lift to and from Josephine's funeral, please contact Peter Nolan on 07368 214608, and he will arrange lifts for you.**

**St Teresa's** – 9:15am Wednesday 20 November: Red Wednesday Mass at St Teresas in support of Aid to the Church in Need, the Catholic charity that works tirelessly for the protection of Christians throughout the world...still by a long way the most persecuted community. Masses also on Friday and Sunday at 9:15

**Look ahead...Sunday 24 November** (Feast of Christ the King) ...Children's Mass at St Teresa's.

**Many thanks to everyone for a generous Second Collection for CAFOD: £431.06.**

**Safeguarding Sunday is this coming Sunday.** It is an awareness-raising campaign organised by the Christian Safeguarding Charity, Thirtyone:eight, and fully endorsed by the Archdiocese. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility; not just that of a few. We all need to play our part in keeping people safe. **A Prayer for Healing & Reconciliation** Praise to you, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all consolation and hope. Be the refuge of all who suffer from abuse and violence. Comfort them and send healing for their wounds of the body, soul and spirit. Help us all and make us one with you in your love for justice, as we deepen our respect for the dignity of every human life. Giver of peace, make us one in celebrating your praise, both now and forever. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

**Looking ahead...Sunday 1 December is the First Sunday of Advent** and we will be using the new Lectionary and new Mass books. Those who use their own Missal should order the new version now to be ready in time!

**In November we pray with Pope Francis that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.**

**November is the month we remember those we have loved and lost.** The book of Remembrance will be placed at the back of the Church for you to note the names of those you know who have died. There will also be envelopes for Mass Offerings.

**Please continue to pray for our sick, housebound and frail parishioners of both our Parishes.**  
**In addition to your own daily prayers please remember:** All those who mourn the loss of loved ones: The repose of the souls of those who have died: People whose anniversaries occur at this time: The people of the Middle East, Morocco, Ukraine, Turkey and Syria.

**The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies and procedures at all times.** Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is **Tammy Lawson**. Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.



**PASTORAL LETTER OF THE MOST REVEREND BERNARD LONGLEY ARCHBISHOP OF BIRMINGHAM  
FOR THE THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (16/17 NOVEMBER 2024)**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

***When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book.***

The holy season of Advent will soon be upon us - a season of joyful anticipation. It represents the fulfilment of the Old Testament and God's ultimate promise at the end of time. It is our preparation once again to welcome Jesus, the Word of God, into our world.

As we move from one Church year into the next, God's living Word continually speaks to our hearts, challenging and consoling us. The Word of God is always familiar to us, yet it is always new, always offering new challenges and new consolation.

I am mindful, as Parliament prepares to debate the assisted dying bill, that the Word of God always informs our conscience, enabling us to discern what is true and what is good, especially about the dignity of human life. I hope that over recent weeks you have heard or read Cardinal Vincent's Pastoral Letter on this vital issue. He wisely reminds us: be careful what you wish for; the right to die can become a duty to die; being forgetful of God belittles our humanity. It is not too late to voice your own concerns by writing to your Member of Parliament this week.

This Advent, as we begin to listen to the readings at Mass, we will hear a new translation. The Catholic Church in England, Wales and Scotland has chosen to renew our Lectionary – and the most evident feature of this is that we shall hear from two new translations – a new translation of the Psalms from the Abbey Psalter - and a new translation of the rest of the Bible from the Catholic Edition of the English Standard Version.

There are several reasons for the renewal of the Lectionary.

First, it is part of a broader programme of revision, working through all of the Church's liturgical books.

Secondly, it was recognised that a more faithful translation of the Scriptures is available to us, replacing our present translations which have served us well for several decades. With the passage of time, scholarship and language both change and evolve.

Since the last revision of the Lectionary over 40 years ago, our Calendars have been updated several times, and now the celebrations and readings for new Saints can be included.

Those who proclaim the Word of God, especially at Sunday and Weekday Mass, will find the layout of the new books of readings, the Lectionary, much easier to read and proclaim the Word of God – and that benefits all of us.

If you have ever read or heard the Word of God proclaimed from a different translation of the Bible, you may have noticed that the changes from one translation to another are usually not very great. We realise that we are hearing the same passage. Even so, the differences do help us to reflect on the reading in a new way. I am very hopeful that the introduction of the English Standard Version for our liturgical celebrations will give us all - clergy and lay faithful - a renewed appreciation of the dynamic power of God's word in our lives.

As this new Church year begins I would encourage you to become familiar with the new translations by acquiring a new English Standard Version of the Bible for your home - or even downloading it on an App for your phone or tablet.

Please pray that those who proclaim the Word of God in our churches, schools and chaplaincies may do so with prayerful dignity - because worthy proclamation of God's Word strengthens faith.

This is also an opportunity for parishioners who have never exercised the ministry of proclaiming the Word of God to be prepared to do so. Please be generous in offering to exercise this important ministry, even if you need encouragement to overcome the initial hesitation.

I am very grateful to those who have donated towards the cost of the new Lectionaries that we shall use from the First Sunday of Advent, particularly where this is in thanksgiving or in memory of loved ones.

During the coming weeks we shall contemplate the fulfilment of all things, when the Word-made-flesh came in the person of Jesus and when we prepare for his Second Coming in glory. The Word of God is not a book but a Person - Jesus himself personally and really present to us. We thank him for the gift of life and for the faith that cherishes and enriches life. We thank him for the Word of God, freely proclaimed, gratefully heard and bearing fruit – fruit that will last.

**Yours devotedly in Christ Bernard Longley Archbishop of Birmingham**

**Given at Birmingham on 9 November 2024 and appointed to be read in all Churches and Chapels of the Archdiocese on the Thirty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time (16/17 November 2024)**