



The Parish of the Assumption, *Holy Trinity*

26, London Road, Chipping Norton, OX7 5AX

Fr Clive Dytor · holytrinity.chippingnorton@rcaob.org.uk · [07484 158642](tel:07484158642)

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

The Assumption is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Trust

Sunday 31st May 2026 – Holy Trinity Sunday

Readings: Year A

Dear Friends,

Eastertide is now well behind us but the Sundays that follow continue a “high note”. Last week we celebrated *Pentecost* and the Coming of the Holy Spirit. Today is the Holy and Undivided Trinity. Next Sunday, our First Communion at Holy Trinity, it is *Corpus Christi*, the Body and the Blood of Christ. I hope that as many as possible can be at the 11am Mass to support our children as they make this decisive step in their spiritual lives.

What to say about this greatest of all mysteries: the Holy and Undivided Trinity? Every week in the Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed we affirm:

*“[...] I believe in One God
The Father, the Almighty
I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ
I believe in the Holy Spirit [...]”*

What does this mean in terms of the relationship between the Three Persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit? Is the Son subordinate to the Father? Does the Holy Spirit proceed from the Father and the Son, or just the Father?

These profound questions were hammered out in the early centuries of the Church, the period we call Patristic. In 325 AD an ecumenical council gave us the Creed we say weekly, more or less, although there is a slight difference between East and West over what is called the “Procession” of the Holy Spirit.

Perhaps the best course is to follow the dictum of the great St. Basil (4th century):

“Let things ineffable (beyond words) be honoured in silence”.

Certainly, in the West we are dominated by words and feel we need to say something about everything! I am reading an excellent book by Cardinal Sarah, a highly intellectual but also deeply devout man. The book is called:

“The Power of Silence against the Dictatorship of noise”.

He urges us to try to minimise the useless noise that blocks out God's voice, that still small voice Elijah heard on the mountain:

“Silence is not an absence... it is the manifestation of a Presence, the most intense of all presences...”

As we contemplate the Holy Trinity, may we find a silence in which we hear the One God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, calling us to a deeper walk with Him and to that peace that the world with all its clanging and banging can never give.

**God bless everyone,
Fr Clive**

Parish Notices

Second Collection this week is for *Let The Children Live*:

'Let The Children Live! is a charity of Last Resort. That means that it works with and helps the children who are "at the bottom of the barrel". The children who are the most vulnerable and in the greatest danger and whom everyone else has given up on; everyone except Let The Children Live! These are children from the streets and shanty towns of Medellín, who are in great danger from the many gangs who are always on the lookout for boys and girls whom they can lure into their group, often with bribes like mobile phones. The boys they will turn into assassins to do the killings for them; the girls they will use as prostitutes to fund the gang, sometimes after auctioning off their virginity first. Let The Children Live! exists to save these children from this life and offer them the chance of "Life, Life in all its fulness." To find out more listen to Fr Peter Walters, the Founder and Director of the charity, who will be speaking at Mass on Sunday.'

Masses & Rosary: Thursday 9.15am. Friday Rosary for Peace 9.15am.

Two weeks today is *Corpus Christi* and our First Communions at Holy Trinity with a Reception to follow. Please come along and support our young people on this most important of days!

As we enter June, let us pray together with the Holy Father that sports be an instrument of peace, encounter, and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values such as respect, solidarity, and personal growth.

Please continue to pray for our sick, housebound and frail parishioners of both our Parish. 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, Ukraine, Sudan, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are **Tammy Lawson** and **Sharnalee Foster** (sg.stteresaoflisieux.charlbury@rcaob.org.uk). Alternatively, the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.