

Christmas 2022

Trinity

Times



Holy Trinity Church
Maisons-Laffitte

3 EUROS DONATION

Who Does What

Chaplain	Charlotte Sullivan 06 83 08 59 67
Reader	Richard Medcalf
Youth Worker	Joy Van Staalduinen

Church Wardens	Christine Salisbury David Bean
Church Council Secretary	Didier Trufanow
Chaplaincy Assistant	Jenni Gibson

Activity	Contact person
Address List	Jenni Gibson
Book Stall	Sarah Masset
Buildings/ Grounds	Adrian Parr
Charitable Giving	Hesry Marshall
Choir	Rachel Meuriot
Coffee Rota	tinyurl.com/ TeaCoffeeHTCML
Ecumenical Group	Christine Salisbury
Electoral Roll	Elizabeth Bean
Flower Rota	Fiona Dabas
Guiding	Christine Salisbury
Intercessions	Elizabeth Bean
Lesson Readers	Elizabeth Bean
Little Fishes	office@htcml.com
Organist	Joan Bauman
Planned Giving	Robert Manterfield

Activity	Contact person
Prayer Net	Edith Briard
Safeguarding	Alice Auperin
Scouting	contact@maisons-laffitte-scouts.fr
Sidesmen	Patrick Gautier-Lynham
Sunday Groups	LJ Desmeulles
Treasurer	Bob Hughes
Trinity English School (TES)	trinityenglishml@gmail.com
Trinity Times	Nancy Huguet
Web Site	office@htcml.com
Welcomers	Jane Gorini
Youth Group	Joy Van Staalduinen & Johanna Devlin
Home Groups	
Tuesday a.m.	Nancy Huguet
Wednesday eve	By Zoom



Chaplain's Corner

As the song saysIt's the most wonderful time of the year

As I write, there are many wonderful things to look forward to in our church: a confirmation celebration, the Christmas fair, carol and nativity services and of course working our way through the Advent readings as we prepare our hearts to welcome Emmanuel, "God is with us".

Wait a minute! Perhaps we have lost that feeling of expectation, that sense of wonder and surprise?

Advent and Christmas are not always a happy time, I totally understand that. The season can be especially hard due to illness, financial strain, grief, or even the heavy weight of the world news. There are many things which could, if we allow them, lead us into despair.

Hold fast my friends, because Advent presents us with the opportunity to regain our sense of wonder. It interjects into our bloodstream not only wonder, but mystery and expectation. For four weeks Advent reminds us that something exciting is about to happen.

Howard Thurman states in his "Christmas poem" that Advent is a time for the singing of angels. Isn't that in itself wonderful? Imagine a place in all of our lives, where the angels sing. Despite all the hardness, all the pain and doubt, there will always be a place however small where angelic music will exist. Wonderful!

Virginia Owens in her book, "And The Trees Clap Their Hands", suggests that we lose our sense of wonder along the way because everything becomes "merely". Things are "merely" stars, sunset, rain, flowers, and mountains. Things become "merely" for us when their connection with God and His creation are lost.

During this Advent season there is definitely a risk that things are "merely" for us. It becomes "merely" Bethlehem, a stable, a birth, a story we have heard so many times that we have no feeling of wonder or mystery. That is what familiarity can do to us over the years.

If this resonates with you then I urge you to listen again to the familiar story of Bethlehem. Take a closer look and you will notice the characters are not people with halos, but ordinary men and women of flesh and blood, fears and frustrations, anxiety and hope, just like us. Mary and Joseph are not stained-glass saints. They are ordinary artisans of humble faith with a sincere commitment to do the will of God. The child is not an infant prodigy of Raphael's Madonna, but a kicking, crying, helpless baby in Mary's arms, who will grow up in a world that will never really understand him. The shepherds are not idyllic figures, but rough and tough, unkempt men of Judea. They are the migrant workers of the first century.

Step into the story once again because it is in the birth of Jesus, who was born within a working class family amid the poverty of the Judean hills, that we find ourselves face to face with God and once again we will hear the angels sing.

Throughout this season there is a new sense of hope, optimism, joy, and love being unleashed upon us. There is a feeling of great expectation that something significant is about to happen.

So, my friends this Christmas, I challenge you. Don't let the story of Christmas be "merely" a story. Allow the wonder, the joy, and the mystery of Christmas to enter your life and to change you. Christmas is about the gift of Christ, accepting the gift is our choice, but if we do - WOW - truly it will be... the most wonderful time of the year for us all.

Charlotte x

<https://beverlylanzetta.net/2016/12/21/howard-thurman-a-christmas-poem/>

<https://www.christianbook.com/and-the-trees-clap-their-hands/virginia-owens/9781597520836/pd/520833>

Jeanne Halpern recalls the text of the Queen's First Christmas message, 70 years ago.

The Queen's First Christmas Message December 1952

"Each Christmas, at this time, my beloved father broadcast a message to his people in all parts of the world. Today I am doing this to you, who are now my people. At Christmas our thoughts are always full of our homes and our families. Many grave problems and difficulties confront us all, but with a new faith in the old and splendid beliefs given us by our forefathers, and the strength to venture beyond the safeties of the past, I know we shall be worthy of our duty. Above all we must keep alive that courageous spirit of adventure that is the finest quality of youth; and by youth I do not just mean those that are young in years; I mean too all those who are young in heart, no matter how old they may be ...".

The Queen's first Christmas broadcast was made in 1952 from Sandringham. Each following year her messages were to become part of our Christmas rituals in every home throughout Great Britain and the Commonwealth on radio and television.

J.H.

Adrian Parr remembers his encounters with the Queen, from near and from afar.

In the propinquity of Her late Majesty the Queen – or nearly



(author's photos)

The year 2005 was probably the most eclectic – and electric – of my entire life. I managed to visit five capitals (London, Paris, Beijing, Rome and Vatican City) and relocated from the UK to France. My professional career reached a high point: I gave presentations (in English) at a Chinese agricultural university, was a Delegation Liaison Officer for the British environment ministry during the UK's Presidency of the European Union, and I began a two-year stint in Her Britannic Majesty's Diplomatic Service. Following the announcement of London's success as host city of the 2012 summer Olympics, I crossed tickertape-strewn Trafalgar Square. More sombrely, I had to travel to France on 7 July to sign the lease on a flat, and found myself walking from King's Cross to Waterloo on the great city's darkest day since the final V-2 rockets fell in March 1945.

I also saw the Queen... Before Paris, I worked and lived at York. In June 2005, Royal Ascot, one of Britain's most famous annual horseracing events, was held at the York race course, because the "home" hippodrome in Berkshire was under renovation. This was therefore an event of great prestige for the city of York and its inhabitants. I had never been to a horse race before; I have the idea that there were cheap tickets for local people. Happily, a fellow member of St Michael-le-Belfrey church was willing to accompany me. Somehow we even accidentally ended up in a "higher grade" spectator enclosure.

With 35 000 others, we saw the Queen arrive in her landau. Presently we stood next to the safety barrier as the racehorses thundered past.

A few days later, on my own initiative, I attended the annual commemoration of the *Appel du 18 juin* at Mont Valérien, behind Suresnes. President Chirac was present. For a simple citizen to see two Heads of State in less than a week, albeit at a distance, seemed like good going!

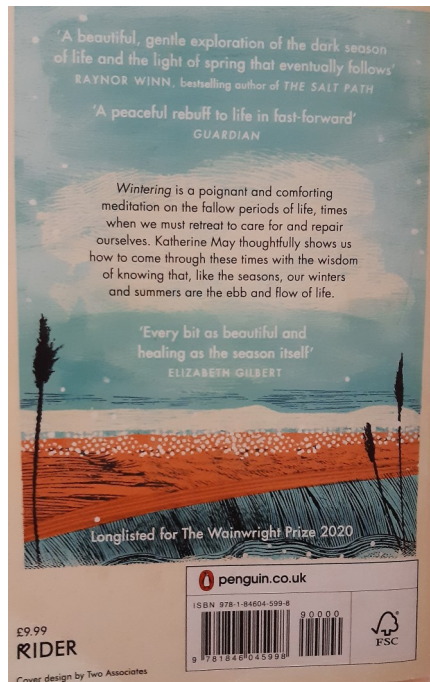
Marriage brought the only other occasion when I was within a few hundred metres of the monarch. A couple in Isabelle's extended family live just behind the sea front at Ouistreham (Sword Beach). We were kindly invited to stay in their flat for the 70th anniversary of D-Day, the Normandy landings. Thus on 6 June 2014, with specially issued *laissez-passer* (so we could walk the streets as if we were local residents), we saw cars being towed away, to allow the shiny black vehicles of (presumably) the US Secret Service to park next to the block of flats. We were just a little too far away to see the Queen, and had to content ourselves with the television coverage.

We were close enough to see the stands for the Heads of State and the pyrotechnic display.

In 2006, at the 90th anniversary commemoration for the Battle of the Somme, I was introduced to the then Prince Charles. But that is another story.

A.P.

A beautiful, comforting and peaceful book to read during difficult times this winter time:



How many of us were in front of the television to watch the funeral of HM the Queen? Nathalie Tolchard reflects on how funerals can foster a sense of community and closeness.

Thoughts on attending a funeral

The State Funeral for Her Majesty The Queen took place at Westminster Abbey on Monday 19th September. Beside the dignitaries and the well-known faces attending the ceremony, the never-ending queue of anonymous people took us all by surprise and around one million people took to the streets to see the funeral procession. We were reminded of how strong our sense of communal spirit can be and how soothing it feels standing together on such occasions.

A month later, in Maisons-Laffitte, I was approached by a member of Holy Trinity Church who asked if I would be able to attend a funeral service for someone I had never met. Neither did I know her family nor her friends. "Why should I go?" I asked. The reply was simple: this lady was a discreet member of the community who thought the turnout to her funeral would be minimal. One of her final wishes was to be well accompanied in Church.

I felt like an outsider but decided that going was the right thing to do. So I went, joined by my husband.

As we entered Holy Trinity Church, much to our surprise, most wooden pews were occupied by a sizable crowd and we were shown to our seat right at the front, slightly embarrassed to be so close to family and friends.

The service was overwhelming: tearful eulogies, beautiful music played by a friend on a cello accompanied by a piano and a choir performing emotional pieces.

She certainly would have liked that.

We felt touched, included and no longer out of place. Witnessing this wishful turnout came as a great source of comfort to us but most importantly to the bereaved family.

We regretted not having met her. She must have been someone worth spending time with and she will undoubtedly be dearly missed by her loved ones.

Back home, we were really pleased that we went and paid our respects.

This experience made me realise that, as a general rule, everyone is welcome at a funeral and you don't need to wait for an invitation. Just as for the Queen's service, we shared a valuable moment of community spirit, regardless of who we were.

N.T.

Highlights of last Council Meeting

All Council meetings have regular updates about spiritual development matters, Eco-Church initiatives, safeguarding and our financial situation.

Various topics were discussed during the meeting on 12 September, including the following:

Council members spoke about our **Bible Study groups**. At present there are two fortnightly HT Bible study groups: one on Tuesday mornings at a congregation member's home the other on Wednesday evenings at 8.00 pm. A Thursday morning group might also be created, depending on the interest of potential members.

Various ideas were discussed to provide additional **prayer time** to congregation members. It was agreed to create and experiment the following new prayer times: fortnightly after the Wednesday evening Bible Study, the Chaplain will lead a compline (night-time prayer) via Zoom at 9.15 pm. Also, there will now be a prayer meeting in the church every Tuesday at 12.00.

Several children have joined the **First Communion course** which will run from 25 September to Easter. A dynamic team of experienced leaders has been formed to work with this group.

A **Messy Church** afternoon will be held at Epiphany. More helpers are needed for this event, so please let us know if you can help!

It was reported that the **Youth Group** had kicked off its rentrée with a pizza gathering early September with Joy Van Staalduin, our Youth Worker. Joy was in Maisons-Laffitte to meet with the youth and to lead the Sunday morning service. The format for the Youth Group will be the same as last year. Youth meetings will be held on Thursday evenings with Joy and a helper (two different age groups) and on Sunday mornings with Johanna Devlin and a member of the teaching team. Some 18 youth attended the opening session and enthusiasm for the coming year is very high!

The online **Confirmation Preparation** class started on Tuesday 20 September. There are about 16 candidates, including two adults from Holy Trinity and young people from St. Michael's Church (Paris) and St. Mark's Church (Versailles). There are two weekly online sessions on Tuesday and Sunday evenings. This class is being led by the Chaplain and Joy Van Staalduin. The group is using a book entitled Faith Confirmed – Preparing for Confirmation as the main teaching resource (<https://brownsbfs.co.uk/Product/Jackson-Peter/Faith-confirmed---preparing-for-confirmation/9780281064236>).

The Confirmation Service will be held on Saturday 19 November with Bishop Robert.

Final preparations for the Welcome BBQ and Harvest were discussed. As for previous Harvest meals, congregation members were invited to make food donations for the Secours Catholique food bank.

The possibility of switching to **Green** EDF electricity tariffs was discussed. The feasibility, reliability and cost of this service will be investigated and a decision about a possible switch will be made during a future Council meeting.

Adrian Parr, our **Building & Grounds** Coordinator, spoke again about the physical condition of our church building's drains. Work may need to be done on the drains and an inspection will soon be conducted by a specialised company.

Date of next Chaplaincy Council meeting: Monday 7 November

D.T.

Adrian Parr gives us an update on what is happening in the garden.

The new church memorial garden is starting to take shape



The first part of a border has recently been created on the inside of the free-standing wall. This border can be lengthened and broadened in the future according to need.

If anyone wishes to plant something in memory of a friend or loved-one, including victims of Covid-19, would they please contact Adrian at famille.parr@zoho.eu in the first instance. Comments, ideas and suggestions are welcome.

For reasons of space, aesthetics and biological competition, plants must be no taller/broader than about 50 cm. Any Biblical species are particularly welcome (please see

http://www.flowersinisrael.com/PlantsoftheBible_page.htm). However, we must **not** introduce plants which are “invasive” (therefore **no** bamboos or flowering grasses, among others).

It *may* be possible to affix brass plaques to the wall, inscribed with name(s) and dates, but these will have to be in a standardised size and style (arrangements to be confirmed).

There is an idea to install a park bench, perhaps on the left in the background, to give a place for reflection which is as discreet as the physical limitations of the church garden will allow.

Unless or until a reticulated irrigation system is installed (a plan is in gestation – please speak with Adrian if you have **any relevant knowledge**), plants will need to be watered by hand during spells of dry or hot weather.

A.P.

These bird houses are providing a colourful addition to the main part of the church garden...



Joy Van Staalduin, our Youth leader, met up in person with the Youth at HT to share in food and fellowship.

HT Youth



On Sunday, 4 September, I came down to France for a youth pizza party. What a joy it was to see people in person after what feels like an eternity of zoom meetings. After helping lead worship with Charlotte, it was time for some games. Youth formed their chairs into a circle and played “shuffle your buns.” As the music played, they moved clockwise from seat to seat. The person in the middle had to try and steal a chair. Suddenly the

music stopped and it was time to find a seat. The one without somewhere to sit was out and a chair was removed. This continued until we were down to only two winners! After another fun game we ate delicious pizza and drank bubble teas. We were honoured to have Naomi Gibson play barista for us.

After a great time of fellowship and food we divided up into two groups for our lesson. To kick off the school year we began talking about our alarm clock and how we can be prepared for our day. Maybe we stay in bed for a few more minutes, or maybe we get up and immediately take a shower. No matter how we prepare our morning routine, it is important to put Christ at the centre. When we are prepared as Christians, this means we can also set apart time in our day for worship and prayer. We can always be ready for the troubles that face us when we know that Christ is there for us and we make him a priority.

J.V.S.



We give thanks for the children preparing for their First Communion, and for their dedicated teachers. Angela Labaisse Brodie explains how the course resembles a journey.

Let the little children come to me

Is Palm Sunday 2023 in your diary? I very much hope so, as this is the date on which some of our 8 to 10-year-olds from the Sunday school will be taking Communion for the first time.

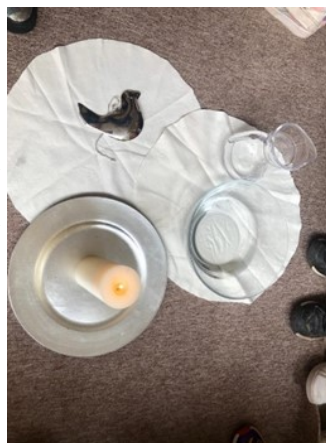
You may think that it is not appropriate to allow children this young to take communion, that they cannot fully understand the symbolism or the significance of what happens. If so, then please read on.

To help us (Jackie Gale, Rachel Meuriot and myself) prepare the children, we use Margaret Withers' book "Welcome to the Lord's Table". After a career teaching music in inner city schools and at the Open University, Margaret was appointed in 2001 as the Archbishop's Officer for Evangelism among Children, a role she held for six years.. In her introduction she explains that: "*Christian nurture is not an individual matter, nor is it the rote learning of statements in a catechism. It is the handing down of the faith of the Church to its children by sharing faith and experience and example as much as direct teaching. The way that a child sees each adult's faith expressed in their worship of God and behaviour towards other people will have far more lasting influence on them than all the preparation classes in the world.... Holy Communion has increasingly become the central Sunday service in most Anglican churches. To exclude believing and baptised children from receiving the sacraments on grounds of chronological age negates the Church's teaching on baptism and centuries of tradition of welcoming children into the fellowship of faith. It contradicts Jesus' welcome to children –*

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." Mark 10:14.



Our youngsters are maturing much earlier and are faced with the problems of adolescence from as early as the age of ten. The strains and demands of secondary school, the complex and troubled world we live in, poses many questions for them. What could be more important than to offer them the security of being members of our Christian community, with the grace of the sacraments to support them as they grow up?



This year we have a very special group of children: attentive, participative. We learn in a relaxed way, sharing our thoughts and ideas together. The children have been more willing than the adults to mention the tough topics, such as the death of a grandparent, the regret of not having known them long enough, and the hope of being reunited with them in heaven.

Our 12-week course is laid out as a journey, and it is a journey that the teachers undertake alongside the children. It's important that they get to know us and to trust us, as it is a very personal course. It also gives the teachers the opportunity to re-examine their own faith.

On our journey so far, we have learnt by investigating and comparing our fingerprints and by looking in mirrors to see our actual eye colour and hair colour that we are each a unique individual but made in God's image.

We have learnt that Jesus is God but was also human, with a family and a family tree, just as we have, stretching back through the Old Testament. Through the Godly Play story, the children were able to experience what happened at their baptism. Examining plants helped us to understand that nothing can live without water.

It has been a fantastic first three weeks and in the coming weeks we will learn how God speaks to us through the Bible, what it means to be a disciple, the significance of Jesus' resurrection and how it is celebrated in the sacrament of Holy Communion.

It takes thought and careful consideration week on week to enable the children to learn in fun, in comfortable sessions, while taking on board the Bible stories, understanding and learning the Lord's Prayer and discovering interesting subjects together to understand the commitment of taking First Communion.

We, the wider congregation, should not take for granted the fact that we are very blessed at Holy Trinity to have such a dedicated group of professional teachers who work all week in local schools, but who care so strongly about the spiritual welfare of our children that they teach again on Sunday, their day of rest.

Please join with me in praying for all of our Sunday school teaching team and children but especially for Nneena, Kwamea, Marie, Zoe, Ellis, Max, Antoine and Victor as they travel on this exciting journey to First Communion.

I am very much looking forward to the next sessions.

A.L.B.



Saying the Lord's Prayer with actions.

Tavé Farewell Party

6 November 2022

Moving is a common thing. And yet when it happens to you it is no common affair. Of course this isn't our first move. Like many of you, we have made other homes: Paris, New York, Dubai, Saint-Germain-en-Laye, Beaulieu sur Dordogne and now Redwood City.

Downsizing is the goal, while we can still manage the tasks at hand. Clean out, dust and sort has been our motto for months. Reams of clippings, cartoons and correspondence remind us that we ourselves are products of the paper age! We are indeed letting go of things, testing our ability to change.

Trouble with all this is, we can't take you and Holy Trinity with us! Surely you can relate to how much Holy Trinity Maisons-Laffitte has meant to us. This welcoming place and you in it! You and so many others have put lights in our hearts and souls over the past 33 years. Together, we have worshipped, sung, "met", donated, Sunday schooled, "bibled", feted, read, acted, loved, cried, sung some more, "cameraed", cooked, discussed, raised funds, made wreathes, decorated, "jammed" and prayed, while Alain worked and travelled, we "raised" two children and wrote two books!

Recently I enjoyed the photo update project: surely a snap happy person will pitch in to carry this forth. Following a suggestion from Charlotte, we'll have a small magnetic board where photos can come to rotate and remind us of the fun we share.

We have loved doing the Family Nativity fete project, an idea sparked by Christine. And thank you Beth, Helen, Caroline and others for carrying forth with the Christmas decorating we shared, another favourite of mine.

Yes, it's important to keep good news on the horizon. We are grateful. We have hopes: to spend half the year in Alain's birthplace, in Beaulieu sur Dordogne, and the other half in a place near our children in the San Francisco Bay area, where I grew up 50 years ago! Things have certainly changed in what is now called Silicon Valley, including long-term drought, fires, earthquakes, guns, and extreme politics. Nevertheless, we have hopes about this transition time and pray our children won't run away!

Alain joins me in thanking you for your friendship of today and of yesteryear. Thank you for being with us on our journey, helping to keep the Lord at our sides. We look forward to enjoying sermons on youtube (thank you Charlotte), to reading the newsletter and your emails and to coming back, for hug exchanges as often as possible.

We say prayers of thanks today and each day forward. We won't forget.

"Make new friends and keep the old, one is silver and the other gold!"

J.T.

As the Tavés prepare to move, Julie reflects on our finite time on earth, and how to make that time count.

Before it's too late



Before it's too late, is now...setting my clock to now is the only choice I have. When I feel an irregular heartbeat, or a depressed morning, I shake myself and say, YES, before it's too late, feel the love. The movers will come in less than a month.

I often vacillate between the importance of being zen and a sense of urgency. Call it list management: that *Never put off to tomorrow what you can do today* kind of feeling.

For you too it is surely a delicate balance where the aspiration to grow excites the horizon: a deep-set desire to construct a tower of positive days, to be persistent in my faith and energy. Build to the sky before being laid to rest permanently, sigh, no time left, with no return.

Moving from our home of 34 years has increased that kind of urgency. It is a time of transition, a time to keep building. Moving forward.

BUILDING

Through conversations treasured with my husband, our children and friends,
Through early morning prayer, stretching my feet, ankles, hands and legs before getting out of bed,
Through beckoning pages of a book,
Through meeting people on walks,
Through watching a good programme,
Through seeing wonder in buds bursting,
the announcement of fruits to come,
Through the shapes and numbers of golden leaves in autumn,
Through gratitude for the strength of trees, that their leaves will come back,
Through opportunities to engage rather than “relax”.
Through learning to relax,
Through finding purpose in meetings,
Through discussing: the bible, writing, world issues and management of various community projects,
Through helping a neighbour or friend in need,
Through feelings and memories from photos, papers, objects and books on the shelf.
Through reading of news from friends,
Through being grateful for friendship today
And also remembering those who have left us.
Through eating and sharing delicious meals.
Before it's too late I pray
To be able to hug our children and our friends again and again

To become a better listener,
To continue to grow as a tower of touching, hugging, caring, remembering, and smiling.
As we grow a day older tomorrow
And the day after, and the days after that, reaching out to those nearby,
Avoiding being isolated, distant, or cold or mourning lost opportunities, times gone by.
Lest we grow hardened, experience the warmth
With thankfulness, today and always,
Before it's too late.

Dear Friends at Holy Trinity

This is the first of what I hope to be regular notes: our thoughts and journey into another chapter of our lives, to another "planet". We have been blessed over the last 33 years at Holy Trinity Maisons Laffitte: our two children, our work and crafting of two books! We can't thank you enough for your support and encouragement along the yellow brick road.

Alain's historic novel has just been released: <https://editions-sydney-laurent.fr/livre/amours-et-aventures-chez-les-albizzi-florence-fin-du-quattrocento/>

Mine, a book of witnessing, was released two years ago:

<https://www.editions-empreinte.com/anorexie-paroles-de-parents-parcour>

Our home base is moving from wonderful Saint-Germain-en-Laye to:

9 Rue Patata, 19120 Beaulieu sur Dordogne (mostly summer and fall) and
915 Whitehall Lane, Redwood City, 94061, California.

We are eager not to lose touch,

Take care, and may His light continue to shine on us all,

Love, Julie juliectave@gmail.com

and Alain alain.tave@gmail.com

A word of thanks

For the past year a member of the Chaplaincy Council has been under treatment for a lymphoma. (His name is not mentioned publicly here for reason of medical confidentiality). He would like to thank those who are *au fait* and who have been praying for him during this difficult time, those who have kept in contact, and those who have given occasional practical and moral support to him or his family. Give thanks too for the French health service and a very supportive workplace *Directeur*.

Treatments are due to continue until at least 2024, and the worst-case scenario has so far been prevented. With certain precautions, he is still able to contribute to family and church life.



***Congratulations to
Ezekiel and Dorcas
who got married at
Holy Trinity on
10 September 2022
with a beautiful
wedding ceremony
and vin d'honneur.***

https://youtu.be/es_2PaPq6pE



Recent events

September—The Welcome BBQ and Men’s Breakfast...



October—The Annual Big Mix Up-making mincemeat and Christmas puddings.



Reflection from Edith: “This revives so many memories of when we first started making the puddings at HT. Until then I made them (about twenty!!) with Frances Leigh in her house and we cooked them in her stables”.

*The Trinity Times committee would like to thank
Johanna Devlin for the beautiful cover design of this issue.*

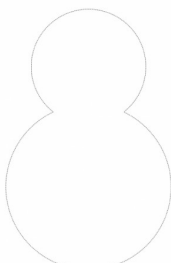
We wish you all a very Happy & Peaceful Christmas.

Children's Christmas Corner

Easy-peasy Build a Snowman game:

Roll a Snowman

-  -eyes
-  -mouth
-  -nose
-  -arms
-  -scarf
-  -hat



Material - dice, and paper and pen for each person (coloured pencils even better). Start with each person drawing two round circles to make a snowman (or provide each person with the basic snowman outline). Stop there. Each person takes it in turn to roll the dice. Draw the item to your snowman that pertains to the number rolled:

- Roll 1 - two green eyes
- Roll 2 - smile
- Roll 3 - carrot nose
- Roll 4 - branches for arms
- Roll 5 - striped scarf
- Roll 6 - top hat



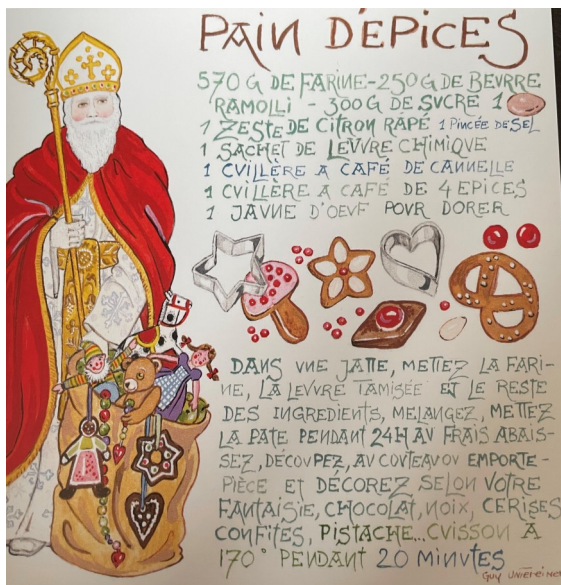
The first person to build a complete snowman wins.

Source: <https://christmasfm.com/>

There are lots more fun activities on this website:

<https://www.whychristmas.com/story/>

Christmas Recipe:



PAIN D'ÉPICES

570 G DE FARINE - 250 G DE BEURRE RAMOILI - 300 G DE SUCRE 1 ZESTE DE CITRON RAPE 1 Pincée de SEL 1 SACHET DE LEVURE CHIMIQUE 1 CVILLÈRE À CAFÉ DE CANNELLE 1 CVILLÈRE À CAFÉ DE 4 ÉPICES 1 JAUNE D'ŒUF POUR DORER

DANS UNE Jatte, mettez la farine, la levure tamisée et le reste des ingrédients, mélangez, mettez la pâte pendant 24h au frais abaissez, découpez, au couteau ou emporte-pièce et décorez selon votre fantaisie, chocolat, noix, cerises confites, pistache... cuit à 170° pendant 20 minutes

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 19 November	3.30 pm	Confirmation Service
Saturday 26 November	10.30 am	Christmas Fête
Saturday 3rd December	5.30 pm	Service of Nine Lessons & Carols (at Holy Trinity)
Sunday 11 December	11.00 am 5.00 pm	Nativity Service Cantus Choir Concert
Saturday 17th December	10 am	Decorating Church for Christmas
Sunday 18th December	12.30 pm	Church Family Lunch
Saturday 24 December: Christmas Eve	5.00 pm 11.30 pm	Crib Service Christmas Midnight Eucharist
Sunday 25 December: Christmas Day	10.30 am	Holy Communion Service



Sunday Services

Every Sunday	9.15 am	Holy Communion (said)
1st Sunday	11.00 am	All-Age Worship with Holy Communion
2nd, 4th, 5th Sundays	11.00 am	Holy Communion with Crèche & Sunday Groups
3rd Sunday	11.00 am	Informal Communion with Crèche & Sunday Groups



Photo by A. Parr