

The June Letter

Dear Friends,

June this year is busting out all over with Christian festivals, let alone blooms, butterflies and birds! Following on from a late Easter, we have Ascension Day, Pentecost and Trinity Sunday all falling this month. Ascension day and Pentecost don't, in my experience, seem to generate as many difficulties of understanding as Trinity Sunday sometimes does. I'd like to spend a little time passing on some thoughts on the Trinity that have been helpful to me over the years.

Firstly, what does the "Trinity" mean? It's a very familiar word to those of us who've been around for a long time, but that can make us forget what a remarkable concept it is. So the Trinity can be described as bringing together the three Persons of God – God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. How can these *three* be *one*? God the Father, who is wholly divine, almighty, everlasting. God who, from before time began, existed. God who sent his Son as both fully human and yet also divine. And God whose Spirit was breathed out on his followers, into his world, to bring God into people's lives in a different dimension. Divinity, humanity and spirit – it's not easy to see how this three-some comes together in the Trinity.

And yet this three-some, this triangularity, can help us to see that additional richness and riches can emerge when we look at something from three different sides. Two ideas to share may help.

Many years ago, I remember hearing a sermon preached on Trinity Sunday, which suggested that seeing the Trinity was a bit like looking through a kaleidoscope. (I'm sure most of us older folk have done this as a child; I hope the younger people have played with a kaleidoscope too.) Handling a kaleidoscope, with its three mirrors set facing each other in a triangle, and the multi-coloured and patterned flakes of material that can move and jiggle about, means that every time we look into it we see something magical – and something different, that we've never seen before. The pieces move, the colours change, the patterns vary – but together they make a wonderful picture to behold. Three aspects of this picture come together to produce something amazing.

Much more recently, I read some words by one of this country's great working theologians, about how she saw the Trinity. It was she said, like three great figures, each illuminated in its own light, and standing on the three points of a triangle. Each with its own splendour, its own purpose, but each enriched so much by the reflected light of the other two. So God the Father is seen in the light of his Son and the Holy Spirit, and the same balance can be seen for the Son and the Holy Spirit in their turn.

Both pictures, it seems to me, make the point that great as God, as Jesus, as the Holy Spirit all are, they are so much more linked together, in the Trinity. And it is this Trinity which is given to us.

Some of you may have heard me say before that an old clergy friend who died some years ago now, always claimed Trinity as his favourite Sunday. It was, for him, following Pentecost, the day when God in all his fullness was in the world for humanity – people like us. Maybe that's something we need to dwell on a little further, as we go through this month.

And if you were wondering about the sermon on the kaleidoscope? It was delivered by a certain Richard Bailey, when a very new curate!

Good wishes, and God's Blessings,

Jean Bailey

JUNE PARISH DIARY

Wednesday 1st	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion at St. James's
Thursday 2 nd	9.30 a.m.	Morning prayer
	7.30 p.m.	Ascension Day Communion

SUNDAY 5TH SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion & Junior Church
	11.00 a.m.	Dedication festival meeting in hall
Tuesday 7th	11.00 a.m.	Holy Communion at Crossley House
	7.30 p.m.	Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 8th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
	11.30 a.m.	Ings Way Lunch Day
	6.15 p.m.	Cub Scouts
Thursday 9th	9.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer

6.00 p.m. Beaver Scouts
7.30 p.m. Scouts

SUNDAY 12TH PENTECOST

9.30 a.m. Holy Communion & Junior Church
Tuesday 14th 7.30 p.m. Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 15th 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at St. James's
6.15 p.m. Cub Scouts
Thursday 16th 9.30 a.m. Morning prayer
6.00 p.m. Beaver Scouts
7.30 p.m. Scouts

SUNDAY 19TH TRINITY SUNDAY

9.30 a.m. Parade Service & Holy Communion
Tuesday 21st 7.30 p.m. Adult tap dancing
7.30 p.m. PCC meeting in vestry
Wednesday 22nd 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion
6.15 p.m. Cub Scouts
Thursday 23rd 9.30 a.m. Morning prayer
6.00 p.m. Beaver Scouts
7.00 p.m. Bowls evening
7.30 p.m. Scouts
Saturday 24th magic evening at St. James's

SUNDAY 26TH FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9.30 a.m. Holy Communion, Baptism & Junior
Tuesday 28th 7.30 p.m. Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 29th 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at St. James's
Thursday 30th 9.30 a.m. Morning prayer

The Way I See It

By David Winter, a former Head of BBC Religious Broadcasting who has contributed to Radio 4's 'Thought for the Day' for the past 22 years.

Most of us know that one of the Commandments tells us to observe a day of rest - a 'Sabbath unto the Lord'. We may well prefer to ignore the words that precede it: 'six days shalt thou labour'.

Truth to tell, it all sounds very remote from modern life. Some of us 'labour' on all seven days in the week - usually from choice rather than necessity. Others would love to have some work to do - any work, so long as it's paid. And in between there's the rest of us, some of whom do five days a week being paid to work and others - the mothers, mostly - who do some of that and then add on another sixty hours or so bringing up small children. As for the 'day' of rest, well, we have what we call a 'weekend', which is probably not exactly restful, except in the sense that 'a change is as good as a rest'. Whoever called shopping 'rest'?

These thoughts are stirred by the fact that last month, May, many countries held a 'Labour Day' - an idea probably reflected in our annual May Bank Holiday. It's a time when we are meant to celebrate the contribution of work to our daily lives - and the dignity of labour, whatever it is, because without work our whole society would be impoverished.

In the Genesis creation story God forms Adam from the dust of the ground and gives him work to do - a beautiful Garden of Eden to cultivate. Soon - 'it is not good for the man to be alone' - God adds a partner in the enterprise, Eve. It all sounds blissful, until they begin to think they know better than God, with catastrophic results. The punishment for their disobedience is on gender lines. The woman will have pain in childbirth and 'be subject to her husband'; the man will find that his work which had been a joy becomes a pain: 'by the sweat of your face you shall eat bread'.

Whatever you make of that story, I can confirm that in many years of ministry if a woman wanted to talk to me about a problem it was usually to do with a man, and if a man had a problem it was usually to do with work. I cheered myself up by the thought that these strange penalties were abolished by the death of Jesus. In Christ women are no longer to be dominated by men, nor is work for the males to be an unrewarding slog. 'All are one in Christ Jesus.' Hallelujah!

Forthcoming events

Theatre Outing - Bingley Little Theatre

We are having a trip on Wednesday 29 June to the theatre to see "The Good Companions." This is a highly entertaining jolly hockey sticks end of the pier musical play about the fun-filled fortunes of a touring concert party in the 1920s known as the Dinky-Doos. They are stranded in the English countryside when their manager absconds with the most recent box office revenue and the lady pianist. Fear not - help is at hand and a happy ending is around the corner

Tickets are £8 and £7 concessions and the performance starts at 7. 30 p.m. Transport can be arranged for a small charge. Please sign list at back of church or see Val Muff if you are interested.

NB: The last date we can take orders for tickets will be Sunday 12 June and any tickets ordered will have to be paid by then, so we can adhere to the box office regulations

Table Top/Car Boot Sale

Advance notice about the Table Top Sale to be held on Saturday 16th July 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Tables/spaces are £8—to book please phone J Muff (01274) 560400. It would be very much appreciated if businesses making a booking could donate a small prize for our raffle.

Summer Fair

On Saturday 2nd July we will be holding our Summer Fair from 11.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. There will be various stalls and games and lunches will be available. Entrance is free, so please come along and join in the fun.

Signs & Symbols: The Church Porch

The front door of many homes opens straight into the hallway, so when someone calls they can not only see all the clutter in the house, but all the heat rushes out into the street. Some people add on a porch to this kind of house, which not only avoids those two things happening, but gives them somewhere to store wet shoes, umbrellas, hang coats, and so on. A really useful space.

When we look at church doors and their porches it's often assumed that that is what they're for also. A place to display notices, a nice bench on which to pause during a walk on a sunny day, somewhere to leave muddy boots; even a place to display flowers or have a bowl of water for visitors' dogs to drink from.

Well, that may be how we use them today, but it's very far from their original purpose. These were working areas of the church which had great significance. You have to remember that churches up to not so very long ago were not only the hub of the community but they were often the only formal public building in that area. They carried out many of the functions that today the local Council do. So yes, public notices would have been displayed here, but also matters of business would have been carried out: executors of wills made payments of legacies, and coroners sometimes held their courts here.

Many porches have a room above them which could have been used as the local strong-room. A custodian may even have lived there, and it would therefore have a window into the church for him to be able to keep watch. Later the room may have been used as an armoury, as a place to hold church papers, a depository for wills, or a library. Being above ground they'd have been nice and dry and a bit more secure from thieves.

Come Bowling!

Following the previous two years' popular bowling evenings (crown green, not ten pin!) Stuart and Fiona Graham have arranged another one for us at the West Bradford Bowling Club, Prospect Place, (off Duckworth Lane) on **Thursday 23rd June at 7.00 p.m.** The price of £3.00 will include a pie and pea supper. This is a fun evening, very informal so you don't need to have any bowling skills - just come and try your hand.

Bowls is an ancient game believed to have been devised by the Egyptian and has developed in many forms in different countries e.g. boules in France. Henry VIII was a keen bowler but he objected to the working classes playing as he thought it distracted them from their work. He therefore introduced a rule that anyone keeping a green must pay a fee of £100, and the green was only for private use, thus preserving the sport for the rich and well-to-do.

Probably the most famous mention of bowls comes with the story of Francis Drake reputedly engaged in a game of bowls on Plymouth Hoe when news of the Spanish Armada was received in 1588 and he refused to leave until he had finished his game (which he lost). It is not absolutely certain that this event happened, but it does illustrate that bowls was a popular pastime at the time.

There are various forms of the game today but at West Bradford, they play Crown Green Bowling, which adds an extra dimension to flat green bowling in that the green has a raised area in the centre and play is conducted all over the surface in any direction, which gives much more variety.

So, why not it give it a try?

Little Child's First Bible

The little girl was sitting with her grandmother, who had presented her with her first little children's Bible, when she was very young.

Now, a few years later, the old lady was ready to spend a few sweet moments handing down the big old Family Bible, in the time-honoured King James Version, to her only grandchild. Understandably excited, the youngster was asking a number of questions, both about the family members whose births and deaths were recorded therein, and about various aspects of the Scriptures themselves.

Her grandmother was endeavouring to answer all the child's questions in terms she could understand; but the one that stopped her cold was this sincere inquiry:

"Which Virgin was the mother of Jesus? Was it the Virgin Mary, or the King James Virgin?"

Easter Walk

James and Val suggested we organise a walk from Ilkley to Calvary and Middleton Woods at Easter. We had a glorious warm and dry spring day on Easter Saturday – ideal for the walk. We met at Ilkley Parish Church and waited for the group to assemble. Unfortunately Andrew, Debbie and Ben were unable to join us despite having come to Ilkley early. Before the walk started they had to rush over to Leeds to see their daughter Poppy in Leeds General Hospital following a car accident near the airport. However we were able to set off only a few minutes later than planned, starting to walk through the Riverside Gardens and over the River Wharfe. We soon came to Owlter Park Road, a hill which climbs up to almost the highest point of the walk – luckily there were some beautiful houses and gardens to distract us and take our minds off the exhaustion! Further up the road we passed between wooded areas with lots of bluebells and open fields of sheep and their lambs which were a delight to behold. We stopped at the top for a rest and took the opportunity to take some group photos. After a short break we made our way along the bridle path to Calvary – the Stations of the Cross. These fine stone carvings were created by an Italian sculptor when he came to stay at Myddleton Grange many years ago. They are incredibly detailed and if you take the time to study them you will keep finding new elements of the sculptures. We spent some time

looking around Calvary before moving on past Myddleton Lodge and the Leeds Catholic Diocese retreat at Middleton Grange. We proceeded towards Middleton Woods where the path meandered through the amazing display of bluebells and other wild flowers down to the Ilkley Lido and eventually back to the start.

Overall the walk was a little more strenuous than indicated by Bradford Met Countryside Service but nevertheless was extremely enjoyable. It is well worth a visit even at other times of the year but if you can't make it and would still like to experience it a DVD slideshow is available at £1.50 (towards church funds), just ask James or Val. Photographs of the walk have also been placed in the album depicting the church's year.

PS We understand that Poppy was severely shaken and a little bruised in the accident but nothing too serious.

Speech Out of Control

It seems there was this minister who just had all his remaining teeth extracted and new dentures were being made.

The first Sunday, he only preached 10 minutes.

The second Sunday, he preached only 20 minutes.

But, on the third Sunday, he preached 1 hour 25 minutes.

When asked about this by some of the congregation, he responded :

The first Sunday, my gums were so sore it hurt to talk. The second Sunday, my dentures were quite uncomfortable; The third Sunday, I accidentally grabbed my wife's dentures... and I couldn't stop talking!

Out of the Mouth of Babes

A Sunday school teacher was teaching her class about the difference between right and wrong.

"All right children, let's take another example," she said. "If I were to get into a man's pocket and take his wallet with all his money, what would I be?"

Little Johnny raises his hand, and with a confident smile, he blurts out, "You'd be his wife!"

Just a Thought!

Most of us spend the first six days of the week sowing wild oats, then we go to church on Sunday and pray for a crop failure. [Fred Allen]

Ascension Day

To mark Ascension Day on June 2nd, there will be a service of Holy Communion in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd at St. Saviour's at 7.30 p.m. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served afterwards and all are welcome to join us.

The Map

A father wanted to read a magazine but was being bothered by his little girl. She wanted to know what the United States looked Like.

Finally, he tore a sheet out of his new magazine on which was printed the map of the country. Tearing it into small pieces, he gave it to her and said, "Go into the other room and see if you can put this together. This will show you our whole country today."

After a few minutes, she returned and handed him the map, correctly fitted and taped together. The father was surprised and asked how she had finished so quickly. "Oh," she said, "on the other side of the paper is a picture of Jesus, when I got all of Jesus back where He belonged, then our country just came together."

The last 100 years

In the last 100 years, since the census of 1911, what has been the biggest, most significant event to happen? In a widespread recent survey, the invention of the internet beat even the Second World War and men walking on the moon into first place. It seems that for sheer worldwide impact, there is nothing to compare to that eureka moment of Sir Tim Berners-Lee back in 1989. His invention has transformed daily life for billions of people the world over.

Viral Bibles on the loose!

There are 200 Bibles on the loose. During 2011, at Christian festivals across the UK, 200 limited edition Bibles are being released, courtesy of Hodder Publishing. At each festival week, ten different-coloured Bibles will be let loose into the crowd. If you receive a Viral Bible, simply highlight your most meaningful passage, fill in your details online and pass it on. Each Bible has a unique code, so you can follow its adventures and be inspired by the verses and stories that others share. The Bibles will travel the length and breadth of the UK - and hopefully throughout Europe and the rest of the world.

It is hoped that the 200 Bibles will be passed from hand to hand, connecting friends and strangers. The Viral Bible Project is part of Biblefresh, a movement of over 100 organisations, helping the church engage with the Bible in new and creative ways.

The Bradford Cathedral King James Bible Exhibition

Ian Mc Alpine.

As part of a varied series of 'Artspace' events to mark the 400th anniversary of the King James' Bible, Bradford Cathedral is staging an exhibition of 400-year-old Bibles in the Bede Chapel from April to October. I visited the display a few days after it opened, and was most impressed by it.

The visitor begins by exploring the history of Bible translation in England using an ultra-modern touch-controlled screen which discusses the background of early Bible translations from Wyclif to the early 17th century. The very readable text was accompanied by reproductions of the title pages and other sections of these early versions. This exhibit was complemented by a series of display panels which added further details to the story. From Wyclif to the Reformation Bible translators often suffered terrible persecution for their efforts. For example William Tyndale was burnt at the stake in 1536 mainly for his work in translating and publishing

the New Testament and parts of the Old into English. We are extremely fortunate today to have free access to so many Bible translations and to live in an age of religious tolerance.

However, the centrepiece of the exhibition was a glorious example of the first edition of the King James Bible printed in 1611, on loan from Lichfield Cathedral. This was a large and magnificent black-letter folio in excellent condition, the distant ancestor of all the King James Bibles in print today and was probably the finest one I had ever seen. It spoke for itself and hardly needed any label or explanation. I spent several minutes enjoying it.

In another display case was a quarto-sized Geneva Bible of 1605 in roman type (like this), on loan from the parish of Holmewood and Tong. The Geneva Bible was originally published in Geneva in 1560 (NT was 1557) by English protestants forced to flee to Switzerland to escape the Marian persecutions. It was first published in England in 1576 and continued until as late as 1644. It was perhaps the first 'study Bible' and was renowned for its copious marginal notes and its extreme Protestant tone. Facsimile reprints of the first 1560 edition are still in print today. It was popularly known as the 'Breeches Bible' because of its translation of Genesis 3.7 where Adam and Eve were described as having made breeches for themselves - the KJV has 'aprons.'

Finally there is a 1616 small folio edition of the King James Bible in roman type which I was amazed to learn was only recently discovered during reorganisation of the Cathedral's Jane Williams Library. The spine is badly damaged and it is hoped that funds can be raised for the £2,000 or so needed for repairs.

The exhibition runs until October, admission is free and a helpful leaflet is available. I was very impressed by it and urge everyone to go and see it.

Notes from the PCC

The PCC met on Wednesday 11th May, in our new schedule of 6-weekly meetings. We were sad to learn that Sue Lamb feels her other commitments at the moment mean that she wouldn't be able to give her full attention to the PCC and so she has decided to resign. We do hope that at some stage in the future she will feel able to re-join us.

The new Bishop of Bradford, the Rt. Revd. Nick Baines, was due to be welcomed into his new role at his enthronement service at Bradford Cathedral on 21st May. Parishes were asked to send in digital photos which would then be put together into a presentation to be shown before the enthronement service. We decided we would take a photo of our congregation holding our "Welcome to St. Saviour's" banner at the service on Sunday 15th May and submit that. See the result on p.7.

We looked back at the Stewardship Campaign and the returns we had to the Time and Talent questionnaire. We have been really encouraged by the responses - both from people already heavily involved agreeing to continue, and from those making new offers. Offers to go on the various rotas will be included in the new listings, people offering to do other tasks will be contacted as appropriate. We have made a "master list" of who has volunteered to do what, so we know whom to contact when things need doing. This should help us greatly and we are very grateful for all offers. James has reported that there isn't a noticeable increase in finances so far, but we are hopeful people will review their weekly giving as they can.

The 45th Anniversary of our present building is approaching and we looked at ways we can celebrate this. We are planning to start the week on 17th September with a musical evening and buffet supper and end it with our Harvest Celebrations on Sunday 25th, at which the new Bishop will officiate. The meeting after the service on 5th June is your opportunity to put forward your ideas, so do please think about it and come along and have your say.

Hilary Davis, PCC Secretary.

June Roll of Remembrance

2nd	Thomas Varley	(1975)
3rd	June Love	(1978)
	Jessie Trigg	(1979)
4th	Jack Hartley	(1980)
5th	Herbert Vivian Bamford	(1985)
6th	Joyce Whitham	(1971)
10th	Horace Dixon	(1956)
	Margaret Lee	(1983)
13th	Winifred Deacon	(1983)
14th	Lily Hodgson	(1994)
17th	Alfred Ainsworth	(1971)
	Alicia Booth	(1978)
18th	Laura Shewan	(1977)
19th	Annie Whittle	(1981)
22nd	Edna Stubbs	(1984)
	Dorothy Ward	(1985)
	Ronald John Critchley	(1996)
24th	Thomas Brocklehurst	(1958)
25th	Kath Pasterfield	(2001)
26th	Sidney Lake	(1981)
29th	Ada Fox	(1980)
	Ethel Cromley	(1982)
	Frances Teale	
	Walter Teale	
	Emily Holmes	

**ST. SAVIOUR'S PARISH CHURCH
FAIRWEATHER GREEN**

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