

June 7th 2020

TRINITY SUNDAY

This morning the service was presided over by Archbishop Ian Ernest, Director of the Anglican Centre. The Preacher was Ksenia Smykova (intern) and our titular organist Gabriele Catalucci played:

Prelude: Vater Unser im Himmelreich BWV 763 (J.S.Bach)

Communion: Communion op 19 n 4 (Guilmant)

Postlude: Voluntary in D minor (Stanley)

Trinity Sunday is the first Sunday after Pentecost in the Western Christian liturgical calendar, and the Sunday of Pentecost in Eastern Christianity. Trinity Sunday celebrates the Christian doctrine of the Trinity, the three Persons of God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Athanasian Creed, although not often used, is recited in

certain Anglican churches, particularly those of High Church tendency. Its use is prescribed in the 1662 Book of Common Prayer of the Church of England for use on certain Sundays at Morning Prayer, including Trinity Sunday, and it is found in many modern Anglican prayer books. It is in the Historical Documents section of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer (Episcopal Church), but its use is not specifically provided for in the rubrics of that prayer book.

Trinity Sunday has the status of a Principal Feast in the Church of England and is one of seven principal feast days in



The Trinity (Andrej Rublëv c1422)

the Episcopal Church (United States).

Thomas Becket (1118–70) was consecrated Archbishop of Canterbury on the Sunday after Pentecost (Whitsun), and his first act was to ordain that the day of his consecration should be held as a new festival in honour of the Holy Trinity. This observance spread from Canterbury throughout the whole of western Christendom.

In the early Church, no special Office or day was assigned for the Holy Trinity. When the Arian heresy was spreading, the Fathers prepared an Office with canticles, responses, a Preface, and hymns, to be recited on Sundays. In the Sacramentary of St. Gregory the Great there are prayers and the Preface of the Trinity. The Micrologies call the Sunday after Pentecost a *Dominica vacans*, with no special Office, but add that in some places they recited the Office of the Holy Trinity composed by Bishop Stephen of Liège (903-20). By others the Office was said on the Sunday before Advent. Alexander II (1061–1073), refused a petition for a special feast on the plea, that such a feast was not customary in the Roman Church which daily honoured the Holy Trinity by the *Gloria Patri*, etc., but he did not forbid the celebration where it already existed. John XXII (1316–1334) ordered the feast for the entire Church on the first Sunday after Pentecost. A new Office had been made by the Franciscan John Peckham, Canon of Lyons, later Archbishop of Canterbury (d. 1292). The feast ranked as a double of the second class but was raised to the dignity of a primary of the first class, 24 July 1911, by Pius X (Acta Ap. Sedis, III, 351). Since it was after the first great Pentecost that the doctrine of the Trinity was proclaimed to the world, the feast becomingly follows that of Pentecost.¹

(with some help from Wikipedia)

Trinity Sunday

by *Christina Rossetti*

My God, Thyself being Love Thy heart is love,
And love Thy Will and love Thy Word to us,
Whether Thou show us depths calamitous
Or heights and flights of rapturous peace above.
O Christ the Lamb, O Holy Ghost the Dove,
Reveal the Almighty Father unto us;
That we may tread Thy courts felicitous,
Loving Who loves us, for our God is Love.
Lo, if our God be Love thro' heaven's long day,
Love is He thro' our mortal pilgrimage,
Love was He thro' all aeons that are told.
We change, but Thou remainest; for Thine age
Is, Was, and Is to come, nor new nor old;
We change, but Thou remainest; yea and yea!

Did you know that at one time there was a second Anglican Church in Rome, dedicated to the Holy Trinity? Some disaffected worshippers who had originally worshipped in the “granary” outside the walls, the chapel that preceded All Saints’ in Via del Babuino, had a church built in Piazza San Silvestro soon after 1870. This church was demolished and replaced by a church in what is now Via Romagna, but eventually with dwindling numbers it held its last service on April 18th 1937, and the building was also demolished. You can find the story of this short-lived enterprise along with some fascinating illustrations in the history of All Saints’ on our website: author of the account is our invaluable intern and archivist Edoardo Fanfani. The church earned some notoriety in the mid-1920s when a series of unpleasant crimes in Rome and elsewhere saw the incrimination of a photographer named Girolimoni. He was eventually acquitted in spite of pressure from the Fascist regime to solve the case, even if it meant finding a scapegoat, but a persistent policeman found evidence that the guilty person was the priest in charge of Holy Trinity from 1922-1927, the Rev.d Ralph Lyonel Brydges: after being transferred from Rome under consular protection he was eventually acquitted in absentia for lack of proof, but other incidents elsewhere involving the priest, which had included expulsion from the United States, have left many questions unanswered to this day...Meanwhile a film was made about Girolimoni and his unjust arrest: the film starred the distinguished actor Nino Manfredi.

A Hymn for Trinity Sunday

“Holy, holy, holy”. Alfred Lord Tennyson considered this hymn as the greatest one in the English language. It was written by Reginald Heber (1783-1826) when he was vicar of Hodnet (Shropshire). The words are based on a passage from Revelation 4.8-11, which is the Epistle for Trinity Sunday in the Book of Common Prayer. Heber once wrote “I avoid all fulsome, indecorous or erotic (sic) language to HIM whom no unclean lips can approach”. He would not have been impressed by the parodied version that was sung by British soldiers during the First World War! The tune now used was composed by the



REGINALD HEBER

Author of "From Greenland's ice mountains"

Rev.d John Bacchus Dykes (1813-1876). He called the tune Nicaea: it was at the first Council of Nicaea in 325 “that the doctrine of the Trinity was first clearly defined in the face of the heresy of Arianism” (Bradley). The words of the hymn have sometimes been changed. The reference to “morning” is sometimes altered to enable the hymn to be sung at other times in the day, and the mormons have changed the last line from “God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity” to “God in His glory, blessed Deity”.

The popularity of the hymn has led to many sung versions.

This is King’s College Choir:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ntdcY8q7a9E>

or here is a very upbeat version sung by the First Baptist Choir of Dallas with full symphony orchestra and rhythm group.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j5MEoJZo38M>

From Dana English, former assistant curate at All Saints’

I send my warmest greetings to the congregation of All Saints’—I had bought a ticket to visit Rome this month of May, but have had to postpone that trip. I do hope to see you all in November, if all goes well.

I am happily connected in London, now, to the United Benefice of Holland Park. Two churches are linked together in the Benefice: St. George’s Campden Hill and St. John the Baptist Holland Road. St. George’s is a thriving congregation between Holland Park and Hyde Park in west London—the neighborhood of Evelyn Underhill and G. K. Chesterton. J. M. Barrie, the author of “Peter Pan,” chose as the cover illustration of the first edition Peter flying around the spire of St. George’s!

Since October 1st, I have been welcomed as an SSM (Self-Supporting Minister), part-time, in this Benefice, my own parish. I am one of four clergy on the staff, working together under James Heard, the vicar. Neil Traynor is based at St. John’s, a church that James brought back from near-death (near-closing!) six years ago, when rain was pouring through the roof and 2 persons constituted the congregation. Through Neil’s added presence, a number of grants for this Grade One Listed building, and a resurgence of young adults and others finding their way to this beautiful sanctuary it is also thriving, even in this time of closure. Peter Wolton is, like me, an SSM part-time. It is an unusually harmonious and smoothly-running team. In this time of closure Neil has enabled Zoom to connect the congregation for morning and evening prayer and compline six days a week, two Sunday services, a Christian Contemplative Prayer Group on Monday evenings, a Young Professionals’ Group every other Tuesday, a Bible study I lead on Wednesdays, and a poetry and coffee group on Thursday mornings. We have a pastoral visitors’ group that helps the

clergy to regularly and frequently call those who are isolated in the congregation. It has been a great pleasure to be part of this flourishing ministry, and I am grateful for the ongoing ministry in which I am able to participate here.

My younger son Michael has been with me since March 15th, completing his junior



year at Yale online. He had hoped to have his Spring training for the men's lightweight crew team on campus, but the members of the team were abruptly sent home when the Coronavirus began to make itself felt in the U. S. Michael plans on a vocation in environmental engineering (though he has also taken a number of art history courses, as well as humanities courses, during this undergraduate time). He is also in the Air Force ROTC, and will become an officer for a stated period following next year's graduation. He is active in the Episcopal Chaplaincy at Yale and in community service. Sam is completing his senior year at the University of Chicago, majoring in English literature. He may choose to stay on to complete an M. A. in creative writing there, although he also wants to explore secondary school teaching. He plays soccer

whenever he can, and although both boys have had to put aside their music for the time being, with the intensity of their studies, Sam plays piano and cello during vacation times and Michael, the violin. We have missed going to concerts together! I am hoping to lead some retreats both in England and in Italy, remembering with great pleasure the twelve women from All Saints' who were at Bose Monastery together the first weekend of Lent, 2017. Please let me know if you are interested in joining in a retreat, probably sometime in the winter of 2021!

I remember my time with you with great fondness, and pray for your continued flourishing!

From Andrew Colvin

Our twinned church in Rome, Ognissanti, has been continuing its work throughout the period of restriction imposed by the COVID-19 Pandemic. The difficulties they faced in the earlier days of the Shutdown were enormous and frustrating as there



Volunteers from Ognissanti at Ostiense Station

was lack of guidance on what could or could not be done legally, putting volunteers at risk even of arrest. At first there was doubt as to whether any meal distribution could take place at all at Ostiense, but gradually pragmatic solutions evolved. A single meal package, including a “mascherina” is given to each homeless person, thus minimising the risks of proximity of the former queuing at the serving table. The organisers had to secure permits for volunteers to move on each occasion, and transport restrictions to the distribution sites at Termini and Ostiense were, and continue to be, an obstacle. The conditions in Phase 2 are somewhat easier, as personal authorisation is no longer required, but it is still difficult to strike up the easy rapport with the recipients that pertained before. Currently attendance by the

homeless to claim a meal oscillates between 80 and 100 persons, but that is only a fraction of the total distributed by various agencies throughout Rome.

That the Ognissanti volunteers of Don Luigi Orione, led by Salvatore Cottu, rose to the challenge is a tribute to the inspiration given them by their former leader Ugo Carpino. His untimely death following a stroke, reported in an earlier number of the Newsletter, occurred days before the lockdown. His funeral on 4th March, attended by hundreds, must have been one of the last open commemorations and testified to the loyalty and dedication of those left to carry on the service.

If the meal distribution has become somewhat easier in the past couple of weeks, the challenge for the parish of Ognissanti has grown in other areas. The area around Re di Roma at the beginning of Via Appia Nuova has always had pockets of poverty, and the current economic crisis induced by the pandemic has meant that many who relied on a precarious income have now lost that. Before the pandemic the parish of Ognissanti had about 35 families who needed assistance from the Church with food and some basic necessities. Now this has spiralled to over 160 families, representing about 470 persons. This means obtaining tons of food and necessities from various sources, local shops, donations, Caritas and a parochial foodbank, to be sorted and distributed in periodic packages to the needy. The present crisis also means an increase in pastoral work, as well as maintaining a busy rota of services within the Ognissanti Church.

To sing or not to sing?

Next Sunday is denoted in the UK as Music Sunday. I have been conducting a survey among Anglican churches in Europe to see what their approach has been to providing music in church during the time of Covid-19. Here are the responses I have received so far.

Belgrade. All services in church are said, though other services are conducted via Zoom and Facebook, and these include clips from the internet.

Amsterdam. They are using recorded music from Worship Lyrics videos.

Warsaw. They are not yet having services in church. All their worship is on Zoom, with hymns pre-recorded by the pianist and congregational singing from home.

Stockholm. Services are live on Zoom, with a solo voice leading the singing and the congregation joining in at home: they recognize that synchronizing live singing in this way is most unsatisfactory!

Istanbul. Services have continued throughout the lockdown: full mass, vestments, incense, sung liturgy and hymns, but without the normal congregation. As there are refugees living in the church they have made up the congregation.

Porto (I have no contact address for Lisbon, whose chaplaincy is currently vacant). They have services on Sundays at which the organist plays. This includes shortened versions of the hymns which the congregation follow but without singing. The hymn books are sanitised weekly, and left in the same pews for people to pick up the following week.

Berlin. Services include a speaking congregation, a priest and assistant, readers, an organist and a singer who sings hymns/anthem/Gregorian chant. The service is also broadcast on a live stream, and on this the words of the music are included, but in church the congregation does not sing.

Prague. The Czech Republic has been relatively free of the virus, and the church council has decided that as their church is large and the congregations small singing can be allowed with due precautions.

Oslo. Up to now they have been having Zoom services only but from June 21st the church (St Edmund's) will be open for worship every other week. A choir of four will sing two metres apart and the congregation will be allowed to sing quietly or hum or "preferably not at all"!

News from All Saints'

- If you are reading the Newsletter for the first time you may not know that we have been back in church for services for three weeks now. Every step has been taken, in line with current regulations, to keep us all safe, and the response has been encouraging. Do tell your friends, especially those not in Rome, that the service is also being broadcast live on our web and Facebook channels.
- A reminder that the Annual General Meeting of All Saints' Church will take place after the service on June 21st. It will also be broadcast on Zoom and full details will be provided nearer the day. Volunteers at the Ecumenical Garden at San Gregorio have fallen in numbers, but there is still much to do, and meetings there are now every Saturday. If you are interested in helping please speak to Daphne in church or contact her on daphne.allen@tiscali.it.

That Sunday will also be the last service at which Darren Everhart will be playing. After ten years at St George's School and an equal number of years as our assistant organist he is returning to England to take up a new teaching post.. Please come along and give him a good send-off!



- Volunteers at the Ecumenical Garden at San Gregorio have fallen in numbers, but there is still much to do, and meetings there are now every Saturday. If you are interested in helping please speak to Daphne in church or contact her on daphne.allen@tiscali.it.

- Our former intern Maki has sent a cutting from a church newspaper of fifteen years ago, when she attended the Asian Pacific Student Youth Tournament. It's rather blurred but she says that "she looks so cheeky!"

- The Non-catholic cemetery, with its information centre, will be reopening to the public on Monday June 15th, with reduced opening hours. New volunteers for training are always welcome: more details can be found on www.cemetery.rome.

- This newsletter welcomes contributions from the wider All Saints' family. Do send in your articles or relevant photos to me on

a.cochlin@libero.it.

- A summary of the weekly services at present:

Wednesdays 12.45 Light at lunchtime: payers and bible study. **ZOOM**

Instead of Thursday 12.45 Eucharist **IN CHURCH:**

On Thursday June 11th there will be a service in church of Mattins for the Feast of St Barnabas, starting at 11.30. It will also mark the 35th anniversary of Father Rob's ordination: please come if you can!

Thursday 21.00 Compline **LIVE ON FACEBOOK** and recorded on the website from 21.30

Friday 17.00 Evensong **ZOOM**

Sunday 10.30 Mass with music **IN CHURCH**

Information is available in the church office (0636001881), as are the invitation codes for the Zoom services.



The Holy Trinity in the Centre Community Church, Ontario

- **Please Consider Supporting Us During This Challenging Time**

Churches such as ours in Italy are highly dependent on revenue not only from plate offerings but also from concerts and other rentals of space which are impossible at the present moment. These are uncertain times for us and we would be grateful for your generosity at this moment in our history. If you have the ability and

willingness to help sustain us during this time, please use the link on our website to donate. www.allsaintsrome.org.

Thank you!