**St Columba’s Church**

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**7th JUNE 2020: TRINITY SUNDAY (YEAR A)**

Today we are invited to contemplate, so to speak, the heart of God, his deepest reality which is his being One in the Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – a supreme and profound communion of love and life.

**DAILY MASS ONLINE FROM ST COLUMBA’S**

You can follow Fr Roy celebrating Mass live at 10am every day on YouTube – <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYVyZ2Xpfs0NiuU3bxAjsCQ/live>

Mass is also live streamed at the same time on Zoom:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73986660636?pwd=UkJMZHQ0S1ZYUDdOR21MVkpYZElBdz09>

**THIS SUNDAY’S MASS READINGS**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Blest be God the Father, and the only begotton Son of God, and also the Holy Spirit, for he has shown us his merciful love.

The Gloria is said.

**1st Reading: from the book of Exodus 34:4-6,8-9**

**Responsorial Psalm Dn 3:52-56. R. v.52**

To you glory and praise for evermore

**2nd Reading: from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 13:11-13**

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, the God who is, who was, and who is to come. Alleluia!

**Gospel: John 3:16-18**

**Communion Antiphon:** Since you are children of God, God has sent into your hearts the Spirit of his Son, the Spirit who cries out: Abba, Father.

**A MESSAGE AND REFLECTION ON TRINITY SUNDAY’S READINGS FROM FR ROY**

Trinity Sunday is a nightmare for clergy because of the difficulty explaining this mystery.

Three persons in one God: how do we know that? Jesus revealed to us the three persons in one God biblically. Think of the account in the New Testament of Jesus’s baptism. The Father was present in the form of a voice confirming that ‘This is my Son, the beloved’. The Holy Spirit was present in the form of a dove . And obviously Jesus, the son, was there.

Another scriptural source for the Trinity is found in the Book of Genesis. ‘God said let us make man according to our own image.’

Here in these accounts is proof that God revealed the mystery of the Trinity. The question is: how do we relate and respond to the Trinity?

It is clear that God created us – and in his own image – for a specific purpose. It is so that we can share the glory of God. Of all the creatures on earth, we are the only ones destined to be with God.

The plan for redemption was hatched in order to fulfil this original objective of God. He wanted us to understand his plan and for each of us to make it our own individual plan as well.

The feast of the Holy Trinity is a reminder for all of us of the true purpose of our lives.

God has marked out for all people the path towards God’s kingdom. Our role is to be faithful in following that path, revealed to us by Jesus. The Holy Spirit is our constant guide on this path.

We need to acknowledge that the journey towards God’s kingdom is often derailed by our own selfishness. We find ourselves off track because we feed our passions with our greed and materialism. The ultimate consequences of this dangerous alliance with the devil are too terrible to comprehend.

The danger represented by this lethal cocktail is often overlooked or ignored because of the lure of its pleasures, which can be so difficult to resist.

The feast of the Holy Trinity is a reminder to all of us not to let our attention slip away from God.

We must guard our allegiance and keep heading in the right direction.

We can never afford totally to lose our focus because the cost to our souls would be too much to bear. This feast encourages us to keep focussing on God’s kingdom.

The reward for renewing our fidelity towards God is a commitment that is sweet indeed.

Remember: we must not allow ourselves to be distracted by the lures which surround us. That involves much self-denial on our part but we can be reassured that the pain we endure is as nothing compared to the glory that awaits.

**PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED**

Marlene Fontenelle and Eric Newth and all victims of Covid-19 – may they rest in peace.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND NEEDY** John Smith, Deacon John Letley, Joan Cunningham, John Davis, Noreen Lawlor, Sebastian Keen, Solveya La Marina, Chris Jones, Maria Reece, Margaret Bolton, Eddie Aldridge, Ellis Warburton, Mary Marks, Margaret Edwards, Jean-Claude Anthony, Ellen Everett, Maureen Coffey, Albert Khayyat, Grant Russell, James Patrick Guckian, Elizabeth Sensano and sick residents at the four residential homes usually, in better times, visited by the parish SVP group (St Vincent De Paul).

**LITURGICAL CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK**

Sun 7th: The Most Holy Trinity

Mon 8th: Feria

**Tues 9th: St Columba – our parish feast day**

Wed 10th: Feria

Thurs 11th: St Barnabas

Fri 12th: Feria

Sat 13th: St Anthony of Padua

Sun 14th: The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

**DO YOU HAVE A MASS INTENTION?** If you wish to have a Mass offered for a special intention, even though St Columba’s is currently closed you can still do so. Either email details of the intention direct to Fr Roy (address above) or write out the details and post or deliver them to the presbytery. The information needed is the name of the person for whom the Mass is to be offered and whether they are deceased and if there is a specific anniversary or if it is some other special intention; also the date on or near which you would like the Mass to be celebrated; plus your own name and phone number/email address.

* It is customary to make an offering to the priest when asking for a Mass to be celebrated for a special intention.

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Sun 7th 10am Online: Ida Staples RIP

Mon 8th 10am Online: Holy Souls

Tues 9th 10am Online: Imelda Soriano

Wed 10th 10am Online: Holy Souls

Thurs 11th 10am Online: Holy Souls

Fri 12th 10am Online: Holy Souls

Sat 13th 10am Online Maria Abiodun RIP

Sun 14th 10am Online: Pro Populo

**BLACK LIVES MATTER**

That is stating the obvious but it is also the name of an international movement which has sprung up to protest again violence and systemic racism towards black people, not least by the police. It is important for the Church to be heard speaking out against racial injustice, wherever it happens. Remember to keep all those experiencing racism in your prayers. Pray for justice and reconciliation.

**SUPPORT ST COLUMBA’S WHEN YOU GO SHOPPING ONLINE**

*Deacon Philip writes:* You can turn your everyday shopping into free donations to our parish. It’s simple. It’s straightforward. And it will cost you nothing. I know because I have signed up for it. All you have to do is visit the [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) website, register (which is quick and easy) and then go shopping online at whichever retailer you choose. Each time you buy something a small donation is made to St Columba’s. There are more than 4,000 retailers to choose from including lots of big names such as Argos, John Lewis, Amazon, M&S and Sainsbury’s. Have a look at this link to find out more:

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stcolumbasldn/?invite=ZTUSO0%26referral-campaign=c2s%26utm\_campaign=admin-trigger%26utm\_content=nst](http://t.e.easyfundraising.org.uk/r/?id=h2ef6bab4,257a256b,25302fff&utm_source=adobecampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=referral-2018&utm_content=trigger-supp-referee-raised-2018&origin=RTNS2&p1=stcolumbasldn&p2=ZTUSO0)

**DON’T FORGET THE FOODBANK**

Calls on the Salvation Army’s Vine Foodbank at New Addington which we at St Columba’s have regularly supported over the years have increased significantly. Can you help? Phone Lesley Holland (07906 097473) to find out what they most need and how to give.

You can donate via:

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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/newaddingtonsalvationarmy> | | |   **POPE FRANCIS’S PRAYER INTENTIONS**  The Holy Father’s prayer intentions for the month of June are: universal. ‘We pray that all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.’  **THIS NEWSLETTER: IS IT WORTHWHILE?**  Well, is it? We need contributions – comments, suggestions, experiences, even complaints and, yes, jokes too would be welcome – to make this online newsletter work. Do you find it useful? What else might we include in it? Is it worth continuing? Contact [Deacon Philip](mailto:kyrabarone@aol.com) (address above) with your response and reaction.  **HOSPITAL VISITS IN CROYDON**  General visiting is still very restricted at Croydon University Hospital. Families are allowed only one visit for no more than 15 minutes to patients at the end of their lives. The chaplaincy team provides spiritual and emotional care 24/7 to all patients in the hospital. If you know of anyone in the hospital that you feel will benefit from a visit by a priest email [Andrew.dovey@nhs.net](mailto:Andrew.dovey@nhs.net) or phone 0208 401 3105 or 07557 014 739  **PASSING ON OUR FAITH**  This short online course is for parents wishing to encourage their children in the practice of their faith. And of course families can participate from the comfort of their homes. For more details email Lisette Blanchet-Ball on [mflse@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflse@rcaos.org.uk)  **A POEM FOR TRINITY SUNDAY**  *Three in one, one in three,*  *This is the binding of the Trinity.*  *God the Father, God the Son,*  *The Holy Spirit, all three in One.*    *Apart they would not want to be,*  *as the branches reach out from a Tree*  *far and wide all three extend,*  *reaching all Earth to its very end.*  *God in the Heaven, watching above*  *His Son, Jesus, is spreading His Love.*  *A white dove flies higher and higher,*  *then suddenly darts down flashing fire.*  *Let's all remember that spreading Tree,*  *and what it means to you and me,*  *it binds us all, as you can see,*  *the One and Only Trinity.*  (Composed by Marion de Souza)  **COVID-19: WHAT ABOUT PEOPLE IN THE THIRD WORLD?** |  | |  | | --- | |  | |
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COVID-19 has hit many of the wealthier nations, affecting both health and economy.  However, those in less fortunate circumstances and in poorer countries are facing much worse: a humanitarian disaster.

There is a risk of families facing starvation with not enough to eat or without access to clean water.  Those living with HIV or other underlying health conditions will be particularly vulnerable to coronavirus whilst another major concern is the virus reaching refugee camps where the struggle for reasonable healthcare is already a matter for concern. CAFOD, the Catholic aid agency, are therefore expanding and adapting their programme to prevent the spread and reduce the risk of coronavirus in communities. Every step taken now to get food and clean water to families will help prevent deaths and reduce suffering. Those who would like to donate to the CAFOD Coronavirus appeal can do so here: <https://cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-Emergencies/Coronavirus-appeal>?

**WHAT’S HITTING THE HEADLINES?**

Have a look at the latest, June, issue of *Pilgrim*, Southwark diocese’s very own newspaper. What is hitting the headlines? See for yourself by double clicking on this link:

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**CYCLE OF PRAYER DURING ORDINARY TIME AFTER EASTER**

* For a deeper understanding between Christians and Jews.
* For those who suffer persecution, oppression and denial of human rights.
* For human life
* For seafarers
* For Europe.

**IN NEED OF PRAYERS?**

***If you or people you know are in particular need of our prayers, let Deacon Philip know so that the name(s) can be included in the prayer list of people who are sick or needy.***