

Notes from around the Parishes, May 2021

For Great Massingham, Little Massingham & Harpley



Our Reader Nell Steele writes:

May is a YES month! All that apple blossom, busy bees everywhere, the veg patch showing promise of succulent meals to come!

The feast of Pentecost, or Whit Sunday, this year on 23rd May, is a great YES moment. It's when Jesus's disciples were so powerfully filled with the Spirit of God that they rushed outside into the crowds, yelling out that Jesus had risen from the grave, and that he was at God's side, Lord and Messiah. So excited were they that some people thought they were drunk, but the message ran through the crowd like wildfire, and even foreigners understood. About 3,000 people believed that day! In the Old Testament, God can sound punishing and angry, and sadly, that's what people remember, not the yearning love God also showed his people. Jesus's life embodied how much God loved us, more than we could ever imagine. Yet some people still imagine him as a disapproving and distant old man, with "Thou shalt not" ever on his lips. Yet his whole creation shouts "Yes!" in its beauty, diversity and fascination, even spiders! Jesus is always by our side to help us through grim times; God's Spirit can unlock our potential to be our true selves and to serve the Lord. Just trust him!

I hope this poem by Kaylin Haught will explain better than I can.

God Says Yes to Me

I asked God if it was okay to be melodramatic
and she said yes

I asked her if it was okay to be short
and she said it sure is

I asked her if I could wear nail polish
and she said honey

she calls me that sometimes

she said you can do just exactly
what you want to

Thanks God I said

And is it even okay if I don't paragraph
my letters

Sweetcakes God said

who knows where she picked that up
what I'm telling you is

Yes Yes Yes

[Kaylin Haught (1947-2018) was a poet from Albion, Illinois. Her poems appeared in *Ms. Magazine*, *On the Bus*, and other magazines and journals. Ed.]

SERVICES FOR THE GROUP in May



*Jesus Christ is risen today,
He is risen indeed ~ Alleluia!!*

The Jews have a festival called Pentecost or the Feast of Weeks, celebrated on the fiftieth day after the Passover. The word Pentecost comes from the Greek Πεντηκοστή (Pentēkostē) meaning fiftieth. The Christian Easter Season lasts until Whit Sunday, a period of fifty days. On the fortieth day after Easter Christ's ascension is celebrated. He commissions his disciples to continue his work, he promises the gift of the Holy Spirit, and then he is no longer among them in the flesh. The arrival of the promised gift of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost completes and crowns the Easter Festival.

Services in Church

Cases of COVID throughout the benefice have remained extremely low since the beginning of March. We are not out of the woods yet as cases in King's Lynn are fluctuating giving some cause for concern. Rev'd Judith continues to consult with PCCs so that we can gradually increase the number of services held in Church. The advice from the Diocese remains the same: to take everything *'slowly, steadily and SAFELY.*

***** Remember:** - when in church masks are still needed. *******
Keep a 2m distance; use the hand sanitiser provided

Wednesdays fortnightly Holy Communion Services

will resume IN CHURCH from Weds, 5th May; at 9am

First Wednesday	at St Lawrence's, Harpley
Third Wednesday	at St Botolph's, Grimston

Dates for this month

Sunday 2nd May - 5th Sunday of Easter

0930	Lay-led Family Service	St Lawrence's, Harpley
11am	Zoom Holy Communion	

Wednesday 5th May 9am Holy Communion in Harpley

[Saturday 8th May - Mother Julian of Norwich, spiritual writer of 15th Century]

Sunday 9th May - Rogation Sunday (6th Sunday of Easter)

1030	Holy Communion	St Botolph's, Grimston
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Wednesday 12th May 3pm Lectio Divina via Zoom

Thursday 13th May - *Ascension Day*

1030 Holy Communion St Mary's, Great Massingham
6pm Ascension Day Service All Saints', Ashwicken

Sunday 16th May - *7th Sunday of Easter*

0930 Lay-led Family Service St Mary's, Gt Massingham
11am Zoom Holy Communion

Wednesday 19th May 9am Holy Communion in Grimston

Sunday 23rd May - *Whitsun/Pentecost*

0930 Holy Communion St Lawrence's, Harpley
1030 Holy Communion St Nicholas', Gayton

Wednesday 26th May 3pm Celtic Service via Zoom

Sunday 30th May - *Trinity Sunday*

NB 9am Holy Communion St Botolph's, Grimston
11am Zoom Holy Communion

Thursday 3 June

9am Holy Communion in Harpley

Corpus Christi - Day of Thanksgiving for Holy Communion

Sunday 6th June - *1st Sunday after Trinity*

0930 Lay-led Family Service St Lawrence's, Harpley
11am Zoom Holy Communion

Services & Meetings via Zoom

Zoom services have been very successful for the last year and are especially welcomed by those who are unable to attend church in person.

Zoom services will be at 11am with an email invitation sent out at about 1050

All Welcome! Contact Steve Williamson if you would like an invitation

01553 636 413 or stephenwilliamson001@gmail.com

There are also meetings held on alternate Wednesday afternoons at 3pm

Churches open daily for individual prayer in daylight hours until about 6pm:



All Saints', Ashwicken
St Mary's, Gayton Thorpe
St Lawrence's, Harpley

St Mary's, East Walton
St Mary's, Gt Massingham
St Andrew's, Congham



Please direct all enquiries on church matters
(Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals or requests for pastoral visits)
to our Acting Team Rector: **The Rev'd Judith Pollard,**

The Rectory, Grimston 01485 601251

STOP PRESS!! On 28th April at 10am, 10 Downing Street announced that Her Majesty The Queen had approved the nomination of The Venerable Dr Jane Steen, currently Archdeacon of Southwark, to be the next Bishop of Lynn. Archdeacon Jane will be consecrated a bishop in Norwich Cathedral on the Feast Day of St Etheldreda, 23rd June 2021. For further details please see the news article and short video: <https://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/news/new-bishop-of-lynn-announced/>

From the Registers:

9th April funeral of **Ian Symington** at St Lawrence's, Harpley
Ian was a regular member of the Harpley congregation while he and his family lived in Harpley; they relocated to Norwich a few years ago. He died suddenly just before Easter. Lyndsey and all his family are in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.



Christian Aid Week is 10th – 16th May

The Church of the Nazarene in King's Lynn is hosting a Zoom Quiz and info evening in aid of Christian Aid on **Friday May 14th at 7.30pm**

Zoom Meeting 810-4464-3284 Password 443767 ~ For details contact Rev Heather Berry on 01553 764098 or Michael Aldis at sil8field@googlemail.com

King's Lynn Christian Aid Group Cookery Book

To raise funds for the work of Christian Aid, the King's Lynn Christian Aid Group is planning a Cookery Book. A wide variety of recipes is needed. They might be favourites handed down through your family or recipes you have gathered from travel elsewhere in the world. **Please email your favourite recipe to**

Heather Berry (revberry2019@gmail.com) or to

Joy Smith (joysmith61@btinternet.com) by Wednesday , 12th May 2021

Annual Parochial Church Meetings are due to be held soon. These are public meetings, open to all - you do not have to be a church-goer to attend however, in order to vote you need to be on the Church electoral roll.

Ask Rev'd Judith (Tel 601251) Meetings are at the Churches at 6pm:

St Andrew's, Little Massingham **Tues 18th May**

St Mary's, Great Massingham **Weds 19th May**

Please send items for inclusion in the June issue of the 'Parish Notes' to the editor by 20th May. An extended version of these 'Notes' is available on the web-site or, contact the editor, if you wish to receive them by email.

Rosemary Mehers 01485 521866 or rosemarymehers@hotmail.com

Check the Group website for the most up to date information:

www.ggmbenefice.co.uk

Poems from the pen of Malcolm Guite

Pentecost on Sunday, May 23rd



Pentecost

Today we feel the wind beneath our wings
Today the hidden fountain flows and plays
Today the church draws breath at last and sings
As every flame becomes a Tongue of praise.
This is the feast of fire, air, and water
Poured out and breathed and kindled into earth.
The earth herself awakens to her maker
And is translated out of death to birth.

The right words come today in their right order
And every word spells freedom and release
Today the gospel crosses every border
All tongues are loosened by the Prince of Peace
Today the lost are found in His translation.
Whose mother-tongue is Love, in every nation.

These sonnets come from Malcolm Guite's book- Sounding the Seasons: Seventy Sonnets for the Christian Year.

He also writes a daily blog where you can read more poems and also hear him read them

<https://malcolmguite.wordpress.com/2019/06/08/our-mother-tongue-is-love-a-sonnet-for-pentecost-7/>

Trinity Sunday, May 30th

Trinity Sunday

In the Beginning, not in time or space,
But in the quick before both space and time,
In Life, in Love, in co-inherent Grace,
In three in one and one in three, in rhyme,
In music, in the whole creation story,
In His own image, His imagination,
The Triune Poet makes us for His glory,
And makes us each the other's inspiration.

He calls us out of darkness, chaos, chance,
To improvise a music of our own,
To sing the chord that calls us to the dance,
Three notes resounding from a single tone,
To sing the End in whom we all begin;
Our God beyond, beside us and within.

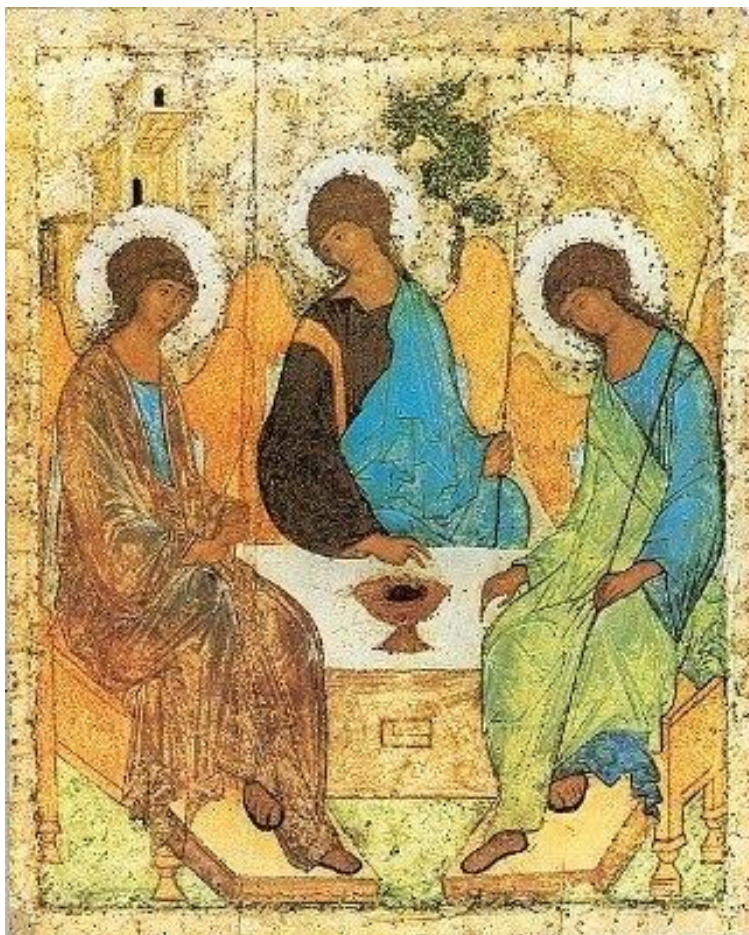
You can read more and hear Malcolm Guite read his sonnet at:

<https://malcolmguite.wordpress.com/2012/06/02/trinity-sunday-a-sonnet/>

He writes:

‘Continuing my cycle of sonnets for the Church year. Here is one for Trinity Sunday. By coming to us as the Son, revealing to us the Father, and sending to us the Spirit, Jesus revealed the deepest mystery; that God is not distant and alone, but is three in one, a communion of love who comes to make His home with us.

The [Rublev Icon](#), below, shows the Three in One inviting us to share in that communion’



This icon of the Trinity was painted around 1410 by Andrei Rublev

It depicts the three angels who visited Abraham at the Oak of Mamre - but is often interpreted as an icon of the Trinity.

It is sometimes called the icon of the Old Testament Trinity.