

Trinity News

No. 486 May 2019



*Trinity United Reformed Church,
Mansel Road, Wimbledon*

Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

To me, the month of May often feels like a bit of an *in between* time. The buds and blossoms of springtime have by and large achieved their aims, but it would be a stretch to claim that the days of summer have yet arrived. Indeed, it's said that the origin of May Day as a festival lies partly in its occurrence midway *between* the spring equinox and the summer solstice.



In between: it's a state that can be neither here nor there, and so we don't always cope well with it. When we're constrained to a choice between difficult alternatives, we might say we're "caught between a rock and a hard place – or between the devil and the deep blue sea". Meanwhile if we're told that a friend is *between* jobs, or *between* relationships, it's more likely to point to an unintended ending than to a chosen transition.

For Christians, May this year coincides with an *in between* time in the Church's seasonal observance. Having celebrated Easter late last month, we're now invited to imagine ourselves alongside the first disciples in the tales of encounters they shared with the risen Jesus. Joyful encounters, to be sure; yet always it seems with a sense that those friends don't quite know what they're meant to be doing next, or what the end result is going to be. For them, clarity would have to wait until the feast of Pentecost, after their resurrected Lord had finally taken his leave of them.

For us in 2019, Pentecost won't arrive until next month – and perhaps in the interim we too might be wishing things were a little more clear-cut in our own lives?

Even so, the *in between* need not be a time of frustration, nor of simply marking time. Instead, let's make it an opportunity to equip ourselves confidently for new undertakings and new phases. Think of those now preparing for exams and assessments in schools, colleges and universities: the syllabus has been pretty well covered,

so this is the moment for focused and effective revision of what's been gleaned over the last months and years. And if it's true that we can all be life-long learners, then such focus and consolidation sets a good example for the rest of us too.

During this month, some of Trinity's young people are meeting week by week for Confirmation preparation. It's a time to navigate the space *between* the sacrament of baptism they received when very small, and the fullness of church membership which they will soon take up. Please pray for them, and for all who share their journey.

And as you pray, think about what it is to which God is calling *you* just now. For some, it might be renewed attention to a daily pattern of prayer. For others, it might be a commitment to meet regularly with others in the context of a small group for fellowship and Bible study. Perhaps for you the challenge now is to set aside time, talents, or resources to be given in God's service through Trinity - or through one of its local partner organisations. Or perhaps indeed, for you, church membership might be a step you've not yet taken but now need to explore?

In whatever adventure God is setting before you, be assured that you aren't expected to tackle it alone! Even if it feels like you are *between* old familiarities and new unknowns, I hope it'll always be true that at Trinity you are also *among* friends... so let's help and encourage one another along the way!

Every Blessing

Dominic



FAITH IN ACTION
helping with homelessness

Time for a Spring clear out?

Faith in Action continues to serve the local community with an average of about 65 homeless and vulnerably housed people attending each session.

Some of you may have noticed that the Donation Box was missing over recent months but thanks to Rosalie Bolland, we now have a new one which is available in the Old Hall after each morning service.

We welcome all donations of clean clothing (particularly for men) so why not take a look and see if there is anything that you haven't worn for a while and pass it on? Although the weather is improving it is still cold at night so as well as warm clothes, items like tee shirts are great for layering.

At the moment we are most in need of new men's boxer shorts (medium), new ladies' knickers (medium), razors, shoes, sugar, coffee, jam and cooking oil but you can find a complete list of things that we need is available on the website at

<http://www.mertonfaithinaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/FiA-useful-donations-2017.doc>

Wouldn't it be great to spot someone in the street wearing the coat or shoes that you don't need any more and know that you have made a difference to them.

Cathy Dundee

Wednesday Social Group

The Social Group will meet on Wednesday 1 May (2.30pm) for a "favourite poems" afternoon.

We are invited to choose our favourite poem and to recite or read it together with a short explanation for our choice. We are asked not to choose anything too lengthy for obvious reasons. Please tell Alan or Janet Young in advance of your choice[A1].

All will be welcome to join us for the poems, followed by tea.

Shopping On line?

- Do you shop on line? Regularly, occasionally, never.
Even if you only shop online very occasionally you can donate [A2] to the charity of your choice, hopefully Trinity United Reformed Church (Wimbledon) at no cost to yourself, by using **GIVE AS YOU LIVE** before entering the shop/ store name or site.

You would still be entitled to the same discounts; bonus points and loyalty benefits and the prices would remain the same.
For further information ask Chris Jeffery.

A look back to Lent

On five Monday afternoons in Lent a good-sized group met at Margaret Noble's house and, under the Minister's leadership, studied the "Life Source" course on "Prayer". The course explored prayer as a relationship, as enjoying God, as listening, as honesty and as care. Through Bible study and discussion, we were encouraged to learn to pray better through new prayer patterns and practices.

We are grateful to Dominic for his leadership and to Margaret for her hospitality.

We would like to encourage others to share in future such courses which, quite apart from the subject matter, are a good way of meeting and getting to know other members of the congregation.

.....and to Mothering Sunday

On Mothering Sunday, our young members didn't just take over the readings and prayers, but also provided some of the music! Ellie took the hotseat to perform our prelude and postlude at the start and end of the service, whilst Deon accompanied the offertory collection and impressively even played one of our hymns!

Once the new organ has been installed in the church, look out for more from our young musicians leading the way in providing the music for our worship.... rumour has it they are so good our existing organist may shortly be out of a job!

Trinity's band regularly perform at services and at local concerts and events – if you play an instrument and would like to be involved (whether you're 7 years old or 70) please just have a chat with Andrew after any service.

Andrew Davies







May

1	Wed	14:30	Wednesday Social Group – an Afternoon of “Favourite Poems”
		20:00	Joint Elders’ Council & Finance Team
2	Thu	20:00	Mission & Outreach Team
3	Fri	10:00	Trinity Toddlers
		19:30	Film Club
		20:00	Friday Fellowship
4	Sat	16:00	Pilots
5	SUN	11:00	Morning worship
		18:30	Ecumenical service at Trinity – “Any Earthly Use” – the Church & caring for the environment
6	Mon	<i>Early May Bank Holiday</i>	
8	Wed	20:00	Church & Society
9	Thu	19:30	Prayer group
10	Fri	10:00	Trinity Toddlers
		20:00	Friday Fellowship
11	Sat	09:00	Christian Aid car boot sale at St Mary’s field
12	SUN	11:00	Morning worship
13-19	<i>Christian Aid Week</i>		
16	Thu	19:30	Prayer group

17	Fri	10:00 19:30 20:00	Trinity Toddlers Film Club Friday Fellowship
18	Sat	16:00	Pilots
19	SUN	11:00	Morning worship led by Mr Mark Dennis
20	Mon	20:00	Worship & Faith Development Team
21	Tue	20:00	Communications & Publicity Team
22	Wed	20:00	Church Meeting
23	Thu	19:30	Prayer group
24	Fri	10:00	Trinity Toddlers
26	SUN	11:00	Morning worship
27	Mon	<i>Spring Bank Holiday</i>	
30	Thu	19:30	Prayer group
31	Fri	19:30	Film Club



Happy Birthday in May to

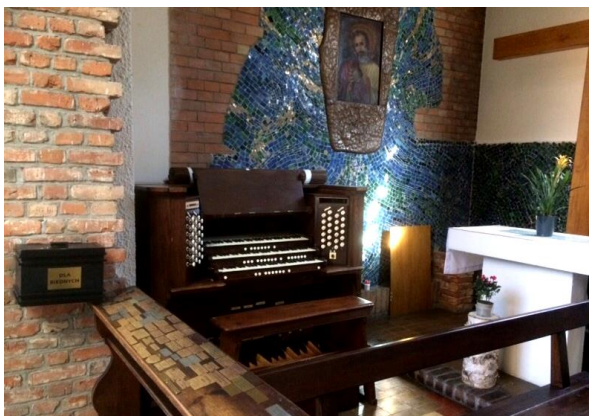
3	Eddie Henning	(17)
3	Tim Rostron	(14)
8	Hannah Ray	(16)
15	Michael Chau	(8)
16	Kiera Probert	(10)
19	Ibrahim Sesay	(7)

Stop Press: THE ORGAN

At the time of writing, Trinity's new organ has been installed, will be used for the first time at a service on Palm Sunday, and will be dedicated on Easter Sunday. A full report in the next edition of Trinity News.

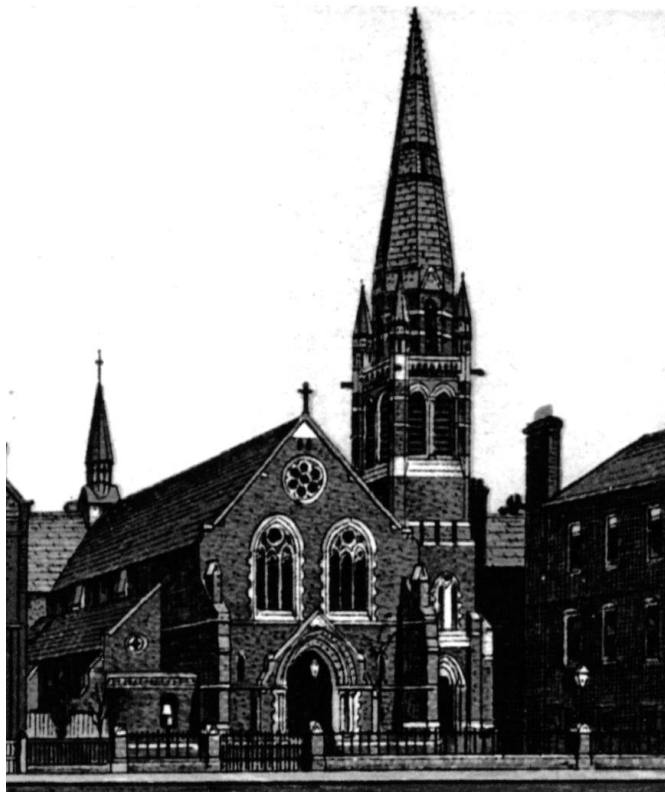


***Our new Johannes
Ecclesia console has
arrived!***



***The former Trinity organ console now on display
at St Michael the Archangel Church in Warsaw***

From the archives Through the decades No4: 1910s



This sketch of Trinity is a bit of a mystery. It appears in the Merton Photographic Archive (www.photoarchive.merton.gov.uk) but is entitled simply 'Presbyterian Church Wimbledon'.

No other information is given – no artist and no date.

The artist remains unidentified and will remain so unless anybody can help!

Comparing the sketch with other pictures from the time it appears to date from about 1915 – certainly it predates the catastrophic High School fire of 1917.

Alan Young