

# BRINDLE St JOSEPH'S

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## The Most Holy Trinity 4<sup>th</sup> June 2023

(Sunday cycle year A, weekday cycle year 1, psalter week 1)



*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you*

### Prayer for Trinity Sunday

We have come before you, Lord, to offer our praise and adoration. You are God the creator, giving us richly all things to enjoy. You are Christ the Saviour of the world, made flesh to set us free. You are the Spirit of truth and love, willing to dwell in us. You are holy and blessed. One God, eternal Trinity, be near to us the people formed in your image, and be close to the world your love brings to life.

## THIS WEEK

Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30am	Sarah O'Donnell	St Charles Lwanga and companions memorial)
	6.00pm	Bob Moffatt	<b>The Most Holy Trinity</b>
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	For the Parish	
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Mass today</b>		St Boniface (memorial)
Tue 6 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Hilda Martindale	Feria (week 9)
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	For peace in the world	Feria
Thu 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Norman Jackson	Feria
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Holy Souls	Feria
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	<b>First Holy Communions</b>	BVM
	6.00pm	For the Parish	<b>Corpus Christi</b>
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	For the elderly, sick and housebound of the Parish	

### CONFESSIONS: FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH AT 10.00am OR BY APPOINTMENT

This week		Reader		Eucharistic Minister		Bookshop	
Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup>		M Sherry		G Hopkinson		L Lomax	
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup>		M Gardner		B Gore		C Snape	
<b>Bidding prayers</b>	J Beeley	<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	L Rigbye, J Kitchen	<b>Collection counters</b>	B Kellett & M Russell		
Next week		Reader		Eucharistic Minister		Bookshop	
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup>		C Williamson		J Hothersall		R Smith	
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup>		C Snape		M Gardner		B Gore	
<b>Bidding prayers</b>	L Gardner	<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	C Snape, J Grogan	<b>Collection counters</b>	J & K Slater		

**Last weekend: attendance: 128, collection £396.62 – thank you!**

**Readings: Exodus 34:4-6,8-9, 2 Corinthians 13:11-13, John 3:16-18**

On the feast of Pentecost last week, we reflected upon the God who speaks to us not in earth-shattering power and might, but in *the still small voice* or in the *gentle breeze*.

In today's feast of The Holy Trinity, through the readings, we discover what it is that he is *telling* us.

The readings speak of love: the loving relationship that is the life of the Trinity, and God's invitation for us to share in that life.

It may not seem obvious but, rather, a gradual process of understanding.

In the first reading, God reveals himself to Moses as a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger and rich in kindness and faithfulness. Then, in the second reading, St Paul tells them to live together in harmony and peace so that the God of love and peace may be with them. He sums up the revelation of the Trinity in his closing blessing: *The grace of Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

This God of tenderness and compassion, rich in kindness and faithfulness, according to one tradition, revealed Himself to Moses *after* the people he had led out of captivity in Egypt turned their backs on him and returned to the worship of idols which was the worst of sins.

And St Paul is addressing his letter to the Corinthians *in anguish and tears* at their dissensions and fickleness to the true teachings. (2 Cor 2:4)

In John's Gospel, just before he speaks so lovingly to Nicodemus, Jesus makes a whip out of some cord, scatters the money-changers' coins, knocks over their tables and drives out all the traders and their animals, telling them not to turn His Father's house into a market.

In spite of all this, Jesus is still able to tell Nicodemus that God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

These examples remind us of the tensions that always exist and have to be worked through if we are to grow in love with each other and in the Trinity.

We need always to remember that Jesus came to call sinners not the virtuous. (Matt 9:13)

Sharing in the life of the Trinity may sound rather impersonal and we may not feel particularly *loving*. Perhaps this is not something we need to *feel*; we just need to *know* and to *believe* that **He** is the Lord and God of tenderness and compassion, rich in kindness, faithfulness and forgiveness; who bestows upon us grace, love and fellowship so that we may not be lost but may have eternal life in the **Father and in the Son and in the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

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### **This week's memorial**

**St Boniface** (675-754) born in Devon, educated in a monastery in Exeter and became a monk of the Benedictine monastery of Nursling near Southampton.

An enthusiastic teacher and preacher, he ended up preaching the Gospel to the heathens in Germany and became Bishop of Mainz. He founded and restored dioceses and helped reform the Frankish church. At over 70 years of age he was set upon and killed while awaiting some neophytes for confirmation. He is honoured as the Apostle of Germany.

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### **Reflection**

There is no place for selfishness and there is no place for fear! Do not be afraid then when love makes demands. Do not be afraid when love demands sacrifice. **(St John Paul II)**

With Prayers,

Fr Raphael.

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This Thursday sees the final **SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAMME** meeting and at the 10.30am Mass on Saturday, the children will receive their **FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS** – please remember them in your prayers.

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At Masses next weekend, the Feast of Corpus Christi, **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS** will renew their commitment to their important ministry.

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**HEIDI CROWTER**, who has Down's syndrome, has announced that she will be taking her case against the UK Government over our current discriminatory law, which allows abortion up to birth for Down's syndrome, to the European Court of Human Rights. To find out more about Heidi's case, and the discrimination babies with Down's syndrome face in the womb, visit <https://righttolife.org.uk/HeidiCase>.

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**BOOKSHOP** – Cards and gifts for First Holy Communions are now available.

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**PLEASE PRAY** for those who are sick or housebound including Bill and Hilda Warbrick, Anne Chadwick and Maurice Evans, as well as for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

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**100 CLUB:** The winner for week 25 is number 29, Mr & Mrs T Walmsley.

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**During Ordinary Time (Summer) up to September, we are asked to pray for:** A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews; Those Who Suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Europe; Human Life; Seafarers.

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On **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July**, there will be a **FAMILY FUN DAY** in and around the Parish Hall from 2.00 to 5.00pm, organised jointly by the school, church and scout group. Plenty of fun and games, BBQ, bar, refreshments, Shetland pony rides and much more. Free entry! See the poster on the noticeboard for full details.

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**GRAVEYARD:** Please could we avoid planting shrubs or any other plants or placing any items in front of graves which might prohibit the passing of a lawnmower.

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**TEA & COFFEE** are served after Mass on Sunday mornings. Please come along – you'll be very welcome.

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If you're the last one out of church after a weekend Mass, could you please check that the lights are turned off and doors closed? Thank you.

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**ESCORTED PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE**, Ireland, 26<sup>th</sup> June. £699 per person sharing. Price includes flight, all transfers, 4 nights in Knock House Hotel with full board, all entertainment and excursions. Day trips to Westport, Ballintubber Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Fr Peyton Centre and National Museum. Single supplement £150. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com).

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**THURSDAY STAY AND PLAY!** Thursday morning 2-hour Scandi-inspired play sessions for children aged 0-5 in the Parish Hall. Montessori toys, climbing frame, soft play, puzzles, sensory and craft activities, ride-on toys, books, small world, dress up and more. Parachute games, songs/stories at each session led by an EYFS teacher. Juice and freshly-baked shortbread for children included. Refreshments on sale. Six-week block booking: 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> June, 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> July (NB no session on 13<sup>th</sup> July). £36 for one child and one adult. Additional siblings £5, babes in arms free, additional adult £1. PAYG spaces £7 subject to availability

## **RISING COSTS**

For everyone, the cost of living is presently rising at an alarming rate. Energy costs are at an all-time high, and the cost of essentials at the supermarket increases each week. So now is not a good time to appeal for additional help for the church's finances, but sadly, however, it is necessary. The heating bills for the church are rising just as much as in your homes, and the maintenance of the old buildings are a constant drain on the church's income.

So we are asking that if you can do so without making your personal situation much worse, could you consider adding a little extra in your weekly offering or monthly standing order? Just a 10% increase will help offset the much greater costs of electricity, gas and essential maintenance the church faces in the coming months.

If you are setting up or amending a standing order, the account details are: **Account name:** Archdiocese L'Pool Brindle St Joseph's Presb 007, **Account number:** 71544691, **Sort code:** 40-29-12, **Account type:** Business.

Also, if you pay UK income tax, signing up for Gift Aid will cost you nothing, but allow the church to reclaim from the government an additional 20% of your offering.

Another extremely valuable benefit for the church, but one which is often not considered is that of leaving a legacy to the benefit of St Joseph's. If you are considering writing or making amendments to your will, this would be a perfect time to add a clause defining the amount you would like to give to the church. It is very important that any alterations to a will are officially sanctioned to avoid any issues at the time of probate. Thank you.

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## **Bidding Prayers - Trinity Sunday - 4<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**Opening prayer:** We pray to God, who loves the world so much that He sent his only son Jesus to show us how to live.

We pray for world leaders: that they may make wise decisions for the good of all people and for the earth. Lord, in your mercy....

We pray for all people, especially those who are poor: that they may know that they are loved by God and that together we may all show our love for the world and each other. Lord, in your mercy....

We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may be inspired to show our love for all and do all that we can to respect and protect God's wonderful world. Lord, in your mercy....

We pray for the Church and for Pope Francis. May they inspire others to show how to respect and protect our world. Lord, in your mercy....

Let us pray for all those who work in hospice care, or who care for the terminally ill at home or in hospital, that they be filled with the compassion and love of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Lord in your mercy....

As we think about these prayers, we ask Mary our Mother to intercede as we say... Hail Mary....

In silence, we place our own concerns before the Lord.

**Closing prayer:** God of love, teach us how to love the world as you do. Help us to care for and respect the environment so that we may all live in harmony, both now and in the future. Through your son, Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

### **PRAYER FOR THE SICK**

**Priest:** As we thank God for the gift of his Son in Holy Communion, let us remember those of our Parish who are sick or housebound.

**All:** May the body and blood of your Son, which we now send to them through our Eucharistic Ministers, bring them consolation and peace. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord. Amen.