

BRINDLE St JOSEPH'S

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Ampleforth Abbey Trust – Registered Charity no: 1026493

Trinity Sunday

15th June 2025

(Sunday cycle year C, weekday cycle year 1, psalter week 3)

DAY FOR LIFE



*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit*

God of heaven and earth, before the foundation of the universe and the beginning of time, you are the triune God: the Author of creation, the eternal Word of salvation and the life-giving Spirit of wisdom. Guide us to all truth by your Spirit, that we may proclaim all that Christ revealed and rejoice in the glory he shared with us. Glory and praise to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

THIS WEEK

Sat 14 th	10.30am	Recently deceased members of the EBC	BVM
	SECOND COLLECTION: DAY FOR LIFE		The Most Holy Trinity
	6.00pm	For the Parish	
Sun 15 th	9.30am	Stephen Dowse	
Mon 16 th	No Mass today		Feria (week 11)
Tue 17 th	9.30am	Susan Moon	Feria
Wed 18 th	9.30am	Vocations	St John Rigby (memorial)
Thu 19 th	9.30am	Pope's intentions	Feria
Fri 20 th	9.30am	Holy Souls	Feria
Sat 21 st	10.30am	Archbishop's intentions (First Holy Communions)	St Aloysius Gonzaga (memorial)
	6.00pm	John and May Elliott	Corpus Christi
Sun 22 nd	9.30am	For the Parish	

First Saturday of the month: Confessions at 10.00am, Anointing of the sick during 10.30am Mass

This week		Reader		Eucharistic Minister	
Sat 14 th		G Hopkinson		P Fawcett	
Sun 15 th		R Conboy		B Gore	
Bidding prayers	L Russell	Children's Liturgy	F Fordyce & G Fowler	Collection counters	C Moffatt & C Williamson
Next week		Reader		Eucharistic Minister	
Sat 21 st		G Kellett		P Cook	
Sun 22 nd		B Cook		F Fordyce	
Bidding prayers	J & K Slater	Children's Liturgy	As arranged	Collection counters	C & K Snape

Last weekend attendance: 118, collection £344.10 – thank you!

Readings: Proverbs 8:22-31, Romans 5:1-5, John 16:12-15.

The other week we reflected that all our prayers are made, not through the Father or the Spirit, but through the Son ... ie through Jesus.

Our Creed expresses why: because all things came to be through him and so if our prayers are to be realised, it will be through him for this seems to be the nature of the divines relationship.

We get the sense of a relationship in our first reading: *Thus says the Wisdom of God: the Lord possessed me at the beginning of his work.*

Not created but possessed, for outside of time, there is no before and after ... there was not first God and then Wisdom.

From the book of Wisdom itself, attributed to King Solomon, it says of Wisdom that *within her is a spirit intelligent, holy, unique, manifold, subtle, active, incisive, unsullied, lucid, invulnerable, benevolent, sharp, irresistible, loving to man, penetrating, all-intelligent, pure and the most subtle of spirits, permeating all things, the breath of the power of God, pure emanation of the glory of the Almighty, reflection of the eternal light and untarnished mirror of God's active power, image and goodness.* (Chap 7)

Although these Wisdom books appeared as books some fifty years before Christ and, if they are to be attributed to King Solomon, well he lived some nine hundred years before that.

It is surely by the teaching of the same Spirit whom Jesus promised the disciples, *who will guide you in all truth* (today's Gospel) and in the light of his resurrection, ascension to the Father and his sending of the Spirit of Pentecost, we can know of this relationship of three persons: Father, Son and Spirit.

The relationship of the Father whom we express in the Nicene Creed as maker of all things.

But maker of all things, through his only begotten Son; himself not made but born of the Father before all ages: *God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, consubstantial* (not in the sense of co-existing alongside, as Martin Luther believed, of the consecrated bread and wine co-existing alongside the body and blood of our Lord) but one in substance or essence with the Father.

It is this second person, the Son, who takes on flesh and lives among us in time and history, whose name is Jesus and who, for our salvation, suffered death and was buried but who rose from the dead ascending to the right hand of the Father from whose side he pleads on behalf of all who place their trust in God through him and who will come again in judgment of the living and the dead.

So we have the Father and Son united in eternity and divinity, but how can their relationship best be expressed?

By the Creed which goes on to express the relationship in terms of the Holy Spirit who *proceeds* from the Father and the Son. One in essence, co-equal therefore in divinity and eternity, and therefore as much a person, the third person of the Holy Trinity. He it is who is adored, glorified and who speaks and teaches through the prophets and writers, such as the writer of our first reading.

And he speaks through St Paul (also described by ancient biblical commentators as the Prophet) in our second reading, when he says that: justified by faith, we have peace with God through Jesus Christ. That through him we also have access to the faith, grace and the hope this brings, enabling us to persevere and endure through our sufferings ... *because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.*

The Creed is the most amazing shared proclamation of faith, inasmuch as it attempts to express the inexpressible. I wonder whether any other document has been written that seems to square so many circles as it were, yet still make sense ... at least to those with the deeper insight of faith.

Fortunately, we do not need to be philosophers of religion or theologians or even to claim that we understand the mystery of the most Holy Trinity – it would be foolish to try.

Neither is the Trinity something that exists just in the mind of theologians or somewhere 'out there', spinning its own merry dance.

The very fact that we exist means that we are already swept up in the life of the Father, Son and Spirit for, as we have just seen, St Paul told the Romans: *God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, for since we have been justified by faith, we can have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Therefore, let us embrace the Most Holy Trinity, Father Son and Holy Spirit, one God who in his three persons embraces us in his holy and divine love and draws us ever deeper into the mystery of his being.

Reflections

For to have the fruition of God the Trinity, after whose image we are made, is indeed the fullness of our joy than which there is no greater. (St Augustine)

The Trinity is the central mystery of the Christian life. It is the source of all other mysteries of Christian faith, the light that that enlightens them. (Catechism of the Catholic Church)

If Christianity were something we were making up, of course we would make it easier. But it is not. We cannot compete in simplicity with people who are inventing religions. How could we? We are dealing with fact. Of course anyone can be simple if he doesn't have any facts to bother about. (CS Lewis)

With Prayers,

Fr Raphael.

This week's Saints

St John Rigby was born in 1570, Harrock Hall, Chorley. In 1600, the daughter of his employer was due to stand trial at the Old Bailey for recusancy. She was too poorly to attend so John stood in for her and was compelled to admit to his own Catholicism. He was twice given a chance to recant but refused to. Before he was hung, he gave a piece of gold to the executioner as he climbed on to the cart saying 'Take this as a token that I freely forgive thee and the others that have been accessory to my death'.

St Aloysius Gonzaga (1568-91) of Spain. Born into an influential family, desirous of joining the military, marching around with a pike as a boy, even firing off a cannon without permission. Yet he felt called to the religious life, though a problem with his kidneys made military life less likely.

He joined the Jesuits and as a novice worked among those suffering from the plague until he himself caught it, eventually dying at such a young age but with the name of Jesus on his lips.

Please keep your eye on the “**TRANSITION COMMUNICATIONS**” section of our website – it will be updated regularly as new information becomes available.

There will be a **FOODBANK COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND**.

THIS SUNDAY is the Day for Life, the day in the Church's year dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. There will be a **SECOND COLLECTION** to support the Church's work in this area.

The next **SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION** meeting will be **THIS THURSDAY**.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS will be **THIS SATURDAY** at the 10.30am Mass.

At the back of church, there are copies of **ARCHBISHOP JOHN SHERRINGTON'S HOMILY** from his Mass of Installation. You can also find it in the “Downloads” section of our website.

PLEASE PRAY for those who are sick or housebound including Ann Green, Fr Laurence Mayne and Bill Warbrick, as well as for those who have died and whose anniversaries occur about this time. We've also been asked to pray for the daughter of a parishioner who is having a difficult pregnancy.

100 CLUB: The winner for week 27 is number 27, Mike and Susan Sherry. If the proposed closure goes ahead, this will be our last block of 10 weeks and those who paid for the full year will be refunded the unused subs. If, as we all hope, the parish doesn't close down, the 100 Club will continue as now.

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

Bidding Prayers for Trinity Sunday

On this Trinity Sunday we think of what making the Sign of the Cross means, as we turn to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in prayer.

For Pope Leo – may he receive the Holy Spirit's gifts of wisdom, understanding and fortitude as he faces new challenges. Lord in your mercy...

Today's first reading and psalm reflect the beauty of God's creation. May we truly respect and care for our amazing universe. Lord in your mercy...

As world events seem to constantly belittle the value of human life, guide our governments in just and compassionate authority. Lord in your mercy...

For ourselves – sometimes life is painful and upsetting. Help us to find inner peace by trusting that you are always with us. Lord in your mercy...

For all those in our parish who feel the loss of a relative or friend – we join our prayers with those of Mary, who mourned for her son, as we say together "Hail Mary"...

We offer our own silent prayers to you.

Father, as we place our needs, hopes and fears in your hands, let us remember and be truly thankful for our blessings. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

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.