



29 June 2022

Dear Friends,

You did not choose me, but I chose you...

Those words, spoken by Jesus to his disciples, will be very much in the hearts and minds of all those who this week are being ordained deacon or priest in the Church of England in any of the countless ordination services going on up and down the country. And amongst their number, of course, our own Ben Cahill-Nicholls is looking forward to being ordained priest on Saturday in Guildford Cathedral. Our thoughts, prayers and best wishes are with Ben as he prepares on retreat this week, and we look forward to Ben presiding at the Eucharist for the first time in Holy Trinity on Sunday.

But Jesus's words of course are spoken to all his disciples, not just those of us who are ordained priests. Whilst I'm sure I speak for Robert, Brian, Rod and Tom in saying that this time of year is always a powerful reminder of our own ordinations, and Corinne as she reflects on her own exciting path towards ordination next summer, it's a season for all of us to reflect on our many and varied vocations as we seek to serve Jesus in our own unique ways.

I have not been around at Holy Trinity & St Mary's very much over the last three weeks, as I have been leading worship in other parish churches, most recently in the parish of St Peter & St Paul in Godalming, where we celebrated their patronal festival. And it was as we reflected on Peter's call to discipleship, and the countless ways in which he "messed up" along the way (the failed attempt to walk on water, the "foot in mouth" moment on the Mount of Transfiguration, and of course the desperate denials of Jesus before the first Good Friday, to name but a few) that we realised that Jesus calls each one of us, just as we are, to serve him – which means "warts and all", with all our amazing gifts and talents but also the bits of our lives that we're less proud of.

Jesus tells Peter "you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church..." And this week is a time to pause, to ponder and for each of us to hear those words addressed to ourselves: "You are [insert your name here!]... and on you I build my church".

That can feel like an enormous burden sometimes: why, we may find ourselves wondering, did Jesus call me? To do what? Have I missed the point somewhere? Am I trying hard enough? What if, what if... And to each of us Jesus says "Hold it right there... You did not choose me, but I chose you. There was no test, no exam questions to get right, no target to hit... I chose you because of who you are..."

If we think back to the stories of the way Jesus called his first followers in the Gospels, we know that often barely a word was exchanged before he said "follow me". Often a glance, and an appreciation of what people were already doing in their lives, be that fishing, tax collecting, drawing water from a well, or simply living out their lives quietly and in unassuming ways, was all it took for Jesus to issue the invitation.

As we rejoice with Ben this week, and as we remember all those called into God's service in particular ministries, my encouragement for us is to remember that this week is for all of us too. It's a week in which to remember that whoever we are, whatever we have or haven't achieved so far, whatever we think we are or are not capable of, Jesus says "You did not choose me, I chose you... And on you I am already building my church. And so it will continue, for the rest of your life."

- Jonathan Hedgecock

Rector's Notes

YouTube

After July 17, we will no longer be providing the words for the hymns on our livestreaming of the morning service from Holy Trinity. We value those who continue to worship with us on-line at that service. If you would like to borrow a hymn book to have at home so that you can still sing the hymns, please be in touch with the parish office. Equally, if you would like a copy of the Service Book (which changes for 24/7 and the summer season), that is available for you as well.

Activity Morning with Sandfield School

I am delighted that the activity mornings with Sandfield school are re-starting, after a pause for Covid. On Monday 4th July, Ginnie and the team will be helping the children explore the meaning of the Golden Rule (Matthew 7.12): "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you".

Supporting those who support others

The PCC has endorsed the first tranche of our Outward Giving for 2022. The tradition of this parish for many years has been to distribute 10% of our planned giving to local and national charities which take forward high quality work in the community, often supporting those who are most vulnerable. This is only possible because many of you are part of the Planned Giving scheme. If you would like to become a planned giver, please be in touch with Alan Brown (plannedgiving @)

We seek to engage with these charities, especially those that are local, so that we can pray for them in an informed way, and offer emotional and practical assistance where possible. The charities receiving donations soon include Crossroads Care, Guildford Action, Christians against Poverty, Samaritans, Challengers and Oakleaf Enterprise. A fuller list will be published soon, including some responses from the charities who appreciate our support as much as the financial donation. I will be inviting some to attend Holy Trinity morning service in the autumn, so that we can meet some of the staff and volunteers face to face.

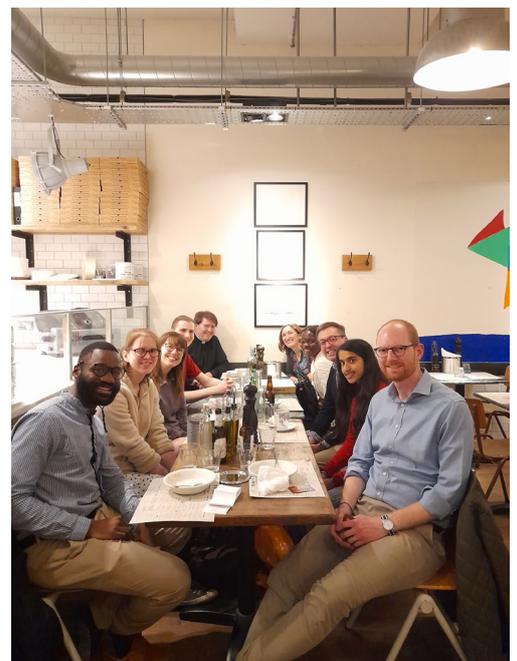
Increasingly, I sense that the credibility of the Church is connected with practical, humble, sensitive, sacrificial work in the community. Through our giving, we are connected to hundreds of volunteers who are working to advance the Kingdom of God.

Communion at Home

For centuries the Church has extended its Eucharistic ministry to those unable to come to worship in church on Sundays. Knowing that we're part of the same community, praying together and sharing in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, is a very important part of our Christian identity. Each month we visit a number of people in their homes to share Communion with them and as the number of people unable to come to church regularly grows, we have asked some of those who help to distribute Communion in church on Sundays and members of the pastoral care group to assist us with this ministry. Visiting our neighbours and looking out for each other is something for us all to be involved in and is a wonderful way to build up our community.

Compline and Curry

It's not always easy to join a new church, especially if you don't know anyone there, so in April we started up a new group for young adults. Once a month we meet for a service of candlelit Compline in one of our churches before heading out for a curry (or pizza) dinner together. We'll be meeting once more before the summer break and then again in September. Please contact Ben for more information. ben@holytrinityguildford.org.uk



Sunday Worship • 3rd July 2022

HOLY TRINITY

10am Sung Eucharist

Ben Cahill-Nicholls will preside for the first time

Sermon by Robert Cotton

Isaiah. 66.10-14

Galatians 6.7-10

Luke 10.1-9

7pm Refugee Tales

Instead of the evening service

CLICK ON THE TITLE OF THE SERVICE FOR LINKS TO ZOOM AND YOUTUBE

INSTRUCTIONS CAN BE FOUND HERE

ST MARY'S

8am BCP Holy Communion

Led by Tom Pote

10.30am Sung Communion at St.

Mary's

1 Kings 19:5-16. 19-end;

Gospel Luke 9:51-end

Led by Keith Beckingham

Midweek Holy Communion •

Wednesdays • 12 noon

(except the 2nd Wednesday of the month)

SERVICE SHEETS FOR ALL

SERVICES CAN BE FOUND

ONLINE HERE

Daily Morning Prayer on Zoom 8.30am (9.30 Saturday)

Notices, Events and Reminders!

Holy Trinity & St. Mary's 1812 to Holy Trinity Pewley Down 2015: a school history
By Margaret Clements and Richard Rowe.

Following the 200TH anniversary of the founding of Holy Trinity & St. Mary's School in 2012, Margaret Clements began researching and writing a history of the school. Richard Rowe has added a chapter concerning his years as Headteacher up to 2015. The book has been published recently.

Copies are on sale @ £10 per copy (postage in the region of £3.50 if necessary, plus BACS details on request) from Margaret Clements: margaretclements47@gmail.com.

Hear here Clinic

The Hear Here clinic will be held on **Saturday 2nd July** at 10 - 12pm at Holy Trinity. If you are coming along please do remember to bring your brown NHS books. See you there!

REMINDERS!!

Thursday 30th June at 7pm: Keziah Thomas performs The Four Seasons. A fresh take on Vivaldi's enduring classic in the beautiful setting of St Mary's, Guildford. Tickets can be found [HERE](#).

Adults £10 and children £3. Concert lasts 1 hour with no interval.



OVER 1200 PEOPLE HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR CONCERN FOR THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE AT OUR WEEKLY VIGILS.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO DROP INTO
ST. MARY'S, QUARRY STREET, GU1 3UP
THIS FRIDAY TO LIGHT A CANDLE, PRAY, AND REFLECT.
9PM - 11PM

Contact us:

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Please make sure we have your current contact details.

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our
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