

Trinity Voice

The Parish magazine for
Holy Trinity, Weymouth
Diocese of Salisbury
February 2023

£1



SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday Services for February are detailed below. **Due to the ongoing building works, all services in February will take place in the Crypt.**

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN US FOR OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP. Coffee and tea are served after our 10am Sunday service. **IF YOU ARE NEW TO OUR CHURCH** please introduce yourself to Trudi Shaw or Philippa Walker, our Church Wardens.

GENERAL INFORMATION: For any general information please contact the Parish Office on enquiries@holytrinityweymouth.org or telephone 07554709236.

FOR ALL MATTERS RELATING to Weddings, Baptisms, Funerals, Confirmation and matters of pastoral care for the sick and dying as well as home visits, home communions and the Ministry of Reconciliation (Confession), please **telephone the Church Warden on 07554709236**

Email: enquiries@holytrinityweymouth.org

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT is perpetually reserved for the sick and infirm.

Holy Trinity Website: www.holytrinityweymouth.org

General enquiries: enquiries@holytrinityweymouth.org

HT Churchwardens:	Trudi Shaw 07973 560705 Philippa Walker 07928 488993
PCC Secretary:	Angela Kerigan Email angelakerigan@gmail.com
HT Youth worker:	Connor Hansford connor@holytrinityweymouth.org
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Electoral Roll:	Philippa Walker: 01305 785939
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Verger:	Peter Rendall: 01305 782546
Safeguarding Officer:	Krys Fursman 07916 097606 emmaaleks04@gmail.com
Sunday pew sheet:	To be sent to Philippa Walker on philippa@holytrinityweymouth.org Wednesday 12noon each week.

SERVICES AT HOLY TRINITY DURING FEBRUARY

The Third Sunday before Lent - 5th February

8 am Morning Prayer led by Connor Hansford

10 am Family Service for Candlemas led by Connor Hansford and Trudi Shaw

The Second Sunday before Lent - 12th February

8 am Said Eucharist led by Reverend Ed Tildesley

10 am Sung Eucharist led by Reverend Ed Tildesley

The Next Sunday before Lent - 19th February

8 am Said Eucharist led by Reverend Ed Tildesley

10 am Sung Eucharist led by The Right Reverend Stephen Lake, Bishop of Salisbury,

The First Sunday in Lent - 26th February

8 am Said Eucharist led by Reverend James Menzies

10 am Sung Eucharist led by Reverend Geoff Warren

Welcome to the February Edition of Trinity Voice.

We have a fascinating magazine for you this month, starting with an exciting update from Church Warden Trudi regarding the building works and, at last, the removal of the scaffolding from our beautiful church. We hear again about the 'doings' of the children of Holy Trinity Primary School. This month we focus on Sue Wells, a stalwart of the 8.00 am congregation who has been coming to the church for 55 years. She has cast a very interesting light on the recent history of the church. Our Saint of the month is Saint Wait, the patron saint of Dorset. We also have some interesting articles from Connor and Irene and the usual update about the history of Holy Trinity Choir. This month we look at 1896 and 1897. I hope you enjoy this edition and as always look forward to receiving your feedback, contributions and ideas for inclusion.

Message from Church Warden Trudi

Holy Trinity starts 2023 with more good news. As I write, Sherriff's the stained-glass specialists will be installing our repaired stained glass to the west window above the main entrance to our church. The stone mason will return to finish off, then a major clean up begins and the scaffolding will be coming down and the doors will be flung open. We will be on a tight schedule, but our grand re-opening will be on Sunday 19th February when the Rt Reverend Steve Lake, Bishop of Salisbury will preside at our 10.00 am Sung Eucharist. How lucky we are to have the honour of hosting Bishop Stephen. We will be serving refreshments and a light buffet after the service, where hopefully everyone will have the opportunity to meet the Bishop. You are all very welcome to attend. It will be such a joyous occasion and it would be so special for all of us if the church was full to the rafters. The Dorset Echo will be covering this story for us.

We are already making plans for our Easter services which will include a Maundy Thursday service and watch, with a gathering for an agape fish & chip supper before the service. On Good Friday we will be taking part in the local churches walk of witness and will be holding a Good Friday Service at 2 o'clock. On Easter Sunday we will be celebrating with a full sung Eucharist at 10.00 am. Oh, and not forgetting our 1000 family service on Palm Sunday where we be

re-enacting Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. We have a donkey booked, so hopefully lots of fun will be had by all with children taking part in the procession.

Our next project is to install a servery and accessible toilet on the ground level of the church which is a much-needed necessity. This will enable us to serve the local community in so many ways, which hopefully will tie in nicely with the Weymouth regeneration project. Dorset Council were able to secure 19.5 million from the government to redevelop the quay and harbour area. As we are the harbourside church this is more good news for Holy Trinity. These are exciting and positive times for us.



News from Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School & Community Nursery

Our Learning, Our Journey, Our Future

Through our journey of life, we strive to follow the values of

Faith, Respect, Harmony and Life-Long Learning;

made possible through God's love. "God is Love" (1 John 4;16)

This half term our theme is Perseverance with our Collective Worship focussing on this. For everyone the start of a new year brings new things to learn and experiences to enjoy and this is especially true in school and happens throughout the year. We are all learning and enjoying new experiences every term!

It has been wonderful for our children to participate and enjoy the increased number of after school activity clubs. We have a wide range of clubs to choose from and the list continues to grow!

Years 1 & 2 Acrobatics

Year 1 & 2 Zumba and Yoga Club

Year 2 Ukulele

Wayfarers for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 – run by Connor Hansford

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 Cross Country

Years 3 & 4 Multi-Skills - in which our Year 6 Sports Ambassadors support

Year 4 Health & Well-Being Club

Year 5 Book of Records Club

Years 5 & 6 Football

Years 5 & 6 Netball

Choir Club

Members of the sporting clubs have represented the school at sporting tournaments, matches and events throughout Dorset and we have been very proud of their successes at these events. Recently, our football team won their match against Radipole Primary School and our Year 5 Basketball team won the tournament held at Atlantic Academy!

Year 3 are taking part in Forest School sessions this half term and have been so enthused by the skills they have been learning. They have learnt how to build a den, to keep safe using natural materials, learnt about whittling sticks and how to safely toast marshmallows on an open fire that they have built.



Art made with nature in a Forest School session



Mr Grey instructs pupils how to safely whittle sticks

Our School Council has set a competition for all pupils to design a mural or sculpture to represent the national charity Ocean Generation that they chose for the school to support this year. Ocean Generation aims to raise awareness of the amount of single use plastics in our oceans and on our beaches. The School Council also chose Weymouth Food Bank as our local charity and have committed themselves to organising and holding half termly collections of donations to support it.

Focus on

Sue Wells



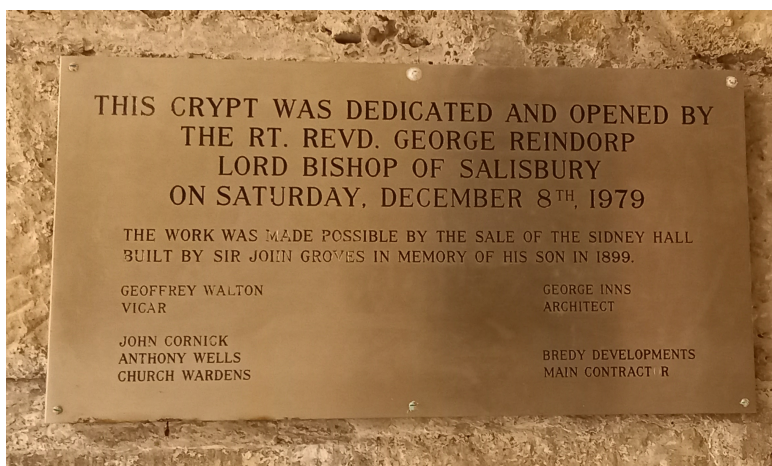
Most of the congregation of Holy Trinity will know Sue Wells who has been coming to our church for 55 years. She is now a regular at our 8.00 am service but has had many other roles over the years.

Sue hails from Guildford and met her future husband Tony during a family holiday in Poole. Tony was an apprentice Marine Engineer at Cosens of Weymouth and was working on the Poole paddle steamer where the couple met. Sue and Tony were married in 1957 and started their married life together in a cottage in Loders, near

Bridport. The rented cottage was old fashioned and had a toilet down the garden and the water supply came from a pump located three houses away! Tony finished his apprenticeship and joined P&O as a Marine Engineer. His was the first ship to sail to China following the lifting of the Bamboo curtain.

Tony came ashore after the birth of their daughter Hilary in 1961 and returned to Cosens, being appointed as Manager of Cosens Cold Store and transferring his engineering skills to become a refrigeration engineer. Janet, Sue and Tony's second daughter, was born in 1963. Sue worked in a number of roles, whilst the girls were growing up, including offering bed and breakfast in her own house and later opening her home to foreign students which she much enjoyed.

Hilary was the first member of the family to attend Holy Trinity when she joined the Sunday School at the age of 6. Tony and Sue joined soon after and became important members of the church. Tony was Church Warden when the crypt was restored and a plaque bearing his name is prominent in the crypt, where we are currently holding our services.



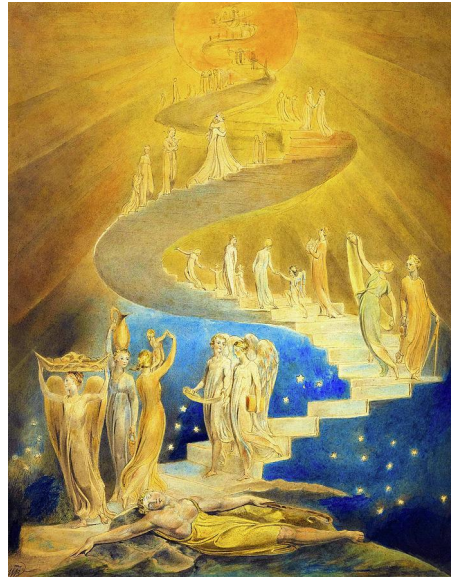
Sue has many memories of the Holy Trinity over the years. The crypt hosted parties, bazaars and wedding receptions. The kitchen had many facilities, which enabled quite large scale catering events. The church fête took place on the playing fields of Holy Trinity School. The church had a thriving Mothers Union and Church of England Men's Society. Representatives from the Men's Society used to visit prisoners at the Verne Prison, on Portland.

Sue was a Brownie leader for 18 years. She started as Tawny Owl and progressed to Brown Owl, retiring when she was 55 years. She has many hobbies and hates sitting still. She used to make lace until her eyesight began to fail and as per an earlier article in Trinity Voice has made a number of Hassocks for the church. She continues to knit and makes teddy bears for the Ambulance Service. Sue has two grandchildren, Lucy and Siân and five great-grandchildren.



Some reflections on the Old Testament, part one

Connor Hansford



Above: William Blake's interpretation of Jacob's dream.

Holy Trinity Brompton in London is the progenitor of the Alpha Course. The vicar was until recently Nicky Gumbel. Google them, it's hard to imagine a church less like ours than Holy Trinity Brompton! When I was a student in Plymouth I attended St Matthias on North Hill, a HT Brompton 'plant'. Not for me, I decided. Now every day I listen to the Bible in One Year, Nicky Gumbel's app, which does exactly what it says on the tin! You get a psalm or extract from the book of Proverbs, a New Testament reading, beginning with Matthew, and an Old Testament reading, beginning, of course, with Genesis, all interspersed with commentary from Nicky and his wife, Pippa. The idea is that after a year you will have read the whole Bible from start to finish. I am not a theologian or a priest, but I thought I would offer my thoughts on some of what I've learnt so far. At the time of writing, Jacob, son of Isaac, is on the verge of returning to Canaan with his wives and – I lose track of how many children, but

there are twelve boys, I know that. Jacob is the son of Isaac who was the son of Abraham who was prepared to offer Isaac as a sacrifice to God, knowing God had promised to bless his offspring. A priest told me once that the moral of this story was at the time, stop killing your children! My interpretation is, God has promised to love you and take care of you, trust him, though I see why it might put some people off! Doubtless many of you are already familiar with Isaac's son Jacob and his elder brother Esau, whom Jacob, with the help of his conniving yet loving mother Rebekah, fleeces out of his inheritance. (Isaac on his deathbed promises to bless Esau if Esau will bring him his favourite meal. Rebekah, overhearing this, tells Jacob to hop to it, covering his hands and neck with goatskin to emulate Esau's hairiness – it's all very strange). Fearing Esau's vengeance, Rebekah urges Isaac to send Jacob to the land of her forebears to find a wife among his own people, as opposed to the Canaanites. Two things happen along the way which I think are worth mentioning. Jacob, resting 'in a certain place', lays his head upon a rock and dreams a dream of time gone by... no wait, that's Susan Boyle! God shows Jacob a vision of a stairway, or ladder, descending from heaven to Earth; on it are angels travelling up, and down. What a beautiful image. I never realised but this is the origin of Stairway to Heaven and Jacob's Ladder. Christians and Jews disagree over its significance. I wonder if it's our guardian angels on their way to work. I love my guardian angel. My partner Blue laughed because when Jacob awakes from his dream 'he called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.' How confusing for the people of Luz! God says something interesting, He says, 'I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.' I often wonder why God doesn't speak to us as he did to people like Jacob. Perhaps it's because His people eventually arrived at the Promised Land, allowing Him to take a back step? I'll find out later, I guess! Or perhaps he still does, perhaps I don't listen hard enough.

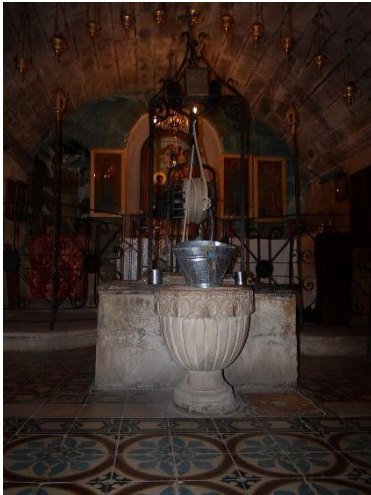
Soon Jacob arrives at the land of the 'eastern peoples' where he finds a well, covered with a large stone. Lying near it are flocks of sheep waiting to be watered, waiting in other words for the stone to be rolled away. I don't know about you but when I hear of stones being rolled away I immediately think Jesus. 'When all the flocks were gathered there, the shepherds would roll the stone away from the well's mouth and water the sheep. Then they would return the stone to its place over the mouth of the well.' Thousands of years later, John's Gospel tells us, 'Jesus had to go through Samaria. So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well.' It's the same well! There Jesus meets a Samaritan woman, and he says to her 'everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.'

Well well well! Not only does Jacob's Well prefigure Jesus' death and resurrection (the stone rolling away), but we also see that Jesus is the Good Shepherd who will water his sheep with living water.

This synergy, this link, would have been obvious to Jews in Jesus' time. There is a tendency among Christians today to discount the Old Testament yet put into this context Jesus' coming is even more extraordinary. He's there, already, at the very beginning! Indeed, even in Genesis, God says to the snake 'I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.' One day Jesus will conquer the snake, but at a cost.

During the school choir service, I called the story of Christmas the greatest ever told. It's easy to see why when it began at the beginning. Jesus appears again in the plains of Mamre, although not by name. Abraham is visited by three angels, and he says, 'my Lord,' not 'my Lords'. Three-in-one:

father, son, and holy spirit. Anyway, excuse me, I'm off to find out what happens next...



Above: Jacob's Well in 2013.

Holy Trinity and our Choral Tradition

Philippa Walker

A Year in the life of Holy Trinity Church - Weymouth 1896 and 1897

It appears that 1896 was not a busy year for the choir of Holy Trinity, the first mention in the Parish Magazine, is the Choirboy's Sports at Connaught House (now the site of Holy Trinity Primary School) on April 15th.



The number of choir practices per week is reduced to one, now on Fridays at 8.30 pm. The Choir Boys went on an excursion to West Bay in July. As usual the men went to London for their annual trip and visited the Earl's Court Exhibition.

1897 saw the departure of a number of members of the choir, including Master Price Stedman, Herbert Hicks and James Knell. All received gifts ranging from a gold watch from the congregation and bound copies of the Book of Common Prayer and Hymns Ancient and Modern.

After the children's service on 13th June of that year, a member of the Sunday School, Bertie West, aged 6, was drowned in the harbour despite the valiant attempts of Lieutenant Binney and the 5th Northumberland Fusiliers to rescue him. The Lieutenant was cycling past when he heard the child's cries and made many attempts to save him. He was later awarded the Medal of the Royal Humane Society.



A memorial tablet for Bertie West was affixed to the North Wall of the Nave.



An interesting comment in the August edition of the magazine that year relates to an HMI report on church schools of the parish. In answer to whether the *'Voluntary Schools are worth the sacrifices which many churchmen ..have made and are still making in support of them'*. The vicar makes *'....a complete refutation of the slander that the interests of education suffer from the teaching of religion, or that the schools are run in the narrow interests of the church, and not from a broad view of the very highest interests of the children taught in them'*.

The men and boys both had their usual days out, the men to London and the boys to Bournemouth.

At the Harvest Festival on 19th September, Sung Eucharist was Adlam in F and the anthem from Mendelssohn's 'Lauda Sion'. This was

followed by a solo from Master Gamage. The choir then sang 'The Eyes of All' (Belcher). The evening setting to the canticles was Winchester in F and the anthem was 'Achieved is the glorious work' from Haydn's Creation.

Outside the church itself, a movement called 'The Spare Time' was busy all over England at this period. The aim was to get British workmen everywhere to make toys, to avoid sending out 'golden sovereigns' to buy German toys. Miss Jeffrey opened a shop in St Mary Street to sell these 'Made in Britain' toys.

Also in this year many new houses sprung up in Rodwell Avenue (a new name in the town!)



3 Days that Changed the World: Pt 2 of 3 The Grave.

Irene Leader

The Old Testament speaks of Jesus all the way through. John 5:39,40 Jesus said the Scriptures tell of Me. Matthew 12:38-41 He says you have the testimony of Jonah. Jonah's three days and three nights in the belly of the whale is a foretelling of Jesus in the grave (Jonah 1:17). Jesus declared that the Son of Man will be in the heart of the earth three daytimes and three nights. We either believe what He says, or we call Him a liar? I know what I prefer to believe.

Mt 27:62-64 the Chief Priests and Pharisees informed Pilate that Jesus said, 'I will rise again in three days,' so requested Pilate to place guards at the tomb for three days. 1 Cor 15:4 He rose again the third day. Religion would tell us that He died on Friday and rose on Sunday morning. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EmtyYqq11Qc> being able to see this visually is much easier and quicker than trying to explain it. Jesus learned the Scriptures like every Jewish child. He was a Rabbi, a Teacher (Jn 3:2). He learned who He was from His Mother. This was verified by His Father at His Baptism, where God called Him His beloved Son and He was **filled** with Holy Spirit. Prior to this, Holy Spirit had only come upon people in the Old Testament for a specific reason, like the Prophets. However, Jesus was now able to fulfil His Ministry because He was a man filled with Holy Spirit who enabled Him. Psalm 22 speaks of the Bulls of Bashan representing all that is pressing on Him trying to trap Him into eternity of Hell. The grave was about His identity. Jesus was forsaken by God and Holy Spirit had left Him. He was not in Hell, He was in Hades (Hebrew Sheol, Greek Hades). Rev 20:14 shows there is a difference between Hades and Hell. From the bible we know there are two parts to Hades: the bosom of Abraham where believers go, and the abode of the wicked dead, those who have not accepted God and are alienated from Him. Jesus was in the abode of the wicked dead because He was so full of sin that God had abandoned Him (Lk 16:19-21).

In the grave He had to grow in knowledge, favour, wisdom, stature with God.

He had to go over Scripture that He had learned about Himself. Knowing God's anger is but for a moment, but His favour is for a lifetime or in His favour is life. Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning (Ps 30:5). He had God's Word, all the prophecies: Three days and three nights then I will rise again; You will

raise me up in Righteousness; I will sit at Your right; You will make My enemies My footstool; a Priest in the line of Melchizedek; You will not abandon me to Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to undergo decay; Not one of My bones will be broken. He had what His Mother had said, what His Father had said. He had to meditate and confess these until it became a heart belief about His identity. He knew exactly who He was.

When he was absolutely sure of his identity and, without any shadow of doubt, that He would rise this third day, God burst Him forth from the grave by the power of Holy Spirit. His heart had to harmonise with God's reality despite what he was experiencing. (You may remember that I have spoken before about how many years it took Abraham to persuade his heart to be willing to sacrifice Isaac?)

Jesus did not have inherent power to raise Himself from the dead as He had emptied Himself of Divinity. Scripture says God raised Him. Jesus did not give in to the emotions of defeat, neither should we. We cannot abandon all that God has done for us because we have all these present negative circumstances which weigh us down.

He overcame all the curses (Deut 28). He overcame death, and at some stage crossed over to lead captivity captive (Eph 4:8). That is the believers in the bosom of Abraham who were captive to death. We need to acknowledge the magnitude of what Jesus did for us to know 1) how much God loves us, 2) what we are saved from, 3) what He achieved for us.

When we die to self we take our sin, that is everything of us that is outside of Christ, to the cross and into the grave. Although we no longer have a sin nature when we are born again, that does not mean that we never sin, but our conscience (dual knowledge) convicts us of the sin we commit. The grave is where, like Jesus, we can overcome temptation before we rise again and realise, we do not need to act or

say something in a way that does not glorify God. Jesus gave us a model of how our life could be when we harmonise with God. The part of ourselves that we take to the grave, in the short term we experience pain of doing so. Pain in life is inevitable, but suffering is optional. Like Jesus in the grave, we look to the joy of harmonising our life with God.

Saint of the month: Saint Wite

Connor Hansford



Did you know there is a patron saint of Dorset? Because I didn't! It is, however Saint Wite, though I can't tell you much about her because, well, no-one knows. Some think she was a Welsh princess, others a hermit who tended beacons along Dorset's coast to warn sailors of approaching cliffs, a sort of early lighthouse keeper. Indeed 'Wite' has been translated as 'to guard' or 'to preserve'. What we know for certain is she was born in the ninth century and was 40 when she died. We know this because her bones are interred at the Church of Saint Candida and Holy Cross at Whitchurch Canonicorum, near

Bridport. What makes this story so extraordinary is that during the English Reformation, troops under the command of Henry VIII destroyed tens of thousands of religious relics, believing them to be fraudulent and idolatrous. This included the original Our Lady of Walsingham. Only two saints survived this onslaught: one of them was Edward the Confessor, as Henry VIII believed it would be bad luck to desecrate one of his own, and, curiously, Saint Wite. No-one knows why. Perhaps she was hidden, or perhaps Bridport was too far away. Whatever the answer, I wonder if we shouldn't as a church go on pilgrimage to Whitchurch Canonorum to pay our respects to Saint Wite, the patron saint of Dorset.

Some thoughts about Holy Trinity

Connor Hansford



I don't want to tempt fate, but I recently had a productive meeting with Nigel, the Diocesan Director of Ordinands who tells me candidates for ordination are not generally sent to stage-two unless the diocese thinks they will be successful. I am awaiting confirmation of my stage-two date, but I am hoping it will be in June, although nothing is certain, and everything is still all to play for. Anyway, many people have asked me since then whether I would ever consider

‘taking on’ Holy Trinity. The honest answer is, I don’t know! Holy Trinity is a massive church, in a way it’s like a mini cathedral. It’s splendidly situated, central, with a loyal congregation. It also requires a lot of love. So, if I was the Vicar, what would I do? First things first, I would get it open. I would try to have it open as often as possible, especially during the Summer. I have a confession to make, I don’t like our altar. I am given to understand it was originally from St Nicholas, and that the old altar is undercover in the organ transept. would – funds permitting – move St Nicholas’ altar to the crypt and put the original back against the wall. I used to think priests should face the congregation, but my experience is if I’m not looking at the priest, I’m looking *for* God, which is as it should be. Worship is not about ego. The Church of England has a wealth of diverse liturgies available for use. I think I would pick Order Two from Common Worship, the original BCP Communion – it’s beautiful, and befits a setting as beautiful as Holy Trinity. I would bookend Holy Communion with Mattins and Evensong and look to preside at as many during the week as possible, perhaps arranging a rota of suitable laypersons to lead in my absence. Our crypt lends itself to a more rustic style of worship and I personally love Celtic Christianity and the communion services found in Celtic Daily Prayer, Books One and Two. All are unsuitable for Sunday worship, but a one-off Celtic service during the week might attract spiritual people less au fait with ritual. As often as possible I would want to move our worship outdoors, perhaps around a bonfire on the beach, or up at the Roman chapel ruins near the Harvester, or at St Luke’s, the ruinous woodland chapel outside Abbotsbury. ‘I would rather be in the mountains thinking about God than in church thinking about mountains’, John Muir. I think it’s a criminal waste to be somewhere as naturally beautiful as Weymouth and not make full use of the beach. I know many bristle at the thought of a sea baptism, but I can’t think of anything more in tune

with my own spirituality, to the extent I almost wish I could baptised again! The wall beneath the balcony is not supporting, it serves only the limit the view of passers-by. I'd get a faculty and knock it down. Just some thoughts! If I am ever able to apply to be your Vicar, you can look back at this and say, absolutely not! Oh, and I'd buy a new ciborium – ours has a dent in it!

Magazine Editor: Philippa Walker -
*Contributions to the March magazine will be gratefully
received. Please let me have articles or ideas by
February 15th*