# Trinity Voice

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

£1



#### **SUNDAY SERVICES**

Sunday Services for April are detailed below.

**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 <a href="mailto:enquiries@holytrinityweymouth.org">enquiries@holytrinityweymouth.org</a> 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: <a href="https://www.holytrinityweymouth.org">www.holytrinityweymouth.org</a> General enquiries: <a href="mailto:enquiries@holytrinityweymouth.org">enquiries@holytrinityweymouth.org</a>

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**Sunday pew sheet**: To be sent to Philippa Walker on

philippa@holytrinityweymouth.org Wednesday 12noon each week.

## SERVICES AT HOLY TRINITY DURING APRIL

## The Second next before Easter - 2nd April Palm Sunday

8 am Morning Prayer led by Connor Hansford 10 am Family Service led by Connor Hansford and Trudi Shaw

#### **Maundy Thursday - 6th April**

7 pm Sung Eucharist with washing of feet followed by Watch

#### **Good Friday - 7th April**

2 pm Good Friday Liturgy and Reflection (this service will be held in the Crypt

#### Easter Day - 9th April

8 am Said Eucharist led by Reverend Ed Tildesley 10 am Sung Eucharist led by Reverend Ed Tildesley

#### The First Sunday after Easter - 16th April

8 am Said Eucharist led by Reverend Nick Clarke - Rural Dean 10 am Sung Eucharist led by Reverend Geoff Warren

#### The Second Sunday after Easter - 23rd April

8 am Said Eucharist led by Reverend Ed Tildesley 10 am Sung Eucharist led by Reverend Ed Tildesley

#### The Third Sunday after Easter - 30th April

8 am Said Eucharist led by Reverend Ed Tildesley 10 am Sung Eucharist led by Reverend Ed Tildesley

#### Welcome to the April Edition of Trinity Voice.

We have another great edition of Trinity Voice for April. We are excited to be looking forward to Holy Week and Easter, this most special, glorious week of the year. Our thoughts and prayers for Easter will guide us through the stations of the cross and our own steps towards Easter Sunday. This month we focus on Carole Didcock our Licensed Pastoral Assistant. Connor continues his monthly features of Saint of the Month, this month Saint John of God; and his insights into the Old and New Testaments. We also move on to the final year of the century (1899) in the article about the choral traditions of Holy Trinity Church. Thanks as always to Irene Leader for her article about Reconciliation. I also want to add a word of thanks to Marks and Spencer in Weymouth who donated some of the flowers for Mothering Sunday.

'Christ has turned all our sunsets into dawns!'

### Message from Church Warden Trudi

I write this after today's visit to Holy Trinity from the very Reverend Nick Papadopulos, Dean of Salisbury. As we begin Passiontide and reflect on Jesus' journey. We are thankful and blessed to have been able to host Nick. First Bishop Stephen and now Nick how lucky are we to have been given these opportunities to show the diocese what Holy Trinity represents.



The Very Reverend Nick Papadopulous with members of the Holy Trinity Team

We have a full week of Easter Services planned beginning with our Palm Sunday Family service next weekend. Connor has been working very hard on this and the children are really looking forward to taking part and we will be having two very special guests taking part in the procession. So please consider attending this one off, unique easter service.

We are awaiting the final bills for the building work to the windows. We can start to budget for our next project which is an accessible toilet and servery. We will be looking forward to giving you more information about this very soon.

The diocese has now agreed that we can recruit a full-time incumbent. The post will be for 6 days a week dividing their time between pastoral work, services and work in the community, building relationships with our school, Chapelhay and the community along the harbourside. The adverts for the post will go out in June and interviews will be at the end of July. This is a very positive step for Holy Trinity and hopefully will attract the right type of person to guide us on the next stage of our journey.

### **Thoughts & Prayers for Holy Week & Easter**

#### **Palm Sunday**

Jesus enters Jerusalem riding a donkey – a beast of burden and a symbol of humility. Hosanna to the Son of David, the King of Israel. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

#### The Stations of the Cross – thoughts for Holy Week

1. Jesus is condemned to death.

Dearest Lord Jesus, kind and good, thank you for suffering for me.

2. Jesus takes up his cross.

Dearest Lord Jesus, tired and weak, thank you for suffering for me.

3. Jesus falls the first time.

Dearest Lord Jesus, determined and humble, thank you for suffering for me.

4. Jesus meets his mother.

Dearest Lord Jesus, loving and loved, thank you for suffering for me.

5. Simon helps Jesus to carry his cross.

Dearest Lord Jesus, helper and friend, thank you for suffering for me.

6. Veronica wipes his face.

Dearest Lord Jesus, comforter and comforted, thank you for suffering for me.

7. Jesus falls the second time.

Dearest Lord Jesus, rescuer of those who fall, thank you for suffering for me.

8. Jesus speaks to the women of Jerusalem.

Dearest Lord Jesus, saviour of the world, thank you for suffering for me.

9. Jesus falls a third time.

Dearest Lord Jesus, strong and true, thank you for suffering for me.

10. Jesus is stripped of his garments.

Dearest Lord Jesus, humiliated and steadfast, thank you for suffering for me.

11. Jesus is nailed to the cross.

Dearest Lord Jesus, cruelly treated, thank you for suffering for me.

12. Jesus dies on the cross.

Dearest Lord Jesus, bearer of our sins, thank you for suffering for me.

13. Jesus is taken off the cross.

Dearest Lord Jesus, dead but eternal, thank you for suffering for me.

14. Jesus is placed in the tomb.

Dearest Lord Jesus, your body in a cave, thank you for suffering for me.

EASTER DAY - Alleluia - Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

Lord of all power and life, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in eternity. Amen

## Focus on .... Carole Didcot



I was born in Weymouth in 1968, my sister was born four years later. We grew up in Shirecroft Road. I went to Westhaven Infants then Westhaven Junior School. We were not a church family and were not allowed to attend Sunday School, so I came to the Church late in life.

I have four children and three grandchildren, I would have had four but sadley one of my granddaughters died at the age of 7 weeks due to cancer tumours. Originally I attended St Paul's Church but when I moved to Chapelhay I started attending Holy Trinity. I was made very welcome by everyone and mostly attended the 8 am services due to my work at that time. I soon became settled and felt that I wanted to do more to help as I was not feeling fulfilled. I spoke to Fr Andrew and after a long conversation he gave me the idea of training to become an LPA (Licensed Pastoral Assistant).

I enrolled on the course and during lockdown, I was able to undertake the course on Zoom. I was commissioned at Holy Rood Church, Shillingstone by the Rt Revd Karen Gorham, Bishop of Sherborne on May 16th 2022.

The duties of an LPA can be very varied but can be working alongside the elderly and housebound, children, the recently bereaved, the newly baptised and the sick taking communion to those in the Parish who wish to receive but are unable to get to church. We offer a listening ear and a friendly face to many. I am enjoying my role as LPA and have been out to meet and give communion to people in our Parish. I regularly visit Ruth Milverton who always asks after the church and members of the congregation.

If you or if you know of anyone who would like to have a chat or a visit then please do not hesitate to contact me either in person, on 07746983502 or email carole@holytrinityweymouth.org.

### A Reflection for Lent-Moments for Spiritual Refreshment with the Lilies and Birds

#### Paul Rusbey - HM Inspector of School, the Diocese of York



I wonder, if you were asked to describe a great teacher what image would come into your mind?

In Matthew chapter 6, Jesus described the amazing teaching which comes from looking at the 'birds of the air' and the 'lilies of the

field.'

The birds of the air and the lilies of the field are given as examples of how we, despite our fragility, might live a life of freedom, joy and fulfilment. Jesus invites us to look to them as our teachers and to learn how to let go of our anxieties. Birds, after all, spend little time in Tesco's (other good supermarkets are available) and yet are fed; lilies have no part in the fashion industry and yet are resplendent.

Jesus suggests that we 'consider' them...look at them. When we learn to look attentively, much in the way that a bird does, we learn the art of awareness, or mindfulness. We can practise this simply by being still and paying attention to our breathing or by taking a little longer to look at a flower or a view. When we see what is truly there, right in front of our eyes, we come alive.

Secondly, Jesus invites us to live in the present. Birds and flowers know nothing of 'the next day'. They have their struggles, of course, but they don't add to their suffering, as many humans do, by looking to the 'what ifs' of tomorrow or by adding commentary to a problem they might face. The hardship of a bird is what it is, and nothing more. Deep down, many know that dealing with one thing at a time makes life more manageable. But it's not always easy to do that.

One possible way to remind ourselves of how to live in the present is to be outside with the lilies (or daffodils and snowdrops) and the birds. To experience the peace of creation in that moment. Spring is such a wonderful time to do this. The poet, Mary Oliver, wrote, 'The dream of my life is to lie down by a slow river and stare at the light in the trees-to learn something by being nothing.' Maybe just read that line again, slowly.

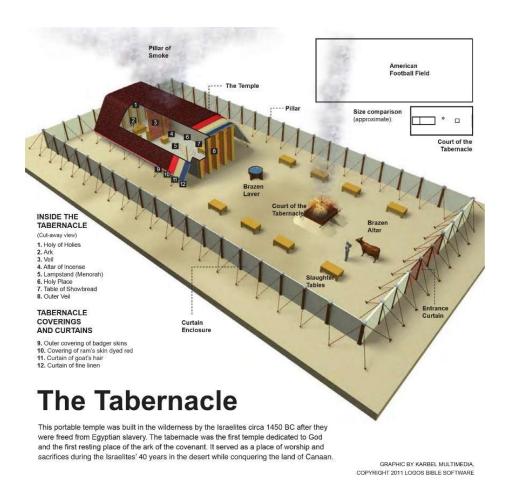
In this season of Lent, we remember Jesus who was alone in the desert for 40 days. Time he spent coming closer to God to help him with the challenges he faced in his ministry. Maybe we might consider making a little time during Lent, not to do...just to be. To find time to stop, to ponder, to listen...to 'consider' and let Jesus, our great teacher, speak to us. May Samuel's words be ours this Lent, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.' (1 Samuel 3: 9)

## Some reflections on the Old Testament, part three

**Connor Hansford** 

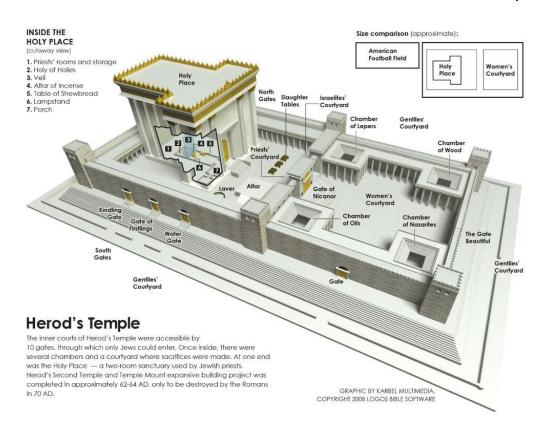
I'm sure Moses won't mind me saying that Leviticus is not a thrilling read by any stretch of the imagination — Dan Brown it is not! What it is, mainly, is a list of ordinances intended for Aaron's successors, the high priests of God's chosen people. What you find is guidance about what to do and what to sacrifice if you accidentally sit on the same seat as a woman who is on her period, who to call if you've got mould that's red or black, how many days you must spent in isolation if you suffer a breakout of blackheads (those poor Jewish teenagers), and so on. I want to draw your attention to two things, first of all: Jesus.

Most schoolchildren can tell you Christ died for our sins but ask them what this means, and they have no idea. We all know Jesus is our saviour, our redeemer, but how often do we ask, what do these terms actually mean? Leviticus is almost deliberately obscure. I've only just read it and even I would struggle to recall what to sacrifice when and how often. Redemption – it hardly seemed worth it. What a pain in the proverbial. We take Jesus for granted, not realising that before Him, if we wanted forgiveness for our sins, we would need a couple of goats, or a year-old perfect lamb, or a pair of doves or pigeons, depending on the season and the seriousness of the offence!



It's not useful, I don't think, to understand Jesus as God's son — better to reframe Christ as God made Man. I remember the first time I tried explaining this to children I used the example of Voldemort, who split his soul into seven pieces — there are better analogies! Understanding this, the crucifixion becomes a form of self-sacrifice, which is worth more than all the goats in the world because the thing being sacrificed is God.

The other day I showed the Wayfarers an image of the Second Temple, i.e., the Temple as Christ would have known it. The First Temple was the Tent of Meeting, which the Israelites carried throughthe desert, and which contained the Ark of the Covenant (I thought they'd be more interested in this than they were – turns out none of them have seen Indiana Jones). God, through Moses, tells Aaron that he cannot enter the tabernacle unannounced; first he must dress and purify himself, then sacrifice a ram for his sins and those of his household... In our Lady Chapel is an aumbry containing the Blessed Sacrament. Not only can we draw near to God in this way without sacrificing a ram and making more work for the cleaning team, we get to consume God's essence through the sacrament of Communion. Just think how far we've come and how lucky we are...



## Reflections on the New Testament – Part Two

**Connor Hansford** 

Content warning: this article contains imagines and text not suitable for young people or those of a sensitive disposition.

By the time this comes out it will be nearly Easter. I commend to you a book called The Dolorous Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ by Anne Catherine Emmerich, a nun and mystic who suffered a series of visions narrating Christ's death and resurrection beginning at the Last Supper. I haven't started it yet, but I bought it on the advice of Father Gregory following a Lenten meditation on the Scourging at the Pillar, one of the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary. It's not dwelt upon by the Evangelists, and it's easy to see why.

Pilate, the Roman governor of Judea, has Jesus flogged brutally. As I write I'm looking at a map of Jerusalem from The Times Concise Atlas of the Bible. Early Christians believed Jesus was flogged 'scourged' in the Antonia Fortress, which housed some of the Roman garrison and was added by King Herod to secure the Temple against invaders. Modern archaeologists, however, according to Wikipedia, place the scourging inside Herod's palace.

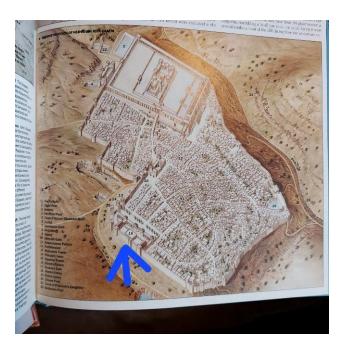


Figure 1 Map of Jerusalem showing Herod's Palace. The depression in the landscape to the north and left is Golgotha.

Anne Catherine Emmerich writes that groups of 'infamous, bold-looking' young men, drunk on 'strong, bright' wine took turns whipping Jesus, first with 'thorny branches' then with rods 'covered with knots and splinters'. The scourging went on for three quarters of an hour before poor man, a relative to Ctesiphon 'the blind man whom Jesus had cured, rushed from amidst the crowd, and approached the pillar with a knife [...] "Cease", he exclaimed, in an indignant tone; "Cease! Scourge not this innocent man unto death!" The drunken miscreants, taken by surprise, stopped short'.



Left: One interpretation of the Scourging at the Pillar and Right The Column of the Flagellation of Christ.

Jesus' mother Mary, according to Emmerich, 'saw and suffered with inexpressible love and grief all the torments He was enduring'. Just imagine that. Jesus was suffering and still is for the self-same people who were flogging him. He must have wondered if it was worth it. I want you to think about that for one second: that Jesus' willingness to endure all this pain was for the sake of the people inflicting it. Unbeknownst to them, he allowed them to treat Him in that way for them. He died for them. What love. Incidentally most artistic representations of this event show Christ upright with his hands tied to a pillar much taller than him. Archaeologists recently discovered another type of scourging involving bending over a shorter pillar, the victim's hands and feet bound together. This adds credence to the Column of the Flagellation of Christ, discovered by St Helena and on display in the Church of Saint Praxedes (Santa Prassede) in Rome.

### **Holy Trinity and our Choral Tradition**

**Philippa Walker** 

### A Year in the life of Holy Trinity Church - Weymouth 1899

The last year of the century started quietly for Holy Trinity Church. The Fife and Drum Band had been replaced by the Lads' Brigade; choir practices continued on Fridays.

On Shrove Tuesday a supper was provided at the Burdon Hotel (now the Prince Regent) for the Choirmen. This was apparently a very 'recherché repast' provided by Mr Sefton Smith, the proprietor. A full attendance was reported.



The Burdon Hotel (now the Prince Regent)

During June it was reported that an International Conference was sitting at the Hague. This was called by the Tzar of Russian in order

to outlaw war, unfortunately, it seems, we are no closer to this today.

In August there was an appeal for choirboys from Mr Thorne so numbers must have dwindled. It is not clear whether this was a success or not. Also in August it was reported that St Nicholas had bought an American organ. It appears that they did not like the instrument, saying it was not powerful enough. They sold it again for £10 and bought another for £51-16s.

There is a note in the September issue that Mr Thorne and the choir were proposing to produce HMS Pinafore at the Burdon Hotel on 19th, 20th and 21st September, but the October issue says that the production was by Weymouth Amateur Operatic Society. A great treat at the performances were the personal appearances of Miss Louise de Mervale and Mr Edward Frazer from the Savoy Theatre who took the leading parts. The object of these performances was to raise money for the restoration and enlargement of the organ at Holy Trinity. Patrons included the Mayor and Corporation and the Mayor of Bath. Mr Thorne conducted and the costumes were lent by HMS Minotaur.



Miss Louise de Mervale of the Savoy Theatre

As usual the Choirmen went to London for their annual outing. They inspected mosaics, which had been recently finished in St Paul's Cathedral and went to the South African Exhibition at Earls Court.

A collection at the Church for the Organ Fund brought in only £3-3-0 but one for the Transvaal War Fund raised £59-12-2!

#### Reconciliation

#### **Irene Leader**

Meaning: Something done by the one who offers it; to exchange, to bring into a changed relationship.

God has already reconciled Himself to us by sending His Son. Jesus has reconciled us to God by dying for us, but I only benefit from this if it is something that happens in my heart. If I choose not to then I stay in my sins. If I do, this leads to everything Jesus experiences, I experience by the amount I enter into Him. Nothing can touch me that does not touch Jesus first.

I am of immeasurable value to The Father and bring joy to Him, so He is willing to pay whatever it takes to buy my life; not to make me a slave to serve, but to show me love. Jesus is equally of immeasurable value to The Father, but He handed Him over to purchase me; that was the price He paid. That's amazing, and that's the exchange — Jesus for me.

2 Cor 5:21 'God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God'. Heb 12:2 'For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God'.

Ro 3:23 All have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God.

Look up Glory and it is the greatness, brightness, majesty, etc. However, this does not help one understand God. Of these descriptions there are three that stand out: His view, His opinion, His reality, but ours are rarely in harmony with His. Therefore, fall short is not from the perspective of God telling us how bad we are and not living up to His expectations of us. We fall short because of our own perspectives which are shaped by our opinions of ourselves and God.

We talk about God, say the right words, quote the right Scriptures. However, being in the Kingdom of God is more than knowing that you are saved and are going to heaven. It is about making Jesus Lord of your life.

Lordship is surrendering to God through Jesus. I give up my views and opinions and exchange them for God's. Jesus, in His life, teaching, ministry, death, burial and resurrection shows us God's view and opinion.

If I do not bring myself under the Lordship of Jesus, then every failure I have affects my confidence and I start to build a track record which is more real to me than God's view.

Every time I've compromised the Word of God, I bring myself into self-condemnation. My expectations of failure, unworthiness, can't do something, lack. These all build my track record.

God's view: you are in Christ, raised up with Jesus so have conquered with Him sin, death, and the devil. You have nothing to fear. Nothing can conquer you. You are always above and never below, always the head and never the tail (Deut 28:13).

If we see ourselves by our failures, this limits us because I have limited the identity I have in Christ. I need to die to me: my view and opinions.

I need to come to Jesus to be able to start my journey to the Kingdom of Heaven. If I don't, I am saying, 'this is as good as I can do using my strength, my willpower, my personal expectations, my views, my opinions.'

Faith is not psychology or counselling or mind over matter, our faith is not in a process of doing something. Faith is about bringing everything to the Cross. Not just getting better as a person but being transformed. Transformation is from the inside out.

As soon as I look to Jesus, I will be taken to the Cross and the grave and raised up with Him. This will help me to overcome temptations; to overcome anything negative I am experiencing because I will be given the strength to do it in the power of the Holy Spirit - if I choose to accept His Lordship.

Col 1: 25,26 says that the ultimate goal of the Word of God is for it to be brought to fruition as a person; in Jesus we now perceive what we could not before. Jn 14:20 'On that day you will realise that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you'.

In Jn 3:3 Jesus says, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again (born of the Spirit)." Jesus' reality through the resurrection leads us to be connected to God; not only this, but with the resources of heaven. Col 1:27: 'Christ in you, is the hope of glory.'

By the same Glory we have our inheritance: 1. Believe God is who He says He is. 2. Believe who Jesus is according to God's opinion. 3. To become reality in my life I have to believe who God says I am in Christ.

God has already reconciled Himself to us by giving Jesus. Be reconciled to God – enter into an exchange with Jesus: die to everything I have been, am, or ever will be that is outside of Christ.

#### Saint of the month: Saint John of God

**Connor Hansford** 



What a name! I recently bought two Missals from online, which contain collects and biographical information for each of the saints' days, which in the Catholic Church is a lot! It's not wonder Thomas Cranmer wanted to slim things down, although in so doing we lose understanding of people like St John of God, whose feast day is March 8th, the day I'm writing this. John was Spanish, thoughhe ran away from home when he was very young after hearing a priest extol the possibilities of the New World. Eventually he got sick, but a farmer took pity on him and nursed him back to health, eventually offering him his daughter in marriage, though by then they had

become as close as siblings. John joined the Spanish army and developed a reputation as a bit of a party boy, then he had a conversion experience and returned to his adoptive dad's farm where he worked as a shepherd. John went in search of his biological parents but found his mother died shortly after he disappeared, and his father was a Franciscan monk. John became a pedlar of religious books, eventually opening a shop in Grenada. He had another religious experience and tore to pieces all his secular books and gave the rest away together with all his money. The authorities decided he was insane and imprisoned him in a mental institute where he was whipped and tied to a pillar, not unlike Jesus. St John of Avila visited him and assured him he was sufficiently penitential, encouraging him to be more proactive, so John left hospital and bought a house in a district of town filled with lepers which he turned into a hospitalslash-homeless shelter. John was granted the name John of God by the Bishop of Grenada who administered the Last Rites after John caught pneumonia rescuing a drowning man. He ended up in his own hospital where he died alone, in prayer and in peace. The above image shows him rescuing patients from a hospital fire, hence he is also patron saint of firefighters.

O God, You caused blessed John, when burning with love of You, to walk unscathed through flames, and by him enriched Your Church with a new religious order: grant through the help of his merits, that our vices may be healed by the fire of Your love, and that we may receive remedies which heal eternally. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who being God, lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. Amen.

### COMING SOON

**Bovington Military Wives Choir** 

Holy Trinity Primary School Choir

and Organist Gary Smith

Friday April 28th at 7 pm

Singing a selection of music from their wide repertoire.

Tickets £10, available from www.holytrinityweymouth.org

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