

4 October 2026—Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity (*Harvest Thanksgiving*)

Welcome to our services today

Harvest Thanksgiving and Lunch

This week and next week, we will be collecting gifts to support Farnborough Foodbank. Donations of food (dried or tinned) and toiletries will be most welcome.

The Harvest Lunch follows today's 11 am Mass: 12.45 for 1 pm in Trinity Hall.

Gillian Foster

It is with great sorrow that we have to report the death last week of Gillian, a long-term faithful congregation member. Please pray for her soul, and for her family. Funeral arrangements will be notified in due course.

All Saints' 50th Anniversary: 1st & 7th November

On All Saints' Day (Sunday 1st November) Sung Mass will take place at All Saints' Church only, for the whole parish. Lifts will be available for those who normally walk to Holy Trinity.

A planning meeting for the Parish Brunch on Saturday 7th November will be held at the Vicarage **tomorrow** (5th) at 7.30 pm. Marian King (07887 488076) is happy to pick up anybody in need of a lift for this meeting and take them home afterwards.

Father Glyn is helping to coordinate various aspects of these events and would be very pleased to hear from anyone with ideas/suggestions: email fatherglyn@hotmail.com or call 07846 123701.

Walsingham Cell Mass—note change of time

The Walsingham Cell meets at Holy Trinity on Saturday week (17th). Mass will be at **10.30 am** (with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from **10 am**).

Please note the change of time for this month. After Mass we will repair to The Café on The Green.

Please remember in your prayers this week:

The sick and infirm: June Anderton,
John Cowley, John Darcy, Mike Exell,
Brian Martin, Janet Murton, Michael Rayburn,
Mike Reed, Pat Rorison, Lauren Scammell,
Derek Truman, Shirley Whiteley, Dennis,
Jack & Rosemary, Jill, Kirk & Karen, Mark, Mike

The recently departed & their families:
Trevor Butler, Gillian Foster

Anniversary of death: Martin Bartlett,
Audrey Chapman, Francis Currie,
George Murton, Winifred Powell

THIS WEEK

• All events at Holy Trinity—*unless shown otherwise* •
Weekday Readings: Week 27 in Ordinary Time, Year II

Today

1.00 pm: Harvest Lunch—Trinity Hall

Monday

7.30 pm: Parish Brunch planning meeting
—Vicarage

Wednesday Our Lady of the Rosary

6.30 pm: Mass (6.00: Exposition of Bl. Sacrament)
Psalm R: *The Almighty works marvels for me; Holy is his name!*

Thursday

11.00 am: Bible Study Group

Friday St John Henry Newman, Priest, [Doctor of the Church]

11.00 am: Mass (10.30: Exposition of Bl. Sacrament)
Psalm R: *Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.*

2–4 pm: Tea at Two—All Saints Hall

Next Sunday—Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.15 am: Mass with hymns—All Saints
11.00 am: Sung Mass

Remembrance Poppies

Thank you to all who have knitted poppies for the Remembrance Sunday display. If you are still knitting, please could you bring your poppies to Holy Trinity and place them in the box near the war memorial plaque in church by next Sunday (11th).

Parish Pilgrimage to Walsingham—note changes!

Next year's Walsingham Pilgrimage will be from Monday 19th to Thursday 22nd April 2027.

Arrangements are different this time: If you are intending to go please contact Walsingham directly as soon as possible (see below) to ensure that they still have availability, and let Pauline Scott know when you have booked your accommodation, thank you. We usually go half board. Walsingham contact details:—

Email: accom@olw-shrine.org.uk

Phone: 01328 820239

'Tea at Two'

We meet every Friday from 2–4 pm in All Saints Hall. Come and join us for great cake, tea/coffee and conversation. We look forward to seeing you!

Living the Word: Philippians 4.4-9

Christian joy is found, ultimately, in the peace we find when our lives are deeply united to Jesus Christ. It is to be found in what in the West we call sanctification, or what the East calls divinization. Sanctification is a process through which we are gradually changed more and more into Christ's likeness through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. The tools for this are prayer, thanksgiving, supplication, and also dwelling on the honourable, true, pure, and gracious things that come from God. And sanctification is the aim of apostolic teaching as well: the purpose of doing and proclaiming what was handed down to us is to stay in the closeness and joy of the God of peace. When we give thanks for the harvest we acknowledge that whatever we have in this life comes not from us but from God, and it is to him that we owe our thanks and praise. But God also desires our co-operation with him in caring for the earth and making sure it thrives and brings forth fruit. This is also true of the spiritual life: our sanctification ultimately happens through the closeness of God, but our co-operation is also needed. Let us follow the Apostle's advice so that our lives would yield more and more fruit in the Holy Spirit!

Harvest Thanksgiving



*All good gifts around us are sent
from heaven above*

Harvest Thanksgiving used to be an occasion of relief – relief that ‘all is safely gathered in ere the winter storms begin’, and that God had once again provided an abundance of good things. The world in which we live is, however, more complicated as our awareness of issues such as global poverty and complex social needs close to home impact upon our understanding of what we are to do in response to this God-given abundance. We are still thankful, of course we are – but can we be truly thankful if we have not first contributed to the needs of our brothers and sisters who have insufficient goods to meet their needs, whose harvests and crops perpetually fail, for whom life is constant struggle? There continues to be real poverty in many parts of the world, and in many cases on our own doorsteps. Today we mingle our thanksgiving for the harvest with the fervent prayers that God may open our eyes and hearts to his generosity, that we in turn may remember our calling to alleviate poverty wherever we may witness its effects.

Collect for Harvest Thanksgiving:

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own wellbeing; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Common Worship

Elements of the Mass: The Offertory

It is often mistakenly thought that ‘the offertory’ before the Eucharistic Prayer at Mass is about money. True, this may be the point at which offerings of money have been collected from the people, and they in some sense represent our desire to offer ourselves to the Father in union with Christ. However, in essence, the offertory is the moment when the bread and wine (and water) to be consecrated are received on the altar. These are really the people's offerings: hence the modern revival of a custom that these elements are brought to the altar by a group of lay people. This is a moment which is often missed as the people may be singing an ‘offertory hymn’ which is a modern replacement for the offertory sentence, traditionally chanted whilst the gifts are being received. However, the Offertory is one of the key moments of the Mass, the first of the ‘Eucharistic actions’ following Christ who, as the gospels relate, ‘took’ bread/a chalice at the Last Supper before giving thanks over it. The actual reception of the elements onto the altar is followed by the ancient instruction (prob. 11th century): ‘Pray brethren’ and the ‘Prayer over the gifts’ asking God to accept our offering in union with that of Christ.