Holy Trinity Church, Horfield, Bristol

Creating connections through the inclusive Catholic tradition in worship, welcome and service

Inclusive Church

29th November 2026
First Sunday of Advent

This evening at 6 pm there will be a Service of Hymns, Music and Readings for Advent

Collect: Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

First Reading: **1 Corinthians 1.3–9**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
The Word of the Lord

Gospel: **Mark 13.24–37**

'But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. Then he will send out the

angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.
‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.
‘But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’

HYMNS & MUSIC FOR THE MASS

Mass Setting: *The Mass of Justice - John Merbeke*

Kyries:
Lord, have mercy upon us. (x 3)
Christ, have mercy upon us. (x3)
Lord, have mercy upon us. (x3)

Sanctus & Benedictus:
Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest.

Agnus Dei:
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

37 Hark what a sound
39 Hills of the north rejoice
36 Hark the glad sound the Saviour comes
811 Thou didst leave thy throne

President: Fr Rod Cosh

Organist: Martin Firth

Organ Postlude: Chorale prelude 'Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier' (Blessed Jesu, we are here) - JS Bach

During Advent, the organ voluntaries will be quieter and more reflective in nature.

PRAYERS

Please pray for those who are unwell: Marcia, Annie, John Crocker, Sophia Vryoni-Dickson, Bryan and Joan Bufton, Geraldine, Frank, Michael, Matthew, Robin, Michael Lewis, Henry Wills, Kaydee Short, Mollie Lievesley, Ann Plaister, David Wells, Vanessa Blundell, Wanda Prosser, Hannah Spink, Scott Blankley, Dixie and family, Joseph Fucci, Bruce Turnbull, Phil Hall, Fr David Cheri Wells

Please pray for those recently departed: Gregson Luckly, Ann Vicory, Peter Graham
In our year's mind, we pray for Albert Edward Adams, Stoker, Royal Navy (29th 1942), Mary Cunningham (30th), Kenneth Hyder (4th), Donald Wootton, Eileen Darbey, Joan Borrow, David Trist (5th)

If you wish to add a name to the prayer list, please contact either Caroline Plaice or Carolyn Larcey.

Morning Prayer in the Chapel of Peace and Reconciliation on Fridays at 9.15 during Advent

Advent is a beautiful season of preparation and reflection and one where it is all too easy to be distracted and stressed. You are warmly invited to Friday Morning Prayer where we will mark this special and blessed season with the Gospel reading, prayer, music and stillness. The four weeks of coming together will begin on Friday 27th November followed by Fridays 4th, 11th and 18th December. Do think about coming along.
FFI please have a word with Helen Hinksman

SACRED SPACE THE PRAYERBOOK 2027
I am pleased to say the books have arrived, 16 copies this year so an encouraging number using this valuable resource. Please collect your copy on Friday, Saturday or on Advent Sunday and bring £13 cash or a cheque made out to Helen Hinksman. Thank you, Helen.

ADVENT HAS ARRIVED. A REFLECTION FROM MTR DIANE

It's that four-week countdown to Christmas. At bedtime a child might ask, How many sleeps until Christmas? The thrill of anticipating presents at the foot of their bed or under the Christmas tree is almost as exciting as opening them on the day itself. This year Advent Sunday comes ahead of the chocolate behind the windows. A good reminder that chocolate and pressies are not the only things we are waiting for.

Sunday's Gospel reading in Mark 13 reminds us to keep alert for the coming of the Son of Man - after a time of suffering. This little word afte rings a bell of hope! Don't give up!

I wonder if you are watching Blue Planet III narrated by Sir David Attenborough? I was particularly moved by a sequence in episode two: Open Ocean. Viewers were introduced to the Sargasso Sea, bordered not by land, but by ocean currents. It contains gigantic mats of floating seaweed called sargassum. Climate change has caused currents to change,

allowing seaweed to escape and end up on beaches along the coast of Mexico. We met green turtle hatchlings on their epic journey- pushing their tiny heads through the sand on a particular night, only to discover they had to clamber over mountains of seaweed to reach the sea, sometimes falling into deep crevices *en route*.

Did the little green turtles make it to the open ocean? Not without help. They were both alert and tenacious in their quest to reach the water. But even their perseverance was not enough. They needed a rescuer to put them in a bucket to reach the sea successfully. Watching the hatchlings push through the sargassum with nothing but instinct and determination was genuinely moving. Every little flipper stroke felt like an act of bravery against impossible odds.

My thoughts turned from young turtles to young adults who encounter the mountainous challenge of finding satisfying employment that not only pays enough for their rent but opens a pathway to a fulfilling career. Words from Isaiah 40 used in the run up to Advent have been in my mind:
A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places smooth. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

During this Advent season, let us pray and keep alert for ways in which we can journey with the Christ who is coming, finding paths that He shows us through the wildernesses among our own families and communities. Until He returns in glory, who might need our helping hands and our rescue buckets?

Sing as you go on your way...

Isles of the Southern seas, sing to the listening earth,
carry on every breeze hope of a world's new birth:
In Christ shall all be made anew, His word is sure, his promise true.

Shout, as you journey on, songs be in every mouth,
Lo, from the North they come, from East and West and South:
In Jesus all shall find their rest, in him the sons of earth be blest.

Verses from the Advent hymn by Charles E Oakley, Hills of the North rejoice!

ADVENT READING:
Imogen Ball, Philip North and Andrew Zihni (2026) *Advent A-Z: A day-by-day guide to the season.* Church House Publishing

The Welcome Project Prayer
Lord, our God, source of all life, you reveal your compassion and mercy in the life we share. Bless us as we respond to your Spirit's invitation to open wide our doors to Christ. May the doors of our hearts remain ever open in holy and unconditional welcome. Bless *The Welcome Project* – that our welcome may be wide enough to receive all who need love and fellowship, as we reach out to welcome the stranger and friend alike and so welcome your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Peace
Holy and gracious God, we pray for the people of Ukraine and Russia; of Israel and Palestine. We pray for all those who are afraid; for those who are suffering and traumatised; and for those who are grieving, that your everlasting arms may hold them in this time of great suffering. We pray for those who choose war; that they will turn their swords into ploughshares and seek for peace. We pray for the leaders of nations; that they may follow the wisdom and compassion of Christ. We ask this in the name of your blessed Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us! Our Lady of Kyiv, pray for your children!

PRAYER AND PASTORAL CARE NEEDS

In Fr David's absence, if you need prayer support either for yourself or for someone you know, or if you or a member of your family, is in hospital, or housebound through illness, please let Caroline (warden) know, and a pastoral or holy communion visit can be arranged.

A PLACE FOR THEM

Mothers' Union, along with other organisations raise awareness of gender-based violence and domestic abuse, particularly between 25th of November which is International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and 10th of December which is Human Rights Day.

This year Holy Trinity, Mothers' Union is once again promoting the Red Chair Project, where a chair is covered in red with a notice "A Place For Them" to highlight the one woman or girl who dies every 11 minutes due to violence. Red chairs are in place in Bristol Cathedral and other local churches. We ask you to take time to read, reflect and pray.

Please contact Carolyn Larcey if you would like further information, or here is a link to the website 16 Days of Activism - Mothers' Union which you may like to visit for more information.

WEEKLY GIVING ENVELOPES ('BROWN ENVELOPES')

The church receives regular donations from many of you, that enables us to continue the work of the Kingdom, and for which we are enormously grateful. Over the last ten years, the way those donations are made has changed, with more setting up standing orders through their banks, and fewer using brown envelopes to make their regular contributions. We've now reached a point where it is costing us more to buy the envelopes and administer them, than the value of the donations. So, the Finance Advisory Board have taken the decision that we will, from January, not use brown

envelopes. Instead, standing order forms will be available for people to complete from Jen Douglas. Forms will be available from this coming Sunday. Thank you.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (MEETING) 24TH NOVEMBER. MAIN POINTS:

- Updated *Safeguarding Policy and Procedures* November 2026 approved. A copy is on the noticeboard in church, and in our hireable spaces

- Charity support from Advent to Lent agreed (see details on the Christmas services page of this pew sheet).

- Discussion of the new Diocese of Bristol Churchyard Regulations deferred to the January meeting.

- Martyn's Law (The Terrorism Protection of Premises Act). We started to consider the new legislation which applies to us as we can seat over 200 people in church. We have until April next year to develop our risk management plan. We will use our learning from, e.g. large services like Christingle and enhance procedures.

Prayer & Meditation for November

Lord, give us a spirit of sacrifice, a spirit of perseverance,
a spirit of courage, and a love of honest work,
so that we may ever be willing to spend ourselves and
to be spent in the service of others;
in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

"Always be joyful in the Lord, I repeat, joyful!"
(Philippians 4:4)

BELLRINGERS BRING HOME THE SILVERWARE!!

The Horfield bellringing band took part in the Bristol Branch call changes 6 bell striking competition on Saturday 21st November at St Luke's Brislington. The band are very proud to be awarded 1st place.



STORIES FROM SARUM #3

Another busy weekend at Salisbury Theological College with some very interesting sessions including:

- A theological reflection on direct cremations (which make up to 20% of funerals now). You may have seen the advertisements on television. The context and ways of responding as a Church.

- The stages of faith looking at several different models and reflecting on examples in the Bible. That of Moses was a good one: he went from '40 years a somebody 40 years a nobody 40 years as God's Body'

- Call and Vocation and a priestly task iceberg... The things above the water line: Sunday services, baptisms, weddings, funerals, and then

the myriad of things below the water line (I counted thirty-four tasks here)...

- An introduction to the Psalms, including a re-enactment of Psalm 24 – bringing the Ark into Jerusalem at the autumn festival.

And more. Ask me if you'd like more detail on any of the above.

Thank you.

Caroline Plaice.

PARISH CONTACTS

Rector: Revd. Canon Dr. David McGladdery, SCP
Tel 07859 787787 Email: rector.horfield@gmail.com
Please note that Fr David's day off is on a Monday.
Churchwarden: Caroline Plaice: 07714 255670 Email: cjplaice@gmail.com
Horfield Parochial Church Council (General Account)
Sort Code: 301611 **Account Number:** 00887278
Horfield Parochial Church Council (Charity Account)
Sort Code: 306296 **Account Number:** 27658063
Horfield Parochial Church Council (Welcome Project)
Sort Code: 306232 **Account Number**: 64788960
Please make any cheques payable to **'Horfield PCC'**.

Parish Office:
Email: hpc.sec@horfieldparishchurch.org.uk **Tel: 07880 657829**
Website: www.horfieldparishchurch.org.uk
Instagram Account: @holytrinityhorfield
Regular Services:
Sunday 10am Mass. **Tuesday 12 noon** Mass.
Thursday 10am Mass. **Friday 6pm** Mass.
Next Messy Church - 20th December

Additional monthly Services in Chapel of Reconciliation & Peace at 10am
First Saturday - the Holy Rosary will be prayed for peace.
Last Saturday - a Mass for healing with anointing will be offered.
Holy Hour of prayer – Last Sunday of the month at 4pm. There will be no Holy Hour in November as it is the Advent Carol service. The next Holy Hour will be on Sunday 27th December.
Live streams of Sunday Mass (10 am), Tuesday Mass (12 noon), Thursday Mass (10 am) and any other advertised services being streamed, and recordings of previous services are available at https://www.youtube.com/@HolyTrinityHorfield
Bookings for the Hall, Helliwell and Blancharde rooms can be made via: https://www.sharesy.com/v/holy-trinity-horfield

Getting involved: 29th November 2026

Activities

- **Memorial Recording Project -** Recording sessions are now: 1 to 4pm on the third Saturday each month and 9.30 to 12 noon on the fourth Saturday. Andy says that all sessions are dependent on it not raining or snowing….
- **Green Gym** Every Monday from 2-5pm; mowing, strimming and trimming the churchyard. Weather permitting. Training is given in using any equipment.

- **Sapling Saturday and Tombstone Tuesday will be taking a break until the New Year**

If you or someone you know is interested in any of our churchyard volunteering opportunities, please get in touch. Whilst there are a lot of sessions there is no expectation that you attend all of them - just those that you can make.

- **Craft Club -** "Weekly 'Craft Club' every Monday, 9.00 am to 11.00 am. Bring along your own craft work to do or have a go at the craft of the day (materials supplied).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:
Saturday 5th December – Church Clean. Gleam for God. 8.30-9.30am and 11-midday. Come along to one or both sessions and help get the church ready for Christmas. Coffee and cake provided.

Wednesday, 23rd December 10am – Christingle-making

Saturday, 6th February – Burns Night Supper
For tickets (£20), please email or message any of the following:

Emma Bickford, tel. 07791 024186 emmapb60@gmail.com
Kate Davis, tel. 07833 714647 k8.davis@hotmail.co.uk
Jane Lewis, tel.07927412171 janeelewis1954@gmail.com
Phil Lewis, tel. 07542756955 philliplewis@blueyonder.co.uk

Saturday, 30th January 2027 - provisional date– Jamie Robertson, accomplished organist, returns to Holy Trinity for an evening concert of film music. More details to follow.

Saturday 22nd May 2027 Open Day

Needed at your local food bank (collection point Tesco, Golden Hill)

Sanitary products, deodorant, tinned halal meat, tinned fruit, size 5 and 6 nappies, savoury Christmas treats.

One week, every pound doubled. Give between 1st and 8th December and your gift goes twice as far, helping us expand the Bridge Food Project to reach more of your neighbours. Members get low-cost food and one-to-one help with money, until they no longer need a food bank.

North Bristol and South Gloucestershire Foodbank, Ebenezer Church

Holy Trinity Church 2026, AD.

Celebrating Christmas together

29th November, 6 pm

Music & Hymns for Advent

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Sunday, 13th December, 4 pm

Quiet Christmas

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Sunday 20th December, 6 pm

Festival of Lessons and Carols

sung by the Holy Trinity Festival Choir

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CHRISTMAS EVE

3.00 pm Christingle Service

11.30 pm Midnight Mass

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CHRISTMAS DAY

8.00 am Dawn Mass

10.00 am Day Mass

HOLY TRINITY CHARITIES FOR CHRISTMAS 2026

Project Pure Hope https://www.purehope.co.uk/ an international charity which supports children who have been injured in war and conflict.

and

Gympanzees https://gympanzees.org/ a campaign to fund a local fully inclusive space that improves health outcomes for disabled children and young people.