

THE HOLY TRINITY

God is Love. It is a statement we make so easily, and yet the implications of this simple truth often remain beyond our grasp. Deep down, we know God as all righteous, and we think of one who will love us 'if' we are good enough and keep to his ways. But for God, there is no 'if' - his love is absolute. Our task is simply to believe and to accept.

In today's Gospel, we see the Pharisee, Nicodemus, coming to Jesus in the dark of night to question him. He wants to believe in Jesus, but his faith is quietened by fear of the others in his party. But, as he half-heartedly and secretly seeks the truth, Jesus' response is anything but half-hearted. "God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him ... may have eternal life." The promise is clear to Nicodemus, and to us. God's love is sure. And so, too, for the people of Israel, as Moses acknowledges their repeated guilt and infidelity in today's First Reading: God proclaims himself "a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness ..."

Throughout history, the human race time and again falls short of the perfection to which it is called by God, its Creator. Yet time and again for those who will accept it, God's love and forgiveness give new opportunities to turn back. This is why the Creator sent his Son to share our human lot and to face rejection at our hands. It is why Jesus, too, sent his Spirit to dwell in our hearts and guide us to the truth.

The Holy Trinity show us so many



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FIRST COMMUNIONS TODAY & NEXT WEEK

facets of God's love. Let us pray for the faith to accept, to receive and to share that love which is God - One, living and true.

FIRST COMMUNION DAY

A warm welcome to all our families and guests at this afternoon's celebration of First Holy Communion. Commentary will be given as we go along, so the Mass should not be difficult to follow. Do, please, join in the singing and responses whenever you can. Also, please help the children to recognise the wonder of God's gift which they receive, by keeping a quiet atmosphere for the Mass and giving them every opportunity to pray. For the same reason, please leave all photography until the service has ended. THANK YOU for your co-operation.

REMAINING SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME DATES

TODAY
and next Sunday (26th June)
3.00pm

First Communion Masses

Wednesday 6th July, 6.30pm
"We are people who live our Faith"

Sunday 10th July, 10am
Mass with Presentation of Certificates

FORTHCOMING EVENT

School / Parish Concert. This has proved very successful over the past 2 years, and is scheduled to take place this year on Thursday 14th July at 7.00pm. (Mass will be at an earlier time on this occasion). Make a note in your diary!

- * *New to Holy Family parish?*
- * *Know someone who is sick or in hospital (or the hospice)?*
- * *Like a visit from the priest?*
- * *Think the parish may be able to help you, or you us, in any way?*

Please speak to Fr Martin, after Mass or at any convenient time.

Mass times at Holy Family

Saturday (Vigil Mass): 6.30pm
Sunday Morning: 10.00am
with **Children's Liturgy**
(Tea and Coffee served after morning Mass)
Weekdays: See Calendar, below
Holydays: Eve 7.00pm
9.30am on the day

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday after Midday Mass, and 6.00-6.15pm,
or at any reasonable time on request.
(Rite II Reconciliation Services are celebrated in Advent and Lent)

Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals

by arrangement *(6 months' notice required for weddings)*

Weekday Calendar

Monday - No service today

Tuesday - Mass: 9.30am, Sacristy

Church cleaning afterwards

Wednesday - Mass: 8.15am, Sacristy

Thursday - Evening Mass: 7.00pm, Sacristy

Friday - Mass: 12.30pm, Sacristy

Saturday - Mass: 12.30pm, Sacristy

*Please note this new time for Saturday lunchtime Mass,
to avoid unnecessary confusion*

Third in a series of articles from the Liturgy Office:

The New Mass Translation – when and how will it be introduced?

Although we have already received the official approval from Rome, it will still be some time before the new translation is being used in our parishes. In England and Wales we will all begin using the new texts at the same time, to avoid any confusion. It is planned we will be able to celebrate Mass in the new translation from September onwards. This gives us plenty of time, over the next few months, to learn something about the changes, about how they will affect us and our liturgy and why they have been made. There will be a lot of resources available to help us to do this, both locally and nationally. As well as the information that will appear in this newsletter, there will be lots of internet resources. There will also be parish or group sessions which will help us to explore the new translation and our understanding of the Mass. Please pray that we will all make the most of this opportunity to learn more about the Mass and to deepen our relationship with Christ. If you want to find out a bit more, why not look at the Liturgy Office website:

<http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/>

THANK YOU

It was good to see the parish well represented at Jim Jordan's funeral last week.

Jim Smith's family have also expressed thanks to all those parishioners who attended his funeral the week before. We keep them both in our prayers.

WE PRAY THIS WEEK

...for the following, for whom Masses will be offered - **the sick:** Ella, Eileen, Kathleen, Christine, Liz, Giovanni, Bill and Rosalind, John, Julie, Peggy, Ethan, Anne-Marie, John, Denis, Marjorie, Mary, Denis, David, Margaret, Joan, Kathleen, Marie, Jane, Christine, Ernest, Kay, Craig, Sister Gabriel, Sister Alphonsus, Kathleen, Margaret, Mary and Bridie, Helene and Ann Marie, -----

----- and
those who have died: Jim Jordan, Jim Smith, Sybil Worrall, Margaret Howarth, Catherine Quinn, Dan Connell, Annie Curley, George Shannon Jnr, Clarisse Wrigley, Marie-Terese Anastasi and all the Holy Souls. **We also pray** for our Sacramental Programme families as the children receive Our Lord for the first time in Holy Communion, and for a number of Special Intentions.

OFFERTORY Thank you for last week's collection of £232.13.

RETIRING COLLECTIONS

No retiring collection this week or next

HOLY FAMILY RC CHURCH

Presbytery:
28 Mornington Road, Kirkholt
Rochdale OL11 2DG

Parish Priest: Fr Martin A Collins GTCL
Telephone / Fax: (01706) 649230
E-mail: office@holyfamily-rochdale.co.uk
Web site: www.holyfamily-rochdale.co.uk

SRCDT Registered Charity No 250037

www.salforddiocese.org.uk

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL

throughout the coming week and always