

## SCHOOL REPORT

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, COOKHAM

In the benefice of the Cookhams

Serving at the heart of the community

12<sup>th</sup> January 2025 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Epiphany (Baptism of Christ Festival)



### PEW NEWS/SCHOOL REPORT

REMEMBER...When we return to the church in the spring, we'll be sitting on new chairs rather than pews. We'll have to find a new name for Pew News / School Report in the spring, so do start thinking of bright ideas!

### BLESSINGS

On Monday our Lay Minister Richard Simmonds blessed the burials in the vaults in church. The prayers read by Richard during the service are shared below.

*O God,  
our Lord and heavenly Father,  
we give thanks for the life  
you have breathed into humanity;  
we remember before you the lives of those whom we  
now re-inter,  
who have gone before us to your nearer presence.*

*As their mortal remains are returned to their place of  
rest,  
we put our trust in you.  
May those who bear responsibility for this process  
show care and compassion,  
and be given wisdom and skill;  
and we pray that those whose life's journey ended  
here so long ago  
may remain safe in your presence. **Amen***

*Our brothers and sisters, unknown to us, but known  
to God  
were entrusted to his mercy  
and laid to rest in the hope of the resurrection.  
We now re-commit their bodies to their resting place  
and pray that they may rest undisturbed in this holy  
place  
until the fullness of the resurrection  
when Christ shall gather all his saints  
to reign with him in glory for ever. **Amen.***

### SUCCESSFUL CONCRETE POURING

Following on from Mondays Blessings...if you were at the Parish Centre on Wednesday you will have seen some large vehicles that were there all day in connection with work at the church. They were there to pump fast-setting concrete into the vaults, on top of a membrane that was placed carefully over exposed burials. This will enable the contractors to skim the tops of the brick vaults to provide a uniform depth to lay piping for the underfloor heating.

### EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE TONIGHT



The final in our trilogy of carol services and celebration in this long month of January.

**All welcome at St. John the Baptist this evening at 6:30pm**

Available now on YouTube (The Choirs of Holy Trinity Church Cookham - search "Cookham Choirs")

**THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU**

New Year wishes on behalf of our four choirs.



**Please pray for those who are ill...**

Ben Kende, and Joe Atassi.

**Please pray for those who have died...**

Mary Adams (Nee Giles), Batima Giles and Valerie Trodd.

# ENCOUNTER GOD THROUGH WARM HOSPITALITY AND INSPIRED WORSHIP

## SCHOOL REPORT

### PEW NEWS.

The church reordering project meant that we needed to find new homes or purposes for the 38 Victorian pine pews at Holy Trinity Church. The pews were of varying length, the majority well over 3 meters, too long to be used unaltered in most modern houses. However, as at the beginning of the New Year we have found new homes or new purposes for 33 of the pews. These will now be used as seats in houses as far apart as Sevenoaks, Sheffield and Sidmouth, with some being resized or repurposed for other uses. All being well, it is intended that some will reappear in the church, having been repaired and restored as free-standing benches, leaving just 5 to sell. To date the pew sales have raised £ 2,500 for the reordering project

For obvious reasons, not least that fact that the remaining 5 unallocated pews are in the open air, albeit under plastic sheeting, we would like to find new homes for this remaining stock as soon as possible. They are offered at a standard price of £50 per pew, "as seen" and without any guarantees of quality. We know that some of those already sold will be repurposed as paneling or shuttering, so if you can think of a use in your household for part of the church's history and would like to buy a pew, please contact Mike Clark at: [mike@tapestryoflife.co.uk](mailto:mike@tapestryoflife.co.uk). 07740 027357 or 01628 530047.

### TRINITY TALK - WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

Photographer David Fettes captures the beauty of the natural world, whether it be landscapes, wildlife or its varied habitats. During his talk he will share his images and memories of wilderness, stunning light and animal behaviours. The talks are held at Bel and The Dragon in Cookham High Street on the third Monday of the month. Trinity Talks are fund-raising events for Holy Trinity Church.

Reserve your place at £20 each by email (preferably) [stephaniediggon@hotmail.com](mailto:stephaniediggon@hotmail.com) or phone on 01628 527465, Pay cash on arrival from 6.30pm (for Prosecco and canapés). Talks start at 7pm and finish at 8pm.

### CHRISTMAS DAY - THAMES HOSPICE

We are delighted that the retiring collection following our Christmas Day Carol Service at St. John the Baptist amounted to £826 for Thames Hospice. Thank you to all who supported our special Cookham tradition in its temporary location and who gave so generously. Many thanks, too, to everyone at St. John the Baptist for their welcome and for enabling the collection to take place, as in other years

### TEATIME FOR THE SOUL SERVICE – COOKHAM RISE METHODIST CHURCH

On January 19th our Teatime for the Soul service at 3 p.m. will take the form of an Ecumenical Songs of Praise led by our Minister, Rev Vicci Davidson. This will be our Cookham churches contribution to the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Hymns will have been chosen by members of the Anglican, Catholic and Methodist churches. The service will be followed by our usual tea of scones and cakes. All are most welcome.

### FELLOWSHIP LUNCH DATES

**9th February** Holy Trinity Parish Centre, please call Bernadette Clark 01628 530047

**9th March** St John the Baptist, Cookham Dean, please call Lorna Sykes 01628 486874.

Ministry at HTC

Vicar, Fr Stephen Mills  
01628 529183

Licensed Lay Minister  
Richard Simmonds 01628 483269  
[rsim483269@aol.com](mailto:rsim483269@aol.com)

Churchwardens  
Bernadette Clark 01628 530047  
Mark Stockdale 07884 407445

Director of Music  
Sara Wood 01628 522593  
Assistant Director of Music  
Victoria Wood 01628 522593

Bell Ringers  
Mandy Salter 01628 530241

Vergers  
Malcolm Sturges 07710557015

Safeguarding Officer  
Huw Thomas  
[safeguardingofficerhtc@cofe-thecookhams.org.uk](mailto:safeguardingofficerhtc@cofe-thecookhams.org.uk)

Pastoral Ministry Network  
Val Eckett 01628 524561

Pew News Contributions  
[office@cofe-thecookhams.org.uk](mailto:office@cofe-thecookhams.org.uk)

Parish Administrator  
Sarah Davies, the Parish Office, Church Gate, Cookham,  
SL6 9SP Tel 01628 529661  
[office@cofe-thecookhams.org.uk](mailto:office@cofe-thecookhams.org.uk)  
Office Hours: Mon to Fri 09.30 -12.30