

# SCARBOROUGH CATHOLIC PARISHES



CHURCHES OF ST PETER, ST JOSEPH, ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR



Part of the Middlesbrough Diocesan Trust: Reg. Charity No. 233748

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Welcome Fáilte Merĥba Croeso Witajcie Swagatam Mabuhay  
Benvenuto Bienvenu Bienvenido Benvindo Benvinguts Willkommen

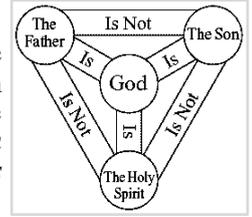
WEEK COMMENCING 7 JUNE 2020 - YEAR A

DIVINE OFFICE: week 2

## THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

### THE HOLY TRINITY - *How much do YOU know about this Mystery? And how can it be proved?*

The Church teaching on the Holy Trinity is the **central mystery of the Christian Faith**. Christians are **baptized** in the name of the **Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit**. The word **Trinity** comes from the Latin word *trinitas*, which means *three* or *triad* (*triados* in Greek). The word itself is not found in the Bible. The first surviving use of the term was by Theophilus of Antioch around AD 170, who wrote: *"In like manner also the three days which were before the luminaries, are types of the Trinity, of God, and His Word, and His wisdom."* (To Autolycus 2:15).



The Church expresses her **Trinitarian Faith** by professing a belief in the **oneness of God in whom there are three Persons: God the Father, God the Son** (Jesus), and **God the Holy Spirit**. The three divine Persons are only **one God** because *each of them equally possesses the fullness of the one and indivisible divine nature*. They are really **distinct from each other** by reason of the *relations which place them in correspondence to each other* (subject and object). It is a *Mystery of Faith*, because we can't fully comprehend how three can be one. It seems to go against logic. Yet the Bible plainly teaches it, so we must accept it as **revealed doctrine** as a matter of faith, bowing to the fact that God's thoughts are much higher than ours (Isaiah 55:9).

The teaching on the Trinity was **defined infallibly** in 2 stages, at two of the Church's Ecumenical Councils. Teachings defined at Councils establish in a formal manner what was already believed by the Church, and usually in response to challenges by heretics. **The First Council of Nicaea (AD 325)**, responding to the heresy known as *Arianism* (*which claimed that the Son was a supernatural being but not God*), defined the divinity of the Son and wrote the part of the Creed that deals with the Son. **The First Council of Constantinople (AD 381)** defined the divinity of the Holy Spirit, in response to a heresy known as *Macedonianism* (or *Pneumatomachianism*, which denied the divinity of the Holy Spirit) and wrote the part of the Creed that deals with the Spirit.

**So, what proof do we have of a Trinitarian God?** The Trinity cannot be proved by natural reason, nor from the Old Testament alone (though traces of all Three Persons can be found in the Old Testament). It can only be proved through the **Divine Revelation** that Jesus brought us. Here are just some of many **Scriptural references** to ponder:

**One God:** This is made clear in the Old Testament: *"I am the Lord your God... You shall have no other gods before me"* (10 Commandments, Exodus 20); or *"Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me"* (Isaiah 43:10). From the very beginning, only one God was before all things and created all things. (Genesis 1:1). Jesus confirms God's One-ness when He quotes the most important commandment *"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one."*

**The Father as God:** In the Old Testament God is not often called Father (possibly due to its frequent use in the various Near Eastern fertility religions). We see God called the Father of the Nation, Israel, (eg. Deuteronomy 32:6), and of certain individuals (eg. 1 Chronicles 17:13). In the New Testament, Father as God is shown numerous times (eg. *"There is.. one God and Father of us all"* (Ephesians 4:4-6), and Jesus Himself calls God Father (eg. Matthew 11:27)

**The Son as God:** In the Old Testament, the Lord refers to himself as *"the First and the Last, and there is no God beside me"* (Isaiah 44:6), as does Jesus in the New Testament *"the Alpha and the Omega"* and *"the First and the Last"* (Revelation 1:8 & 17). The Lord says, *"they will look on Me whom they have pierced"* (Zechariah 12:10), a verse which appears again in Revelation 1:7b about Jesus Christ. In the New Testament, we read: *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God* (John 1:1). Thomas was unambiguous in his statement: *"My Lord and my God!"* (John 20:27-28). Jesus often calls Himself God (eg. the *I Am* sayings in St John's Gospel), and in forgiving sins (eg. Mark 2:10, only God can forgive sins). He told us that He and the Father are one (John 10:30), and was crucified for blasphemy for calling Himself God (Mark 62f).

**Holy Spirit as God:** Paul spoke of *"the Spirit of God"* in Romans 8:14 and Hebrews 9:14 tells us He is eternal. We often think of the power of the Holy Spirit (which is tangible and real) but He is not just an impersonal force or a presence: He is a Person who can *speak* (Acts 8:29, 11:12, 13:2), and *wills* (1 Corinthians 12:11), and can be *grieved* (Ephesians 4:30), and *lied to* (Acts 5:3-4).

**Father, the Son, and the Spirit as distinct Persons:** This can be shown, for example, in the fact that Jesus *speaks* to his Father, and *sends* the Spirit (eg. Matthew 11:25f; John 14:16f). This would make no sense if they were one and the same person.

**The 3 Persons are Co-eternal:** All three Persons were involved in the Creation: **God** created heaven and earth, with His **Word** (God said...) and His **Spirit** hovered over the water and breathed life into His creation. God also said let *"Let us make mankind in our image"* (Genesis 1).

**The Son is generated by the Father and the Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son:** The Bible is clear that Jesus is the Son of God and reason tells us that Sons are generated by fathers. We also read that the Son *"came forth from the Father"* (John 16:28) We also learn that the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son: *"the Advocate... whom I shall send to you from the Father - the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father..."* (John 15:26). It may also be said that the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father *through* the Son.

**United in Mission** Inseparable in what they are, the divine persons are also inseparable in what they do. But within the single divine operation each shows forth what is proper to him in the Trinity, especially in the Divine Missions of the Son's Incarnation and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY IS THE LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, WHO WAS, AND IS, AND IS TO COME**

**ALL CHURCHES ARE CLOSED - MASSES & DEVOTIONS ARE LIVE STREAM ONLY FROM ST PETER'S**

SATURDAY VIGIL	6	5.30pm	St Peter's (LIVE STREAM)	See printed copy for Mass intentions
SUNDAY	7	11.30am	St Peter's (LIVE STREAM)	
Monday	8	10am	St Peter's (LIVE STREAM) St William of York.	
Tuesday	9	10am	St Peter's (LIVE STREAM) St Ephrem/St Columba	
Wednesday	10	10am	St Peter's (LIVE STREAM)	
Thursday	11	10am	St Peter's (LIVE STREAM) St Barnabas, Apostle	
Friday	12	10am	St Peter's (LIVE STREAM)	
Saturday	13	10am	St Peter's (LIVE STREAM) St Anthony of Padua	

**STREAMED MASSES IN OUR DIOCESE:** <https://middlesbrough-diocese.org.uk/streamed-masses-in-our-diocese-2/>

**MASS BY TELEPHONE** Fr Cunnah: **Sundays & Holy Days at noon.** Phone 01642 130120 (Remains available after)

**SIGNED MASS for the deaf: 10.30am Sundays** - St Philip Evans Church, Cardiff [www.sphilipevans.co.uk/signed-mass](http://www.sphilipevans.co.uk/signed-mass) and **6pm Saturday Vigil** - from Our Lady & St Vincent, Potters Bar: [churchservices.tv/pottersbar](http://churchservices.tv/pottersbar)

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)** It is not currently possible to receive this Sacrament. Make a personal Confession, Perfect Act of Contrition and attend the Sacrament as soon as it becomes possible.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT 11.15am-12.15pm Monday to Friday**

**HOLY ROSARY 12 noon Monday to Friday – note change of time going forward**

**POPE'S JUNE PRAYER INTENTION:** *We pray that all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus*

**† ANNIVERSARIES** George Beadle, Patricia Jewison, Carol Roberts, Helen Cahill, Mary Joan Davis, Philomena Doody, Cyril & Sheila Swales **† RECENTLY DECEASED** Shaun Swalwell, Isaac Hill, Gene Paccito, Claire James

**MASSES RECEIVED FROM** see printed copy

**NEWSLETTER** available outside our churches - take a copy (*with due care*) to those who are isolated

**OFFERINGS RECEIVED** between 11 and 26 May: Loose plate £232; Gift Aid envelopes £403; av. Standing orders £500

**YOUR OFFERINGS** Do consider Standing Order as an alternative to envelope giving. Contact the parish office.

**REOPENING OF CHURCHES** When this happens, it is **essential** to have a **rota of volunteers** to act as marshals to **direct people**, and **sanitise** the area before and after the public visit. Only **5** have volunteered so far. **Without enough volunteers we will be unable to reopen.** Please consider it (no vulnerable or over 70s). Contact Fr Gubbins. Bulk purchase by the diocese of necessary items to enable SOME Churches for private prayer now on order, and will take 3 weeks approx.

**JUNE is the month of the Sacred Heart.** *O Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.*

**FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS** is on **Friday 19 June.**

**MARIAN GROTTO** at St Peters: please ensure that you only use candles that fit into the candle holder **for safety reasons.**

**SANCTUARY 7 DAY CANDLE** can be dedicated to a loved one each week. Suggested donation £3.

**ST ANTHONY OF PADUA** Feast Day is this **Friday 13 June.** Many of us pray to him as Patron Saint of lost or stolen items. St Anthony (1195-1231) was a Portuguese Catholic priest and friar of the Franciscan Order. He became famous as a learned theologian, eloquent preacher and worker of miracles. He was canonised by Pope Gregory IX in 1232, and was proclaimed a doctor of the Church in 1946 (he is known as the 'Evangelical Doctor'). He's typically portrayed holding in his arms the child Jesus, or a lily, or a book - or all three.

**GARDEN BENCH FOR REMEMBRANCE GARDEN** at St Peter's Church: Donations needed towards the cost. Cheque payable to St Peter's church. Cost £300 approx.

**VACANCIES FOR 2 DIOCESAN HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICERS** have arisen - part time 3 days per week, 2-year fixed period contract, salary in the region of £18,000, starts August/September 2020. For a job description, person specification and application form, please email [bishopsecretary@rcdmidd.org.uk](mailto:bishopsecretary@rcdmidd.org.uk) Closing date **23 June.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE** If you have issued a cheque recently, especially if it was for a recent second collection, be aware when checking your bank statements that delays in processing are occurring due to Coronavirus issues.

**THE GIVING MACHINE** During these difficult times, many of us have had to resort to online shopping for many of our needs. **Do consider registering with The Giving Machine** (a not-for-profit, charitable organisation), as your online purchases can raise a **totally free** donation for our parishes. There are over 2,000 shops and businesses covering most sectors Find out more at <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/>

**SUNDAY SMILE:** *And God promised men that good and obedient wives would be found in all corners of the world. Then he made the earth round: and laughed and laughed*

**FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI IS NEXT SUNDAY 14 JUNE**