# Service of Baptism and

Confirmation at

Holy Communion



Holy Trinity Headington Quarry Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2021, 10am

## **Welcome to Holy Trinity Headington Quarry**

Welcome to this special service of baptism and confirmation. We extend a special welcome to the Bishop of Oxford who will conduct the service and preach, and to family and friends of candidates who have travelled specially to be here today. This service marks a special stage for each candidate in their journey with God, and we ask you to pray for them now and in the days and weeks ahead.

#### **Candidate Testimonies**

#### **Richard Churchill**

My journey towards God has taken a long and difficult path. Growing up I was never encouraged to seek a relationship with God, and through circumstances at the time found it hard to trust and believe in a loving God who could allow the events that happened to take place. Despite this I still found myself having a rather tenuous faith that God is watching over me. It was not until my time as an undergraduate studying PPP that I found my faith strengthen. It was through philosophy I was able to accept, and understand, a little more of God's nature, and even though bad things do happen they do so for a reason. To test us and shape us into the people we will become. It is through our suffering that we are able to develop empathy and patience, the tools to carry out God's mission on Earth. I am getting baptized and confirmed today, as I am ready to take that step towards using the skills God has helped me develop to carry out his work to help others who have had to share similar misfortunes.

# Rikky Rooksby

My spiritual life has been often guided by the power of music and the insights of women. It began unconsciously with school hymns by Vaughan Williams, and early exposure at home to his *Sinfonia Antartica* which confirmed this child's tendency to see life as a thoroughly Serious Business.

Aged 12 I met a girl three years older who told me she was a Christian, just as George Harrison's 'My Sweet Lord' topped the charts. The combination was potent. Desperate to win her affection I

decided some divine assistance was needed. Thus it was that the local Baptist minister found a young boy knocking on his door one suburban evening wanting to talk about God! A few months of Sunday School followed, but the girl was destined for someone else, and I stopped going. Then a rock musician appeared who ignited a desire to be active in music. The consequences of this encounter helped create a working life as a guitar teacher and author, even to this day. His instinctive late-1960s belief in the spiritual sustained my teenage self with enough enchantment until further experiences showed this dimension to life was one I would have to explore. From then on it was always present in some manifestation.

Over decades I learned that growth comes in many forms, and came to see people as spiritual beings on a human journey. A female friend suggested I try Quaker Meeting, since I was by then familiar with contemplative techniques. There, almost thirty years ago, I was blessed to meet my wife Rhonda. Though I have remained a Quaker 'attender', in recent years my focus has been toward an engagement with the mystery of faith and a theology of relationship. That I now know something of the grace of ritual worship in a loved place owes much to the ministry of Laura Biron-Scott and Rob Gilbert at Holy Trinity. During the pandemic this contact has helped nurture two symphonies. For all this, I am most grateful.

#### **Charlotte Drake**

Charlotte will share her testimony during the service.

# The Gathering

The vicar welcomes the congregation

Please stand

## **Hymn**

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to his feet thy tribute bring; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who like me his praise should sing? Alleluia, alleluia! praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour to our fathers in distress; praise him, still the same for ever, slow to chide and swift to bless; Alleluia, alleluia! glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us, well our feeble frame he knows; in his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes: Alleluia, alleluia! widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him; ye behold him face to face; sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia! praise with us the God of grace.

Henry Frances Lyte (1793-1847)

The bishop greets the people.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Peace be with you and also with you.

The bishop introduces the service.

**The Collect** 

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Heavenly Father, by the power of your Holy Spirit you give to your faithful people new life in the water of baptism. Guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit, that we who are born again may serve you in faith and love, and grow into the full stature of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit now and for ever.

Amen.

Please sit

# Liturgy of the Word

#### **Galatians 5.22-6.2**

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another. My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

## **Hymn**

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart; be all else but naught to me, save that Thou art; be Thou my best thought in the day and the night, both waking and sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Breastplate, my Sword for the fight; be Thou my whole Armour, be Thou my true Might; be Thou my soul's Shelter, be Thou my strong Tower, O raise Thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

High King of heaven, Thou heaven's bright Sun, O grant me its joys, after victory is won; Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be Thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

Trans. Mary E Byrne (1880-1931), Melody: 'Slane'

## **Gospel Reading**

Alleluia alleluia, come holy spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love. **Alleluia.** 

The Lord be with you and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.** 

## John 14.5-20

Thomas said to Jesus: 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'

Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me?

Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.** 

Sermon

The Bishop of Oxford

# Liturgy of Initiation

# Hymn

Make me a channel of your peace Where there is hatred let me bring your love Where there is injury your pardon Lord And where there's doubt true faith in you

Oh master grant that I may never seek So much to be consoled as to console To be understood as to understand To be loved as to love with all my soul Make me a channel of your peace Where there's despair in life let me bring hope Where there is darkness, only light And where there's sadness ever joy

Oh master grant that I may never seek

Make me a channel of your peace It is in pardoning that we are pardoned In giving to all that we receive And in dying that we're born to eternal life

© 1967, OCP Publications.

## **Presentation of the Candidates**

Please remain seated as the candidates are presented by the vicar The bishop asks the candidates

Do you wish to be baptized? **I do.** 

Are you ready with your own mouth and from your own heart to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ?

I am.

Candidate testimony may be shared

The bishop addresses the whole congregation:

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome these candidates and uphold them in their life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will

The Decision

The bishop addresses the candidates

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God? **I reject them.** 

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil? **I renounce them.** 

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ? **I turn to Christ.** 

Do you submit to Christ as Lord? I submit to Christ as Lord.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life? **I come to Christ.** 

May God, who has given you the desire to follow Christ, give you also strength to continue in the Way.

All Amen.

# **Signing with the Cross**

The vicar makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each candidate for baptism, saying

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross.

When all the candidates for baptism have been signed, the bishop says to them

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

All Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin, the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.

## The bishop says

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

#### A/I Amen.

Please stand as the ministers and candidates gather at the baptismal font.

## **Prayer Over the Water**

## The bishop says

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give thanks and praise.

We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life. Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the promised land. In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us from the death of sin to newness of life. We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son, we baptize into his fellowship those who come to him in faith. Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, they may be cleansed from sin and born again. Renewed in your image, may they walk by the light of faith and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, now and for ever.

A// Amen.

## **Profession of Faith**

The bishop addresses the congregation

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess together with these candidates the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

**Baptism** 

The bishop asks: Richard, Charlotte, Rikky
Is this your faith?
This is my faith.

Richard, Charlotte, Rikky
I baptize you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

A// Amen.

## When all have been baptized, the bishop says

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

#### Amen

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all who have been baptized into your name. Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### Confirmation

Please sit as the bishop, candidates and their sponsors gather at the place of confirmation, and we sing a hymn.

# Gathering Hymn

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me, Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us. Melt us, mould us, fill us, use us, Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us.

Daniel Iverson, © 1935, Birdwing Music

The bishop stands before those who are to be confirmed, and says

Our help is in the name of the Lord

All who has made heaven and earth.

Blessed be the name of the Lord

All now and for ever. Amen.

The bishop extends his hands towards those to be confirmed and prays:

Almighty and ever-living God, you have given these your servants new birth in baptism by water and the Spirit, and have forgiven them all their sins. Let your Holy Spirit rest upon them: the Spirit of wisdom and understanding; the Spirit of counsel and inward strength; the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness; and let their delight be in the fear of the Lord.

A// Amen.

The bishop addresses each candidate by name and anoints them on the forehead with the oil of chrism.

N, God has called you by name and made you his own.

The bishop then lays his hand on the head of each, saying

Confirm, O Lord, your servant with your Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The bishop invites the congregation to pray for the candidates:

Defend, O Lord, these your servants with your heavenly grace, that they may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more until they come to your everlasting kingdom. Amen.

Please stand as the bishop introduces the Peace.

God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you and also with you.

The congregation greet the newly confirmed with a round of applause! We exchange a sign of peace.

# Liturgy of the Eucharist

## **Preparation of the Table**

# **Offertory Hymn**

Come down, O Love divine, seek thou this soul of mine, and visit it with thine own ardour glowing; O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear, and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn to dust and ashes in its heat consuming; and let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight, and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
Mine outward vesture be
And lowliness become mine inner clothing:
True lowliness of heart;
Which takes the humbler part,
And o-er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long, shall far outpass the power of human telling; for none can guess its grace, till Love create a place wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

Bianco da Siena (d.1434) trans. Richard Littledale (1833-90) Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams

# Taking of the Bread and Wine

Blessed be God, by whose grace creation is renewed, by whose love heaven is opened, by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise. Blessed be God for ever-

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

Please sit or stand as you are most comfortable

The Lord be with you and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

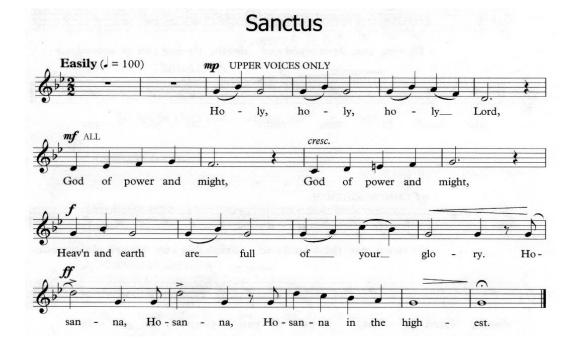
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give thanks and praise.

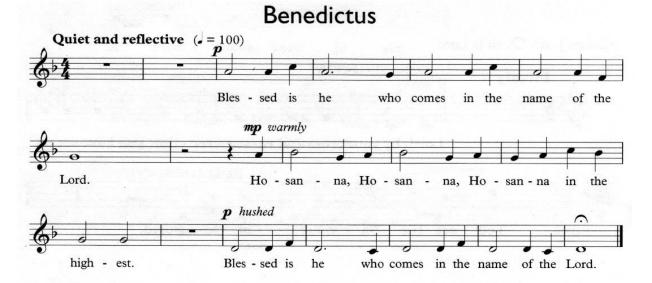
Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you have created all things; who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks because by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a holy people in Jesus Christ our Lord; you raise us to new life in him and renew in us the image of your glory.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and *singing*:





Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

## Bells are rung

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

# Bells are rung

Great is the mystery of faith Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of the blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Please sit or kneel

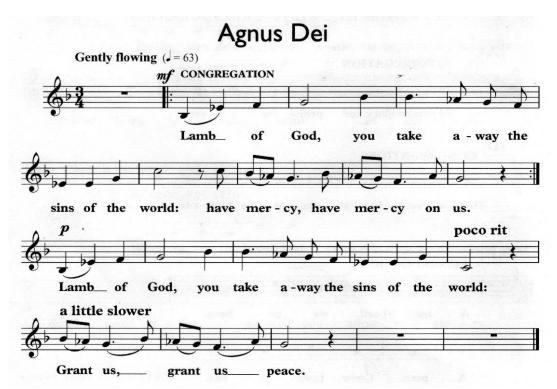
As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

**Breaking of the Bread** 

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.



**Giving of Communion** 

God's holy gifts for God's holy people. Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This is God's table and all are welcome here. Communion is currently distributed in one kind only. Please follow the directions of the steward, and please keep a safe distance from others and follow the one-way system as you return to your seat. Please do also come forwards if you would like a prayer of blessing instead, and hold onto this booklet to indicate this.

# **Prayer after Communion**

God of mercy, by whose grace alone we are accepted and equipped for your service: stir up in us the gifts of your Holy Spirit and make us worthy of our calling; that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

# The Sending Out

#### The Commission

Please stand as the bishop addresses the whole congregation with the commission.

People of God, those who are baptized are called to worship and serve God.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord? With the help of God, I will.

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people, loving your neighbour as yourself? With the help of God, I will.

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society? by prayer for the world and its leaders, by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice? **With the help of God, I will.** 

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, that you may be rooted and grounded in love and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit. **Amen.** 

**The Blessing** 

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who has made heaven and earth.

Blessed be the name of the Lord, **now and for ever. Amen.** 

The God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

## **Hymn**

And did those feet in ancient time
Walk upon England's mountain green?
And was the holy Lamb of God
On England's pleasant pastures seen?
And did the countenance divine
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here
Among those dark satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!
I will not cease from mental fight,
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
Till we have built Jerusalem
In England's green and pleasant land.

William Blake (1757-1827) Charles Hubert Parry (1848-1918)

# **Giving of a Lighted Candle**

# The bishop says:

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light. You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

# Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

The Dismissal

The deacon gives the dismissal

Go in the light and peace of Christ. Thanks be to God.

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The retiring collection is for the Bishop of Oxford's Outreach Fund. Through this fund, the Bishop is able to respond to a wide range of requests for help, in areas such as humanitarian need, Christian education, training and mission. Please do give generously.

Please join Bishop Steven and the candidates for refreshments which we usually serve outside church.

#### **Notices**

## Sunday 24th October

8am - Holy Communion from the Book of Common Prayer 10am - Parish Eucharist and Confirmation Service with Forest Sunday School

#### Sunday 31st October All Saints Day

10am - Parish Eucharist with Forest Sunday School Please note there will be no 8am service

#### **Midweek Services**

Mondays at 9am— Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel. Tuesdays at 10am—Tots Service Wednesdays at 10am—Holy Communion Thursdays at 8.30pm—Prayers for Hope and Healing (via Zoom)

#### **Climate Conversations**

You're invited to join conversations about how we as individuals and a church community can help combat climate change. These will take place in November in small friendly groups, both home and Zoom-based, and all are very welcome. Hot drinks, biscuits and cake are provided when in person. Please get in touch with Hilary Rollin or Jan McLeod for further information: Hilary: hjsrollin@gmail.com / Tel: 761545, Jan: m@cleods.co.uk /

Tel: 768965

#### **Newsletter Deadline**

Please send any items for the latest edition of the online newsletter to Helen (office@hthq.uk) by Monday November 8<sup>th</sup>. Photos of events are especially welcome. We are still on the lookout for an editor and administrator for the newsletter on a longer term basis. Please consider if you or someone you know has the time and skills to help with this important area of church communications.

#### **Welcome to Sarah**

A warm welcome to Sarah de Bats, who will be carrying out a Sunday placement at Holy Trinity this year. We look forward to getting to know Sarah and supporting her in her vocation.

**All Souls Service: Next Sunday 7**<sup>th</sup> **November 6pm** An opportunity for those whose close relatives have died recently to remember their loved ones in prayer and to give thanks for the lives that they have lived. Please email Helen in the Parish Office the names of anyone you would like read out. All are welcome.

## Remembrance Sunday: November 14th

Our parish Eucharist will include an Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial at 10.45am, and we look forward to welcoming members of 7<sup>th</sup> Headington Brownies.

The **MU Bible Study** will now take place on **Tuesday 2nd November at 10.30am** at St Andrew's, Old Headington.

**Celebrating our building plans!** We give thanks for the progress made so far in our church building restoration and development work. Two years since our last fundraising appeal, we have now launched another appeal, in what we hope to be the final push towards reaching our target figure (£600,000 in round figures). We invite you all to consider whether and how you can contribute to this final appeal, so that we can complete the work in 2022. Please continue to hold our project and plans in your prayers.

#### **Teatime Recital Series**

Take a poster and invite friends and family. Please come along to our November recital series in church, to raise money for our church building fund. Each recital will be followed by refreshments in church:

**Saturday 6th November, 3pm**: Dominic Scott (Piano), Laura Biron-Scott (Clarinet).

**Saturday 13th November, 3pm**: Quarry Wind Quintet (debut performance!)

Saturday 20th November, 3pm: Rosie Tweddle (Organ)

**Saturday 27th November, 3pm:** Dvorak Wind Serenade, with members of the Oxford Sinfonia.

**Review of Church Charities** The PCC would like to ask members of the congregation to nominate charities for the church to support over the next four years. Our current charities are: Opportunity International; Asylum Welcome; Practical Compassion for Destitute Children and The Archway Foundation. The PCC will make the final selection and they will include two local and two

international charities as before. The existing four charities can be nominated again. Please leave your nomination in the box provided, or contact Anne Tarassenko with your nomination(s) by Sunday 31st October: annetarassenko@hotmail.com

## **Holy Trinity Headington Quarry**

An open door between heaven and earth, showing God's love to all.

## **Contact us**

**Vicar**: Revd Dr Laura Biron-Scott vicar@hthq.uk <u>01865 762835</u>

Associate Priest: Revd Prof Rob Gilbert

associatepriest@hthq.uk

Parish Office: office@hthq.uk 01865 762931

Churchwardens: wardens@hthq.uk
Website: www.hthq.orq.uk