Holy Trinity Headington Quarry

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



2nd Sunday before Advent - Safeguarding Sunday

15th November 2026

Welcome to Holy Trinity! If you are new to the church or visiting, please make yourself known to one of the welcomers, and let us know any additional needs you may have. An accessible toilet and baby change facilities are located in the meeting room on the north side of the church (across from the door you came in.)

Children are a beloved and integral part of Holy Trinity, and most Sundays we run a Forest Sunday School in our small woodland area by the churchyard. The welcomers will point you in the direction of the Sunday School leaders. Children and babies are very welcome to stay in the service, or to use the meeting room if a break-out space would be helpful. We are not bothered by noise or children being children: we're just glad you're here.

Please sit, or stand as you feel comfortable during the service, and join in with the words in bold type. Tea, coffee and refreshments are served after the service: please stay for a friendly chat if you would like to.

Holy Trinity is funded almost entirely by donations. If you are able to contribute today as part of your worship, you can do so using the card reader or plate by the door on your way in or out. Regular supporters of Holy Trinity are encouraged to do so via the Parish Giving Scheme: a secure, tax-efficient way of contributing to our ministry here.

(i) You can access the Scheme's website through the QR code below and click on "Regular Giving," or visit https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/headington-quarry-holy-trinity-oxford/
(ii) call the Scheme on 0333 002 1271, Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm.

Welcome and Introduction

The president says

In the name of the Father
and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit
Amen

Words of welcome and any notices are given.

Hymn (tune 144)

May this place be one of nurture
where we all may come to know
how your endless love sustains us
as we live and move and grow.
May we work to build your kingdom
full of truth and light and grace,
living life in all its fullness
held in one divine embrace.

From our negligence and failures
you have called us to repent,
drawing energy for action
from the voices of lament.
As the secret hurts long hidden
may at last be brought to light,
may the truth unlock the freedom
that is every person's right.

For you hold the broken-hearted
till they learn to live again,
and your justice stands like mountains,
while your mercy falls like rain
when the smallest child is valued,
and the strong empower the weak,
when each human life is hallowed
and the unheard voices speak:

So with humble thanks we praise you
and we lift to you in prayer
all the people you are calling
to this ministry of care.
Give us wisdom, grace and courage,
holding fast to all that's good,
seeing Christ in one another
we will love and serve our Lord.

words © Ally Barrett

The Greeting

The president says

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God,
To whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden,
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord,
Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

A minister says

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.
Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with all.

Silence is kept.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father
We have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ
who died for us
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.

The president says

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

Glory be to God in heaven,
And to all his people, peace.
Heav'nly King, almighty Father,
May our worship never cease;
May our voices ever thank you,
Songs of blessing ever send,
May we always live to praise you,
For your glory without end.

Jesus, Son of God the Father,
Merciful beyond compare,
All our sin, by you forgiven;
Lamb of God, receive our prayer.
Jesus, you alone are holy,
Jesus, you alone are Lord,
With the Holy Spirit reigning,
And the Father—glorious God!

Tune: Blaenwern (A&M 337)

The Collect

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Heavenly Lord,
you long for the world's salvation:
stir us from apathy,
restrain us from excess
and revive in us new hope
that all creation will one day be healed
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

The Liturgy of the Word

Please sit

First Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5. 1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

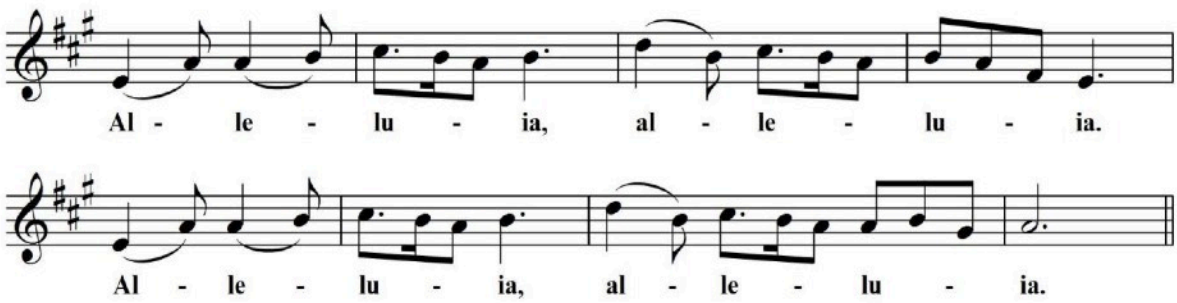
This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Please stand

We repeat the refrain:

CELTIC ALLELUIA



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

Gospel reading: Matthew 25. 14-30

'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

The Revd Martin Little

The Nicene Creed

Please stand

Let us declare our faith in God:
We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Please sit or kneel.

Those in need of our prayers: *Rachel, Elizabeth, Jemima, Diana, Julie, Lesley Williams, David, Pat and family, Grace, Benjie, Hunter Merritt, Maureen, Christine, Len Farrar, Gillian Winman*
Those preparing for Baptism:
Those preparing for marriage:
Those who have died recently: *Janet Lever, John Goodenough, Sue Saville*
Those whose anniversary of death falls at this time:
Bruce Crowther, Marion Tribe, Roger Lock, George Self

And at the end

Merciful Father,
accept these prayers,
for the sake of your Son,
our saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

The Peace

Please stand

Jesus said, 'Love one another.
As I have loved you, so you are to love one another.'

John 15:12

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

A minister says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

All may exchange a sign of Peace

Hymn 512

Christ's is the world in which we move;
Christ's are the folk we're summoned to love;
Christ's is the voice which calls us to care,
and Christ is the one who meets us here.

To the lost Christ shows his face,
to the unloved he gives his embrace,
to those who cry in pain or disgrace,
Christ makes, with his friends a touching place.

Feel for the people we most avoid-
strange or bereaved or never employed.
Feel for the women and feel for the men
who fear that their living is all in vain.

Refrain To the lost…

Feel for the parents who've lost their child,
feel for the women whom men have defiled,
feel for the baby for whom there's no breast,
and feel for the weary who find no rest.

Refrain To the lost…

Feel for the lives by life confused,
riddled with doubt, in loving abused;
feel for the lonely heart, conscious of sin,
which longs to be pure but fears to begin.

Refrain To the lost…

John L Bell (b. 1949) and Graham Maule (b.1958)

Taking of the Bread and Wine

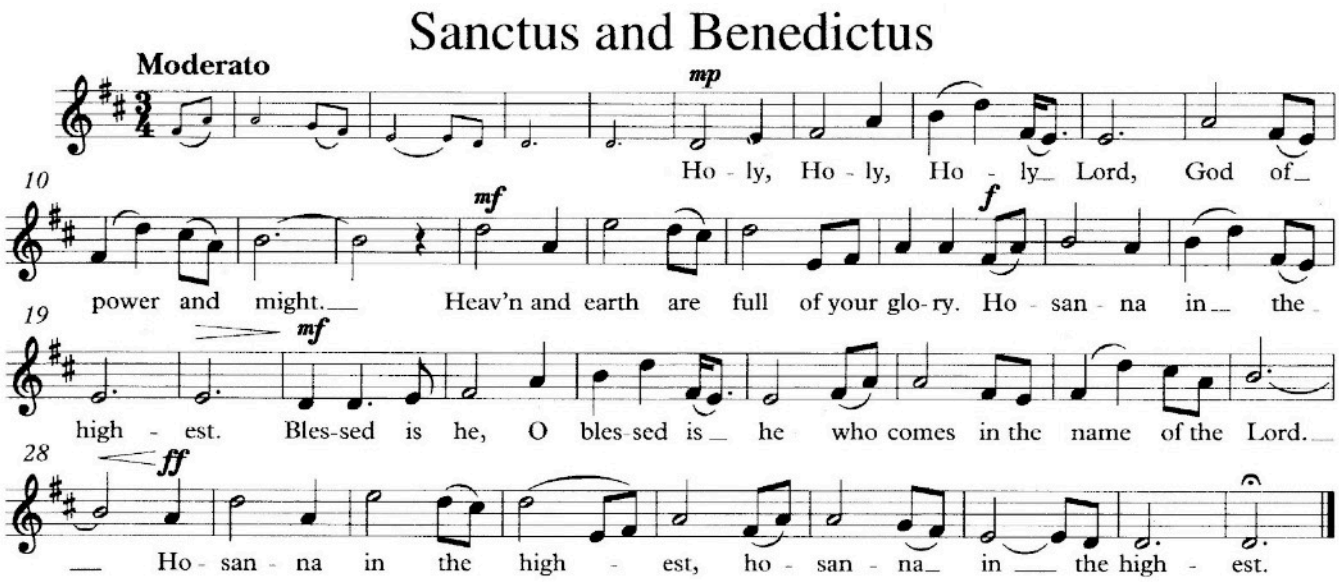
In these gifts of bread and wine,
you give us a taste of your boundless kingdom
where the hungry are fed,
the grieving rejoice,
and the wounded are healed.
Transform us, who receive these gifts,
that we might extend your watchful, gentle, protective love
to those around us.
Amen

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.
Blessed are you, Lord God,
our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever.
From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.
You give us breath and speech,
that with angels and archangels
and all the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to sing your praise:



How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.
From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

Bells are rung

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
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.

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.
Pour out your Holy Spirit
as we bring before you these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.
As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.
Remember, Lord, your Church in every land.
Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace.
Bring us at the last with all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.

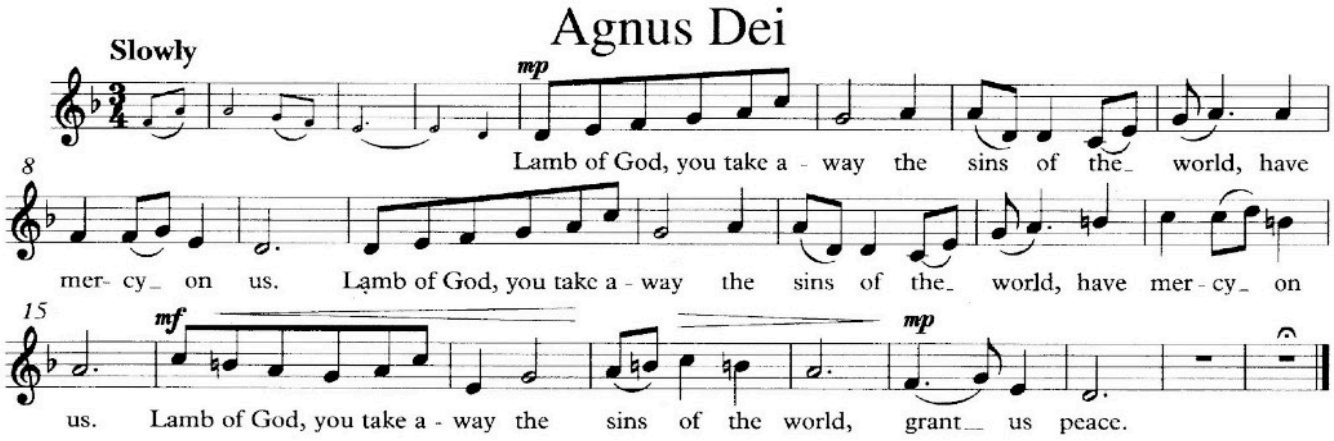
The Lord's Prayer

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 forever. 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.



The president says

Come to this table, not because you must,
but because you may,
not because you are strong, but because you are weak.
Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to come,
but because you need mercy and help.
Come, because you love the Lord a little
and would like to love him more.
Come, because he loved you and gave himself for you.
Come and meet the risen Christ, for we are his body.

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This is God's table and all are welcome. Please follow the directions of the stewards, and pause level with the front pew to allow others to pass before approaching to receive the sacrament. Please do not dip your wafer into the chalice. There is no obligation to take the chalice and it is fine still to receive communion in one kind only (the bread). We have gluten free wafers available. If you do not wish to receive communion and would prefer a blessing instead, please do come forwards as well.

Anthem : O Lord my God *S.S. Wesley (1810-1876)*

Hymn 747

O God, you search me and you know me.
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.
When I walk or lie down, you are before me:
ever the maker and keeper of my days.

You know my resting and my rising.
You discern my purpose from afar,
and with love everlasting you besiege me:
in every moment of life or death, you are.

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord,
you have known its meaning through and through.
You are with me beyond my understanding:
God of my present, my past and future, too.

Although your Spirit is upon me,
still I search for shelter from your light.
There is nowhere on earth I can escape you:
even the darkness is radiant in your sight.

For you created me and shaped me,
gave me life within my mother's womb.
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you:
safe in your hands, all creation is made new.

Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957)

Prayer after Communion

Gracious Lord
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last
to that fullness of life for which we long
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.

Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Sending Out

Please stand

Hymn 666

I cannot tell why he, whom angels worship,
should set his love upon the sons of men,
or why, as Shepherd, he should seek the wanderers,
to bring them back, they know not how or when.
But this I know, that he was born of Mary,
when Bethlehem's manger was his only home,
And that he lived at Nazareth and laboured,
And so the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is come.

I cannot tell how silently He suffered,
as with his peace he graced this place of tears,
or how his heart upon the cross was broken,
the crown of pain to three and thirty years.
But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted,
and stays our sin, and calms our lurking fear
and lifts the burden from the heavy laden;
for still the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is here.

I cannot tell how he will win the nations,
how he will claim his earthly heritage,
how satisfy the needs and aspirations
of east and west, of sinner and of sage.
But this I know, all flesh shall see his glory,
and He shall reap the harvest He has sown,
and some glad day his sun will shine in splendour
when He the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is known.

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,
when at his bidding every storm is stilled,
or who can say how great the jubilation
when every heart with love and joy is filled.
But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture,
and myriad, myriad human voices sing,
and earth to heaven, and heaven to earth, will answer,
'at last the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is King!'

William Young Fullerton (1857-1932)

The Blessing

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please join us for refreshments, served at the back of church. If you can, please donate to the coffee fund using the jar provided or card reader. Please keep the flow moving by heading away from the serving hatch once you've got a drink, and feel free to use the space at the back of church or in our meeting room to mingle.

Please take this booklet away with you and recycle it when you have finished with it.

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Church postcode for emergency callouts is OX3 8LQ

Please note Notices deadline for November 22nd will be 6pm Nov 16th

Notices: November 15th

15 November: Safeguarding Sunday
10am Parish Eucharist and Forest Sunday School
President Revd Canon David Knight
Preacher: Revd Martin Little
Organist: Andrew Patterson

22 November: Christ the King
10am Parish Eucharist and Forest Sunday School
President Revd Martin Little
Preacher: The Revd Saskia Barnden
Organist: Andrew Patterson
6pm Choral Evensong

Midweek Services:

9am Morning Prayer: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday when the Vicar is available. The Church is normally open for private prayer every day during daylight hours.

Wednesday 10am Holy Communion followed by refreshments

Please note that there is no longer an 8am service on Sundays.

Today's refreshments have been generously provided by Nargis and Wilson in celebration of their new business venture.

Janet Lever, a much loved member of our congregation who died on November 5th at her care home will be having her funeral here in church on **Tuesday 24th November at 10am**. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served in church after the service.

Posada 2026 What is the Posada all about? During Advent, a nativity set of Mary and Joseph travel around the parish, visiting a different member of our church family every night. This provides a great opportunity to meet new church members, or get to know others a little better. Please contact Helen Dancer email helen@nsolve.com phone: 07854173016 (WhatsApp or text probably best), giving me suitable dates and I add you to the rota. I will have the rota with me in church, so catch me after the service to sign up. I hope there will be room in your inn this year!

Choral Evensong next Sunday All are welcome to come to this service as part of the wonderful Imagine Lewis Weekend.

Imagine Lewis Weekend 21-22 November Tickets Available now!
Tickets are already selling fast for this weekend. Please get yours at www.hthq.uk/imagine-lewis-weekend or use the QR code on the poster. If you don't want to buy a ticket, come and be a helper! We have an excellent team, but still we have need of people to take posters around to community noticeboards, to assist with children's activities, and to help man the bar for the Saturday evening gig. Please speak to Revd Martin vicar@hthq.uk

Donations needed of empty plant pots (medium size for planting daffodil bulbs) and jam jars (hoping to transform these into lanterns or snowglobes) for the **childrens activities for the *Imagine Lewis* weekend**. Please start collecting! We are also looking for volunteers to help run activities on Saturday 21st November 10 till 12 in the Coach House. For more information please talk to Frances or email frances.farrar23@gmail.com Join in the fun!

Imagine Lewis Quotations needed! As part of *Imagine Lewis*, Mandy Patterson is leading an **Art and Worship workshop** in the church from 10-12am on Saturday 21 November. This will be a drop in event but it will be designed for you to set aside time to create and contemplate. Mandy is compiling an album of Lewis quotations, scans of paintings and drawings and poetry that we can all contribute to. If you have never done anything like this before do feel free to come. There will be materials provided and space to just mess about and enjoy the company of God in quietness. Mandy asks the congregation to please supply her with your **favourite quotations** from any of Lewis' work whether comforting, challenging, inspiring or just amusing. Please send your quotes to mandypatterson@btinternet.com

This week's Eco Tip: Our home-grown fruit and vegetables have suffered both drought and intense heat, and farmers' harvests have faced the same problems. Are there parts of vegetables that normally get thrown away but which could be salvaged? Cauliflower leaves and the outer leaves of lettuce can be cooked, or if they are too far-gone, add them to the compost bin, not the food-waste bin. Hilary Rollin (Eco Church Group)

Helen Day's Retirement - our beloved Parish Administrator, Helen, is retiring at the end of 2026 after nearly 20 years in post! Details of Helen's gift and thank you celebration will be announced soon. This also means we are recruiting (see below)

Amnesty International Write for Rights.
Come and write seasonal greetings cards to prisoners of conscience**. Sunday 6th December**, Church meeting room. Drop in any time between 2 and 5 pm. Bring your own non-religious cards and a pen. We will provide details of cases, letters to sign, and tea and cake. For further information contact: Lorna Hicks 07759 598322 or Rachel Walding 07760 846846.

Building Form Foundations Appeal. Thank you so much to everyone who has generously donated and/or pledged already towards repairing our leaking roof and repayment of the building loan. There is still time to donate! Please pick up a form from the back of church and make sure you use the reference: 'Building 2026 appeal.'

Pastoral care team Are you in need of support or would you like to talk to someone? We rely on you to let us know of anyone who is ill, or in hospital or who might welcome a visit from a member of the team. Please contact the clergy or the Parish Office in the first instance.

Come and work with us!

Holy Trinity is looking for a Parish Administrator to provide admin support to the vicar and the parish. You'll be a welcoming first point of contact for all sorts of queries from all sorts of people. You'll need to have good people skills, good IT skills, a flexible attitude, and you'll be happy working on your own.

Hours: 10.5 hours/week over three days

Pay: £7,676 annually (£14.10/hour)

Location: The Parish Office, Coach House, Quarry Road, OX3 8NU

To download an application pack: www.hthq.uk/parish-administrator-2026/

Closing date for applications: 23 November 2026, 5pm

Holy Trinity Headington Quarry

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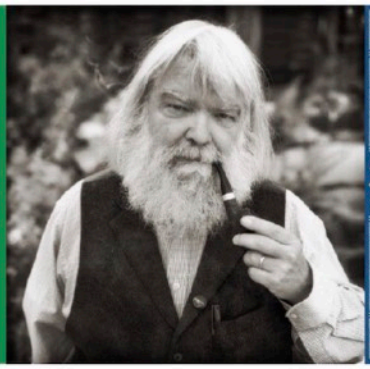
Imagine Lewis...



a celebration of the arts and spirituality inspired by the legacy of C.S. Lewis

Keynote speaker:
Malcolm Guite on
'Lewis and Logres'
and reading from the
new volume of his
Arthurian epic





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(U.S.A.)

workshops +
children's activities
+ worship + more

21-22 November 2026

Holy Trinity, Headington Quarry, Oxford

(The church of C.S. Lewis 1931-1963)

Tickets & info: www.hthq.uk/imagine-lewis-weekend/

Holy Trinity Headington Quarry

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

As the Anglican parish in Headington Quarry, Risinghurst and Wood Farm, we are here for every local resident. Our church is open every day. We hope that you will find God's peace as you come to pray or just sit and rest awhile. If you have questions about the Christian faith or would like to find out more about church life, please get in touch:

Contact us

Vicar: Revd Martin Little
vicar@hthq.uk 01278 792154
please note my day off is Friday
Parish Office: office@hthq.uk 01865 762931
Churchwardens: wardens@hthq.uk
Parish Safeguarding Officer: Anne Cowan 07885 231011
safeguarding@hthq.uk

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