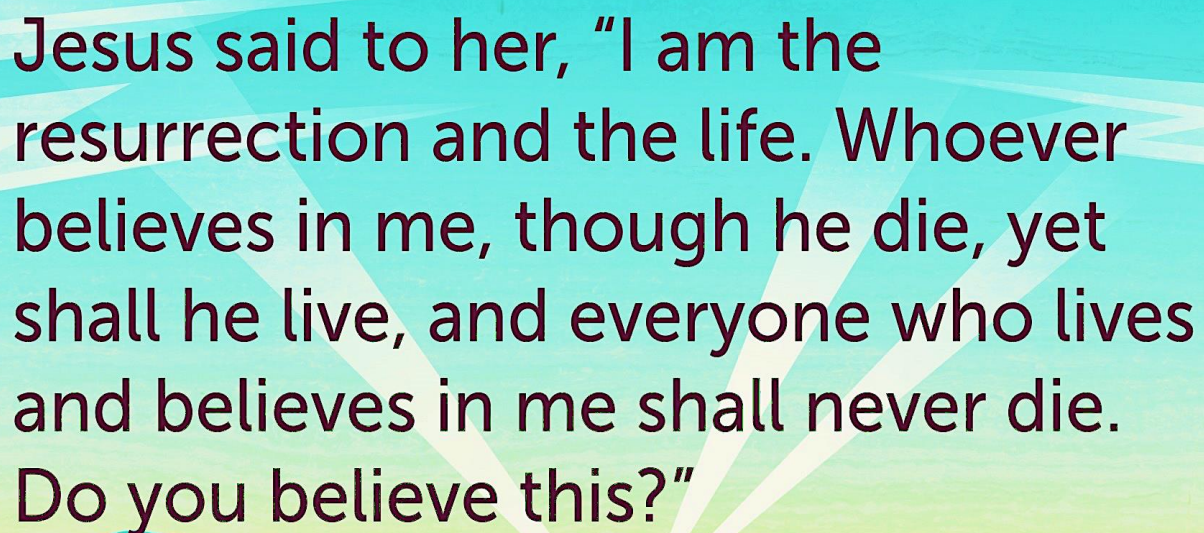


Anglican Parish of Avon

Sunday 29 March, 5th Sunday in Lent

Priest in Charge, The Reverend Dave Perryman.



Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

John 11:25–26

*Welcome – Wunan Njinda to: -
A Service of Holy Communion
10am Holy Trinity Church, Stratford,
via Zoom 'on line' or phone-in.*

All are welcome!!

You are invited to light a 'Prayer Candle' and enjoy morning tea after the Services. Toilets are located at the rear of the Hall. Holy Trinity is fitted with a hearing loop. Please note that the Holy Trinity Chancel floor slopes up from the front pews to the Lectern; please use the handrail as needed and take care, thank you.

We acknowledge the Gunai Kurnai people as the original inhabitants of this land. We acknowledge their elders past and present and their children who are their hope for the future.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Opening Hymn: MP 673 'There is a redeemer . . .'

1 There is a Redeemer,
Jesus, God's own Son,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Holy One.

*Thank You, O my Father,
for giving us Your Son,
and leaving Your Spirit
till the work on earth is done.*

2 Jesus, my Redeemer,
name above all names,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
O for sinners slain:

Thank You . . .

3 When I stand in glory
I will see His face,
and there I'll serve my King for ever
in that holy place.

Thank You . . .

© 1982 Birdwing Music

Welcome

Greeting

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins,
whose mercy endures for ever.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

The Sentence

‘I am the resurrection and the life,’ says the Lord; ‘whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.’
(*John 11.25–26*)

The Prayer of Preparation

Let us pray,

**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.**

The Confession

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

Silence for self-reflection

Let us then ask for mercy, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**Heavenly Father,
you have loved us with an everlasting love,
but we have broken your holy laws
and have left undone what we ought to have done.
We are sorry for our sins
and turn away from them.
For the sake of your Son who died for us,
forgive us, cleanse us and change us.
By your Holy Spirit,
enable us to live for you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Absolution

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive us our sins,

open our eyes to God's truth,
strengthen us to do God's will
and give us the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Trisagion - *Together*

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

The Prayer of the Day

Life-giving God,
your Son came into the world
to free us all from sin and death:
breathe upon us with the power of your Spirit,
that we may be raised to new life in Christ,
and serve you in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The Old Testament Reading

A Reading from the Book of Ezekiel 37.1-14

¹ The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' ⁴ Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.' ⁵ Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.' ⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O

breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.’ ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹ Then he said to me, ‘Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, “Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.” ¹² Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God : I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the Lord , when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord , have spoken and will act, says the Lord .’ *Ezekiel 37.1-14*

Hear the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 130 – *We will say the Psalm in alternate verses*

1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord:
Lord, hear my voice;

**2 O let your ears consider well:
the voice of my supplication.**

3 If you, Lord, should note what we do wrong:
who then, O Lord, could stand?

**4 But there is forgiveness with you:
so that you shall be feared.**

5 I wait for the Lord, my soul waits for him:
and in his word is my hope.

**6 My soul looks for the Lord:
more than watchmen for the morning,
more, I say, than watchmen for the morning.**

7 O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy:
and with him is ample redemption.

**8 He will redeem Israel:
from the multitude of their sins.**

Early Talk

The Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' ⁸ The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' ⁹ Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' ¹¹ After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' ¹² The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' ¹³ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' ¹⁶ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.' ¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' ²³ Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' ²⁴ Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' ²⁵ Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' ²⁷ She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.' ²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, 'Where have you laid

him?’ They said to him, ‘Lord, come and see.’³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, ‘See how he loved him!’ ³⁷ But some of them said, ‘Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?’ ³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, ‘Take away the stone.’ Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, ‘Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.’ ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?’ ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, ‘Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.’ ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, and let him go.’ ⁴⁵ Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him. *John 11.1-45*

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

Let us stand and together affirm the faith of the Church:

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People.

Please sit or kneel for prayer as you are able.

Response:

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayers.

We pray for:-

*Guidance, strength and patience as we journey through this challenging time of a pandemic of Covid 19. Enable us to follow protective guidelines for others as well as ourselves so that the time of challenge and hardship may be shortened rather than lengthened.

*We pray especially for those who are living in fear, grant them reassurance, healing for those who have the infection and your comfort and peace for those who are grieving the loss of loved ones who have succumbed to the virus.

*Wisdom and sound knowledge and guidance for those who lead us through this time of crisis, Governments and Chief Medical Advisors in every country.

*For avoidance of an economic depression and the suffering that it brings.

*For our Bishop, Richard, as he leads the spiritual ministry and pastoral care of the diocese. For Leanne and their children.

For our Registrar, Richard Connelly, giving thanks for his managerial steering of the Diocese and parishes during challenging times.

*Our Minister Dave, giving thanks for his ministry and leadership among us, especially at this time. May the Holy Spirit guide us through these uncertain times. Help us to adjust to different ways of being church.

*For Emma in her 3rd trimester of pregnancy and their boys. Bless them and keep them safe.

For the Parish of Morwell: David Head, Mark. Kathy Dalton: Aboriginal Ministry.

*For all who are impacted by the closure of our op shop. for the volunteers that work there, for the coordinators and most of all, for the community that the op shop has served in countless ways (some known and many unknown), since 1998. A community that has served **us** so very well.

A community that may well need this ministry and mission more than ever before. We pray that we can be of service to what may be an increasing number of needy people. We pray also for those to whom the op shop is an important connection as well as being a source for items they may not otherwise afford.

For our mainly music children and families during this time of mainly music in recess.

*We pray for the sick, the lonely, sad and suffering, and all who care for them.

We pray especially at this time *for Marj, Brenda, Keith, Marion, Phillip, Peter, Ruth, Aileen, Peter T, Mark, Alice, Scarlet, Boyd, Brian, Jacob, Emma, Crystal, Pete, Bruce, Geoff, Daryl, Jan, Craig, Richard, Gail, Karen, Julie and Mick.*

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to 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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

The Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ.
His Spirit is with us.

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

Offertory Prayer

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.
Blessed be God for ever.

The Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

And now we give you thanks
because, for our salvation,
he was obedient even to death on the cross.
The tree of shame was made the tree of glory;
and where life was lost, there life has been restored.

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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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.

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.

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.

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.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

Draw near with faith, to feed on Christ in your hearts with thanksgiving.

For those unable to receive Holy Communion this Sunday, you may like to practice the tradition of 'spiritual communion' as you watch and listen, the following prayer may be helpful:

*O Lord Jesus Christ, through your tender mercy grant that as the hem of your garment, touched in faith, healed the woman who could not touch your body, so the soul of this your servant may be healed by like faith in you, whom I cannot now sacramentally receive. In union with the faithful at every altar-table in your Church I desire to be united with you and pray that you will come spiritually into my heart. Let nothing ever separate me from your love, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.***

The Sending Out of God's People

Gracious God, thank you for feeding us
with the spiritual food of the body and blood
of our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Thank you for assuring us of your goodness and love,
and that we are living members of Christ's body.

Father,
**we offer ourselves to you
as a living sacrifice
though Jesus Christ our Lord.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

Announcements

Final Hymn: MP 1046 'Forever . . .'

1 Give thanks to the Lord, our God and King:
His love endures for ever.
For He is good, he is above all things:
His love endures for ever.
Sing praise, sing praise.

2 With a mighty hand and outstretched arm:
His love endures for ever.
For the life that's been reborn:
His love endures for ever.
*Sing praise, sing praise,
sing praise, sing praise.*

*For ever God is faithful,
for ever God is strong.
For ever God is with us,
for ever, for ever.*

3 From the rising to the setting sun:
His love endures for ever.
By the grace of God we will carry on:
His love endures for ever.
*Sing praise, sing praise,
sing praise, sing praise.*

For ever God is faithful . . .

© 2000 *worshiptogether.com Songs*

The Blessing

Christ our Saviour draw you to himself, that you may find in him crucified a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sin forgiven and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

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News and Notes Next page please.

News and Notes

Greetings everyone!

Today is the first of what may be many days of a new way of 'being church' together. Connected, but in a different way.

There are many changes in our lives as we journey through the weeks and possibly months ahead. May we remember always that 'God is with us'.

News from Parish Council

The closure of our beloved op shop during these times of 'shut down'

The depth of the implications for our parish cannot be overestimated: for our financial existence, for the volunteers that work there, for the coordinators and most of all, for the community that the op shop has served in countless ways (some known and many unknown), since 1998. A community that has served **us** so very well.

A community that may well need this ministry and mission more than ever before. We pray that we can be of service to what may be an increasing number of needy people. We pray also for those to whom the op shop is an important connection as well as being a source for items they may not otherwise afford.

If we see or hear of people in need or struggling please share the information with Dave. There are ways we can be of assistance but please call Dave first and foremost.

Keeping in Contact

Where ever and whenever possible, Dave will be maintaining contact with parishioners by phone. He is always available to parishioners at any time:-
0401 035 379. Email:davidjrperryman@gmail.com

Finances

We cannot afford to lose parishioner's offertory, in fact never has there been a greater need for giving to the parish. The treasurers financial statements and report to the parish council meeting demonstrated just how critically the op shop sustains the continuance of the parish. We can continue for some months but not indefinitely.

Offertory can be given by:-

1. Direct payment into the parish CBA account –
BSB 063526 Acct No 10493155. Please register it as "offertory"
2. Leave your weekly giving envelope in Paul Wagers mailbox from where it will be taken to the Vestry Safe and then banked on Mondays.
3. Where there is an account (cost to the parish), some may wish to cover that expense which is another way of giving.

The Parish Diary

The many changes to the diary will appear on the last page of the Bulletin or as a Bulletin insert each week. Many changes continue to take place so please accept my apologies for oversights and “gaffs”

The Holy Trinity Roster now consists of the Sunday Readings, the Officiating Priest, the Liturgical Assistant, Organist and the person videoing the service.

The Sunday and Easter Services

The services will be filmed / videoed live to zoom and on Facebook.

Parishioners are encouraged to join in to the services either via zoom onto their iPad or computer, or to dial in by phone.

The site and ID for zoom or phone number and ID are the same for services and parish council meetings.

Join Zoom Meeting OR Church Service

<https://zoom.us/j/9748706191>

Meeting ID: 974 870 6191

Join by Phone:

(03) 7018 2005

Meeting ID: 974 870 6191

The Sunday Bulletins will include the full Sunday service and will be distributed by email (+ printing off) for those who use that facility and via hard copy to those who do not.

Other church services e.g. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday will be managed in the same way – a full order of service will be circulated via email or distributed.

Bible Studies and Friday Morning Prayers will be zoomed. All are welcome to join in either ‘on line’ (zoom) or by phone.

In closing:

Please know that ‘God and your faith community stand right alongside you.

We are ready to care for one another and encourage each other’ (Dave).

Do not hesitate to contact Dave if you are struggling.

Loving God we are confident that all is safely in your hands, wherever we may be, confined to our homes and living with unfamiliar restrictions, we know that we are surrounded by your love and care in all that we do in the coming week.

Denise

PARISH DIARY & HOLY TRINITY ROSTER

APRIL

mainly music is in temporary recess until further notice.

Fridays 9am Morning Prayers probably zoomed when organised

Wednesdays 7.30pm, Bible Studies probably zoomed when organised

School holidays: Sat. 28 March to Mon. 13 April, or as advised by Government.

Mon 30 (March) Dave & Family away for a couple of days.

Retiring Offertory: BCA – on hold.

Sat 4 April Avon Parish Crafts & Hobbies Group: **Postponed**

Sun 5 Liturgy of The Palms. Lent 6. Daylight saving ends.

10am Holy Trinity Service **will be zoomed**

Thurs 9 7.30pm Maundy Thursday Service at Holy Trinity.

To be advised.

Fri 10 9am. Good Friday Service, Holy Trinity: **via zoom & phone**

Sat 11 Holy Saturday. Easter Vigil. **On line from the Cathedral site.**

Sun 12 Easter Day. Resurrection of the Lord.

Combined service **via zoom & phone link.**

Tues 14 Parish Council Reports Due. **Please email to Denise or leave in mail box.**

Sat 18 Men's Breakfast Group. **Postponed**

Sun 19 Second Sunday of Easter

1pm Stratford Cemetery Event to Honour the service of World War 2 men and women. **Postponed till 1pm, 11 October.**

Thurs 23 St Mary's Anniversary. Licensed 23/4/1922

The Bards 454th Birthday (1564)

Fri 24 Family Movie Night. **Postponed.**

Sat 25 ANZAC Day. Dawn and 9am services in the Stratford Memorial Park. **Not open to the public.**

Sun 26 Third Sunday of Easter.

4.30pm Traditional Service of Evensong. Bishop Richard Treloar, The Reverend Nikolai Blascow, The Reverend Dave Perryman.

Shakespeare celebrations have been cancelled

Tues 28 Parish Council Meeting. **To be zoomed.**

Holy Trinity Roster, 5 April. Sixth Sunday in Lent (Palm Sunday)

Isaiah 50.4-9a. Ps.31.9-18. Philippi. 2.5-11 Matthew 26.14-27.66

Priest: Dave. Lit Assist: May. Intercess: May. Org: Vic. Video:

Parish of Avon: The Reverend David Perryman: 0401 035 379.

Email:davidjrperryman@gmail.com