# PARISH OF THE HOLY TRINITY



## COMMUNITY BULLETIN

5 June 2021 No. 31

Weekly Worship, Events & Announcements — Submissions Welcome!

## **Upcoming Week**

- Please pray for the sick Peter, Philip, Monica and the priest Andreas.
- Sunday service at home: <u>Typika Service</u> (click top left triple-bar menu, choose 'Sacraments & Services,' then 'Liturgy'), used with <u>Liturgy Variable Parts</u>
- Archdiocesan Sunday Bulletin
- Saints' days in <u>Greek</u> and <u>English</u>
- Online 9.30 Sunday Matins & Liturgy at Holy Wisdom Cathedral, London
- Online 10.30 Sunday Liturgy at St Nicholas Parish, Oxford

### **Events & Announcements**

**Sunday 6 June** marks <u>Sunday of the Blind Man</u>. Coming up this week is the Leave-taking (Apodosis) of Pascha on Wednesday, and Holy Ascension on Thursday. (Fasting days may include wine & oil, with fish also on Wednesday.)

**Sunday 6 June**, the Parish AGM will be held **online at 4pm**. To RSVP and receive a Zoom link for the meeting, please send an <u>email</u>. (Information on becoming a member of the parish can be found on our website <u>homepage</u>.)

Sign up <u>via Eventbrite</u> for eight liturgies being served in June. (Meanwhile, please note that this Sunday 6 June the **toilets will be closed** because of falling roof tiles—our apologies for the inconvenience, and repairs are being arranged.)

With the Archbishop's blessing we have been asked by the National Federation of Cypriots in the UK to raise awareness of the ongoing occupation in Cyprus. Please see the letter below for details of how you can join this effort.

#### From Fr Ian

Dear Friends,

Christ is risen!

We are approaching the end of the Easter season. Next week on Wednesday we celebrate the closing, or giving back (Apodosis) of Easter itself, followed on Thursday by the feast of the Lord's Ascension. I am pleased that this year we are able to serve a Liturgy in the evening of both days, and even if you are unable to be in church I invite you to join us in spirit as on Wednesday we sing the Easter hymns for the last time this year, and on Thursday we celebrate the Lord's raising of our human nature to the heavens.

Following these celebrations there is a liturgical pause, as we remember the Apostles waiting in Jerusalem for the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost which empowered them and sent them out to proclaim the Gospel to the whole world. In our personal and public prayers we no longer use the Easter opening ("Christ is risen from the dead...") but nor do we return to our "normal" opening ("Heavenly King..."). These last ten days of the Paschal season, with the Sunday dedicated to the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council, can be a time of reflection and contemplation. With the Apostles we try to see the implications of the world-shattering events that we have experienced, and prepare ourselves to live even more fully in the light of the Resurrection.

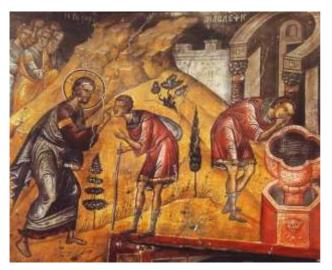
At the end of this contemplative period we have the second of the two Saturdays of the Departed that are kept in our tradition. This year the Saturday falls on June 19<sup>th</sup>, and although we will not have a Liturgy in the church on that day I shall be at Wolvercote cemetery, where many of our loved ones are buried, serving a Memorial Service at 11:00. All those who are able to join me there will be welcome. I shall be remembering not only those who are buried at Wolvercote, but all those whose names I have been given. If you would like me to include names on your behalf please let me have them by midnight on the 18<sup>th</sup>. If you are coming to the cemetery and want to bring a list of names with you please feel free to do so.

With my love to you all,

Fr Ian



## Sunday of the Blind Man



Who can speak of Your mighty works, O Christ, or enumerate Your many miracles? You appeared on earth in two natures, in Your goodness; and You likewise granted twofold cures to the sick. For example, You opened not only the bodily eyes of the man born blind, but also the eyes of his soul. And for this he confessed You to be God, though concealed, who grants to all great mercy.

Matins, from Stichera of Pascha

#### St John Chrysostom, Homily 57

And what happened in the case of the paralytic, happened also with this [blind] man, for neither did the one or the other know who it was that healed him. And this was caused by the retirement of Christ, for Jesus when He healed always retired, that all suspicion might be removed from the miracles. Since how could they who knew not who He was flatter Him, or join in contriving what had been done? Neither was this man one of those who went about, but of those who sat at the doors of the Temple. Now when all were doubting concerning him, what says he?

'I am he.'

He was not ashamed of his former blindness, nor did he fear the wrath of the people, nor did he decline showing himself that he might proclaim his Benefactor.

[Source]



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# Please remember Holy Trinity Parish in your prayers!

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3rd June 2021

Dear Members of the Archdiocese Church Committees,

With the Blessing of His Eminence I am communicating this message you.

As you are aware, the 20th of July 2021 will sadly mark 47 years since Turkey illegally invaded Cyprus, occupying 37% of the island. To compound this, Turkey is now publicly calling for the permanent partition of the island.

At this time, we need as many Parliamentarians supporting our cause, for justice and human rights in Cyprus, and urging the UK Government to speak out clearly against Turkey's partition plans for Cyprus.

Therefore, on this dark and sombre anniversary, we are launching an email campaign to raise awareness amongst MPs about the ongoing occupation in Cyprus. We have set up an easy-to-use online template. It only takes 30 seconds to send an email to your MP via our website: <a href="https://cypriotfederation.org.uk/mp/">https://cypriotfederation.org.uk/mp/</a>] All you need to enter is your name, email, postcode and first line of your address. Our form will take care of the rest.

To make this campaign a success we need, and would be very grateful to receive, your support. Please take the time to send an email to your MP, and forward this message to your Parish, family and friends. With a collective community effort, we can make an impact for Cyprus.

Thank you for your help and support for Cyprus.

Christos Karaolis

President, National Federation of Cypriots in UK