

# L-L WEEKLY

The Weekly Pewsheets of the Leith-Lyvennet Parishes

## Ordination

Katharine Butterfield will be ordained in Carlisle Cathedral on Sunday 28th June at 10.30. There is **still space on the bus!** Anyone wanting to travel with us should contact Sandy Pearl on 01931 714564.

Katharine will be welcomed at a special service at Gt Strickland parish church on **Sunday 5th July at 6.30pm**. Please join us in the evening if you can.

## Music Recital

Recital by Matthew Caton (aged 17 yrs) at St. Mary's Church Thrimby, on Friday 12th June 8.00 pm. All welcome to hear his forthcoming Diploma Recital, Bach, Mozart, Prokofiev, Scarlatti and Handel. £5 adults/ £1 children on the door inc. refreshments. Doors open 7.45pm. Proceeds to church.

## Deanery Celebration

This afternoon at 4pm there is a special service to mark 25 years sharing the Parish Church at Kirkby Stephen with the Roman Catholic congregation.

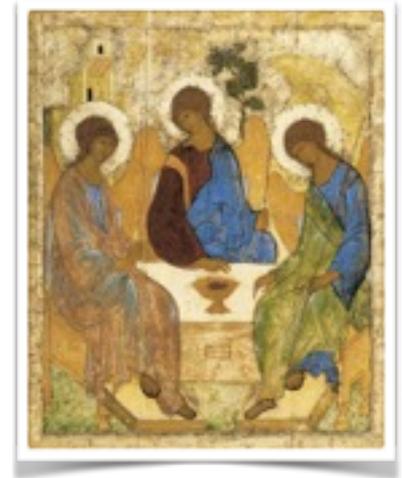
## Open Air Songs of Praise

Sunday 21st June, 11.00am on the Green at Morland (over the bridge behind the pub). Bring a picnic or book a pub lunch.

## About Today...

The understanding of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit developed very early in Christian thought, although the term 'Holy Trinity' to describe the three-fold nature of God came much later.

Almost from the moment of Jesus's resurrection, the first Christians recognised Jesus as God. From the moment of Pentecost, they realised that God was also powerfully present with them through the Holy Spirit. It then became the practise to baptise people "in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit."



The belief that there is one God in three persons was fundamental to the Church from an early stage and the mathematical conundrum which that belief implies did not appear to bother the early church at all. It was only as Christianity spread and encountered other faiths and Greek philosophical ideas that a need to 'explain' the Trinity arose and the idea developed slowly into a doctrine. By the end of the 4th century, under the leadership of Basil of Caesarea, Gregory of Nyssa, and Gregory of Nazianzus (the Cappadocian Fathers), the doctrine reached its current form and adherence to the doctrine of the Trinity has since been seen as the defining mark of orthodox Christian churches.

However, for all that the Trinity is not really a doctrine, so much as an experience of God. It is not easy to depict the Holy Trinity (and some Christians believe we shouldn't even try), but this famous icon by Anton Rublev seeks to depict the relationship rather than a portrait. Jesus (identified by his Deacon's stole) serves food to his Father and the Holy Spirit. They are seated around a geometrically perfect hexagonal table, indicating the perfection of their love, and their gaze is fixed on each other, showing how selfless is their love. But their love is also outward-looking. They are set at a precipitous angle, as though their love is about to tumble out of the picture into your lap. Jesus is pushing the food towards you - it is about to topple off the table unless you respond quickly. Will you receive their love and let Jesus feed you? And there is a space at the table for you. Will you approach and join this perfect exchange of love?

## For your prayers

- Those preparing for marriage, including Rebecca Walls & Gavin Skelton, whose banns are being read this morning.
- Our schools: staff, pupils and families on half term.
- Katharine Butterfield, preparing for her ordination next month.
- Our common life in church, giving thanks for 25 years of shared worship between Anglican and Roman Catholic Congregations at Kirkby Stephen.
- Crosby Ravensworth School governors meeting on Tuesday, 2 June 2015
- Our Archdeaconry Mission & Pastoral Committee meeting on Thursday.
- The people of Nepal

### From our calendar of prayer:

- In the Anglican Communion: Diocese of Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island (Province of Canada), Bishop Ronald Wayne Cutler, clergy and people.
- For Kendal Deanery: For Christians of all denominations in their everyday work.
- Bishop James, 25th Anniversary Shared Service - Anglican and Roman Catholic Congregations at Kirkby Stephen Parish Church, 4.00 pm. Bishop Robert, Confirmation at Carlisle St Elisabeth, 10.00.

## This morning's readings

### Romans 8.12-17

12 Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—<sup>13</sup>for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' <sup>16</sup>it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

### John 3.1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup> 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup> 'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

