

# CONNECT

Issue 4 December 2017



Church is ..

a human connection of love,  
not a building

a lifestyle, not a weekly  
activity

an act of service, not a  
service to attend



RINITY CHURCH  
SHARING GOD'S LOVE

Minister  
Rev Helen Lambert

## Welcome to Trinity Rawdon!

At the heart of our ministry here at Trinity, Rawdon is the welcome we extend to all and so we are really happy that you have made this connection with us.

Whether you are searching for answers to the big questions in life, exploring your faith, or looking for a new home church, we hope that we may be able to draw alongside you as you make your journey.

Our church family is made up of members from our local community of Rawdon, Yeadon and Guiseley and further afield too. Trinity has existed in its present form for over forty years – since the Baptist, Methodist and Congregationalist (United Reformed) churches in Rawdon came together to form one church, hence the name Trinity – in the unity of the Father, the Son and the Spirit.

We like to think that no two

Sundays are alike at Trinity Rawdon and we enjoy exploring new ways of journeying and drawing closer to God in worship.

Although we may have our own individual denominational identities, what unites us is the belief that church is who we are, not where we go, not just a building, but also the act of **sharing God's love.**

### Connect with us:

**Minister:** Rev Helen Lambert

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**Website:** [www.trinityrawdon.org.uk](http://www.trinityrawdon.org.uk)



## Helen's Diary

Helen's Community days are **Tuesday afternoon - Knit Café** at Brown's Greens & **Friday afternoon** with **Playstation** for the **Littlemoor** children.

**Wednesdays** will be Pastoral days. If you would like a pastoral visit or through your 4X4 team know someone who would like a visit and Home Communion, please let Helen know.

**Tuesday** Morning is put aside for study, either preparing sermons or working on her MA in Contextual Theology.

Helen's days off are **Monday, Thursday & Saturday**.

### ACT Christmas Cards

are ready for delivery. Please collect and deliver as soon as possible. Many thanks for your support and help with this important missional work.



## The editor reflects ...

Mladić, Mugabe, Mugabi, Ngwena!

What will your legacy be?

The end of November 2017 was, in many ways, momentous! 22 years after the horrors of the siege of Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia, in which an estimated 10 000 civilians died and the massacre in Srebrenica, when under the noses of Dutch peace-keepers in the so-called UN safe haven, at least 7000 Muslim men and boys were rounded up, executed and dumped in mass graves, the man chiefly responsible was finally convicted of 11 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity. After 37 years in power, the curtain fell on another tyrannical despot, this time in Zimbabwe. Yet your views on each of these two depend on your perspective. The convicted war criminal, Ratko Mladić, Commander-in-Chief of the Bosnian Serb Army between 1992 and 1995 is even so regarded still by some as a hero. The fact that he had to be removed from the court whilst his sentence was being read and hurling abuse at the officials speaks volumes! Even when the 93-year-old Robert Gabriel Mugabe was finally ousted by the army in a bloodless coup, 37 years after he became the country's leader, he remained convinced of the people's loyalty to him. The reported pay-off to Mugabe in a deal struck to secure his removal from office is nothing short of a scandal. Almost 10 years after famously removing his dog-collar and cutting it into pieces on the Andrew Marr show in protest at Mugabe's actions, the man who boasts (!) a middle name of Mugabi himself, our own Archbishop of York, John Sentamu, chose the same forum

to put on a new one when offered the pieces by the host. He said that it was not good enough to patch up the old one, but it needed to be new. The man installed as President as Mugabe's successor, "Ngwena" (or " the Crocodile" in Shona) has indeed said that one cannot change the past and that things will change for the better, but this remains to be seen. To have earned such an epithet, Mnangagwa has certainly himself been guilty of many crimes too and has been a right-hand man of Mugabe since the early days of the Patriotic Front. Can a leopard change its spots and a crocodile its skin? I believe so, because anything is possible in the power of Christ.

So then, what would you leave as a legacy? How will you be remembered? What will people say of you when you are no longer around to defend yourself?

Jesus said we should be kind to one another, because we cannot know the depths of its effect ...

*Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ*

*God forgave you.  
Ephesians 4:31-32*

*Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble.*

*1 Peter 3: 8*

If you have not planned your legacy, or don't like the look of it, get to work on it now!

## Worship in December



### People to Pray for:

Lord, may those named be wrapped in Your love, found deep in Your everlasting wings, carried and kept, safe and cherished.

May the healing power of Jesus breathe across them all. AMEN

Baby Thomas, Zoe and Tristan  
Joan  
Marion  
June  
Doreen  
Rev Micky Munroe  
Irene's Grandson Joel  
Helen's friend Josh  
Kat's Baby Ether

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 9.30 Communion with Helen Lambert  
10.30 Worship with Helen Lambert**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 10.30 Worship with the Team**

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December Christingle Service 5.30pm**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 10.30 Youth Service with Rawdon  
Littlemoor Nativity**

**6.30pm Carol Service**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December 10.30 The Jesus Story with Communion  
4.30 Noisy Nativity**

**11.30 Midnight Communion**

**Christmas Day 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.30 Family Celebration**

### Connect with us this month as we gather for:

**Trustees' Meeting** Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December at The New Manse (32 Micklefield Lane)  
7.30pm

**Trinity Christmas Buffet** Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December in the New Hall after church, please pay Helen ASAP

### Trinity Stamps

Once into Advent most of us can expect to receive perhaps dozens of Christmas cards through our letterboxes. Once again you are invited to remove the stamps from the envelopes and put them into the boxes provided in the church vestibule. These boxes are clearly marked - one for British stamps, one for foreign (including Irish) stamps.

It would be a great help if you would cut the stamps from the envelopes leaving a one centimetre border round the stamp. If not, please tear the stamp from the envelope leaving enough border around it.

The stamps are sent in 1 kilo packets to Baptist Union Headquarters in Didcot, where they are sold to dealers and the money raised passed on to the Baptist Missionary Society.

Please note that this stamp collection will continue throughout the year. If each family or individual member could donate one or two stamps per week that would accumulate to several kilos by the end of the year.



**Please pray for all those involved with "What's the story" on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December when we will be sharing the Christmas Story with 90 children from Rawdon Littlemoor.**

## Connect with us in fellowship

**Walk and Talk** meet each Friday for a short local walk lasting approximately one hour, exploring areas that many of us had forgotten existed. We have a good chat and enjoy a cup of tea to finish with. You would be most welcome to join us! We meet each Friday outside the church at 2pm.

**Knit Café** meets every week on Tuesdays 2.00pm at Browns Green Vegetarian Café, 3b Harrogate Road, Rawdon, Leeds. We love to knit, chat and of course eat cake! All are welcome, not just knitters, people who want to learn and those who want to make new friends.

**Prayer Breakfast** gather once a month (fourth Saturday) at 8.30am for a short time of fellowship and prayer at The Manse. This is followed by a simple breakfast. We ask only that people bring their prayers, concerns and thanksgiving, either spoken or silent, be they personal/family matters, Church or local issues or situations in the world which require God's intervention.

**Life Groups** Our Life Groups meet in homes in order to share life together and study the Bible. This is where people really get to know others and discover the value of their prayers and practical support. It is also the place to chew on difficult issues and to unpack further what the preacher may have been saying the previous Sunday. Please contact



## Connect with our community

### Christmas Tree Festival and Christmas Fayre Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 10 – 2pm

We still need:

- full bottles of virtually anything for the bottle stall
- empty Nutella jars (or similar) with a large opening and a plastic lid
- raffle prizes
- tombola prizes
- cakes and buns for the cake stall
- volunteers to man stalls

**Community Carol Singing** Please join us for carol singing at:

Sunningdale Nursing Home followed by Billing View on Monday December 18<sup>th</sup> at 6.15pm & 7.15pm  
Littlemoor on Christmas Eve at 6.30pm followed by The Princess at 7.30pm

### Missions Team News

The Missions Team would like to remind you of the following events this month:

1st - 24 December: Messy Church's "Christmas Rocks at Trinity Church!" We've hidden painted rocks around Rawdon with 9 different pictures relating to the Christmas story. Please pray that everyone who takes part has fun and is reminded of the true meaning of Christmas.

Christmas Food Appeal for the Foodbank: Trinity is collecting Christmas food items for the Foodbank this year. Please see the list in church for items needed to help families in financial crisis eat good food and celebrate together this Christmas.

### Connect with God

Christmas service preparations: please pray for those involved with planning Christmas services and events at Trinity and also that those who attend them catch hold of something of the reality of Christ for their lives which is not only for Christmas.