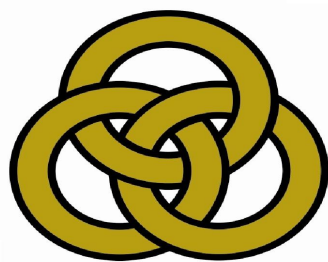
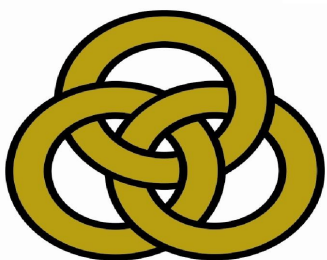


Wednesday Holy Week @Trinity



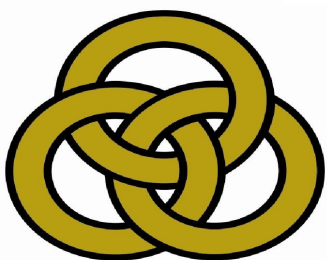
Reading John 6: 28-33

Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”



Reflection

This passage follows from one of the miracle stories of Jesus feeding the crowd from five small barley loaves and two small fish. This passage is also about being fed, though not with perishable food but with food that sustains a different type of appetite. Picking up something of what's inferred by Jesus the crowd ask: "what must we do to perform the works of God?". The direct answer means them believing in Jesus. But they are keen for a sign, one they could compare with the ancient story of their forebears, harking back to Moses and the Israelites being fed with manna from heaven when they hungered in the wilderness. But Jesus will not be drawn into such a comparison. Those that were fed - even by miraculous means - knew hunger again. Whereas what Jesus was offering addressed a different type of hunger. A hunger for spiritual values that would enrich a person's life and sustain them amid life's darkest moments and most difficult trials. What was required? Belief. Believing in the one whom God has sent and trusting in his capacity to love them into the kingdom.



We are quickly discovering what it means to live through a global pandemic. Alongside statistics and grave predictions, the many personal stories of sorrow and loss, to be reminded also of the daily acts of courage and the dedicated fight to eradicate the disease. What is required of us as Christians is to pray: for courage and calm, patience and strength, ingenuity and resourcefulness, the curbing of selfishness and greed, for healing of the sick, for peace for the dying and consolation for the bereaved.



Prayer

(Augustine of Hippo, 354 - 430)

Watch dear Lord with those who wake, or watch, or weep tonight, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend your sick ones, rest your weary ones.

Bless your dying ones. Soothe your suffering ones. Pity your afflicted ones.

Shield your joyous ones. And all for your love's sake. **Amen**

We pray especially for

For our own actions, the choices we make, that we may balance our own needs with those of others in our community and in the worldwide family.

