

Dear all

The church has just entered what is called the 'Ordinary Season'. It is called 'ordinary' essentially because it is 'what it says on the tin'. It is the season that has no major festivals in, a season of normality, of getting on with being the church.

All the church's seasons are characterised by a colour, and the Ordinary Season, very appropriately, is characterised by green. Green is the colour of growth, of health in the natural world. For the church it can seem something of a season that runs and runs. We have Trinity Sunday, then the 1st Sunday after Trinity, then the 2nd... the 3rd... the 10th... the 17th... the 22nd... and then (breathe a sigh of relief) the Last Sunday after Trinity. Sometimes it can seem interminable. But that is ordinary... life as it were, without bursts of excitement, just getting on with it. But those times can be some of the most important for us, the time when we see what our faith is all about – faith lived in the ordinary way of life.

George Herbert summed it up wonderfully in his poem The Elixir –

Teach me, my God and King,
In all things Thee to see,
And what I do in anything
To do it as for Thee.

Not rudely, as a beast,
To run into an action;
But still to make Thee prepossess,
And give it his perfection.

A man that looks on glass,
On it may stay his eye;
Or if he pleaseth, through it pass,
And then the heav'n espy.

All may of Thee partake:
Nothing can be so mean,
Which with his tincture—"for Thy sake"—
Will not grow bright and clean.

A servant with this clause
Makes drudgery divine:
Who sweeps a room as for Thy laws,
Makes that and th' action fine.

This is the famous stone
That turneth all to gold;
For that which God doth touch and own
Cannot for less be told.

You may recognise it as a hymn. (And, incidentally, for Harry Potter fans, the Philosophers' Stone, which is what is referred to in the last stanza, turns base metal to gold, not gives immortality).

This email has the attachments for the service for Trinity 1. The [order of service](#) will be the one we will use throughout the Ordinary Season. The other attachment is '[Seek ye first](#)'.

The link for the pre-recorded church service is

<https://youtu.be/EHuZta3Raw4>

The hymns for the service are below:

All people that on earth do dwell

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TiX3kVxm5Ks>

Who would true valour see (from my old diocese, Southwark – complete with hobgoblins!)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BVIM4_gan4E

or if you want a much more folky version (not sure that it's an authentic gallery hymn!)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EiSxSZ0s0AQ>

Will you come and follow me?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cv7lnTcuvclU>

As today is Music Sunday, I thought I'd also include a couple of links to anthems, and as today's Psalm is 100, here is a selection of Jubilates:

A duo of great English versions, by Henry Purcell

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ek-43z_fTPY

And Benjamin Britten

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vP-g_4C_ssA

Giovanni Gabrieli

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RF9MiGJSqd4>

Mozart

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PgAVRhS-iJo>

Ted Fisk, with help from Ryan Overson, has done a tremendous job in trying to make something of the Rose and Sweet Pea Show this year. We are up and running in the virtual world!

You can log in and enter competitions (by photo!) or take part in the raffle – all of which raises invaluable funds for the church. The link is <https://rose-and-sweet-pea-show.wishpondpages.com/>

Finally you may be amused by the way that a chapel in Wales is planning on opening up again:

<https://youtu.be/fifltkvCVfA>



Stay safe

Blessings and love

Mark