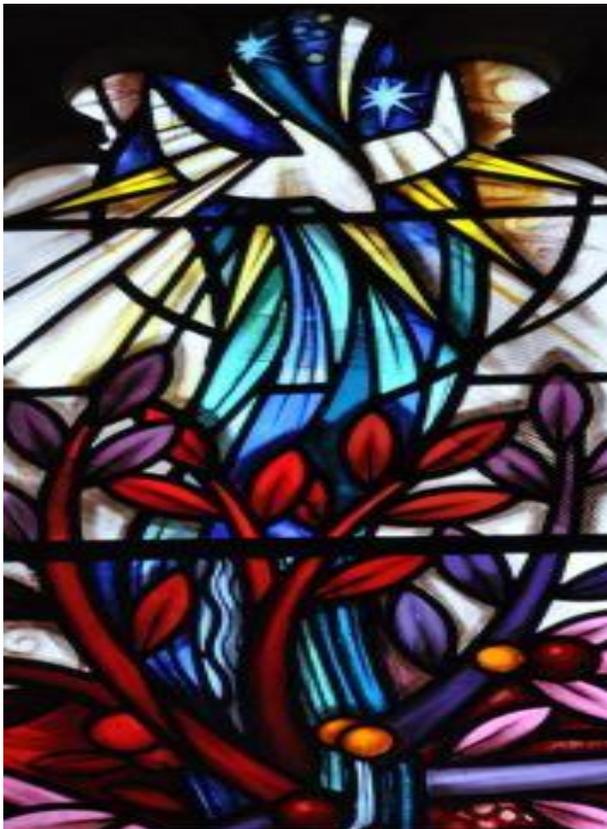




HOLY TRINITY
WESTBURY ON TRYM - BRISTOL

Death and Bereavement



The death of someone close is a very sad time, and there is always such a lot to do when you feel least able to cope.

Whatever your needs, we are here to help at this difficult time.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions regarding death, funerals or bereavement.

Planning a Funeral

A Church of England funeral service in church is for anyone, whether or not they have been regular churchgoers. It is best to approach your chosen funeral directors first. They will liaise with the clergy initially, and one of the clergy team will then contact you to arrange a visit. There is also a helpful information sheet from the parish office covering all aspects of planning a funeral.

A funeral service may be held in Holy Trinity, at a crematorium or in a cemetery chapel. Our clergy are available to take the service in whichever setting you choose.

The clergy will help you plan the service, which can be very simple, or more elaborate if you wish. It usually lasts about 30 minutes and always includes prayers, a Bible reading and a short address. Hymns, music, other readings and a tribute to your loved one can also be included. Please let the clergy know if you, or any of your family or friends, would like to contribute to the service.

A funeral service is for everyone who knew the deceased, children as well as adults. Often, children can find it very helpful to be present.



The Committal

The final part of the service is the committal of the person's earthly body to be cremated or buried.

When the service in church is followed by burial in the cemetery, the prayer of committal takes place at the graveside. Where there is a cremation, this prayer of committal can take place at the crematorium or at the end of the service in church.

Holy Trinity Churchyard is not available for burials, but cremated remains may be buried in our Garden of Remembrance, situated in a quiet area of the churchyard.

Further helpful information about the funeral service can be found at www.churchofengland.org/life-events/funerals

Further information about Holy Trinity Church can be found at www.westbury-parish-church.org.uk

Remembering

Grieving seldom ends with the funeral. It is natural to feel the emptiness for a considerable time afterwards.

Holy Trinity Church may be able to offer you some comfort at this time. We offer a special gathering called *Space to Grieve* from 2pm to 3.30pm on the first Wednesday of each month. This takes place in church, with tea and cake available. Please contact us via the Parish Office on 0117 950 8644 or office@westbury-parish-church.org.uk if you would appreciate a call.

We hold a Memorial Service every three months where we remember those loved ones who have died recently. This is a simple service of



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hymns, an address and prayers, with an opportunity to light a candle in memory of your loved one.

Holy Trinity Church is open every day. The Lady Chapel provides a focus for quiet prayer and reflection at any time. Some people find it helpful to write a prayer for the prayer tree or light a candle. Flowers may also be placed here after a funeral service, or at any time of special remembrance.

Every autumn on **All Souls' Day**, 2nd November, we hold a service of remembrance to give thanks for all those whom we have loved.

Christians believe that death is not the end — that Jesus offers us the promise of eternity with God in heaven beyond death. This hope, along with God's presence and peace, can bring us some comfort. The prayer below tries to express some of our feelings and longings as we face the death of someone we have loved.

I come to you saddened by my loss.

In my tears and grief

please put your loving arms around me and hold me tight.

Support me at this time and give me peace and hope.

Help me to face the future and give me strength

to meet the days to come.

May I always turn to you if grief overwhelms me

and put my trust in your unfailing love.

*In Jesus' name. **Amen.***

Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not let them be afraid." (John 14.27)



How to contact us:

- You can call our Vicar, Fr Andre Hart, on 0117 962 1536.
- You can visit the Parish Office on Church Road, Bristol, BS9 3EQ.
- You can call the Parish Office on 0117 950 8644 or email at office@westbury-parish-church.org.uk
- You can visit our website at www.westbury-parish-church.org.uk