



HOLY TRINITY NICE <http://www.anglican-nice.com/>

I have just completed my third Holy Week and Easter. I very quickly felt settled at Holy Trinity but my sense of belonging is even stronger now.

I was cautious about introducing liturgical changes when I arrived but it is fascinating to observe how what was an innovation for the two churches – Murray's mass setting, for example – is now 'what we do', in fact so much so that the Easter congregations which included many visitors sang everything with gusto.

Since last autumn, I have been sending a weekly newsletter to all members of Holy Trinity Nice and a slightly different one to members of St Hugh's. The newsletter combines some information about forthcoming events with a preview of the topic of the sermon for the Sunday following. I am glad to say that this appears to be successful and well-appreciated.

It has been an eventful year, not least because of Brexit and then, soon afterwards, the attentat on July 14. Some members of our community were there when the terrorist's truck careered along the Promenade; everyone was affected by the scale of the tragedy and its aftermath. The enhanced security which we have put in place since and that in the city are a continuous reminder of what happened and the possibility of further attacks.

For those of us who are British nationals, Brexit has introduced an unwelcome element of uncertainty: will we be allowed to remain and on what terms? There is the further complication of volatile currency markets and a pound worth less than last year, which affects those receiving pensions paid in sterling.

The economic effect of a falling pound and the impact of terrorism have been felt by the city in general and by Holy Trinity in particular. There have been fewer visitors and people have been able to spend and give less.

I remain concerned that Holy Trinity still has a deficit each year. We may have considerable assets, which encourages some to see us as well off, but we cannot run at a deficit indefinitely. Personally, I have increased our income by at least 8,000 euros in the past year. We have also taken measures to cut costs. More remains to be done. Also, there is the photocopier contract which costs us over 8,000 euros a year which will not end until September 2018.

I would like to give a special thanks to our wardens Michael Killbourn and Jill Pirdas who do so many excellent practical things and give such good advice.

I would also like to thank Paul Sullivan, our outgoing treasurer, who has done so much to clarify our finances. He has made the job immeasurably simpler for his successor.

It has been good to see so many social aspects of life at Holy Trinity flourish: coffee and wine after the services, parish lunches, and special refreshments after the Carol Service, Midnight Mass, the Easter Vigil, etc.

It was also delightful to welcome Bishop Pierre Whalon and his wife, Melinda last All Saints' tide. Our Episcopal Church history and connections are strong. I had been to the Convention of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Munich just before Bishop Pierre's visit and I was impressed by the warmth of welcome that they gave us.

I was also delighted that the annual retreat at Laghet was so much appreciated. Aply led by Father James Mustard, those who attended found it an interesting and spiritually refreshing time.

Fr Peter Jackson