



The United Benefice of St Helen, Burghwallis and St Mary Magdalene, Campsall

7th June 2020

When I show people around Campsall Church I always make a point of showing them the East Window. It is a *Te Deum* window which means it illustrates the themes found in the ancient hymn that some of you may remember saying at Mattins from the Book of Common Prayer: *We praise thee, O God: we acknowledge thee to be the Lord...* At the top of the window is the hand of God poking out of the roof linking through to the dove of the Holy Spirit with the central figure which is of the risen Christ in Majesty surrounded by the hosts of heaven and worshipped by saints and martyrs. It is a vision of heaven.

Today is Trinity Sunday, when we bring together the themes of the first part of the year. The message of Creation – the universe brought into being by the will of God; the message of the Incarnation – God dwelling as part of the creation he has made in the person of Jesus Christ; the message of Pentecost - the Holy Spirit dwelling within us to empower and comfort us. Today we bring all these together in this expanded understanding of God: God the Father who is above and beyond us, God the Son who stands beside us as one of us, and God the Holy Spirit who dwells within us. Not three Gods but three ways in which we encounter God in our lives.

Trinity Sunday knits together our experience of God to enlarge our understanding of Him. The heart of the Christian faith is about each one of us being brought into a right relationship with the God who created us. He did this in Jesus by becoming one of us to share our suffering but triumphing over death. But he now opens himself to each one of us through the Holy Spirit that lives within and prompts us to pray.

Our hope, our aspiration, is to share that vision of God in heaven depicted in the east window at Campsall – united with the angels, saints and martyrs in the presence of God's Glory: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Fr Richard

*Holy God, Holy and Strong, Holy and Immortal
Have Mercy Upon Me a Sinner.*

Contacts

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