

# POCKLINGTON GROUP OF CHURCHES

Burnby, St Giles; Givendale, St Ethelburga; Hayton, St Martin; Huggate, St Mary;  
Londesborough, All Saints; Millington, St Margaret; Nunburnholme, St James;  
Pocklington, All Saints; Shiptonthorpe, All Saints

[www.pocklingtongroupofchurches.org](http://www.pocklingtongroupofchurches.org)

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## SUNDAY READINGS

16 June, Trinity

### *Collect*

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you have given us your servants grace,  
by the confession of a true faith,  
to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity  
and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity:  
keep us steadfast in this faith,  
that we may evermore be defended from all adversities;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

(or)

Holy God,  
faithful and unchanging:  
enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth,  
and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love,  
that we may truly worship you,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### **Proverbs 8:1-4,22-31: The Gifts of Wisdom**

Does not wisdom call,  
and does not understanding raise her voice?

On the heights, beside the way,  
at the crossroads she takes her stand;  
beside the gates in front of the town,  
at the entrance of the portals she cries out:  
'To you, O people, I call,  
and my cry is to all that live.

### **Wisdom's Part in Creation**

The LORD created me at the beginning of his work,  
the first of his acts of long ago.

Ages ago I was set up,  
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.  
When there were no depths I was brought forth,  
when there were no springs abounding with water.  
Before the mountains had been shaped,  
before the hills, I was brought forth -  
when he had not yet made earth and fields,  
or the world's first bits of soil.

When he established the heavens, I was there,  
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,  
when he made firm the skies above,  
when he established the fountains of the deep,  
when he assigned to the sea its limit,  
so that the waters might not transgress his command,  
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,  
then I was beside him, like a master worker;  
and I was daily his delight,  
rejoicing before him always,  
rejoicing in his inhabited world  
and delighting in the human race.

### **Romans 5:1-5: Results of Justification**

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,

and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

### **John 16:12-15**

'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

**Readings for 23 June, Trinity 1, are:  
Isaiah 65:1-9; Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39**

### **Humanity's depths and heights** *by Rodney Nicholson*

Two women travelling upstairs on a London night bus a fortnight ago were attacked by youths who realised they were a same-sex couple. The youths performed lewd gestures in front of the women then, after failing to get them to kiss, physically attacked them, breaking one woman's nose. One of the pair, Melania Geymonat, originally from Uruguay, was a doctor, though currently working as a flight attendant for Ryanair.

The police arrested four young men aged between 15 and 18, detaining a 16-year-old on a charge of robbery and grievous bodily harm. Widespread condemnation followed when the couple posted their bloodied faces on Facebook. Without the pictures, they said, they doubted whether the attack would have created much interest, since attacks on same-sex couples are common. The Metropolitan Police say that reported homophobic hate crimes across London have increased from 1,488 in 2014 to 2,308 in 2018. Prime Minister Theresa May expressed her outrage over the attack.

One is inclined to call the boys ignorant, crude, cowardly and useless compared to the women who no doubt were intelligent, cultured and generally much better members of society. No doubt, however, the youths came from prejudiced, inadequate homes and so are as much in need of the gospel of love as anyone else. If it were possible, I would like to them to be involved in restorative justice, which might include education in how people are made differently, as well as doing voluntary work for an LGTB centre.

The sad side of humanity's story tells of the cruelty which people have suffered because they were illegitimate or black or left-handed or female or gay or Jewish or a single parent or born with physical or mental difficulties. Yet God has not abandoned the persecuted or the persecutors, in spite of the latter getting things so dreadfully wrong. He loves indiscriminately and longs for the sinner to be different. Through Christ he entered personally into the chain of evil, showing how, through faith in him, even those who act disgustingly can be redeemed and changed. The Holy Spirit of Pentecost is as active now as ever.

And finally, Bradford is naming some streets after women who campaigned for justice; such as Julia Varley, 1871-1952, who became a union secretary at 15, then travelled the country during World War 1 to ensure that women doing men's jobs got fair pay and conditions; and Florence White, 1886-1961, who formed the National Spinsters' Association, which eventually achieved pensions for all women over 60. Good news.

**Date for your Diary: Saturday 27 July:** Celebration of Pocklington's 10 years as a **Fairtrade** town, 6.30 – 9pm at the Pocklington Christian Fellowship church: speaker, short film, two-course meal with glass of wine, stall: tickets £5 will be available from church office.