

The Music Report from Marian MUSIC AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH 2025

We have been blessed to have plenty of music in our lives at HTC during this year. We are lucky that as well as world class acoustics we have an excellent organ and several people to play it.

I should first of all thank Gill who has single handedly kept the music going at the church for many years and who continues to play a significant role and to come up with successful ideas such as her “Songs of Praise” services where members of the congregation have been invited to choose a favourite hymn and briefly explain what it means to them – feedback from the congregation has been highly positive and we hope that Gill will be able to make this a more regular feature of our worship, maybe on a monthly basis, in the coming year.

At the same time you will all be aware that we have been gradually building up a choir since summer 2024. Starting with 5 people leading the hymn singing with Gill, we have expanded to the point where we can now lead the congregational singing of Gloria, Doxology, Sanctus and Agnus, and provide a period for contemplation after Communion as we sing a variety of different anthems. We did our first full choral service for Advent 2024, and then full 9 Lessons and Carols and Epiphany services, carrying on through to Easter and eventually Pentecost before taking a break. We are repeating the same schedule this year. The response from the congregation, again, has been highly positive – to the extent that more than one person has told us that they often start singing the hymns but end up just listening to the choir harmonies instead!

This has not been easy, and we are extremely grateful to Maureen Maughan for stepping in to share the load with Gill. Maureen is an organist herself in her parish in Enniscone, near Sligo, in Ireland and has worked extremely hard, practising up to 3 hours daily, to ensure that she can support the choir – we thank her deeply for her commitment, as we do the choir themselves who give up their Thursday evenings and Saturday afternoons before the service to ensure that everything goes as it should do – it may appear on the surface to run like clockwork, but I am reminded of the image of the duck serenely gliding across the water while below the water it is paddling like crazy.

We have plenty more planned and we hope that we will continue to add to your enjoyment of the services – watch this space, and we look forward to hearing you joining in with us as we continue to worship at HTC.