

Services held every
Sunday morning
10:30 am

Volume 21 Issue 6

July & August 2025

Next issue: First Sunday September 2025

Chaplaincy
Information

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St Mary's Magazine



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The Anglican Chaplaincy of Twente

DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



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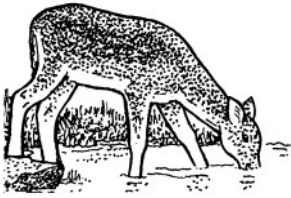
Louw Talstra

Joyce Wigboldus

Jan de Beij

Karel Sloomstra





July & August 2025

The Chaplain Writes

Dear Saints,

Greetings!

Most of you are aware that I attended a conference in June, organised by and for the clergywomen of the Diocese in Europe. Near the end of the meeting, we celebrated the

30th Anniversary of women's ordination in a worship service.

The worship service was led by Bishop Jo Bailey Wells, the Deputy Secretary General of the Anglican Communion, who also gave theological input to the conference. The preacher at the worship service was Bishop Alison White, one of the honorary assistant bishops in our Diocese. Our Suffragan Bishop Andrew Norman attended part of the conference. He also delivered a message from our Diocesan Bishop, Robert Innes, during the 30th Anniversary Celebration worship service.

Below is the text of the document that came out of the conference.

Diocese in Europe 2025 Conference for Women Clergy: For such a time as this

This document draws together the main threads of the discussion during the Madrid Conference held on 17-19 June 2025. It includes a series of questions raised by delegates in response to +Andrew's invitation to the women clergy of the Diocese.

The conference theme was "For such a time as this: finding our voice in Europe today."

We don't need to find our voice. It is not lost.

We know where it is.

It is within us.

It is our instrument by which we are channels of God's love and grace, and ambassadors of the gospel of reconciliation which has been entrusted to us.

Our voices are speaking.

We have come a long way in 30 years.

Every woman here has found her voice and is using it.

We are Esthers. We are Shiphrahs and Puahs, Deborahs and Ruths. We are Phoebes, Priscas, Marys of Bethany and Mary Magdalenes. We nurture, and we resist. We speak truth to power.

We inhabit the authority that has been given to us, not through a prism of dominance, but by seeking to follow the example and grow in the character of the One who came not to be served but to serve, and who gave his life as a ransom for many. We pray that in all things, we may have

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Church Notices that didn't quite 'make it'...

The preacher for Sunday next will be found hanging on the notice board in the porch.

Churchyard maintenance is becoming increasingly difficult, so it will be appreciated if parishioners cut the grass around their own graves.

Baptism

The vicar announced that an additional font would soon be placed in the church, so that babies could be baptised at both ends.

Vote carried

The vicar was ill in hospital and so the churchwarden went to visit. Trying to cheer him up, the churchwarden said: "We missed you at PCC last night. We even put forward a resolution to wish you a speedy recovery. It was passed by 14 votes to 12."

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Forthcoming News

Monday 7 July 2025 Kerkasiel Service in Kampen

On Monday, 7 July, our chaplain has booked another two-hour slot (18:00-20:00) in the 24/7 continuous service at Kerkasiel Kampen. This is a service which started on 21 November 2024 and continues day and night to address the plight of "gewortelde asielkinderen en hun ouders" in the Netherlands. The slots throughout the days and nights are filled by different Christian churches. During the two-hour slot booked for Monday, 7 July, starting at 18:00, there will be an Eucharist, with many Anglican hymns, at which the celebrant will be the Revd Jacqueline Williams. All are welcome. The address is **Open Hof Kampen, Lelystraat 49, 8265 BB Kampen**.

Baptisms

On Saturday, 25 July, the baptisms of Liam and Ethan will take place in the chapel.

Wedding

On Friday, 22 August 2025, at 10:30, the wedding of Ruben and Maria will take place in the chapel. Attached is the invitation to everyone. Maria and Ruben have put an RSVP sheet on the hut notice board where people can write their names if they plan to attend the wedding. Maria and Ruben would greatly appreciate it if people could RSVP by adding their names to the list no later than two weeks before the wedding, so they can ensure there is plenty of food for everyone.

Summer Teas

The Summer Teas will be held on Sunday afternoons from 6 July to 17 August, 2025. There is a list in the Hut where you can sign up for baking and helping. A copy of the flyer for the Summer Teas is attached. Please share it with your friends and family.

Castle Fair

The Castle Fair will be held on Saturday, 13 September 2025. There is a list in the Hut to sign up for baking and for helping.

Prayer for peace in the world

Please continue to pray for peace in the world.

Prayer for the charities that we support.

Please continue to pray for the charities we support: "Our Daily Bread" in Ukraine, "Young Achievers" in Namibia, and the food bank in Goor. Please also continue to bring non-perishable food items for the food bank collection in church.

Our Daily Bread

Our Daily Bread have the following prayer request this week: *Please pray for our partner, Oleg Usatiuk, in Kyiv,*

who serves as a voluntary military chaplain. He is currently part of a team on the frontlines, supporting soldiers. Pray for the team's safety and for their meetings with soldiers. These men and women often struggle with guilt concerning fallen comrades or the enemy soldiers they've killed. Many soldiers think seriously about life and death, and they value the presence of chaplains like Oleg, who help them work through the questions and issues they face.

Ordinations in the Diocese in Europe

During the weekends of 28/29 June and 5/6 July, there are several ordinations in the Diocese of Europe. Details are posted on the Diocesan website: Cause for celebration: Diocese in Europe Ordinations 2025 | Diocese in Europe.

This morning, at Holy Trinity Brussels, seven people were ordained (six as deacons and one as a priest) by Bishop Robert. On 6 July 2025 at 16:00, the Revd Angela Berben, who is now a deacon, will be ordained a Priest at the Anglican Church in Zwolle. The presiding bishop is the Rt. Revd Trevor Willmott, who is an Honorary Assistant Bishop in the Diocese in Europe. Please remember all those being ordained in your prayers.

Magazine Payments

St. Mary's Magazine plays a valuable role in helping to keep the congregation informed on what is going on in their church and the chapel community. If you wish to receive a printed copy of the magazine, issued ten times a year, an annual donation of €15 will help to cover printing costs. If you cannot pick up your copy in the chapel and want to have it posted to you, we need to ask for an additional donation of €20 to cover postage.

Payments Due

With the start of the new year the call has to go out again for those people who receive a paper copy, to make their annual donation. During 2020, Lub Gringhuis took over the job of arranging the printing. With some skilful home printing and costing the magazine for the covered its costs. With Lub's skilled management and your prompt donations, the magazine will survive.

Intercessions

If you wish to have someone included in the intercessions, or who is in need of a pastoral visit, please contact one of the Churchwardens or the Chaplain, before the Service. Alternatively, if you want to have someone included in the intercessions you could contact the Intercessor via the Prayer Request Tool on the Chapel Website. The Chaplain, the Wardens and the Intercessor will simultaneously receive your message via this tool. The link below will take you directly to the Prayer Request.

<http://anglicanchurchtwent.com/home/service%20%26%20readings/prayers%20requests.html>

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Getting ready

Two children watched their grandmother reading her Bible.

"Why does she do that?" whispered one. "I expect she's studying for her final exams," came the reply.

Life choice

A small boy returned from Sunday School in tears. When questioned by his mother for the reason of his distress, he gulped: "Jesus wants me for a sunbeam, but I want to be an engine driver."

It's cool

I was at summer scout camp where the final service was to be taken by a bishop. It was a very hot, humid day and the clergy from local churches were slowly melting in their various heavy robes. Finally, one snapped: "When is that flipping bishop going to turn up?"

Whereupon a man close by, dressed in Scouts shirt, tie and short trousers, said mildly: "I'm already here."

No worries

A 102-year-old lady was asked if she had any worries about the future.

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She replied: "Not since I got my eldest son into an old people's home."

Vatican

Once asked how many people worked in the Vatican, Pope John XXIII replied: "Oh, about half."

Open wide

A lady was very nervous about her appointment at the dentist. She sought courage from her Bible.

The verse her finger landed on was Psalm 81:10: 'Open thy mouth wide and I will fill it.'

What exactly is 'a lie'?

A little boy was asked in a school exam to explain what 'lying' is. He wrote: "A lie is an abomination unto the Lord, but a very present help in trouble."

Come in

The choir was practising the anthem. The choirmaster said to the trebles: "Now don't forget, when the tenors reach 'The Gates of Hell', you come in."

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On why people complain to the vicar - and how to ignore them

From The Rectory, St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

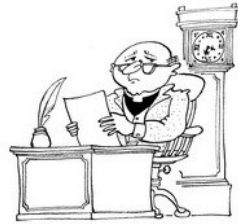
So, you have received your first letter of complaint. I am not wholly unsympathetic with your

complaint, as attempting to marry the bride to the best man would have created havoc with the seating arrangements at the reception. However, you must learn that receiving letters of complaint is an integral part of the ordained ministry. After 50 years of parish life, the number of such letters I have received are now held in bound volumes.

The anonymous ones you will receive, invariably written in green ink on lined notepaper, can be safely consigned to your wastepaper basket, along with all mail, from whatever source, labelled 'Urgent'. You will receive letters complaining that you did not pray for someone who was in hospital, regardless of the fact that you knew nothing of it. Probably by the next post, you will receive a letter complaining that you did pray for someone in hospital - when they had wanted to keep their cosmetic surgery secret.

Those who regard themselves as guardians of doctrinal purity will write complaining of the heresies contained in the previous Sunday's sermon. These can be filed with those letters that complain that your sermons are too short, along with those who complain that they are too long. The hourly striking of the church clock is a perennial favourite for complaints. I usually reply by saying that we are currently exploring the possibility of getting it to strike the quarters too.

Letters of complaint will arrive in November, complaining that the church is too cold, so making prayer impossible. Others will drop on the doormat in April saying that it is too hot, so making prayer impossible. In Spring, some will write that the churchyard should be mown more often, while others will complain that it is mown too often and ruins it as a habitat for wildlife. The annual Summer 'Procession of Witness' generates complaints that the brass band ruined the slumbers of parishioners having a Sunday lie-in. Then come Harvest, there will be the letters complaining that they did not receive a Harvest gift, which was particularly unforgivable, as their grandmother had once sung in the choir. Thus, the annual round is accompanied by reams of notepaper. The only letter of complaint I have really treasured came from the bishop, rebuking me for never having attended any meeting when he was present. I have had it framed and hung on the study wall.



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Your loving uncle,
Eustace

Keeping Calm in the Storm

One of the most famous stories about Jesus is the calming of the storm (Luke 8:22-25). Of course, anyone could say that the wind stopped suddenly of its own accord, but the disciples were not fooled. They had seen a number of these 'coincidences' in Jesus' ministry, and they weren't about to ignore this one. Jesus had calmed the waves with only His words. Wasn't this an act of God? Who else could be in complete control of creation?

Jesus dealt graciously with the very pressing and practical issue of the raging storm before He began teaching, asking His followers, "Where is your faith?" It's not surprising that they were scared, given the circumstances, but clearly Jesus expected better of them. He had already been teaching them for some time and clearly knew they were ready to trust Him.

In similar circumstances, Christians often do several things in quick succession. We start by panicking and being afraid. After a while, we may recall what we know about God's character and pray for help, trusting that whatever happens, He will help us to handle it. Most often, we don't experience the storm-calming effect when we ask for it, but battling on with faith and God's help is much easier than trying to keep going in a state of panic.

'Peace' in this kind of situation is a very active holding on to what we know about God. The difference between trusting and not trusting can be like night and day in terms of stress levels. I have found that it can make the difference between unmanageable stress and something that stretches me and teaches me something new.

Knowing some science can help us to trust God. A Being who created the entire universe, sustaining the wonderfully creative processes that produced diverse life on Earth, must be both extremely powerful and extremely wise. The God who can both calm the waves and walk on them must be in complete control of the things He made. When this knowledge goes hand in hand with experience of God's intimate love for us and care for us in every situation that we find ourselves in, I am reassured that He's got things in hand.

I will always need help from others to pray faithfully in stormy situations. Still, hopefully I've seen enough now not to panic for too long. Time (and my closest friends) will tell!
©Parish Pump

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Preaching hazards
Showing your new parish that you are a forceful preacher may not always be a good idea, as the Revd Sydney Smith found out when he first arrived at All Saints Church in Foston in 1806.

"When I began to thump the pulpit cushion on my first coming to Foston, the accumulated dust of 150 years made such a cloud that for some minutes I lost sight of the congregation."

Pray with Grannie
A small boy went to church with his grandmother and joined her when she quietly slipped off the pew to kneel and pray. He even copied her example of burying her face in her hands. But after a few seconds, his curiosity got the better of him. "Who are we hiding from, Grannie?"

God's Plan for Ageing?
Most senior citizens don't get enough exercise. In His wisdom, God decreed that senior citizens become forgetful so they would have to search for their

Forthcoming Services

If you are unable to come to church on the day that you are on duty, please swop with someone else and let the wardens know

10:30 Eucharist	16:00 Evensong
July 6 2025	Trinity 3
Celebrant and Preacher	Revd. Jacqueline Williams
Duty Warden Jeanet Luiten	Intercessor: Elizabeth v. d. Heide
Sidesperson/Reader	Readings
Jan de Beij	2 Kings 5. 1-14 Psalm 30
Ilonka de Beij	Galatians 6[1-6] 7-16
Gospel	Luke 1-11, 16-20

10.30 Eucharist	16:00 Evensong
July 13 2025	Trinity 4
Celebrant and Preacher	Revd. Jacqueline Williams
Duty Warden Jeanet Luiten	Intercessor: Jeanet Luiten
Sidesperson/Reader	Readings
Erica Bonting	Amos 7. 7-end Psalm 82
Nicolette Christiaanse	Colossians 1. 1-14
Gospel	Luke 10, 24-37

10:30 Eucharist	16:00 Evensong
July 20 2025	Trinity 5
Celebrant and Preacher	Revd. Jacqueline Williams
Duty Warden: Jeanet Luiten	Intercessor Lea Meijnen
Sidesperson/Reader	Readings
Elizabeth v. d. Heide	Amos 8. 1-12 Psalm 52
Rita Kizito	Colossians 1. 2 15- 28
Gospel	John 6, 1 -21

10:30 Eucharist	16:00 Evensong
July 27 2025	Trinity 6
Celebrant Rev. Jacqueline Williams	Preacher Ms Simone Yallop
Duty Warden Jeanet Luiten	Intercessor: Joyce Wigboldus
Sidesperson/Reader Lea Meijnen	Readings Hosea 1. 2-10 Psalm 85. 1-7
Jaccolien Molenaar	Colossians 2. 6 -15
Gospel	Luke 11. 1-13

10:30 Eucharist	16:00 Evensong
August 3 2025	Trinity 7
Celebrant and Preacher	Rev. Jacqueline Williams
Duty Warden Jeanet Luiten	Intercessor: Simone Yallop
Sidesperson/Reader Erick Postma	Readings Hosea 11. 1-11 Psalm 107. 1-9
Petrick Saridjan	Colossians 3. 1-11
Gospel	Luke 12, 13 -21

10:30 Eucharist	16:00 Evensong
August 10 2024	Trinity 8
Celebrant and Preacher	Rev. Jacqueline Williams
Duty Warden Jeanet Luiten	Intercessor: Elizabeth v. d. Heide
Sidesperson/Reader Irene Snijders	Readings Isaiah 1. 1, 10-20 Psalm 50. 1-8, 23-end
Louw Talstra	Hebrews 11. 1-3, 8 -16
Gospel	Luke . 12 -32-40

August 18 2024

10:30 Eucharist

Trinity 12

Celebrant and Preacher

Revd. Jacqueline Williams

Duty Warden

Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

Jeanet Luiten

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Eliza Hannan

1 Kings 2.1-0-12

Psalm 111

Louw Talstra

Ephesians 5. 15-20

Gospel

John 6. 51-58

August 25 2024

10:30 Eucharist

Trinity 13

Celebrant and Preacher

Revd. Jacqueline Williams

Duty Warden

Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

Joyce Wigboldus

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Jaccolien Molenaar

1 Kings 8. 22 -30, 3. 3 -34

Psalm 84

Anne Powell

Ephesians 6. 10 - 20

Gospel

John 6. 56 - 69

September 1 2024

10:30 Eucharist

Trinity 14

Celebrant and Preacher

Revd. Jacqueline Williams

Duty Warden

Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

Jeanet Luiten

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Erica Bonting

Song of Solomon 2. 8 -13

Psalm 45. 1-2, 6 -9

Joyce Wigboldus

James 1, 17 -end

Gospel

Mark 7, 1-8, 14 -15, 21 - 23

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the mind of Christ, who, being in very nature God, did not see equality with God as something to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant.

For such a time as this, in Europe today, we are here to preach and embody the good news of Isaiah 56. We cast God's vision of justice. We proclaim God's recognition and reward of the foreigner and the outcast. We recognise, in ourselves and therefore in all others, the inherent dignity and worth that each person carries, as an image-bearer of the divine and a temple of the Holy Spirit. As Christ's disciples, prophets and priests, we continue his ministry, in the power of his Spirit, to preach good news to the poor, freedom to the oppressed, liberty to the captives and the year of the Lord's favour.

In a generation whose new hunger and new thirst are palpable and evident, we offer spiritual truth. In a world which is shaken and fearful, we bring stability. We are in a Europe and a world where the fear of losing privilege and accepting a smaller relative size of the pie leads to anxiety, populism and extremism. We witness and name the assaults on democracy, truth, justice and even national and bodily integrity. We speak against the recently stirred headwinds of misogyny, racism, ableism and homophobia, the failure to steward God's creation and the forgetting of the climate crisis.

As Christ's disciples, prophets, and priests, we speak and strive to live out our knowledge of the love of God, revealed in the face of Christ Jesus our Lord — a perfect love that casts out fear. We call the Church to listen. We call on those who manage the processes for mutual listening to open the channels, so that the reach of our voices may be amplified. Not in another 30 years' time.

For we speak for such a time as this. We speak for now.

Questions

1. *As a new Bishop, you see, of course, that the stipendiary episcopacy in the Diocese models white male privilege. Given the optics of that, but not only the optics, could you give us an insight into your*

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glasses, keys, and other things, thus encouraging them to walk more. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God saw there was another need. In His wisdom, He made senior citizens lose coordination so they would drop things requiring them to bend, reach and stretch. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God considered the function of bladders and decided senior citizens would have additional calls of nature requiring more trips to the bathroom, thus providing more exercise. God looked down and saw that it was good.

So if you find, as you age, you are getting up and down more, remember it's God's will. It is all in your best interest, even though you mutter under your breath.

Superhero?

I have just seen a man running along the street wearing a cape.

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"Are you a Superhero?" I asked.

"No. I haven't paid for my haircut!" he replied.

Piece of Rope

The other day I was walking along pulling a piece of rope behind me.

A chap asked me why I was pulling along a piece of rope so I told him, "You try pushing it!"

Did I mention?

A few weeks ago, I golfed with my son, who is a very dedicated golfer, and I certainly am not. We played a course that I have played occasionally throughout my life.

At one hole, we faced a tree that was ominously standing between the ball and the hole.

I said: You know, son, when I was your age, I hit the ball right over that tree."

Taking that challenge, he sighted the shot and busted the ball high, very high, but it smacked the tree right in the

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A Voyage through ETOTHA

About two weeks ago, I was in the Hut, and I saw a pile of books lying on the table. Next to which, stood Ferdinand van Dijk, who told us, with a very proud grin on his face, that his wife Pandu had written this book, and a limited amount was available. If you paid him 10 euros, you could buy a copy. I did not understand very well what he was telling me about the contents of the book, but he made me curious.

In Namibia, the book was very well received. I was curious, so I bought the book. At home, I laid it on the coffee table and looked at it, but did not read it. But a few days later, I looked in it, became curious and started to read.

It was a joyful encounter with a world I knew little about. The story is about a small group of young people embarking on a trip with a guide through one of Namibia's most beautiful Nature parks. Not only the story is about the journey, but woven in its chapters I learned about the life, the habits and also dangers of the wild animals, the beauty of the country, the history of Namibia, well, the whole story turned out to get me in its grip: I could barely stop reading and forgot to eat, sleep or do whatever I do during the day.

Did you know that our church here has been financially supporting the work among young people in Namibia for 10 years? This effort aims to help them understand the history of their country and find their place in the South African world, in connection with the rest of the world.

I highly recommend buying and reading this book. You will learn a great deal about Namibia and, at the same time, have an enjoyable experience with the people featured in this little book.

By purchasing this book, you support the work in Namibia and gain a deeper understanding of its history and its current place in the world.

©Erica Bonting- Schotman
[Editor's Note: For readers who have not had the pleasure of meeting Pandu at St Mary's Chapel, Erica is writing about the author, Dr Panduleni Hailong van Dijk. Pandu, who besides being the most remarkable person you could hope to meet, is also the co-author of the book *Small Steps*.]



Julian's Cat

Earlier this year, I had the privilege of helping to organise and lead an online retreat in daily life on the theme of Julian of Norwich. Many of you will know that I come from Norwich and am very interested in the fourteenth-century mystic who was an anchoress at St. Julian's Church in Norwich. An anchoress was a person called to a life of prayer and contemplation, living in a cell attached to a church. Julian took her name from the church. Her cell had three windows. One window opened into the church, allowing her to hear Mass and receive the sacrament. Another window allowed her to communicate with her maid, through which she could obtain food. The third window opened to the outside, where she could counsel those who came seeking her advice and spiritual help.

There were many anchoresses in those days, but none so well known to us today as Julian of Norwich. This is due to her writings, which remained hidden for many years, but have only become widely known and loved in the last 50 years or so. At the age of thirty and a half, on 8th May 1373, Julian became very ill and almost died. During her sickness, Julian received a series of sixteen visions of the Passion of Christ and the love of God. When she recovered, Julian wrote down these "showings" as she called them. This first version, known as the "short text", was relatively brief. Julian spent the next twenty years contemplating the things she had been shown and taught about God's love. This resulted in the writing of a complete account of all she had learned in the "long text" of the *Revelations of Divine Love*.

Julian had the remarkable understanding that God is only love. Julian of Norwich is said to be the first woman to write in the English language. Many of the things she wrote, about God being a God of love rather than wrath, were not in line with the teachings of the Church in her time. We have Julian's book today only because it had been kept secret for centuries.

Last year at the Archdeaconry Synod in Belgium, I had the opportunity to speak with our new Diocesan Spirituality Advisor, who is an Anglican Benedictine Single Consecrated Sister. When she took her vows, she was given the religious name Sister Julian, after Julian of Norwich. I explained that I was born only three kilometres from the cell of Julian of Norwich and told her of the impact Julian's writings had on my understanding of the Christian message and of the unconditional love of God. As you can imagine, it was a special conversation, and it led to Sister Julian inviting me to help her organise and lead a retreat on Julian of Norwich.

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trunk, and it fell miserably to the ground.

I then said, 'Of course, son, when I was your age, that tree was only three feet tall.'

That is why

The typical modern mind fears pain more than sin.

(That is why modern martyrs and heroes are few.)

Modern worries!

Overheard in the consistory: "My sermon is good, but is it retweetable good?"

One Door Closes.....

When one door closes, another door opens... I think I need a new car!

Bag for Life

Why is it that supermarkets charge the same for a Bag for Life irrespective of how old you are when you buy it?

Have A Nice Day

Why does saying "Have a nice day" sound friendly, but "Enjoy your next 24 hours" sound threatening?

Wrong Answer

My wife asked me what would stop the stairs from creaking...

Apparently, 'Slimming World' was not the right answer!

Funeral

It was the funeral of the inventor of the dishwasher today.

The coffin was lowered into the ground only to be taken out by his wife and put back in properly.

(Editor's Note: In fact the dishwasher was invented by a woman)

Graveyard

Humour

Two men are walking through a graveyard when they come across a headstone with the inscription "Here lies a politician and an honest man".

"Good heavens", says one of them, "I wonder how they managed to get two people into that small grave?"

Insomnia

As they were leaving church one Sunday, a man confided to his friend that he was suffering from insomnia.

The friend replied that he had no trouble at all falling asleep.

"Really", the first man said, "Do you count sheep?"

"No", was the reply, "I talk to the Shepherd".

We had several meetings beforehand to plan the retreat. Sister Julian prepared a flyer and poster to advertise the event. It included a picture of Julian of Norwich with her cat. I was keen to find out whether there were any copyright restrictions on the image before we sent it out to people in the Diocese in Europe. I found the picture on the internet, but the person who posted it noted that they did not know where it came from. I looked further and discovered that the view of Julian and her cat was a cutout from a larger picture. I found it on a website called "paws4prayer" (some of you will appreciate the pun).

On that site, the artist who painted it had left a message saying she had created it for a colleague who had introduced her to Lady Julian. I then looked further and found the website of the artist Virginia Wieringa. I used her contact page to explain about our retreat and express our enthusiasm for using her painting. I received a reply from Virginia Wieringa in the USA, who has Dutch ancestors, saying she would love for us to use it.

The picture of Julian and her cat got me wondering about why Julian is often depicted with a cat. It seems that it is generally believed that, although not mentioned in her writings, Julian did have a cat. There is a stained glass window in Norwich Cathedral that shows Julian of Norwich with her book *Revelations of Divine Love*. At her feet is a cat that looks right out at us, as cats do. I discovered a book, written by Mary E. Little, called *Julian's Cat*. It is a delightful, imaginary, yet extremely well-researched story about how Julian came to have a cat. It explains that the *Ancren Riwe*, also known as the *Ancrene Wisse*, an early Middle English document that governed the rule of life for anchoresses, does not permit them to keep any animals, but they may have a cat.

The retreat, during the week of Ash Wednesday, went well. About twenty people joined from all over the diocese. Positive responses were received from participants who found it 'a good and wholesome time of reflection' and 'an enriching start to Lent'. It helped me to dig deeper into Julian's *Revelations of Divine Love*. During my research, I was impressed by a remark made in a talk by Shelia Upjohn, on the 650th anniversary of Julian of Norwich in 2023, who said: "I've been reading Julian of Norwich for 50 years now. It has taken that length of time for me to discover that all the time I thought that I was in search of Julian of Norwich, but she has been in search of me, and of all her fellow Christians. It is a delight to look round now to see how many of us she had found."

Julian's most well-known saying is about "All Shall be Well". She also wrote, in this translation from chapter 86 by Shelia Upjohn: "And I saw full surely that before ever God made us, He loved us. And this love was never quenched, and

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never shall be. And in this love, He has done all his works. And in this love, He has made all things profitable to us. And in this love, our life is everlasting. In our making, we had a beginning, but the love in which He made us was in Him from the beginning. In which love we have our beginning. And all this shall we see in God without end."

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thinking at this stage on how you will exercise and share the power and privilege you have?

2. *Do you identify barriers to conducting a gender equality audit in the Diocese to gather data in order to identify and implement solutions to real-life problems? One prerequisite for such an audit is genuine leadership interest.*

3. *We are grateful to have experienced deep communion together this week, coming from different cultures and church traditions. We have a longing for deep communion centred on Christ, which is not qualified or sold short. How can we bring this longing to our Diocese and to the wider Church?*

4. *How do we move toward radical unity in a church where the five guiding principles enshrine a bifurcated episcopacy, a functional schism?*

5. *The 19 delegates in this room represent over 300 years of ordained experience in the Diocese (or more than 400 years of ministerial experience if years prior to barriers to ordination being removed are accounted for.) How can this rich and diverse experience be used to inform and shape the culture of the Diocese in Europe?*

6. *When could the Diocese start taking steps to get more women into decision-making roles in this Diocese and the wider Church of England, similar to those taken in other public and private sector organisations?*

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You need to be brave to go to church.

A bishop was astonished to hear little Mary say that a person must be very brave to go to church these days.

"Why do you say that?" asked the bishop.

"Well, I heard my uncle tell my aunt last Sunday that there was a canon in the pulpit, that the choir murdered the opening hymn and that the organist drowned the choir"

Two Nuns from Dublin

Two nuns from Dublin who were changing trains in Belfast said to the ticket collector,

"We are Sisters of John the Baptist".

The ticket collector, who was a fervent Protestant, said, "Well, that's a lie - John the Baptist was an only child.

A Child's Prayer

Johnny had been misbehaving and was sent to his room. After a while, he came downstairs and informed his mother that he had thought it over and had then said a prayer.

"Good," said his pleased mother, "If you ask God to help you not to misbehave, He will always help you."

"Oh, I didn't ask him to help me not misbehave," said Johnny. I asked Him to help you put up with me!



The 6th August 2025 The 80th Anniversary of the Atomic bomb that hit Hiroshima

Eighty years ago, on 6th August 1945, the US Army Air Forces dropped an atomic bomb on the city of Hiroshima in Japan. The centre of the city was totally destroyed, and about 80,000 people were killed immediately. A further 60,000 died by the end of the year, from injury or radiation. Hiroshima was the first city in history to be hit by a nuclear weapon.

Three days later, on 9th August, the USAAF dropped another atomic bomb on Nagasaki, killing 40,000 immediately and more than another 33,000 by the end of the year. It was (so far) the last nuclear bomb ever dropped.

The world's first nuclear explosion - on land - had happened weeks earlier, on 16th July, 1945, in New Mexico. This was known as the Trinity test, part of the Manhattan Project. It was called Trinity by Project scientific leader J Robert Oppenheimer, as a reflection of the Christian reality - death and resurrection - presented in the poetry of John Donne.

The Hiroshima bomb, called Little Boy, was dropped by the bomber Enola Gay and exploded about 1,800 feet above the city. Of those who died, many were vapourised by the explosion; others perished from burns and the effects of radiation. The second bomb, Fat Man, was even more powerful, but caused less destruction because of the terrain. Heavy cloud cover over Kokura, the original target, saved that city from the bomb.

The final Japanese surrender was signed on 2nd September. Because of the terrifying devastation caused by the bombs, there was much criticism of their use. But Lieutenant General Leslie Groves, the military director of the Manhattan Project, argued that they ended the war, and "while they brought death and destruction on a horrifying scale, they averted even greater losses - American, English, and Japanese".

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7. How can we offer ways for more women in the east of the Diocese to build on the existing experience of the women in this Diocese?

8. Calling on the generosity of the Church and the hospitality of God spoken through Isaiah 56, can we invite the Church to recognise the desire for and then to engage in a scientific long-term research and practice of changing the language of how we speak about God?

9. What would you like to learn from the female clergy of this Diocese?

I pray this conference be an inspiration to the Diocese and to the community of and around St Mary's Twente, both now and in the years to come.

Yours in Christ as always,

Jacque



The clergy at the 30th Anniversary of women ordination celebration At the back, Bishop Alison, Bishop Jo and Bishop Norman

With our world leaders in mind, some notable quotes:

Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power.

Abraham Lincoln

Self-praise is no recommendation.
Anon

Power intoxicates men.
- James F Byrnes

Only those who do not desire power are fit to hold it.
- Plato

Greatness lies not in being strong, but in the right use of strength.
- Anon.

Never expect to govern others until you have learned to govern yourself.
- Anon

It's dangerous to try and be number one, because it's next to nothing.
- Anon

Truth needs no flowers of speech.
- Alexander Pope

Nothing recedes like success.
- W Winchell

And always remember
Age: the only thing that comes to us without effort.
- Anon

A Boat Beneath a Sunny Sky

*A boat beneath a sunny sky,
Lingering onward dreamily
In an evening of July —*

*Children three that nestle near,
Eager eye and willing ear,
Pleased a simple tale to hear —*

*Long has faded that sunny sky:
Echoes fade and memories die:
Autumn frosts have slain July.*

*Still she haunts me, phantom wise,
Alice moving under skies
Never seen by waking eyes.*

*Children yet, the tale to hear,
Eager eye and willing ear,
Lovingly shall nestle near.*

*In a Wonderland they lie,
Dreaming as the days go by,
Dreaming as the summers die:*

*Ever drifting down the stream —
Lingering in the golden gleam —
Life, what is it but a dream?*

by Lewis Carroll

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Donations and Bequests

The policy of the Anglican Church Twente is to use donations and bequests to help fund significant development projects in the Chaplaincy, whether buildings, equipment, staff, or other major needs. As circumstances change over the years, it may not be possible to fulfil specific donor requests, so church members are encouraged to make donations and leave legacies for the general purposes of the Chaplaincy. The Chaplaincy Council will discuss with donors or their executors the most appropriate use of the gift in the light of current projects and the donor's known areas of interest in the church: for example, children & youth, music, buildings.

Donations or bequests can be paid into the current account of the Anglican Church Twente, ABN AMRO Lochem, IBAN: NL62ABNA0593634012.

Mission Statement

Founded in 1979, the Anglican Church Twente belongs to the Church of England's Diocese in Europe. The Church of England forms a part of the worldwide Anglican Communion of more than 80 million people

The Anglican Church Twente, based at St Mary's Chapel, Weldam provides a Christian ministry in the East Netherlands. Most of the congregation live in the towns and villages of the East Netherlands and across the border in Germany. Some come from further afield.

The Anglican Church Twente holds a service every Sunday at 10:30 am in English. The church offers Holy Communion to all baptized Christians, Sunday School to nurture and educate children in the Christian faith, and a warm welcome to people of all nationalities.

The main aims of the Anglican Church Twente are to:

- † Offer Christian worship by the rites of the Church of England in the English language.
- † Provide pastoral care to all who are in need of such help.
- † Promote a lively fellowship among those who attend the services.
- † Support outreach in Christian ministry wherever there is a need.

Stewardship

We are a self-supporting church and raise all income from our giving and stewardship. As God has blessed us, we thank Him by giving accordingly.

A Prayer for St Mary's

*Almighty and everlasting God
Creator and ruler of all things in heaven and earth,
Hear our prayer for the St Mary's family.
Strengthen our faith,
Fashion our lives according to the example of your Son,
And grant that we may show the power of your love,
To all among whom we live.
Inspire us in our worship and witness,
Grant us all things necessary for our common life,
And bring us all to be of one heart and mind
Within your Holy Church
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Who lives and reigns with you in the Holy Spirit
One God, now and forever,
Amen.*

Views expressed in this magazine are those of authors and contributors and are not necessarily shared by the editor or church leadership.