

Services held every
Sunday morning
10:30 am

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Next issue: April- 2016

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St Mary's Magazine



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The Anglican Chaplaincy of Twente



DIOCESE IN EUROPE
THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND





March
2016

The Chaplain Writes 'Taking the bread'

Taking the bread, is the title of the book we are reading for the Lent Course. It is a story of a woman who was raised as an atheist and on one of her working days (she is a journalist), she happens to walk into this church. She is there just when a Communion service takes place and participates by receiving the bread and the wine. For her it turns out to be a life-changing experience, which she describes in the book very vividly.

Receiving communion IS a life-changing experience, but we may not always be so aware of it, as an atheist and it helps to look through her eyes to remind ourselves once again. Eventually she gets involved in the work of a parish whose methods are quite unorthodox and her idea to have a foodbank once a week, draws people into church, who are visibly the 'needy', demonstrating that we all are the 'needy'.

In the Lent Course, we discuss questions, which help us to be Church together, because we discuss what moves us. Questions arise that we had thought about for a while, but that we never asked and together we are inspired to think about these various items. It brings about why we come together, a group of people from different walks of life, yet who need to survive on the bread that is given to us by Christ.

We are approaching Easter where we will celebrate Maundy Thursday first, a day of celebration in the middle of Lent. The purple is removed for that single day. From purple into white to underline how important it is to commemorate the institution of the Eucharist. The Church used to encourage people, and for a long time even obliged people, to receive communion at least once a year, preferably at Easter.

Jesus urges us with the words: take, eat in remembrance of Me. It is his commandment because through communion he will heal us. It is the bread for sinners, who need healing and who will take Him at his word to be healed!

May we experience and be open to the life-giving bread and wine.

I wish us all a blessed Easter as a life-changing experience.

Alja Tollefsen
Chaplain of St Mary's Twente





Your English Country Fair NEEDS YOU!

The date has been set:

Saturday 10th September 2016

Planning is already underway for the annual Weldam Castle English Country Fair. It is a St. Mary's tradition evidently appreciated and enjoyed by all who attend.

Snoring

A clergyman consulted his doctor about his wife's snoring. 'It has to STOP,' he insisted.

The doctor was intrigued: 'Does it really bother you that much?'

'Well, it's not just me,' explained the minister. 'She is bothering the whole congregation.'

New meanings

Dogma - a puppy's mother
Polygon - a lost parrot

Miscellaneous observations on daily life

~ A bank is a place that will lend you money if you can prove that you don't need it.

~ A healthy adult consumes each year one-and-one-half times his own weight in other people's patience.

~ A pun is the lowest form of humor - unless you thought of it



Yet in order to maintain our happy custom, this charming institution needs more than just attendees to breathe life into the occasion. We need ready, willing and pro-active volunteers to help turn plans into preparations, preparations into actions and actions into yet another successful and enjoyable event!

A Call To (Ch)Arms:

Come on all you clear minded, able bodied members of St. Mary's : this is

your chance to actively re-confirm and demonstrate your commitment to OUR St. Mary's Community; to join together, work together and achieve together.

So don't Delay - Join Today!

Jobs a plenty and ALL help '*gratefully expected*'
(from you, your friends, your neighbours)

Be Prepared! We will be politely soliciting for your help but why not be pro-active and contact Jeannette and/or Joyce direct to proffer your help, or add your name to the Weldam Castle English Country Fair Action List in the hut.

Remember! The community that builds an English Country Fair together....Prays Together.....Stays Together.

©Elisa Hannan

ANNUAL BOOK SALE Sunday, 13 March

It's that time again where we rummage around, or just simply clear out our bookshelves and bring along to THE HUT for our annual Book Sale. All proceeds go to fund our Flower Guild... A fund set up for the benefit of various floral activities and important occasions within the church. We also give cheery bunches for those in need!

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Please bring along any unwanted books, of any language, any subject. We are also looking for CD's, DVD, and magazines.... Place them in boxes under the tables in the Hut.

All items are at a nominal price (cheap!) ... books, DVD's & CD's - 50c Magazines 25c

©Pauline Talstra

Sad News

On Sunday, 28th February, Sheila Sprikkelman passed away peacefully in her sleep. Sheila was one of the long term members of the chaplaincy, who will be fondly remembered by all who knew her. Sheila struggled looking after her husband Jan as he drifted away into Alzheimer. Eventually, she had to say goodbye returning home to Canterbury. Sheila made several trips back to Weldam. Journeys that were increasingly difficult as her health failed. Sheila leaves two sons, Andrew and Philip, as well as many friends at Weldam.

Collection Coins

Collection Coins are being introduced to make sure offertory donations are tax deductible in accordance with current Income Tax Rules. Current rules require claimants to prove they have donated to a church or any other charity during a tax year. Selling Collection Coins with a receipt provides a means to provide this proof.

For the financial year 2016, forecast income from the service collections is €12,000. Without proof of how much has been donated, the potential tax rebate is lost. The following figures illustrate just how much is lost. A 30% rebate on €12,000 would yield a rebate of €4,000 paid to the church, equivalent to about 66% of the 2016 forecasted budget deficit.

Starting on the 6th March and thereof, on the first Sunday of every month, coins with a value of €2, €5, €7.50 and €10, will be sold and receipted by Hans and Fred. If you have any questions, please ask them while you are buying your coins.



Intercessions

If you wish to have someone included in the intercession, please contact the Chaplain or one of the Churchwardens before the Service.

If you know of anyone who is sick or in need of pastoral care, please contact the Chaplain or one of the Churchwardens.

yourself.

~ Based on my calculations, I can retire five years after I die.

~ Birthday cake is the only food you can blow on and spit on and still everybody rushes to get a piece.

~ Coffee: starter fluid for the morning impaired.

~ Hospitality: making your guests feel like they're at home, even if you wish they were.

~ How come, no matter what color bubble bath you use, the bubbles are always white?

~ I recently decided to sell my vacuum cleaner - all it was doing was gathering dust.

A STUPID RIDDLE

Q: How do you open the windows in an orthodox church?

A: Click on the icons.

The 10th

Commandment

A Sunday school class was studying the Ten Commandments. They were ready to discuss the last one.

The teacher asked if anyone could tell her what it was.

Susie raised her hand, stood tall, and quoted, "Thou shall not take the covers off thy neighbor's wife."

Lost in translation

Are you travelling this Easter? Keep an eye out for those delightful translations into English that didn't quite make it...

Danish airline: We take your bags and send them in all directions.

Heathrow: No electric people carrying vehicles past this point.

Japanese taxi: Safety first: please put on your seatbelt. Prepare for accident.

Kenyan maternity ward: No children allowed.

Beijing Barbershop: Haircuts half price today. Only one per customer.

Swedish furrier: Fur coats made for ladies from their own skin.

Little boys prayer

"Dear God, please take care of my daddy and my mommy and my sister and my brother and my doggy and my cat and me. Oh, please take care of yourself, God. If anything happens to you, we're gonna be in a big mess."

Letter from St James the Least of All

Happily, the Church of England still retains some singular parish clergy. Take the parish of St James-the-Least in the rural county of C- for example. Here the elderly Anglo-Catholic vicar, Eustace, continues his correspondence to Darren, his nephew, a low-church curate recently ordained...



On how to run a church council meeting

The Rectory
St. James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

Clearly, the sight of your Vicar running out of the room half way through your last church council meeting, saying he should have stayed as a traffic warden, where he was universally liked, has unnerved you. It would have unnerved me too, since a universally popular traffic warden is an exceptional creature.

But perhaps it is necessary to give you some advice for the day when you do chair your first church council meeting.

1. Consider every agenda issue carefully beforehand and decide what you would like to do. Then, at the meeting, consult widely, listen to every opinion, weigh all the arguments, and then do precisely what you had decided before the meeting ever took place.
2. Never, ever, let council members discuss hymns, which avoids getting blood on the carpets.
3. Arrange the seating in rows, all facing the front, so that everyone has to respond directly to you. The last thing you want is for council members to be able to discuss matters freely with one another.
4. Start smoking a pipe. At those times when you are faced with an issue when you really are unsure of how to respond, taking out your pipe, dismantling it, searching for a pipe cleaner, squinting down the stem to see if it is clean, mopping out the goo in the bowl, searching for your tobacco pouch, filling the pipe, tamping it down, asking if you can borrow matches and attempting to light it

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several times over, will give you more than sufficient time to formulate a reply. Once you have perfected the routine, the silence will have been so protracted, that most of the committee will have long forgotten what the question was anyway.

5. If someone is talking too long, consult your diary, noisily and obsessively, about next month's appointments, or write a note to a committee member who is at the back of the room and get it passed to him. The speaker should soon get the message. These are the simpler techniques of committee management. The advanced procedures must wait until you are strong enough to bear them.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

Editor's Note: PCC Meetings at St Mary's are a lot more amicable. There are vacant seats on the Council this year so if anyone wants to stand for election, please put your name forward. You will do a lot of good and you will probably enjoy yourself.

St David's Day – time for daffodils

1st March is St David's Day, and it's time for the Welsh to wear daffodils or leeks. Shakespeare called this custom 'an honourable tradition begun upon an honourable request' - but nobody knows the reason. Why should anyone have ever 'requested' that the Welsh wear leeks or daffodils to honour their patron saint? It's a mystery!



We do know that David - or Dafydd - of Pembrokeshire was a monk and bishop of the 6th century. In the 12th century he was made patron of Wales, and he has the honour of being the only Welsh saint to be canonised and culted in the Western Church. Tradition has it that he was austere with himself, and generous with others - living on water and vegetables (leeks, perhaps?!) and devoting himself to works of mercy. He was much loved. In art, St David is usually depicted in Episcopal vestments, standing on a mound with a dove at his shoulder, in memory of his share at an important Synod for the Welsh Church, the Synod of Brevi. © Parish Pump

Once Upon a Time

When Window was just a Square hole in a room and Application was something written on a paper
When Keyboard was a piano and Mouse just an animal
When File was important office material and Hard Drive just an uncomfortable road trip
When Cut was done with a knife and Paste with glue
When Web was a spider's home and Virus was flu
When Apple and Blackberry were just fruits....
That's when we had A lot of time for family and friends!

The Baby-Sitter

A young man agreed to baby-sit one night so a single mother could have an evening out. At bedtime he sent the youngsters upstairs to bed and settled down to watch football.

One child kept creeping down the stairs, but the young man kept sending him back to bed.

At 9pm the doorbell

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The Anglican Dictionary

AMEN: The only part of any prayer that everyone knows.

AND IN

CONCLUSION: A required statement midway through the sermon.

BAPTISTRY

WATER: A liquid whose chemical formula is H₂O.

BULLETIN: Parish information, read only during the sermon.

HYMN: A song of praise, usually sung in a key three octaves higher than that of the congregation's range.

JUSTICE: When kids have kids of their own.

MAGI: The most famous trio to attend a baby shower.

MANGER: The Bible's way of showing us that holiday travel has always been rough.

PEW: A medieval torture device still found in Protestant Churches.

PROCESSION: The ceremonial formation at the beginning of

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Archdeaconry Synod Report

The Archdeaconry Synod was held, from 8th to 10th October 2015, in the Old Abbey in Drongen, near Ghent in Belgium. Clergy and representatives from all the chaplaincies in the Archdeaconry of North West Europe, which covers the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg, attended the Synod. Attending for St. Mary's Anglican Church Twente was our Chaplain and myself.

Unfortunately, Joyce was unable to attend this year. There was a full programme. Each day we worshipped together in the lovely chapel at services of Morning Prayer, Holy Communion and Compline. There were also plenty of opportunities for fellowship. Archdeacon Revd Canon Meurig Williams led the Synod.

Forging our Future: European Churches on a Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace

The General Secretary of the Conference of European Churches (CEC), Revd Dr. Guy Liagre, spoke about the history and work of the CEC, which is an ecumenical fellowship of churches. It seeks to renew the spiritual life, to strengthen the common witness and service of the European churches, and to promote the unity of the Church and peace in the world.

Walking together in Faith: a Strategy for the Diocese in Europe

Bishop Robert spoke about a report, which showed that the Church of England is declining in numbers, and the average age of its members is getting older. The Archbishops were determined this should not be left unaddressed and put a programme for growth into place. If the church does nothing, membership of the clergy will fall by 40% in the next ten years. Declining numbers of clergy results in grouping parishes together, which significantly reduces the likelihood of church growth. Bishop Robert said it was his priority to develop a strategy, not imposed from the top, but discerned corporately by the whole body.

Bishop Robert presented the new Diocesan Strategy, which is called 'Walking together in Faith'. The aim is to build a common purpose throughout the diocese:

- (a) knowing ourselves as beloved children of God, saved by Grace, and born again by water and the Spirit
- (b) loving God and loving our neighbours as ourselves
- (c) responding to the Great Commission (Matthew 28) to share the Good News and to make disciples
- (d) gaining a shared sense of direction in the power of the Holy Spirit as we respond to God's leading and grace
- (e) providing a focus for the activities of all of our chaplaincies

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Bishop Robert explained that there are five elements in working towards this strategy:

- (1) Building up the Body of Christ and fostering growth within the Anglican tradition.
- (2) Sharing with other churches in the evangelization of Europe by proclaiming the Good News, valuing and promoting a culture of welcome and hospitality and seeking opportunities for growth
- (3) Striving for the creation of a just society and a sustainable environment
- (4) Working for reconciliation within the church at all levels, among nations, ethnicities and religions
- (5) Resourcing through stewardship of our gifts and talents, and increasing numbers of full-time clergy and candidates for ordained ministry

Bishop Robert explained that many activities had been suggested in the strategies next level of detail. He asked those present to divide into groups for discussion and share the results. Bishop Robert took the results back for further consideration and development of the strategy.

Vocations in the Diocese in Europe

Revd Canon William Gulliford, the Diocesan Director of Ordinands, gave a most interesting and informative talk on the discernment process, training and deployment of those seeking ordination as priests in our diocese.

Mission Working Party

Revd Stephen Murray gave an update on the Mission Working Party, which is active in the areas of Ecumenical Mission and Outreach, Church Planting and Mission Planning, Local Training Provision and Translation of Liturgy. Stephen Murray spoke about the activities of the past 12 months. In November, there was a fresh expression-visioning day, organized by the Flemish Roman Catholics, at which delegates from our chaplaincies took part.

The Mission Working Party was involved in the Church of England Ministry Experience Scheme (CEMES), where Revd Canon Jack McDonald is supervising the theological training of two people currently on this scheme. The Mission Working Party is also looking at how ordination training can take place in our local context. In Leuven, a new team has been formed to continue translating Common Worship into Dutch. The aim is to

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the service, consisting of the pastors and late parishioners looking for seats.

RECESSIONAL

HYMN: The last song on Sunday AM, often sung a little more quietly, since most of the people have already left.

TEN

COMMANDMENTS: The most important Top Ten list

USHERS: The only people in the church who don't know the seating capacity of a pew.

Wish you were Jewish

It was a small town and the Catholic Priest, the Protestant Minister and the Jewish Rabbi were very good friends. Of course, there was a lot of kidding and joking between them all year long.

To their surprise one year, the Priest and the Minister received a Christmas card from the Rabbi. It read:

Roses are reddish,
Violets are bluish
When the Messiah really comes
You'll wish you were Jewish.

Question and Answer

Q. What kind of man was Boaz before he married?

A. Ruthless

Q. What do they call pastors in Germany?

A. German Shepherds.

Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

A. Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.

Q. Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?

A. Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.

Q. What kind of motor vehicles are in the Bible?

A. Jehovah drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden in a Fury. David's Triumph was heard throughout the land. Honda, because the apostles were all in one Accord.

Q. Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

A. Samson. He brought the house down.

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submit the translations to the House of Bishops by next spring.

Revd Canon Jack McDonald has written a book about the Church of England, which has been translated into Dutch. It is a survey of the basics of Anglicanism. The book's expected publication date is March 2016. The Mission Working Party also organized an Archdeaconry Mission Day in November 2015 in Utrecht. The Mission Day gave clergy and laity an opportunity to look at the recent General Synod paper about Growing Churches and what this means for our archdeaconry in the light of the new Diocesan Strategy. (The February issue of St Mary's Magazine carried a report on the Archdeaconry Mission Day.)

Commissioning of the new Area Deans

During the Synod Eucharist, Bishop Robert commissioned Revd Sam Van Leer, as the new Area Dean of the Netherlands, and Revd Stephen Murray as the new Area Dean of Belgium and Luxembourg.

Sharing news from around the Archdeaconry

Revd Robin Voorn, representing the Old Catholic Church, brought greetings to this Synod from Joris Vercammen, Archbishop of Utrecht of the Old Catholic Church in the Netherlands. Revd Canon Andrew Wagstaff spoke about the church of St. Boniface in Antwerp, which is where the mission to North West Europe began, in the 1520s, as a church plant from London. They have a magnificent neo-gothic building and a good size congregation.

Mrs. Ann Turner spoke about how the reduction of state subsidies to churches in Belgium has led to increased giving from the congregation, but there are still concerns for the future. James Roberts and Nathan Joss, who are both in the Church of England Ministry Experience Scheme, spoke about their course. James is working in Ghent with Revd Stephen Murray, and Nathan is working in Brussels with Revd Canon John Wilkinson. They are getting some practical experience in ministry and are doing some theological study. Archbishop Justin Welby is very much behind this scheme, which is intended to raise the number of those going forward for ordination.

Revd Sam Van Leer spoke about his work in Groningen. In 2011, Sam and his family moved to Groningen because of his wife's work as a consultant virologist at the University hospital. Sam was licensed from Holy Trinity Utrecht, to explore a potential church plant in Groningen. In 2012, they started a house church and by 2013, they had two services a month with between 20 and 30

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people. They decided to call themselves GRACE (Groningen Anglican Church). They now meet in the recently refurbished Old Catholic Church, where their numbers have doubled.

Revd Barbara Noordanus, from Eindhoven, spoke about her work with the new congregation in Maastricht, a story of a church that planted itself rather than being planted. It began in 2006 as a regular prayer meeting, which evolved into an Alpha course and a Bible study group. They asked if they could become part of the Anglican Church. Initially, they were looked after by the chaplain at the military base at Brunssum. Their numbers grew, and now they have become a congregation within the Diocese, marked by a service with the Archdeacon in June 2014. Egbert van Groesen and Grace West are both Readers in the Church of England and are employed part time by the Belgian state, and supported by the church, as lay chaplains in the prisons in Antwerp and Brussels. They spoke about their work and the importance of prison ministry.

Luweero

Revd Alja Tollefsen spoke about the Twinning Oversight Group (TOG), which was set up last year to address the recommendations of the report made by Revd Canon Mark Oxbrow on our twinning link with the Diocese of Luweero in Uganda. Alja, who chairs the group, said they have been able to meet in Brussels twice during the past year. They decided this will not be a missionary activity, but there will be mutual involvement where both sides we can learn from each other. A visit to Luweero is planned to establish contacts. Synod members were requested to find out from their chaplaincies what they would like to see happening because of the link.

AGM of the Anglican Council for the Netherlands (ACNL)

Synod concluded with the Annual General Meeting of the Anglican Council for the Netherlands. At the same time, in a different room, Synod members from Belgium held a similar meeting. Revd Sam Van Leer, who has taken over as Area Dean from Revd Canon Mark Collinson, chaired the ACNL meeting. Revd Canon Mark Collinson is now Canon Principle at the School of Mission in the Diocese of Winchester. At the meeting, reports from the National Executive Committee were received and discussed. The Financial Report, including

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Q. What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden?

A. Your mother ate us out of house and home.

Q. Which servant of God was the most flagrant lawbreaker in the Bible?

A. Moses. He broke all 10 commandments at once.

Q. Which area of Palestine was especially wealthy?

A. The area around Jordan. The banks were always overflowing.

Q. Who is the greatest babysitter mentioned in the Bible?

A. David. He rocked Goliath to a very deep sleep.

Q. Which Bible character had no parents?

A. Joshua, son of Nun.

Motivation

A minister in Florida lamented that it was difficult to get his message across to his congregation:

"It's so beautiful here in the winter," he said, "that heaven doesn't interest them."

"And it's so hot here in the summer that hell doesn't scare them."

Forthcoming Services

13th March	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Alja Tollefsen
	Duty Warden	Jeanet Luiten
	Intercessor	Fred Schonewille
Lent 5	Chalice	Caroline Siertsema
	Jeanet Luiten	Isaiah 43. 16 - 21
10:30 am	Dina Boessenkool	Philippians 3. 4b - 14
Sung		
Eucharist	Gospel	John 12. 1 - 8

Forthcoming Services

20th March	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Alja Tollefsen
	Duty Warden	Blair Charles
	Intercessor	Simone Yallop
	Chalice	Count Alfred
	Heleen Rauwerda	Isaiah 50 4 - 9a
	Blair Charles * John Bestman*	Philippians 2 5 - 11 * <i>Readers of the Passion Story</i>
10:30 am		
Sung		
Eucharist	Gospel	Luke 13.31-35

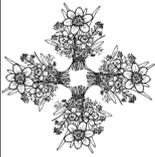
Forthcoming Services

24th March	Celebrant &	Revd. Alja Tollefsen
	Duty Warden	Jeanet Luiten
	Intercessor	Jeanet Luiten
Maundy Thursday	Chalice	Everhard Ottens
+ Washing of the Feet	Victor Pirenne	Exodus 12.1-4, 11-14
	John Bestman	1 Corinthians 11.23-26
20:00	Gospel	John 13. 1-17, 31b-35

Forthcoming Services

25th March	Celebrant &	Revd. Alja Tollefsen
	Duty Warden	Blair Charles
	Intercessor	n/a
Good Friday	Chalice	n/a
	n/a	n/a
20:00 am	n/a	n/a
	n/a	n/a

Forthcoming Services

27th March	Celebrant &	Revd. Alja Tollefsen
	Duty Warden	Jeanet Luiten
Easter Sunday	Intercessor	John Bestman
	Chalice	Jeanet Luiten Simone Yallop
	Brenda Pyle	Acts 10.34-43
10:30 am	Dina Boessenkool	1 Corinthians. 15. 19-26
Vigil + Sung	Gospel	John 20. 1-18

Forthcoming Services

3rd April	Celebrant & Preacher	Simone Yallop
	Duty Warden	Blair Charles
	Intercessor	John Bestman
Easter 2	Chalice	n/a
	Erica Schotman	Acts 5. 27-32
	Patrick Saridjan	Revelations 1. 4-8
10:30 am	Gospel	John 20. 19-end
Morning Prayer		

rang, it was the next-door neighbour, Mrs. Brown, asking whether her son was there. The young man brusquely replied, "No."

Just then a little head appeared over the banister and shouted, "I'm here, Mom, but he won't let me go home!"

In the Bath

Little five year old Johnny was in the bath tub, and his mom was washing his hair. She said to him, "Wow, your hair is growing so fast! You need a haircut again." Little Johnny replied, "Maybe you should stop watering it so much."

Mommy Ate It

For weeks a six-year-old lad kept telling his first-grade teacher about the baby brother or sister that was expected at his house. One day the mother allowed the boy to feel the movements of the unborn child. The six-year old was obviously impressed, but made no comment.

Furthermore, he stopped telling his teacher about the impending event. The teacher finally sat the boy on her lap and said, "Tommy,

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the audited 2014 accounts and the budget for 2016, was also presented.

The Executive Committee is composed of the Area Dean, the Ecumenical Representative, an elected lay representative, an elected clergy representative and up to three co-opted members. Since the previously elected clergy representative is now the Area Dean, Revd Francis Blight was elected to fill this position. The Archdeaconry Synod ended just after 14:30 on Saturday afternoon, giving everyone the opportunity to be able to get home at a reasonable time in the evening. It was once again a very enjoyable and interesting Synod. Further details on any of the above items are available on request.

©Simone Yallop



The Service Rota

The services in St Mary's generally appear to run with seamless precision. The secret is in the willingness of the volunteers to carry out various tasks all under the guidance of the Rota. Our Chaplain prepares the Rota in three monthly blocks. The Wardens, with the Organist, manage those parts relevant to their respective roles. The Rota also appears in the magazine, informing the readership about who is doing what to ensure the appearance of seamless precision is maintained.

And what are the jobs? Well there are the two Readers, one reading from the Old Testament and other one from the New Testament.

Due to the size of the congregation, the readers double up as Sidesperson. (The Oxford Dictionary tells us that a Sidesperson is an assistant to the Church Warden). They greet those coming to the service, hand out the various books, help people to seats if need be and if necessary, relay information to the duty Warden or Chaplain. Then there is the Intercessor, who leads the prayers of Intercession. The Warden and the Chaplain usually need to spend some time before the service, discussing any special prayers asked for with the Intercessor. The remaining position is the Chalice Assistant, who helps the Chaplain at Communion in distributing the wine.

The Rota tells both the Organist and the duty Warden which hymns

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have been selected for the service. This allows the Organist time to familiarise themselves with any music if required. Meanwhile the Warden has to put up the right hymn numbers on the board before the service.

If you want to take on any of the roles on the Rota please ask the Chaplain. Likewise, if you are on the Rota and want to come off, speak to the Chaplain. Please note that because the Rota is prepared in three-month blocks, there is usually a delay in making changes. Please note that as the Chalice Assistant role involves being a part of the most sacred part of the service, being accepted as one usually takes longer.

Finally, if you are on the Rota and for any reason you want to swop your day with somebody else, you are free to do so. However, please include the Chaplain and the two Wardens in any exchange of e-mails, or send an e-mail to them when you have made the arrangements.

On the day you are on the Rota, can you please arrive early? The duty Warden has to make sure the altar is set-up, the candles are lit and then do a head-count, as well as making sure everyone scheduled on the Rota for the service is in place. If you arrive late, this means the Warden has to try and find someone else to act as Sidesperson and read. At short notice this is not always easy and causes considerable disruption.

Easter

The miracle of Easter, so old
yet ever new,
brings its special blessing of
happiness to you.
And as the coming
Springtime
adds new beauty to each
day,
May God look down and
bless you
in a very special way.
Author unknown



whatever has become of that baby brother or sister you were expecting at home?"

Tommy burst into tears and confessed, "I think Mommy ate it!"

Baby Brother

Little Johnny's new baby brother was screaming up a storm. He asked his mom, "Where'd we get him?" His mother replied, "He came from heaven, Johnny." Johnny says, "WOW! I can see why they threw him out!"

In the Fire Station

Little Jimmy's pre-school class went on a field trip to the fire station. The fire-fighter giving the presentation held up a smoke detector and asked the class: "Does anyone know what this is?" Little Jimmy's hand shot up and the fire-fighter called on him. Little Jimmy replied: "That's how Mommy knows supper is ready!"

Points to Ponder on

Atheism is a non-prophet organization.

If man evolved from monkeys and apes, why do we still have monkeys and apes?

I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, "Where's the self-help section?" She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.

What if there were no hypothetical questions?

If a deaf person swears, does his mother wash his hands with soap?

If someone with multiple personalities threatens to kill himself, is it considered a hostage situation?

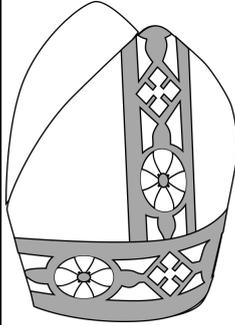
Is there another word for synonym?

Where do forest rangers go to "get away from it all?"

What do you do when you see an endangered animal eating an endangered plant?

Why do they lock petrol station bathrooms? Are they afraid someone will clean them?

The Consecration of Bishop Christine on Saint Andrew's Day in York Minster



It was cold, wet and windy in York on St Andrew's Day, but we were welcomed warmly as we entered the Minster, first by the stewards and then by Bishop Christine herself. We were impressed that she was wandering around the Minster introducing herself before the service.

The service started with a very long procession with the choir and our bishop-elect at the front, and Archbishop John Sentamu at the back. In between there were many dignitaries both from York and Newcastle, and more than 40 bishops somewhere in the middle.

The consecration was within the context of the Eucharist. It included the Oath of Allegiance to the Sovereign, the reading of legal documents and the Oath of Canonical Obedience.

The sermon was preached by Bishop Tom Butler, who had been Bishop Christine's bishop when she was an archdeacon in the diocese of Southwark. His sermon was based on St Andrew, who had died for the faith on an X-shaped cross, the saltire. Bishop Tom likened the shape of the cross to the multiplication sign. St Andrew was a multiplier, he brought his brother making two, with James and John they were four and so on. Jesus' core group grew to 12, to 72, to 3,000; and now the worldwide church grows by many thousands each day. St Andrew was a missionary, even before Paul, taking the gospel to the gentiles in Turkey, Russia and Greece. St Andrew could spot resources, he it was who found the boy with five loaves and two small fish. Altogether a good role model for a new bishop.

Bishop Tom was sure that our new bishop would drive the church forward across the diocese of Newcastle with enthusiasm and creativity, following the diocesan focus on being generous, engaged and open. She would bring us hope, challenge and care.

At the consecration the archbishop laid hands on Christine, along with all of the other bishops. Our assistant bishop Frank,

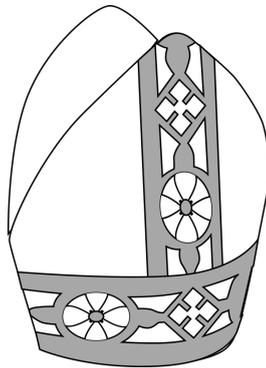
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and our previous bishop Martin were amongst them. This was followed by the giving of a bible as a sign of authority, as a guide, and to be proclaimed to the world. Next our new bishop was anointed with oil of gladness, before being presented to us as our new bishop and greeted with great joy and enthusiasm by the whole congregation.

After the Eucharist, we sang the South African hymn Siya'hamba ekukhanyen' kwenkhos (We are marching in the light of God) in both the original Zulu and in English, accompanied by the archbishop on the drums!

After the blessing Bishop Christine was given her Pastoral Staff by Bishop Martin whilst the archbishop wondered if this was an example of the apostolic succession! Altogether it was a moving and inspiring service, we were so glad that we had travelled to York: however miserable it was outside the Minster, it was wonderful to be there inside. We look forward to Bishop's Christine's leadership and ministry in our diocese.

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Ben Dieduksman asked as a matter of interest that this article should be included in St Mary's Magazine. The article is taken from The Bridge, the parish magazine for the communities of Lesbury, Alnmouth, Longhoughton (including Boulmer) and Howick in the county of Northumberland, United Kingdom. Ben attends these churches and joins in their activities when he is in the United Kingdom. The parishes are happy and proud to have Bishop Christine Hardman, the first woman Bishop of Newcastle, leading them.

If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is he homeless or naked?

Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?

If the police arrest a mime, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?

Why do they put Braille on the drive-through bank machines?

How do they get deer to cross the road only at those deer crossing signs?

What was the best thing before sliced bread?

One nice thing about egotists: they don't talk about other people.

How is it possible to have a civil war?

If one synchronized swimmer drowns, do the rest drown too?

If you try to fail and succeed, which have you done?

Whose cruel idea was it for the word "lisp" to have an "s" in it?

Why is there an expiration date on sour cream?

Can an atheist get insurance against acts of God?

Makes you Think

The fact that there's a highway to hell and only a stairway to heaven says a lot about anticipated traffic numbers.

All Kids do it

Whenever your kids are out of control, you can take comfort from the thought that even God's omnipotence did not extend to God's kids.

After Creating heaven and earth, God created Adam and Eve. And the First thing he said was:

"Don't".

"Don't what?" Adam replied.

"Don't eat the forbidden fruit," God said.

"Forbidden fruit? We got forbidden fruit? Hey, Eve... we got forbidden fruit!"

"No way!"

"Yes, way!"

"Don't eat that fruit!" said God.

"Why?"

"Because I am your Father and I said so!" said God (wondering why he hadn't stopped after making the elephants).

A few minutes later God saw his kids having an apple break and was angry.

"Didn't I tell you not to eat the fruit?" God

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Celebrating the Queen's 90th Birthday – special book

The Queen has served the country and Commonwealth for more than 60 years. From 10-12 June 2016 her 90th birthday will be celebrated.

To mark the unique occasion, HOPE, Bible Society and the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity are publishing a 'very special', 64-page book focusing on the Queen's Christian faith as a tribute to her life of service.

The Servant Queen - and the King She Serves is a beautifully illustrated short book, which uses the Queen's own words to draw out the central role of her trust in Jesus Christ, offering an inspiring, multi-faceted insight into a life well-lived for others.

In her 2014 Christmas broadcast the Queen described Jesus Christ as 'an anchor in my life' and a 'role-model'. It is the most recent of many public references the Queen has made to her Christian faith.

Advance orders for *The Servant Queen* have already reached more than 60,000 with Anglican dioceses and denominations ordering copies to give away.

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Recent report on religion and belief in Britain 'seriously misguided'

A recent report led by Baroness Butler-Sloss, which said that Britain is no longer a Christian country has been criticized by cabinet ministers who said it was 'seriously misguided', and by the Church of England which claimed it appeared to have been 'hijacked' by humanists. The report into religion and belief in Britain, calls for a 'new settlement' for religion because the religious landscape has been 'transformed' by a growth in non-Christian religions and numbers of people with no religion.

In response, a spokesperson for the Church of England said: "We welcome the call in this report for greater religious literacy and the highlighting of the scale of social action by the Church – as well as its recommendation that where a religious

(Continued from page 18)

organization is best placed to deliver a social good, it should not be disadvantaged.

“We also welcome the acknowledgement that the establishment of the Church of England has helped the integration of non-Christian perspectives in British society and helped them to make their voices heard in the public sphere. The Church of England, through its dioceses, parishes and at national level has been at the forefront of work to increase understanding between the different faiths.

“We are however disappointed that the report misunderstands the role of Church of England schools in providing a rounded education to more than a million pupils from all backgrounds as part of our commitment to the common good. If there is a significant problem with our schools it is that many of them are so popular that they are oversubscribed and not every parent who wants to can send their children to one.

“The report also misunderstands collective worship in schools. We believe that if the law on collective worship were repealed schools would risk losing this vital element of shaping a community that reflects the full breadth of human experience. We know, for example, that the response of many schools to the horror of the Paris attacks will have been in the context of collective worship.

“The report is dominated by the old fashioned view that traditional religion is declining in importance and that non-adherence to a religion is the same as humanism or secularism.”

After recent “overwhelming public support for the Church of England over the Lord’s Prayer cinema advert, it is important to remember that most public opinion is strongly opposed to the marginalization of Christianity.”

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(Continued from page 18)

asked

"Uh huh," Adam replied.

"Then why did you?"

"I dunno" Eve answered.

"She started it!"

Adam said.

"Did not!"

"Did too!"

"DID NOT!!!"

Having had it with the two of them, God's punishment was that Adam and Eve should have children of their own, Thus the pattern was set and it has never changed.

But there is reassurance in this story: If you have persistently and lovingly tried to give them wisdom and they haven't taken it, don't be hard on yourself. If God had trouble handling children, what makes you think it should be a piece of cake for you? Advice for the day: If you have a lot of tension and you get a headache, do what it says on the aspirin bottle: Take two and keep away from the children.

Prayers

Answered?

An overweight colleague of mine decided it was time to shed some excess pounds. He took his new diet seriously, even changing his driving route to avoid his favourite bakery. One morning, however, he arrived at work carrying a gigantic coffeecake. We all scolded him, but his smile remained cherubic. "This is a very special coffeecake," he explained. "I accidentally drove by the bakery this morning and there in the window were a host of goodies. I felt this was no accident, so I prayed, 'Lord, if you want me to have one of those delicious coffeecakes, let me have a parking place directly in front of the bakery.' And sure enough," he continued, "the eighth time around the block, there it was!"



Suffering? God knows why

"...Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them – do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? (Luke 13: 4)

It can be earthquakes... floods... terrorism, or – as in the case here - unexpected deaths resulting, first from the killing of innocent people by the Roman governor Pontius Pilate, and secondly from a natural disaster. Like Jesus' disciples, we tend to ask WHY? Our Lord's answer to his questioners does not lessen our distress at calamities here on earth. *But we are not completely shocked.*

For Scripture teaches us that adversity is firmly built into our Christian understanding of how the world works.

1. *We are all living in a fallen world.* Our present world-order is *not* as originally created. Basically we became a race of rebels, fallen from our custodianship over creation – so bringing both ourselves and the creation itself into the frustration of 'bondage to decay' (Romans 8:18-23). Even the ground was to be affected (Genesis 3:17,18).

2. *We are all living in a temporary home.* In the face of a natural fatal disaster (Luke 13:4,5), Jesus said that those killed were no more 'guilty' to die, than anyone else. All will die one day. But his words give the warning: *One day it will be your turn.* Indeed, let us run to the aid of those who suffer - but tragedy reminds us all that centre stage is not this life; by repentance we must prepare ourselves at any moment for the next!

3. *We are all living on borrowed time.* Jesus went on to speak of a fruitless fig tree (Luke 13: 6-9). Should it be cut down? No, *Give it a year's reprieve.* The lesson is clear. If some people are cut off in a matter of seconds, those left should humbly consider how they will use the life that has been spared to *them*. This leads to a final truth:

4. *We are all living as debtors to love.* People hung on Jesus' words because they knew that He had solid answers for this world's sorrows. Indeed He *was* the answer, for *at the Cross we meet the love of the suffering God himself.* One prayer must be that out of the experience of suffering, there will be some who see this, and respond.

Jesus encouraged his followers to look further ahead – to eternal realities. "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33

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HOLY WEEK

Holy Week is the week before Easter Day; it starts with Palm Sunday which is on 20th March this year. Palm Sunday is when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.



The Thursday of Holy Week is called Maundy Thursday which is named for the words that Jesus used at his last meal with the disciples, what we now call the Last Supper. The Latin words are 'Madatum novum da vobis' – a new commandment I give you'. Do you know what that commandment is? You can read the whole account in St John's Gospel, chapter 13.

Then comes Good Friday - a lot of people can't see why a day that commemorates the trial and crucifixion of Jesus could be called 'good'. It was a black day but Christians know that without what happened that Friday there would be no Easter. Without the death of our Lord there would have been no empty tomb on Easter Day, no glorious Resurrection.

HOT CROSS BUNS

One of the pleasures of Easter is eating hot cross buns. Like most things they cost more now than they did in this old rhyme...

Hot Cross Buns,
Hot Cross Buns,
One a penny, two a penny,
Hot Cross Buns.

If you have no daughters,
Give them to your sons,
One a penny, two a penny,
Hot Cross Buns.

If you have some time to spare,
see how many words you can make from the letters in the words HOT CROSS BUNS. Words of at least 3 letters, no plurals, proper names or foreign words.



What do you get when you pour boiling water down a rabbit hole?

A hot cross bunny.

Why couldn't the rabbit fly home for Easter?

He didn't have the hare fare.

That Day

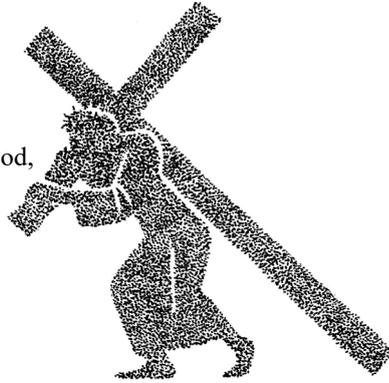
That day was a day like never before
As the Saviour died and the darkness grew,
Earth shuddered and rocks were split apart
As the veil of the temple was torn in two.

The centurion who witnessed all these things,
The earthquake, the One who was nailed to the wood,
Seeing Him die could only say,
'Surely this man was the Son of God'.

He rose as conqueror of the grave,
Death was defeated, the stone rolled away -
And man was released from all his bonds,
Christ rose as victor that glorious day.

The Light had pushed the darkness back,
He now stands resplendent for all to see,
Forgiveness, redemption all wrought on the cross,
The eternal fruits of Calvary.

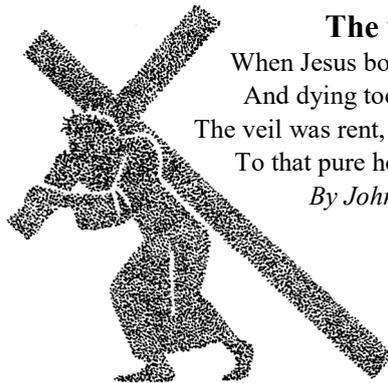
By Megan Carter



The way

When Jesus bowed his head,
And dying took our place,
The veil was rent, a way was found
To that pure home of grace.

By John Elias



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.