

Services held every
Sunday morning
10:30 am

Volume 15 Issue 1 February 2019

Next issue: First Sunday March 2019

Chaplaincy
Information

Cover

The Chaplain
Writes

1

St Mary's "Chapel
News

2

St James the
Least

4

Forthcoming
Services

6 - 7

Brexit: A
European Voice

8

Burning of Books

10

About Giving

11

God's Valentine
Gift

16

St Mary's Magazine



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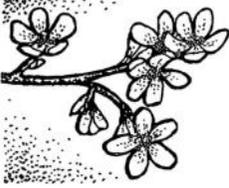


The Anglican Chaplaincy of Twente

DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND





February 2019

Dear Friends,

I was reminded, with only a couple of days to spare, that my February magazine letter is due! As Editor Blair wrote, "I forgot to remind you on Sunday that the minister's monthly magazine missive is due". With last Sunday's lections still resounding in my ears,

*"The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor.
He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted,
to proclaim release to the captives,
recovering of sight to the blind,
to deliver those who are crushed,
and to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."*

all I could think of is how overwhelmed I am with the world around me, as I see it at the moment. As the media illustrates, day after day, gazillions of people believe a whole bunch of codswallopacious baloney about all manner of things: Brexit, the state of ecosystems and climate change, the sanity, or otherwise, of national leaders and presidents, and the sustainability of the current commercial economic order, and ... and ... and. I wonder how honest we are as individuals, as Christians, as Church. O.K., so I should steer clear of politics but, hang on, there is something pretty crucial for us to at least mention.

Why God's Spirit came hurtling down on Jesus at his baptism was actually to empower him to do precisely this: to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives, to recover sight to the blind, to let the oppressed be free, to proclaim the jubilee of the Lord's favor, when the economy and all things influencing global equity will be conformed anew to God's justice, which we know in the very life lesson of Jesus himself. Am I wrong in my seemingly all too vivid recollection of my own personal apprehension of reality in my own national bubble? The appeal seems too often to be to a Jesus from establishment circles, aligned with preservation of a pervasive and divisive, monetarist, aggressively competitive, individualistic, colonialist and 'me, or us first' hegemony.

(go to page 3)

St Mary's Chapel News

Reflections on Christmas past

Celebrating Christmas 2018 in, and at, the chapel was both a beautiful experience, and a time of deep spirituality.

Punctuation

A woman without her man is nothing.

A woman: without her, a man is nothing.

Punctuation is powerful

Sure prognosis

'Doctor,' said the worried woman, 'I'd like you to evaluate my 13-year-old son.'

'OK. He's suffering from a transient psychosis with intermittent rage disorder, punctuated by episodic radical mood swings, but his prognosis is excellent for a full recovery.'

'How can you say all that without even meeting him?'

'I thought you said he's 13?'

On the 15th December, a happy multigenerational group of volunteers gathered to clean and decorate both the Chapel and the Hut. Brass candlesticks and silver chalices were polished, the latest gifts from the resident bats were removed, and the carpets were vigorously vacuumed. That was the work bit. Because then the fun started as the Christmas decorations were put up. Watching one of the organists balancing precariously on the pulpit to place the star on the top of the Christmas Tree was, well, entertaining. Hunting for the on-switch on the window displays was, challenging. And of course, to keep everything going, there was a seemingly endless supply of cake and coffee.

The Carol Service took place the following day. Departing from the Nine Lessons and Carols format of previous years, it proved to be a huge success.

Readings and Carols were gloriously woven together. In the richly decorated Chapel the end result was a breath-taking service. Afterwards, there was still the excitement of the Christmas Market held in the Hut.

On the 24th it was time for the Midnight Eucharist. One hundred and thirty-six people squeezed into the Chapel, having followed the candlelit path, to participate in yet another religious rite.

With our spiritual batteries re-charged we are now ready to face whatever 2019 brings, Happy New Year

(from page 1)

For myself, I feel the need to more and more reconcile with a gospel that really did proclaim itself as "good news to the poor". The Jesus I know says it simply and clearly: his everyday interactions in the record we have of him, places his concern for the reality of life for the poor, the vulnerable young, asylum seekers and everyone living on the margins. God preserve us from believing that the gospel imperative of selflessness has legitimately been replaced by selfishness as the ultimate blessing and goal of life. My God does care about us all, the good and the less good, the rich and the poor, the wrong doer and the severely wronged. In the end God, my God, intends justice for victims of violence, sin and terror, and, indeed, transformation to perpetrators of hatred and heartless indifference.

Love to you all,

Brian.



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.

Last year only two thirds of the magazine costs came from donations, the balance came from chapel funds. It would help the survival of the magazine if all costs were covered by voluntary donations. Thank you.

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://anglicanchurchtwente.com/home/service%20%26%20readings/prayers%20requests.html>

**Some
miscellaneous
observations
on modern
life...**

A cabbie is a
fare-minded
person.

A closed mouth
gathers no foot.

A dentist and a
manicurist
fought tooth and
nail.

A fine is a tax
for doing wrong.
A tax is a fine
for doing well.

A job at the
nursery can lead
to a budding
career.

A man said his
credit card was
stolen but he
decided not to
report it
because the
thief was
spending less
than his wife
did.

A will is a dead
giveaway.

According to my
calculations, the
problem doesn't
exist.

Age doesn't
always bring
wisdom.
Sometimes age
comes alone.

St James the Least of All

On how to survive a parish retreat

The Rectory
St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren



We have just returned from our annual parish three-day silent retreat at St Epiphanius' Priory. We had the usual attendees: those husbands who see it as an opportunity to stop their wives talking, however briefly; those wives who can keep their husbands temporarily from the 19th hole at the golf club; and those who want to see if it might be a suitable home in which to park an inconvenient relative.

It can come as quite a shock for first-timers: the ladies are appalled to discover that there is neither coffee shop nor hairdressers, and the men that there is no bar or billiards table. The resident community certainly frowned on the four men among us who were discovered silently pushing a car down the drive late one evening before starting it at the main gates as they escaped to the nearest pub. Those of us who are older hands know to bring our own supplies - carefully wrapped, so that the clinking of bottles is not too obvious as one ascends the main staircase. The near universal retreat to bedrooms before dinner is less an opportunity for quiet reflection and more one for a restorative sherry.

The more experienced also know that temperatures in the house are Siberian. All the movement and hand waving during Services is less charismatic enthusiasm and more an attempt to maintain blood flow to the extremities. The series of addresses were given by an aged member of the community. That some of our party fell asleep during the addresses was excusable; that the person giving them also occasionally did so, was not.

During one stroll round the gardens, I noticed clouds of smoke coming from behind the hedges near the chapel. My hope that it was parishioners experimenting with incense to be used in church on our return was soon crushed when I found it was a group of hardened parishioners topping up their nicotine levels. Seeing them nervously huddled in the shrubbery made one think of schools and bike sheds. I now find it difficult not to picture them all in short trousers and wearing caps.

And so we return, knowing that we have done our bit once again for the spiritual vigour of the parish, and also that three days of vegetarian cooking will mean a long queue at the village butchers tomorrow morning.

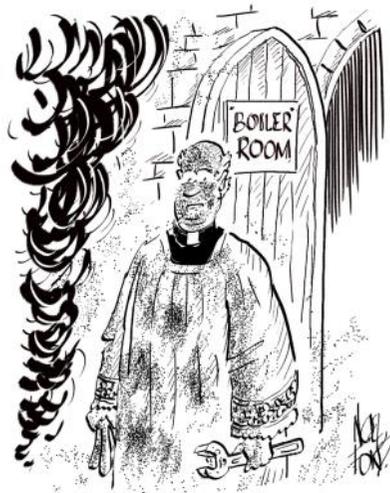
Your loving uncle, Eustace

NOTICES

Heating

Some may recall that over the winter there were a few chilly Sundays when the central heating declined to attend.

Rest assured the matter has now been resolved and St Mary's Chapel is doubly warm on Sundays. Doubly as we enjoy both the warmth of an efficient central heating system and the warmth of fellowship.



The church heating fund could only stretch to buying a copy of 'Boiler Repairs For Dummies'

Sin

A young minister, serving his first church, noticed that one of his flock had been absent from services several Sundays in a row, so he decided to see her and ask the reason. The old woman shook her head and looked at him pityingly. "Son," she said, "you can't help me. You are not old enough to have sinned enough to have repented enough to be able to preach about it."

Forthcoming Services

3 February 2019 Candlemas

10:30 Sung Eucharist (with Sunday School)
Celebrant and Preacher Canon Brian Rodford
Duty Warden: Jeanet Luiten **Intercessor:** Frances Gothard **Chalice:** Fred Schonewille
Sidesperson/Reader **Readings**
Lea Meijnen Malachi. [3.1-5]
Arthur Cass Hebrews. [2. 14-end]
Gospel Luke [2. 22-40]

10 February 2019 4th Sunday before Lent

10:30 Sung Eucharist
Celebrant and Preacher Canon Brian Rodford
Duty Warden: Blair Charles **Intercessor:** Simone Yallop **Chalice:** Fred Schonewille
Sidesperson/Reader **Readings**
Arjan Hafmans Isaiah [6. 1-8, 9-end]
Victor Pirenne 1. Corinthians. [15. 1-11]
Gospel Luke [5. 1-11]

17 February 2019 3rd Sunday before Lent

10:30 Sung Eucharist All Ages Service
Celebrant and Preacher Canon Brian Rodford
Duty Warden: Jeanet Luiten **Intercessor:** Young person **Chalice:** Jeanet Luiten
Sidesperson/Reader **Readings**
Young person Jeremiah. [17. 5-10]
Young person 1. Corinthians [15, 12-20]
Gospel Luke [6. 17-26]

Forthcoming Services

24 February 2019 2nd Sunday before Lent

10:30 Sung Eucharist

Celebrant and Preacher

Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden:

Blair Charles

Intercessor:

Maureen Underwood

Chalice:

Everhard Ottens

Sidesperson/Reader

Elizabeth v.d Heide

Readings

Genesis [2. 4b-9,15-end]

Charlotte Solms

Revelation. [Ch. 4]

Gospel

Luke [8. 22-25]

3 March 2019 Sunday next before Lent

10:30 Sung Eucharist

(with Sunday School)

Celebrant and Preacher

Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden:

Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

Jeanet Luiten

Chalice:

Joyce Wigboldus

Sidesperson/Reader

Patrick Saridjan

Readings

Exodus [34. 29-end]

Elisa Hannan

2. Corinthians [3, 12-4.2]

Gospel

Luke [9. 28-36, 37-43A]

6 March 2019 Ash Wednesday

20:00 Eucharist

Celebrant and Preacher

Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden:

Blair Charles

Intercessor:

Simone Yallop

Chalice:

Jeanet Luiten

Sidesperson/Reader

Vivian Reinders

Readings

Joel [2. 1-2, 12-17]

Jan de Beij

2. Corinthians [5. 20B- 6-10]

Gospel

Matthew [6 1-6, 16-21]

Brexit: A European Voice

Efficient

First lady: My husband is an efficiency expert in a large office.

Second lady: What does he do?

First lady: Well, if we women did it, they'd call it nagging

The mystery of marriage

First woman: I don't see Charlie half as much as I used to.

Second woman: You should have married him when you had the chance.

First woman: I did.

Cold weather

'It was so cold where we were,' boasted the Arctic explorer, 'that the candle froze and we couldn't blow it out.'

'That's nothing,' said his rival. 'Where we were it was so cold that our words came out in chunks of ice and we had to thaw them to see what we were talking about.'

The Bishop in Europe writes ...

In the 1960s, it was said UK entry to the "Common Market" would mark the end of a thousand years of British history. Fast-forwarding to 2019, the clock is now ticking rapidly towards the end of British membership of the European Union. Where are we, and where are we going on Brexit?

Brexit is a UK choice

The UK has decided to leave the EU. It's the choice made in the June 2016 referendum, whatever you think about the campaign and the result (and many UK citizens in my diocese didn't get to vote). The UK Government started the clock to withdraw from the EU. It's suggested by some that the EU somehow is choosing not to deal with the UK; but the EU waited for two years before the UK proposed, last summer, what kind of future relationship it wants. Meanwhile, the EU's Court of Justice has said, last December, that the UK can decide not to withdraw from the EU.

The EU speaks with one voice on Brexit

The other 27 EU countries have remained together and largely united during the Brexit negotiations. The Irish Border issue shows this clearly. Avoiding a new hard border between Northern Ireland and the Republic goes to the heart of the Good Friday agreement, which has led to peace, security and reconciliation for 20 years. It's also about what customs arrangements there will be between a Northern Ireland that continues to be close to EU rules, and the rest of a UK that may want to break with them in future. The UK Government concluded a Withdrawal Agreement with the rest of the EU last November. The UK Government, under acute domestic pressure in Parliament to re-open discussions about the terms of the Agreement, now says it needs further clarifications and reassurances about the Irish Border text. Ireland and the rest of the EU are saying repeatedly they will offer to clarify but are not prepared to re-write the Agreement.

The UK has Brexit (and post-Brexit) choices

Parliament is expected to vote on Brexit on 15 January. The UK Government maintains the vote on the PM's November deal next week, deferred from December, is the only way to avoid



no deal. As a bishop based in Brussels, with a diocese that stretches across the EU and beyond, I remain perplexed. We were told 'no deal is better than a bad deal', then we were told that 'no deal' was the worst of all worlds, and now we are again being told to prepare for 'no deal'. If you are in my diocese, 'deal or no deal' slogans mean everything in terms of your basic rights to live in your chosen country, receive health care and draw a pension. There's been no genuine consideration of future relationship options the EU has put on the table a year ago, e.g., a variant on Norway. Leaving the EU without a deal will lose our largest trading relationship. What's the alternative vision and future for us in the world on trade, prosperity, peace and security?

The Church is here to stay in Europe beyond Brexit

Amid all this Brexit confusion, I was delighted that The House of Bishops issued a statement before Christmas, urging our political leaders to work together across tribal divisions, exhorting them to speak to each other and to us with integrity, courage and clarity. The Diocese in Europe, the 42nd in the Church of England, has a presence right across the European continent. We have over 300 chaplaincies, from Iceland in the north, to Turkey in the east. We maintain close relationships with our brothers and sisters in other Christian Churches in Europe. And we will continue to campaign in the European Institutions on key issues of human rights, migration and freedom of religious expression and belief. The UK may be set to leave the EU after 45 years: Anglicans have been in Europe for over 400 and will remain here.

In the 1975 referendum, the campaign lobby to get the UK out of the EEC used the slogan 'Out, and into the world'. The real risk we face without a deal is that the UK will be just 'out' ...

Rt Revd Dr Robert Innes is the Anglican Bishop in Europe. He writes on Brexit at <https://bishopineurope.wordpress.com> and tweets at @Bishop_Europe



Good take

A minister in a little church announced: 'Before we pass the collection plate, I would like to request that the person who stole the chickens from Brother Martin's hen house please refrain from giving any money to the Lord. The Lord doesn't want money from a thief!' The collection plate was passed around, and for the first time in months everybody gave

Sign seen in a restaurant

One of the greatest mysteries of life is how the idiot your daughter married can be the father of the most beautiful and intelligent grandchildren in the world.

BURNING OF BOOKS MARCH 24th AND 31st 2019 !?

Valentine present

Man in car showroom: I've come back to buy that car you showed me yesterday.

Sales assistant: That's fine, I thought you'd be back. Tell me, what was the dominant feature which made you decide on this car?

My wife.

Brilliant

First man: Did anyone in your family ever make a brilliant marriage?

Second man: Only my wife.

Wishful

First friend: Your problem is that you are always wishing for what you haven't got.

Second friend: Well, what else can one wish for?

New job

So your new job gives you lots of freedom?

Absolutely. I get here any time I want before 8am, and leave just when I please after 5pm.

Many of us are using computers, smart phones or E-readers to gather information, read news articles or even take in complete novels or poetry works. So why still bother with these dust gathering, large amounts of bound pages called books?

Also these things often are quite heavy or bulky to carry around, let alone taking them with you on a holiday or travels. Maybe you might have accumulated a lot of these obsolete things in your home and are considering disposing of them.

Of course you could burn them, but then think of all the eco hostile situations this will cause. You might even get fined by the authorities. Now there is another, very eco-friendly, way of disposing of your unwanted books. Recycling is the solution you might have been waiting for almost a year long.

There is very good news indeed; The month of March will give you the opportunity to bring all your unwanted books to the Hut. Collection will be on March 10th and 17th. They will be arranged according to subject and type and be presented for recycling on March 24th and 31st after the service.

So when you decide to get rid of your books be sure the revenue is going to St. Mary's Flower Fund.

Therefore rummage through your bookshelves, attic, cellar and load the unwanted books in your car to bring them in on **Sunday March 10th and 17th.**

Hopefully, there are still a lot of collectors and readers who still want to use this old fashioned way of gaining knowledge, or just want to sit quietly and relaxed, reading a novel, poetry or even select a fabulous recipe for the next meal. You

(go to page 11)



(from Page 10)

might even get inspiration to plan for an interesting holiday location.

On **Sunday March 24th and 31st** our yearly Book sale will be on and we hope that the real old fashioned books enthusiasts amongst you will purchase many of the selection of books presented. So let us make this year's Book sale a great success by bringing in lots of books and taking back just as many. Then next time you are in the Chapel admiring the beautiful flower arrangements, remember it is also because of you taking part in this fund raising event.

So let's not burn, but earn.

© Lub Gringhuis



About giving

Some time ago I heard a very nice way of getting money out of the pockets of church members.

I was performing with a church choir on a benefit concert of one the churches here in the neighbourhood. The performance and little sketches were all done by the church members themselves and very joyful and pleasant. Lot of kids, who gave rather good performances. There was also a lot of laughter.

Normally the goodies and drinks after the service on Sunday were free. But now you had to pay one euro for whatever you wanted to eat or drink.

Just before the break there was a collection. The minister told us, that we are sheep in the flock of the Lord. And so to speak he owns us. And if we thought, that this night we had to pay too much money, we should realize, that the Lord has the right to shave his sheep to the skin.

I laughed myself to tears. Never did I hear a better way of asking for money for a collection.

At the end of the evening they gave all the performers, including me, as a thank-you-present a little pot with a violet in it. It has been for a long time on my kitchen table. It reminded me, that little gifts often can bring long pleasure. ©Erica Schotman Bonting

Student

A college student wrote a letter home, and it said in its entirety: 'Dear Dad and Mum, please write soon, even if it is only a few pounds.'



God's Valentine Gift

God's Valentine gift of love to us
Was not a bunch of flowers;
It wasn't candy, or a book
To while away the hours.

His gift was to become a man,
So He could freely give
His sacrificial love for us,
So you and I could live.

He gave us sweet salvation, and
Instruction, good and true--
To love our friends and enemies
And love our Saviour, too.

So as we give our Valentines,
Let's thank our Lord and King;
The reason we have love to give
Is that He gave everything.

By Joanna Fuchs
www.poemsource.com



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.