

Services held every  
Sunday morning  
10:30 am

**Volume 16 July 2020**

*Next issue: First Sunday August 2020*

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# St Mary's Magazine

Chaplaincy Information	Inside Front Cover
The Chaplain Writes	1
St Mary's Chapel News	2
St James the Least	4
Covid 19	7
Forthcoming Services	8-9
C of E has been astonishingly present	12
Nature out and About	12
The NHS	13
But Spring did not know	16



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**The Anglican Chaplaincy of Twente**



DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND







# July 2020

Dear Friends,

Over recent years, with 24-hour newscasting and burgeoning social media, each example of even the most startling of headlines, soon become entirely forgotten as yesterday's news. Yet, just at the moment, here we are still in the frightful grip of a global pandemic; news that will not decrease. Each of us knows some fear, often more than we allow ourselves to admit, at some deep level. So, it seems, we manage to convince ourselves that we are coping quite happily, thank you very much. The truth is, however, that we must still take cognizance of the threat, or suffer renewed risk. Even as we cautiously return to careful, limited worship and 'distanced' gathering. At such times, fear is our enemy: even fear of our God-given freedom; fear of using our moral compass; fear of acting outside the herd. Herd instinct, a feature of our human-animal identity, is the overwhelming urge to be one of a group. To conform to its standards, no matter what the rationality of those standards might be.

Herd instinct imprisons us in that part of our humanity that is reckless and introverted when used and applied as a tool of manipulation for political or partisan purposes. Despite the prayer of Jesus regarding his oneness with the Father, and his opening of the possibilities for humanity to be one with Father and Son, as they are together one, (John 17, 21-23). There is too little realization that humanity might do what it sees the Father doing. [Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, the Son does likewise. (John 5,19)].

I believe the Biblical elucidation of creation indicates to us that God creates and acts only lovingly and persuasively, always within the framework of his absolute gift to us of our freedom of will. We, too, like our Heavenly Father, must act in the interest of all, including ourselves, lovingly and persuasively, and in the creative power of him, the 'Creative Original', to whom he calls us into the unity of purpose.

(Continued on page 8)

## St Mary's Chapel News



## Restarting Services at St Mary's Chapel

On the 5 July, services will restart at St Mary's Chapel. Due to Covid 19, there is now a Protocol to be strictly followed by everyone planning on attending the service.

If you have not read it yet, a copy of the Protocol is available on the chaplaincy website.

### Blonde men humour!

A blonde man is in the bathroom. His wife shouts: "Did you find the shampoo?"

He answers, "Yes, but I'm not sure what to do... it's for dry hair, and I've just wet mine."

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A blonde man goes to the vet with his goldfish.

"I think it's got epilepsy," he tells the vet.

The vet takes a look and says, "It seems calm enough to me."

The blonde man says, "Wait, I haven't taken it out of the bowl yet."

-----  
A blonde man spies a letter lying on his doormat.

It says on the envelope "DO NOT BEND".

He spends the next two hours trying to figure out how to pick it up.

-----  
A blonde man shouts frantically into the phone, "My wife is

(Continued on page 5)

Please be aware that at least for the first few weeks, there is a pre-booking system in place.

### Summer Teas

Exciting news is that Summer Teas will start again this month. If you want to get involved, contact the warden, Jeanet Luiten. Spread the word, from the recommended 'safe' distance.

#### Summer Teas

The Anglican Church Twente are organizing the Sunday Afternoon Teas again

Home-baked cake, tea, coffee, sale of books, jams and other creative surprises  
in a cosy  
corona proofed  
environment.

From July 12 to August 19,  
every Sunday from  
13:00 to 16:30

at the Weldam estate chapel,  
between Diepenheim and Goor, located on the  
beautiful walking and cycling routes.

The picturesque English Victorian style chapel  
is open for viewing

### Congratulations

On the 2 July Els and Everhard Ottens celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Despite the restrictions caused by the pandemic, they were able to celebrate with their children and grandchildren. Through the media of Facebook, it was wonderful to see their faces so full of joy with

their family gathered around. Everhard served the chaplaincy for many years as Warden. Els and Everhard are much loved members of the congregation. And so, on behalf of the congregation,



### 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>

(Continued from page 4)  
pregnant and her contractions are only two minutes apart!"

"Is this her first child?" asks the Doctor.

"No!" he shouts, "this is her husband!"

-----  
A blonde man's dog goes missing and he is frantic. His wife says "Why don't you put an ad in the paper?" He does, but two weeks later the dog is still missing. "What did you put in the paper?" his wife asks. "Here boy!" he replies.

-----  
(This one actually makes sense.)  
An Italian tourist asks a blonde man: "Why do scuba divers always fall backwards off their boats?" To which the blonde man replies: "If they fell forward, they'd still be in the boat."

-----  
A friend told the blonde man: "Christmas is on a Friday this year." The blonde man then said, "Let's hope it's not the 13th."

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

### **Sermon**

A good sermon is like a miniskirt: short enough to keep the interest and long enough to cover the essentials.

### **New style of prayer**

Our vicar is still getting used to live streaming our church services. Last Sunday he invited us to join him digitally in prayer by saying firmly: "Let's bow our eyes and close our heads

### **Beware**

As you prepare for the school holidays, remember this: children are natural mimics. They act like us in spite of all our attempts to teach them good manners.

### **Lost in translation**

Last year, some friends took their six-year-old on a car trip to France. To help pass the time on the way down to the Channel, they encouraged their

(Continued on page 7)

### **Beware the spell-checker on your special service sheets!**

*The Revd Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'... this was written before lockdown.*

The Rectory  
St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

When producing material for your magazine or church services, beware the computer spell-checker. We once let our own system check a Christmas carol sheet and, on the night, found ourselves obliged to sing "away in a manger", mangers apparently being unknown to our machine.

If you use special sheets regularly, it seems a law of nature - as with metal coat hangers - that they all intermingle while no one is watching. Thus, on Easter Day, half the congregation will have been issued with sheets for Harvest, which will only become obvious once the service begins. The first hymn will be entirely lost while sidesmen scuttle about looking for replacements only to find that there won't be enough of them anyway and then the second hymn will be lost while others helpfully wander about church donating their sheets to those looking helpless and then trying to find someone to share with.

Never, ever, print on them 'Do not take home' as this will only ensure everyone does so. I have sometimes wondered if the instruction 'Take this sheet home for reference' would ensure that they stayed neatly arranged in the pews after the service. And if it is a service where babies are likely to be present, be assured that many of the copies will be returned half chewed and coated with bits of whatever the infant had for breakfast. There must be a market for paper treated with a child-repellent flavour for such occasions.

Anyone who thinks we are an unimaginative nation should visit a church after a special service to see how many places members of congregations can invent to hide the booklets: under kneelers, neatly folded and hidden inside hymn books, among flower arrangements and behind heating pipes so that no one can quite reach them. They then lurk there reproachfully for the next ten years until mice solve the problem.



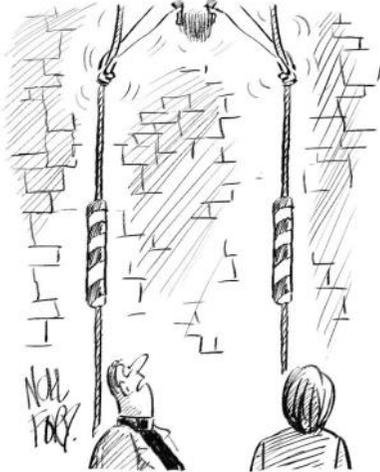
(Continued on page 7)

*(Continued from page 6)*

No, stick to large, hard bound books. They are resistant to teeth and are too substantial to be hidden in pockets. Their only drawback is that they tend to fall victim to the pull of gravity at the quietest moments.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace



*Eric took social distancing  
while bell ringing very seriously.*



"Have courage for the great sorrows of life, and patience  
for the small ones.  
And when you have laboriously accomplished your daily task,  
go to sleep in peace.

God is awake."

- Victor Hugo, writer

*(Continued from page 6)*

son to practise his new reading skills by calling out road signs.

He fell asleep just before they entered France. When he awoke, he saw the French motorway signs and said in a worried tone, "I think I forgot how to read while I was asleep."

### **Why did God make mothers?**

*Here are some of the answers seven-year-olds gave to the following questions...*

*Why did God give you your mother and not some other mum?*

*God knew she likes me a lot more than other kids' mums like me.*

*What kind of little girl was your mum?*

*I don't know because I wasn't there, but my guess would be pretty bossy.*

*What did your mum need to know about your dad before she married him?  
His last name.*

*(Continued on page 8)*

(Continued from page 7)

**Why did your mum marry your dad?**

She got too old to do anything else with him.

**What's the difference between mums & dads?**

Mum knows how to talk to teachers without scaring them.

**What would it take to make your mum perfect?**

On the inside she's already perfect.

Outside, I think some kind of plastic surgery.

**Coronavirus:**

For the first time in history, we can help save the human race by lying in front of the TV and doing nothing. Let's not mess this one up!

**The queue**

While waiting in a long queue early one morning for the supermarket to open for us 'seniors', I was surprised to see a young man saunter along

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 3)

In our age of almost overwhelming secular influences, many self-respecting scientists and materialists would scoff at the idea of deep spiritual contemplation affecting our mental and physical health.

However, many studies have strongly suggested, having deep respect from the breadth of the academic community, that practical faith and spirituality have hugely positive empirically measurable and demonstrable outcomes. We may not be able to cure all sickness, including viral diseases. Still, evidence strongly suggests that mental states supported by spiritual strength, soulful resourcefulness and acceptance of God's explicit care, support the immune system. God wants the best for all his creation, even though it is compromised by chance, predicated on the gift of freedom of will in this beautiful world, over which he presides.

Focusing on what is right in our world and our lives, with gratitude for the proof we each discern in personal faith in our eternal calling, recognizing the potential of God's creative intention, we can inspire others and ourselves.

When our imperative is the common good, our good is served, and the selfless reward is endless.

Be well, be safe, be inspired, love and be loved, and find happiness in the untroubled contentment of a generous spirit.

Love, as ever,  
Brian



Life is a journey that no one makes alone.  
The more people you touch along the way,  
the more meaningful and rewarding your time. - Anon

## Covid 19

*As 2020 unfolds, a fearful pandemic has swept across the globe, causing the death of over 500,000 people. Everything closed and mankind went into Lockdown. Yet, despite the fear and the panic, mankind's sense of humour surfaced through the dark hours. Social media is rich with examples. Enjoy this careful selection. (meaning, fit for a church magazine!)*

### Spanish Lesson

A Spanish Teacher was explaining to her class that in Spanish, unlike English, nouns are designated as either masculine or feminine.

"House" for instance, is feminine: "la casa."

"Pencil," however, is masculine: "el lapiz."

A student asked, "What gender is 'computer'?" Instead of giving the answer, the teacher split the class into two groups, male and female, and asked them to decide for themselves whether "computer" should be a masculine or a feminine noun.

Each group was asked to give four reasons for its recommendation.

The men's group decided that "computer" should definitely be of the feminine gender ("la computadora"), because

- 1 No one but their creator understands their internal logic
- 2 The native language they use to communicate with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else
- 3 Even the smallest mistakes are stored in long term memory for possible later retrieval;
- 4 As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your pay check on accessories for it.

### THIS GETS BETTER!

The women's group, however, concluded that computers should be Masculine ("el computador"), because

- 1 In order to do anything with them, you have to turn them on
- 2 They have a lot of data but still can't think for themselves;
- 3 They are supposed to help you solve problems, but half the time they ARE the problem
- 4 As soon as you commit to one, you realize that if you had waited a little longer, you could have gotten a better model

The women won!!

*(Continued from page 8)*

and try to cut in at the front of the queue. A furious old lady waved her cane at him, and he quickly backed away.

A moment later, the young man tried again. He managed to dodge the old lady, but then two old men started shouting at him. Again, the young man backed away.

But he wasn't giving up, and soon the young man approached the queue for the third time. By now, all of us pensioners were ready for him, an angry wall of opposition.

The young man stood there for a moment, and then shrugged his shoulders. "If you people won't let me unlock the door, none of you will ever get in to shop."

### Social Distancing

I need to practice social-distancing - from my refrigerator.

# Forthcoming Services

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July 5 2020

10:30 Eucharist

Trinity 4

**Celebrant and Preacher**

Canon Brian Rodford

**Duty Warden:**

Jeanet Luiten

**Intercessor:**

Jeanet Luiten

There will be no sung

hymns

**Sidesperson/Reader**

**Readings**

Erick Wanjala

Zechariah 9.9-12

Ann Powell

Romans 7.15-25a

Gospel

Matthew 11.16-19,25-30

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July 12 2020

Recorded Service

Trinity 5

**Celebrant and Preacher**

Canon Brian Rodford

**Duty Warden:**

Jeanet Luiten

**Intercessor:**

Jeanet Luiten

There will be no

sung hymns

**Sidesperson/Reader**

**Readings**

Isaiah 55. 10-13

Romans 8 1-11

Gospel

Matthew 13. 1-9, 18-23

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July 19 2020

10:30 Eucharist

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent

**Celebrant and Preacher**

Canon Brian Rodford

**Duty Warden**

Jeanet Luiten

**Intercessor:**

Joyce Wigboldus

There will be no

sung hymns

**Sidesperson/Reader**

**Readings**

Simone Yallop

Isaiah 44.6-8

Maureen Underwood

Romans 8.12-25

Gospel

Matthew 13.24-30,36-43

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# Forthcoming Services

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July 26 2020

10:30 Eucharist

Trinity 7

**Celebrant and Preacher**

Canon Brian Rodford

**Duty Warden**

Jeanet Luiten

**Intercessor:**

Simone Yallop

There will be no

sung hymns

**Sidesperson/Reader**

**Readings**

1 Kings 3.5-12

Romans 8.26-39

Gospel

Matthew 13.31-33,44-52

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August 2 2020

Eucharist 10:30

Trinity 8

**Celebrant and Preacher**

Canon Brian Rodford

**Duty Warden:**

Jeanet Luiten

**Intercessor**

Maureen Underwood

There will be

no sung hymns

**Sidesperson/Reader**

**Readings**

Jan de Beij

Isaiah 55. 1-5

Louw Talstra

Romans 9. 1-5

Gospel

Matthew 14. 13- 21

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August 9 2020

Eucharist 10:30

Trinity 9

**Celebrant and Preacher**

Canon Brian Rodford

**Duty Warden:**

Jeanet Luiten

**Intercessor**

Jeanet Luiten

There will be

no sung hymns

**Sidesperson/Reader**

**Readings**

Vivian Reinders

1 Kings 19.9-18

Ann Powell

Romans 10.5-15

Gospel

Matthew 14.22-33

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## Whoops

A police officer in a small American town stopped a motorist who was speeding down Main Street.

"But officer," the man began, "I can explain".  
"Just be quiet," snapped the officer. "I'm going to let you cool your heels in jail until the chief gets back."  
"But officer, I just wanted to say."

"And I said to keep quiet! You're going to jail!"  
A few hours later the officer looked in on his prisoner and said, "Lucky for you that the chief is at his daughter's wedding. He'll be in a good mood when he gets back."

"Don't count on it," answered the fellow in the cell. "I'm the groom

## Salty reply

The vicar started his sermon on the subject, Thou art the salt of the earth.

*(Continued on page 13)*

*(Continued from page 9)*

## Smart Dog

As a butcher is shoohing a dog from his shop, he sees £10 and a note in his mouth, reading:  
"8 lamb chops, please."

Amazed, he takes the money, puts a bag of chops in the dog's mouth, and quickly closes the shop.

He follows the dog and watches him wait for a green light, look both ways, and trot across the road to a bus stop. The dog checks the timetable and sits on the bench.

When a bus arrives, the dog walks around to the front and looks at the number, then boards the bus.

The butcher follows, dumbstruck. As the bus travels out into the suburbs, the dog takes in the scenery.

After a while, he stands on his back paws to push the "stop" bell, and then the butcher follows him off.

The dog runs up to a house and drops his bag on the step. He barks repeatedly.

No answer.

He goes back down the path, takes a big run, and throws himself -whap!- against the door.

He does this again and again. No answer.

So he jumps on a wall, walks around the garden, barks repeatedly at a window, jumps off, and waits at the front door. Eventually, a small guy opens it and starts cursing and shouting at the dog.

The butcher runs up and yells at the guy: "What the hell are you doing? This dog's a genius!"

The owner responds, "Genius, my foot. It's the second time this week he's forgotten his key!"

*And on a more serious note.....*

## Makes you think?

Imagine you were born in 1900.

When you were 14, World War I begins. The first true global conflict that profoundly affects both neutral and combatant nations alike. By the time it ends, you are still only 18 years old, and there are over 22 million dead.

Within a year after that war, a global pandemic, the Spanish Flu, appears, that by the time it ends has killed 50 million people. And you're alive and now 20 years old.

When you're 29 you survive the global economic crisis that started with the collapse of the New York Stock Exchange,

*(Continued on page 13)*

(Continued from page 12)

causing worldwide inflation, unemployment and famine.

When you're 33 years old the Nazis seize power in Germany.

When you're 39, World War II begins and ends when you're 45 years old and there are more than 60 million dead. In the Holocaust, over 6 million Jews die.

When you're 52, the Korean War begins.

When you're 64, the Vietnam War begins and ends when you're 75.

A child born in 1985 thinks his grandparents have no idea how difficult life is, but they have survived several wars and catastrophes.

Today we have all the comforts in a new world, amid a new pandemic.

But we complain because we need to wear masks. We complain because we must stay confined to our homes where we have food, electricity, running water, Wi-Fi, even Netflix!

None of that existed back in the day. But humanity survived those circumstances and never lost their joy of living.

A small change in our perspective can generate miracles. We should be thankful that we are alive. We should do everything we need to do to protect and help each other. This message should reach everyone. Please help to spread it

**And Finally.....**



(Continued from page 12)

On of his female parishioners grumpily called out 'I will have you have know that I am not allowed one grain of salt.'

**More Corona**

The lifeguard on the beach:

"OK people, your five minutes are over. Next row of sunbathers, please!"

Can somebody tell those pestilential mosquitoes to also keep a 1,5 meter distance?

The manager: "A year is missing from your resume. What did you do in 2020?"

Job candidate: "I washed my hands."

"What are you planning to do today?"

"Today I'm doing nothing."

"I thought that you were planning to do that yesterday."

"I haven't yet finished doing yesterday's nothing"

This is your pilot speaking, I'm working from my home today

*Kids at a school in Caithness, Scotland, were asked questions about the old and new testaments. The following statements about the bible were written by children. They have not been retouched or corrected. incorrect spelling has been left in*

1. In the first book of the bible, Guinness, god got tired of creating the world so he took the sabbath off.
2. Adam and eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was Joan of ark. Noah built an ark and the animals came on in pears.
3. Lots wife was a pillar of salt during the day, but a ball of fire during the night.
4. The jews were a proud people and throughout history they had trouble with unsympathetic genitals.
5. Sampson was a strongman who

## **C of E has been 'astonishingly present'**

During the coronavirus crisis, the Church of England has been accused of "vacating the public square or of being absent."

So wrote Bishop Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York Designate, in a recent article for one of the national newspapers. But he goes on: "I simply do not recognise (this). The Church of England has been astonishingly present, albeit in many new and remarkable ways."

The Bishop then gave many examples of various local churches who have reacted with positive action during the crisis. Some have started food banks, helped refugees and asylum seekers, set up telephone prayer services, started zoom Bible groups, or organised children and youth events online.

"These stories are being replicated up and down the country," he continued. "Most astonishing of all, plenty of churches report very large numbers of people joining their streamed services."

"Of course, we long for our church buildings to reopen. But when they do, it won't be business as usual - partly because we are discovering new ways of serving our communities."

"When we do return to the sacred, beautiful space of our church buildings, with all their vital and much-missed resonances of continuity, I believe the Church of England will emerge from this stronger than it has been for a long while."

*Bishop Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York Designate, was writing in the Daily Telegraph on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020.*

## **Nature out and about**

The lockdown this Spring at least gave Nature a brief respite. Wild goats, herds of deer, sparrow hawks, stoats, snakes, badgers, spawning toads and songbirds all seemed to have enjoyed the peace and quiet.

We, in turn, have enjoyed watching them from our windows. As Mark Thompson, a presenter on *Stargazing Life*, said, "This lockdown is giving people a chance not just to connect with our families, but also to connect with Nature around us. It has given us the chance to recalibrate."

*(Continued on page 15)*

(Continued from page 14)

*The Ven John Barton writes in praise of our health service.*

### **The NHS - bearing one another's burdens**

"Save the NHS" was the slogan chosen by the British government when the coronavirus began to spread. Meant to evoke public compassion, and compliance with emergency regulations, it sounded as though the NHS was an endangered species. In fact it was the public themselves whose lives were in jeopardy; the National Health Service existed solely for their benefit. The slogan did manage to stir gratitude for a service which had been taken for granted, as well as appreciation of its 1.5+ million staff, many of whom were now putting their own lives at greater risk.

The idea for a countrywide medical service came from the Beveridge Report, instigated by the coalition government during World War II. "Medical treatment covering all requirements will be provided for all citizens by a national health service", is how it was defined, though it had to wait until 1948 for its implementation to begin.

It was part of a programme for reconstruction, aiming to eliminate Want, Disease, Ignorance, Squalor and Idleness. Sir William Beveridge, who gave his name to the report, was close friends with two other social reformers: R H Tawney, and William Temple, who was to become Archbishop of Canterbury. Today's Archbishop, Justin Welby, wrote this about the trio: "Drawing on Christian understandings of justice, generosity and human dignity, they described the kind of country that they felt reflected God's values better."

St Paul couldn't have thought he was providing a slogan for a welfare state when he wrote, "Bear one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ", but that is a neat summary of the way the National Health Service works. We all pay in when we can and we all benefit when we need.

One estimate of the cost of the NHS today is £158.4 billion, which in real terms is 10 times as much as in 1950. In the meantime, it's no longer completely free for all. Prescription charges and dental fees have been introduced. The development of ever-more sophisticated life-saving drugs and medical procedures will inevitably mean higher costs - and a heightened moral dilemma. Must there be further limits to the provision of "medical treatment covering all requirements"?

The colossal task of rebuilding a shattered economy in the years to come may compel the British people to choose between what is essential and what is optional. The Christian principle now sounds particularly demanding: "Bear one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ".

(Continued from page 14)

let himself be led astray by a Jezebel like Delilah.

6. Samson slayed the philistines with the axe of the apostles.

7. Moses led the jews to the red sea where they made unleavened bread, which is bread without any ingredients.

8. The egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards, Moses went up to mount cyanide to get the ten commandments.

9. The first commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple.

10. The seventh commandment is thou shalt not admit adultery.

11. Moses died before he ever reached canada then Joshua led the hebrews in the battle of geritol.

12. The greatest miricle in the bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him.

13. David was a hebrew king who was skilled at playing the liar. He fought the Finkelsteins, a race of people who lived in biblical times.

14. Solomon, one of Davids sons, had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.

## But Spring did not know

It was early 2020 ...  
People had endured a long dark  
winter,  
February had been a very restless  
month  
lots of storms and lots of rain

Nature was restless,  
as if she wanted to tell people  
something,  
as if she wanted to warn people  
about something ...

And then March came ...  
It was March 2020 ...

The streets were empty,  
most of the shops were closed,  
most of the cars were on the side  
of the road,

people almost never went out  
All over the world,  
countries were locked down,  
people couldn't believe this was  
happening,  
it was so surreal ...

Everyone knew what was going on  
But Spring did not know

And the flowers continued to  
bloom

And the sun was shining...  
The first beautiful spring day had  
come

And the swallows came back  
And the sky turned pink and blue

It got dark later ....  
and early in the morning the light  
came through the windows

It was March 2020 ...  
The youngsters studied online  
from home



Inevitably,  
children played mainly at home  
Adolescents were bored,  
parents did not know what to do  
People only went out to shop  
or walk the dog  
Almost everything was closed...  
Offices, hotels, restaurants and  
bars

The army began to guard exits and  
borders

People had to work from home  
Entrepreneurs ran into problems  
Most children were no longer able  
to go to school

Suddenly there was not enough  
room for everyone in hospitals,  
operations and investigations were  
postponed ...

Everyone knew  
But Spring did not know,

And as it unfolded  
She imperturbably completed her  
annual program

She gave us her most beautiful  
flowers

And her most wonderful scents  
It was March 2020

Everyone quarantined at home  
for health or preventive reasons

Some people were no longer  
allowed to go to work,  
Others had to

Hugging, kissing or shaking hands  
was suddenly a threat

Everyone had to keep a good  
distance from each other,

It was horrible

(Continued on page 17)

(Continued from page 16)

The shelves were empty in the  
supermarkets  
Wonderful things were put on hold  
No one knew when they could begin  
again

All over the world,  
Peoples freedom was limited  
In this time of peace

Many people were ill from the  
contagion ...

There was isolation,  
illness and panic ...

Then the fear became real!!

And the days all looked the same ...  
Suddenly the weeks lasted much  
longer ...

Everyone hoped that ever stricter  
measures would not follow ...

People were stuck as in a movie  
Every day hoping for a hero ...

The world slowed down  
But it wasn't like a vacation,  
nobody expected this ...

Everyone knew what was happening  
But Spring did not know,

And the roses continued to bloom  
The Magnolia budded  
Birds started their nests  
And then...

The pleasure of cooking and eating  
together was rediscovered

Everyone gave each other tips  
about fun things you could do with  
your children

There was time to write and read  
again,

People let their imaginations run  
wild

And boredom sprang into  
creativity



Some learned a new language  
Some discovered art  
Some discovered that they had  
not really been living  
And they found their way back to  
themselves

Others stopped operating blindly  
Everyone had much more family  
time overnight

Someone closed their office and  
opened an inn with just four  
people

Others left failed relationships  
to find the love of their lives

Others offered to run errands or  
cook for vulnerable people

Everyone suddenly knew what a  
'vital profession' was,  
these people became heroes,  
they were valued more than ever

Others started making or singing  
music with each other  
enjoying being together in this  
way

People reflected on their  
loneliness and invented ways to  
do something about it

People recovered from their  
stressful lives

People who did not know each  
other spontaneously started to  
chat with each other

Some even made kites with their  
phone numbers on them so lonely  
people could call them

The government helped  
companies and the self-employed  
So that they would not go

bankrupt or dismiss employees  
Retired healthcare personnel

volunteered to assist in  
Healthcare

(Continued on page 18)

(Continued from page 17)

Volunteers came from all over,  
Everyone wanted to do  
something  
At 8:00 PM people from all over  
the world started clapping for all  
the doctors, nurses and care  
staff who worked hard to keep  
everything going.

It was the year in which people  
came to recognize the  
importance of health and  
connection,  
Of togetherness, of social  
contacts and perhaps  
also of His calling  
That did something to the  
collective consciousness of all  
the people ...

And while the world economy  
almost went under,  
It didn't,  
It reinvented itself  
It was the year when the world  
seemed to stop,  
the year we would enter the  
history books together...

We all knew that  
But Spring did not know,  
And the flowers continued to  
bloom,  
The trees sprouted  
It became warmer  
There were many more birds

Then came the day of  
liberation...  
People watched TV  
Their government told everyone



The emergency was over  
And that the virus had lost!  
Everyone had won TOGETHER !!!  
And everyone took to the  
streets ...  
With tears in their eyes ...  
Without masks or gloves ...

Neighbours were hugged as if they  
were brothers  
And the world became more  
beautiful;  
more loving  
People become more human  
And once again they had  
values and norms

People's hearts were open once  
again,  
To the positive consequences  
Because while everything had  
stood still,  
The Earth had breathed again,  
She too had been healed of the  
harm done by people to her much  
earlier

And then Summer came....  
Because Spring didn't know  
And He was still there  
Despite everything  
Despite the virus  
Despite the fear  
Despite death

Because Spring didn't know,  
everyone learned  
the power of life

*Written by Italian poet  
Irena Villa  
Translated into Dutch by  
Susan Blaner  
Translated into English by*



## 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.*

