

Services held every
Sunday morning
10:30 am

Volume 17 Issue 1 January 2021

Next issue: First Sunday February 2021

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St Mary's Magazine



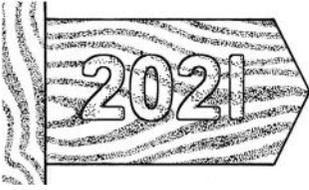
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The Anglican Chaplaincy of Twente

DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND





January
2021



EPIPHANY



Goodbye 2020

Farewell

Dearest Friends,

So, all too swiftly, at least for me, in the end, my time as chaplain of The Anglican Church, Twente, is over. Sadly, too, it culminated at a time of particular global challenge that has touched us all, and my farewell happened, for most, on camera. Nevertheless, I have been overwhelmed by the touching and humbling ways you all managed to make me feel valued and loved. The generosity you have shown in so many ways, particularly in your words of appreciation and encouragement, I have found beautiful and deeply touching.

In recent weeks I have had, echoing in my mind, those words of the often stingingly sharp tongued, though gifted, Oscar Wilde, "Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go". I feared I might fall among the latter, yet, I am nothing less than immensely grateful for the kindness of your words and warmth of effort in your imaginative and generous tokens of appreciation, even if I do!!!

The whole of the farewell event was, for me, marked by the truly amazing stroke of genius that led to the unique and wholly inspired commissioning of the beautifully executed scale model, in exquisite leaded stained glass, of the Weldam Chapel. For those of you who have been unable to view it in reality, I will be happy to break protocol and bring it along to church one morning when "lockdown" is eased!!! I absolutely love it and will treasure it for the rest of my days. This, and the many cards, personal messages, and personal gifts have convinced me of our collective and, I believe, durable friendship, if, indeed, these were necessary reminders.

I thank you all from the depths of my being. If we have truly been friends, and I know this in my heart, that, in itself, is a wonderful and sustainable thing, and is not mine alone but belongs to us all.

Finally, I have occasionally, so I have been told, been thought to be a little overly verbose, however, I feel I must add here, the especial context of our opportunity for friendship. We, like the Blessed one of Psalm 1v2: "Delights in the law of the Lord". I have often reminded you, as myself, that we should not make this complicated: the Law can be just a list of rules easily forgotten. Jesus reminds us that but one law suffices: when apprehended and applied, it embraces and fulfils them all: "Love is the fulfilling of the Law".

*He who wears his morality but as his best garment were better naked.
The wind and the sun will wear no holes in his skin.
And he who defines his conduct by ethics imprisons his song-bird in a cage.*

... ..
*And if you would know God be not therefore a solver of riddles.
Rather look about you and you shall see Him playing with your children.
And look into space; you shall see Him walking in the cloud,
Outstretching His arms in the lightning and descending in rain.
You shall see Him smiling in flowers, then rising and waving His hands in trees.*

Kahlil Gibran: 'The Prophet' 1923

My love and my gratitude to you all,

Brian

St Mary's Chapel News



Let Sleeping Dogs Lie

An old, tired-looking dog wandered into my house. Slowly he walked into the sitting room and fell asleep on the rug for an hour. The next day he was back for another nap. This daily visit and snooze continued for several weeks. Curious, I finally pinned a note to his collar: 'Are you aware that your sweet dog comes to my house each day for a nap?'

The next day he arrived with a different note pinned to his collar: "He lives in a home with six children - he's trying to catch up on his sleep. Can I come with him tomorrow?"

Parking

A man was driving down the street in a panic because he had an important meeting and couldn't find a parking place. Looking up toward heaven, he said "Lord, take pity on me. If you find me

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Videos of the services

Thank you so much to Lub Gringhuis who does an excellent job each week in making the video recordings of the services. They are much appreciated, especially by those who are not able to attend the services in person. Previous services, going back to March this year, are still available to watch via the Website page.

Goodbye to our Chaplain

Last Sunday's service, the first Sunday of Christmas was also the farewell service of our wonderful Chaplain, the Revd Brian Rodford.

It should have been the party of the century. Instead, it was a strangely muted affair, held in a nearly deserted chapel. But it was not a sad and bleak farewell.

Oh no! Brian, and the handful of people who were permitted to be in the chapel, filled the space with joy and tears, laughter. With voices choking back the sorrow of parting, wonderful tributes were paid to a Chaplain who so embraced the warm, spirituality of St Mary's. I watched the video, with tissues near at hand!

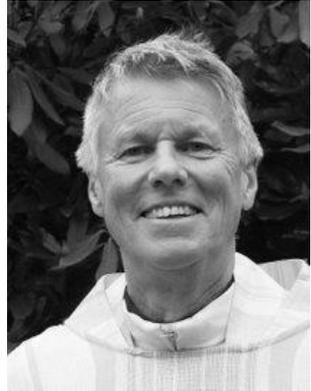
Brian should have retired in June, but due to the difficulties imposed by Covid regulations, he agreed to stay on to the end of the year. No doubt, sometime in 2021 there will be the opportunity to have a proper bring-and-share Hut party. The poem on Page 20 I believe encapsulates our priest and his service to the community.

A Word from Wales

By the time this magazine is distributed, we will be in a new year. A fresh start with New Year resolutions to keep, with hope for a better year than 2020. A year marked by tragedy, hardship and sorrow.

Yet also a year where there were so many acts of kindness and true humanity as people came together to help the lonely, and those in need. True, there were also too many incidents of crass stupidity and selfishness. But then there were characters such as Captain Sir Tom Moore, who so captured the public's attention here in the UK during the First Lockdown.

Personally, the year began with Marilyn and I leaving the



Netherlands and moving to Wales. We will never forget the wonderful farewell party in the Hut.

Here in Wales we have been made most welcome. In the days leading up to Christmas, residents of our Residential Park could be observed walking around, carrying plastic shopping bags. A constant stream of Christmas cards came through our letter box. People had thoughtfully put their names and house number inside the card. So now, when we go for a walk and stop for a chat on the road with one of our neighbours, we can check the Christmas cards to find out with whom we have been talking.

To all our readers:



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>

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somewhere to park, I will go to church every Sunday for the rest of my life.' Miraculously, a parking place appeared. The man looked up again and said, 'Never mind. I found one.'

Every New Year's Day I ask myself the same unanswerable question: 'How did I get home last night?'

Why do we always say 'amen' after we pray? Why not a-women? And why do we sing hymns and not hers?

America would not be in such a mess today if the Red Indians had only adopted more stringent immigration laws.

Evolution 1

If evolution is true, why do mothers still only have one pair of hands?

Evolution 2

Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today, it's called golf.

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Morning Tea

A vicar in a small country church was looking forward to an important visit from his bishop, which would involve the bishop staying overnight at the vicarage after the service. His young son became very excited, as he had never spoken to a bishop before.

The vicar decided that his young son should be allowed to knock on the bishop's door in the morning and take him in his morning tea. His father gave him instructions: "First, knock on the door of the bishop's room and then say loud and clear: "It's the boy, my Lord, it's time to get up."

The young son was very excited and rehearsed his lines, repeating them over and over. Finally, the bishop came and spent the night. Next morning the young lad went to the door and knocked. He cried loudly: "It's the Lord, my boy, and your time is up!"

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The Rectory St James the Least of All

On how to deal with your church's correspondence

My dear Nephew Darren

You may have had several years of intensive training on biblical interpretation, preaching and church history, but that doesn't cover the really important matters in parish life: how to evade disgruntled parishioners, run a brisk Summer Fete and, in your case at present, deal with correspondence, either by letter or email.



My regular practice, which I recommend to you as a New Year Resolution, is to read all the letters/emails you receive and then discard them. If the matter is truly important, you will receive a second message, to which you respond; more likely, the sender will either have forgotten all about his first letter/email after the second month or will write to some other cleric instead. In either case, you will be saved a great deal of trouble.

You only need two folders for your filing system, either for post or emails. The first is for complaints; they are to be filed and ignored, no matter how many duplicates you are sent. Should you be confronted personally, you simply say that the matter has been passed on to the bishop. Those truly dogged complainants who pursue the matter will eventually receive an episcopal reply saying he knows nothing of the matter, for which you then blame the postal system/spammed email. After letters and emails have ricocheted round the country for many months, the person complaining will either have lost energy to pursue the matter, or the will to live.

The second file receives all other correspondence/emails chronologically. The earliest letters and emails will be at the bottom of the pile and the most recent on the top. In my experience, the postal file only needs attention when it reaches a height of about two feet and becomes unstable. The practice then is to discard the lower six inches and allow it to continue its steady growth. If the stack is kept in the church vestry, then mice usually attend to the papers on the bottom of the pile.

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Sadly, your own church, with its electronic systems for filing, sorting and retrieving correspondence and with your parish secretaries, removes all of these blessings at a stroke. You have therefore no excuses for not dealing instantly with every note that comes your way. As ye sow, so shall ye reap.

May I also remind you that not even St Paul, that unflagging letter-writer, ever ended one of his letters with a request for a prompt reply. Need I say more?
Your loving uncle,

Eustace



Ryan was delighted with the cloak, but not so sure about the face mask

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Rock and Roll Releases -
when ageing stars remake their oldies hits...

- Herman's Hermits
- "Mrs. Brown, You've Got A Lovely Walker"

The Bee Gees
"How Can You Mend A Broken Hip"

Procol Harem -
"A Whiter Shade Of Hair"

ABBA -
"Denture Queen"

Paul Simon
"Fifty Ways To Lose Your Liver"

Commodores -
"Once, Twice, Three Times To The Bathroom"

Roberta Flack
"The First Time I Ever Forgot Your Face"

Johnny Nash
- "I Can't See Clearly Now"

Leo Sayer
"You Make Me Feel Like Napping"

How?

The Moving Finger writes; and, having writ, moves on. And so I stare and wonder - where does the ink come from?

Help

We are not all in the same boat. We in the same storm.

Some have yachts, some, canoes, and some are drowning. Just be kind and help whoever you can

Looking forward to 2021

The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and he delights in His way. - *Psalm 37:23*

In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. - *Proverbs 3:6*

Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God. - *Corrie ten Boom*

In His love He clothes us, enfolds us and embraces us; that tender love completely surrounds us, never to leave us. As I saw He is everything that is good. - *Julian of Norwich*

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Report of the Synodical gathering of the Archdeaconry of North-West Europe, - October 8th-10th, 2020 Part 2

@Simone Yallop, Licensed Lay Reader & Archdeaconry Representative

The Friday gathering started in the afternoon with a session on safeguarding matters. Bishop Robert read out the full text of a letter to victims and survivors of child sexual abuse about the recently published Investigation Report from the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA). In the letter, the Church turns directly to the surviving victims and acknowledges its failure to *listen, respond* and *act* in cases of child abuse, and offers its unqualified apologies. The length of time since reported abuse is no barrier. Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, Grace Fagan, and her team, assisted by senior independent members of the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Committee will respond and help. They will act with the fullest co-operation with police and law enforcement authorities in and beyond the Diocese. The bishop quoted from the Gospel of St. Luke, Chapter 12:2, where Jesus says "there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known."

After the Bishop's address, we kept a minute of silence.

Then, Grace Fagan, the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, took the floor. She pointed out that there has been an increase in casework and a significant expansion in online training on safeguarding. She discerned three levels of training:

CO - Basic Awareness (for everyone in the Church),

C1 - Foundation Course (for all in contact with children and vulnerable adults)

and C2 - Leadership Training (for all who have safeguarding leadership or leading activities with children/vulnerable adults, such as, e.g. Church Council members).

The C02 training has been changed from day courses with trainers to a digital training course. This transition required a great deal of effort from the Diocese Safeguarding Team. Together with the safeguarding compliance requirements with DBS checks (in the UK: Disclosure and Barring Service, which is similar to VOG in the Netherlands) and checks in other countries where people have lived. At present, these safeguarding compliance checks are optional for churchwardens, but reporting is low and needs to be encouraged.

After a break for an evening meal, the session 'Diocesan Affairs' followed, led by Bishop Robert and Andrew Caspari, the Diocesan Secretary and Chief Operating Officer for the

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Diocese of Europe. They shared the presentation, each taking it in turns to address various topics. The Bishop began by expressing his thanks to God for the clergy and lay leaders in the Archdeaconry. They have all sustained church life, fellowship and pastoral care in these difficult times of Covid-19. They have had to reinvent how to be Church, to deliver worship in new ways and to find imaginative ways of caring for one another.

The Bishop reflected on the recent ordinations in Ghent, in October, bringing the arrival of four new curates to our Archdeaconry. Bishop Robert spoke about the new appointments of clergy in Leuven, Tervuren, Ypres and the Hague. Then, regarding the Diocesan Strategy, he mentioned his current concerns: Evangelism - how do we proclaim the gospel and make disciples in a Covid-19 world with digital Church? Racial justice - the inclusion of people from a black ethnic minority background. Climate justice - we are committed as a church to be net-zero carbon by 2030, a challenging target. In climate justice, the Church should be a leader and not a reluctant follower.

The Bishop's Council has identified six priority areas, which include ordained ministerial development and support. Funding has successfully been requested, which is supporting our new curates. We are committed to paid professional archdeacons. The Diocese will be publishing user guides to clarify the relationships between lay officers and chaplains, particularly concerning appointments. Chaplaincy councils will be recommended to study the clergy covenant that has been approved by General Synod. Other priority areas include the development of lay ministry, youth, the future of the earth, poverty and social justice and a digital diocese.

The Bishop noted how the combined effect of Brexit and Covid-19 would have an impact on the membership of our churches. It will become harder for people to move from the UK to mainland Europe, and many who are here are thinking about returning to the UK. Across the Diocese, growth is likely to come from Anglicans migrating from the global south, with lower income groups. We may be becoming a poorer church, which is biblically praiseworthy, but it will bring its own strains and stresses.

Andrew Caspari spoke about how these developments challenge us as a diocese to think about who we are, and what we want to become, who we want to work with and who we want to serve. He stressed the importance of being at the forefront of thinking about climate change, and showing commitment in our actions. This is important in order for us

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Endurance and perseverance are qualities we would all like to possess, but we are loath to go through the process that produces them. - Jerry Bridges

You can never plan the future by the past. - Edmund Burke

What we look for does not come to pass. God finds a way for what none foresaw. - Euripides

Epiphany

Christ is the great central fact in the world's history. To Him everything looks forward or backward. All the lines of history converge upon Him. All the great purposes of God culminate in Him. The great and most momentous fact which the history of the world records is the fact of His birth. - Charles H Spurgeon

Great little one!
Whose all-embracing birth lifts Earth to Heaven, stoops Heaven to Earth. - Richard Crashaw

Forthcoming Services

January 3 2021

10:30 Eucharist

Epiphany

Celebrant and Preacher

Rev. David Mumford

Duty Warden

Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

Joyce Wigboldus

There will be no

sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Linda ten Berge

1 John 4. 11-18

Gospel

Mark 6. 45-52

January 10 2021

10:30 Eucharist

Baptism of Christ

Celebrant and Preacher

Rev. David Mumford

Duty Warden

Klaas Prins

Intercessor:

Maureen Underwood

There will be no

sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Vivian Reinders

Acts 19. 1-7

Gospel

Mark 4. 4-11

January 17 2021

10:30 Eucharist

Epiphany 2

Celebrant and Preacher

Rev. David Mumford

Duty Warden

Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

Simone Yallop

There will be no

sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Frances Gothard

Revelations 5, 1-10

Gospel

2 John 1 43-end

Forthcoming Services

January 24 2021

10:30 Eucharist

Epiphany 3

Celebrant and Preacher

Rev. David Mumford

Duty Warden
Klaas Prins

Intercessor:
Klaas Prins

There will be no sung
hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Ann Powell

Revelations 19. 6-10

Gospel

John 2. 1-11

January 31 2021

10:30 Eucharist

Candlemas

Officiant ant and Preacher

Rev. David Mumford

Duty Warden:
Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor
Jeanet Luiten

There will be
no sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Elizabeth v.d Heijden

Revelation 12. 1-5A

Gospel

Mark 1. 21-28

February 7 2021

10:30 Eucharist

Second before Lent

Celebrant and Preacher

Rev. David Mumford

Duty Warden
Klaas Prins

Intercessor:
Joyce Wigboldus

There will be no sung
hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Erica Bonting

Colossians 1. 15-20

Gospel

John 2. 1-11

Numbers

When the minister announced the first hymn on Zoom, "Ten thousand times ten thousand!" the little boy turned anxiously to his father. "Does he want us to work that out?"

Films adapted for Wales

It is said that the Welsh film industry has spent lockdown planning to remake numerous well-known films, but this time with a Welsh flavour. The following have been suggested as sure winners:

- * 9½ Leeks
- * The Lost Boyos
- * Dai Hard
- * The Eagle has Llandudno
- * The Magnificent Severn
- * Haverfordwest Was Won
- * Austin Powys
- * Independence Dai
- * The Llanfairpwllgwyn gyllgogerychwyr ndrobwlantysiliogogoch That

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to be relevant to young people who are concerned about climate change.

The Bishop then introduced the five-minute video, made earlier this year, that gives a patchwork of life across the Diocese during lockdown (<https://youtu.be/MNNzoM8-UNc>). Congregations have learned to meet using Zoom, YouTube or Facebook, sometimes with larger attendances than before. The Bishop explained how as a diocese we have jumped into a new technical era with Zoom based Pan Diocesan worship at Easter, Pentecost and Creationtide. People have said that they never felt so much a part of the Diocese before.

Andrew Caspari gave us news about the new forms of communication that have been developed and about the changes in the safeguarding team. Most of the staff of the diocesan office have been working from home in the past months. Travel has been much less during the pandemic, but this has resulted in reduced costs and reduced carbon footprint.

In response to Brexit, the UK Foreign Office has contracted the Diocese to launch the French Residency Support (<https://www.frenchresidency-support.org>), to work as an agency to help UK nationals living in France to apply for residency status. This will also bring us in contact with new people.

Andrew Caspari thanked everyone who has been able to complete their chaplaincy Annual General Meeting, which has not been easy during the pandemic. The best and recommended way of holding an AGM is in person, but now a Bishop's Instrument has been put in place to make it possible on-line (at the moment for 2020 only).

Andrew Caspari then went on to talk about diocesan finances. There has been a remarkable response to the request to increase the common fund, and there has been good financial performance in 2019. In 2020 the pandemic dramatically changed the plans, but there has been an encouraging response from the chaplaincies. The Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) decided to cut the 25% increase to the common fund that was planned for 2020 to help chaplaincies who were struggling financially because of the pandemic. Also, a Covid-19 hardship support fund was set up. Many chaplaincies, who could afford to do so, have given generously to this fund by foregoing the refund on their common fund payments. This is a wonderful symbol of mutual support between our chaplaincies. For the future, significant budget issues remain so that 2021 and beyond is a matter

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for further concern and planning. A copy of the full presentation together with the figures is available from us if anyone would like to see it. The presentation from Bishop Robert and Andrew Caspari was followed by an opportunity to ask questions.

After a short break, the evening concluded with a beautiful service of *Compline*, led by Bishop Robert and his wife, Helen. *Compline* is usually a short service before going to bed. In this somewhat different situation, it was the main service of the Synodical Gathering and included the Bishop's address. As a hymn, the song *The Power of your Love*, by Geoff Bullock was played (https://youtu.be/H9_0jiO5ZRM). The beautiful Psalm 139 was recited, and there was a reading from Romans 8. In his address, Bishop Robert explained how, during the Covid crisis, Romans 8 has been very meaningful to him. It is a crucial chapter in St. Paul's theology in which he brings key themes together. Paul explains how the Holy Spirit brings together the whole of creation and sustains us in this present age. These ideas are well expressed in the song *The Power of your Love*. Bishop Robert contrasted the way this song is autobiographical for Geoff Bullock, its author, to the way Romans 8 is autobiographical for St. Paul. Bishop Robert ended his address by explaining how the words at the end of Romans 8 have become so important to people during the pandemic: *'In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, ... nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord'*.

Joyce Wigboldus and Simone Yallop
(Archdeaconry Representatives)

'Quarantine' - the 2020 word of the year

The Cambridge Dictionary has named 'quarantine' as its 'word of the year' for 2020. Apparently, it was the word most looked up between January and October of last year. 'Quarantine' even beat 'pandemic' and 'lockdown'.

The Cambridge Dictionary has now added a new meaning to the word 'quarantine'. It runs: 'A general period of time in which people are not allowed to leave their homes or travel freely, so that they do not catch or spread a disease.'

The editors are also considering some possible new words for the dictionary. These include 'Quaranteam' (a group of people who go into quarantine together), Lockstalgia (a feeling of nostalgia for the lockdown period), and Coronial (someone born around the time of the pandemic).

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Time Forgot
* The Bridge on
the River Wye
* The Welsh
Patient
* Look You Back in
Bangor
* Evans Can Wait
* A Fishguard
Called Rhondda
* Where Eagles
Aberdare
* Dial M For
Merthyr

Sign in an old church porch to reassure any visitors:

In this church many are cold, but few are frozen.

Sign on the tomb of an atheist:

Here lies an atheist. All dressed up and sadly no place to go.

Not comfortable

The vicar was praying for the sick and said: "We must remember Mrs Goodwin in our prayers. She recently had all her teeth taken out and a new gas stove put in."

Food

I hate it when I think I'm buying ORGANIC vegetables, but when I get home, they're REGULAR donuts.

The cat

A vicar and his wife were going out for the evening, and carefully set the security lights and put the cat out. But when they opened the door to go to the taxi, the cat slipped back in and disappeared upstairs. Irritated, the vicar followed it.

The wife waited with the taxi driver. Not wanting him to know that they were leaving the parsonage empty, she said: "My husband is just upstairs for a quick word with my mother."

A few minutes later, the husband arrived, breathless. "Sorry I took so long" he said, "but she put up a fight! Stupid old thing was hiding under the bed and I had to poke her with a coat hanger and grab her by the scruff of the neck to get her out."

A wedding present for Charlotte and Carl A short history

It was a happy day, August 17th, 2019, when Charlotte Solms and Carl Moll got married. The congregation of St. Mary's participated at a beautiful reception, given by the happy couple the day after. It seems such a long time ago now; six months later, Covid-19 happened, and the entire world changed.

But as it was, on that wonderful day over a year ago, St. Mary's was not able to bring a present to the reception, but only a *promise* of a gift. A promise of something that had to take shape, or rather, had to be created. A long search into the kind of present to be given had gone on before the wedding day.

The couple were very modest; when asked, they said their happiness was enough for them! But we simply could not let them continue in their married bliss without a fitting present from St. Mary's! Finally, Charlotte came up with the idea of kneelers. We were entirely free to choose the patterns. Still, soon we agreed that the kneelers' design should be identical to the ones Count Alfred and Countess Christine had been given on the occasion of their wedding in 1992. But who had made these and where were the original patterns?

Via Trudy, Geoffrey Allen's wife (Geoffrey was our Chaplain from 1993-2004), we traced the telephone number of Geoffrey Woodward's wife, Nettie. Geoffrey Woodward was our Chaplain in 1992 (from 1990-1993). He died a few years later. Since then, Nettie has lived in Scarborough in the UK. When I telephoned her, she immediately promised to investigate. A few weeks later she rang and told us only three embroiderers - of the original guild of twenty - were still alive! At the time they were called the St. Mary's Embroiderers of Cottingham in Yorkshire. One of these still had some of the patterns and was going to send them to her.

Nettie herself had planned to come to the Netherlands a few months later to visit her brother in a nursing home at Oegstgeest. It would then be possible to hand over the patterns (we did not want them to get lost in the post!) And so she did, and Vivian and I travelled to Voorburg to collect them. Alas, they were not complete, so Nettie had to ask the ladies again if they could search their attics for more. A few months later, the same procedure was repeated when Nettie came over from Scarborough once more. This time she brought more patterns, and the original wools and colour schemes.

Now it was Vivian's task to find experienced embroiderers in

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the Netherlands who were able and willing to take on this demanding task. It was quite a search! Via several embroidery-platforms, she contacted Sary, who happened to come from the same part of the country as Vivian, and it turned out they shared acquaintances. Sary is a distinguished member of several embroiderers' guilds. She immediately became enthusiastic when she saw the patterns and heard the story. She gathered a few of her best embroiderers together, who were all thrilled to do the job - and regarded meeting each other at regular interval as a bonus! Sary's husband kindly used his computer to make the patterns both more precise and more accessible.

And so, they started: Sary, Lidy, Sjaan, Greta and Janneke. We got regular updates from them, and slowly the work progressed.



Sary Lidy
Sjaan Greta en Janneke

Met liefde gemaakt, dat het mag staan voor een
gelukkig en gezegend huwelijk!

It took them altogether more than 1500 hours to complete the embroidery. The same colours were used as in the 1992 kneelers, but this time in silk instead of wool. The result is stunning, a soft sheen, it took our breath away. Finally, Vivian found Mr. Daalwijk, upholsterer in Diepenheim, who mounted and filled the kneelers. He did a marvelous job and enjoyed doing it.

Originally, we planned to turn the kneelers' presentation into a big occasion. One at which Mrs. Netty Woodward, all embroiderers and the upholsterer and his wife would be present. We had been looking forward to it, so much but sadly enough it could not be because of Covid.

Fire?

The team at the local fire station had assembled to hear their training officer discuss the behaviours of various kinds of fire. He began: "You pull up to a house and notice puffs of smoke coming from the eaves. But the windows are blackened out and there is little or no visible flame. What does this tell you?" he asked.

Hoping the men recognised signs of a possible 'back draft', a condition very dangerous to fire fighters, he heard instead: "It tells me I've got the right house."

Church

My grandson, Justin, watched a live streaming service with his dad one Sunday morning. His mum wanted to know how it went. He said, "The music was nice, but the commercial was too long."

Choir

Two choir members recently got married. They met by chants.

Advert seen in a church magazine:

Car engine for sale by curate slightly cracked.

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Response

The mother of a lively youngster was struggling to get him into his pyjamas one night. "Jamie, lift up your arms!" she said. To which the child promptly replied: "We lift them up unto the Lord!"

Miscellaneous observations

Wrinkles mean you laughed;
grey hair mean you care;
scars mean you lived;
a large rear end means you love take-aways.

If money talks, my wallet is whispering.

I don't think the therapist is supposed to say 'you did what?!' that many times in your first session, but here we are.

I'm on two diets. I wasn't getting enough food on one.

Stealing someone's coffee is called mugging.

Nowadays the only time a person gets on his knees is to look for his contact lenses.

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Instead, we had to present the kneelers during a church service on December 6th, 2020. We sent a recording of the



service to all who had participated in the project. Despite this drawback, we had a fantastic service on the second Sunday of Advent. The kneelers were presented to Charlotte and Carl.

They accepted the kneelers with joy, and the couple thanked the congregation warmly, radiating pure happiness. So, in the end, happened what is said in Julian of Norwich's words: 'All shall be well, and all matter of thing will be well'. *Joyce*

Wigboldus

The Revd Peter Crumpler, a Church of England priest in St Albans, Herts, and a former communications director for the C of E, considers the New Year ahead.

Five things I'd like to see in 2021

I keep hearing people say that 2020 was a 'year like no other.' Friends have been writing a special journal recording the year, so they can pass it on to their grandchildren. Others just want to leave 2020 behind and look to a happier new year.

Both reactions are completely understandable. But I've been looking ahead to 2021 and thinking about the five top things I'd like to see in the year ahead. I wonder if you'll agree with them or not? Maybe you could put together your own list.

Let's make sure the vaccines are distributed fairly and speedily. Those who need the vaccine most urgently should receive it first, with a fair system for ensuring everyone else can be vaccinated quickly and efficiently. We need to ensure that everyone receives the vaccine wherever they live in the world - from the poorest to the richest. Especially, in those parts of the world where there is war, and people are living as refugees.

Let's learn the lessons of the pandemic - not just going back to how life was, as quickly as possible. Many of us learnt to appreciate our family so very much more - especially when we could not be with them for months on end. We learnt lessons about how important our neighbours and local businesses are, how precious our NHS, medical researchers, care providers and other frontline workers are. Let's not forget them.

Let's value nature. Those of us with gardens, or with parks or fields nearby, have been massively blessed. I've learnt to pay attention to birdsong, to the changing colours of the trees, and how unexpected plants have taken root in our garden. Pets have played a major part in helping us endure the lockdowns, especially for people who live alone. May we all learn to value the natural world on our doorsteps in the year ahead and beyond.

Let's bless technology. Without the use of the internet, meeting people 'online' or keeping in touch via email, Facetime or other technologies, 2020 would have been a whole lot tougher. Churches across the country moved their Sunday services online, and soon adapted to a different way of worshipping - not the same, but still helping us to worship together and see familiar faces. Let's continue to give thanks for the science that made that contact possible in 2020.

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Everyone seems normal until you get to know them.

Warning: Dates in your calendar are closer than they appear.

Typos in this church magazine

Some of you have noticed a few typos in this magazine now and then. To improve this for the New Year I am now using a new set of rules for editing:

1. Verbs HAS to agree with their subjects.
2. Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.
3. And don't start a sentence with a conjunction.
4. It is wrong to ever split an infinitive.
5. Avoid cliches like the plague. (They're old hat.)
6. Also, always avoid annoying alliteration.
7. Be more or less specific.
8. Parenthetical remarks (however relevant) are (usually) unnecessary.
9. Also too, never, ever use repetitive redundancies.
10. No sentence fragments.
11. Contractions aren't necessary and shouldn't be used.

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12. Foreign words and phrases are not *apropos*.

13. Do not be redundant; do not use more words than necessary; it's highly superfluous.

14. One should NEVER generalize.

15. Comparisons are as bad as cliches.

Order

Happy to visit his local pub before it closed again, a man found himself near two nuns. Eager to talk to anyone after weeks in Tier 3, he ventured: "What is your order?"

(Meaning their religious community.)

The nuns happily replied:

"Sausage and chips."

Left behind

Shortly after the funeral of a local wealthy man, two friends were discussing the Will. "How much did he leave?" wondered one.

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Let's value our church family. Imperfect we may be, like any family. But the months without being physically able to worship with them, share communion with them, sing alongside them have been hard. I value so much how many churches have risen to the pandemic challenge and sought to serve their communities in all kinds of ways. May we take all this experience into 2021 and build upon it.

Whatever 2021 holds for you and all those that you love, I pray that you may know the love of God in your life, and be able to pass it on to others.

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The pandemic has impacted just about every area of life. The following snippets may help give your readers an overview of some of the common problems many now face.

Counting the cost of coronavirus

Happy New Year! It's good to begin a new year with hope, but few of us have left 2020 unscathed by the pandemic.

For example, nearly half of us, 48 per cent, put on weight during lockdown. (According to a recent survey by King's College London and Ipsos MORI).

Millions of us turned to alcohol or drugs. Public Health England reports that one in five of us aged 45-74 are now drinking more than 21 units a week. The Royal College of Psychiatrists expresses alarm at the rapid rise in patients whose alcohol or drug use led to a decline in their mental health in 2020.

Children have suffered. Childline had nearly 43,000 calls from young people March and October. Cyber bullying has soared, with one in three children being bullied during the pandemic, according to the Anti-Bullying Alliance.

For millions of pensioners, Covid-19 'hit the fast-forward button on ageing', according to Age UK. Lockdown left old people frightened and losing their confidence, mobility and even functions such as memory.

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Suicidal thoughts soared during lockdown, with the number of people seeking help tripling, to stand at more than a quarter of a million. The Royal College of Psychiatrists warn that mental health services are now 'overflowing' with patients struggling to cope with anxiety, psychosis and depression. Many charities fear that a 'second pandemic' of mental health problems.

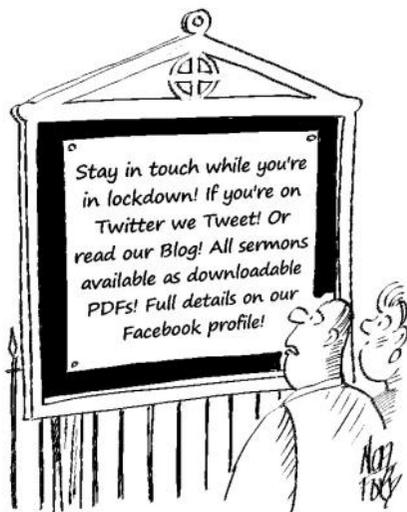
So - what do we do as January 2021 dawns? Each one of us CAN do something to make things better, if only in a small way. How about these for your New Year Resolutions?

Firstly, just get regular exercise. As one professor said, "Exercise creates a virtuous circle of physical and mental well-being. You move more, you eat better, you feel positive." On the other hand, only a couple of weeks of lying around the house will leave your cardiovascular systems less effective, your musculoskeletal system weaker, your metabolic rate affected, and your immune system lowered.

Secondly, adopt the right mental attitude. Studies of Holocaust survivors found that those who recovered best had certain character traits of resilience: optimism, self-esteem, acceptance and above all, spirituality. A faith in God gave them purpose and meaning, even in the midst of fear and death.

Thirdly, make an effort this year to keep in touch with your friends and keep an eye out for vulnerable neighbours. Be willing to act as a safety net for others, if only to show compassion and a willingness to listen to them.

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"...and we used to grumble about not understanding archaic church language!"

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His friend thought a moment, and ventured: "Well, I suppose, everything!"

Miscellaneous quotes on politics

Politics is not a bad profession. If you succeed there are many rewards. If you disgrace yourself, you can always write a book.

- Ronald Reagan

I have never regarded politics as the arena of morals. It is the arena of interests.

- Aneurin Bevan

Memorable

Man to wife:

"He preaches a remarkably good sermon. It is so hard to avoid offending people like us."

- New Yorker cartoon caption

We tolerate shapes in human beings that would horrify us if we saw them in a horse.

- W R Inge, a former Dean of St Paul's.

*On the Retirement
of a Good and Faithful*

Priest

*You have served the Lord and our Church
with gladness – tirelessly, faithfully, and
with great compassion for your flock.*

*You have planted seeds of hope & love
in our lives and truly made a difference.
You have shown hospitality to all and
given encouragement to many.*

*Now, as the story which is your life
opens to its next chapter, May the God
of Grace richly bless and watch over you,
May the God of Peace grant you peace always
and May the God of Abundant Joy shower you daily.*

*“I know what I am planning for you,
says the Lord. ‘I have plans to
give you hope and a good future.’”
~ Jeremiah 29:11*

Anonymous

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.*

