

Services held every
Sunday morning
10:30 am

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Next issue: First Sunday March 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





February 2021

The Revd Peter Crumpler, a Church of England priest in St Albans, Herts, and a former communications director for the CofE, considers the growing problem of fake news.

Truth at risk of being auctioned to the highest bidder – Archbishop

Truth is becoming a commodity, up for auction to the highest bidder, says Archbishop of York Stephen Cottrell in a recent article published in Radio Times.

Lamenting the decline of truth in public life, the Archbishop explains "The echo chambers of social media and the fake news that often goes with it have led us to mistrust and cynicism.

"In other parts of the world, even news channels seem to be mouthpieces of certain political parties or vested interests."

Commenting on the US Presidential election, Archbishop Cottrell says "Look at how divided and mistrustful of each other the people of that nation have become. Most alarming of all, there seems to be no common understanding of what is true or who can be trusted. Truth itself seems to have become a commodity, bought by the highest bidder."

The Archbishop's words echo those of former President Barack Obama, who told the BBC that the US was more sharply divided now than when Donald Trump won election four years ago.

Using the term 'truth decay' to describe a rise in conspiracy theories and disinformation in the US, Barack Obama said, "I think at some point it's going to require a combination of regulation and standards within industries to get us back to the point where we at least recognise a common set of facts before we start arguing about what we should do about those facts."

The Archbishop of York, who took up the post last July, is warning that the divisions in the US could come to the UK. He believes that the BBC and other UK 'public service broadcasting' channels like Channel 4 have a vital role in holding the country together.

He says "I know that there are many across the country who feel that during this terrible pandemic year, others have been favoured at their expense. The vision of the united but diverse nation that we see on TV programmes such as 'Gogglebox' is not always what we see around us."

The Archbishop is worried that the rise and spending power of US broadcasting giants Netflix and Amazon places "our British way of doing broadcasting under threat. A voracious, unchecked market may just sweep it away. Even some of our own politicians don't always see this."

St Mary's Chapel News



Our Dutch readers may need to refer to a children's song, 'This Old Man' to get the joke.

A frog goes into a bank and approaches the teller. He can see from her nameplate that her name is Patty Whack.

"Miss Whack, I'd like to get a \$30,000 loan to take a holiday."

Patty looks at the frog in disbelief and asks his name. The frog says his name is Kermit Jagger, his dad is Mick Jagger, and that it's okay, he knows the bank manager.

Patty explains that he will need to secure the loan with some collateral.

The frog says, "Sure. I have this," and produces a tiny porcelain elephant, about an inch tall, bright pink and perfectly formed.

Very confused, Patty explains that she'll have to consult with the bank manager

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Welcome back to Weldam

I have been one of the people keeping in touch through the web services. It was wonderful to see the Revd, David Mumford back at St. Mary's. Took me back to the last interregnum in 2017. As someone fascinated by the history of the church, I must confess I thoroughly enjoyed David's sermon into which he wove the origins and differences of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

Unlike 2017, your wardens this interregnum this year face a constant battle to engage locums. Not because there is no one available, but because of the ever changing travel restrictions. I have however heard that Jeanet and Klaas against all odds, have managed to ensure coverage well into summer.

Get Well

I was informed that your magazines Contribution Editor, Erica Schotman Bonting, was taken to hospital on the 16 January and underwent an operation. Subsequently Erica required a second operation. Here in Wales we are waiting anxiously for news on the outcome. Erica makes a quiet but such vital contribution to this magazine. Even from her hospital bed she sent me instructions to reprint the interview with Wim Veltman to mark his 100th birthday on the 22 January. Keep Erica in your prayers and I hope to be again receiving valuable Erica mail.

A Word from Wales

We were saddened to see the reports of riots in the Netherlands. We both have fond memories of the country and the people we lived with for so many years. I recognised places in Eindhoven I had been to when I worked in the area. No longer a peaceful place for a quiet lunch but a battleground. The fear and frustration of the pandemic boiling over into violence and destruction.

Here in Wales, things are quieter, thank goodness. Of course there is much moaning about the lockdown. However, the reports of over 100,000 dead appears to have driven home the message as too how serious the situation is as we anxiously wait for our vaccinations.

And how different this place is. On the 3 January, I wandered into the local Tesco supermarket. Naturally, I was suitably masked, hands reeking of the smell of sanitiser, as I struggled to control my shopping trolley, its handle made slippery with disinfectant. First thing I saw on display was EASTER EGGS!!

I know that I have tended to lose track of the days during the lockdown, but surely not that much? Anxiously I checked my smartphone. What date is Easter Sunday

2021? Yes, as I thought, 4 April Today was also, definitely the 3 January. Incidentally, Lent only begins on the 17 February and the Hot Cross Buns are already on the shelves. Sadly, in the Netherlands, I fear there will be no carnival this year.

This year a part of the Netherlands came to the UK, when ITV started broadcasting Lingo. When I first came to the Netherlands in 1999 I used to watch Lingo every evening after work. It was how I learnt the Dutch alphabet. Really useful because if people could not understand what I wanted, frequently, I could always spell it and so ensure I got eggs and not onions.

Stay safe, and like all tribulations, this too will pass.

Magazine Payments

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

Payments Due

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

Intercessions

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

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

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and disappears into a back office.

She finds the manager and says,

"There's a frog called Kermit Jagger out there who claims to know you and wants to borrow \$30,000, and he wants to use this as collateral."

She holds up the tiny pink elephant.

"I mean, what in the world is this?"

The bank manager looks back at her and says, "It's a knickknack, Patty Whack. Give the frog a loan. His old man's a Rolling Stone."

And the following is sadly too appropriate

Disperse them

A young clergyman, fresh out of training, thought it would help him better understand the harsh realities his future congregations faced if he first took a job as a policeman for several months. He passed the physical examination; then came the oral exam to test his ability to act quickly and wisely in an emergency. Among

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other questions he was asked, "What would you do to disperse a frenzied crowd?"

He thought for a moment and then said, "I would pass an offering plate." He got the job

Seen on a birthday card:

Forget about the past,
You can't change it.

Forget about the future,
You can't predict it.

Forget about the present,
I didn't buy you one

Dressed

During my surgical residency I was called out of a sound sleep to the emergency room. Unshaven and with tousled hair, I showed up with an equally unrepresentable medical student. In A&E we encountered the on-call medical resident and his student, both neatly attired in clean white lab coats. The resident said to his student, "You

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On why our church does not need health or safety...

The Revd Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'...

The Rectory
St James the Least of All
My dear Nephew Darren



I appreciated your recent concern when you heard one of our parishioners had slipped on a gravestone. Your desire to help was entirely commendable, and I do know that sending your own church's health and safety officer to give us some advice was kindly meant. But the 200-page report was not welcome. If we implemented even half of your officer's suggestions, life would become unbearably safe.

St James the Least of All has survived perfectly well for the last 600 years without gutter cleaning inspections, path degreasing and electrical safety certificates, so I think we may survive a little longer without them. As far as I am aware, the only disaster to hit us was when Cromwell's soldiers stabled their horses in the nave - which I suspect a few of our oldest members still clearly remember.

The shock the sidesmen sometimes get when switching on the lights occurs only occasionally, is relatively mild and soon over - and if it happens when preparing for the 8am Service, helps to wake them up. The weight of the Duke of Clumber's marble sarcophagus is slowly detaching the south aisle from the rest of the church, but it is very slow - and the pews in that area are used only once a year when his relations visit from America to commemorate his death at Agincourt - which is probably just beyond remembrance of the oldest of our congregation.

Leaks from the ceiling in the north aisle are solved with a row of buckets - and even you must concede that the fungi on the oak beams look really rather attractive when the sun catches them. The sapling growing out of the spire is certainly an issue - although it looks so attractive in Spring when in blossom. As for our fire extinguishers, they were serviced when my predecessor-but-two was in office, and I have the certificate to prove it.

So, do thank your health and safety officer for all his work and tell him we will bear his recommendations in mind. Also

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tell him I was so sorry he slipped and broke his leg in our choir stalls while he was with us. But that bit of floor has been out of alignment since 1748, and it seems a shame to disturb it now. If only he had arrived encased in bubble wrap, it would never have happened. Perhaps you could put that on the agenda of your next health and safety meeting.

Your loving
uncle,
Eustace



"Don't worry, I'm not getting Covid - I didn't realise the sign meant a low door..."

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He adds: "Along with the NHS, and even the Church of England, the BBC and other public service broadcasters are a precious part of our cultural ecology. They help us to see ourselves clearly. They can be trusted."

Meanwhile, a project running in the CofE's St Albans diocese has brought together journalists, scientists, representatives of Big Tech and authors with people from a range of faiths to consider how the rising tide of disinformation and fake news can be stemmed.

Grove Books has published 'Responding to Post Truth', showing how churches and Christians could fight back against fake news and disinformation. You can order a copy at: <https://grovebooks.co.uk/products/e-197-responding-to-post-truth>

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can always tell the surgeons by their absolute disregard for appearance."

Two evenings later, I was at a banquet when called to A&E for another emergency. I was stitching away, wearing my dinner jacket, when I encountered that same medical resident. He looked at me, then said to his student, "Sure is sensitive to criticism, isn't he?"

Show?

"Doctor," asked the young lady prior to her surgery, "will the scar show?" "Not in church, madam," replied the doctor, "but anywhere else, it's entirely up to you."

Diabetic

A fellow nurse at my hospital received a call from an anxious young man. "I'm diabetic and I'm afraid I've had too much sugar today," he said.

"Are you light-headed?" my colleague asked.

"No," the caller answered, "No, I'm brunette."

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Fall down

One way to find out if you're old is to fall in front of a group of people.

If they laugh, you're young.
If they panic and start running toward you, you're old.

Miscellaneous observations on modern life

As any member of a church committee will tell you, after all is said and done, there's a lot more said than done.

I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I learned that most people die of natural causes.

Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink lager all day.

If I wanted to hear the pitter-patter of little feet, I'd put shoes on my cat.

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Kennismaking / Introductions

Dear Friends of St'Mary's

We would like to introduce ourselves to you by this little note in our magazine.

We...that`s Geert and Klaas are living in Diepenheim now for 2 years. Before we came to Diepenheim, we lived in Ugchelen a little place near Apeldoorn. We have been building a new house in Diepenheim.

Diepenheim, as you all know, is a beautiful place to live with its castles and estates. We do a lot of walking with our dog Tjebbe and make bike rides.

We came to st. Mary's just the first Sunday we came to live in Diepenheim. Our plan was to visit different churches in the surroundings of Diepenheim. But...we never did, we felt at home at once in the chapel and in the hut of course.

Geert is working as a psychiatric nurse, and I am working as a personnel and salary consultant. Not fulltime anymore just for a few days a week. That gives me time to be a churchwarden, since last October.

It is delightful working with Jeanet, and I live in Diepenheim, so that`s always easy for small jobs to do at the chapel. I also have a hobby to buy second-hand stuff. I try to sell this again on Brocante / Flea markets. It gives me a lot of joy that some people don't use any more things that other people are delighted with. So never throw anything away...but think of me. We are pleased that we found a place in St Mary's, thank you for your love and attention. We appreciate it very much.

With love,

Geert and Klaas

Do Dogs go to Heaven

Our 14-year-old dog Abbey died last month. The day after she passed away my 4-year-old daughter Meredith was crying and talking about how much she missed Abbey.

She asked if we could write a letter to God so that when Abbey got to heaven, God would recognize her. I told her that I thought we could so, and she dictated these words:

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Dear God,

Will you please take care of my dog? She died yesterday and is with you in heaven. I miss her very much. I am happy that you let me have her as my dog even though she got sick.

I hope you will play with her. She likes to swim and play with balls. I am sending a picture of her so when you see her you will know that she is my dog. I really miss her.

Love, Meredith

We put the letter in an envelope with a picture of Abbey and Meredith and addressed it to God/Heaven. We put our return address on it. Then Meredith pasted several stamps on the front of the envelope because she said it would take lots of stamps to get the letter all the way to heaven. That afternoon she dropped it into the letterbox at the post office. A few days later, she asked if God had gotten the letter yet. I told her that I thought He had.

Yesterday, there was a package wrapped in gold paper on our front porch addressed, 'To Meredith' in an unfamiliar hand. Meredith opened it. Inside was a book by Mr. Rogers called, 'When a Pet Dies.' Taped to the inside front cover was the letter we had written to God in its opened envelope. On the opposite page were the picture of Abbey & Meredith and this note:

Dear Meredith,

Abbey arrived safely in heaven. Having the picture was a big help and I recognized her right away.

Abbey isn't sick anymore. Her spirit is here with me just like it stays in your heart. Abbey loved being your dog. Since we don't need our bodies in heaven, I don't have any pockets to keep your picture in so I am sending it back to you in this little book for you to keep and have something to remember Abbey by.

Thank you for the beautiful letter and thank your mother for helping you write it and sending it to me. What a wonderful mother you have. I picked her especially for you. I send my blessings every day and remember that I love you very much. By the way, I'm easy to find. I am wherever there is love.

Love, God

You will all be happy to know this wonderful story is 100% true, please don't take offense to the reference of God, it's part of the story. Admittedly, staff down at the Post Office probably 'helped' out.

"Three things in human life are important: the first is to be kind; the second is to be kind, and the third is to be kind."

© Meredith's Mom

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If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.

Good judgment comes from bad experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.

A closed mouth gathers no foot.

'Most cars on our roads have only one occupant, usually the driver.' (BBC reporter)

I really don't mind getting older, but my body is taking it badly.

I thought getting old would take longer.

Cleaning is just putting stuff in less obvious places.

Eyesight

A man went to his doctor to say that his eyesight was getting worse. The doctor asked the man to look out the window and to tell him what he saw. "I see the sun," the man replied.

The doctor replied: "Just how much farther do you want to see?"

Forthcoming Services

Until further notice all services will be on-line.

Links to the services can be found on

www.anglicanchurchtwente.com

February 7 2021

10:30 Eucharist

Second Sunday before Lent

Celebrant and Preacher

Rev. David Mumford

Duty Warden

Klaas Prins

Intercessor:

There will be no
sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Colossians 1. 15-20

Gospel

John1. 1-14

February 14 2021

10:30 Eucharist

Sunday next before Lent

Celebrant and Preacher

Rev. David Mumford

Duty Warden

Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

There will be no
sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

2. Corinthians 4. 3-6

Gospel

Mark 9. 2-9

February 17 2021

20:00 Eucharist

Ash Wednesday

Celebrant and Preacher

Rev. David Mumford

Duty Warden

Klaas Prins

Intercessor:

There will be no
sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Corinthians 5. 20B-6.10

Gospel

John 8. 1-11

Forthcoming Services

February 21 2021

10:30 Eucharist

First Sunday of Lent

Celebrant and Preacher

Rev. David Mumford

Duty Warden
Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

There will be no
sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

1 Peter 3. 1-18

Gospel

Mark 1. 9-15

February 28 2021

10:30 Eucharist

Second Sunday of Lent

Celebrant and Preacher

Rev. David Mumford

Duty Warden
Klaas Prins

Intercessor:

There will be no sung
hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Romans 4. 13-end

Gospel

Mark 8. 31-end

March 7 2021

10:30 Morning Prayer

Third Sunday of Lent

Celebrant and Preacher

Ms Simone Yallop

Duty Warden:
Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor

There will be
no sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

1. Corinthians. 1. 18-25

Gospel

John 2. 13-22

**Hymns for
seasoned
citizens**

The Old Rugged
Face

Precious Lord,
Take My Hand,
And Help Me Up

It is Well With
My Soul, But My
Knees Hurt

Nobody Knows
the Trouble I
Have Seeing

Amazing Grace,
Considering My
Age

Just a Slower
Walk With Thee

Count Your Many
Birthdays, Name
Them One by
One

Go Tell It On
The Mountain,
But Speak Up

Give Me That
Old Timers'
Religion

Blessed
Insurance

Guide Me O
Thou Great
Jehovah, I've
Forgotten
Where I Parked

Slow down
Each Sunday
morning our
minister was
mildly irritated
by a member of
the congregation
who was a fast

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Wim Veltman



On the 22 January 2021, Wim Veltman reached his 100th birthday. Due to strict Covid protocols, the celebrations were somewhat muted. Which may have suited the wonderful gentleman whose birthday it was!

On the occasion of Wim's 90th birthday, because the chapel was under refurbishment, the Sunday service was

held in the hut. Immediately followed by a celebration of the birthday. As everyone sang, "Lang zal je leven... .. in the Gloria," Wim was heard to heavily stage whisper, "God forbid!"

On his 100th birthday, in the care home, into which he had recently moved, he entertained the mayor with whom he shared slices of multi-candled cake and stimulating conversation. The two of them covered such topics as the negative pressure in space, whilst sipping champagne!

In August 2016, Erica Schotman interviewed Wim Veltman. In honour of his centenary, her article has been republished.

On a sunny afternoon in May, I visited Wim Veltman in his friend Anneke's beautiful farmhouse, in Markelo. I had come to know Wim over the years as a devoted and unwavering Christian. He trained for three years with the pastoral care ministry I was giving to several church members: the Chesmonds, Stephanie Prins, and Malcolm McBride. Wim also participated in a discussion group called 'The Doubters,' which we held monthly in our house for some years.

Over tea and strawberries, while we sat in the garden, Wim gave me some details about his life. Born in 1921 in Amsterdam, where he grew up and attended primary and secondary school (Hervormd Lyceum). Afterwards, he went

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on to Delft where he studied mining, and later, mechanical engineering.

During Wim's time at the Hervormd Lyceum, he came in touch with the S.C.M. (N.C.S.V.; Ned. Christen. Studenten Vereniging.) His parents sent him to the Eglise Wallonne Sunday school, as a way to help him learn to speak French better. Wim remembers well participating in a *tableau vivant* (a silent and motionless group of people arranged to represent a scene or incident) at Christmas. He regrets very much that this kind of entertainment is no longer common.

He also visited camps of the N.C.S.V. as a teenager. At the camps, he made many friends with whom he has remained in touch throughout his life. It was a time of forming international collaboration on technical issues during his studies because everyone could see that they were stronger together than as separate disciplines. Consequently, contacts were made with a student's organization in England that was equivalent to the N.C.S.V.

During Wim's visit to friends in England, he was taken to a weekend conference of old SCM-members. One of the English girls wanted to take a photograph of the whole group. Her name was Liz, and she had been a teacher. Now she was a nurse. As she was not tall, she had to stand on a table to take the picture. Wim took a photo of her wobbling on the small table. Just after taking her photo, she complained to Wim that he should have asked her first. Later, when Wim met her again in The Hague, she told Wim she had shown his photo to her mother, and she liked it very much.

Liz came to The Hague in the early fifties to work for half a year as a nurse in Bronovo, and they met again. She stayed on, and they became engaged. They married before Wim even started his first job. Still not having a house after the wedding, they continued to live in their own rooms for a while. That was until a friend offered them two rooms in his house, a living room downstairs and a bedroom in the attic.

After working for six years at Kabelfabriek Delft, and then a further two years at TNO (Toegepast Natuurwetenschappelijk Onderzoek - Applied Scientific Research) Wim deciding he had been in The Hague long enough. He took up a job at Hengelo Signaal. The work there suited him better than what he has been doing in Delft.

Liz, who had initially been a member of the Union Church in England, later became an Anglican. Wim and Liz found a warm place in the Dutch Reformed Church in Hengelo. One of his bosses thought Wim was the right person to be the

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reader. Finally, announcing the 23rd Psalm, he added:

"And will the lady who is always by 'the still waters' while the rest of us are still in 'green pastures,' please pause until we catch up?"

Collection

The church newsletter announced details of the church creche: 'Children are normally collected during the Offertory Hymn.'

Bishop

An exam for R.E. asked the following question: 'What does a Bishop do?'

Came one answer: 'Move diagonally across the board.'

Tribute

A minister had agreed to step in and take a funeral at short notice. He said a few general words of comfort, and then added: "As I did not know the deceased, is there anyone here who would like to give a few words of tribute?"

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Church Bulletins

*They're Back!
Those wonderful
Church Bulletins!
Thank God for
the church ladies
with typewriters.
These sentences
actually appeared
in church
bulletins or were
announced at
church services:*

Scouts are saving
aluminium cans,
bottles and
other items to
be recycled.
Proceeds will be
used to cripple
children.

The sermon this
morning:
'Jesus Walks on
the Water.' The
sermon tonight:
'Searching for
Jesus.'

Ladies, don't
forget the
rummage sale.
It's a chance to
get rid of those
things not worth
keeping around
the house. Bring
your husbands.

Miss Charlene
Mason sang
'I will not pass
this way again,'
giving obvious
pleasure to the
congregation.

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churchwarden they were looking for in the Bethlehem Kerk, close by. In those days, you did not necessarily go to a church just because it was in your neighbourhood. People also chose to go to a church because of the parson's preaching. The Revd. Miskotte was a very well-liked preacher.

One day Wim and Liz heard about the being held Anglican services in the Weldam Chapel. They divided their church visits between the two churches. That was relatively easy because, at the time, there was only a service every other week in the Weldam Chapel. Wim was an elder in the Bethlehem Kerk as well as being on the P.C.C. at Weldam Chapel.

After Liz died, Wim decided to attend the Weldam Chapel weekly because of the warmth, friendship, and compassion he felt there. I asked him what he liked best about our church now. Wim answered: 'to be there with kindred spirits, accepting each other for what they are, always being welcome.' He regrets that he can no longer be active in the church and that his chapel visits are now limited, due to his age. He is always happy to be there and hopes to do so for a long time.

©Erica Schotman Bonting



Love Is...

As we mark Valentines' Day this month, it's good to ask the question: what does real love look like?

The Apostle Paul says: *'Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.'* (1 Corinthians 13: 4-8).

Love is unconditional:

At heart, love is not just feelings but action! Paul talks here about unconditional love, using the word *agape*, which demonstrated in God's love for us: *'We love, because He first loved us.'* (1 John 4:19).

Love is forgiving:

According to the film *Love Story*, *'Love means never having to say you're sorry.'* This is rarely true in our experience!

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According to Paul, love is being ready to forgive others and 'keeping no record of wrongs' (5). We can only forgive others because we know God forgiveness in our own lives.

Love is sacrificial:

Paul says that agape love is not selfish or self-seeking, but selfless and self-sacrificial, putting the needs of other people first. This is modelled by Jesus giving His life for us on the cross. Take the words from 1 Corinthians and instead of the word *love*, substitute your own name. Now substitute the word *Jesus*. This is the Jesus who is available to you to make your love for others grow and flourish.

Someone once compared love being like a group of porcupines huddling together on a cold night. The closer they get, the more they jab and hurt each other. 'To love at all is to be vulnerable.' (C S Lewis).



ASH WEDNESDAY

A good time to admit you are sorry

Have you done something which haunts you? Which makes you feel restless and defensive, every time you think of it? Why not deal with it this month, and put it behind you? Whatever your mistake has been, consider what the Bible has to say to you:

'I have not come to call the virtuous but sinners to repentance' (said Jesus). (Luke 5.32)

'Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. (Isaiah 55.7)

'Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.' (Joel 2:12-13)

God is inviting you to come to Him this Ash Wednesday. What a wonderful offer! Make the most of it and remember how the prodigal son was welcomed back by his compassionate father.

(Continued from page 14)

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall.

Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

(Continued from page 13)

There was silence for a few moments, and then a voice from the back observed: "His brother was far worse."

Pray with grannie

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

Epitaphs found on headstones

In London:
Here lies Ann Mann
Who lived an old maid
But died an old Mann.

In Hartford::
On the 22nd of June
Jonathan Fiddle
Went out of tune.

Serious Lockdown Advice

Everyone please be careful because people are going crazy from being locked down at home!

I was just talking about this with the microwave and the toaster while drinking my tea, and we all agreed that things are getting bad.

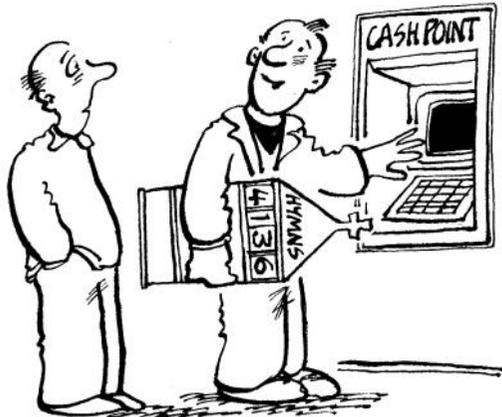
I didn't mention any of this to the washing machine, because she puts a different spin on EVERYTHING!! Certainly couldn't share with the fridge, cause he's been acting cold and distant! In the end, the iron straightened me out! He said the situation isn't all that pressing and all the wrinkles will soon be ironed out.

The vacuum, however, was very unsympathetic... told me to just suck it up! But the fan was VERY optimistic and gave me hope that it will blow over soon!

The toilet looked a bit flushed but didn't say anything when I asked its opinion, but the front door said I was becoming unhinged and the doorknob told me to get a grip!!

You can just about guess what the curtains told me: they told me to pull myself together!
We will survive!!

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...between you and me, it's the only way I can remember my PIN number!

God in the Arts

The National Gallery at Trafalgar Square in London houses one of the finest collections of European paintings in the world. It is home to 2,300 works spanning the centuries of artistic creation.

The Presentation in the Temple' by Guercino

When Mary and Joseph bring Jesus to the temple. They meet Simeon, who represents the waiting people of Israel - a nation looking for a better world now that the holy city was in the hands of Roman invaders.



Simeon clung to the hope that God would come to bring freedom and a new life. When it came, there was no fanfare, no warning. St Luke in his Gospel tells us of an ordinary family from faraway Nazareth who go to Jerusalem to perform the religious duties for the firstborn son. But in their encounter with Simeon we see and hear something extraordinary.

The scene is captured in this beautiful painting of 1623 that hangs in the National Gallery: 'The Presentation in the Temple' by Guercino. The artist Giovanni Barbieri had the curious nickname Guercino which means 'Squinty.' Why squinty, we are not sure, for all is clear and lyrical in this work.

At the base of the canvas we see the turtle doves with two ducks, but the heart of the scene focuses on Mary, Joseph and Simeon linked by the Christ-Child. Notice the gentle hands of Mary, the strong, supportive hands of Joseph, and the outstretched, waiting hands of Simeon. He may be an old man, but he is ready to welcome the babe, who is offered as a sign of hope and light for the future. A candle burns at the right side to emphasise the light shed by this meeting of infancy and old age.

St Luke by tradition was an artist himself, depicting the stories of his gospel with the deft strokes of a painter. In this scene the words of the evangelist and the skill of a 17th century Italian artist tell us that, at whatever age we are, we can also find light and hope as we offer our hands and our hearts to welcome the Christ-Child. ©Rev Michael Burgess.

Native American Saying

Only when the last tree has died
And the last river poisoned
And the last fish has been caught
Will we realise we cannot eat money

Aging

1. When one door closes and another door opens - you're probably in prison
2. To me, drink responsibly, probably means don't spill it
3. The older I get, the earlier it gets late
4. I can remember being able to get up without sound effects
5. When you ask me what I'm doing today and I say "nothing", it does not mean I'm free. It means I am doing nothing.
6. When you do squats, are your knees supposed to sound like a goat chewing an aluminium can stuffed with celery?
7. I've had my patience tested. I'm negative.
8. When I ask for directions please don't use words like "east"



*Today, I dared to let myself dream,
That the world will one day open again.
That the locks will loosen, the walls will fall,
The doors will fly open and reunite us all.*

*I dared to imagine the warmth of a cuddle,
A group of my friends all locked in a huddle.
I felt all the heartbeats, drumming with mine,
I heard all the laughter, I tasted the wine.*

*I thought of the feelings I've missed for long,
The room full of music, united by song.
The freedom to roam, to plan and to meet
To hold someone's hand, to meet, to greet.*

*Just for a moment I dared to dream of,
The flights I would board to the places I love.
The moment those eyes would meet mine at the gate,
The feeling of joy after so long a wait.*

*Today, I dared to let myself dream,
That the life we once had would happen again.
That we'd no longer fear the danger of air,
That our lives would not depend on such care.*

*They say that we mustn't wish time away,
But it's hard, my friend, when faced with a day,
So long in blank hours and so wiped of laughter,
It's tempting to drift away to thereafter.*

*So yes, I dared to dream just a while,
Of life coming back, it brought me a smile.
One day I know, this will be in the past,
And hugs will be free, again, at last.*

Donna Ashworth

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.