

Services held every
Sunday morning
10:30 am

Volume 17 Issue 6 June 2021

Next issue: First Sunday July 2021

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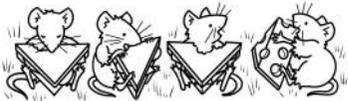
St Mary's Magazine

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The Anglican Chaplaincy of Twente



DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND





June
2021

One thing that we've probably missed over the past year is parties. This month should enable us to party again! Lots of Jesus' parables focus on parties, as they are a picture of the joy, hope and life of the kingdom of God. The parable of the Great Banquet (Luke 14: 15-24) challenges us not to miss out on this.

In Jesus' day, when people accepted an *invitation* to a banquet, they were only told the actual time on the day: '*Come, for everything is now ready*' (17). Jesus invites each one of us to share in the life of His kingdom.

However, the guests made *excuses* for not coming. At the time, this would have been extremely insulting to the host. They said: '*I have just bought a field; I must try out my new team of oxen; I have just got married*' (18-20). These are all good things in themselves, however they reveal their priorities were elsewhere. We too can be pre-occupied with our own routines of work, family, retirement, holidays, friends, home, social media, that we forget God's priorities for our lives. Jesus calls for total commitment from His disciples. *What priority in my life is holding me back from accepting His invitation?*

How did the host respond? He ordered His servants to '*Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.*' (21). He invited the unexpected and unacceptable people to his banquet. Jesus makes the point that *God's kingdom is open to all!* Thinking about our family, friends, colleagues and neighbours, even if they're not like us or show little interest in God: *Are we willing to offer them God's invitation to share His love and life?*

© Canon Paul Hardingham

St Mary's Chapel News



Neighbourhood Watch

In one small rural village the local vet also led the local Neighbourhood Watch group. Late one night the phone rang, and his wife answered. An agitated voice inquired, "Is your husband there?"

"He is, but tell me, do you need him as the vet or the Neighbourhood Watch?" the wife asked.

"Both!" was the reply. "We can't get our dog's mouth open, and there's a burglar in it!"

Jump

A minister invited to preach at a local prison regretfully chose the text: 'With the help of my God, I will leap over the wall.'

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Thank you and congratulations

Thank you to the Revd Sam Van Leer for taking our service this morning. Congratulations to Sam, who has now been appointed Archdeacon of North-West Europe after having been Acting Archdeacon for the past 6 months. Sam is also being made a Canon. He will be licensed as Archdeacon at a special service at the Pro-Cathedral of Holy Trinity Brussels on Saturday 12th June at 2pm.

Forthcoming services

Next Sunday, 6th June, the celebrant and preacher will be the Revd Rik Florentinus, an Anglican Priest and Prior of a religious community ministering in the inner city of Amsterdam.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM took place after the service. The AGM was chaired by Revd Sam Van Leer. The wardens Jeanet and Klaas were re-elected and admitted to serving for another year. Two council members who had come to the end of their term of office, Hans and Elisa, were re-elected for a further three years. Erick and Maureen have stepped down from council this year. Three new council members, Ferdinand, Frances and Karel, were elected to serve for three years. There was a lively and fruitful discussion, under Any Other Business, about new ideas for the council to consider in the coming months.

Funeral

Some of you may have known Henk and Annabelle Slootjes. They were married at St. Mary's by Alja in 2015 when they lived close to the chapel. Annabelle passed away on 14th May 2021 and Henk on 18th May 2021. The funeral of Annabelle took place last Friday, and the service for Henk will take place this coming Thursday. We remember them and their family in our prayers

Above taken with thanks from Simone Yallop's chaplaincy news

A Word from Wales

With an easing of Welsh lockdown restrictions, I have finally managed to go back to church. My local church, St Deiniol in Hawarden, is about 3 miles away. Instead of being a parish church, it is one of the Borderlands Missionary churches. Not since my life in Africa have I attended a missionary church!

Having checked in with the Warden, as attendance is strictly appointment only these days, I was led to my pew. There I sat, enchanted by the size of the church and the exquisite beauty, the holiness of the space. My eyes strayed to a group of carved stone tablets on the far wall to my right. Here I should explain that the pews are in four blocks, with a central aisle and two side aisles. I was

in the third block from the right, so I was a long way from the tablets. However, I could see that it was a list of the vicars appointed to the church. The last one being the Rector, the Revd Andrea Jones, dated 2017. The first was more difficult to read, the Revd Willem de Mercer, 1180.

Behind the altar, there is a huge stained-glass window in the Pre Raphaelite style depicting the crucifixion. The figure of Christ is flanked by Mary and John. As I went up to the altar to receive communion, I lifted my gaze to the window, which by now had the morning sun shining obliquely behind it. It was such a fantastic sight as to stop me in my tracks. This caused some difficulty to my fellow communicants as we were all in a socially distanced column. When I stopped, everyone had to stop.

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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 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 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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Talking

Bishop Douglas Feaver, the notoriously outspoken former Bishop of Peterborough, was presiding at his first Diocesan Synod and a man at the back had been droning on and on for some length of time.

Finally, a lady called out to protest that she could not hear what he was saying. Bishop Douglas replied: "You should thank God and sit down."

For sale

An estate agent's board outside a redundant church:
FOR SALE.
Suitable for conversion.

On a church notice board:

Visitors welcome.
Members expected.

Friend?

Arriving at church to attend a wedding, a formidable looking lady in a large hat was greeted by the usher. "Are you a friend of the groom?" he ventured. "Certainly not," she said indignantly. "I'm the bride's mother."

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Curate

As the enthusiastic curate was preparing to move on to his first church as a vicar, a parishioner asked him what he thought had been his main contribution to the life of the church. He replied: "People here didn't know what sin was until I came."

Belief

Our elderly vicar was very devout, but sometimes lost his place during the service. One Sunday as we reached the Creed there was a long silence, so the curate went across to him and gently touched his arm. "I believe in God," she whispered.

The vicar smiled back happily. "Oh so do I, so do I!"

The Lord's work

On leaving the local Churches Together lunch, the Catholic priest was heard to say to the Methodist minister:

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

On getting to church at a social distance

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

Since your parishioners mostly live in an area of half a square mile, where their only concern in getting to church is whether to take the underpass, or to risk a dash across the ring road, you may have little understanding of the problems our folk have in travelling our long country lanes to church, especially as we are keeping our social distance from each other.

Several parishioners have decided that they can't possibly share cars even with their own spouses, as in their 15-room homes they have successfully (and in some cases, happily) avoided each other for months. So the lane outside the church has filled up each week with Mercedes nudging Audis, and Land Rovers easing in between Bentleys.

Others arrive on horseback. But they are careless about leaving their horses to graze in the churchyard, and I have had to remind them twice that flowers in memorial vases are not fodder. The horses do help to keep the grass down, but unfortunately our verger now objects to standing outside during Mattins, holding the reins of half a dozen horses. He says it is not part of his job description, which only confirms my view that there is entirely too much fuss these days about having job descriptions at all.

Major Crompton's devotion to his new sit-on lawnmower has inspired him to travel to church on it. Since he is unable to uncouple the mowing apparatus, the tarmac on his two-mile drive is acquiring interesting patterns. His drive at two miles per hour along narrow lanes means he arrives leading a procession of cars with drivers given the opportunity to exercise the Christian virtue of patience.

Mrs Pendleton, on the other hand, leads a small but select group from the Mothers' Union who are all keen cyclists. They all arrive on a whoosh of fresh air, their hair in total disarray, but with pink cheeks glowing with health. Nobody in

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church minds sitting near them, as anyone who can manage to peddle an old three-gear bicycle up the hill to our church is most unlikely to be sickening for anything.

Finally, of course, the majority arrive on foot, having negotiated fields, stiles and assorted cattle on the way. The countryside may well praise God, but one does wish they wouldn't bring quite so much of it into church.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



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Hurriedly I resumed my journey to the altar, curious why this beautiful building was such a delicate blend of medieval and Victorian.

St Deiniol, named after a 6th Welsh saint, was established at the end of the 12th century. William Gladstone, the famous Victorian Liberal Prime Minister, both worshipped and wed here.

The Gladstone Chapel to one side of the altar depicts the stone effigies of William Gladstone and his wife voyaging in the boat of life for all eternity. The couple are buried together in Westminster Abbey. There is also a Rood Screen in the church, a memorial to Lt. W.G.C. Gladstone, grandson of Sir William, who in 1915 was killed in action in France.

The building, built in the 13th century, was largely destroyed by fire in 1857. The Gladstone family helped to rebuild the church, engaging the services of the Sir George Gilbert Scott firm of architects.

Coincidentally the same architectural practice that were engaged to design St Mary's Chapel, Weldam. No wonder I felt so at home!

I have only attended for a few weeks, but already, within the constraints of Covid, been made to feel very welcome. No doubt there will be further St Deiniol bulletins in future magazines.

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"Well, at the end of the day, we're all doing the Lord's work: you in your way, and I in His."

Out to graze

A group of elderly British tourists were touring Switzerland by bus. They stopped at a cheese farm where a young guide led them through the process of making cheese from goat's milk. She showed the group a lovely hillside where many goats were grazing.

"These," she explained, "are the older goats put out to pasture when they no longer produce." She then asked, "What do you do in Britain with your old goats?"

A spry old gentleman answered: "They send us on bus tours!"

Egyptian this and that

A group of tourists was watching the re-enactment of an ancient Egyptian religious ritual. One pointed to the statue that was being praised, and asked a nearby local for the name of the god.

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Forthcoming Services
Links to the services can be found on
www.anglicanchurchtwente.com

6 June 2021

10:30 Eucharist

Trinity 1

Celebrant and Preacher

Rev. Rick Florentinus

Duty Warden

Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

Klaas Prins

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Jonathan de Groot

Genesis 3. 8-15

Maureen Underwood

2. Corinthians 4. 13-5.1

Gospel

Mark 3. 20-end

13 June 2021

10:30 Morning Prayer

Trinity 2

Celebrant and Preacher

Rev. Dan Eze

Duty Warden

Klaas Prins

Intercessor:

Simone Yallop

There will be no
sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Vivian Reinders

Ezekiel 17. 22-end

Anne Powell

2 Corinthians 5. 6-10 14-17

Gospel

Mark 4. 26-34

20 June 2021

10:30 Eucharist Service

Trinity 3

Celebrant and Preacher

Rev. Howie Adan

Duty Warden

Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

Jeanet Luiten

There will be no
sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Linda Ten Berge

Job 38. 1-11

Rachel Koster

2. Corinthians 6, 1-13

Gospel

Mark 4. 35-end

Forthcoming Services

27 June 2021

10:30 Eucharist

Trinity 4

Celebrant and Preacher

T.B.D.

Duty Warden
Klaas Prins

Intercessor:
Joyce Wigboldus

There will be no sung
hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Erick Wanjala

Wisdom 1. 13-15, 2. 23-33

Elisa Hannan

2. Corinthians 8. 7-end

Gospel

John 15. 26-27, 16. 4b-15

4 July 2021

10:30 Morning Prayer

Trinity 5

Officiant and Preacher

Ms Simone Yallop

Duty Warden
Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

There will be no sung
hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Ezekiel 2. 1-5

2 Corinthians. 12. 2-10

Gospel

Mark 6. 1-13



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"Why do you ask?" the local man replied.

The tourist shrugged. "Oh, just idol curiosity!"

Great religious truths

During these serious and troubled times, people of all faiths should remember these four great religious truths:

1. Muslims do not recognise Jews as God's Chosen People.
2. Jews do not recognise Jesus as the Messiah.
3. Protestants do not recognise the Pope as the leader of the Christian world.
4. Methodists do not recognise each other in the pub.

Thankful

A minister said to a precocious six-year-old boy, "So your mother says a prayer over you each night? That's very commendable. What does she say?"

The little boy replied, "Thank God he's in bed!"

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A prince's legacy on matters of faith

The Ven John Barton considers Prince Philip's questions on religion.

Just when we thought the last word had been written about the late Duke of Edinburgh, it emerged that he had a genuine interest in theology. That dashing young naval officer, who became the Queen's dutiful consort and accompanied her to thousands of church services, was someone who listened intently to sermons, thought through what was being said, and then asked questions.

Every Sunday when the royal couple were at Sandringham, a diocesan bishop was invited to preach in the parish church. Afterwards, they were grilled by the Duke who, we are told by one of them, showed that he "wanted to be intellectually and spiritually engaged". That's a polite way of saying he wasn't prepared to swallow what came out of the pulpit if he wasn't convinced by it.

Some Christians are suspicious of people who probe the faith. Should it not be taken on trust? Who are we to question the Almighty? For others, doubt hovers uninvited. Honest doubt won't settle for unbelief but will continue to persevere with its enquiries. The Russian writer and philosopher Fyodor Dostoyevsky wrote: "It is not as a child that I believe and confess Jesus Christ. My hosanna is born of a furnace of doubt." Dostoyevsky had lived a turbulent life, both personally and publicly, and wrestled mentally with himself and God. Some people are like that.

Prince Philip had been baptised into the Greek Orthodox Church and was received into the Church of England just before his marriage. He organised much of his own funeral, and if you followed it, you will remember how traditional it was. Many of the prayers were from the 17th Century Book of Common Prayer, the hymns were more ancient than modern, and the Bible readings confidently proclaimed the magnificence of God's Creation and Jesus' teaching about the resurrection. These are basic to Christianity and it was from such a foundation that he was able to explore.

So, if you wake up one morning questioning everything you have believed, take it as a spur to dig deeper and ask questions. Be encouraged by Philip, who shunned a second-hand faith because he wanted to know the truth for himself.

The next time you hear a sermon which you can't understand or disagree with, don't let the preacher get away with it. And if, in your private conversations with God, you find yourself praying, 'Lord, I believe; help my unbelief,' you won't be the first. See *Mark 9, verse 24*.

Four Candles

Four candles were burning somewhere in a quiet space. When you used your ears, you could hear what they were saying to each other through the silence. But also how they were complaining to each other about their lack of ability.

The first candle said: 'I am PEACE. But few people keep my light on.' The candle of the peace did not hear any dissent. Gradually, the flame declined and disappeared.

The same thing happened with the second candle. This was the candle of FAITH. The candle could only hear that she was no longer essential. So it was useless to keep burning. Finally, a gentle breeze blew over her and extinguished her message.

The third candle had always done its best to encourage people. 'I am LOVE. But I do not have enough power to stay. So people leave me and do not understand me. They are listening, but they don't hear me.' And without any other sound, it too faded.

A child entered the quiet space. This child saw the lights of the three candles go out. By listening to each other's negativity, they could no longer keep burning. The child wondered how it could help the candles to light up the world.

Then the fourth candle whispered: 'Do not be afraid. As long as my little flame burns, we can always light the other candles. For I am the candle of HOPE.'

The child took the fourth candle in its hands. With radiant eyes, the child lit the other three candles again. Finally, the candle of HOPE whispered that it would burn forever.

If you listen very carefully, you will always hear HOPE.

Donated and translated by Erica Schotman Bonting (with permission from het Hezenbergblad "De Hoogte".)

With Father's Day in mind:

What a father says to his children is not heard by the world, but it will be heard by posterity.

- Richter

Directly after God in heaven comes Papa.

- Mozart as a boy

A father is a banker provided by nature.

- French proverb

The child had every toy his father wanted.

- Robert C. Whitten

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Don't forget the other half

When my daughter said her bedtime prayers, she would bless every family member, every friend, and every animal (current and past). Then one night, after we had finished the nightly prayer, she added: "And all girls." This soon became part of her nightly routine.

Finally, my curiosity got the best of me and I asked her why she had begun adding the part about all girls. Her response?

"Because at church the minister only ever says 'all men!'"

Old and alone and needing help...

An old Italian priest lived alone. He wanted to plant his annual tomato garden, but it was very difficult work, as the ground was so hard. A member of his church, Vincent, who used to help him, was in prison.

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So the old priest wrote a letter to his parishioner and described his predicament:

Dear Vincent, I am feeling pretty sad because it looks like I won't be able to plant my tomato garden this year. I'm just getting too old to be digging up a garden plot. I know if you were here my troubles would be over. I know you would be happy to dig the plot for me, like in the old days. I remember you in my prayers!
Fr Louis

A few days later he received a letter from his parishioner.

Dear Fr Louis, whatever you do, don't dig up that garden. That's where the bodies are buried. Thanks for your prayers.
Vinnie

At 4 am the next morning, the local police arrived and dug up the entire area, without finding any bodies. They apologised to the old priest and left. That same day the old priest

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What do you think will happen after Covid?

You can take your choice: a recent survey has found that a third of us think that society may *never* go back to the old ways, a third of us think we will go back to *exactly* as we were before, and a third of us think that we will be *keener than ever* to stay together.

The Together Coalition, chaired by the Archbishop of Canterbury, has been working for the past year on a piece of research to track just what has happened to communities during lockdown.

The new research has found that "people feel a stronger sense of connection to their neighbours and community. ...We found a clear public appetite for a society in which we are more connected to each other, and the community spirit of 2020 is kept alive."

It also found that around 12.4million people have volunteered during the pandemic, 4.6million of them for the first time. And 75 per cent of those volunteers would be happy to do so again.
©Parish Pump

The man who invented the saxophone

It was 175 years ago, on 28th June 1846, that Belgian musical instrument maker Adolphe Sax patented the saxophone.

Born Antoine-Joseph in 1814, Sax quickly became known for his brilliant inventiveness and his abrasive personality, but also - to the despair of his mother - for his brushes with death as a child. He fell from a height of three floors and was believed dead, drank a bowl of dilute sulphuric acid thinking it was milk, swallowed a pin, and received serious burns from a gunpowder explosion. He also fell on to a hot cast-iron frying pan, was struck by a cobblestone and fell into a river, then several times narrowly escaped poisoning from sleeping in a room where varnished furniture was drying.

He also contracted lip cancer in the 1850s but made a full recovery.

It was surprising then, that he lived until his 80th year, dying in poverty in Paris despite his many musical instrument inventions, which did not bring him wealth because they were copied by others, despite his patent.

As well as the saxophone, which received huge support from classical composer Berlioz, he also invented the saxatromba, saxhorn and saxtuba. He himself played flute and clarinet. His parents were also instrument designers.

©Tim Lenton

India - engulfed by a tsunami of grief

Covid-19 has been overwhelming India in recent weeks, bringing its health services and institutions to their knees. Hospitals have run out of oxygen, medical staff cannot help the queues of desperate patients, and bodies are piling up as people die in vast numbers.

The Indian Christian community, like their compatriots, have also been suffering. Reports speak of many church leaders contracting the virus and some even dying. Their congregations, also sick and dying, are left without pastoral care.

Indian Christians report that more than 50-60 senior church leaders have died. One pastor said: "in the last seven days we have lost four pastors to Covid19." Another organisation lost three missionaries within a week. These examples are just the tip of the iceberg.

The lockdown is causing severe suffering to the poorest, the day-labourers, who now have no work and no income. Barnabas Fund is working with Indian Christian leaders to provide assistance, both food and medical help, for our brothers and sisters. If you would like to help support them, please go to: <https://barnabasfund.org>

I still have vivid memories of attending a service at the New Delhi Catholic Cathedral in India back in 1986. Unlike the churches in Europe, the cathedral was packed to standing room only. The service was conducted in two languages, English and Hindi. There was so much joy and exuberance, with all the hymns been sung at full volume.

After the service I had difficulty leaving as so many wanted to talk to me. And this was at a crowded city church! Despite the terrible conditions and hardship that so many experienced, the Indians I met appeared to be trying to live their lives to the full.

I, on the other hand, found the grinding poverty that so many lived in quite depressing. The Indians I worked with just took hardships as a challenge to be overcome to make sure that the next generation had a better life. Such courage had my full respect. Privately I grieve when I see the terrible pictures shown on television of so many Indians suffering under the horrendous Covid surge I pray the spirit of India will yet again rise to overcome this challenge.
Blair Charles

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received another letter.

Dear Fr Louis, You can go ahead and plant your tomatoes now. That's the best I could do under the circumstances.

Vinnie

Miscellaneous observations on life

I want to be 14 again and ruin my life differently. I have new ideas.

Scratch a dog - and you'll find a permanent job.

Every seven minutes of every day, someone in an aerobics class pulls a muscle.

Few things are more satisfying than seeing your children have teenagers of their own.

Learn from others' mistakes. You won't live long enough to make them all yourself.

Money isn't everything, but it does keep you in touch with your children.

What do you call a duck who is always making jokes?

A wise quacker

When You Are Old

*When you are old and grey and full of sleep,
And nodding by the fire, take down this book,
And slowly read, and dream of the soft look
Your eyes had once, and of their shadows deep;*

*How many loved your moments of glad grace,
And loved your beauty with love false or true,
But one man loved the pilgrim soul in you,
And loved the sorrows of your changing face;*

*And bending down beside the glowing bars,
Murmur, a little sadly, how Love fled
And paced upon the mountains overhead
And hid his face amid a crowd of stars.*

By William Butler Yeats

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.*

