

Services held every
Sunday morning
10:30 am

Volume 15 Issue 2 March 2019

Next issue: First Sunday April 2019

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St Mary's Chapel,
Diepenheimseweg 102
7475 MN Markelo
www.anglicanchurchtwente.com

The Anglican Chaplaincy of Twente

DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND





March
2019

Dear Friends,

It is amazing to think, as I sit at my keyboard on perhaps the warmest February day on record, that at the same time last year we were in acute struggle with 'the Beast from the East'. Times, they are a changing': true yesterday, today and forever! As we experience present global upheaval, too, it causes us to reflect on the dangers of complacent optimism and a feeling that we can simply rely on our trust that we are all always a race of fundamentally decent folk. Our faith, and the liturgy of our faith, call us constantly to self-examination and penitence, responsive to the compelling enormity of the certain hope of Life in Christ. Our Lenten journey begins again!

Here we find the inspiration to rise above the materialistic distractions that stifle the voice of conscience, and the power of love. We are renewed in our consciousness that the culture of science and technology, which surrounds us, does not hold all the answers to every question about reality: we can be confident in the spiritual realities we know, that inform our everyday experiences of the truth and being of our transcendent soul.

I exhort you, as I did in church soon after I arrived here, to revel in the experience of Father Zossima's advice, that you be daily fulfilled in life.

"Love all God's creation, the whole of it and every grain of sand. Love every leaf, every ray of God's light. Love plants, love everything. If you love everything you will perceive the divine mystery in things. And once you perceive it, you will begin to comprehend it ceaselessly more and more every day. And you will come to love the whole world with abiding, universal love."
(The Brothers Karamazov by Fyodor Dostoyevsky)

My love to you all,

Brian

St Mary's Chapel News



Lent Course

This year we will have a Lent course with a film, like we have done in the past. You may remember that in 2015 we

Kids

After putting her children to bed, a mother changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse and proceeded to wash her hair. As she heard the children getting more and more rambunctious, her patience grew thin. At last she threw a towel around her head and stormed into their room, putting them back to bed with stern warnings. As she left the room, she heard her three-year-old say with a trembling voice, "Who was THAT?"

My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo while I asked, "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old," he replied

A Sunday school

(Continued on page 5)



did a Lent course with the title Finding a Voice, which was based on the film The King's Speech. In 2017 we did a Lent course with the title The Power of Small Choices, which was based on the two films The Shawshank Redemption and Babette's Feast. These two very good Lent courses were both written by Hilary Brand. This year we have Hilary Brand's course from in 2002 called

Christ and the Chocolaterie,

which is based on the film **Chocolat**. The film is used as a starting point for exploring issues about God, the world, and what it means to be human. There are five group sessions. Each session includes extracts from the film, group discussion, exercises and meditations, readings and related Bible passages.

The sessions will be on Saturday mornings from 10:00 until 12:00. Those taking part need to have seen the film, so on the first Saturday, we will watch the film. The themes will be as follows:

9 March	Introduction to the course and watching the film
16 March	Giving up - the prelude to change
23 March	Giving out - the power of a gift
30 March	Getting wise - the possibility of change
6 April	Getting real - the power of acceptance
13 April	Growing up - the process of change.

Forthcoming Dates

31 March	Mothering Sunday
7 April	Annual General Meeting
14 April	Palm Sunday
18 April	Maundy Thursday
19 April	Good Friday
21 April	Easter Sunday

Brenda Pyle 03 - 12 - 1940 to 27 - 02 - 2019

As this edition of the magazine was being completed we learnt that Brenda Pyle, who, on and off, worshipped at St Mary's Chapel for over thirty years, had passed away in her sleep. Brenda, who had suffered appalling injuries falling on the stairs at her home in 2017, was in long term care in Sutphene, Zutphen. A woman of deep faith and strong views, Brenda was active in a number of organizations including editing this magazine; Our deepest condolences to her son Peter, his wife Mirjam, son Julian, daughter Arwen and her other son Colin.

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>

class was studying the Ten Commandments. They were ready to discuss the last one. The teacher asked if anyone could tell her what it was. Susie raised her hand, stood tall, and quoted, "Thou shall not take the covers off thy neighbor's wife."

Our five-year-old son Mark couldn't wait to tell his father about the movie we had watched on television, "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea." The scenes with the submarine and the giant octopus had kept him wide-eyed.

In the middle of the telling, my husband interrupted Mark, "What caused the submarine to sink?"

With a look of incredulity Mark replied, "Dad, it was the 20,000 leaks!"

More Kids

A mother was telling her little girl what her own childhood was like. "We used to skate outside on a pond.

(Continued from page 5)

I had a swing made from a tire; it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed, taking this in. At last she said, "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"

@Erica Schotman Bonting

Mix-up

What do you get when you cross an atheist with a Jehovah's Witness?

Someone who knocks at your door for no apparent reason.

Science

Protons have mass? I didn't even know they were Catholic.

Happy

Never miss an opportunity to make others happy, even if you have to leave them alone in order to do it.

TV

The mind is like a television, when it goes blank, it's a good

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St James the Least of All

The Rectory
St James the Least

On how to edit a church magazine

My dear Nephew Darren

So, your vicar has appointed you to be the magazine editor; I wonder what you have done to offend him.



I appointed our magazine editor 20 years ago, after her dog dug up my rose bed. Sadly, she seems unaware that I gave it to her as a penance and has been happily carrying on ever since. She has even developed a nasty persistence when it comes to chasing me for a vicar's letter every month. Becoming editor has brought out the tyrant in her.

I applaud your hope that your magazine will be a great force for good in the community, but I fear you may be disappointed. You will hardly believe this, but many readers of our magazine seem to ignore my pastoral letter altogether, and instead scan the adverts for plumbers and undertakers - and even for both - if there has been a major burst in their pipes.

In any case, here are some editorial tips to bear in mind: if you want to keep any piece of church information confidential, then publish it in your magazine. On the other hand, if you accidentally transpose the names of the ladies responsible for the altar pedestal and lectern on the flower rota, it will be spotted within seconds of publication. And you will not be easily forgiven.

Staffing rotas can be helpful, so that people know who to blame when anything goes wrong. Reports of meetings of monthly groups are also welcome, because not everyone who goes to these meetings can stay awake the whole time, and thus a report informs them about the bits they slept through.

Always include a list of contact details for all the church officers, but don't worry if you mix up their various phone numbers. In fact, it can help get people talking to each other, because in order to reach the PCC Secretary, they will have had to phone most of the other PCC members first.

My final piece of advice is to omit any deadline for submission for the following month. A deadline is like a red

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rag to a bull, and simply incites people to break it. Whereas if you have them a bit worried that they may be left out, they will get you the copy in good time.

I wish you many happy hours reading badly written copy, fending off fearful poems, and stalking your own vicar, in vain hopes of getting his clergy letter.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



31 March - Mothering Sunday and Mother Church

The Fourth Sunday in Lent was called 'Mid-Lent' or 'Refreshment Sunday', when the rigors of Lent

were relaxed more than was normal for a feast day. It is called Mothering Sunday as a reference to the Epistle reading for the Day (Galatians 4:21-31). The Lenten Epistles follow from each other with teaching about our life as Christians and how we are to follow Christ.

On Mid-Lent Sunday the Epistle talks of bondage and freedom; the bondage of the Law and the Old Covenant as compared to the freedom in Christ, "the promised one", and the New Covenant. Verse 26 reads "But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all." We gain our freedom from Christ and, as it was seen before the Reformation, the Church.

Thus, Mothering Sunday is about the freedom that we gain through the promise of Jesus Christ delivered through our Mother the Church. People were encouraged to go to their 'Mother Church' (their home church or their home Cathedral) to worship and give thanks. Hence apprentices, and others, went home for the weekend and often brought gifts (or accumulated pay) home to their family.

On the other hand, Mother's Day is a secular festival invented in 1904 and is celebrated on the 2nd Sunday in May in most countries in the world. The UK seems to be the exception. In recent years Mothering Sunday has been hijacked to take the place of a special, secular day to give thanks for our mothers.

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idea to turn off the sound.

Unique

Always remember you're unique. Just like everyone else.

St Patrick

Why do people wear shamrocks on St Patrick's Day? Because regular rocks are too heavy.

Married

I married an Irishman on St Patrick's Day."
"Oh, really?"
"No, O'Reilly!"

Moses and IT

When you think about it, Moses was the first one to download files from the cloud, using a tablet.

Laughter

Laughter is a weapon of mass construction.-
Kat Caverly

. A good time for laughing is when you can.-
Jessamyn West

Coincidence

Coincidence is God's way of remaining anonymous.-
Albert Einstein

**Some
miscellaneous
observations
on life**

A sharp tongue
can cut your own
throat.

Keep smiling
- it makes
people wonder
what you've
been up to.

If you want your
dreams to come
true, you
mustn't
oversleep.

The heaviest
thing you can
carry is a
grudge.

One thing you
can give and still
keep...is your
word.

You lie the
loudest when you
lie to yourself

If you lack the
courage to start,
you have already
finished.

One thing you
can't recycle is
wasted time.

It is too late to
become what you
might have
been?

Be kinder than
necessary
because
everyone you
meet is fighting
some kind of
battle.

**Mineke Foundation Information Session 31 January
2019
Library, Stromarkt in Deventer.**

The Mineke Foundation is one of the Charities the Anglican Church Twente supports. We did receive an invitation to a Relationship Evening in Deventer.

Cees Timmer, the host for this evening and board member of Mineke Foundation, did welcome all guests and speakers on this Relations Evening of the Mineke Foundation. The first speaker was Tonia Dabwe, Chair of the Foundation, which was inaugurated ten years ago. She gave a short introduction.

Tonia's mother, who was abducted in 1992 during the Liberian civil war and never heard of since did start this line of work together with Tonia's father who is still living in Dabwe town. To continue the work her mother Mineke started and as a memorial institution, the Mineke Foundation was founded. She told the meeting that holding the Chair for the Foundation for her is a voluntary job, which she regards as very important.

Liberia faces a lot of social and economic challenges. The roots of the Mineke Foundation have always been to overcome some of these problems by; Education, School for Agriculture, and Support to Small Enterprises. Tonia's parents had done the same, and also contributed to Construction of Roads, Running Water, Bridges and Electric Power Facilities. Also, the institution of a village council in Dabwe Town was something her father was instrumental in establishing.

The situation in Liberia is characterised by a high unemployment rate, poor education, poor health system and infrastructure. Therefore, the Mission and Objective for the Foundation is an improvement of low-cost education, teaching skills and knowledge particularly to young women, so they can; start companies, gain knowledge in social rights, become economically self-supporting and create work possibilities for others.

The present activities are: Professional training and Entrepreneur courses like hairdressing, patisserie and soap making. Yearly 40 to 90 trainees, of which 90% of female take these courses. Also, a Kids Club, for five to twelve-year-olds, is doing Spelling Contests. The best three will gain a

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scholarship to get a higher education. A new project is the Professional Skills, social enterprises and the setup of Mineke Foundation's own soap making company in Liberia to create jobs. Therefore, they have to be skilled in Soap making quality control, marketing and so forth. Currently, 98% of the soap used in Liberia is imported. She finished up by expressing the hope that this will be one of the pillars of the Mineke Foundation for the coming years.

Next item was an interview by Marije Alma of the Mineke Foundation with the wife of the Dutch Ambassador to Ghana and Liberia, Conny Wesgaard-Strikker. She expressed that she was very interested in these NGO projects and did visit the Mineke Foundation. She noted that amidst the chaos of Monrovia the area around the Foundation's premises did look well organised and tidy.

She met with Tonia's father, teachers and students. She also sat in on a lecture of 'citizenship' at the Youth Club. She expressed the importance of the Mineke Foundation concerning microeconomic initiatives by a small number of students from which the country, as a whole, will benefit.

There is also a great demand for 'professional education' in this country where there is a high birth rate - meaning many youngsters. She mentioned that the country is still in the first phase of rebuilding after the bloody civil war. Liberia is not a focus country for the Netherlands as such, that is why NGO's like the Mineke Foundation is that important. She wrapped up by mentioning that promoting the country is a must.

The third speaker was Fred van der Kraaij. He lived in Liberia for a long time and did provide a 'detailed' insight how everything went about from the founding of the first independent republic in 1847 by returning black Americans, in Africa; Liberia. They were only three per cent of the population at that time and still are. He mentioned that the country was rich in natural resources like iron ore, rubber, cocoa, rice and so on. However, most of these enterprises were run by foreign companies, leaving only little revenue for the local government.

In 1980 a bloody coup by Samuel Doe did start a grim period of 14 years of civil war. Numerous victims, infrastructure destroyed, widespread anarchy and introduction of the 'child soldiers'.

From 2018 the country was led by the first female president on the African continent, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. During her

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With the uncertainty of Brexit and the economy in mind:

Everyone lives by selling something. - Anon

There are but two ways of paying a debt; increase of industry in raising income, or increase of thrift in laying out. - Carlyle

It is a bad plan that admits of no modification. - Publius Syrus

And many strokes, though with a little axe, hew down and fell the hardest-timbered oak. - Shakespeare

The market is a place set apart where men may deceive each other. - Greek proverb

None are so near falling as those who are most confident in their own standing. - W Burkitt

Forthcoming Services

3 March 2019 Sunday next before Lent

10:30 Sung Eucharist (with Sunday School)

Celebrant and Preacher Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden: Jeanet Luiten
Intercessor: Jeanet Luiten
Chalice: Joyce Wigboldus

Sidesperson/Reader **Readings**

Patrick Saridjan Exodus [34. 29-end]

Elisa Hannan 2. Corinthians [3, 12-4.2]

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

6 March 2019 Ash Wednesday

20:00 Eucharist

Celebrant and Preacher Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden: Blair Charles
Intercessor: Simone Yallop
Chalice: Jeanet Luiten

Sidesperson/Reader **Readings**

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

Jan de Beij 2. Corinthians [5. 20B- 6-10]

Gospel Matthew [6 1-6, 16-21]

10 March 2019 First of Lent

10:30 Sung Eucharist

Celebrant and Preacher Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden: Jeanet Luiten
Intercessor: Francis Gothard
Chalice: Joyce Wigboldus

Sidesperson/Reader **Readings**

Maureen Underwood Deuteronomy [26. 1-11]

Lea Meijnen Romans [10 8B-13]

Gospel Luke [4. 1-13]

Forthcoming Services

17 March 2019 Second of Lent

10:30 Sung Eucharist (with Sunday School)

Celebrant and Preacher

Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden:

Blair Charles

Intercessor:

Lea Meijnen

Chalice:

Fred Schonewille

Sidesperson/Reader

Louw Talstra

Arthur Cass

Gospel

Readings

Genesis [15. 1-12, 17-18]

Philippians [3. 17-4.1]

Luke [13. 31-end]

24 March 2019 Third of Lent

10:30 Sung Eucharist

Celebrant and Preacher

Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden:

Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

Jan de Beij

Chalice:

Jeanet Luiten

Sidesperson/Reader

Charlotte Solms

Victor Pirenne

Gospel

Readings

Isaiah [55. 1-9]

1. Corinthians [10.1-13]

Luke [13. 1-9]

31 March 2019 Fourth of Lent

10:30 Sung Eucharist

Mothering Sunday (with Sunday School)

Celebrant and Preacher

Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden:

Blair Charles

Intercessor:

Joyce Wigboldus

Chalice:

Everhard Ottens

Sidesperson/Reader

Erick Wanjala

Philippa te West

Gospel

Readings

Exodus [2. 1-10]

2. Corinthians [1. 3-7]

Luke [2. 33-35]

Equal pay!!

A heart surgeon took his car to his local garage for a regular service, where he usually exchanged a little friendly banter with the owner, a skilled but not especially wealthy mechanic.

"So tell me," says the mechanic, "I've been wondering about what we both do for a living, and how much more you get paid than me.."

"Yes?.." says the surgeon.

"Well look at this," says the mechanic, as he worked on a big complicated engine, "I check how it's running, open it up, fix the valves, and put it all back together so it works good as new.."

We basically do the same job don't we? And yet you are paid ten times what I

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government, Ebola virus struck the country. The outbreak greatly reduced the number of medical staff because of the lack of protective gear when treating the patients. (Mineke Foundation did also support this fight against Ebola).



Fred mentioned that in the current situation the education system was severely corrupted. From 2019 onwards the country is led by ex-soccer star George Weah. He was elected with the help of many of the political parties. George Weah is the first elected, indigenous president since the creation of Liberia some 170 years ago. Regarding the Human Rights; there is a freedom of speech, assembly, organisation and press, though these are under pressure in George Weah's government.

Currently, education and health care are being looked at; there is still enormous poverty with approximately 90% of people being unemployed. Possible corruption crept into his government as well with declarations of possession, and fast-growing house ownership. The president's friend gets a major contract for road construction and so on. Fred concluded his contribution with the words that the future is still unsure owing to a culture of lawlessness, a weak rule of law and a hampering process of national reconciliation.

The information session was concluded with drinks and snacks in the restaurant of the Library. The refreshments also provided the attendants with the opportunity to have a chat and exchange views amongst each other.

@Lub Gringhuis

(The original of this document can be found on the chapel webpage under 'Charities')



The Bishop in Europe:

The Right Reverend Dr. Robert Innes

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

BISHOP'S LENT APPEAL 2019

Mental Health and Livelihoods Support for the Vulnerable in Greece

I send you this appeal as we begin to prepare our hearts and minds for the beginning of Lent in three weeks' time.

Natural as well as man-made disasters in our world bring hurt and heartbreak to all those affected. They remind us of the fragility of our human existence, wherever we live. Where natural disaster has occurred, there is physical suffering: the tragedy of lives lost, or the pain of families, homes and livelihoods devastated. But the wounds are also psychological. And they frequently do not manifest themselves immediately, but later on. This is especially true for the vulnerable and applies particularly to children.

In July 2018, the resort village of Mati witnessed Greece's worst ever forest fires. The death toll reached 100, over 200 people injured, and over 700 evacuated from their homes. To these numbers, we should add the number suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and other psychological after-effects.

An Athens-based organisation called Hestia Hellas is providing a vulnerable community with sustainable tools and a skill set necessary to participate in daily life and thrive in times of difficulties. Greece is facing multiple challenges including an economic crisis, an influx of refugees and migrants and the devastating fires that have deprived many families from housing and jobs. Hestia Hellas is dedicated to offering psycho-social support services, Child Friendly Space, jobs and life skills support, and food distribution to those in need.

In a video, our chaplain in Athens, Fr. Leonard Doolan and Lauraine Velez, Co-Founder and Director of Hestia Hellas speak about the project. This can be viewed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=amsICtNva1s&feature=youtu.b>

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am - how do you explain that?"

The surgeon thought for a moment, and smiling gently, replied,

"Try doing it with the engine running.."

Further Brexit Thoughts

Wealth may be an excellent thing, for it means power, leisure, and liberty. -
J R Lowell

The four pillars of government... religion, justice, counsel and treasure. -
Francis Bacon

Every country has the government it deserves. -
French proverb

We must warn ourselves, over and over, that we cannot have something for nothing. -
R Moley

We have seen better days. -
Shakespeare

(Continued from page 13)

There will be an Appeal launch on the Diocesan website at <https://europe.anglican.org/bishops-appeals/bishops-appeal>, followed by regular updates on the website, and our social media. Do keep an eye out for these. And please do consider how you can support my appeal. As usual, you can give money to this appeal through your church treasurer, who will forward money to the diocesan office.

Hestia Hellas express in their own words why this cause is so important and how we can help:

"The Greeks, who were recent refugees themselves, know what it's like to be forced from their homes. They have a special word in their culture, Filoxenia, which the literal translation means "friend to the foreigner". Greeks, like the many refugees and migrants we see today need our help to regain parts of themselves that they've lost through devastating experiences. With the continued support of the Anglican Church, and their generosity, we can serve the Greek and refugee populations side by side."

I wish you a holy and spiritually fulfilling Lent.

With every blessing,

+ Robert Gibraltar in Europe

+Robert Gibraltar in Europe



"To God: How did you get invented?"



A non-believing family, the Rentons, sent their six-year-old daughter Lulu to a Scottish church primary school. Her teachers asked her to write the following letter:

"To God, How did you get invented?"

The Rentons were taken aback: "We had no idea that a state primary affiliated with a church would do quite so much God," said her father.

He chose to email her letter to the Scottish Episcopal Church (no reply), the Presbyterians (ditto) and the Scottish Catholics (a nice but theologically complex answer).

For good measure, he also sent it by ordinary mail to "The Head of Theology of the Anglican Communion, based at Lambeth Palace" (Archbishop Rowan) "and this was the response:

"Dear Lulu:

Nobody invented me - but lots of people discovered me and were quite surprised.

They discovered me when they looked round at the world and thought it was really beautiful or really mysterious and wondered where it came from.

They discovered me when they were very very quiet on their own and felt a sort of peace and love they hadn't expected.

Then they invented ideas about me - some of them sensible and some of them not very sensible.

From time to time I sent them some hints "specially in the life of Jesus" to help them get closer to what I'm really like.

But there was nothing and nobody around before me to invent me. Rather like somebody who writes a story in a book, I started making up the story of the world and eventually invented human beings like you who could ask me awkward questions!"

Contributed by Marjon van Dingstée

Nothing but the Truth

Lawyer: You say this woman shot her husband with his pistol at close range?

Witness: Yes

Sir, that's right.

Lawyer: Any powder marks on his body?

Witness: Yes

Sir, that's why she shot him.

Lawyer: When was the next time you had trouble with your wife?

Defendant: April 27th, I believe it was, when she backed over me with her motor car.

Sometimes a Judge gets a chance to strike back his or her gavel.

"Your Honour, as God is my judge, I didn't do it. I'm not guilty."

Replied the Judge. 'He isn't! I am! You did! You are!'

Lawyer: What is date of birth?

Witness:

October 1950

Lawyer: Do you remember the day?

Witness: No, but I've been told about it.

HUH!!

A New Zealand pupil's essay on the human body.

Let us all hope the pupil has no aspirations to study medicine!

The human body is composed of three parts: the Brainium, The Borax, and the Abominable Cavity.

The Brainium contains the brain.

The Borax contains the lungs, the liver, and the living things.

The Abominable Cavity contains the bowels, of which there are five, A, E, I, O and U.

It's a strange world of language in which skating on thin ice can get you into hot water.

- Franklin P. Jones

Hegel was right when he said that we learn from history that man can never learn anything from history.

- George Bernard Shaw

The Ven John Barton, former Archdeacon of Aston, looks back on 25 years of women priests in the Church of England.

March 2019—Women's ordination - 25 years on

Twenty-five years ago this month, women were ordained as priests in the Church of England. As the BBC commentator on the first service in Bristol Cathedral I was prepared for disruptions from demonstrators, but it proceeded reverently and without a hitch. The only protest was outside, where a group of approving Roman Catholic women held a banner saying, 'We're Next'.

Of course, there are still people who object to women's ordination on principle. Some believe the practice frustrates the prospect of church unity, others hold that God has created women and men to hold complementary but different roles - and leadership in the Church is reserved for men.

At the last count, 30% of the 20,000 active clergy were women and 23% of the senior posts were held by women, and that includes 18 bishops.

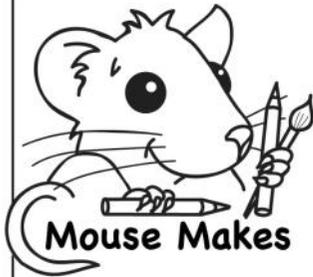
It would be difficult now to imagine the Church of England without women priests and bishops. They serve as chaplains in prison, hospital and the Armed Services, and of course as Vicars and Curates in parish churches.

Hannah Madin was ordained 18 months ago when she was 28, and is a Curate in York. She recalls visiting a parishioner whose husband had just died; the widow said, "I wasn't expecting a female Vicar, but I'm so glad you are". Hannah's husband is also ordained; she says it helps that he understands the random and unique nature of the job, they support each other in prayer, and they never talk shop on their day off!

Sue Restall was one of those ordained in Bristol 25 years ago and is now in active retirement in the Midlands, having been a parish priest and a hospital chaplain. In her experience, although women and men may have different talents, that is more to do with personality than gender. However, she does recall making a bereavement visit when a widower cried his eyes out, saying he could only have done that in front of a woman. Sue says her role is no longer controversial - "I am simply a priest who happens to be a woman".

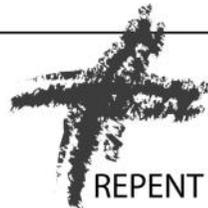
"A strong woman is one who feels deeply and loves fiercely. Her tears flow as abundantly as her laughter. A strong woman is both soft and powerful, she is both practical and spiritual. A strong woman in her essence is a gift to the world."

Native American Saying



During Lent read through the Gospel of Luke and each day pray for God to help you become more like Jesus

Lent is the name given to the 40 days before Easter and is a time to *pray*, to *read* the bible and to *turn* to God. The first day of Lent is **Ash Wednesday**, a day to *repent* and say *sorry* to God for the wrong things we have *said* or *thought* or *done*.



P W R P W O R D O R G F
 I S C R I P T U R E O O
 T O O A L R E A D F D R
 E R K Y D I T H E L P T
 M R E M E M B E R E R Y
 P Y F O R G I V E C E D
 T S L E N T N R J T P A
 A S H W E D N E S D A Y
 T W O R S H I P U E R S
 I E J E S U S E S N E D
 O F A S T H I N K Y E Y
 N I B I B L E T G I V E

Can you find these words in the word search above?

LENT • ASH WEDNESDAY • FORTY DAYS
 JESUS • WILDERNESS • TEMPTATION • PRAY • FAST
 DENY • REPENT • SORRY • FORGIVE • GIVE • HELP
 PREPARE • REFLECT • THINK • READ • SCRIPTURE
 BIBLE • WORD • REMEMBER • WORSHIP • GOD

If the mountain seems too big today,
Then climb a hill instead.
If the morning brings you sadness,
It's okay to stay in bed.
If the day ahead weighs heavy
And your plans feel like a curse,
There's no shame in re-arranging,
Don't make yourself feel worse.
If a shower stings like needles
And a bath feels like you'll drown,
If you haven't washed your hair for days,
Don't throw away your crown!
A day is not a lifetime,
A rest is not defeat.
Don't think of it as failure,
Just a quiet, kind retreat.
It's okay to take a moment
From an anxious, fractured mind.
The world will not stop turning
While you get realigned.
The mountain will still be there
When you want to try again,
So climb it in your own time
...and love yourself 'til then.



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.*

