

Services held every
Sunday morning
10:30 am

Volume 12 Issue 9 November 2016

Next issue: First Sunday December 2016

Chaplaincy Information Cover

St Mary's Magazine

The Chaplain Writes 1

Twente News 2

St James the Least 4

Advent 5

Irma Koning-Smit 6

Forthcoming Services 8 - 9

Church donations boost food banks 10

Archdeaconry Synod Report 12

Our Page 15

Forever Young 16



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

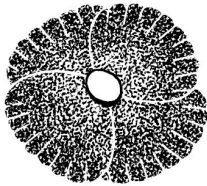
The Anglican Chaplaincy of Twente



DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND





November 2016

The Chaplain Writes 'Leaving'

As you will all know by now, I am leaving at the end of the year. You will then have an interregnum, the time that a parish or chaplaincy is without an incumbent. You need to take decisions together as far as possible, and you will be relying more on one another where you will have to respect decisions that are made by the Council or at the AGM. My experience is that you struggle a bit with that!

Nothing new so far and it happens every time an incumbent is leaving. However, a new situation arises where I will not move away, but stay in the house where I am living now. The house is the property of the Weldam estate, and it was arranged when I moved in, that this was not going to be the 'vicarage' forever as Count Alfred offered this house to me personally and not in my capacity of Chaplain. So I have taken a few decisions:

- I will not attend St Mary's for at least six months after my departure. That is to help you and myself to create distance. We need to let go of one another, a process that may even take longer than six months. It is with a certain sadness, but necessary to create space for my successor. It is easier when the leaving chaplain moves to another part of the country, but it probably is not so much the place where the former priest lives, but rather the attitude he or she adapts.

- I will not take funerals, weddings, baptisms and so on unless there are exceptional circumstances like no priest available or at the request of the new Chaplain and only if the bishop would allow me to do so.

In former parishes, I quite often received requests to take funerals or baptisms, even after I had left and my successor already being in place. I always refused to do that, because a new chaplain needs to have the chance to find his or her place in the new situation.

It may sound a bit harsh, but that is not what I would like it to be, only the well being of the chaplaincy is on my mind. I will remember the many lovely people I have met here in this chaplaincy, and I will feel supported by them in the run up to my retirement at the end of December.

With every blessing

Alja Tollefsen
Chaplain of St Mary's
November 2016





Chaplain's resignation

At the end of the 9th October Sunday Service, our Chaplain informed the congregation that she had asked the Bishop to be relieved of her duties and he had agreed. Alja's resignation is effective as from 1st January 2017. Earlier, at a special council meeting held in her house before the service, Alja had informed the council of her resignation.

Died in the services

Little Alex was staring up at the large brass plaque that hung on the side wall of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and seemed to fascinate the seven-year old. "All those names," he said to the vicar. "Who are they?"

"Well, they were people who used to go to this church," explained the vicar. "This is a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the services."

Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice was barely audible when he asked, "Which service, the 9 o'clock, or the 11 o'clock?"

Scare it

A man had the courage - but not always the skills - to tackle any home-repair project. For example, his garage was littered

(Continued on page 5)

This news means that as from January, St. Mary's will be without a chaplain and the wardens will have the task of managing the chaplaincy during the interregnum, however long that may be. In the coming days and weeks, the church council will be involved in the process of finding a new chaplain. For now, the wardens and council are working hard to ensure locum coverage during the interregnum.

On a personal level, both as warden and as production editor of this magazine, I have thoroughly enjoyed working with Alja and I deeply regret her decision to leave. However, I do understand her reasons for making this important decision. I take this opportunity to thank her for all she has done for the chaplaincy, and to wish her well in the future. Sadly, I was just getting used to having an 'oma chaplain'.

Forthcoming Events

- 13 November - Remembrance Sunday
- 23 November - PCC Meeting
- 26 November - Choral Evensong (Abdijkerk Sion, Deventer)
- 11 December - Carol Service and Christmas Market

Food Bank

A reminder that there is a large plastic container in the hut for Food Bank contributions. Your donations of non-perishable food will go to those less fortunate in our community. A list of suggested products is placed by the box.

Magazine Contributions

St Mary's Magazine has a valuable role in helping to keep the congregation informed and in touch with each other. In these constrained financial times, financing the magazine is proving to be difficult. An annual contribution of just €15 per annum will help to ensure that you will continue to receive your copy.

(Continued on page 5)

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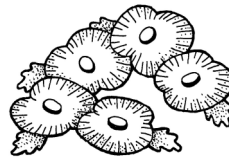
Poppy Appeal

The Holland Branch 2015 Poppy Appeal has, and again, raised more money than any other previous years. With the wonderful support we received from those of you who take our Poppy Boxes each year, we were able to contribute almost €13.000 in 2015. We were able to place a record number of boxes at 60 locations and also received 16 personal donations. We also raised additional donations for the Poppy Appeal and raised funds for the Branch by operating our new information stall on five occasions throughout the year. Naturally, we are very grateful for all the help we already receive but realise we must also find more locations throughout the Netherlands. Please let us know if a school, church, museum or any other organization or business near you would be willing to support us in the future.

Mr Ken Lightwood
Poppy Appeal Officer

For many, many years Joy Romeijn has been our contact person for the Poppy Appeal and I would like to pay tribute to her for all the work she has done over the years with grace and good humour. Her presence in the back of the church and in the hut after the service with the Poppy Box in her hand, is a picture that we all cherish in our memory. Her loving way with the veterans at the Remembrance Sunday services was also highly appreciated by these ageing men. I am pleased to say that, although their numbers are dwindling, there will again be a representation this year of the Midden Overijssel Branch of the Wapenbroeders. We are very happy to welcome them again in our midst on 13 November.

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Intercessions

If you wish to have someone included in the intercession, please contact the Chaplain or one of the Churchwardens before the Service.

If you know of anyone who is sick or in need of pastoral care, please contact the Chaplain or one of the Churchwardens.

(Continued from page 4)

with the pieces of a lawn mower he had tried to fix. One day his wife found him in the living room, attacking the vacuum cleaner with a screwdriver. "I can't get this thing to cooperate!" he exclaimed. His wife replied, "Why don't you just drag it out to the garage and show it what happened to the lawn mower?"

Untimely answered prayer

During the vicar's sermon one Sunday, on the subject of asking God, there was a loud whistle from one of the back pews. Tommy's mother was horrified. She pinched him into silence and, after church, asked, "Tommy, whatever made you do such a thing?" Tommy answered soberly, "I asked God to teach me to whistle, and He did!"

Rural deans

The following notice was once seen at a conference at Launde Abbey, the Leicestershire Diocesan Retreat House. t read: Rural deans in stables.'



King of the Jungle

There was a young lion who wandered from his father to test whether or not he would get the same respect from the other animals as his father did. As the young lion approached some monkeys, he roared, "WHO IS THE KING OF THE JUNGLE?"

The monkeys, being afraid, responded, "YOU are!"

The lion replied, "And don't you forget it!"

The lion repeated this to each animal in the jungle and got the same response until he came across a herd of elephants.

The little lion roared, "WHO IS THE KING OF THE JUNGLE?"

The big bull elephant walked closer to the lion, swooped him up in his trunk, swung him around and around and threw him in the river. Battered and wet, the little lion replied,

"Just because you didn't know the answer to the question didn't mean you had to get nasty about it!"

Most of us roar through life without God in the same way -

(Continued on page 7)

Letter from St James the Least of All –

Happily, the Church of England still retains some singular parish clergy. Take the parish of St James-the-Least in the county of C- for example. Here the elderly Anglo-Catholic vicar, Eustace, continues his correspondence to Darren, his nephew, a low-church curate recently ordained...



On working with young people

The Rectory
St. James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

It is quite natural for you curates to enjoy working with young people in your parishes; church youth clubs were created in order to keep the newly ordained off the streets in the evenings. But be assured you will grow out of it. I consent to baptise babies and prepare teenagers for confirmation, but beyond that my contact with this alien life form is kept to an absolute minimum.

Dear Miss Thrush runs our weekly Pram Service - whose sole purpose seems to be to give young mothers an opportunity to discuss the ever-changing liaisons within the village, while their offspring shred hymn books and destroy the flower arrangements. I drop in from time to time in order to check that the more mobile haven't found where we hide the matches. An infant equipped with that knowledge can so easily become a teenage pyromaniac.

I can give you little advice on your youth group. When I was a curate, the major activity seemed to be to teach them how to wear gas masks, although today I imagine there is more concern about protecting them from other sorts of exotic chemicals. Also, I suspect you are kept busy keeping the young out of the darker corners of the churchyard as they develop their anatomical knowledge – a past-time still enthusiastically pursued by each new generation.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

You clearly find your monthly Youth Service a deeply enriching experience. As far as I am concerned, if such a liturgy had been necessary, then Cranmer would have provided us with one. Endlessly repeated choruses accompanied by a guitar would make me warm to the Quakers. I am sure St. Paul's services would have been much enriched with Hymns Ancient and Modern. The disciples in hiding in Jerusalem were not even able to sing accompanied by an organ, which must have greatly dispirited them. I also feel that our Verger would be unable to cope with organising the strobe lighting and dry ice effects. It takes him all his time to remember to light the candles on the altar.

On this matter we must differ. You must worship God in your way, and I in His.
Your loving uncle,
Eustace

Advent

Each morning the dawn arrives later, for winter's dark days are at hand. Soon Advent will be here again. In this country, it is only after the feast of Saint Nicholas that we tend to think about Advent. But in fact, the first Sunday of Advent was the Sunday before Saint Nicholas.

What does Advent mean? There is nothing written in the Bible about Advent. Yet it is nevertheless an ancient Christian tradition started by the Eastern Orthodox Church in the fourth century to prepare Christians for the birth of Christ with fasting and sober living. Although soon taken up in West Europe, Advent would not be officially accepted in the Church of Rome before the sixth century.

Advent at first was a period of six weeks beginning on Saint Martin's Day, 11th November. Pope Gregory the Great (590-604), shortened Advent to four weeks, moving the start to the Sunday nearest to the Feast of Saint Andrew, 30th of November. Hence, the First Sunday of Advent is always between the 27th November and the 3rd December. Advent ends at Evensong, 24th of December. The length of Advent can vary, but there are always four Sundays.

If you knew that the Feast of Saint Martin in early times was a kind of carnival day, then you could begin to see the parallel with Lent,



(Continued from page 6)

as if we are kings of the jungle - until life throws us in a tail spin and shows us that we are not.

Serial Offender

Two policemen are called to the scene of a crime at the Gateway local convenience store in Fareham, England. One asks the manager, Roger Cook, what happened. Roger replies stolidly, 'There's a man over there covered in Corn Flakes and, I'm afraid that he's dead.' 'That's odd,' frowned the first police detective, 'didn't we have one covered in Bran Flakes yesterday and another covered in Weetabix last week?' 'You're right,' agreed the second detective, 'This is obviously the work of a cereal killer.'

Police Uniform?

Sonya asks a man in uniform, 'Are you a policeman?' 'No, I am an undercover detective.' 'So why are you in a policeman's uniform?' demands Sonya. 'Today is my day

Irma Koning-Smit,
*** Amsterdam 09-09-1942 —† Hilversum 17-09-2016**



Irma was a very strong woman. She did not want to become -as she named it- a bag of bones, did not want to lose her dignity and she did not want to lose her independence.

So, when this all threatened to happen, she came to terms with herself and the God in her heart and was prepared to die.

At the same time consoling those who found it difficult to accept the inevitable.

Step by step Irma slowly abandoned all worldly matters, stopped reading the newspaper word by word from front to cover, then stopped listening to the news, and took off her jewellery. The last thing she did was to give her watch to me because everything was timeless now except for the untold time of her death.

Irma started to give instructions about what I had to do after she would no longer be here.

As soon as we heard the bad news that she had cancer, Irma wanted to have a guided tour through the newly opened crematorium, then we went to a funeral home.

The man who opened the door asked 'have you got an appointment?' 'No', Irma said, 'but I am going to die and I want to talk and choose a coffin. Just like that! A wicker basket was her choice.

The first time we saw that was last year in Dublin when we wanted to visit the Cathedral but could not go in because there was a funeral service for the Dean. And some time later he was carried out, lying in a wicker basket which reminded us of Moses.

Well, who was Irma? My Anam Cara as the Irish say. My soul mate, my second half, my beloved wife, a prop and stay to me. And what a woman! One hundred percent genuine and honest. A very high I.Q., with a remarkable photographic memory. Irma had an interest in antiques, art, environment, gardens, jewellery, literature, medical developments, music, nature, politics, psychology, and many more fields.

Irma: always ready to help other people in need.

She was emphatic, a careful listener, was a very good judge of human nature, gave her advise or opinion, sometimes painful but always sincere, straightforward and with respect.

Irma was not "kerkelijk" but she was religious in her own way.

Which means that she believed in the original meaning of pure religion and not the

(Continued from page 8)

religion as it was developed by men or by a denomination.

Yes, I miss her but cherish what we did together. Physically I don't hear our footsteps together any longer. But her spirit remains. At the funeral service I said the same sentences as is said when a Freemason passes away:

Irma held on to her principles which were being born out of her Conscience.

Irma was always there to help her fellow man in need.

And her acting was always directed towards her Master, her Conscience, her God in her heart.

During the funeral service my eulogy ended with:

Irma always carried God with her in her heart.

Her own God as we all have our own God or Conscience.

And Irma listened to her God who ordered her to love her fellowman as she loved herself.

And with this command in mind Irma was able to help many people in need with all the empathy and knowledge she possessed.



The God in Irma's heart stretched out his hand to the God in my heart and in between those two hands Irma and I were resting very intensely and closely entwined together.

Kahlil Gibran says it in such a beautiful way:

"Ever has it been that love knows not its own depth until the hour of separation.

A text Irma always carried with her in her diary.

Until the moment that Irma and I were able to accept the inevitable, the final destiny. Precisely because of the deeply felt and rooted love for each other, and therefore we were able to release each other... in order that Irma could die and go to what is called in the Old Irish Tir Na Nog.

Tir Na Nog, the land of eternal youth, because over there you do not get older.

Irma accepted her fate right from the beginning when on 16 August we were being told that she had cancer and that it was inoperable. She accepted it with dignity, calmly, as a matter of fact, as a confirmation of what she expected and already knew.

(Continued on page 12)

Forthcoming Services

6th November	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Alja Tollefsen
	Duty Warden	Blair Charles
	Intercessor	Jeanet Luiten
All Saints/All Souls Day	Chalice	Fred Schonewille
	John Bestman	Wisdom 3. 1-9
	Linda ten Berge	1 Peter 1. 3 - 9
10.30 am	Gospel	John 5. 19 - 25

Forthcoming Services

13^h October	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Alja Tollefsen
	Duty Warden	Jeanet Luiten
	Intercessor	John Bestman
Remembrance Sunday	Chalice	Count Alfred
	Louw Talstra	Jonah 3. 1 -5, 10
	Patrick Saridjan	Hebrews 9. 24 - end
10:30 am	Gospel	Mark 1. 14 -20
Sung Eucharist		

Forthcoming Services

20th October	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Alja Tollefsen
	Duty Warden	Blair Charles
	Intercessor	Fred Schonewille
Christ the King	Chalice	John Bestman
	Elizabeth v.d. Heide	Jeremiah 23. 1 - 6
	Jan de Beij	Colossians 1. 11 - 20
10:30 am	Gospel	Luke 18. 1-8
Sung Eucharist		

27th November	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Alja Tollefsen
	Duty Warden	Jeanet Luiten
	Intercessor	Joyce Wigboldus
Advent 1	Chalice	Jeanet Luiten
	Arjen Haffmans	Isaiah 2. 1 -5
	Victor Pirenne	Romans 13. 11 - end
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	Gospel	Matthew 24. 36 - 44

First Sunday of the month - Church money for sale in the Hut

4th December	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Alja Tollefsen
	Duty Warden	Blair Charles
	Intercessor	Jan de Beij
Advent 2	Chalice	Everhard Ottens
	Patrick Saridjan	Isaiah 11. 1-10
	Fred Schonewille	Romans 15. 4 - 13
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	Gospel	Matthew 3. 1 - 12

11th December	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Alja Tollefsen
	Duty Warden	Jeanet Luiten
	Intercessor	Dina Boessenkool
Service of Nine Lessons and Carols	Chalice	Count Alfred
	John Bestman	Arjen Haffmans
	Jan de Beij	Blair Charles
	Brenda Pyle	Victor Pirenne
	Hellene Rauwerda	Linda ten Berge
10:30 am	Elizabeth v.d. Heide	

With the Advent season approaching...

As to his deity he had no mother, and as to his humanity He had no father.

-Robert Clarke

The incarnation of the Son of God was not a diminishing of his deity, but an acquiring of manhood.

- Verna Wright

The Word of God became flesh; the Son of Man became Man; the Lord of all became a Servant...

- Anon

Miscellaneous observations on life...

Experience is a good teacher, but her fees are very high.

- WR Inge

Let your religion be less of a theory and more of a love affair.

- GK Chesterton

The longer we dwell on our misfortunes, the greater is their power to harm us.

- Anon

When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark, you don't throw away your ticket and jump off. You sit still and trust the engineer.

- Corrie ten Boom

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 9)

It was Irma who consoled me by saying: Don't cry Christiaan, it won't help because I am going to die anyway.

No, my crying did not help then and my crying still does not help now although I still shed many tears a day because I miss Irma terribly.

We left so many footsteps together for nearly 50 years.

Irma found the peaceful rest she deserved but I am left with the grief, the unrest, the pain.

But well, that's just the lifecycle of nature.

No, her death did not make an end to our relationship.

It brought us more together, even closer than -as the Irish say- the Anam Cara we were before.

At the same time that Irma got on her bike for the last time and went to a goldsmith to have her wedding ring reshaped into a Trowel of Love, I decided to wear my wedding ring again.

We did not know this of each other. My wedding ring was too small for my fingers and I went to the same goldsmith.

Because Irma was too ill and too weak to collect the Trowel of Love herself, she asked a friend to collect it. And it was at the same day, just minutes after the Trowel of Love was collected, that I arrived to collect my wedding ring.

A fairy-tale came to an end but unlike the fairy-tale, we do not live happily and for ever after any longer.

I can only cherish her memory and let it live on.. ..

©Christiaan Koning

Church donations boost food banks and homeless charities

Food, clothing and items from toothpaste to soap were collected in many Church of England parishes this autumn to help supply food banks and support homeless and vulnerable people.

Canon Dr Jill Hopkinson, the Church of England's National Rural Officer, said Harvest Festival remains popular in both rural and urban areas, with churches and schools active in collecting for local food banks and homeless projects.

"Where people would have brought fresh produce in the past, there is probably a greater emphasis now on bringing food that is in tins and packets that can be given to those in need," she said.

(Continued from page 7)

a few days of feasting and fun followed by six weeks of fasting. Another parallel is found in the omission of the Gloria in church service during both Advent and Lent.

Pope Gregory added something crucial to the period of Advent. Not only should we reflect on the coming of Christ as a human being, born of an earthly woman, but we should also prepare for his coming at the end of all time.

During Advent, we can reflect on these two momentous events. One set in the historical past, the other set in an unknown future. We feel the intense yearning while singing: *O come, O come Emmanuel* as well as *Lo! He comes with clouds descending*. But there is still another coming of Christ, and that is now. Cranmer gave us a beautiful collect for the First Sunday of Advent:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light now

In the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead we may rise to the life immortal

Through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

This now is meant for us in our time and days. We let Christ in when we open our hearts and minds for him. It works in an invisible way. We are not aware that something happens to us, but having Christ in our hearts changes us. And yes, Philip Brooks made us a beautiful hymn telling us about this wonderful experience: O little town of Bethlehem.

*How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heav'n
No ear may hear his coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still
The dear Christ enters in.*

(Continued on page 16)

A great war leaves the country with three armies - an army of cripples, an army of mourners, and an army of thieves.

- Anon

The tragedy of war is that it uses man's best to do man's worst.

- Anon

Without God the world would be a maze without a clue.

- Anon

At 50 everyone has the face he deserves.

- George Orwell

The expression 'as right as rain' must have been invented by an Englishman.

- W L Phelps

If it weren't for the last minute, a lot of things wouldn't get done.

- Anon

Middle Age occurs when you are too young to take up golf - and too old to rush up to the net.

- Franklin Adams

Willpower: the ability to eat one salted peanut - and stop.

- Anon

Where there is peace, God is.

- Anon

Peace is a free gift and flows from the pure mercy of God.

- John Calvin



Winnie the Pooh – a much loved bear

Winnie-the-Pooh was born 90 years ago this month, on 14 October, 1926 – in the sense that this was the date on which the world-famous children's book by A. A. Milne was first published.

Technically, Winnie-the-Pooh, also called Pooh Bear, is a fictional anthropomorphic teddy bear hero of a number of books, always illustrated by E H Sheppard, who therefore gave Pooh his distinctive shape in the mind of the reader.

To his many admirers, Pooh is the wise, kind and loving companion they always wanted – a bear of very little brain and with many faults, but whose heart is always in the right place.

The Pooh stories, written originally for the author's only son, Christopher Robin, and set in an area recognisable as Ashdown Forest in Sussex, have been translated into many languages, including a

(Continued on page 15)

ARCHDEACONRY SYNOD REPORT (Part One of Three Parts)

13-15th October 2016

This year the Archdeaconry Synod of the Benelux (officially known as the Archdeaconry of North West Europe) met again in the beautiful surroundings of Ghent, in the historic abbey of Drongen, a mainly 17th-century building, still in possession of the Jesuit order.

The purpose and values of Synod were established in 2005 and updated in 2016. We mentioned them in 2013, but we will give the new version here. There are two legal purposes: *to elect representatives* and *to conduct the business of the Archdeaconry*. In addition, we seek to: *engage with the issues facing the Church of England and the broader Anglican Communion; be inspired, equipped and encouraged to further the mission of the church in our local ministry setting; to stimulate ecumenical cooperation*. We aim to achieve these purposes by having an annual synod in which we: *celebrate our corporate life and what God is doing among us; enjoy fellowship; worship; engage in discussion; are enriched in ways which can be shared with our chaplaincies/ministry setting*. The programme this year sounded promising, and we were not disappointed!

On the first evening of Synod, we were welcomed by the Archdeacon Meurig Williams. A moment of worship and introductions followed. Then we had news from several chaplaincies, this year from *Amersfoort, Luxembourg, and Liège*. Amersfoort is a very recent church plant from Utrecht (December 2015). It was joyful to hear from the Revd Grant Crowe how Amersfoort is thriving with numerous members – among whom many children. It was moving to hear how bravely and optimistically Liège is struggling. Their very energetic priest fell seriously ill, and there is much illiteracy among African members. It was amusing to hear from the Revd Chris Lyon how Luxembourg is solving its housing problems.

Next, Archdeacon Meurig posed some vital questions: *What is Synod, What do we do? And How do we do it?* He said that Synod means literally, 'walking together' and that is what we should do, top down, from General Synod, Diocesan Synod, Archdeaconry Synod (the one we attended) to the Parish Church Councils. We have to deal with global as well as local issues, different religious

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

convictions – that is what we are Anglicans for-, different languages, and different cultures. Some of us have been brought up in the faith, some have come recently to faith. And he added that hopefully we would be enriched by debate and fellowship and inspired by worship in the 48 hours we were together.

The next day began with an introduction of the Archdeaconry Standing Committee. Then a welcome was given to our ecumenical partner, Father Robert Frede (from the Old Catholic Church) and our guest speakers, as well as to the Bishop's wife, Mrs. Helen Innes. After this, a brief report was given on the Luweero project by the Revd Andrew Gready (Chaplain of The Hague), since our chaplain Revd Alja Tollefsen, the Chair of the Luweero Committee, was unable to attend Synod due to a family illness.

A report by the *Mission Working Party* followed. There were three main projects largely completed in the past year. The first project was the translation into Dutch of the Common Worship services Baptism, Funeral, Marriage and Holy Communion. (We were given digital copies of these services for a two-year evaluation period.) The second project was the book "De Anglikaanse Kerk" (in Dutch!!) by Canon Dr. Jack McDonald, who is also a professor of theology in Leuven. (This book, translated by Jo Jan VandenHeede, is already familiar to our congregation.) The third project was the "Go Ahead" conference in Utrecht about the seven disciplines of growing churches, which will be followed on 4th March 2017 by the conference "Dare to share" in the Hague. Also, a project instigated by the Archbishop of Canterbury called "Thy Will be done" plans to have a major Anglican event in every capital of Europe in the period between Ascension and Pentecost 2017.

A presentation of this year's group of three Church of England Ministry Experience (CEME) interns followed. It was wonderful to see how enthusiastically young people join this scheme with new ideas!

Our first guest speaker was Canon Grace Davie. She is a Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of Exeter UK with connections to various universities in Europe and the United States. She updated her book: 'Religion in Britain since 1945' (published in 1994 and still in print) as a second edition

(Continued on page 16)

(Continued from page 14)

Latin version, *Winnie ille Pu*.

Though naive and somewhat literal-minded, honey-loving Pooh composes songs and hums and comes up with unexpected solutions to problems. He also invents the game Poohsticks. He has been recommended to Christians for his love toward his friends, such as Piglet, Tigger, Kanga and Rabbit – all modelled on Christopher Robin's soft toys.

Examples of Pooh's wisdom are widely quoted. His refusal to let Piglet worry him can be seen as deeply Christian:

"Supposing a tree fell down, Pooh, while we were underneath it?"
"Supposing it didn't," said Pooh after careful thought.

Karate

What do you call a pig that does karate?
A pork chop.



Beware of Dog

As the stranger enters a country store, he spots a sign: "Danger! Beware of Dog!"

Inside, he sees a harmless old hound asleep in the middle of the floor.

"Is that the dog we're supposed to beware of?" he asks the owner.

"That's him," comes the reply.

"He doesn't look dangerous to me. Why would you post that sign?"

"Before I posted that sign, people kept tripping over him."

Dentist

What did the judge ask when he went to the dentist?

"Do you swear to pull the tooth, the whole tooth and nothing but the tooth?"

Obvious Answer

Insurance clerk: "Where were you born, Sir?"

Man: "In the United States."

Insurance clerk: "OK, and which part?"

Man: "My entire body."



(Continued from page 15)

under the title 'Religion in Britain, a Persistent Paradox' (2015). In a *fascinating speech*, she explained the persistent paradox: on the one hand, the process of secularization continues whilst on the other, there is a continuing/growing prominence of religion in public discussion. This combination is hard to handle because, at precisely the moment when they are most needed, British (and most European) people are losing the vocabulary, tools, and concepts that they require to have a constructive conversation about faith. The consequences are an ill-informed and ill-mannered debate about issues of extreme importance to the democratic future of this country (read: Britain, but also holds true for other European countries, although in various ways), and a growing concern about religious literacy. (A copy of the presentation can be provided on request.)

The second speaker was Ian Carter, our new Diocesan Safeguarding Manager, who has overall responsibility for safeguarding matters in the diocese. In his speech he gave us an excellent introduction to Safeguarding in the Diocese of Europe. It is a major issue, and all chaplaincies have to meet the requirements as provided by the Diocese (a copy of this presentation is also available on request).

Both speakers received a great response, and many questions were asked. There were lively discussions.

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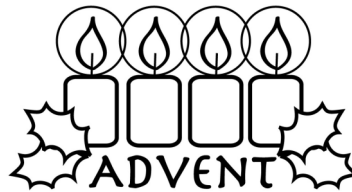
(Continued from page 13)

*O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter
in,*

Be born in us today.

In this time of darkness in the world with all the horrible things we see on TV and read about in the papers, it is so important that we do good deeds and have an open eye for the needs of others. And not necessarily big things, we should never forget that it takes many drops of water to make the oceans, and many little grains of sand the Sahara.

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St MARTIN DE PORRES

Martin was born in 1579 in Lima, Peru, the son of a former slave. He grew up in poverty and was taken in by a religious order as a servant boy. The monks looked down on Martin because he was mixed-race but in time his behaviour led to the Dominican Order stopping their racial limits on admission and he was made a full brother. He worked tirelessly on behalf of the poor, starting an orphanage and a children's hospital.

During his lifetime he was seen in other places. An African slave said Martin came to comfort him and many others. When the same man later saw him in Peru, he was very happy to meet him again and asked Martin if he had had a good voyage; but Martin had never left Lima.

In pictures, Martin de Porres is shown as a young man with a broom, since he thought all work sacred, no matter how lowly. He is also shown with a dog, cat and mouse, all eating in peace from the one dish.

DOG, CAT & MOUSE

St Martin de Porres is often shown with mice because, according to one story, the monastery had problems with rodents and decided to put traps out. Martin was so upset that he spoke to the mice and agreed that if they would leave the monastery, he would feed them at the back door of the kitchen. From that day forward, no mouse was seen in the monastery.

Which of these animals do you think are actually mentioned by name in the Bible?

1. Cat
2. Horse
3. Dog
4. Mouse
5. Lamb
6. Frog
7. Monkey
8. Lion
9. Donkey
10. Ox



Answers at the bottom of the page.

How does a group of dolphins make a decision?

Flipper coin.

How do sheep sign their letters?

'Ewes sincerely.'

Answer: all are in the Bible except numbers 1 and 7, the cat and the monkey.

Forever Young

*We laughed, and loved, and lived our lives
With no thought for the morrow,
We didn't know that very soon
There would be so much sorrow.*

*For suddenly the world grew dark,
And war was very near,
We didn't want to go, to leave
The ones we held most dear.*

*But all too soon we had to go,
To leave this land of beauty,
We fought to keep our loved ones safe,
We had to do our duty.*

*And now we lie in foreign lands,
In Europe's fields and desert sands,
In Asia's jungles, oceans deep,
And for Eternity we'll sleep.*

*Now when you kneel to say a prayer,
And all the hymns are sung,
Remember us, your fallen friends,
Who are forever young.*

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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.