

Services held every
Sunday morning
10:30 am

Volume 15 Issue 7 September 2019

Next issue: First Sunday October 2019

St Mary's Magazine

Chaplaincy
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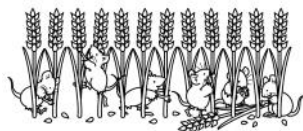
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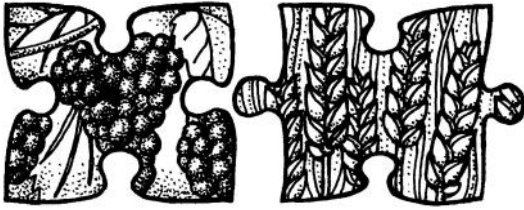
The Anglican Chaplaincy of Twente



DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND





September 2019

Dear Friends,

I recently had a conversation with our treasurer, Hans, who is looking forward to handing on his business to his two sons. Life will change for Hans and Caroline; a bit more relaxation and time for new adventures, but he is also mindful of the different world in which his sons and their projected families will have to operate the business and frame their lives. He confided, "I worry about the future for all our families".

I remained quiet because it was Hans' moment of reflection, "But" he meditatively reflected, "I believe we are thinking about the important issues at St Mary's at the moment.

I believe that it is because God cares about the world, he made the greatest sacrifice by sending his Son to save it. As his followers, we must continue what he started when he entered into the history of the world. We have been sent to do our bit to change the world. As careful scrutineers of Jesus as our model, we must be involved in what he started. We have been sent to change the world (even as we resist change so often, just because it is change). Our world is, after all, a reflection of who we are, what we want and how we want to live in our world. In conclusion, if we want to change the world then we have to look at changing ourselves in the way we talk, eat, mix, and, above all, the way we love. The ripple effect has boundless potential.

At momentous times like our own, when some of our leaders seem only to traduce our interests, it's critical to remember that we ordinary folk have real power. When we share knowledge and passion, and when we organise ourselves, we gain strength and momentum from one another, to make our principled and inclusive will known. That's when we achieve worthy things, which no government or multinational can resist.

When we do our part and feel benevolently comfortable in our own skins, we radiate profound possibility.

In this respect, I love these overwhelming words of inspiration from Mary Oliver, (a poet I love,) from "When Death Comes" (New and Selected Poems. 1992):

"When it's over, I want to say all my life
I was a bride married to amazement.
I was the bridegroom, taking the world into my arms."

Love to you all, as always,



St Mary's Chapel News

Wedding

Charlotte Solms and Carl Mol were married in St. Mary's Chapel,

Weldam, on Saturday, 17 August. Charlotte, eldest daughter of Count Alfred and Countess Christine, was baptised and confirmed in the chapel, and has also been on the chaplaincy council. On behalf of the congregation, the magazine would like to wish Charlotte and Carl all happiness and success in their life together.

Where now?

A teacher was finishing up a lesson on the joys of discovery and the importance of curiosity. "Where would we be today," she asked, "if no one had ever been curious?"

There was a pause, and then one child ventured: "In the garden of Eden?"

Sit where you like

Whilst serving as church usher, I was carrying out our tradition of escorting parishioners to their seats before the service began. After I returned to the entrance of the sanctuary to escort the next party, I greeted two strangers and asked where they would like to sit. Looking confused, the young man smiled and said, "Non-smoking, please."

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Reception

Following their wedding, on Sunday, 18 August, Charlotte and Carl held a reception in a marquee erected in the grounds of Weldam castle, for staff and residents of the Weldam estate as well as the congregation of St. Mary's. This gave everyone the chance to meet and congratulate the happy couple. Drinks and a buffet ensured that a good time was had by all.

Summer Teas

This year's Summer Teas was yet again a great success. Over the six Sunday afternoons in summer that the teas were served, a number of people visited the chapel and enjoyed the fare on offer. A wide variety of baked goods were prepared and donated by the ladies, (and some men), in the congregation. To all who helped, a big thank you. It was great fun participating and helping to raise 468 Euros.

Castle Fair

On the 14 September the annual Castle Fair will held. Volunteers to help are always welcome. See sign-up notices in the Hut. This is the most important fundraising event in the Chaplaincy calendar so please be there. Bring your family, bring your friends and bring dogs. (for the dog show).

Donation of Antique Bible

On the 8 August, a beautiful antique bible that once belonged to the late Paul Salim Kluwer was donated to the chaplaincy by Mr. Kluwer's son-in-law. It will be displayed so that all can enjoy the beauty of this wonderful book. Our Chaplain Canon Brian Rodford thanked the Kluwer family for their kind donation.

Wedding Question

Q: Why are wedding receptions held in marquees?

A: So you can say the excitement was in-tents!!

Forthcoming Dates

14 September - Castle Fair

18 September - Chaplaincy Council meeting on the at 19:30

13 October - Reader Licensing and Confirmation Service
10:30

20 October - Harvest Festival

Coffee Rota

The coffee and tea served after the Sunday is not only a wonderful opportunity for everyone to meet up and chat, it also makes a valuable contribution to the chaplaincy funds. However, it does need a regular supply of willing, enthusiastic, cheerful volunteers to provide baked goods and to serve. Please check the coffee rota regularly. Please put your name down to help whenever and where ever you can. If you haven't tried it before you will find it great fun and rewarding.

Magazine Payments

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

Last year only two thirds of the magazine costs came from donations, the balance came from chapel funds. It would help the survival of the magazine if all costs were covered by voluntary donations. Thank you.

Intercessions

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

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

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The sound of music

Joe's wife liked to sing. She decided to join the church choir. From time to time she would practise while she was in the kitchen preparing dinner.

Soon, whenever she would start in on a song, Joe would head outside to the back garden. His wife, with hurt feelings, said, "What's the matter, Joe? Don't you like my singing?"

Joe replied, "Well, put it this way, if I stay outside, the neighbours won't assume that I'm beating you."

Money

One day a small boy started pulling handfuls of money out of his pockets - several notes as well as many coins. Bewildered, his mother asked, "Where on earth did you get all that money?"

"At church, of course," the boy replied, surprised. "They have bowls of it there."

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Fair cop?

While taking a routine vandalism report at an infants school, I was interrupted by a little girl about six years old. Looking up and down at my uniform, she asked, "Are you a cop?"

"Yes," I answered and continued writing the report.

"My mum said if I ever needed help, I should ask the police. Is that right?" she ventured.

"Yes, that's right," I told her, and added expansively: "We are always here for you."

The little girl looked reassured. "Well, then," she said, as she extended her foot toward me, "would you please tie my shoe?"

School blues

A little girl had just finished her first week of

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St James the Least of All

On the peculiar stains and smells of old choir robes

My dear Nephew Darren

Your withering comments, saying that our choir robes, were 'surplice' to requirements

did not go down well at last week's practice. I will concede that Mr. Baddeley's robes smell somewhat kippered and are laced with burns - but you can expect little less from 40 years of enjoying a final cigarette behind a gravestone before the start of Matins.

Certainly, Mr Timmin's surplice has a strange series of red and blue polka dots, but that is only because he uses his time in the choir stalls, when not singing, to catch up on marking his pupils' essays. The red gash on Miss Thripp's surplice may look as if the choirmaster has just stabbed her, but it was only a jam doughnut she ate, just before that wedding five years ago.

Our robes are steeped in history - they have seen their way through the death of Queen Victoria, the relief of Mafeking, and two World Wars.

When one morning Admiral Flagg developed an ostentatious cough, I gave him a cough sweet from the pocket of my own cassock. He later commented that it had a strange taste. Not surprising - it had been in the pocket when I was given the cassock 50 years ago from Canon Ball's widow after he died.

In an attempt to improve the look of the surplices, Mrs Wigg offered to starch them all. Unfortunately, her enthusiasm is only surpassed by her ineptitude. She worked on the principle that if one packet of starch was good, ten would be better. When the choir arrived the following Sunday, they found twenty surplices standing round the vestry floor looking like a circle of tents at Scout camp.



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Once the choir had struggled into them, they had to process up the aisle in single file, as they were all about 6 feet wide. The choir stood rigidly throughout the Service, knowing that any rapid movement risked severing a major artery.

But our style of choir dress has one advantage which yours can never equal. Within our choristers' voluminous robes, there is ample space for peppermints, packs of cards, the Sunday newspapers and balls of wool and knitting needles. Your music group in their jeans and tee-shirts must feel utterly bereft during the sermon.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

Church leaders warn Johnson about Brexit

The Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, has come under pressure from various church leaders concerning Brexit.

The Bishop in Europe, Dr Robert Innes, said that a priority for Mr Johnson should be the 'forgotten million' UK citizens living in the EU. "They worry about residency issues, health care, pensions and travelling."

The Joint Public Issues Team, which includes leaders from the Methodist Church, the United Reformed Church and the Church of Scotland, said that a no-deal Brexit would "put at risk the welfare and safety of the poorest communities in the UK."

But the Conservative MP Sir Gary Streeter, who chairs Christians in Parliament, said that Mr Johnson 'must focus on Brexit', and that he would imperil trust in democracy if he did not deliver an exit by 31st October.

The Archbishop of Canterbury wrote on Twitter 'We pray for wisdom and courage at this time of great challenge as we work to build a shared vision for the future of the country and all its people.'

(Continued from page 6)
school. "I'm just wasting my time," she said to her mother. "I can't read, I can't write, and they won't let me talk!"

Toothy grin

While working for an organisation that delivers lunches to the elderly, I used to take my four-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs.

One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely whispered, 'The tooth fairy will never believe this!'

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Always on a Sunday

The irate customer called the newsagents, loudly demanding to know where the Sunday edition of her newspaper was. "Madam," said the newsagent patiently, "We have not delivered your Sunday newspaper because today is Saturday. The Sunday paper is not delivered until tomorrow, on Sunday."

There was quite a long pause on the other end of the phone, followed by a sigh of wakening understanding. "Well, now ... so that's why no one was at church today."

Say it slow

On a beautiful late summer's day, two American tourists were driving through Wales. They reached

(Continued on page 9)

Sowing your Garden

For the Garden of Your Daily Living

Plant Three rows of Peas

1. Peace of Mind
2. Peace of Heart
3. Peace of Soul

Plant Four rows of Squash

1. Squash Gossip
2. Squash Indifference
3. Squash Grumbling
4. Squash Selfishness

Plant Four rows of Lettuce

1. Lettuce be Faithful
2. Lettuce be Kind
3. Lettuce be Patient
4. Lettuce Really Love One Another

No Garden is Complete without Turnips

- 1 Turnip for Meetings
- 2 Turnip for Service
- 3 Turnip to Help One Another

To Conclude our Garden We Must have Thyme

1. Thyme for Each Other
2. Thyme for Family
3. Thyme for Friends

Water Freely with Patience and Cultivate with Love. There is Much Fruit in Your Garden because You Reap what YOU sow.



Cold coffee on a hot summer day

My son lives in Nicosia, Cyprus. There it can be very hot in the summer, sometimes 45° Celsius. So, a cold cup of coffee is welcome instead of the regular hot coffee.

Here follows a recipe that is a good thirst quencher for our hot Dutch summer days.

Black ice coffee Greek style

1-litre water

20 teaspoons /7 tablespoons instant coffee

if you wish 20 teaspoons /7 tablespoons sugar

Bring the water to a boil and put the coffee powder and the sugar in a bowl. Pour the hot water over the coffee and the sugar and stir very well till everything is dissolved.

Let the coffee cool down on the counter for at least one hour. Pour it into an airtight container and store it for at least four hours or overnight in the refrigerator. Good for five to seven high glasses. Add if wished some ice cubes.



If you like to drink your ice coffee with milk:

Put 150 ml of the cold coffee in a watertight container or a cocktail shaker. Add 100 ml cold milk and a few ice cubes and shake this thoroughly. Put in a high glass a scoop of vanilla ice cream and pour the coffee over it. Serve with a tall spoon.

Remark: Cold instant coffee has a better taste than coffee from a coffee machine. Besides which, when you shake it, it gives your coffee a good foam.

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Llanfairpwllgwyng
yllgogerychwyrnd
robwylllantysiliog
ogoch
(yes, that place in
Wales) and
stopped for
lunch.

Still gazing in
fascination at the
place name on the
sign outside, one
of the tourists
approached the
waitress and said:
"Before we order,
I wonder if you
could settle an
argument for us.
Can you
pronounce where
we are, very,
very, very slowly?"

"Sure," the girl
shrugged. She
leaned over the
counter and said:
"Burr-r-gurr-
king".

Choice

A father was
standing at the
edge of a cliff
admiring the sea
below, the
sandwiches
clutched in his
hand. His son
approached him
and tugged at his
coat. "Mum says
it is not safe
here," the boy
said, "and that
you are either to

(Continued on page 12)

Forthcoming Services

1 September 2019

10:30 Sung Eucharist

Trinity 11

Celebrant and Preacher

Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden:

Blair Charles

Intercessor:

Joyce Wigboldus

Chalice:

Caroline Siertsema

Sidesperson/Reader

Louw Talstra

Readings

Proverbs [25. 6 -7]

Vivian Reinders

Hebrews [13.1 - 8, 15 - 16]

Gospel

Luke [13.10 - 17]

8 September 2019

10:30 Sung Eucharist

Trinity 12

Celebrant and Preacher

Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden:

Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

Jeanet Luiten

Chalice:

Jeanet Luiten

Sidesperson/Reader

Jan de Beij

Readings

Deuteronomy [30 15 - end]

Lea Meijnen

Philemon [1 - 21]

Gospel

Luke [14. 25 - 33]

15 September 2019

10:30 Morning Prayer

Trinity 13

Celebrant and Preacher

Ms Simone Yallop

Duty Warden:

Blair Charles

Intercessor:

Lea Meijnen

Chalice:

n. a.

Sidesperson/Reader

Philippa te West

Readings

Exodus [32. 7 - 14]

Arthur Cass

1 Timothy [1. 12 - 17]

Gospel

Luke [15. 1 - 10]

Forthcoming Services

22 September 2019

10:30 Sung Eucharist

Trinity 14

all ages service

Celebrant and Preacher

Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden:

Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

Young person

Chalice:

Joyce Wigboldus

Sidesperson/Reader

Young person

Readings

Amos [8. 4 - 7]

Young person

1 Timothy [2. 1 - 7]

Gospel

Luke 16. [1 - 13]

2019

10:30 Sung Eucharist

Trinity 15

Celebrant and Preacher

Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden:

Blair Charles

Intercessor

Simone Yallop

Chalice:

Caroline Siertsema

Sidesperson/Reader

Erik Wanjala

Readings

1 Chronicles [29 6 - 19]

Anne Powell

Ephesians [2 19 - 22]

Gospel

John [2 13 - 22]

Reminder

13 October

Bishop Michael and Archdeacon Paul will be visiting
St Mary's for a Confirmation and Licensing Service.
Eight members of the congregation will be Confirmed.
Two members will be welcomed into the Church of England.

And

After years of hard work and service

Simone Yallop

Will be Admitted and Licensed as a Reader.

A reception will be held in the Hunting Lodge afterwards.

All are welcome

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come away, or
else give me the
sandwiches."

Harvest Supper

When the
church council
asked for a
report on how
the Harvest
Supper had gone,
the church
secretary was at
least succinct:
"More was
prepared than
was served.
More was served
than was eaten.
More was eaten
than was
necessary."

Methuselah's diet

Methuselah ate
what he found on
his plate,
And never, as
people do now,
Did he note the
amount of the
calorie count;
He ate because
it was chow.
He wasn't
disturbed as at
dinner he sat,
Devouring a
roast or a pie,
To reflect it was
full of saturated
fat,
Or a couple of
vitamins shy.
He cheerfully
chewed each

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Uganda Visit

Last October, we visited Uganda for the Joanne Foundation. The Joanne Foundation is one of the charities of St Mary's Weldam. It sustains the area of Ndegeya, a central village with seven hamlets around it in a vast area in the east of Uganda. We spent two weeks in the area, visiting communities, schools and local people involved in the project.

Every autumn Helma Noordink, a member of the board of the Foundation, visits the Founder coordinator (Apollo) and his assistant (Jane) to visit the projects and the people, to evaluate the results of the past year and to make plans for the new year. Sometimes Helma is accompanied by her husband Arent, sometimes by others.

This year we accompanied Helma and Arent, who have been our best friends for many years, parents of Joanne who sadly died in 2008. Joanne loved the Ugandan people and had adopted six children financially, with the promise that she would support them until they had finished their vocational training.

After Joanne's death, her parents saw that not only did they, their son, their relatives and friends miss Joanne badly, but also these Ugandan children. They decided to establish the Joanne Foundation to be able to continue Joanne's work and to help to make her wishes come true.

Once again, we were extremely impressed by the efforts of the Joanne Foundation. Not just "Joanne's Children" but also their schools and their communities get support. The general support for the communities consists of freshwater and sanitary projects, but special attention goes out to the elderly people who are no longer able to take full care of themselves and who have no relatives to fall back on, as well as needy families and handicapped people.

Every penny is justified by the coordinator. He and his assistant visit all the needy families in the Ndegeya area frequently. They coordinated the building of water pumps (boreholes) and realise that still more and more latrines

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Jonneke at the Borehole

are needed in all the hamlets. All people in Ndegeya now have access to clean water. The sanitary situation is also improving, with less and less people needing to use the bush as their toilet.



Medical Post

Recently the Foundation started building a medical post near the house of Apollo and his wife, Innocent. In this way, the old and needy people can visit their nurse Kakande and his assistant Michael (who is, with

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(Continued from page 12)
species of food,
Unmindful of
troubles or fears
Lest his health
might be hurt
By some fancy
dessert -
And he lived over
nine hundred
years!

**Medical terms
for non-medical
people**

Artery:
the study of
paintings
Bacteria:
the back door to
cafeteria
Barium:
what doctors do
when patients die
Caesarean
section:
a neighbourhood
in Rome
Catscan:
searching for
Kitty
Cauterize:
made eye contact
with her
Coma:
a punctuation
mark
Enema:
not a friend
Fester:
quicker than
someone else
Labour Pain:
getting hurt at
work
Nitrates:
cheaper than day
rates

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Outpatient:
a person who has fainted
Post-operative:
a letter carrier
Recovery room:
place to do upholstery
Terminal illness:
falling ill at the airport

Sabbath

The story is told of how Queen Victoria was out walking one Sunday with her faithful servant John Brown. They saw someone fishing from a boat on the Loch, and she said: "Fancy people doing that on the Sabbath."

"But Ma'am," protested John Brown, "the Lord Jesus was in a boat on the Sabbath."

The Queen sniffed: "Well, two wrongs don't make a right."

Did you mean dwindle?

When a church in Manchester closed its doors for the last time, the denominational

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support of the Foundation, well on his way to becoming a professional nurse as well) without needing to travel all the way to the hospital of Masaka.

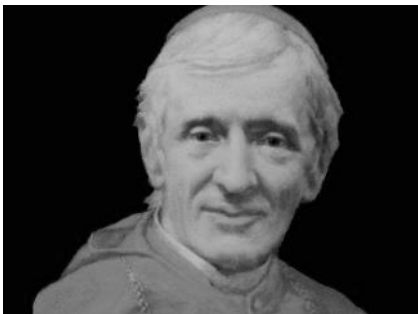


Joanna's Library

Apart from the needy children and their families, the Foundation sustains the schools of these children too. The schools are helped with building costs such as new roofs, concrete floors and latrines, books and blackboards.

During the weeks we spent in the area, we visited many needy people living in circumstances we did not know. We met needy old and young, but still often rather happy people. They were very glad to meet mzungus who were helping them. (mzungu is the common term used for people of European origin). We visited schools with many hard-working people, making long days, doing everything they can to enable young people to prepare for a better future, with a family and a job. Most of the students seemed to be happy to get the opportunity to go to school. Teachers work extremely long days, mostly without computers or copying machines to make their work easier. We were most impressed!

Canonisation of John Henry Newman 1801 - 1890



The Church of England has warmly welcomed the announcement by Pope Francis that John Henry Newman is to be canonised later this year.

Newman, a former Anglican priest who became a Roman

Catholic in 1845 - midway through his life - and eventually a Cardinal, is regarded as one of the most influential figures from his era for both Anglicanism and Roman Catholicism.

An important theologian, preacher and pastor in his years as an Anglican priest, he was one of the key leaders of the Oxford Movement that heralded a revival in the life of the Victorian Church of England that spread around the Anglican Communion.

A delegation representing the Anglican Communion and the Church of England will be present at the canonisation in Rome on 13 October 2019.



SCARS

I'm old. What that means is that I've survived (so far) and a lot of people I've known and loved did not.

I've lost friends, best friends, acquaintances, co-workers, grandparents, mom, relatives, teachers, mentors, students, neighbours, and a host of other folks. I have no children, and I can't imagine the pain it must be to lose a child. But here's my two cents...

I wish I could say you get used to people dying. But I never did. I don't want to. It tears a hole through me whenever

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magazine informed its readers that this had sadly become necessary because of SWINDLING congregations.

From a service sheet in a Tasmanian church:

8am: Matins and Holy Communion
11am: Choral MATING and Sermon

Choir

From a parish magazine: We are delighted to report that the choir raised £120 for the building fund during their recent sponsored sing. This included £10 for them not to do it again.

An e for an a makes a big difference...

From the church notices in a Yorkshire evening newspaper: 'A talk will be given on Evelyn Christenson's classic book, 'What happens when women PREY.'

Signs found outside churches

- It is unlikely there'll be a reduction in the wages of sin.

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- If you don't like the way you were born, try being born again.

- Looking at the way some people live, they ought to obtain eternal fire insurance soon.

- This is a ch__ch What is missing? (U R)

- Forbidden fruit creates many jams.

- In the dark? Follow the Son.

- Running low on faith? Stop in for a fill-up.

- If you can't sleep, don't count sheep. Talk to the Shepherd.

Together forever

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight, because by then your body and your fat are really good friends.

Slow

A curate consistently arrived late for work until his long-suffering vicar asked him what was wrong. "My problem," explained the curate, "is that I sleep very slowly."

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somebody I love dies, no matter the circumstances. But I don't want it to "not matter". I don't want it to be something that just passes. My scars are a testament to the love and the relationship that I had for and with that person. And if the scar is deep, so was the love. So be it.

Scars are a testament to life. Scars are a testament that I can love deeply and live deeply and be cut, or even gouged, and that I can heal and continue to live and continue to love. And the scar tissue is stronger than the original flesh ever was. Scars are a testament to life. Scars are only ugly to people who can't see.

As for grief, you'll find it comes in waves. When the ship is first wrecked, you're drowning, with wreckage all around you. Everything floating around you reminds you of the beauty and the magnificence of the ship that was, and is no more. And all you can do is float. You find some piece of the wreckage and you hang on for a while. Maybe it's some physical thing. Maybe it's a happy memory or a photograph. Maybe it's a person who is also floating. For a while, all you can do is float. Stay alive.

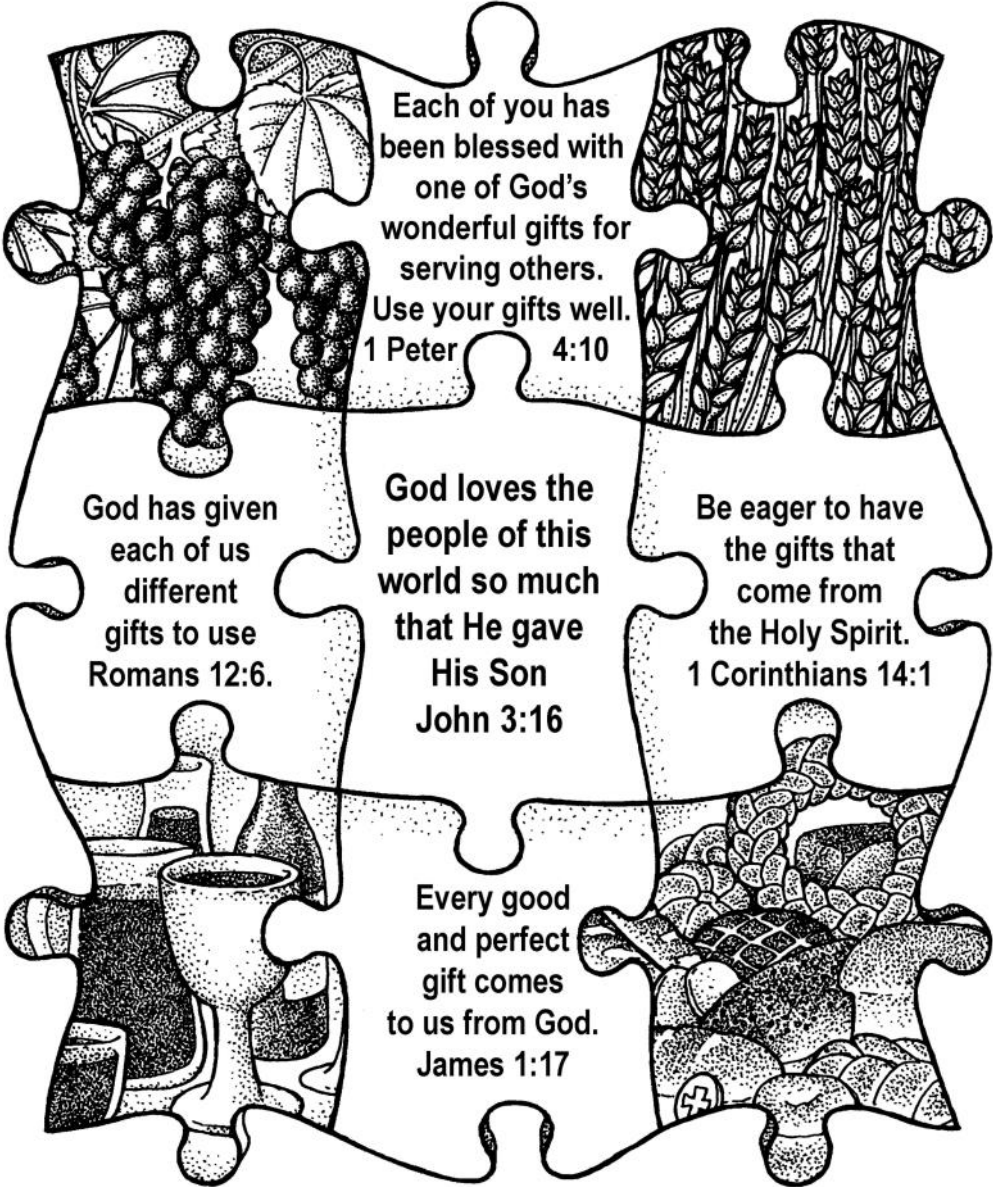
In the beginning, the waves are 100 feet tall and crash over you without mercy. They come 10 seconds apart and don't even give you time to catch your breath. All you can do is hang on and float. After a while, maybe weeks, maybe months, you'll find the waves are still 100 feet tall, but they come further apart. When they come, they still crash all over you and wipe you out. But in between, you can breathe, you can function. You never know what's going to trigger the grief. It might be a song, a picture, a street intersection, the smell of a cup of coffee. It can be just about anything...and the wave comes crashing. But in between waves, there is life.

Somewhere down the line, and it's different for everybody, you find that the waves are only 80 feet tall. Or 50 feet tall. And while they still come, they come further apart. You can see them coming. An anniversary, a birthday, or Christmas, or landing at a particular airport. You can see it coming, for the most part, and prepare yourself. And when it washes over you, you know that somehow you will, again, come out the other side. Soaking wet, sputtering, still hanging on to some tiny piece of the wreckage, but you'll come out.

Take it from an old guy. The waves never stop coming, and somehow you don't really want them to. But you learn that you'll survive them. And other waves will come. And you'll survive them too.

If you're lucky, you'll have lots of scars from lots of loves. And lots of shipwrecks.

Found anonymous on Facebook:



Each of you has been blessed with one of God's wonderful gifts for serving others. Use your gifts well.
1 Peter 4:10

God has given each of us different gifts to use
Romans 12:6.

God loves the people of this world so much that He gave His Son
John 3:16

Be eager to have the gifts that come from the Holy Spirit.
1 Corinthians 14:1

Every good and perfect gift comes to us from God.
James 1:17



Wild Geese

You do not have to be good.

You do not have to walk on your knees
for a hundred miles through the desert repenting.

You only have to let the soft animal of your body
love what it loves.

Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.

Meanwhile the world goes on.

Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain
are moving across the landscapes,
over the prairies and the deep trees,
the mountains and the rivers.

Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,
are heading home again.

Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,
the world offers itself to your imagination,
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting -
over and over announcing your place
in the family of things.

Mary Oliver 1935 - 2019

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.*

