

Services held every
Sunday morning
10:30 am

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Next issue: First Sunday August 2021

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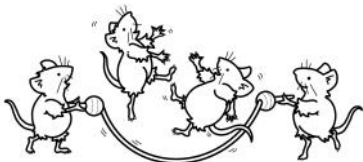
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The Anglican Chaplaincy of Twente



DIOCESE IN EUROPE
THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



July



Canon Paul Hardingham considers the need for encouragement

This month should see the start of the Tokyo Olympics, having been postponed from last year due to the Coronavirus pandemic. A number of New Testament letters refer to Olympic sport including Hebrews: 'Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith' (Hebrews 12:1-2).

The Christian life is compared to a long-distance race, but despite the struggles and obstacles, there is a great crowd of witnesses cheering us on. We have a heavenly Father who loves us and a Saviour who has run the race before us. If we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, He will enable us to finish the race.

During the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, the British athlete Derek Redmond was running in the semi-finals of the 400 metres. About 250 metres from the finish his hamstring tore. He fell to the ground in pain and stretcher bearers came over to him. However, Redmond was determined to finish the race and so he started hopping toward the finishing line. Suddenly Jim Redmond, Derek's father, ran out of the stands towards him. "You don't have to do this," he told his son. "Yes, I do," said Derek, to which his father said, "We're going to finish this together." They completed the lap with Derek leaning on his father's shoulder. As they crossed the finish line, the spectators rose to give Derek a standing ovation. Although he didn't win an Olympic medal, Derek Redmond finished the race with his father at his side. Let's not forget the encouragement we have to finish the race!

St Mary's Chapel Summer Teas

News



With holidays approaching, some of the following may strike a chord

Holiday: an all-expense tour

Holiday: something you take when you can't take what you've been taking any longer.

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

Why is it called tourist season if we can't shoot at them?

Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?
(A question for anyone holidaying in Wales.)

If flying is so safe, why do they call the airport the 'terminal'?

Why didn't Noah swat those two mosquitoes when he had the chance?

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The Summer Teas will take place on Sunday afternoons from 11 July until 22 August. There is a list in the Hut. Please put your name down if you can do some baking or can serve on the day.

On the Sundays that the Summer Teas take place, there will be a service of Evening Prayer in the Chapel starting at 16:00.

Licensing of new Archdeacon for North West Europe

On the 12 June, the Venerable Sam van Leer was licensed as the new Archdeacon for North West Europe. The ceremony took place in the Pro-Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Brussels.

As readers of this magazine know, the Revd. Sam van Leer, was for several years, the chaplain for the East Netherlands Group of Chaplaincies, consisting of Arnhem, Nijmegen and Weldam.

As chaplain he proved to be a man of many talents. On a Weldam Church Council Retreat held close to Ypres in Belgium, Sam guided the Retreat with great spirituality and a deep faith. He also displayed an astonishing depth of knowledge about Belgium beer!

A Word from Wales

The first Evensong at St Deiniol's Parish Church since the pandemic began, was held on Sunday 20 June. with sadly, only half the number permitted under the present Covid regulations. The reason? The Welsh football team were scheduled to kick-off in their UEFA Football Championship match about the same time as the service.

On a warm summer evening, with the evening sun shing through the magnificent stained-glass windows, it was comforting to sit in my pew listening to the organ music filling the church. I reflected on the thought that Christian services had been held in this place for nearly a thousand years. During bitter border wars, plagues, pandemics and times of grinding poverty, people had gathered here to worship.

Then the choir, resplendent in red and white robes, began the first song. The congregation were allowed to sing, but unlike the choir, with masks on. Tricky, as any protracted taking of breath resulted in a mouthful of mask. Despite the problems, having hymns, music, and song in which everyone could participate was wonderful. It was a beautiful service, and we all went home contented.

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Surrounding the church is an extensive churchyard sprawling down the side of a hill. A place that has functioned as a graveyard for several centuries. One grave is signposted as a Crimean War Grave. I had to investigate and found it was in fact the grave of a Crimean War veteran called Thomas Ryan. Further investigation online revealed that Thomas had been born in Kilkenny, Ireland. In 1854, he was a sergeant in one of the companies that made up the Light Brigade.

On the 25 October, Thomas took part in the Charge of the Light Brigade. An action immortalised in a famous poem by Alfred Lord Tennyson. An action in which nearly half the men failed to return.

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Magazine Payments

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

Payments Due

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

Intercessions

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

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

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I wonder how much deeper the ocean would be without sponges.

Summer is a time when families spend more time together. With this in mind...

The real art of conversation is not only to say the right thing at the right time, but also to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.

If they squeeze olives to get olive oil, how do they get baby oil?

Ever notice that the people who are late are often much jollier than the people who have had to wait for them?

How long a minute is depends on what side of the bathroom door you're on.

Bowls

A small boy stunned his parents when he began to empty his pockets of coins. Finally his mother asked him where he had got all that money. "At church," the boy replied nonchalantly. "They have bowls of it there."

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Cry baby

A woman took her four-month-old baby to visit her neighbour, but the baby began to fuss as soon as they arrived. The neighbour's five-year-old son asked where the baby had come from. "He was sent down from Heaven," the mother replied, above the screams.

The little boy watched the baby crying for a few more minutes, and then turned to his mother. "I bet I know why he was sent from Heaven. God wanted some quiet up there!"

Church notices that didn't quite come out right....

The preacher for Sunday next will be found hanging on the notice board in the porch.

Ladies, when you have emptied the teapot, please stand upside down in the sink.

There will be a procession in the grounds of the monastery next Sunday afternoon. If it rains in the

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

On why the clergy should avoid computers

The Rectory
St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

Thank you for the kind offer of your old computer, but I do not want it. I know you find it a fundamental basic of daily life, but I do not, and I intend to keep things that way.

This is despite the fact that our diocesan office now takes it for granted that all of us clergy have a computer. Indeed, the diocesan secretary and I have had several awkward phone calls upon this very subject. He can't believe that I really don't have one, and suspects that I am simply hiding my email address from him so that he cannot send me the daily diocesan briefings, weekly questionnaires, and constant notification of all sorts of meetings and training days. But I remain firm: I have survived in ministry for nearly 50 years without a computer, and I don't intend to change now. When he gets tetchy with me, I take the high moral ground and remind him that St Paul did not have a computer.

Besides, it would not end with just a computer. Next, I would be obliged to get a printer and then ink cartridges and then maybe some sort of virus would attack me. As I have no idea about any of this, I might have to allow someone into the vicarage to sort it out, and even worse, I might even have to pay them. My money can be far more usefully spent on good claret.

Being without a computer also saves me much aggravation. From what I can gather, most computer owners spend significant parts of their lives either trying to get their machine to do something that it refuses to do, or else getting help from someone in a remote part of the world who speaks a jargon only distantly related to English, who assures you that whatever you did, it would have been better if you hadn't.

So I have decided that should I ever REALLY need to use a

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computer for something, I will visit our local primary school and get a six year-old to do the job for me, which they do with effortless efficiency, speed and accuracy.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

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Somehow, after the Crimean War, Thomas made his way to the Welsh village of Hawarden. He lived there to the great age of 88, dying on the 20 October 1908, nearly 54 years after that famous Charge. In spring, his grave is smothered in bluebells, and if one lifts one gaze up, there is the most wonderful view across the Dee Valley. A fitting place of rest for an old soldier.

Footnote: To give readers a feel for the poem, here is the first verse

The Charge of the Light Brigade

By Alfred, Lord Tennyson

Half a league, half a league,
Half a league onward,
All in the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.
"Forward, the Light Brigade!
Charge for the guns!" he said.
Into the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.

"Forward, the Light Brigade!"
Was there a man dismayed?
Not though the soldier knew
Someone had blundered.
Theirs not to make reply,
Theirs not to reason why,
Theirs but to do and die.
Into the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.

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afternoon, the procession will take place in the morning.

The sacristan was in a hurry to inform the congregation that their minister had recovered from an illness, so he put the following notice outside the church: *God is good. The vicar is better.*

Really?

Once asked how many people worked in the Vatican, the Pope replied, "Oh, about half."

That will teach him.

Mrs. Smartt was fumbling in her purse for her offering when a large television remote fell out and clattered into the aisle.

The curious usher bent over to retrieve it for her and whispered, "Do you always carry your TV remote to church?"

"No," she replied, "but my husband refused to come with me this morning, and I figured this was the most evil thing I could do to him legally."

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Forthcoming Services

4 July 2021

10:30 Morning Prayer

Trinity 5

Officiant and Preacher

Ms Simone Yallop

Duty Warden

Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

Klaas Prins

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Jan de Beij

Ezekiel 2. 1-5

Patrick Saridjan

2 Corinthians. 12. 2-10

Gospel

Mark 6. 1-13

11 July 2021

10:30 Eucharist

Trinity 6

Celebrant and Preacher

Rev. Dan Eze

Duty Warden

Klaas Prins

Intercessor:

Simone Yallop

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Victor Pirenne

Amos 7. 7-15

Louw Talstra

Ephesians 1. 3-14

Gospel

Mark 6. 14 -29

18 July 2021

10:30 Eucharist Service

Trinity 7

Celebrant and Preacher

Rev. Chris Nichols

Duty Warden

Klaas Prins

Intercessor:

Jeanet Luiten

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Frances Gothard

Jeremiah 23. 1-6

Erica Schotman

Ephesians 2. 11-end

Gospel

Mark 6. 30- 34, 53-end

Forthcoming Services

25 July 2021

10:30 Eucharist

Trinity 8

Celebrant and Preacher

Rev. Chris Nichols.

Duty Warden
Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Elizabeth v. d. Heide

2 Kings 4. 42 to end

Heleen Rauwerda

Ephesians 3. 14 to end

Gospel

John 6 1-21

1 August 2021

10:30 Eucharist

Trinity 9

Celebrant and Preacher

Rt. Rev Bishop Michael Langrish

Duty Warden
Klaas Prins

Intercessor:
Joyce Wigboldus

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Anne Powell

Exodus 16. 2-4, 9-15

Vivian Reinders

4 1 -6

Gospel

John 6 24 -35

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Words of wisdom:

"There's a fine line between a long, drawn-out sermon and a hostage situation."

Last word

A vicar fell out with his church council over various church policies and procedures, including how the finances were handled.

After bitter arguments and many nights of lost sleep, he decided to leave the congregation to take a job as a prison chaplain.

He preached his last sermon at the church on John 14:1: "I go to prepare a place for you."

Its True

In a moment of creative inspiration, the entrepreneur who owned the coin-op laundry beside the church commissioned this sign for his window: "Where cleanliness really is next to Godliness!"

Can comedy point the way to faith?

Truth can come from a range of places. In Shakespeare, it's the fool who often has the insight that the main characters lack. In the Old Testament, it's the prophets that proclaim the truth from God's perspective.

Maybe today, we should be listening more to the comedians - to the people who stand back from our day-to-day happenings and see the world from different angles. They can make us laugh, but they can also teach us truths about ourselves that can be distinctly uncomfortable.

Take the new book by comedian, and Catholic, Frank Skinner. It's called 'A Comedian's Prayer Book' (Hodder & Stoughton) and runs to just over a hundred pages. Yet in that thin volume, Skinner - who is very open about his devout Christian faith - poses serious questions for both believers and atheists.

It's far from being a comfortable read, though it never ceases to be amusing and thoughtful.

Setting the scene for the book, Skinner, an award-winning comedian, television and radio host, explains: "Imagine someone on a pilgrimage, stopping at churches, martyr-related tourist spots and sacred wells, while dressed in a medieval jester outfit.

"The intention is serious and completely devout, but the pilgrim just feels more at home in the motley than in sackcloth and ashes. He feels jest is an integral part of who he is, and it seems wrong to deny that part."

Skinner sees his role as a comic as integral to this faith, although some 'fellow pilgrims' may be uncomfortable with someone who seems to see humour all around him - and can easily make others laugh.

Yet Frank Skinner raises deep issues in the chapters of this slim volume, including questions that will connect with people both within the Christian faith, and those standing outside.

He describes his prayer life as "a telepathic dip into a long, ongoing conversation with thousands of tabs left open and no helpful 'new readers start here' summaries or simplifications for the neutral observer."

Skinner's 'prayer book' is on my bookshelf alongside '10 Second Sermons,' (Darton, Longman & Todd) written by fellow comedian Milton Jones in 2011. Again, the comedian's quirky view on life brings fresh insights and challenges.

Jones, a master of one-line jokes, describes gossip as

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"bullying people who are not there," just as "rehearsing for a play in which you shouldn't have a part" and salvation as "like being returned to the factory settings - but you have to admit there is a factory, and that there could be some settings."

One of my favourites is Jones's description of the Holy Spirit as "a real person you can invite in. But watch out - in time He will go over, pull the fridge from the wall and say 'What's all this mess under here?' But at least He helps clear up."

Both Milton Jones and Frank Skinner are comedians of faith - comedic commentators with a gift of making us see the world with fresh insight. And, as importantly, making us laugh.

© The Revd. Peter Crumpler, a Church of England priest in St Albans, Herts, and a former communications director for the CofE.



Don't stop too soon

The story is told of a college graduation where there were a large number of graduates waiting to receive their degrees. Speed was of the essence, and so as the Chancellor presented their diplomas, he simply smiled each time and whispered: "Congratulations, keep moving."

It's actually good advice for all of life, and for your Christian life as well. Discovering the reality of God's love for yourself is life-changing, but - keep moving!

There is so much more that God has in store for you! Paul in 2 Timothy says "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day...."

So, wherever you have reached in your own faith pilgrimage, congratulations, but *keep moving!*

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Makes Sense

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December. Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring.

Therefore, according to EVERY historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, EVERY single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen, had to be a girl.

We should have known... ONLY women would be able to drag a fat man in a red velvet suit all around the world in one night and not get lost.

Follower

A mother was concerned about her kindergarten son, Timmy, walking to school.

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He didn't want his mother to walk with him. She wanted to give him the feeling that he had some independence, but yet know that he was safe.

Her neighbour learned about the mother's dilemma and offered to follow the young boy to school in the mornings, staying at a distance, so he probably wouldn't notice her.

"I'm up early with my toddler anyway; it will be a good way for us to get some exercise as well," said the neighbour. The relieved mother agreed.

The next school day, the neighbour and her little girl set out following behind Timmy as he walked to school with another neighbour boy he knew. She did this for the whole week.

As the boys walked and chatted, kicking stones and twigs, Timmy's little friend noticed the same lady was

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Church of England commits £1.25 million to enabling digital giving in parishes

The Church of England aims to enable contactless giving in half of all parishes over the next two years.

The first pilot scheme has been launched in more than 100 churches across the Diocese of Carlisle to help encourage contactless giving, making giving easier for congregations.

The pilot will help pave the way for a £1.25m investment from the Church of England which will see thousands more churches accept contactless and digital payments over the next two years. Consideration for connectivity in rural settings has been taken into account, with churches being offered one of two types of device, depending on each parish's context.

Two further pilots will take place in other dioceses later this year before the nation-wide roll out begins.

Grace Emmett, National Digital Giving Manager for the Church of England, explained: "Experience so far is that contactless donations are, on average, three times the value of cash donations."

@Parish Pump



What will you miss about lockdown?

More than half of us admit that we will miss some aspects of the Covid-19 restrictions, especially spending more time at home with our family, and appreciating the quieter roads.

A recent study by King's College London and Ipsos Mori found that around one third of us feel the past year has been similar or better than normal, while 54 per cent of us say that we will miss some of the changes.

Three in ten of us feel closer to our immediate family than we did before the pandemic, while just one in six of us say that we have grown further apart. One in five of us say that our finances are better because of the pandemic.

Overall, it seems that while the public would rather the pandemic hadn't happened, that doesn't mean it's been all bad for everyone, or that people see it as deeply affecting their future lives.

@Parish Pump

'Remember Me' St Paul's launches fundraising campaign for memorial

St Paul's Cathedral has launched a campaign in partnership with the Daily Mail to raise £2.3m to build a physical memorial in St Paul's Cathedral for those who died as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

It will be the first build of its kind at St Paul's for nearly 150 years and is part of the 'Remember Me' project, an online book of remembrance launched last year. More than 7,300 names of those who have died as a result of the pandemic have been entered into the book.

The campaign will install the online memorial book at a permanent site within St Paul's as well as on the internet. People entering the Cathedral by the new Equal Access Ramp will be able to go through the memorial into a tranquil space and take time to remember the many individuals who have died as a result of the pandemic.

The memorial will be a portico in the North Transept on the site of an earlier porch destroyed by a bomb in 1941. Oliver Caroe, the Cathedral's Surveyor to the Fabric, who has designed the memorial, lost his mother during the pandemic.



*...just humour him - he's hoping it'll
help him reach the young people in his diocese...*

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following them as she seemed to do every day all week. Finally, he said to Timmy, "Have you noticed that lady following us to school all week? Do you know her?"

Timmy nonchalantly replied, "Yeah, I know who she is."

The friend said, "Well, who is she?" "That's just Shirley Goodnest," Timmy replied. "And her daughter Marcy."

"Shirley Goodnest? Who the heck is she and why is she following us?"

"Well," Timmy explained. "Every night, my mom makes me say the 23rd Psalm with my prayers, because she worries about me so much. And in the Psalm, it says, 'Shirley Goodnest and Marcy shall follow me all the days of my life,' so I guess I'll just have to get used to it!"

These I Love

*White cottages done with thatch
Yellow corn stacks in a batch,
Little chickens when they hatch -
These I love*

*The wind that moans in trees nearby,
Leaves of autumn when they die,
Or new mown hay where I could lie -
These I Love*

*Cowslips, primroses, violets blue,
My little doggie scurrying thro'
Roses caught by morning dew -
These I love*

*The dusty road, or shady lane,
Raindrops on a window pane,
To stroke a horse's glossy mane -
These I love*

*A collie dog with big brown eyes,
A hawk on wing, as homeward flies,
Buzzing bees and dragonflies
These I love*

*The church bells' ring at eventide
A rainbow with its colours pied
The house in which I now abide
These I love.*

Anonymous

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.*

