

Services held every
Sunday morning
10:30 am

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Next issue: First Sunday June 2023

Chaplaincy
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The Anglican Chaplaincy of Twente

DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



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Assistant Treasurer
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Archdeaconry Representatives

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PCC Members

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An de Beij

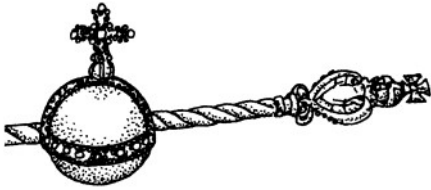
Jan de Beij

Karel Slootstra

Ferdinand van Dijk

Joyce Wigboldus





May 2023

Dear Saints,

We are looking forward to many highlights this month of May. On Saturday, 6 May, is the coronation of King Charles III. We will celebrate that by ringing the church bells on Saturday and with a special service on Sunday, followed by a reception in the Hut.

On Thursday, 18 May, we have the Ascension Day service at 10h30, followed by a bring-and-share lunch at the Chaplain's House.

And Sunday, 28 May, will be Pentecost, the High Feast when we celebrate receiving the Holy Spirit that empowers us to Christ's hands and feet in the world.

The coronation of King Charles is extra special for us at St Mary's as an Anglican chaplaincy, as the King is also the Head of the Church of England. The official title is "Supreme Governor of the Church". How can a King or Queen in this day and age still be left with the title "Head of the Church", you may ask, as we have been raised with the teaching that "Christ Jesus is the Head of the Church".

I suppose we are struggling here with how our Church has developed over the centuries. The English national church traces its history back to the arrival of Christianity in Britain during the 2nd century. With time and because of the economic, social and political realities of the Church in Europe, the Church of England has become England's established Christian Church or denomination.

Establishment speaks to a formal relationship between a church and the state it operates in. Being the established or State Church means, amongst other things, that the Church performs several official functions. For example, the Church of England, as the established church, fulfils civic responsibilities, like performing state weddings and funerals, acts of remembrance, memorial services, and grand occasions like the coronation. After events like wars or major disasters, the country 'comes together' to mourn under the spiritual guidance of the Church of England.

We see a similar role in The Netherlands, where the Reformed Church is no longer the state church but where King Willem Alexander and the royal family are the binding factor during commemorations like the annual "Dodenherdenking" on 4 May.

Besides being the "Supreme Governor of the Church", the British Sovereign also holds the title "Defender of the Faith". These titles date back to the reign of King Henry VIII, who was initially granted the title "Defender of the Faith" in 1521 by Pope Leo X.

The Church of England took its current form in the 1530s when King Henry VIII renounced the authority of the Pope. The British Monarch has held the title of "Supreme Governor of the Church" ever since. Recently the Church of England, preparing for the Coronation of Charles III, underlines this: "For the seventy years of her reign, Queen Elizabeth II served as the Supreme Governor of the Church of England. Now that Charles III has ascended to the throne, he takes the same role and, like Elizabeth, promises to "maintain and preserve inviolably the settlement of the Church of England, and the doctrine worship, discipline, and government thereof, as by law established in England."

St Mary's Chapel News



When Children and RE mix...

When children meet the Bible, the result can be unpredictable. As in these answers to a school chaplain's efforts to teach RE....

~ The main purpose of the prophets was to set up the lights for when Jesus came on the stage.

~ The Kingdom of God is no ordinary place like the bathroom at home.

~ Jesus said: If you want to divorce your wife leave a note for her on the table.

~ Jesus healed a man with a weathered hand.

~ Some of the seed from the sower was carried off by Satan.

~ The last verses of Mark's gospel were written later by a unanimous person.

Coronation weekend

The Coronation of King Charles III takes place on Saturday, 6 May. After the service at St. Mary's on Sunday, 7 May, there will be a special celebration.

Evensong on Sunday, 7 May

On Sunday, 7 May, at 16:30, there will be a service of Evensong in the chapel with thanksgiving for Rachel's 18th birthday.

Conference

The Chaplain was away at a conference in April. The conference looked at communicating the Gospel in public. We will be hearing more about this in the coming year.

Special birthday

Congratulations to Linda ten Berge, who celebrated her 80th birthday on the 21 April.

Congratulations

Yesterday, Saturday, 22 April, Jan Schage and several others were made Knights in the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. The Investiture Eucharist occurred at the St. Jacobus de Meerdere church in The Hague. It was a wonderful occasion. Our congratulations to Jan and Carol.

Annual General Meeting

Today, Sunday, 23 April, our Annual General Meeting was held after the service. There were 20 members of St. Mary's present. The minutes of the previous AGM were approved. The reports from the Chaplain and Wardens were approved. The reports from the Secretary, Treasurer and Archdeaconry Representatives were received. It was agreed that an updated version of the 2023 AGM papers will be made. This is because it was noted that some dates were incorrect, the expenditure page of the budget was missing, and a note about the charities is to be added. The updated version will be available in the next few days. Those who were standing for election as Wardens (Klaas, Caroline), Archdeaconry Representatives (Simone, Jan) and Council Members (Jan, Andy) were duly elected with all in favour. The Wardens (Klaas, Caroline) made their declarations and were admitted. Thanks were expressed to those stepping down from council this year (Hans, Elisa). Flowers were presented to them and to Lub, who is stepping down as Assistant Treasurer. The new Treasurer will be Andy, with Hans as Assistant Treasurer. The Chaplain thanked everyone at St. Mary's for being a great parish.

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Welcome Brunch

On Saturday, 13 May, there will be a Welcome Brunch in the Hut with an Anglicanism theme. This is for newcomers to the church and all those who want to know more about Anglicanism and the Anglican Church.

Ascension Day

On Ascension Day, Thursday, 18 May, there will be a service in the chapel at 10:30 followed by the Ascension Day bring and share lunch at the Chaplain's house.

Pentecost

Pentecost will be on Sunday, 28 May.

Meeting for intercessors, readers and contact persons

After the service Sunday, 28 May, there will be a meeting with intercessors, readers and contact persons.

Summer Teas

The Summer Teas will again take place this year on six Sunday afternoons in July/August when we have a Tea Room

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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 for the 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 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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~ Jesus first proclaimed the gospel to the Jews: He told them to make love to each other.

~ An altar is a stall for candles.

~ An example of Holy Orders are the Ten Commandments.

~ An epistle is the wife of an apostle.

Found in church pew-sheets....

The youth group will be presenting Shakespeare's *Hamlet* in the church hall this Friday at 7pm. The congregation is warmly invited to attend this tragedy.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7pm at the church. Please use the large double door at the side entrance.

Fire

There was a fire at the main Tax Office in London, but it was put out before any serious good was done.

Mark

When the late Dean of York was asked why he called his stumpy-tailed fox terrier 'Mark', he explained: "The New Testament contains the life-stories of

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our Lord by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Mark's is the shortest tale!"

Blessing

It was the five-year-old boy's first trip down to the Communion rail at church. Fascinated, he watched the vicar place a wafer in the palm of each person kneeling before him. When the vicar reached the little boy, he ignored the child's out-stretched palm, and laid his hand on the child's head in a gentle blessing instead. The boy, utterly bewildered, whispered to his father in a piercing voice; "He's put it on my head!"

Life abundant

Two students from a theological training college decided to spend part of their holiday in the countryside doing outreach. They stopped at an old farm house and proceeded up the path through a group of screaming children and a washing line heavy with wet clothes.

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The Rectory St James the Least of All

Beware those modern choruses

My dear Nephew Darren

I am afraid we shall have to agree to disagree on yet another topic - although I suspect the list of items that we agree to agree on would be considerably shorter. I like to think my appreciation of hymns resembles a connoisseur of fine wines savouring a grand cru claret, yours seems to resemble a Russian female tractor driver who is a Hero of the Nation.

We at St James the Least are more than happy with *Hymns Ancient & Modern* - the original 1861 edition, naturally - the later editions display a dangerous tendency towards modernism. Sadly, St. Paul was not able to sing *Onward, Christian soldiers*, but I am sure he regretted the fact that it had yet to be written. The hymns our grandparents pretended to sing when they were in church are quite good enough for the ones we pretend to sing when we sit in the same pews.

At least when we come to the last verse, we know that we can then sit down, mission accomplished. The last time I attended your church, just as I saw the last words and therefore the finishing line of one of your choruses coming into sight, we were told it would be splendid to sing the thing another three times. At least it gave me another analogy to use when I next preached on eternity in hell.

And your method of singing would plunge our congregation into an existential crisis. What do they do with their hands when they don't have books to hold and are obliged to look at a screen? To be deprived of being able to hold a book in church is like a smoker who is trying to give up being unable to grasp a cigarette when in the pub.

The ladies do not know whether to clasp their handbags, which then makes it look as if they suspect the rest of the congregation of theft, or to hold some flowers, which looks a little too matrimonial. The men experiment with putting hands in pockets, which they then realise looks scruffy, so they try to hold on to the pew in front, which is inevitably too low, so they have to adopt some form of half crouch, which makes them look as if they have recently had hernia operations.

Your choral tradition - if I can flatter it with such a description - also seems to require half an hour before the

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Service spent singing for our congregation, that time is more usefully spent discussing Government incompetence, livestock prices and why Miss Threlfall always wears a red felt hat with her tangerine coat.

Should we ever have a joint Service, I can't imagine how we'll all get through the first hymn together.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

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This does not mean that the British Monarch acts as a religious minister. Neither the late Queen nor the new King is ordained. In the 39 Articles of Religion, the 37th Article explains: "We give not to our Princes the ministering either of God's Word or of the Sacraments." Rather, the Monarch is to "rule all estates and degrees committed to their charge by God, whether they be Ecclesiastical or Temporal, and restrain with the civil sword the stubborn and evil-doers."

But what does this mean in practice? On the one hand, it means that the Monarch has a unique responsibility to rule as a Christian. This is dramatically expressed in the coronation service, in which the Monarch is anointed in the manner of the Biblical kings. On the other hand, at his coronation, he will also swear to uphold the rights and privileges of the Church of England.

At its centre, the Coronation of the Kings is a Christian service in which His Majesty will be anointed as King. It will be rooted in a longstanding tradition and Christian symbolism.

The reading for the coronation is from Luke 4, where Jesus opens the scroll in the synagogue of Nazareth and reads from Isaiah:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to set free those who are oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."

The task that Jesus sets for Himself as Head of His Church is held as a mirror for the King as Defender of the Faith. We pray that King Charles will uphold the relationship and privileges of the Church of England in such a way that throughout the Anglican Communion and also at St Mary's in Twente, we can be the hands and feet of Christ who gives us the Holy Spirit to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."

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When they got near the door, the woman of the house stopped scrubbing the steps, brushed her hair and perspiration from her brow, and asked them what they wanted.

"We'd like to tell you how you can live forever," they answered.

The exhausted woman hesitated for a moment, and then replied, "Thank you, but I don't think I could stand it!"

Married

How many women can one man marry? A little boy who attended his first wedding worked that one out pretty quick: the answer is 16.

It is easy, if you think about it. Four better, four worse, four richer, four poorer. Comes to 16.

Miscellaneous observations

How come it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark, to become a teenager who wants to stay out all night?

I burn about 2000 calories every time I put on fitted sheets by myself.

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Proof-reading needed!

The following true-life headlines found in local newspapers make you wonder: is proofreading a dying art?

Man Kills Self Before Shooting Wife and Daughter

Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says

Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over

Miners Refuse to Work after Death

Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant

War Dims Hope for Peace

If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile

Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures

Words of wisdom:

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

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at the Hut, and the chapel is open for visitors. The afternoon ends with a service of Evening Prayer. We are looking for people to act as Tea Room hosts and for people to bake cakes.

Prayer for Ukraine and Russia

Please continue to pray for the people of Ukraine and Russia.

Prayer for Turkey and Syria

Please continue to pray for the people of Turkey and Syria.

Foodbank

At St. Mary's, we continue to make a weekly collection for the food bank. There is a box in the chapel where you can put non-perishable food items for the food bank. Please continue to support this action.

Contributor Simone Yallop

Buy and Sell.

As you all know, Theda is no longer in charge of (with) the table in the Hut. Therefore I have taken over this task. There you can always find all kinds of small things to buy. Theda made, and she is still planning to make small handmade items. But I have taken over the cards and jams and some books now and then.

We sell these little things to get some money for the flowers in the church. Therefore I ask you to buy from what the table offers you. Can you imagine a church service without flowers around the altar? Just as it is with the candles; they are part of the celebration. We are no longer accepting boxes of books. This is because, in the past, we have not sold many books at the Summer Tea Afternoons and at the annual Autumn Fair. If you have too many books and want to dispose of some of them, I can give you the telephone number of a place where your books will be most welcome. Alternatively, I can tell you where you can take your books to where they will be welcome.

You can help the Flower Fund by bringing little useful things, things you think will be nice for other people to buy, but also handmade things if you can make them. Cards are always available, and we already have too many in stock. Please help us to use them. Think about how you can make other people happy with a beautiful card, not only for their birthdays but as a sign you are thinking of (about) them. Whatever you buy, handkerchief bags, baby socks, cards or whatever.... you are not only making yourself or those persons who you want to give some things happy, but you also give the Flower Fund a chance to make our weekly celebration not only a feast for our hearts but also a feast for our eyes.

Erica Bonting Schotman.

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African Children

A few weeks ago, I was listening to a TV news program. Please don't ask me which one. But what I did not forget is the message that shocked me thoroughly. There is a severe drought in the middle of Africa. So bad that many people don't survive. An average of 2000 people die every month. And about half of them are children.

Can you imagine 250 children every week?

And this year, it will be even worse.

So, I am asking you, we are already praying for so many people in Ukraine, Turkey and Syria. Please, pray for the African people and those who do whatever they can to help them with whatever is possible.

And don't forget to thank the Lord for our comfortable life here in the Netherlands.

Contributor Erica Schotman Bonting

Points to Ponder

You know you're getting old when.....

"You say something to your kids that your mother said to you, and you always hated it."

"You answer a question with "Because I said so."

"You have a party, and the neighbours don't even realise it."

"You are humming tunes forgotten by nearly everyone."

The positive thinker sees the invisible, feels the intangible, and achieves the impossible.

Winston Churchill

The great Easter truth is not that we are to live newly after death,

But that we are to be new here and now by the power of the resurrection.

Phillips Brooks

Never clutch the past so tightly

that it leaves your arms unable to embrace the present.

Joseph P. Dooley

I have decided to stick to love.

Hate is too great a burden to bear.

Martin Luther King

If you Christians want me to believe in your Redeemer,

You need to look more redeemed.

Friedrich Nietzsche

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In the wake of inflation, and the conflict in Eastern Europe...

... the German government predicts an imminent shortage of sausage and cheese, and are formulating a plan for emergency intervention to deal with this impending crisis.

They're referring to the plan as their Wurst/Kase scenario.

A tale of colonial Pennsylvania

When William Penn first started settling the area, he of course moved his extended family with him.

Two of his aunts found great success in selling many different kinds of pies. And very quickly the sisters realized they could make a lot more money if the raised their prices.

Well long story short, they got greedy and raised the prices so high that, in colonial Pennsylvania the only thing people were talking about for quite some time was the pie rates of Penn's aunts.

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Forthcoming Services

7 April 2023

10:30 Eucharist		Easter 5
Celebrant and Preacher	Rev. Jacqueline Williams	
Duty Warden Klaas Prins	Intercessor: Jeanet Luiten	
Sidesperson/Reader		Readings
Louw Talstra		Acts 7. 55- end
Patrick Saridjan		1 Peter 2. 2 - 10
Gospel		John 14. 1 - 14

14 May 2023

10.30 Eucharist		Easter 6
Celebrant and Preacher	Rev. Jacqueline Williams	
Duty Warden Caroline Siertsema	Intercessor: Klaas Prins	
Sidesperson/Reader		Readings
Elisa Hannan		Acts 17. 22 - 31
Geert Janssen		1 Peter 3. 13 - end
Gospel		John 24. 44 - end

18 May 2023

10:30 Eucharist	Ascension Day - Bring and Share Picnic	
Celebrant and Preacher	Rev. Jacqueline Williams	
Duty Warden Klaas Prins	Intercessor: Simone Yallop	
Sidesperson/Reader		Readings
Erica Bonting		Acts 1. 1 - 11
Ann Powell		Ephesians 1. 15 - end
Gospel		Luke 24. 44 - end

Forthcoming Services

21 May 2023

10:30 Eucharist **Easter 7**
Celebrant and Preacher Revd. Jacqueline Williams
Duty Warden **Intercessor:**
Caroline Siertsema Joyce Wigboldus
Sidesperson/Reader **Readings**
Linda ten Berge Acts 1. 6 - 14
Lea Meijnen 1 Peter 4. 12 - 14; 5. 6 - 11
Gospel John 17. 1 - 11

28 May 2023

10:30 Eucharist **Pentecost**
Celebrant and Preacher Revd. Jacqueline Williams
Duty Warden **Intercessor:**
Klaas Prins Lea Meijnen
Sidesperson/Reader **Readings**
Erick Wanjala Acts 2. 1 - 21
Jaccolien Molenaar 1 Corinthians 12. 3b - 13
Gospel John 20. 19 - 23

4 June 2023

10:30 Eucharist **Trinity Sunday**
Celebrant Revd. Jacqueline Williams
Preacher Lay Minister Simone Yallop
Duty Warden **Intercessor:**
Caroline Siertsema Caroline Siertsema
Sidesperson/Reader **Readings**
Arthur Cass Isaiah 40. 12-17, 27 - end
Andy Klom 2 Corinthians 13. 11 - end
Gospel Matthew 28. 16 - end

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Not you

At our weekly
Bible study, the
leader asked an
elderly
gentleman,
James, to open
the meeting with
prayer.

James did so in a
soft voice.

Another man,
straining to
hear, shouted, "I
can't hear you!"

James replied,
"I wasn't talking
to you." —

Got You

"Poor old fool,"
thought the well-
dressed
gentleman as he
watched an old
man fish in a
puddle outside a
pub. So he
invited the old
man inside for a
drink.

As they sipped
their whiskeys,
the gentleman
thought he'd
humour the old
man and asked,
"So how many
have you caught
today?"

The old man
replied, "You're
the eighth."

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Seven Stanzas at Easter

Make no mistake: if He rose at all
It was as his body;
If the cell's dissolution did not reverse,
The molecules reknit,
The amino acids rekindle,
The Church will fall.

It was not as the flowers,
Each soft Spring recurrent;
It was not as His Spirit in the mouths and fuddled eyes
of the eleven apostles;
It was as His flesh; ours.

The same hinged thumbs and toes
The same valved heart
That - pierced - died, withered, paused,
and then regathered
Out of enduring Might
New strength to enclose.

Let us not mock God with metaphor,
Analogy, sidestepping, transcendence,
Making the event a parable, a sign
Painted in the faded credulity of earlier ages:
Let us walk through the door.

The stone is rolled back,
Not paper-mâché,
Not a stone in a story,
But the vast rock of materiality
that in the slow grinding of time
for each of us will eclipse
The wide light of day.

And we will have an angel at the tomb,
Make a real angel,
Weighty with Max Planck's quanta,
vivid with hair, opaque in
The dawn light, robed in real linen
Spun on a definite loom.

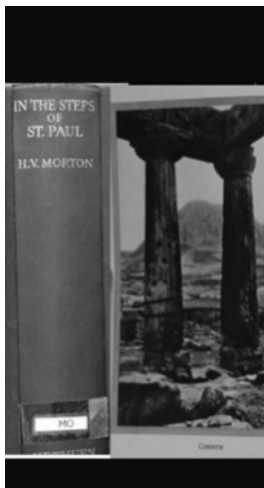
Let us not seek to make it less monstrous,
For our own convenience, our own sense of beauty,
Lest, awakened in one unthinkable hour,
We are embarrassed
By the miracle,
And crushed by remonstrance.
John Updike

Contributor *Erica Schotman Bonting*

Missing Book

The book 'Steps of St. Paul by H.V. Morton is regrettably missing from the Church Library.

If someone has borrowed the book and forgotten to register the loan, will they please contact me, Lub Gringhuis. Two images are included, so I live in the hope that the book will show up again. *Contributed Lub Gringhuis*



...I wonder if I could have a quick word with the flower arrangers at the end of this service...?

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Lost in Translation

1

Two German agents walk into a pub in London during WW2 and one of them said to the waiter, "Two martinis, please."

The barman asked, "Dry?"

To which the customer replied, "Nein! Zwei!"

Lost in Translation

2

I went to a pub and asked the barman for the Wi-Fi password.

He said, "youhavetobuyabeer first."

So I bought a beer and asked again for the password.

He gave me the same answer.

Really!

What do you call an Englishman in the Knockout stages of the Football World Cup?

The referee

Doggie Bowl

I was shopping in the pet section of my local supermarket when I overheard a woman singing the praises of a particular water bowl to her husband.

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"Look, it even has a water filter!" she concluded, holding the doggie dish out for her husband's inspection.

He had a slightly different take on things: "Dear, he drinks out of the toilet."

Doggy Love

Whenever my family leaves the house, our Shetland sheepdog's animal instincts start to kick in.

He runs circles around us and nips at our heels to keep us all together.

Watching this display, my friend couldn't resist: "You always herd the ones you love."

Visitation Rights

My law partner was presenting a no-fault divorce case in a Divorce court.

The couple involved had no children, but they did have a dog, of whom both were very fond.

My partner stated that both parties agreed to share whatever medical expenses might be necessary for the care of the animal.

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8th May

Julian of Norwich, a voice from a distant cell

Many years ago, while studying English literature at university, I was intrigued to be introduced to the work of Julian of Norwich. She was writing at the end of the 14th century when our modern English language was slowly emerging from its origins in Anglo-Saxon and Middle English.

Our lecturer was mainly concerned with her importance in the history of the language (she was the first woman and the first significant writer to write in English). But I was more intrigued by the ideas she was expressing. She was an anchoress - someone who had committed herself to a life of solitude, giving herself to prayer and fasting. St Julian's, Norwich, was the church where she had her 'cell'.

Her masterpiece, *Revelations of Divine Love*, reveals a mystic of such depth and insight that today up and down Britain, there are hundreds, possibly thousands, of 'Julian Groups' who meet regularly to study her writings and try to put them into practice.

She is honoured this month in the Lutheran and Anglican Churches, but although she is held in high regard by many Roman Catholics, her own church has never felt able to recognise her as a 'saint'. This is probably because she spoke of God as embracing both male and female qualities. *Revelations* is an account of the visions she received in her tiny room, which thousands of pilgrims visit every year.

Her most famous saying, quoted by T S Eliot in one of his poems, is 'All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well.' These words have brought comfort and strength to many a soul in distress.
Canon David Winter, Parish Pump



Reflecting faith - the Lectern

Have you ever considered the furniture that we have in our churches?

Close your eyes and think about what your own sitting room looks like and the furniture you have chosen to go in there. Most of us will have chairs, a sofa, one or more tables of different sizes, a fireplace and a television. Which way are the chairs facing? What's the focal point?

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Churches are no different because they have most fixtures and fittings in common and set places.

In an Anglican church, the focal item is the altar at the centre, with the Lectern - from where the Bible is read out loud during services - on the right side as you look at it, and a pulpit on the left-hand side.

In a Methodist church, the pulpit is often behind but built higher than the altar, probably with a mobile lectern to be placed as chosen.

This demonstrates a key difference between the two denominations. The former holds the bread and wine in greater importance, whilst the latter gives that status to the preaching and the Word of God.

Such variations reveal how we 'reflect our faith' through our buildings.

The word 'lectern' derives from 'to collect, gather', and again, 'to speak', so together it means 'to gather words, to pick out words.'

The words in church we read from the Lectern have been carefully chosen and then written down. There have been centuries, indeed millennia, of time, thought, prayer and energy going into preparing the Bibles that we read today!

It is a privilege to be asked to read from the Bible during a service, as that will form the basis for the sermon, the hymns and, indeed, the whole theme for that day or even that week.

This month: Look at the Lectern in your place of worship or where the Bible readings are read from. What material is it made from? What shape is it? Does it have any distinctive features? Then consider how that passage or those passages are continued and expanded through the different elements of the service.

The Revd Dr Jo White Parish Pump

General observations on life:

If you want the rainbow, you've got to put up with the rain.

Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst, for they are sticking to their diets!

Plenty of people wish to become devout, but no one wishes to be humble.

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They also agreed that the wife would have custody, but that the husband would be allowed visitation rights.

The judge, looking somewhat startled, peered down at the husband and asked, "Is this true?"

The husband replied, "Yes, Your Honour."

"Well," intoned the judge, with a trace of a smile on his face, "you should know that there is nothing this court can do for you if the dog refuses to see you."

Food Caller

I was at a car boot sale one day and saw a box marked "Electronic cat and dog call—guaranteed to work."

I looked inside and was amused to see an electric can opener.

Tragically Right

I bought my sons a pet rabbit after they promised they would take care of it. As expected, I ended up with the responsibility.

Exasperated, one evening I said, "How many times do you think that rabbit would have died if I hadn't looked after it?"

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"Once," my 12-year-old son replied.

Hamster on the Run

My niece bought her five-year-old daughter, Kayleigh, a hamster. One day he escaped from his cage. The family turned the house upside down and finally found him. Several weeks later, while Kayleigh was at school, he escaped from his cage again. My niece searched frantically but never found the creature. Hoping to make the loss less painful for Kayleigh, my niece took the cage out of her room.

When Kayleigh came home from school that afternoon, she climbed into her mother's lap.

"We've got a serious problem," she announced. "Not only is my hamster gone again, but this time he took the cage."

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The Coronation of King Charles III

On 6th May, His Majesty King Charles III will be crowned alongside Camilla, The Queen Consort, in Westminster Abbey. How can we pray for him as he approaches this momentous event? Paul says: *'I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.'* (1 Timothy 2:1,2).

For God's presence - to guide every aspect of King Charles' life as he prepares for his Coronation and future roles. At his Accession, he was proclaimed Defender of the Faith, the Supreme Governor of the Church of England. Charles has discussed *'the Sovereign's particular relationship and responsibility towards the Church of England - the Church in which my own faith is so deeply rooted.'*

For God's wisdom - as he provides leadership that will honour God and promote the well-being of our society. King Solomon prayed for wisdom for himself: *'So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong.'* (1 Kings 3:9).

For God's love - to strengthen all relationships within the Royal Family: for reconciliation, understanding, forgiveness and good communication.

For God's purpose - to be fulfilled through the work of the King and Queen Consort and their family in the years to come. He has said: *'Whatever your background or beliefs may be, I shall endeavour to serve you with loyalty, respect and love, as I have throughout my life.'*

A Prayer for the New King:
Everlasting God, we pray for our new King. Bless his reign and the life of our nation. Help us work together so that truth, justice, harmony and fairness flourish among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

© Canon Paul Hardingham



Did you know ?

10 Facts about King Charles III

He was born at 9.14pm on 14th November 1948, to Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip, at Buckingham Palace in

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London.

He has been heir apparent to the throne since he was three.

He is the first British monarch to earn a university degree. From 1967 to 1970, he studied history at Cambridge University.

He can speak Welsh. He spent two months learning the language in 1969 as he prepared to become the Prince of Wales. He still speaks it today.

He is a qualified pilot and diver. While serving in the military in the 1970s, he trained as a jet and helicopter pilot and became a confident diver.

He is a keen watercolour painter, a published author, and a music lover who played the cello at Cambridge.

He has done some TV: making a guest appearance on Coronation Street and presenting the BBC weather forecast.

As Prince of Wales, he founded nearly 20 charities. Together, they raise £ 140 million each year for good causes.

He is passionate about the environment, speaking out against plastic pollution as early as 1970.

He has planted many trees during royal engagements.

Aged 73, King Charles III is the oldest monarch ever to be crowned in British history.

He became King on 8th September 2022, after the death of his mother, the Queen, in Balmoral.

As head of the Commonwealth, King Charles III is monarch of each of the 14 Commonwealth realms: Antigua & Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Belize, Canada, Grenada, Jamaica, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, the Solomon Islands, and Tuvalu.

As King, he's also the only person in the UK who can travel abroad in the Commonwealth without a passport and drive without a licence.

King Charles III has two children, Princes William and Harry, and five grandchildren.

Prince William is next in line to become King and was named the Prince of Wales in 2022.

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Opera Singer

Our cat, Figaro, comes home between 10 or 11 at night to eat. If he's late, I turn on the carport light and call him until he appears.

One day my daughter was explaining to a friend where we live, and her friend said,

"Is that anywhere near the house where the woman stands on her steps late at night and sings opera?"

Covering the Bird

Visiting our newly married daughter, who was preparing her first Christmas dinner. I noticed the turkey thawing in the kitchen sink with a dish drainer inverted over the bird. I asked why a drainer covered the turkey.

Our daughter turned to her mother and said, "Mum, you always did it that way."

"Yes," her mother replied, "but you don't have a cat!"

Self Poison

Snake 1: Are we poisonous?

Snake 2: I don't know. Why?

Snake 1: I just bit my lip.

Open Hearted

If you wish to be happy at home
Then your heart to that wish is the door
Keep it open - and angels mat come
And enter, and dwell evermore
O'er each feeling a ray will be cast
As if lit by some magical gem
You will think you've found Heaven at last
But the Angels have brought it with them.

Keep it open - and friendship and love
And happiness -all - will be thine
A gleam of Elysium above
A spark of the spirit divine
Keep it shut - and then Pride will have birth
And Envy - and all we condemn
You will think you've perdition on earth,
Pride and Envy have brought it with them.

The world will seem colder each day
Tis an image those demons but throw
Cast your pride and envy away -
And the world's seeming coldness will go.
Oh 'tis well to be happy at home,
And to *this* your own heart is the door,
Keep it open and angels may come
And enter, and dwell evermore.

Charles Swain

*Charles Swain, 1801 - 1874 was born in Manchester, England. His father was English, and his mother was French.
A poet and an engraver, he held the position of
Honorary Professor of Poetry at the Manchester Royal Institute.*

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Donations and Bequests

The policy of the Anglican Church Twente is to use donations and bequests to help fund significant development projects in the Chaplaincy, whether buildings, equipment, staff, or other major needs. As circumstances change over the years, it may not be possible to fulfil specific donor requests, so church members are encouraged to make donations and leave legacies for the general purposes of the Chaplaincy. The Chaplaincy Council will discuss with donors or their executors the most appropriate use of the gift in the light of current projects and the donor's known areas of interest in the church: for example, children & youth, music, buildings.

Donations or bequests can be paid into the current account of the Anglican Church Twente, ABN AMRO Lochem, IBAN: NL62ABNA0593634012.

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.*

