

Services held every
Sunday morning
10:30 am

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September 2020

Next issue: First Sunday October 2020

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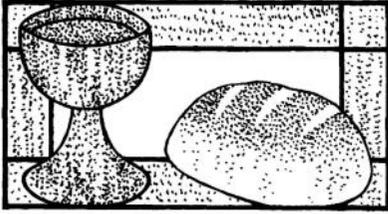


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The Anglican Chaplaincy of Twente

DIOCESE IN EUROPE
THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND





September 2020

Dear Friends,

It hardly seems possible that the summer is almost over and we are tumbling headlong into autumn, with the spectre of winter hard on it's heels. The fact is, however, that each season brings its natural challenges and joys, and, perhaps, how we view them is of greatest primary importance. Our hopes and dreams, too, and our response to seasonal circumstance, are shaped and coloured by our previous experiences and optimism. This is true of life in all its aspects, for all of us, I suspect.

There is a time for wringing our hands and shaking our heads as we despair at what we, not unnaturally, perceive as the "Change and decay," which, "in all around I see," yet, we do find our comfort in that He, "who changeth not", continues to "abide with me". There is a time, then, for confidence and optimism.

In my Chaplain's Report for the AGM, delayed because of Covid 19 and to be held this month, I noted the widespread consensus that we are beset by challenges our generation has never faced, and our material world is threatened as never before. There is political turmoil and national and international friction and distrust on what seems a new scale. There is, however, a satisfying and affirmative response, already ours, requiring that we simply press the 'refresh' button!

As Paul reminds us in Philippians 2:3, "Do nothing motivated by selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others as more significant than yourselves". In a nutshell, he suggests we embrace the mind of Christ, who left his heavenly comfort to die and to liberate even those who refuse his friendship.

So how is such love possible since, for humanity at large, there is pretty substantial evidence that we are by nature selfish? Who, by nature, accepts others as more significant than self, and welcomes the costs of love? Our addiction to the hunger for praise and riches and personal comfort and safety, is hard to break.

Finding our ultimate purpose in life is how we free ourselves from these things, and we believe we have the answer to our search. In what we learn through Jesus and his profound Gospel of radical inclusive loving, we come to know the actuality and authenticity of all pervading contentment. Our freedom from self-exultation makes us glad to welcome the costs of love and reveals the wonder of our ultimate purpose. This 'purpose' is enjoying these treasures we have and that we recognise in our faith, without losing sight of it in the greedy battle to have more than we will ever need, at the expense of others.

God bless you all.

Love, as always, Brian

St Mary's Chapel News



Weekly services of public worship

Now that we are having services in the chapel every week, with a limited number of people, please remember to book in advance by contacting our Warden Jeanet Luiten (jeanet_luiten@hotmail.com).

Summer Teas

The last of the Summer Teas for this year were served on Sunday, 16 August. The Teas were very successful.

The weather was excellent, bringing out many visitors. Not only did they enjoy the tea, coffee and home-made cakes, but many of them also visited the chapel.

A huge thank you to all who took part in baking and in serving on the day and for those on duty in the chapel. And of course, a special thank you to Jeanet for organising the Summer Teas.

Financially the Summer Teas did very well. There was a total income of €950,- including the income from the bookstall. From this €750,- will go to St. Mary's and €200,- will go to the Flower Guild.

The services of Evening Prayer, held at 16:00 on the afternoons of the Summer Teas, were successful too and were enjoyed by several of our visitors. (see the article on Page 6 of this magazine).

Vacancy process and advertising

In the magazine there is an article about the vacancy process to look for a new chaplain when Brian leaves at the end of the year. In that article it is mentioned that we will begin advertising in the Church Times in September this year. We are also advertising already on the Chaplaincy website. We can further spread the news via the congregation's network by asking you to send the link to the advertisement to priests you know who might be looking for a new post. It is good to spread the news as far and as wide as possible. The advertisement together with the Chaplaincy profile and a short video clip are on the Chaplaincy website.

Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll, which is currently being updated, will be frozen two weeks before our Annual General Meeting, which takes place on 13 September 2020. That means that this week is the last opportunity to apply to join the Electoral Roll, in order to be able to vote at this year's AGM. Please make sure any forms are submitted by Friday 28 August at the latest. They may be sent via email to simone.yallop@planet.nl.

As UK Party Conference season begins and the US Presidential election draws closer:

Are politicians the oldest profession?

Decide

Politician to aide:
"About their charge that I'm indecisive - do you think I should answer it, or let it go, or answer it in part, or what?"

Straightforward

Admirer to political candidate: Great speech sir! I really like the straightforward way you dodged the issues.

Public office

If you want to find out what's wrong with a man, elect him to public office.

Crime

We pay a tremendous crime bill each year, but we do get a lot of crime for our money.

Career

Politics: the career of plundering and blundering. -
Disraeli

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Church cleaning

Church cleaning will take place on Saturday 5 September at 10:00.

Videos of the services

Thank you so much to Lub Gringhuis who does an excellent job each week in making the video recordings of the services. They are much appreciated, especially by those who are not able to attend the services in person. Previous services, going back to March this year, are still available to watch via the Website page.

A Word from Wales

I was relieved on reading the AGM papers to see that Klaas Prins has agreed to stand for election to the office of Warden of St Mary's Chapel Weldam. Firstly, because I know Klaas will be an excellent Warden, and secondly, because my fellow Warden Jeanet has had to manage on her own since I left in February, prior to Lockdown. A term only ever used in connection with prisons up to now. Come to think on it, the term Wardens is also used in connection with prisons. So I am doubly glad to see Jeanet's solitary confinement is ending and she is getting someone to share the burden with. Have a great meeting.

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>

(Continued from page 4)

Political career

American teacher to students: "Be diligent and steadfast, and you will succeed. Take the case of George Washington, our first ever president. Do you remember my telling you of the great difficulty that George Washington had to face? The big problem that could have been the end of his political career?"

"Sure," said a student. "He couldn't tell a lie."

With Back to School in mind...

Shakespeare

Student essay: Shakespeare married Anne Hathaway, but he mostly lived at Windsor with his merry wives. This is quite usual with actors.

Writing home

A boy was sent by his parents to a school a long distance from home. He had been strictly enjoined to write home regularly and tell them all about himself and his new life. At the

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end of the first week, his first text arrived: "There are 370 boys here. I wish there were 369."

Have you ever wondered what the modern press would make of biblical events?

On Red Sea crossing:
WETLANDS
TRAMPLED IN
LABOUR STRIKE
Pursuing
Environmentalists
Killed

On David vs. Goliath:
HATE CRIME
KILLS BELOVED
CHAMPION
Psychologist
Questions
Influence of Rock

On Elijah on Mt. Carmel:
FIRE SENDS
RELIGIOUS
RIGHT
EXTREMIST
INTO FRENZY
400 Killed

On the birth of Christ:
HOTELS FULL,
ANIMALS LEFT
HOMELESS
Animal Rights
Activists Enraged
by Insensitive
Couple

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On the perils of leaving the pulpit

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

In how to survive a weekend away with the young people

The Rectory
St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

I think your idea for both our Confirmation groups getting together for a weekend away - socially distanced, of course - was excellent and our meeting last week drew most of the plans together. We didn't take any minutes, so let me record the decisions I believe we made.

Since all of us have to sleep far apart at the centre, I am prepared to spend the nights at a local hotel. By chance, I have found that there is a four star one only a few miles away, so I have booked myself in.

As the dining area in the youth centre may be cramped, I am also willing to have dinner each evening at the hotel, thereby creating more space for the rest of you. An additional sadness is that, since breakfast at the hotel is not served until 8 am, I will not be able to join you either for your pre-breakfast dip in the nearby stream. It would be grossly unfair to expect you to pack lunch for me, so I will arrange for the hotel to provide me with a picnic hamper for one which I can have while you all enjoy your cheese and pickle sandwiches.

I think it will be an excellent learning experience if you prepare all the teaching sessions yourself, but be assured that I will always be on hand to give the advice of experience. That large armchair near the fire in the common room seems to be the best place for me to sit, so I can keep an eye on proceedings, while I take on the responsibilities for stoking the fire. This reminds me; do make sure that the young people are encouraged to saw enough logs each morning for me to fulfil my obligations.

Naturally, my arthritis will prevent me being able to accompany you on your afternoon hikes, but I will cheerfully



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park my car wherever you leave the minibus, to provide a second vehicle in case of emergencies. I do not mind in the least waiting all those long hours until you get back; I have already found an attractive tea shop in the village.

I am fully aware that not sleeping or dining at the centre, not being responsible for preparing the teaching, nor being involved on the walks will mean that my contributions will be ever so slightly limited, but these are sacrifices I gladly make in order to give you further experience in your ministerial career.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

On a slightly more serious note.....

**Bishop of Bristol
to take up national safeguarding role**

The Bishop of Bristol, Bishop Viv Faull has been appointed a deputy lead bishop for safeguarding. Her focus will be on liaison with diocesan bishops on behalf of the National Safeguarding Steering Group (NSSG) and with the wider Anglican Communion, and to speak on safeguarding in the House of Lords.

She will work closely with the lead safeguarding bishop, the Bishop of Huddersfield, Jonathan Gibbs and the other deputy lead Bishop Debbie Sellin, who took up their roles earlier this year.

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On the serving tray of an American airplane this little card is laid next to the plate of everybody onboard the plane.
FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO SAY A TABLE GRACE

Roman Catholic:

Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Jewish:

Lift up your hands towards the sanctuary and bless the Lord. Blessed art thou, O Lord, our God, King of the universe, who bringest forth bread from the earth.

Protestant:

Bless, O Lord, this food to our use, and us to thy service, and make us ever mindful of the needs of others, in Jesus 'name . Amen

Contributed by Erica Schotman Bonting

(Continued from page 6)

On feeding the 5,000:

PREACHER
STEALS CHILD'S LUNCH
Disciples Mystified
Over Behaviour

On healing the 10 lepers:
LOCAL DOCTOR'S PRACTICE
RUINED
"Faith Healer"
Causes Bankruptcy

On healing of the Gadarene demoniac:
MADMAN'S FRIEND CAUSES STAMPEDE
Local Farmer's Investment Lost

On raising Lazarus from the dead:
FUNDAMENTALIST PREACHER
RAISES A STINK
Reading of Will now to be Delayed

Miscellaneous humour

Middle class

Young son to father: "Dad, what is the middle class?"

Dad: "The middle class consists of people who are not poor enough to accept charity and not rich enough to donate anything."

A sure way to forget all your troubles is to wear tight shoes.

Some observations out of the coronavirus crisis...

When you wear a tight mask around your face, a hat, a face shield, a gown, two pairs of gloves, and something to protect your shoes, it is a totally different (nursing) thing; and, as nurses, you have to stay in that side room or unit for 12-and-a-half hours. It is really draining physically. You... can't even go to the loo because your patients are terribly sick. They are on maximum (life support), so you can't take your eyes off that monitor. - ITU nurse on the reality of nursing in PPE

Those who have found God in digital church may want to keep God there rather than discover transforming participation in the Body of Christ...

Evening Prayer Project

This year we were very fortunate to be able to hold the *St. Mary's Summer Teas* on six Sunday afternoons from 12 July until 16 August. We were blessed with excellent weather, so that there were many visitors who enjoyed a cup of tea or coffee and some of the lovely home-made cakes.

As usual St. Mary's Chapel was open for visitors to admire and to learn about its history and how there came to be an Anglican Church in this part of the woods. It is interesting to meet people who perhaps live close by and have never been in the chapel, as well as those from further away who are on holiday in the area. Many are interested to learn about the Anglican Church, what we believe and how we worship.

This year we provided an opportunity for visitors to experience an Anglican service. There was a poster in the Hut and a poster in the chapel informing everyone that there would be a short service of Evening Prayer that afternoon at 16:00. When we began, I was never sure whether there would be a congregation. However, I was never on my own. Some weeks there were just three or four people, but as Jesus said: 'where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them' (Matt. 18:20). On other weeks we had nine or ten people present. It was encouraging to see people coming back again the next week sometimes bringing a friend with them.

I certainly enjoyed preparing and leading these services of Evening Prayer from Common Worship Daily Prayer. The services were quite short, being less than 25 minutes. Each service began with a Psalm. There was an Old Testament reading and a New Testament reading. There were also canticles, responses, and prayers. There was no sermon other than a short introduction at the beginning when I explained the service and told a little about the Psalm we would be saying and the readings that we would be listening to.

Evening Prayer is a beautiful service during which we hear the words of Scripture and through which the Holy Spirit makes God's message real to us. I pray that many who attended were touched by God's Spirit on those Sunday afternoons in the stillness of St. Mary's Chapel.

Simone Yallop
Licensed Lay Minister

Abbey's 'black Jesus' stirs up a storm



The Revd Peter Crumpler, a Church of England priest in St Albans, Herts, is a former communications director for the C of E. Here he offers a personal reflection on a new painting in St Albans Cathedral.

A large-scale painting of the Last Supper depicting Jesus as a black man has sparked controversy and heated debate in the UK and around the world.

I reckon that's no bad thing. In fact, it could be really positive.

St Albans Cathedral, 20 miles north of central London in leafy Hertfordshire, has installed the painting - on show until 31st October - to "stand with the Black Lives Matter movement to be allies for change - building a strong, just and fair community where the dignity of every human being is honoured and celebrated, where black voices are heard, and where black lives matter."

The installation is a striking piece of art and it's provoking strong reactions - just as good art should do.

People are responding with a wide range of opinions. Many have welcomed the artwork, but others are outraged, accusing the Abbey of pandering to a 'political correctness' agenda. Some have described it as seeking to be 'trendy' and riding on the bandwagon of a popular movement.

The Cathedral is a special place to me. I was ordained as a priest there, have served as a day chaplain at the historic building, and I minister at a parish church in the city.

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We need to find creative new ways of combining physical gathering with the virtual. - Canon Mark Collinson, Principal of the School of Mission Winchester Diocese.

History books will inevitably tell the story of a virus that swept the world in 2020. But it is up to us what that story will look like. Either... the story of a virus that ... showed up the weakness, selfishness and frailty of people... or how people responded with their best, how the virus was a medical but not a social tragedy. - Canon Will Hughes, Vicar of Petersfield, Portsmouth Diocese.

Prayer is not about doing lots and lots of things, but clearing the space for God to be there. - Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury

Forthcoming Services

September 6 2020

Morning Prayer 10:30

Trinity 13

Officiant and Preacher

Simone Yallop

Duty Warden:

Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor

Jeanet Luiten

There will be

no sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Rachel Koster

Lea Meijnen

Romans 13.8-14

Gospel

Matthew 18.15-20

September 13

Eucharist 10:30

Trinity 14

Celebrant and Preacher

Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden:

Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor

Joyce Wigboldus

There will be

no sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Simone Yallop

Eric Wanjala

Romans 14.1-12

Gospel

Matthew 18.21-35

September 20 2020

10:30 Eucharist

Trinity 15

Celebrant and Preacher

Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden

Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

Maureen Underwood

There will be no

sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Jan de Beij

Patrick Saridjan

Philippians 1. 21-end

Gospel

Matthew 20. 1-16

Forthcoming Services

September 27 2020

10:30 Eucharist

Trinity 16

Celebrant and Preacher

Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden
Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:
Simone Yallop

There will be no
sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Victor Pirenne

Louw Talstra

Philippians 2.1-13

Gospel

Matthew 21.23-32

GOD
is our
refuge
and
STRENGTH
a very present
help in trouble
*therefore we will **not** fear.*

Psalm 46:1

**Some
miscellaneous
observations on
modern life:**

I can always tell when I am going to give birth to an idea. My writer's cramps start coming two minutes apart. - Anon

Looking at modern art is like trying to follow the plot in a bowl of alphabet soup. - Anon

Character is not made in a crisis - it is only exhibited. - Robert Freeman

It is more important to know where you are going than to get there quickly. Do not mistake activity for achievement. - Mabel Newcomer

Back to School...

There is just one way to bring up a child in the way he should go, and that is to travel that way yourself. - Abraham Lincoln

Parenting is a marathon, not a sprint. - Anon

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Built on the site of an ancient shrine to Saint Alban, Britain's first Christian martyr, the Cathedral has been welcoming visitors for hundreds of years. It stands today as a thriving centre of worship, of community and of hospitality for thousands of pilgrims who visit the Cathedral each year.

The painting's artist, Lorna May Wadsworth, said: "I cast Jamaican-born Tafari Hinds as my Jesus to make people question the western myth that He had fair hair and blue eyes.

"I also knew that, from a previous portrait of Tafari, there is something in his countenance that people find deeply empathetic and moving, which is the overriding quality I wanted my Christ to embody."

Not everyone shares the artist's perspective. A Facebook post from the Abbey promoting the installation drew 400 comments within an hour, as people from around the world hotly argued the case for and against the artwork.

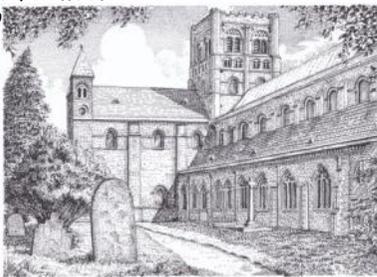
One person responded: "The church has not changed the colour of Jesus, they have decided to put on show a piece of art that happens to depict Jesus as black. Let's hope it just gives people a chance to question things they have always just accepted as being right."

Other comments were more critical, with a typical response, "More shameless pandering to Black Lives Matter, bringing trendy identity politics into what is supposed to be the traditional church."

People may object strongly to Lorna May Wadsworth's artwork, or they may welcome it. Either way, it provokes an important debate about the role of race in our society and how we have depicted Christ in western culture.

The Abbey has stirred up a storm, but maybe that's the only way for ingrained attitudes to be challenged, and new perspectives formed.

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What Edward O. Wilson, an American biologist, has to tell us.

Destroying a tropical rainforest for profit is like burning all the paintings of the Louvre to cook dinner.

Humanity today is like a waking dreamer, caught between the fantasies of sleep and the chaos of the real world. The mind seeks but cannot find the precise place and hour. We have created a Star Wars civilization, with Stone Age emotions, medieval institutions, and godlike technology. We thrash about. We are terribly confused by the mere fact of our existence. At the same time, we are a danger, both to ourselves and to the rest of life.

Humanity is a biological species living in a biological environment. Like all species, we are exquisitely adapted in everything: from our behaviour to our genetics, to our physiology, to the particular environment in which we live. The earth is our home. Unless we preserve the rest of life, as a sacred duty, we will be endangering ourselves by destroying the home in which we evolved, and on which we completely depend.

We should preserve every scrap of biodiversity as priceless. At the same time, we learn to use it and come to understand what it means to humanity.

There can be no purpose more inspiring than to begin the age of restoration, reweaving the wondrous diversity of life that still surrounds us.

Contributed by Erica Schotman Bonting



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If I could get to the highest place in Athens, I would lift up my voice and say: "What mean ye, fellow citizens, that ye turn every stone to scrape wealth together, and take so little care of your children, to whom ye must one day relinquish all?" - Socrates

If all the college students who slept in class were placed end to end, they would be much more comfortable. - Anon

Old Age?

One of my friends is in charge of the part-time help hired by an old-age home run by an order of nuns. She confided to the mother superior, a feisty little nun of 70, that she always felt uncomfortable giving the young girls the obligatory lecture about the need to be careful around certain of the older male patients.

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The mother superior volunteered to give it for her, and eventually reduced my friend's 30 minutes of embarrassed rambling to a one-liner that has now become famous around the place. "Girls," she announced. "Just remember—old ain't dead."

Late

Being the office supervisor, I had to have a word with a new employee who never arrived at work on time. I explained that her tardiness was unacceptable and that other employees had noticed that she was walking in late every day.

After listening to my complaints, she agreed that this was a problem and even offered a solution. "Is there another door I could use?"

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Is your face mask making your skin break out?

Face masks are giving us skin complaints. In fact, so many of us are now suffering that the complaint has been given its own name: 'maskne'.

The causes are obvious. Our breath is warm and moist, and every time we exhale into our masks this humid air gets trapped. Masks move, and so we have friction. Added to that is the unpleasant fact that our saliva is actually teeming with bacteria (with more bugs per square inch than even a loo seat!).

Acne mechanica is the medical term for 'maskne'. With all that bacteria being trapped and rubbed against our nose and chin, no wonder 'mask breakouts' are rising dramatically.

Stress is another cause for skin complaints, and the pandemic has given many of us huge stress this year. We may face crippling anxiety over job security, finances, the health of loved ones, social isolation, or even being trapped in an abusive household. No wonder our faces are breaking out in a rash!

During all the upheaval and stress caused by the pandemic we should not forget that the changes in our behaviour has a knock-on effect on our dogs. Look after your dog and as you read, you will see that dog ownership has hidden benefits

Your face mask and your dog

Face masks have been a big adjustment for all of us, but dogs especially may be struggling, warns the animal charity, Dogs Trust.

Dogs use our facial expressions to tell how we are feeling, so if they suddenly encounter people whose faces are covered, they could become confused, stressed, and even feel threatened. Their confusion may lead to a loss of obedience and cooperation with you.

Here is how to get your dog used to you wearing a face mask:

Hold your hand over your face for a moment, speak reassuringly to your dog, and then reward him.

Introduce your dog to your face mask, let him sniff it and let him see you put it up to your face, and then

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down again. Reward him.

Put it on for a moment. Reassure and reward him.

Put it on and move about the room, while reassuring him.

Reward him.

Gradually build up the length of time that you wear the face mask around him. Keep reassuring him. Reward him.

Expect that he may not be so quick to understand and obey you when you are wearing the mask - be patient.

Don't take him into public places where many people are wearing masks, unless you absolutely have to do so. It could be very stressful for him.

Dogs can mean better-behaved children

Is your child naughty? Consider getting a dog.

A recent study has found that children who grow up with a dog are far more likely to be willing to share and help others.

Researchers at the University of Western Australia in Perth have found that young children who live with a dog and who frequently interact with family members who interact with the pet dog are far less likely to be naughty or uncooperative.

Small children who are taken for a dog walk with their parents and siblings at least once a week even show a 30 per cent drop in being naughty and disruptive, and a 40 per cent drop in falling-out with friends.

"Dogs help children learn about responsibility and unconditional loyalty. But they can also help with language development and verbal skills, while promoting trust and empathy." Say the researchers. Their study was published in the journal *Paediatric Research*.



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Covid Humour?

For when you are scared out of your wits by all the doom and gloom and cannot decide whether to laugh or cry, Try laughing.

The fourth Russian doll is the most pretentious because she talks about herself in the third person.

If you've ever narrowly avoided a car crash and said, "Man, that was close," you understand every Jewish holiday.

In an increasingly chaotic world with both natural and man-made disasters, we should downgrade Dennis to merely "a" menace.

I like to watch *Love Your Garden* when I have my tea and then *True Crime* before bed. I feel really confident being able to bury a body and know what to plant on top of it.

I met my girlfriend whilst she was working at the zoo. There she was in her uniform - straightaway I knew she was a keeper

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On dating app: 'Princess, having had sufficient experience with princes, seeks frog.'

This morning I saw a neighbour talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house and told my dog. We laughed a lot.

Our neighbour's son is very active in church - he squirms, wriggles and fidgets.

Why is it that saying: "Have a nice day" sounds friendly, but saying "Enjoy your next 24 hours" sounds threatening?

I told my suitcases that due to the pandemic, there will be no holiday this year. Now I'm dealing with emotional baggage.

Prediction

There will be a minor baby boom in nine months and then, one day in 2033 we shall

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'Big Conversation' launched on Clergy care and wellbeing

Churches and clergy across the country are to join in a nationwide discussion, the 'Big Conversation', aimed at improving the care and wellbeing of ministers.

It follows the recent welcome of the *Covenant for Clergy Care and Wellbeing* at General Synod. Now General Synod has asked that the whole church reflect on the questions it poses over the next two years. Hence, the 'Big Conversation'.

The Covenant commits all parts of the Church, as well as individual clergy, to sharing responsibility for the welfare of ministers and their households.

Recommendations include promoting awareness of stress and the dangers of burnout as part of training for ordained ministry. Also, there will be new resources for licensing and induction services that highlight the care and wellbeing of clergy. The Group also recommended more pastoral supervision for clergy through coaching or mentoring.

The Revd Canon Simon Butler, who headed the Working Group, said: "The care and wellbeing of the clergy is crucial to the health of the Church at worship, in mission, and in pastoral care."

Mental health and Covid-19

It is important to be as kind and patient as possible with other people this autumn. Covid-19 has turned many millions of lives upside-down, and the resulting distress, anxiety, fear, grief and economic meltdown means that now widespread mental illness is inevitable. So says the new president of the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

Dr Adrian James warns of 'multiple layers' to the fallout from the pandemic, both for people with pre-existing mental health conditions and also for those who have never suffered before. NHS front-line staff will need support, while those who have had a serious case of Covid-19 may suffer anything from post-traumatic stress disorder to a full-blown psychosis.

Dr James says: "There will be very significant mental illness consequences of Covid, and we need to be ready."

Meanwhile, up to one in five Britons may have contemplated self-harming during lockdown, according to some separate research by University College London.

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Musings on Coronavirus

An application was made in the UK to UCAS for entry into Hogwarts University. Here was the reply sent on official UCAS stationery. UCAS by the way stands for University and College Admissions Service, and it is the governing body for entry into all higher education facilities. It is nice to know that in these troubling times, a sense of humour is retained at all levels.

RE: Application for Entry to "Hogwarts University"

Dear Applicant,

We regret to inform you that your application for the stated establishment cannot be processed at the time due to the fact that it does not exist. After consultation with our mystic advisors we have also determined that even if it did exist, the course "Wandology" would be highly in demand and hence require at least two As and a B in any of the following subjects.

- Advanced Spellcrafting
- Mystimatics
- Defence against the Dark Arts
- History of the Occult
- Shaft Design

Your hand written grade sheet claiming top marks in "Waving a stick about", "Wearing a Pointy Hat" and "Watching Paul Daniels TV Specials" is not suitable for submission. However by applying through clearing you may be suitable for a selection of Liberal Arts Courses. Alternatively, you may wish to resubmit next year by tying your letter to an owl and hoping for the best.

On behalf of UCAS I wish you every success

Mary Curnock Cook OBE
Chief Executive

Contributed by Trevor Reynolds

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see the rise of THE
QUARANTEENS

Have you noticed how every disaster movie starts with the Government ignoring the scientists?

If you needed 144 rolls of toilet paper for a 14 day quarantine you probably should have seen a doctor long before Covid-19

I was in the jungle and saw a lizard on his hind legs telling jokes. I turned to a local tribesman and said: "That lizard's really funny." The tribesman replied: "That's not a lizard. He's a stand up chameleon."

A cement mixer collided with a prison van on the bypass. Motorists are asked to be on the look-out for 16 hardened criminals.

The man who invented the zip fastener has been honoured with a lifetime peerage. He will now be known as the Lord of the Flies.

I gave my pet bird a haircut, and now he thinks he's James Bond. He's certainly a shorn canary.

Praise to the Holiest in the height

*Praise to the Holiest in the height,
And in the depth be praise,
In all his words most wonderful,
Most sure in all his ways.*

*O loving wisdom of our God!
When all was sin and shame,
A second Adam to the fight
And to the rescue came...*

*And in the garden secretly,
And on the cross on high,
Should teach his brethren, and inspire
To suffer and to die.*

*Praise to the Holiest in the height,
And in the depth be praise,
In all his words most wonderful,
Most sure in all his ways....*

By John Henry Newman

*Ten years ago this month Cardinal John Henry Newman (1801-1890)
was canonised as a saint by the Roman Catholic Church.
These lines are from his great work '
The Dream of Geronitus',
and have become a very well-loved hymn...*

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.*

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Views expressed in this magazine are those of authors and contributors and are not necessarily shared by the editor or church leadership.