

Services held every
Sunday morning
10:30 am

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Next issue: First Sunday November 2020

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The Anglican Chaplaincy of Twente

DIOCESE IN EUROPE
THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND





October 2020

Dear friends,

We recently had the opportunity to share in the Season of Creation initiative supported by the World Council of churches, through a pan-diocesan act of worship and reflection with our bishops in Europe. The season began on 1 September and lasts to 4 October, the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and ecology.

We were, and are, rightly challenged to care for the world in which we live and to confess our part in the calamity of Earth's rampant destruction. We acknowledge our demand for growth, which is causing much of what we now experience. However, I cannot help but realise that this acknowledgement, often actually, amounts to little more than self-righteous mutual backslapping. We acknowledge these things in a very general and uncritical way. We convince ourselves we have done enough and implemented procedures necessary to halt all this destruction, which is, in fact, not true. We manage to convince ourselves that in praying for change, we have fulfilled our obligation. We have 'ticked the box', and having 'ticked the box, we have remained wilfully impotent. We have absolved ourselves. After all, it is others who decide agricultural policy, or deplete the soil or cruelly exploit livestock in intensive meat production and egg production. It is others who legislate on the use of chemicals to fertilise the land or boost animal body weight or milk production. It is they who avoid fishing quotas, or oversee the destruction of forests, or subsidise fossil fuel and promote rare mineral extraction.

Now, coinciding with the end of our Season of Creation, the media is full of yet another round of self-congratulatory rhetoric from many of the world's leaders. We are told that they are promising to underpin the post Covid recovery plans by putting wildlife and climate at their heart. Macron, Merkel, Rutte, Trudeau, Ardern, Johnson, among 64 leaders, have pledged to restore the balance of nature through their Leaders' Pledge for Nature at the September UN Summit on Biodiversity.

I would love to be encouraged by this undertaking by the 64 nations. I am, however, almost certainly assured of its inability to deliver any meaningful success. Notwithstanding that the leaders of significantly influential countries have refused to be involved. These countries include the US, Russia, India, China, Brazil and Australia. Boris Johnson, in asserting his support has said, "We must turn these words into actions and use them to build momentum, to agree on ambitious goals and binding targets."

This use of language alone, dashes for me any hopes I might have in such a project. How might we apprehend Boris's credibility in his words, "We cannot afford to dither and delay"? For him to speak of "binding targets" having only recently turned his back on a hugely significant "binding treaty" indeed speaks for itself.

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St Mary's Chapel News



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

Reading the Notices for Sunday 27 September, I saw that flowers were presented to Brian on the 40th anniversary of his ordination. There was also a mention about ordination services being held in Ghent and Rome.

When Brian was ordained in St Alban's, I learned, there were nearly 900 people present. Amongst this large congregation would have been the friends and family of those about to be priested.

On the other hand the services in Ghent and Rome would have been more like the service I read about in my local paper. Four priests and nine deacons were ordained in the near empty cathedral of St Asaph. There was no party or celebration held afterwards.

I felt sad for those who had missed out on the opportunity to celebrate what was probably one of the most important days of their lives.

I felt glad to see so many men and women still prepared to come forward to serve God and their community in these trying times.

With the mention of trying times, your magazine editor is back in Lockdown. From the 1st October the county I live in, Flintshire, is in lockdown. We are not allowed to cross the county boundaries except in exceptional circumstances.

To put that into perspective, Flintshire is about a fifth the size of Flevoland. Admittedly it is a lot more vertical than Flevoland. No chance of getting polder blindness here.

Admittedly, walking our dog Abby on the beach could cause a problem as it would be possible to cross the county line on the vast beaches of North Wales.

When I look at pictures now of services held in St Mary's Chapel I cannot suppress the feeling I am watching a bank robbers convention! On the subject of other ways to supplement chapel income, see the cartoon on the next page.

Prayer for the sick
I was listening to my new curate pray and I realized one of his phrases didn't come out quite right. He said, "...and Lord, we pray for those who are sick of this church."

A spirit guest?

When new neighbours moved in next door, they held a Housewarming party and invited the entire road. My husband and I were glad to go along, as our daughters were both five years old. But next morning I was taken aback when my daughter told me that the mother had taken her into the kitchen and given her 'a spirit guest', which my daughter had really enjoyed. Now she wanted me to get her 'a spirit guest.'

I was wondering how to contact the local vicar for exorcism when I realised that my daughter meant 'asparagus'.

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...I've moved with the times - I've now got a solar-powered radio microphone...

Magazine Payments

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

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

Intercessions

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

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

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Moses revisited

Nine-year-old Joseph was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday school.

"Well, Mum, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his engineers build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved."

"Now, Joseph, is that really what your teacher taught you?" his mother asked, somewhat alarmed.

"Well, no, Mum. But if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!"

Sorry

Our minister, an avid golfer, was once taking part in a local tournament. As he was preparing to tee off, the organiser of the

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tournament approached him and pointed to the dark, threatening storm clouds which were gathering. "Sir," the organiser said, "I trust you'll see to it that the weather won't turn bad on us."

Our minister shook his head. "Sorry," he replied. "I'm in sales, not management!"

The language of churchgoing

BULLETIN: Your receipt for attending the service.

HOLY WATER: A liquid whose chemical formula is H2OLY.

HYMN: A song of praise usually sung in a key three octaves higher than that of the congregation's range.

INCENSE: Holy Smoke!

JUSTICE: When your children have children of their own.

KYRIE ELEISON: The only Greek words that most

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Beware what lurks in the church vestry...

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

The Rectory
St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren



I am unsurprised that the cleaning lady took exception to you dismantling your motorbike in the church vestry. Clergy vestries are the final repositories of rotting hymn books, ancient cassocks with a certain aroma, buckets with holes in, which are kept "just in case" and dead animals in various states of decomposition; but they are no place for bike chains, disc brakes and inner tubes.

I will concede that vestries seem to attract all those objects no one quite knows what to do with, but which parishioners can't bear to throw away. Flower arrangers creep into my vestry, looking for space for boxes of twine. Decorators arrive with cribs and Easter gardens they are hoping to store. And even the choirmaster occasionally sidles in, trying to slip some anthems past me. I repel them all with vigour, and a firm broom.

One thing I can't keep out of the vestry are the portraits of all my predecessors, who stare down at me reproachfully. The most recent, in colour, stare smugly, knowing that I am still being compared to them, and falling short. Earlier incumbents, in black and white, look mildly reproachful, reminding me that they all held doctorates from Oxford. The hand-drawn portraits from pre-1870 are the worst - they all look as if they drank vinegar for breakfast and argued Pelagianism over lunch, just for fun. I am already rehearsing my own look of pained forgiveness for my leaving photo that will stare down on my own successor, and perpetually irritate him

It also seems to be a tradition that retiring clergy donate their robes for their successors, probably because it spares them a walk to the dustbin. So, a five-foot, 18 stone incumbent will leave a cassock for his six-foot, ten stone successor. There will also be a spare 1960s nylon surplice hanging on the back of the vestry door, to remind you that

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should you ever forget your own, then this is the horror you will be obliged to wear throughout Evensong.

Notices on the walls will tell you that marriage fees in the 1920s were seven shillings and sixpence, that Communion wine can be obtained from a shop that closed down a generation ago and there will be a copy of the prayer of thanksgiving to be used on the Relief of Mafeking.

My only advice is to remove your bike before it gets bundled up with the Scouts' tents - and lost forever in the churchwarden's shed.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



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He is wholly correct in this, however: "What is happening today is happening at a frightening rate. Left unchecked, the consequences will be catastrophic for us all. Extinction is forever - so our action must be immediate".

I am moved, finally to ask this one question. In what sense are those whom we call our leaders, actually leaders? Are they perhaps not, more often, merely leading us to follow: to follow, like them, only the dictates of greedy global business interests? They lead indeed, but merely in following! As I ponder the British news, in particular, I am forced to reflect on the overwhelming feeling I have that in their leadership in following, it seems they nevertheless manage to sustain themselves in grand financial splendour. This, through lucrative board memberships, lobbying networks, and indiscriminating and self-serving political influence, which they encourage between themselves, and often bestow upon one another through the so-called 'honours' system.

In church, we speak of 'the fellowship of believers', which is sometimes benevolent and true. In political 'leadership', at its highest levels, I wonder if it might not be described as 'the fellowship of deceivers'?

My love to you all, as ever,

Brian

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Catholics and Anglicans can recognise besides gyros and baklava. (it means Lord have mercy)

PEW: A medieval torture device still found in many Anglican and Catholic churches.

PROCESSION: The ceremonial formation at the beginning of the service, consisting of altar servers, the celebrant, and late parishioners looking for seats.

RECESSIONAL: The ceremonial procession at the conclusion of the service - led by parishioners trying to beat the crowd to the carpark.

RELICS: People who have been going to church for so long that they actually know when to sit, kneel, and stand.

TEN COMMANDMENTS: The most important - and oldest - Top Ten list.

USHERS: The only people in the church who don't know the seating capacity of a pew.

Doggy Humour

A three legged dog walks into a bar and says, "I'm looking for the man who shot my paw."



Outside of a dog, a book is a man's best friend. Inside of a dog it is too dark to read.



Q: What happened when a dog went to a flea circus

A: He stole the show!



Q: How are a dog and a marine biologist alike?

A: One wags a tail and the other tags a whale.



Q: What did the dog say when he sat on sandpaper?

A: Rough! Rough!



On the door of the general store, a customer noticed the sign reading,

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Judy DM, the story of a dog

Judy, a purebred pointer, was the mascot of several ships in the Pacific, and was captured by the Japanese in 1942 and taken to a prison camp. There she met Aircraftsman Frank Williams, who shared his small portion of rice with her.

Judy raised morale in the POW camp, and also barked when poisonous snakes, crocodiles or even tigers approached the prisoners. When the prisoners were shipped back to Singapore, she was smuggled out in a rice sack, never whimpering or betraying her presence to the guards.

The next day, that ship was torpedoed. Williams pushed Judy out of a porthole in an attempt to save her life, even though there was a 15-foot drop to the sea. He made his own escape from the ship, but was then recaptured and sent to a new POW camp.

He didn't know if Judy had survived, but soon he began hearing stories about a dog helping drowning men reach pieces of debris after the shipwreck. And when Williams arrived at the new camp, he said: "I couldn't believe my eyes! As I walked through the gate, a scraggly dog hit me square between the shoulders and knocked me over. I'd never been so glad to see the old girl!"

They spent a year together at that camp in Sumatra. "Judy saved my life in so many ways," said Williams. "But the greatest of all was giving me a reason to live. All I had to do was look into those weary, bloodshot eyes and ask myself: 'What would happen to her if I died?' I had to keep going."

Once hostilities ceased, Judy was then smuggled aboard a troopship heading back to Liverpool. In England, she was awarded the Dickins Medal (the "Victoria Cross" for animals) in May 1946. Her citation reads: "For magnificent courage and endurance in Japanese prison camps, which helped to maintain morale among her fellow prisoners, and also for saving many lives through her intelligence and watchfulness".

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At the same time, Frank Williams was awarded the PDSA's White Cross of St. Giles for his devotion to Judy. Frank and Judy spent a year after the war visiting the relatives of English POWs who had not survived, and Frank said that Judy "always provided a comforting presence to the families."

When Judy finally died at the age of 13, Frank spent two months building a granite and marble memorial in her memory, which included a plaque describing her life story.

(For reasons of space this is only a brief thumbnail sketch on the life of this remarkable dog.

Google, Judy the Pointer to read more about this amazing animal, companion and lifesaver.)



Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Anglican Church Twente was held on Sunday 13 September 2020 after the morning service. It was attended by 28 members of the congregation. After the opening prayer, the minutes of last year's AGM and the various reports were addressed. These had been circulated to Electoral Roll members in the AGM papers two weeks before the meeting. The reports included the Chaplain's Report, the Secretary's Report, the Treasurer's Report, and the Archdeaconry Representatives' Report.

The Secretary gave a short report on the Electoral Roll, which listed 65 names in 2019 and now had 70 names. Since the last AGM six people have joined and one person has left. Two further applications have been received since the Electoral Roll was frozen two weeks before the AGM. Those names were not counted in the number for this AGM but have been added directly afterwards so we now have 72 names on the Electoral Roll.

The Chaplain's and Secretary's reports were taken as read and received. The minutes of the previous AGM were accepted. The Treasurer gave a short explanation of his report which contained the audited figures of 2019 and the budget for 2020. The budget originally agreed by council in January was revised in June because of the changed situation. In January, the budget was based on Brian our Chaplain retiring at the end of June. Fortunately, for us, Brian agreed to stay on until the end of the year because of

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"DANGER!
BEWARE OF
DOG!"

He carefully entered the store, but once inside all he saw was a harmless old hound dog asleep on the floor beside the cash register. He asked the store manager, "Is THAT the dog folks are supposed to beware of?"

"Yep, that's him," he replied.

The stranger could not help but be amused. "That certainly does not look like a dangerous dog to me. Why in the world would you post that sign?"

"Because," the owner replied, "before I posted that sign, people kept tripping over him."

Watching?

A burglar is sneaking through this house one night, when out of the darkness comes a voice: "I can see you, and Jesus can, too."

The burglar freezes in his

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Forthcoming Services

October 4 2020

10:30 Eucharist Trinity 17 Michael and all Angels
Officiant ant and Preacher Canon Brian Rodford
Duty Warden: **Intercessor** There will be
Jeanet Luiten Jeanet Luiten no sung hymns
Sidesperson/Reader **Readings**
Vivian Reinders Revelation 12, 7-8, 10-11
Gospel John 1. 47-end

October 11 2020

Eucharist 10:30 Trinity 18 Harvest Festival
Celebrant and Preacher Canon Brian Rodford
Duty Warden: **Intercessor** There will be
Klaas Prins Joyce Wigboldus no sung hymns
Sidesperson/Reader **Readings**
Ann Powell 2 Corinthians 9. 6-9
Gospel Luke 12. 16-21

October 18 2020

10:30 Eucharist Trinity 19
Celebrant and Preacher Canon Brian Rodford
Duty Warden **Intercessor:** There will be no
Jeanet Luiten Maureen Underwood sung hymns
Sidesperson/Reader **Readings**
Frances Gothard 1.Thessalonians 1. 1-4
Gospel Matthew 22. 15-22

Forthcoming Services

October 25 2020

10:30 Eucharist

Trinity last.

Celebrant and Preacher

Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden

Klaas Prins

Intercessor:

Simone Yallop

There will be no

sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Erica Schotman

Colossians 3. 12-17

Gospel

Mathew 24. 30-35

November 1 2020

10:30 Eucharist

All saints and All souls

Celebrant and Preacher

Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden

Jeanet Luiten

Intercessor:

Jeanet Luiten

There will be no

sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Joyce Wigboldus

1. John 3. 1-3

Gospel

Mathew .5. 1-12

November 8 2020

10:30 Eucharist

3 before Advent

Celebrant and Preacher

Canon Brian Rodford

Duty Warden

Klaas Prins

Intercessor:

Joyce Wigboldus

There will be no

sung hymns

Sidesperson/Reader

Readings

Elizabeth v.d Heiden

Thessalonians 4. 13-18

Gospel

Mathew 25. 1-13

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tracks and is too frightened to move. He waits a few moments and nothing more happens, so he moves forward. Again from the darkness comes the voice: "I can see you, and Jesus can, too." The burglar is petrified and too frightened to move a muscle.

After 30 minutes, he decides to do something. He backs very slowly and tentatively to the wall and feels around for a light switch. He switches on the light and there in front of him sits a cockatoo in a cage, who says, "I can see you, and Jesus can, too."

Greatly relieved, the burglar sighs, "It's just a cockatoo."

The cockatoo looks at the burglar and says, "I might be just a cockatoo, but Jesus is a big Rottweiler."

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the Corona crisis. The new budget reflects the new situation.

The Archdeaconry Representatives' reports were also taken as read. The Chaplain explained that usually the Archdeaconry Synod takes place in Drongen in Belgium. This year will be very different since it will take place on Zoom.

Then the election of council officers took place. Jeanet Luiten and Klaas Prins were elected as churchwardens. Joyce Wigboldus and Simone Yallop were elected again as Archdeaconry Representatives. Jan de Beij was re-elected as council member and Erick Wanjala and Carolyn Braaksma were newly elected as council members. Erick had been co-opted onto council already earlier in the year to assist Jeanet after Blair Charles had moved to the UK.

Two people were appointed as auditors to audit the 2020 accounts. These are Arthur Cass and Ilonka de Beij.

Under Any Other Business a question was raised about whether we can have an address list that we can share. During the lockdown people needed this information to be able to contact one another. The current data protection laws make it difficult, but we hope that it might be possible to have a shared address list again. For this to be possible we would all need to sign a form saying that we agreed for our name address and phone number to be shared with the congregation members who had also signed the same form.

Also, under Any Other Business there was discussion about singing. At St. Mary's we love to sing, but this is not possible in the chapel during the Corona crisis. The Chaplain said that we are planning to hold the Carol Service and the Christmas Eve Service outside where we will be able to sing. That is something to look forward to!

Normally the AGM would have taken place in April. It was much later this year because of the lockdown. The bishop had put an instrument in place to allow chaplaincies to delay their AGMs until as late as the end of October. We had a good meeting. It was well worth waiting for.

©Simone Yallop

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Noah and the Ark - 2020 version



In the year 2020, Noah was living in England when the Lord came unto him and said, "Once again, the earth has become too wicked to continue. Build another Ark and save two of every living thing. You have six months before I will start the unending rain for 40 days and 40 nights."

Six months later, the Lord looked down and saw Noah weeping in his garden, but no Ark. "Noah", He roared, "I'm about to start the rain! Where is the Ark?"

"Forgive me Lord", begged Noah "but things have been difficult. I needed Building Regulations approval because the Ark was over 30 square metres. I've been arguing with the Fire Brigade about the need for a sprinkler system. My neighbours claim that I should have obtained planning permission for building the Ark in my garden because it is a development of the site even though in my opinion it is a temporary structure, but the roof is too high.

"The Local Area Access Group complained that my ramp was going to be too steep and the inside of the Ark wasn't fully accessible. Getting the wood has been another problem. All the decent trees have Tree Preservation Orders on them and we live in a Site of Special Scientific Interest set up in order to preserve the Spotted Owl. I tried to convince them that I needed the wood to save the owls - but no go!

"When I started gathering the animals the RSPCA sued me for intending to confine wild animals without the proper paperwork. The County Council, the Environment Agency and the Rivers Authority have ruled that I can't build the Ark until they've conducted an Environmental Impact Study on your proposed flood. The Trade Unions insist that I can't use my sons to build the Ark; I can only employ members of the Shipbuilding and Allied Trades union. Finally, Customs and Excise have seized all my assets, claiming I am going to attempt to leave the country illegally with endangered species.

"So, forgive me Lord, but it will take me at least another ten years to finish this Ark."

Suddenly the skies cleared, the sun began to shine, and a rainbow stretched across the sky. "No need for me to destroy the world after all," observed God. "The government has the matter already in hand." ©Parish Pump

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Ten Commandments

A Sunday School teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six-year-olds.

After explaining the commandment to 'honour thy father and thy mother', she said: "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?"

Without missing a beat, one little boy answered: "Thou shalt not kill."

Put it this way...

A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.

A pessimist's blood type is always b-negative.

My wife really likes to make pottery, but to me it's just kiln time.

A Freudian slip is when you say one thing but mean your mother.

I used to work in a blanket factory, but it folded.

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**Suicide prevention quotes:
Eight powerful sayings**

1. "Soak up the views. Take in the bad weather and the good weather.

You are not the storm."

Matt Haig

2. Suicide doesn't end the chances of life getting worse, it eliminates the possibility of it ever getting any better. -

Unknown

3. "Never, never, never give up."

Winston Churchill

4. "If you're looking for a sign not to kill yourself, this is it."

Unknown

5. "The person who completes suicide, dies once. Those left behind die a thousand deaths, trying to relive those terrible moments and understand... why?"

Clark

**World Suicide Prevention Day
10 September**

In marking this day the following story was distributed

A man walks down the road one day and falls into a hole with sides so steep he cannot climb out.

A few hours later, his doctor walks by. "Hey Doc, I'm stuck down this hole and can't get out, can you help me?" He calls. The doctor takes out his notebook, writes him a prescription, throws it down into the hole and carries on walking.

A few more hours pass, and his parish priest walks by. "Hey Father, I'm stuck down this hole and can't get out. Can you help me?" He pleads anxiously. The priest takes out some paper, writes down a prayer, throws it down to the man and carries on.

The man stands there looking at the prescription in one hand and the prayer in the other, not knowing what to do next. Dejected, he sits down in the dark hole. Giving up. Another few hours pass, and the man sees his friend passing by.

He jumps to his feet and calls out, "Hey Tom! I am stuck down this hole and cannot get out. Can you please help me?" Without hesitation, Tom jumps down into hole to join him. "What are you doing, Tom? Now we're both stuck down here!" the man says. Tom replies reassuringly, "No, my friend, I've been down here before, and I know how to get out. I'll show you!"

Although World Suicide Prevention Day has passed, please remember. Just doing something as simple as talking to someone who you think is feeling a bit down and showing your support can make a massive difference to them. More of a difference than some could ever anticipate.

To everyone reading this, let it be known to your friends that you are there to help, to be that listening ear or shoulder to cry on and be that friend that jumps in to that hole without a minute's hesitation and provides the well needed boost to scale those steep walls out of the darkness.



St Francis of Assisi - love for the Creation Feast Day - 4th October

St Francis (1181 - 1226) is surely one of the most attractive and best-loved of all the saints. But he began by being anything but a saint. Born the son of a wealthy cloth-merchant of Assisi, Francis' youth was spent in fast-living, parties and on fast horses as a leader of the young society of the town. Then he went to the war between Assisi and Perugia, and was taken prisoner for a year.



By the time of his release, Francis had changed. Perhaps his own suffering had awakened him to that of others. In any case, he abandoned warfare and carousing, and began to help the poor and the lepers of his area. Then one day a voice which seemed to come from the crucifix in the small, semi-derelict church of Damiano Assisi 'Go and repair my house, which you see is falling down'.

This religious experience was a vital turning point in Francis' life: Jesus Christ became very real and immediate to him. His first action was to begin repairing the church, having sold some of his father's cloth to pay for materials. His father was not amused, in fact he was furious - until Francis renounced his inheritance and even his clothes by his dramatic stripping off in the public square of the town. The Bishop of Assisi provided him with simple garments, and Francis began his new life.

His inspiration was always religious, not social, and the object of his quest was always the Crucified Christ, not Lady Poverty for her own sake. Francis rebuilt San Samiano, and then travelled as a pilgrim. His compassion for the poor and lepers became famous. Soon disciples joined him, and they set up a communal life in simple wattle and daub huts. They went on occasional preaching tours. (Not until later did they become an Order whose theologians won fame in the Universities.)

In 1219 Francis visited the Holy Land, and his illusions about the Crusaders were shattered. He went on to seek out the Sultan, and tried to convert him. Back home, he found his Order was now 5,000 strong, and growing.

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6. "If you want to show me that you really love me, don't say that you would die for me, instead stay alive for me." - Unknown

7. "Place your hand over your heart, can you feel it? That is called purpose. You're alive for a reason so don't ever give up." - Unknown

8. "When you feel like giving up, just remember the reason why you held on for so long." - Unknown

With Harvest Festival - COVID permitting - in mind

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving. - *Psalm 95:2*

Gratitude is the heart's memory. - *French proverb*

'Tis the season for kindling the fire of hospitality in the hall, the genial fire of charity in the heart. - *Washington Irving*

How worthy it is to remember former benefits when we come to beg for new. - *Stephen Charnock*

It is only with gratitude that life becomes rich. - *Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

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Marriage is the mourning after the knot before.

Sea captains don't like crew cuts.

A gossip is someone with a great sense of rumour.

Telling the time

The cable repairman was on my street and asked me what time it was.

I told him it was between 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm.

Where?

The police officer asked me where I had been between 5 and 6. He seemed irritated when I answered "kindergarten."

Home

I just saw a local burglar kicking his own front door in. I asked him what he was doing.

He replied, "Working from home."

Aliens

Aliens probably fly by earth - and lock their doors.

Bits and Pieces on the COVID pandemic

We as humans do not learn from history and are therefore doomed to repeat it.

The Spanish flu lasted for two years. The second wave killed far more people than the first, and in total there were four waves.

It killed somewhere between 20 million to 50 million people. Citizens were ordered to wear masks, and everywhere shut down and boarded up schools, movie theatres, and business. Mail distribution stopped, as did garbage collection.

Many people had to dig graves for their own family members.

Here we are 100 years later, and what have we learned? Half the people do not want to wear masks because they think it is a hoax/it is not that bad/the government is lying/insert insane right-wing conspiracy theory rhetoric here.

People want to prioritize their own narcissistic desires and privileges over other human beings' lives.

What did they have in 1918? No TV. No internet, not a lot of food supply.

What do we have? TV, internet, movies that can be watched from home, UberEATS...you name it. And yet we are a world full of entitled and selfish people who lack human empathy and act oppressed when given any minute sense of responsibility.

Travel is not a necessity. Movie theatres are not a necessity. Throwing parties is not a necessity.

Being a decent human being should not be a revolutionary act....it should be common sense.

©Anonymous



Never forget, that even in the darkest of places there is life

(Continued on page 17)

Francis stepped down as head, but continued to preach and was immensely popular. He died after a prolonged illness at the age of 45, and was canonised in 1228.

Francis' close rapport with the animal creation was well known. The story of his preaching to the birds has always been a favourite scene from his life. He also tamed the wolf of Gubbio. This affinity emphasises his consideration for, and sense of identity with, all elements of the physical universe, as seen in his Canticle of the Sun. This makes him an apt patron of nature conservation.

The 20th century witnessed a widespread revival of interest in Francis. Sadly, some films and books caricatured him as only a sentimental nature-lover or a hippie drop out from society. This ignores the real sternness of his character, and his all-pervasive love of God and identification with Christ's sufferings, which alone make sense of his life. Two ancient, and many modern English churches are dedicated to him. ©Parish Pump



(Continued from page 16)

Learning from the young

A few weeks ago, our Methodist district was going to have its 'Sectional' Youth Rally at our church. But when the minister announced it, he got confused: "We will be hosting the sexual youth rally this Friday evening at 7pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. It should be an enjoyable evening for all, and we can probably learn a lot from these kids."

Recipe for a happy marriage

Start with love, a generous share,
Then blend in warmth and laughter.
Add lots of happy memories that will last for ever after.
Place inside a sunny home filled with warmth and cheer.
Bake in joy and happiness and Serve year after year!

Serves: two and more

Seen on an old sampler

A Helping Hand

*There is much we can do just to brighten
This world of all take and no give,
There's a great deal that we can contribute
Through the everyday lives that we live.*

*By supporting one's elderly neighbours
Or through lending a hand in some way
It's by taking a bunch of spring flowers
To someone to brighten their day.*

*It's by sparing a few precious hours
In the service of those most in need
It's all about setting a standard
And trying to give others a lead*

*It's the way that we tend to treat others
And help and aid folks in distress
In the care and assistance we offer
That will set us apart from the rest.*

*The choice that we face is quite simple
The rewards plain for all men to see
As you did all of this to my brother
Then said Jesus, you did it to me.*

By Colin Hammacott

*(Colin Hammacott worked as an Assistant Clinical Director in the
NHS)*

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.*

