

St Andrew's Church

News



AUGUST 2020

**THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST ANDREW,
KYRENIA**

In the Diocese of Cyprus and The Gulf

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Reading in Acts 23 of Paul's adventures in Jerusalem we're struck by his courage and resourcefulness. He survives an attempted lynching and faces the mob down. He uses Roman law to escape a potentially lethal flogging (22.25). He's hauled up before the same Sanhedrin that had condemned Jesus and succeeds in setting the Pharisees and Sadducees against each other. Warned by his nephew, he escapes assassination by 40 sworn fanatics. Undaunted by authority, in the next chapters he defends himself against the high priest, the Roman governor and a king. Paul is formidable; this reads like the plot of an action movie.

Good films, though, are driven by a central idea. The hero might be saving the world, or rescuing a child or a friend, or standing up against evil. Whether they're naturally gifted or courageous or not, they have a cause which is worth running any risk and braving any enemy for. They might be very frightened, but their love outweighs their fear.

That's what it was like for Paul. In 2 Corinthians 11.16–33 he lists the terrible hardships he's suffered. He regrets nothing, because it was all for Christ.

When we are really committed to Christ, our fears may not lessen, but our courage will grow. God tells Paul, 'Don't be afraid! You have given your witness for me here in Jerusalem, and you must also do the same in Rome' (verse 11). Love was to conquer fear, even to the point of death.

Pray

God, when I face enemies and hardships, help me to think of Christ and his love for me, and

of mine for him. If I am afraid, let my love be stronger than my fear.

This reflection was written by Mark Woods, Bible Society's Editor

A Prayer for the People of Beirut

Light of new hope

God of refuge,
hear our prayer
as we hold the people of Beirut
in our hearts at this time.
Fill us with compassion
and move us to reach out in love.

In your mercy,
bring comfort to those who mourn,
healing to those who are injured,
shelter to those who are homeless
sustenance to those who hunger.

Give strength to those who are working
to rebuild shattered lives,
and protect those who are vulnerable
especially in a time of coronavirus.

Lead us in your ways
so that together we may bring
the light of new hope
wherever there is destruction and despair.

We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.



Beirut Emergency Appeal

On August 4, an enormous explosion destroyed the port of Beirut, the capital city of Lebanon. We have all seen the images. It's reported that at least 200 people have been killed and over 4,000 people are injured. These numbers are likely to continue to rise.

The devastation to the city and to the people cannot be understated.

The eastern part of Beirut's port has been totally destroyed, and buildings across the city have been severely damaged.

Hospitals have been heavily damaged, and they are overwhelmed with the number of people now needing medical help – unable to treat everyone. Some have had to be treated in the streets and many sent to hospitals outside Beirut.

The British Red Cross is working closely with the Lebanese Red Cross who have been at the heart of the response. **The immediate focus is on saving lives.**

People are dealing with injuries, loss of loved ones and damaged homes. This comes at a time when Lebanon is experiencing a serious economic crisis, and the tragic and complex challenges of the coronavirus pandemic.

The dust won't settle quickly or easily. People face a long, difficult road ahead. Please donate to our Beirut Emergency Appeal to save lives right now and help people recover.

<https://donate.redcross.org.uk/appeal/beirut-emergency-appeal>

The British Red Cross Society

A Prayer for the Oppressed

We pray for lives lost, families torn apart, lost and lonely, homeless, hungry and afraid.

We pray for factories destroyed in an instant, for machinery shattered and livelihoods ruined.

We pray for rescuers finding survivors alongside bodies, courageous, undaunted yet hopeful.

We pray for recovery in the years to come, for restoration, generosity, healing and closure.

John Birch



Heroes of the Faith: William Wilberforce

Over the summer I want to look at some of my favourite Christian heroes. One figure who stands high is William Wilberforce (1759–1833). Although he is remembered mainly for leading the battle against slavery, he did an enormous amount of good in many other areas.



Wilberforce was born into a Yorkshire family and after going to Cambridge University, where he seems to have done as little in the way of studying as possible, he became an MP in 1780. He was to later admit that at this time he had no other ambition than to promote his own career.

In 1784 his life changed when he converted to the Christian faith. He took his new relationship with God so seriously that he considered becoming a clergyman, but accepted advice to stay in politics. He soon became involved with other Christians who were determined to work out their faith in changing society for the better. For many of them the pressing issue of the time was the abomination of

slavery and the evil trade associated with it. Wilberforce joined them and, gifted with eloquence, he became the champion of the anti-slavery cause and made it his life's mission. Although bitterly opposed by those who had interests in what was a very profitable business, Wilberforce persistently introduced Bills from 1789 onwards to abolish first the slave trade and then slavery itself. Despite defeat after defeat he persisted until finally, in 1833, just three days before his death, the British government passed the Bill to abolish slavery. His lifelong battle had been victorious.

Wilberforce was also involved in many other social issues: he campaigned on behalf of single mothers, orphans, Sunday schools, juvenile delinquents and children employed as chimney sweeps. He helped set up many organisations such as the Church Missionary Society and the British and Foreign Bible Society and was a founder member of one of the first charities against animal cruelty, what is now the RSPCA. Although it has what is now an unfashionable title, his Society for the Suppression of Vice stood against many of the social evils of his day (and, sadly, ours): drunkenness, corruption, prostitution and animal cruelty.

In these days, when every figure of the past is scrutinised by whatever standards are currently held, there are those who might find fault with Wilberforce. He was as much a man of his time as we are of ours, and on many social issues was very conservative. Yet, as he would be the first to agree, the ultimate issue is not how any of us measure against the fluctuating and ever-changing standards that our culture creates, but how we measure up against those of God. Indeed, if we are to condemn, we should remember that to judge is to be judged. If we point a finger in accusation it means three fingers point

back at us. After all, it is not as though we live in a time of no evils or injustices. Were he alive today, I think Wilberforce would be a busy man.

Let me suggest five things that challenge me about William Wilberforce.

1. *He applied his faith.* As many Christians have done, before and since, he could easily have separated his spiritual life from his daily work. He didn't. With Wilberforce there was a wonderful harmony between what he believed and what he sought to achieve.
2. *He served in costly leadership.* A small, frail man with poor health, Wilberforce willingly took on a role that he knew would make him a target. We may view him as little short of a saint today but for many of his contemporaries he was a man of dangerous ideas who deserved to be criticised and obstructed. He paid the price for leadership.
3. *He had determination.* Wilberforce persisted in his battle against slavery, not just for months or years, but for decades. He realised his calling and he stuck with it. His was truly a 'purpose-driven life'.
4. *He had wisdom.* Wilberforce was a strategic thinker, sought the support of others and built friendships and alliances from as wide a circle as possible.
5. *He guarded his spiritual life.* With all his involvements and activities, Wilberforce could easily have had his faith crushed under the weight of his duties and responsibilities. Yet he knew that only God could be the source of the strength he needed. To the very end of his life he remained permanently dependent on the grace of God.

William Wilberforce was an example of a true conversion to Christ. Today, some are cynical of an individual 'becoming converted' or being 'born again'. If any sort of change to faith is talked about, it's that of a gradual process or some sort of 'spiritual journey'. The unarguable reality with Wilberforce is that he did undergo a dramatic transforming conversion. He reminds us that conversions do happen, and they can have remarkable effects.

Finally, given that Wilberforce was already a Member of Parliament when he converted to the Christian faith, it inspires me to pray for the same thing to happen to today's politicians.

J. John
Reverend Canon
www.canonjjohn.com



Still

by Jackie Kay

So still, so still, still, still
My mother says down the line from Glasgow
As if, from her Care Home window,
She sees the eerie worry of the world;
the chill,

The deserted squares, the empty streets,
The half-shut bars, sad theatres,
Packed hospitals, gold-dust ventilators
School kids in lockdown, no exams to meet...

The whole world is going down, she said,
And I'm not going to Hell. Well, still.
We'll have to take each day, be grateful
Thankful for small mercies, the three crows
on the wall.

See the silver linings till we meet again, she
said,
Yes, I said, but she couldn't hear a single
thing I said,
Except when I shouted I love you. I love
you, precious,
she said. Then the line went dead.

Comfort Zone

Jason Paul Klenetsky

Words are in my comfort zone
My home away from home
When written they can convey
And express what's the unknown
Whatever it is we're feeling
Or sentiments not shown

Dispersing all of my emotions
But not with speech or tone
If only to make connections
So as not to feel alone
And harness all of my energy
To which I'm seldom prone



News from The Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East

Queen to honour Rev'd Canon Faez Jirjees of St George's Baghdad

This week we celebrate with Faez and his family and share in honouring his inspirational work in Iraq, across religious boundaries.



The Rev'd Canon Faez Jirjees of St George's, Baghdad has the award conferred on him by the Queen of an MBE. The citation makes reference to his 'services to the Anglican,

Christian, and local community in Baghdad'. Faez has now been recognised by both the British and Iraqi governments for his service and ministry at St George's Church and clinic. Through Faez's extraordinary reconciliation and humanitarian work, he has developed excellent relationships across religious and civic sectors.

Mike Simpson, FRRME CEO called Faez in Baghdad on Tuesday this week to express our delight that his hard work across religious divides has been recognised. Rev'd Faez sent these warm words to Mike after the call:

I want to express love and appreciation to her Majesty the Queen for honouring me with the MBE award for the humanitarian and spiritual work done in Iraq and the reconciliation among religions and different ethnic groups in Iraq, also for decreasing sufferings of others. This work has been done with the support of my Church, St. George Anglican Church and I would take this opportunity to thank the Most Reverend Archbishop Michael Augustine Owen Lewis, Bishop of the Diocese of Cyprus and Gulf for his moral support".

I also want to thank all the donors who donate towards the work of St. George's and the clinic through FRRME. I have a great respect for them. The donors have an essential role behind the scene to make that work recognisable. With your help we are able to respond to the crisis taking place in Iraq because of the bad administration which leads us to having one of the worst healthcare system."



FRRME provides the funding for the St George's medical clinic and the church's family relief programme. All the work at St George's comes under the auspices of the Anglican Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf.



WEBSITES

Why not "sign up" on the St Andrew's web site and you will automatically receive news, magazines, pew sheets etc in your In-Box?

St Andrew's Church: www.standrewskyrenia.org

Our Diocesan website is: www.cypgulf.org

Diocesan News

Archbishop Michael's gave his annual report on the Diocese to the Friends of the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf Annual meeting from All Hallows by the Tower on Monday 3 August 2020 (by Zoom).

Allow me this year – this extraordinary year, 2020 – not to dwell long either on the sadnesses of life in Cyprus and the Gulf during a time of pandemic or on obstacles overcome and opportunities seized. As I see it, no distancing is social, and separation is good reason to lament. The sadness and the disruption are real. So too is the increasing threat, largely from interrupted income streams and changing demography, to parochial and diocesan finances and therefore to the health and strength of our corporate Christian witness, worship, ministry, and mission. I do, at the same time, warmly acknowledge the resourcefulness of many in using new media, skilfully and with increasing sophistication, to offer congregations and others a measure of continued community even when in many places physical assembly is still not possible or is at least impaired.

Rather than taste and pronounce on either the bad fruits or the good fruits of the crisis in themselves, I intend simply to take matters of which I wrote in last year's report, before anyone knew of Covid-19 or Covid-anything, and comment on them as they stand now.

I began by taking it for granted that the Friends of the Diocese are always able to hold this AGM immediately before a eucharist of celebration, and in one another's presence. This year we worship non-eucharistically and remotely. It still falls to me to repeat thanks to All Hallows and to the Reverend Katherine Hedderly, hosts in this different but certainly no less appreciated way.

In 2019 I spent some time on political developments. Politics has not of course gone away but it is instructive to see that welfare

and even survival are talked of in terms wider than just parties and leaders. Within the countries served by our diocese I would, however, single out the irresponsible and tragic situation in the Yemen as the most egregious example of political highhandedness and callousness, grossly violating the majority of Yemenis; that, and the internal sclerosis and compromises of the public institutions of Iraq.

Moving on to the state of our parishes and congregations I rejoice in the ministry of Canon Paul-Gordon Chandler at the Epiphany, Doha, who has worked courteously, firmly, and imaginatively with those of goodwill in Qatar both before and during severe lockdown.

In Bahrain the Dean, Archdeacon Bill, tells me that community spirit remains good even in the midst of uncertainties. Julia and I were there in February and the beginning of March as measures started to restrict meetings and travel. Our visit to the Bahrain Formula 1 Grand Prix, and my call on His Majesty the King, were casualties.

We greatly missed being able to fly to Baghdad for Holy Week and Easter. Canon Faiz Jerjes was thrown on his own resources and naturally rose to the challenge. Since then, limited eucharistic worship has been possible for a small gathering of people living on or very near St George's compound and has indeed been transmitted on an Iraqi television channel. The School of the Redeemer also reopened for modest numbers but the kindergarten has so far stayed closed. I am delighted that Canon Faiz has now been appointed honorary MBE in the Queen's recent awards to foreign nationals, a telling recognition of, in the words of the citation, his services to Anglican, Christian, and local communities.

In Kuwait a core congregation meets by Zoom, as in many other locations throughout the diocese. For several of them I have preached and sometimes officiated, either in live or in recorded services.

Canon Andy and the Reverend Navina Thompson are to leave Abu Dhabi on 5 September. I have appointed Canon Paul Burt, formerly Gulf and regional head of the Mission to Seafarers, as resident interim parish priest there. Paul and Andy have already usefully begun in person the process of liaison and handover.

In mid-July I was able to travel to Dubai and the Northern Emirates, where I spent time with Canon Harrison Chinnakumar in Dubai and Frs Kent Middleton in Ras al Khaimah and Drew Schmotzer in Sharjah. Cautious reopening of compounds throughout the UAE had by that time begun, though with many conditions and provisos.

Contact with the Reverend Chris Howitz in Oman and some others at the Al Amana Centre has been maintained by conference calls.

Finally, on the Arabian peninsula it is extraordinary and moving that the work of Christ Church and its Ras Morbat clinic in Aden has persevered with only slight interruptions. The Yemen, however, racked as it is by several wars and conflicts, is particularly vulnerable to the ravages of the coronavirus, alongside other serious threats to the people's health.

There is nothing at present to record by way of news of church life in the adjacent Kingdom.

On the island of Cyprus, churches south of the Green Line including St Paul's cathedral have been able to function for some time now and all are doing so. Most used Zoom or another platform during lockdown. There are at the moment no licensed or permitted clergy resident in the northern portion of the island. The incumbency of St Andrew Kyrenia is vacant. Crossing the Line recently became possible for some after many months, but only for those able to provide documents demanded on each occasion – not always consistently – by those controlling the

barriers. Help from the United Nations presence has recently been sought.

Canon Andrew Mayes of Limassol retired in May and with his wife Ann was successful in travelling to the UK. His post has been advertised and shortlisted candidates will shortly be interviewed.

The elements of the Parish of Ammochostos in South East Cyprus are being reconfigured for practical purposes. It is hoped that Christ Church Ayia Napa can be combined as an incumbency with what is effectively a student chaplaincy at the Eastern Mediterranean University in Famagusta north of the Line. St John the Evangelist Deryneia, meeting in the Orthodox church of St Phanourios, now has Archdeacon Christopher Futchter as its Visitor and will look directly to him for oversight.

The discernment and testing of call to ministry continues, along with training and formation. A Bishop's Advisory Panel is planned for the autumn. A Ministry Summer School is scheduled for mid-2021. Canon John Holdsworth's work as Honorary Director of Ministry is greatly valued.

The wider Province is now without the Diocese of Egypt with North Africa and the Horn of Africa, which has emerged and been recognised as a new Province of the Anglican Communion, despite current agitation against it, for spurious and ignoble reasons, by non-Anglican Protestant interests within the Republic of Egypt. Our Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East is now therefore the three dioceses of Iran, Jerusalem, and Cyprus & the Gulf. I was able – just – to travel to Jerusalem in June to be one of the three co-consecrating bishops at the episcopal ordination of Hosam Naoum, Dean of St George's cathedral in Jerusalem, as coadjutor bishop with right of succession. It was a joyous occasion. Bishop Hosam will succeed the Most Reverend Suheil Dawani as bishop there, with the title Archbishop, next year.

Finally in this strange year 2020 I thank the Friends warmly, for the support they unfailingly give to the diocese generally and to me and Julia personally, in so many ways, and I pray for all of us to be given once more the blessings of unmasked social closeness and tangible eucharistic communion as the Body of Christ.

+ Michael Cyprus & the Gulf



Arabian Peninsula to Thames Estuary

The Reverend Charlotte Lloyd-Evans, currently serving at St Thomas Al 'Ain within the parish of St Andrew Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates, is to move to the UK to be Priest in Charge of All Saints Swanscombe and St Mary Greenhithe in the Diocese of Rochester.

Dates for her leaving this diocese and starting ministry in Kent are yet to be confirmed. Pray for Charlie, Gareth, and their family, for the people of her new parishes as well as Bishop James of Rochester, and for all at St Thomas Al 'Ain and St Andrew Abu Dhabi.

ALMOST 70 Salmabanu Hatim

I am a ripe mellowed fruit,
Almost ready to be picked,
And back to the soil.
Money to me is secondary,
My wants are now few,
Only my needs,
A little for charity, people in need
And for my family on festivals.
I have no expectations,
Even from my children,
Cause having seen many seasons,
I know expectations lead to bitterness.
I have stopped arguing,
I just nod to everything,
Then to do or not to do I leave the decision
on myself,
Though sometimes they call me stubborn,
I smile, greet and compliment everyone I
meet,
From a toddler to a villain,
After all a smile costs nothing,
In return most return the greetings,
Indulging and pampering an old lady.
I have stopped worrying and stressing about
other people's responsibilities
My shoulders are too weak to carry them,
Everyone onto his own,
No frustrations, only sublime peace.
Lastly I don't haggle with vendors over
prices,
Give big tips to waiters and delivery boys,
A smile on their tired faces makes my day.
Now, I enjoy several cups of tea reading a
newspaper or talking with friends,
Dozing while watching T.V,
Or having fun time with my grandchildren,
I have learned to retire from the fast track
life.



*A Letter from Pat
Etherington to the
Friends of St Andrew's*

Sat 8th August

Well Hello Again,

We got great news at the beginning of July, we were able to open the church again & start having services. We have to observe strict guidelines about distancing so it has cut our seating numbers by about half and we have a said service, no music.

The Rev'd Justin Arnott was able to cross the border from the South as he has a Republic of Cyprus permanent resident pass and he conducted our services on both the 5th and 12th of July. He then had 2 weeks holiday but was able to conduct our service again last Sunday Aug 2nd.

I've listened to some lovely services over the last few weeks and watched some as well. I decided last week, after I had joined in with Songs of Praise, how fortunate the people who normally reside either side of me were to still be in the UK, as I am not blessed with a good singing voice and I had certainly let it rip whilst singing along with the programme.

Everything here is getting very brown and weary looking, including me. The pots are fine providing I don't forget to water them every evening. Walking the coastal path is only do-able before 6am, or from about the same time in the evening. I take part in the evening shift as the morning one is mostly dog walkers.

We have got a few cases of Covid 19. again since more planes have been coming in after the country having been free for several weeks. Most people are very good about wearing their masks and the shops all have notices up stating no admittance without one.

The absence of tourists is very noticable and one wonders about the long-term feasibility for some of them.

Like a lot of people here I have missed seeing my son and grandchildren this summer although they have sent me video's etc. so that they won't have grown so much that I don't recognize them. Thank goodness for What's App. etc.

I think that's about it for now after a very quiet month.

Love from Cyprus and Keep Safe.

Pat E.



August 15

Saint Mary the Virgin

The Collect O God, you have taken to yourself the blessed Virgin Mary, mother of your incarnate

Son: Grant that we, who have been redeemed by his blood, may share with her the glory of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus

Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*



Luke 1:46-55

Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

for he has looked with favour on the lowliness
of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call
me blessed;

for the Mighty One has done great things for
me,
and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of
their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their
thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,

according to the promise he made to our
ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."



SAILOR TO PRIEST VIA GERMANY, JAPAN AND SUEZ

The Revd John Davies

Locum at St Andrew's on several occasions,
the most recent

being for four
months during
2013, the year
of our
centenary.

Perhaps you
remember him
and his wife
Anne.



John was Team Vicar of Littleham back the
1980s. He was recently due to speak at the
Men's Breakfast at his old parish, but that
became an early casualty of the 'Lockdown'.
However, in preparation he had produced a
series of articles about his life which I propose
to reproduce here in a serialised format.

Final Part of John's Story

We got a house at South Hinksey between the
city of Oxford and Ripon Hall on Boars Hill. I
was at the college for breakfast and left after
evensong and supper so there was little time to
help at home. With three boys at school in
Oxford Anne was unable to start teaching.
Most of the students were graduates doing the
two-year course for ordination. For others the
Principal preferred the King's College London
course to that at Oxford, so a small group of us
read for the London Bachelor of London
degree as external students. At the end of the
year I was the only one to pass. The college
couldn't run to individual tuition so most of
my academic input was from Oxford. I had
access to any lectures or seminars in theology
and philosophy faculties. It was a great
opportunity to hear leading scholars of all
denominations, though not always relevant to
my syllabus. I was already curate of the City
Church of Oxford when the results came. I
had failed two papers.

In the tower, now the parish office, Archbishop Cranmer and two other bishops were imprisoned before they were burnt at the stake outside. On the pulpit was a small plaque to say that John Wesley preached his first sermon here on becoming a Fellow of Lincoln College, our Patron. I was about to become Curate in charge of Bladon, where Churchill had recently been buried. The Bishop and Vicar couldn't agree who was to pay the stipend, so for six months I was unemployed and looked after the boys and house while Anne started teaching.

In 1973 I became vicar in the new Team Ministry at Windsor. The Rector was a naval reservist. Going over the assault course at Lympstone had put him in hospital for some weeks and I was left to organise three large churches and chaplaincies at the hospital, two barracks and several schools. Holy Trinity, where I lived in the Rectory, was the garrison as well as parish church. It seated 1200 and was full on Remembrance Sunday, admission by ticket. One year the Archdeacon failed to turn up and I had to preach impromptu. I was chaplain to the Guards battalion who alternated duty at the castle with service in Ireland. The Diocesan Youth Officer ran sailing weeks in the Channel for teenagers: I was one of his skippers. Anne taught at a local school and took over when the head was involved in an accident. We didn't see much of each other.

Then to Hagley, ten miles west of Birmingham, as Rector. We had two churches, a curate, a non stipendiary, a retired and four Readers. More than 200 were in the Women's Fellowship. We majored on youth with a group for each year from 12 to 17. One bumper year 50 were confirmed, including adults. Anne did not teach, she became involved with Abbeyfield, providing sheltered accommodation for the elderly. She found a large house going cheap as it was haunted and got the local vicar to exorcise it. She made frequent trips to visit her parents in

Eastbourne. Her stepmother was house-bound and her father was finding it difficult to cope, so they came to live with us.

Retirement was on the horizon. Several reasons aroused my interest in an advertisement in the Church Times for a Stewardship Advisor at Exeter combined with Team Vicar at Littleham and was later elected Chairman of Churches Together in Exmouth. I renewed my interest in sailing and organised youth sailing weeks with boats and skippers from Exe Sailing Club.

Retiring in 1992 at the age of 65 we bought a flat in an old house on the riverbank above Topsham. My gratuity bought a small yacht in which I visited most harbours in the west Channel. Anne preferred marinas in Brittany. When at home Sundays were usually filled taking services.



Brigadier Nigel Speller, the full time Stewardship Advisor, was also the link with our companion diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf. When they needed locums for vacancies

or leave he tried to fill them, often with me. Famagusta was followed by several in Kyrenia in the Turkish sector where we celebrated our golden wedding anniversary.



The start of the second Gulf War found us in Kuwait. The church and vicarage were at the oil town ten miles from Kuwait City where we rented a chapel in the grounds of the American Missionary Hospital compound for a Friday service, mainly for professionals from Nigeria. One day I looked in the Bible shop and heard a large American tell a small Asian woman that unless she accepted the Lord Jesus as her personal saviour she was heading for hell.



At the new Catholic cathedral nearby, the Bishop was Maltese, so we had something in common. When we called on the British Ambassador he gave me a bottle of Gordon's gin from the diplomatic bag.

Anne began to show signs of forgetfulness. The following year she was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease but continued to come with me to Cyprus until it was too difficult to get her through Heathrow – I might lose her in the loo. I wanted to keep her at home but was

told this would be impossible. I am glad I did, though it was hard work and risky. We became ever closer. Once she broke the lock and was found on her knees in the main road to Exeter causing a traffic jam. She would not see carers. With the help of one of our sons we coped.

Anne died in May 2013. Her brains went for Alzheimer's research. Kyrenia was without a chaplain and it was their centenary: I went for four months. The church had been extended and a hall built to the design of a Muslim architect who gave his services free as it was for God. Filipino RCs working in the local hotels came to the 8 o'clock service. All denominations were invited. Three services followed in the afternoon, in Turkish, Russian and a noisy one for African students attending the local university.

Following the Remembrance service in church there was another outside the British cemetery. The local council closed the main road and provided chairs. A retired infantry Major organised the parade.



The Bishop presided at the centenary service with me in the hall linked by sound. It was attended by the Mufti of the mosque, Fuat Tosun, whom I had got to know. He gave me a fine copy of the Qur'an with an English translation and an appendix explaining that Jesus was honoured as a great prophet but not a God, so they could not accept the doctrine of the Holy Trinity as it contravened their belief in One God.



Back home there were several problems, cellulitis, hip replacement, then when doing a funeral interview I couldn't speak – a slight stroke, which left me with a hesitation in speech. I needed looking after and put my name on the waiting list for Harding House, the Abbeyfield home in Exmouth where Anne had once been chairman. They had an unexpected vacancy: it was the apartment intended for the manageress. I moved in in 2018.

Joining the University of the Third Age I became leader of a group "A new look at Christianity and Other Faiths." At one meeting we looked at Richard Holloway, Bishop of Edinburgh and Primate of Scotland. He had resigned as he did not believe much of what his church was teaching – though he still believed in Jesus and his teaching. On another occasion John Saxbee was the subject. I had known him at Exeter when he was leading the South West Ordination course. After retiring as Bishop of Lincoln he wrote a book entitled "No Faith in Religion." Its theme envisaged two sides to Christianity, the administration needed by any organisation to state its purpose, authorise its officials, state its rules etc. This he called Religion, flexible to meet changing circumstances and times, but must never take precedence over Faith, the personal commitment to the teaching and person of Jesus Christ.

I found John Saxbee's book rang bells with me. Jesus was critical of the Religion of his time. He never called for belief in a doctrine, just belief in Me, nothing complicated, "unless you receive the kingdom of God as a little child you will never enter it." The key word is Love, the New Commandment – that you love one another. No one can deny that this belief is good. Jesus commended the Good Samaritan. I would accept anyone who believes in Jesus and follows his teaching as a brother or sister in Christ.



Friends and people of St Andrew's Church Kyrenia

GIVING

These have been difficult days, for so many very sad days and they continue. We pray for all those who are serving communities in the many countries around the world where the Corona Virus is striking people down and for family and friends of people undergoing treatment. **We especially remember front-line workers who have put themselves in danger and all those who have died, may they Rest in Peace.**

Spring and early summer is a beautiful time in Cyprus and many Friends, regular visitors and tourists will have missed joining in fellowship at St Andrew's Church both at Easter and the weeks that followed. The lockdown in North Cyprus was strict, rigorously enforced but very effective. By the beginning of July there had been no cases of Covid-19 for two months, but everyone remains cautious of a second wave. So, on 5th July the doors of the Church opened with great caution for the first **time since the Thursday service on 12th March**. A restricted gathering joined a said Holy Communion service with no singing and seating spaced to ensure **Social Distancing**. The days ahead are unknown but we pray they will continue to bring freedom and the possibility of travel **to and from** the island. The deepest wish of us all, is that the day will soon be here when we can come together with freedom in our

beautiful church once again to worship our Lord in fellowship and song.

Each week the service sheet is posted on the Church web site and there are details of how to receive the Thursday Praise service prepared by Steve Bishop and sent out with encouragement for you to sing to music on *Youtube*.

Of course, the closure of Church and the absence of visitors has left St Andrew's without the normal generous Easter and spring collections. If you wish to make a donation from wherever you are to support the work of the Church, full details are available on the website giving page. Details of how to make payments to the Church UK Charity Bank account by Cheque or bank transfer are listed. Regular monthly Standing Order donations enable budgeting of church finances. Donations can be gift aided. Contact the gift aid officer at giftaid@standrewskyrenia.org

We have recently introduced a **new** simple method of making small SMS donations to St Andrew's for UK mobile phone users, similar to that used for appeals on TV in UK.

Text **KYRENIA** to **70085** to donate £10 to St Andrew's

With a UK mobile phone, in the UK or anywhere you are able to roam with your UK mobile including North Cyprus, Text KYRENIA to 70085 to donate £10. Texts cost £10 donation plus the cost of one standard rate message. The charge will appear on your telephone bill. Repeat donations are possible to a maximum of £30 with up to three messages in one day.

SMS donations can also be Gift Aided.

A reply message acknowledging and thanking you for the donation will be received inviting you, if appropriate and you are able, to send us your Gift Aid details to enable St Andrew's to make the GA application on your behalf.

You may ask what we do with your financial donations. In addition to keeping the church alive, in recent years the St Andrew's community have made generous donations to local charities including Tulips, The Women's Refuge, The Sarioğlu Foundation, Karakum Special Needs School and internationally to The World Day of Prayer.

Thank you so much for your support.

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Please remember to inform the Wardens if you know of someone who is unwell or in hospital. We often hear people say, 'I thought you knew'. It is better that we hear several times than not at all.

MORNING PRAISE

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

After five months(!) of weekly Morning Praise E-Services, the service next week (30th July) will be the last one. Thank you for all the emails of encouragement, appreciation and suggestions. Although we would rather not have to travel during the pandemic, Sally & I will be spending August in the UK as we have a number of close family with serious health issues.

Provided we are able to negotiate the flight and border restrictions at the time so that we can get back to the TRNC, we hope to restart the mid-week 10am Morning Praise Service at St Andrews from Thursday 10th September.

The weekly Ozankoy Homegroup will restart 10am Tuesday 22nd September, resuming our interrupted discussions around the New Testament letter to the Galatians.

May you know God's love, peace and joy every day.

Yours in His service

Sally & Steve

Working from home but missing the train journey



*Diocesan PRAYER
Diary for August*



Mission to Seafarers Bahrain: *The mission agency, funded entirely by voluntary donations and legacies, offers a comprehensive ministry of care to all who live and work at sea. There are seafarers' centres in 121 ports around the world.*

We praise God that the doors remain open for the services to the seafarers. We thank God for the full support from the General Organizations of Sea Ports in Bahrain. We pray and hope that the General Organizations of Sea Ports may establish welfare centres in three other ports where we do not have any welfare facilities. We pray for the care takers in the two Seafarers' Centres and the Customer Service

St Bartholomew's Day 24th August



Bartholomew is a difficult saint to celebrate because we know hardly anything about him. Bartholomew lived in the first century AD and was one of the Twelve Apostles of Jesus Christ. He was introduced to Jesus Christ through Philip and is also known as "Nathaniel of Cana in Galilee," notably in John's Gospel. Upon seeing Nathanael, Jesus said, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" He may or may not be the same person as Nathaniel –scholars argue the one way and the other– so these two men, Bartholomew and Nathaniel may be the same person.

Ancient writers on the history of the Christian faith write that Bartholomew was an apostle to India – possibly is the region of Mumbai (Bombay). Along with his fellow apostle Jude, Bartholomew is reputed to have brought Christianity to Armenia in the 1st century.

When the 2nd-century teacher St Pantaenus of Alexandria made a visit to India, he found a Hebrew copy of The Gospel According to Matthew, which had been left behind there by Bartholomew. Traditionally, Bartholomew also served as a missionary to Ethiopia, Mesopotamia, Parthia (in modern Iran), Lycaonia (in modern Turkey), and Armenia. The apostle is said to have been martyred by flaying and beheading at the command of the

Armenian king Astyages. His relics were supposedly taken to the Church of St. Bartholomew-in-the-Tiber, Rome.

He became the patron saint of Leather workers and in painting and sculpture, he is often represented as holding a knife, with his own skin neatly draped over his arm. Bartholomew has also always been associated with healing, so a number of hospitals are called after him.



The flayed Bartholomew can be seen in Michelangelo's Sistine painting of the Last Judgement. He is holding his skin. The face on the skin is generally considered to be a self-portrait of Michelangelo.



Prayer for a Pandemic

The doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked (John 20. 19)

Ever-present God,
be with us in our isolation,
be close to us in our distancing,
be healing in our sickness,
be joy in our sadness,
be light in our darkness,
be wisdom in our confusion,
be all that is familiar when all is unfamiliar,
that when the doors reopen
we may with the zeal of Pentecost
inhabit our communities
and speak of your goodness
to an emerging world.
For Jesus' sake.

Amen



It occurred to Pooh and Piglet that they had not heard from Eeyore for several days, so they put on their hats and coats and trotted across the Hundred Acre Wood to Eeyore's stick house. Inside the house was Eeyore. "Hello Eeyore," said Pooh. "Hello Pooh, Hello Piglet" said Eeyore in a Glum Sounding Voice. "We just thought we'd check in on you" said Piglet "because we hadn't heard from you and so we wanted to know if you were okay." Eeyore was silent for a moment. "Am I okay?" he asked eventually, "Well, I don't know, to be honest. Are any of us really okay? That's what I ask myself. All I can tell you, Pooh and Piglet, is that right now I feel rather

Sad, and Alone, and Not Much Fun To Be Around At All.

Which is why I haven't bothered you. Because you wouldn't want to waste your time hanging out with someone who is Sad, and Alone, and Not Much Fun To Be Around At All, would you now?"

Pooh looked at Piglet, and Piglet looked at Pooh, and they both sat down, one on either side of Eeyore in his stick house.

Eeyore looked at them in surprise. "What are you doing?"

"Were sitting here with you," said Pooh, "because we are your friends. And true friends don't care is someone is feeling Sad, and Alone, and Not Much Fun To Be Around At All. True friends are there for you anyway. And here we are."

"Oh," said Eeyore. "Oh." And the three of them sat there in silence, and while Pooh and Piglet said nothing at all; somehow almost imperceptibly, Eeyore started to feel a very tiny little bit better.

Because Pooh and Piglet were There.

No more; no less.

(A.A.Milne)

Check on your friends. My Bible reading today was in Job. It says ... "Then they sat on the ground with him for seven days and seven nights. No one said a word to him, because they saw how great his suffering was." (Job 2:13)

Let's remember, well done is better than well said. Sometimes it's not your prose, but your presence that makes all the difference.

"Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and with truth."

(1 John 3:18)

Whether you are Eeyore, Piglet or Pooh, we NEED each other.

(E H Shepherd)

More Notes from Kent



At this time in UK we are seeing the rules on lockdown chopping and changing, ebbing and flowing as areas, rather than the whole country become restricted to isolate again.

The weather (sunshine here in Kent), the opportunities to eat out, go for a drink again, increasing the size of 'bubbles' and more reasons I'm sure, have all conspired to make some people drop their guard and think that life has returned to normal and 'bang' that little virus monster has crept back again! So far Kent seems to have behaved itself.

I ventured to the opticians this month to have some prescription reading glasses. I have been using those "off the peg" cheapies, but whether it's because I'm using them more often, I've found that the frames seem to crack easily and trying to glue them together doesn't work! Well, what did I expect for a tenner!

Anyway when I arrived at the car park I didn't have much change as we are all paying for things "Contactlessly" over here. So, I walked over to the pay station to see if I could pay using my phone, which I could. I'm telling you all this trivia because sitting on the floor next to the pay machine was a young man who looked like a homeless person. "Can you spare any change?" he said as I approached. This rather disturbed me because he was very close to the machine and not wearing a mask. From his point of view it was probably a good spot to get donations as most people approaching him were reaching for their purses or wallets. I'm afraid I muttered something about not having change, booked my car in by phone and walked away feeling guilty and agonising over why I had not given him anything.

Anyway, back to the opticians. When I made the appointment I had been advised to wait outside the shop until the appointed time when someone would come and get me. This duly happened and the assistant who came was masked and gloved as you would expect and she also wore a clear vizor over that, taking no chances. I was disinfected before starting to choose frames, I'd had my eyes tested earlier in the year so I didn't need to go through that. The assistant brought me a nice selection of frames to try after telling her what I might like and I narrowed it down to two pairs (Buy one, get one free!). The rejected frames were put into a large plastic tub for subsequent cleaning before going onto the shelves again. What a lot of extra work people are having to undergo now to keep us safe. When my new frames are completed they will be posted to me so that hopefully, I won't need to go to the shop again.

That same day I had a pedicure and manicure. My first since February which made it a real treat and the day was even more satisfactory as I was able to get my car cleaned while I was in the beauty salon being pampered.

Maybe earlier in the magazine you will have seen the article I researched on St Bartholomew. While I was reading up on him I came across a St Bartholomew connection near to where I am in Rochester.

St Barts Hospital and Chapel, Rochester

This St Bartholomew's is nothing to do with the famous hospital of the same name in London. However, it is one of the oldest hospitals in Britain, having been founded in 1078 by Gundulph, Bishop of Rochester, for the "poor and leperous". The original hospital building was in what is now Rochester High Street, but then it was just the road between Chatham and Rochester and was known as "Chatham Intra" (Chatham Without) as it was in neither town.

The only remaining part of the hospital from this period is the chapel which was renovated by Sir Gilbert Scott in 1896. The chapel is

currently looking for a new owner and the hospital has been sold to developers!



Interestingly, the local synagogue was built on land owned by the hospital and there is still a strip of land to the west of the synagogue which was the passageway used by the lepers to get to the hospital from the river landing place on the opposite side of the road.

Eating out with friends is one of the things I'm really missing about not being in N Cyprus. There are so many lovely restaurants to go to, some grand, some simple, some with lovely views, others with great hospitality and all with delicious food. I do hope not too many are suffering from lack of customers.

I had my first meal out since lockdown about two weeks ago. My daughter and I went to an area known locally as the Dockside, We visited a restaurant on the side of the marina called The Ship and Trades where we could gaze out at the many yachts moored there.



Across the river we could see Upnor Castle. Originally built on the orders of Queen

Elizabeth I in 1559 as a gun fort to defend her warships at anchor in the reaches of the Medway and Chatham Dockyard. The gate house and main body of the castle are usually open for viewing but not at the moment.



Just 6 miles away are what remains of another castle, the medieval Cooling Castle, now owned by musician Jools Holland. In the 16th century the use of gunpowder weapons against the castle proved devastating and now only the walls remain.



A century later a farmhouse and outbuildings were constructed among the ruins and today the farmhouse is Jools Holland's home while the nearby barn is used as a wedding venue.

! ? !

Have you ever been guilty of looking at others your own age and thinking, surely i can't look that old? Well.....you'll love this story!

“My name is Alice Smith and I was sitting in the waiting room for my first appointment with a new dentist. I noticed his dental diploma, which bore his full name.

Suddenly, I remembered a tall, handsome, dark haired boy with the same name had been in my secondary school class some 30-odd years ago.

Could he be the same person that I had a secret crush on, way back then? Upon seeing him, however, I quickly discarded any such thought.

This balding, grey haired man with the deeply lined face was far too old to have been my classmate. After he examined my teeth, I asked him if he had attended Morgan Park Secondary school .

'Yes, yes I did. I'm a Morganner!' He beamed with pride.

'When did you leave to go to college?' I asked

He answered, in 1965. Why do you ask?

'You were in my class!' I exclaimed.

He looked at me closely. Then the ugly, old, bald, wrinkled, fat, grey haired, decrepit, so and so asked..

'What did you teach?'"



Moist Chocolate cake

No eggs or butter!

This simple, delicious cake is easy to make and does not use eggs or butter. It can be completely dairy free if you use soya or almond milk alternatives.

Ingredients:

200 g of plain flour, sifted

200 g granulated sugar

75 g unsweetened cocoa powder, sifted

16 g baking powder

450 ml soya or almond or dairy milk

35 ml vegetable oil

1 tsp vanilla extract

icing sugar for dusting

Method:

1. Preheat oven to 160°C.

2. In a large bowl, combine the flour, sugar, cocoa powder and baking powder.

3. In a separate bowl, whisk milk, vegetable oil and vanilla extract.

4. Add the wet ingredients to the dry ingredients and stir with a wooden spoon until just combined. Avoid over mixing.

5. Pour the batter into a greased and floured 8 inch tin and bake for 40 minutes until a cocktail stick inserted in the centre comes out clean.

6. Cool on a wire rack and dust with icing sugar, or you can decorate it with chocolate icing, or a frosting of your choice.

Enjoy!

Stay safe and well!

God Bless You All

Anne

Count your blessings instead of your crosses;
Count your gains instead of your losses.

Count your joys instead of your woes;
Count your friends instead of your foes.

Count your smiles instead of your tears;
Count your courage instead of your fears.

Count your full years instead of your lean;
Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.

Count your health instead of your wealth;
Count on God instead of yourself.

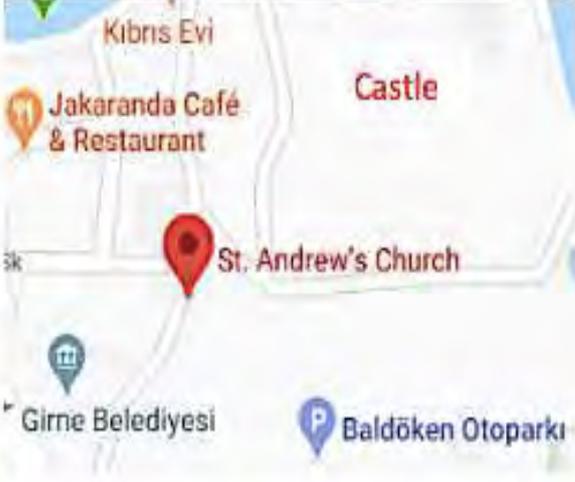
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