

MAGAZINE OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST ANDREW KYRENIA



In the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf



APRIL 2018



To love God, to love each other and to love our neighbour

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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

ST ANDREW'S SERVICE TIMES	
Each Sunday	
08.00am	Said Eucharist (Traditional)
10.30am	Contemporary Eucharist Service (Sung)
02.30pm	Russian Language Service
Each Thursday	
10.00am	Said Holy Communion (1st Thursday there will also be prayers for healing)
Additional Services	
Each First Sunday	
12.30pm	Fellowship Praise Service
Each Fifth Sunday	
10.30am	All Age Service with Eucharist



Each week refreshments are served in the Church Hall after the 10.30am service. All are welcome

Items for the next magazine should be sent to the Editor by **Monday 26th April 2018**. Email graniannie@hotmail.com



News from The Hermitage

We have just travelled the solemn journey with Jesus through Holy Week, it began with the Palm Sunday procession when we shouted "Hosanna" with excitement as the crowds did when they witnessed his arrival. How quickly those cries turned to "Crucify" - when Jesus did not meet their expectations, said and did things that were too uncomfortable. Palm Sunday reveals how fickle the human heart is, we can all testify to this, when people who are friends and supporters one minute suddenly lose their loyalty. Jesus knew the pain of betrayal by those closest to him, those whom he loved.

One week later we celebrated the huge festival of Easter, when our church was full to overflowing, beautifully decorated with flowers, lilies donated in memory of lost loved ones. Almost 130 people were worshipping with us on Easter Sunday, but the true celebration is the power of love over death. There is no resurrection without crucifixion, we celebrate on Easter Sunday the strength of God's love for us.

We remain now in Eastertide until the great celebration of Pentecost. May we all know the depth of God's love for us each and every day, triumphing over every aspect of our personal lives, our family lives and church life. May we know the strength and humility of God's love at work amongst us, looking out for, in anticipation, the coming of His Comforter, the Holy Spirit.

God bless, Wendy

Please remember to inform the Chaplain or wardens if someone you know is unwell or in hospital. We cannot contact or visit them [if they would like a pastoral visit], unless we are aware of their situation. We often hear people say, 'I thought you knew'. It is better that we hear several times than not at all.



NOTICE OF THE 2018 ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

The Annual Church Meeting will take place in the Church Hall on Sunday 22nd April at 12.00 noon. To be eligible to vote or stand for office your name should be on the Electoral Roll which will be displayed on the notice board in the entrance to the church and in the church hall. Application forms to be included on the Electoral Roll and to serve on the Church Council or for Warden appointments will also be available in the entrance to the church or by applying to the Secretary on office@standrewskyrenia.org. Completed forms must be with the Secretary by noon on Sunday 15th April 2018. Any points for discussion at the ACM must also be with the Secretary by the above date.

SITUATIONS VACANT

Church Warden
Church Treasurer
3 PCC Members

WE NEED YOU



Please prayerfully consider standing for one of these important roles in the life of the Church. A role description for each position is included in the next few pages

A brief guide to all things to do with the Annual Meeting and the Church council that are charged with the day-to-day running of the Church.

What is the PCC? PCC stands for 'Parochial Church Council'. The group that has the responsibility for managing the financial and legal responsibilities of the parish. It is also responsible for vision, staff management, building management, resources management and so on. Members of the PCC are elected for 3-year terms at the ACM.

What is the ACM? The ACM is the Annual Church Meeting. Actually it comprises of two meetings the 'Vestry Meeting' which elects the Church Wardens for the coming year and the ACM itself which is the business meeting of the Church. It's a meeting we're legally required to have and must take place before 30 April each year.

The meeting is only open to members of the Church electoral roll, and those present vote on the appointment of PCC members, and to accept the audited accounts of the Church. It is also an opportunity to catch up with the events of the last year and to explore the vision for the coming year together. Most of all it's a CELEBRATION of all God has been doing in the life of the Church as we look forward to the coming year.

What is the electoral roll? The electoral roll is the membership list of the Church. It is renewed every year just prior to the APCM and once every 6 years the entire membership list is deleted and everyone has to re-apply (this will next happen in 2019). Only members of the electoral roll are permitted to attend and vote at the APCM. The form is available in the Church.

What is a Church Warden? A Church Warden is a lay official in a parish church of the Anglican Church. Holders of these positions are leading members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). The role of Churchwarden is extremely varied but generally involves management, maintenance, and ministry. The rights and responsibilities of Churchwardens are laid down in Church Law. And as with most roles within a parish, this is a voluntary (unpaid) position. They hold the keys of the church so that they can obtain access at any time. There are some legal responsibilities in connection with the Sunday services and for keeping order in the church. Each warden will have her or his own particular areas of knowledge and interests; between them they should not only fulfil their formal duties but also deal with unexpected problems and add to the general well-being of the parish. These days we try to share those responsibilities out amongst the whole family of God, so while retaining the responsibility for things it doesn't mean the wardens must personally do everything that falls within their role.

What is a Church Treasurer? The Treasurer acts on behalf of the PCC and implements the financial policy and decisions by the PCC. The basic role of the treasurer is to:

- Ensure received income is recorded and banked
- Monitor all items of income and expenditure
- Pay and record all items of expenditure
- Keep proper books and records
- Prepare the annual accounts each year
- Assist the PCC in setting an annual budget
- Advise the PCC of the financial position against budget
- Provide general financial information to the PCC

The treasurer usually serves on the Standing Committee, Finance Committee and as an ex-officio member of any committee with a high impact on finance.

PCC members need to be regular worshippers and committed disciples of Jesus Christ, keen to promote the Gospel and the work of the church in the parish and beyond. They will want to contribute to the PCC's discussions, pray for its work, share in its responsibilities and play an active part in the church's life and witness. Every PCC member is charged with cooperating with the incumbent. At the heart of this is what Paul called our 'partnership in the gospel. (Phil 1:5)

How can I become a member of the PCC?

1. Pray for discernment.
2. Discuss your interest with others and seek their judgment.
3. Make sure you are on the Electoral Roll.
4. Find two people to nominate you (they must be on the Electoral Roll)
5. Enter your name, together with your sponsors names onto the PCC Application Form prior to the ACM.
6. Be prepared to work hard and enjoy being part of a creative team.

REMEMBER...



CHURCH MEETINGS ARE BRILLIANT

Signs of Hope?

Rev'd Andrew Ashdown and his (priest) wife Victoria (an Incumbent in the Winchester Diocese) will be with us on Sunday 13th May to join in worship and to speak on Syria at a Bring and Share lunch. The title of Andrew's talk is "Signs of hope? Christian-Muslim relations in Syria.



Historical and contemporary dynamics, in peace and conflict." This talk will illustrate current realities in Syria through the lens of the life of faith communities in Syria, both prior to and during the conflict.

Rev'd Andrew Ashdown has been an Anglican priest for 28 years and is currently undertaking Doctoral Research in the field of Christian-Muslim Relations in Syria. A regular visitor to Syria prior to the conflict, Andrew has visited the country 9 times in the last 3 years. He has travelled widely in the country both independently and as a member of delegations, visiting areas most affected by the conflict, meeting thousands of people from all communal backgrounds, including hundreds of internally displaced persons in different parts of the country. He has met many senior religious and political leaders, both government and internal opposition figures in the country, and in December 2016, he witnessed the final battle for East Aleppo, and was the first British person to enter the Old City of Aleppo, and areas of East Aleppo just hours after the last snipers had been removed. His research focuses on the religious dimensions of Syrian society and context.

Please put details of this visit on Sunday 13th May in your diary.

The Marvellous Food Bank

The good people of St Andrew's are continuing to help students in both Famagusta and Girne. If you can pop extra items into your shopping basket, bring them to church so that we can share with students in need. We will deliver these gifts and welcome anyone who can help us. Thank you.



THURSDAY LADIES GROUP

The Ladies Group meet at Kervan at 11am each Thursday.

All ladies are very welcome to come along.

CHURCH HALL ACTIVITIES

MONDAY		
TUESDAY		
WEDNESDAY	KYRENIA CHAMBER CHOIR	18.00 - 19.30
THURSDAY	REHOBOTH CHURCH	18.30 - 20.30
FRIDAY		
SATURDAY	SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS	10.30 - 12.00
	AA	13.00 - 14.00
SUNDAY	RUSSIAN GROUP	16.30 - 17.30
	(Alex)	

Lettings

Do you need a venue for your weekly or special event? Why not consider hiring the hall. We can also hire out tables, chairs, crockery, glasses, etc. For info on the above please contact Jewel Pearce on 0542 884 1805

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The Annunciation

This year, on Monday 9th April, is the day we celebrate The Annunciation of The Virgin Mary. Normally this event is celebrated on 25th March, nine months before Christmas Day as it is assumed that Jesus spent the usual nine months in the womb. However, as happened this year, this date fell during Holy Week when the days have a higher liturgical rank but rather than it just vanish from the calendar the celebration is transferred to the Monday after the Second Sunday of Easter.

Luke 1:26-38 The Rev. James Martin, S.J., a Jesuit priest asks “What does the Annunciation, such a beautiful and strange story, have to teach us today? What is it about the Annunciation that is so captivating?”

Why is this brief passage from the Gospel of Luke the subject of more artistic renderings—paintings, sculptures, mosaics, frescos—than almost any other passage in the New Testament, save the Nativity and the Crucifixion? One could easily argue that there are other incidents from the life of Jesus with greater theological importance—miracle stories, physical healings, sermons and the like. There are passages from the New Testament with greater relevance for the life of the church—the naming of Peter as the leader of the church, the feeding of the five thousand. One could say that the gospels contain stories of greater import for the spiritual life of believers—just think of the Sermon on the Mount. So why do those few verses in Luke exert such a hold on so many believers?

Perhaps because it depicts the dramatic entrance of the divine into our everyday world: God greets a young girl in her simple home in a small town. Perhaps because the passage highlights the special role of women in the divine

plan: Mary accomplishes something that certainly no man could do. Mary is someone whom many believers hope to emulate: humble, obedient, loving, trusting.

But I think that the Annunciation draws me for a different reason. For it seemed that in this gospel story Mary wonderfully exemplifies the role of the real-life believer. The Annunciation perfectly describes the growth of a personal relationship with God. And in doing so the story offers us something like a multi-faceted jewel: a microcosm of the spiritual life.

To begin with, the initiative lies with God. It is God, through the angel Gabriel, who begins the dialogue with Mary. ("Hail, full of grace!") As it is in our own lives, God begins the conversation. God speaks to us, and as with Mary — often in unexpected ways. We are surprised to find ourselves moved by catching a glimpse of a spectacular sunset on an otherwise cold and cloudy day, by holding one's newborn child, by receiving Communion, by listening to a church organ intone a favourite hymn, by getting an unexpected phone call from a good friend, by hearing a long-awaited word of forgiveness. And in these things, and in our emotional responses in particular, we are surprised to experience God's presence. To experience "something we know not what." Something outside of ourselves. Something transcendent.

But it is God who takes the initiative, and who surprises us with his presence, as he did with Mary.

When Mary first experiences the presence of God, she is fearful or "perplexed," as some translations would have it. How often this happens to us! When we first begin to wonder if God might be communicating with us through our emotions, our experiences, our relationships, our prayer — we often grow fearful, confused, abashed. Often we feel unworthy before the evidence of God's love, since the presence of the divine illuminates our own humanity and

finitude. This sense of unworthiness was experienced by our teachers in the Old and New Testaments. Consider Peter in the Gospel of Luke. After Peter and his companions have been fishing all night without success Jesus orders them to throw out their nets again. When their nets miraculously fill to the breaking point, Peter suddenly realises who it is who stands before him. Standing before the Messiah, Peter feels intensely his own unworthiness. It is a painful experience. "Depart from me," he says. "For I am a sinful man." Just as often we stand in awe of the majesty of God, the tremendous and fascinating mystery. That which both attracts and frightens us.

On a retreat some years ago I was struggling with my vocation as a Jesuit. While taking a walk, I wondered: How, as someone who takes a vow of chastity, would I ever experience the love that I desired? Would I be lonely? Was chastity what I was meant for? Suddenly (and without asking for it) I was flooded with memories from my years as a Jesuit: friends I knew and loved, patient and caring spiritual directors, warm and friendly community members, holy priests, brothers, sisters and laypersons—all whom I had met through my life as a Jesuit, who I had only met because I was a Jesuit. I understood this as a clear response to my questioning: my vocation is not only the way that I love God, but also the way that God loves me. It was a resounding yes from God. Not surprisingly, I was overwhelmed with gratitude. At the same time, the notion that the Creator was communicating with me in this direct way was disturbing, and yes, frightening. It was hard to reconcile the two emotions. This quintessentially human experience — fear, repeats itself frequently in Scripture. It is the experience of the shepherds in their fields in the narrative from Luke. "The glory of the Lord shone around them," says the New Revised Standard Version, "and they were terrified." Much better at conveying

this emotion is the King James Version: "They were sore afraid." In the light of this fear, the angel offers the shepherds the message that God offers all who respond in this manner: "Do not be afraid." Jesus, in the boat with a frightened and embarrassed Peter, says the same, "Do not be afraid, for now you will be fishers of people." God sees and understands our fear. At the Annunciation God understands Mary's reactions as well. So, says Gabriel, "Fear not."

Significantly, the angel now offers Mary an explanation, more detail, about what God is asking of her. (The word angel, by the way, is taken from the Greek angelos and simply means messenger.) "You have found favour with God," says Gabriel, "And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son..." Again, how similar to experiences in our own lives. As we reflect on our experience with God, it gradually becomes clearer what God is asking us to do. Holding a newborn child for the first time is a vivid experience of God for parents. So many parents have told me that one of their first reactions following the birth of a child, after gratitude, is one of fear. How will I ever care for this child? How will I protect it? What will I do if my baby gets sick? Over time it becomes clear what God is asking us to do: Love your child.

Then, in Luke's telling, Mary, a young, illiterate woman from a backwater town, questions. ("Can anything good come from Nazareth?" asks Nathaniel elsewhere) She pressed the Angel of the Lord for an explanation. "How can this be," asked the practical Mary to God's messenger, "since I am a virgin?"

This is the facet of the story that is most familiar to us: Who hasn't questioned the will of God in their lives? Who, when confronted with dramatic change hasn't questioned God's plan? Who hasn't said to God, "How can this be?" Who hasn't said, "Why me?"

Gabriel responds in the way that God often responds to us. After explaining to Mary that the "Holy Spirit will overshadow you" (which on top of everything else was undoubtedly confusing) the angel reminds Mary to look for signs of God's promise fulfilled in her life. In other words, to consider the experience in her life and in others: "Know that your kinswoman Elizabeth is in her sixth month," he says. "She who was once thought to be barren is now with child. For nothing is impossible with God." In other words, look around you. Look at what God can do, and has done in your life already.

Frequently in spiritual direction I meet people doubting that God is accompanying them during a difficult time. Perhaps someone has lost a job. Or a friend or parent has grown ill or old, or a relationship has ended, or they have grown depressed or discouraged. Even the devout begin to doubt the presence of God in their lives. It's natural. Usually all it takes for them to regain their trust is a simple question: "Hasn't God been with you in the past?" Often they will think for a while and say something like, "Yes, now that you mention it, each time I thought I couldn't go on, I found that something or someone helped me to do so. I really felt God was right there with me."

A few years ago I edited a book called *How Can I Find God?* in which I invited a number of contributors, from a wide variety of religious backgrounds, to answer the same question: If someone asked you how to find God, what would you say? The answer I found the most surprising was from, of all people, the superior general of the Society of Jesus, a Dutch Jesuit named Peter-Hans Kolvenbach. And what he said reminded me very much of the story of Mary and the Angel. From his office in Rome, Father Kolvenbach wrote that he was reminded of the story of a very holy abbot who used to speak frequently to his monks of finding

God, searching for God and encountering God. One day one of the monks asked if he had ever encountered God himself. After a bit of embarrassed silence, the abbot admitted that he had never had a vision or a direct experience of God. Yet he said, there was nothing surprising about that: God himself said to Moses in the Book of Exodus, "You cannot see my face." But God had also taught Moses that he could see God's back as he passed by: "You will see me pass." So looking back over his many days, the abbot could see very clearly the "passage of God" in his life. Father Kolvenbach concluded his meditation this way: In this sense, it is less a matter of searching for God than of allowing oneself to be found by him in all of life's situations, where he does not cease to pass and where he allows himself to be recognised once he has really passed: "You will see my back."

What a wonderful insight! Too many people think that the idea of "finding God" or "experiencing God" or "listening to God" is the province of mystics and saints. Not for me, they say. Or they expect some instantly transforming experience of voices or visions or emotions. But more often than not God is found by looking back over your life, or your week, or your day, and saying, "Yes, there was God." Finding God is often a matter of simply being aware, and even of looking back.

Often we are so mired in present-day concerns that we are unable to look or see or recognise God's activity in the here-and-now. Only in time are most of us able to look back and understand. But the more we grow in sanctity the more we grow in our awareness of God's presence in our daily lives. The saints, then, are those who are always mindful of God as they cast their minds over their past, as they live in the present, and as they hope in the future.

Gabriel, in essence, says the same thing to Mary. Look back over the course of your life. Look at what God has done.

And look at what God is doing. Just look at Elizabeth. "In her old age she also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who is said to be barren." And when Mary reflects on what she sees around her, on her own experience and knowledge of what has happened to Elizabeth, she is finally able to say yes to this strange request by God: "Let it be done to me according to your will!"

Mary does this in perfect freedom. As do we. God meets us in myriad ways, through nature, through prayer, especially through people. God invites us to join him, he invites us to follow him, he invites us to create with him. But the decision is always up to us. We are free to say yes or no. With her yes, with her fiat, her "let it be," Mary partners herself with the Almighty and is empowered to bring Christ into the world. With our own yes to God's voice in our lives we are also asked to nurture the word of God within us and bring Christ into the world—certainly not in the same way that Mary was, but in our own situations. Using our own talents and graces we are called to bring Christ into the lives of others.

In describing the arc of the conversation of Gabriel and Mary, the gospel of Luke perfectly describes the arc of the spiritual life: God initiates the conversation; we are initially hesitant and fearful; we seek to understand God's word in our life; God reminds us of our experience, and, free to choose, if we say yes to God, we are able to bring new life into the world.

But that's not the whole story. A few months ago I was discussing this passage with a friend, a woman religious. At the end of our discussion she said, "But if you're thinking about the Annunciation as it relates to the spiritual life, you're forgetting the most important part of the story!" I had no idea what she was talking about. "Then the angel left

her!" she laughed. "Isn't that always the way it is with us? After these encounters with God, however they happen in our lives, we are left alone to carry out what we are asked to do. Though God is with us still, frequently it seems very lonely. Who knows if Mary ever encountered God as deeply as she did before Jesus' birth?"

She was right: This is the hardest part: trusting in what God has told us. The part of faith. The part of living it out.



Edward Burne-Jones



Juan de Flanders



Arthur Hughes

This small selection of pictures of the Annunciation all include the depiction of lillies, a sign of the purity of Mary.

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Friends of St Andrew's

A letter from Pat Etberington

Hello Again,

Well, what a busy month March has been. We started off with the Women's World Day of Prayer on the second of the month and it went so well. The songs came across and sounded great, and for those of us who couldn't get their tongues around all the words we managed very well doing a la, la, la to the tune. And of course afterwards we had a very pleasant hour chatting, helped along with tea and cakes. The theme this year had been Rubbish and its effects.

Mothering Sunday came next and in spite of some very blowy weather we had plenty of posies for all the congregation (including the men if they wanted one). They were given out by two of the children and it was lovely to see their smiles whilst doing so. We also had quite a few visitors at the service which is always good.

Bishop Michael came to St Andrew's for Passion Sunday and that is always a pleasure, in fact I think there is a general feeling that we would like to see him a lot more often if that were possible. The readings took the form of an enactment and Bishop Michael played his part along with several of our congregation. They were Anne Lloyd, Diana Peek, Mavis Steele, Jenny W-G, Stuart Hillard and John Hodgson. Very well it sounded too.

On Palm Sunday most of the congregation took part in the procession round the outside the church carrying their Palm Crosses and it was a lovely service. Instead of the usual readings the story was dramatised and told through the eyes of two of the bystanders describing what their feelings were as the events took place. The part of a child was taken by Naomi, and Izzy, one of our crucifers took the part of Peter. It came across beautifully.

There was a daily Eucharist at 10 am during Holy week and on Maundy Thursday there was a Service which included Foot Washing and Stripping of the Altar and Night Watch.

This was held at 6pm. I always find this most moving. On Good Friday there was an opportunity to spend three hours at the cross starting at 12 noon, but people were able to come and go as their commitments dictated.

I think that is all of the March news except to say don't forget to look on the website as I'm sure you'll find some lovely photos there as well as in this magazine.

I nearly forgot to add for anyone interested that last weeks rain was just what my second row of peas needed. They have grown about a foot & are now in flower so fingers crossed for some good results.

Pat E.

You can keep in contact from overseas by becoming a member of the **Friends of St Andrew's**. It costs £30 per annum and the magazine will be posted to you. To subscribe, please contact us by post: **PO Box 171, Girne, Mersin 10, Turkey** or email at **office@standrewskyrenia.org**

USED STAMPS

St Andrew's collects used postage stamps which the charity **EMBRACE the Middle East** sells to raise funds for the Helen Keller Centre for the Blind in Jerusalem, one of the many organisations they support throughout the Middle East.

Special commemorative stamps are particularly desirable, as they receive many regular 1st & 2nd class stamps. If you have suitable stamps, please trim them and bring them to church. Post them in the box just inside the entrance door. They will be greatly appreciated. Thank You.




USED CARDS

Can you help our ladies who enjoy recycling greetings cards to raise funds for St Andrew's by donating your used cards to them. If you are visiting the TRNC and have room in your suitcase do bring them to the church.

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Calendar of Services and Duties - April 2018

	Service Time	Sidespersons	Readings	Text	Readers	Prayers	Chalice
1 April Easter Day	10.30am	Linda Lister and Amanda Warrender and Precious and Mercy	1st Reading Psalm 2nd Reading Gospel	Isaiah 25: 6-9 Psalm:118: 1-2, 14-24 Acts 10: 34-43 Mark 16: 1-8	Janet Jarvis Diana Peek Anne Keenil Clergy	Lee McHugh	Gloria Tattersall and Anne Lloyd
8 April Easter 2	10.30am	Myka Kalende and Gayve Lubo	1st Reading Psalm 2nd Reading Gospel	Acts 4: 32-35 Psalm: 133 1 John 1: 1 - 2,2 John 20: 19-31	Shane Barnes Izzy Pat Etherington Clergy	Mavis Steele	Kathleen Meredith
15 April Easter 3	10.30am	Stuart and Lyn Hillard	1st Reading Psalm 2nd Reading Gospel	Acts 3: 12-19 Psalm:4 1 John 3: 1-7 Luke 24: 36b-48	Amanda Warrender Gordon Hayes Ingrid Backhouse Clergy	Richard Dobbs	John Hodgson
22 April Easter 4	10.30am	Frank and Joan Gillin	1st Reading Psalm 2nd Reading Gospel	Acts 4: 5-12 Psalm:23 1 John 3: 16-24 John 10: 11-18	Carolyn Hayes Alan Carling Alan Peek Clergy	Anne Lloyd	Christine Dobbs
29 April Easter 5 (5th Sunday)	10.30am	Bob Taylor and Precious	1st Reading Psalm 2nd Reading Gospel	Acts 8: 26-40 Psalm:22: 25-31 1 John 4: 7-21 John 15: 1-8	Sue Carling Earl Moffett Gillian Hodgson Clergy	Gloria Tattersall	Pat Etherington

The Chaplain requests that all readers, intercessors and chalice bearers are at church by 10.15 at the latest on the weeks they are on duty for prayers before the service.

If you are going to be away and are unable to swap your duty please advise **Janet Graham**, email: (preferred) jgraham@serenos.net, mob: **+90 (533) 838 6143**.

If you do swap your duty please ensure that it is recorded on the master list in the Vestry.

Calendar of Services and Duties - May 2018

Date	Service Time	Sidespersons	Readings	Text	Readers	Prayers	Chalice
6 May Easter 6	10.30am	Linda Lister and Amanda Warrender	1st Reading Psalm 2nd Reading Gospel	Acts 10: 44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5: 1-6 John 15: 9-17	Jacqueline McIntyre Alan Peek Sandy Oram Clergy	Linda Smith	Mavis Steele
13 May Easter 7 Sunday after Ascension Day	10.30am	Stuart and Lyn Hilliard	1st Reading Psalm 2nd Reading Gospel	Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5: 9-13 John 17: 6-19	Rae Tilley Richard Dobbs Lyn Hilliard Clergy	Chris Penny	Anne Lloyd
20 May The Day of Pentecost Whit Sunday	10.30am	Bob Taylor and Jacqueline McIntyre	1st Reading Psalm 2nd Reading Gospel	Ezekiel 37: 1-14 Psalm: 104: 26-36, 37b Acts 2: 1-21 John 15: 26-27; 16: 4b-15	Shane Barnes Janet Jervis Alan Carling Clergy	David Wilde	Christine Dobbs
27 May Trinity Sunday	10.30am	Frank and Joan Gillin	1st Reading Psalm 2nd Reading Gospel	Isaiah 6: 1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8: 12-17 John 3: 1-17	Gordon Hayes Sue Carling Sue Walker Clergy	Edward Jervis	Stuart Hilliard

The Chaplain requests that all readers, intercessors and chalice bearers are at church by 10.15 at the latest on the weeks they are on duty for prayers before the service.

If you are going to be away and are unable to swap your duty please advise **Janet Graham**, email: (preferred) jgraham@erenos.net, mob: **+90 (533) 838 6143**

If you do swap your duty please ensure that it is recorded on the master list in the Vestry.



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This distinguished conference provides a platform for different opinions to be shared, and this year's speakers will bring a variety of diverse perspectives, often challenging one another, on how to keep Jesus at the center of our lives as it pertains to every aspect of life.

We invite you to register for the fifth "Christ at the Checkpoint" Conference which will take place in Bethlehem from May 28-June 1, 2018. The theme of this year's conference will be "Christ at the Checkpoint 5: Jesus Christ at the Center." Register now: www.christatthecheckpoint.bethbc.edu/register-now/

Come and see the Holy Land, and be challenged by the teachings of Jesus in the very land he preached them! For more information, please contact us at conference@bethbc.edu.




Dates for your diary - St Andrew's Music Week

June 7th at 10am - Choral Eucharist

June 7th at 7.30pm - Festival of Favourite Hymns

June 8th at 7.30pm - Choral and Organ Concert

June 10th at 10.30am - Festal Eucharist



The Women's World Day of Prayer

All God's Creation is Very Good SURINAME

This is an Ecumenical organisation embracing many denominations. Our church in Kyrenia has supported this day of prayer formally, many years and this year's service was held on Friday 2nd March at 3pm. The service, entitled "All God's Creation is Very Good" had been prepared by the Christian women of Suriname which is part of the Guianas of South America.

This theme happened to fit very well with the theme of this year's synod "Doing God, doing good". With the help of Jenny Worton-Griffiths the hymns and worship songs were practiced in advance of the service and the overall organisation was done by Sandy Oram. It was a well supported and blessed service which benefitted from a Reflection given by Linda Smith which is reproduced below.

All God's Creation is very good- the women of Suriname have given us a theme which focuses on Creation, and our responsibility to care for, and look after the Earth.

Suriname is a beautiful country, with a population of approximately 500,000. It lies in the north eastern part of South America, and is named after the Surinen tribe, one of the indigenous peoples. It is part of The Guiana's, an ecological region, within the Amazon.

Surrounded by lush vegetation, beautiful flowers and birds. We can relate to their country, as we are blessed with stunning mountain scenery, the Mediterranean Sea, spectacular Spring flowers and flowering trees and shrubs in our gardens, and in the areas around our towns. But, we, like them, face the consequences of man's greed, as areas that were once green, and an important part of the local ecology, are now flattened, to make way for building in North Cyprus.

In Suriname, illegal gold mining and deforestation have caused mercury pollution and damage to their environment. Although a small country, THEY are addressing their problems. Waste collection, recycling, composting and re use of materials are now improving their environment and ultimately will reduce greenhouse gases and global warming.

Teachers are playing a huge role in this task.

Have WE passed on to the next generations the wisdom to value all that we have? As Confucius said, if your plan is for 1 year, plant rice; if your plan is for 10 years, plant trees; if your plan is for 100 years, educate children.

Education is the key to sustainability of our Earth, as God intended it to be.

God's greatness is seen in all the world around us. Through the ages, man has taken on the responsibility, to be stewards of God's creation here on earth. How do WE use the resources around us? Do we use them wisely?

Those of us who were fortunate enough to have seen the latest series of David Attenborough's Planet Earth 2 could not have failed to be moved into some sort of action. Social media also reminds us through posts relating to pollution and sustainability, to play our part in whatever way we can, be it large or small. We CAN all do SOMETHING.

May I mention some of the things WE can do to help the environment?

- Wash and Re use our plastic food bags.
- Place our drinking water in metal containers, instead of buying small plastic bottles.
- Save water, turn the tap off during teeth cleaning.
- Pick up one piece of rubbish every day.
- Take our own cloth bags when shopping.
- Refuse unnecessary bags in supermarkets.
- Buy fruit and veg loose rather than prepackaged.
- Don't waste fresh food, buy just what you need.
- Buy local produce, thus cutting down the distance our food travels to get to our shops.
- Buy recycled paper when possible.
- Check the contents of your toiletry products. Plastic micro beads are added to many body scrubs - look for natural ingredients such as crushed walnut shells.
- Recycle, don't throwaway!
- Lobby local councillors and MP's to join the organisation called STOP CLIMATE CHAOS.

ENJOY Creation - take time to see Heaven in Nature, let us open our eyes to the beauty all around us and give thanks every day for our many blessings.

We, like the people of Suriname, live in a beautiful country that we received from our Creator. On the cover of our service booklets, we see the hands that receive the Divine gift and pass it on to the next generations. What a precious gift. Let us keep it as beautiful as we received it. As we think of, and join with, the millions around the earth who are celebrating and soul searching with us today, it makes sense that together, we CAN make a difference. LET's DO IT!

**All God's Creation is Very
Good
SURINAME**



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Diocesan Prayer Requests

During this month please add the following
Diocesan needs to your prayers.



Retreat Ministry: Pray for those who bring energy and depth to the work of giving others time and space.

Mission to Seafarers Cyprus: Please pray for all those who venture on the oceans of the world. Pray for the work of the Mission to Seafarers who serve them by offering care and service to all in need, regardless of nationality and faith who visit this island of Cyprus.

Rejoice in the planning and preparations for the new Centre in Limassol and all those volunteers who patiently support the work even in times of great challenges. May hearts be softened and justice prevail, so those who need help may have free access to the facilities to lighten their burden and raise their spirits.

Lord bless our efforts in building your kingdom and establishing your work. We pray for those who are caring for those whose lives face daily perils, on the seas of this world, so that we on land may enjoy the fruits of their labour, in bringing us all that we have. **Amen**

O most merciful redeemer, Friend and Brother, may we know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly, day by day.

Richard of Chichester (1197 – 1253)

25th April is The Feast of St Mark

The Collect Almighty God, by the hand of Mark the evangelist you have given to your Church the Gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God: We thank you for this witness, and pray that we may be firmly grounded in its truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Reflection on St Mark

Most of what we know about Mark comes directly from the New Testament. He is usually identified with the Mark of Acts 12:12 (When Peter escaped from prison, he went to the home of Mark's mother.) Paul and Barnabas took him along on the first missionary journey, but for some reason Mark returned alone to Jerusalem. It is evident, from Paul's refusal to let Mark accompany him on the second journey, despite Barnabas' insistence, that Mark had displeased Paul. Paul later asks Mark to visit him in prison, we may assume the trouble did not last long.

The oldest and the shortest of the four Gospels, the Gospel of Mark emphasizes Jesus' rejection by humanity while being God's triumphant envoy. Like one other Gospel writer, Luke, Mark was not one of the 12 apostles. We cannot be certain whether he knew Jesus personally. Some scholars feel that the evangelist is speaking of himself when describing the arrest of Jesus in Gethsemane: "Now a young man followed him wearing nothing but a linen cloth about his body. They seized him, but he left the cloth behind and ran off naked" (Mark 14:51-52).

Others hold Mark to be the first bishop of Alexandria, Egypt. Venice, famous for the Piazza San Marco, claims Mark as its patron saint; the large basilica there is believed to contain his remains. A winged lion is Mark's symbol. The lion derives from Mark's description of John the Baptist as a "voice of one crying out in the desert" (Mark 1:3), which artists compared to a roaring lion. The wings come from the application of Ezekiel's vision of four winged creatures (Ezekiel 1) to the evangelists.

Mark fulfilled in his life what every Christian is called to do: proclaim to all people the Good News that is the source of salvation. In particular, Mark's way was by writing. Others may proclaim the Good News by music, drama, poetry or by teaching children around a family table.

There is very little in Mark that is not in the other Gospels—but one passage is: "...This is how it is with the kingdom of God; it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land and would sleep and rise night and day and the seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how. Of its own accord the land yields fruit, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at once, for the harvest has come" (Mark 4:26-29).

GIVING

Here at St Andrew's we are working hard to be a church community that lives out its appreciation of, and awareness of, the goodness, generosity and the greatness of God. All forms of service, including our financial giving, are encouraged and developed on the basis of a response to God's call to us.

Our giving should be a prayerful and spiritual expression of all this, like giving a gift to a loved one. When we give we are not paying our dues, but engaging in an act of thanksgiving. Over the past few years we have seen the wider community join with us in giving to those who are needy throughout the world as well as locally. Of course we need financial contributions in order to sustain all that we do. Anything you feel able to give, however small, will be deeply appreciated and understood as encouragement to us to build this work here.

We are now a UK registered charity and we would ask those of you who believe in and support our ministry to change the way you give, and channel it through our charity. Regular giving no matter how small by standing order does facilitate forward planning and budgeting.

The St Andrew's Church Kyrenia UK Charity makes it easy to donate by:

- Direct Transfer to the bank account: details below
- Weekly envelopes in Church
- Regular giving by Standing Order:

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obtain an “envelope number” please contact our Gift Aid Officer John Worton-Griffiths, who will ask you to complete the Gift Aid Declaration on the Giving Form.

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