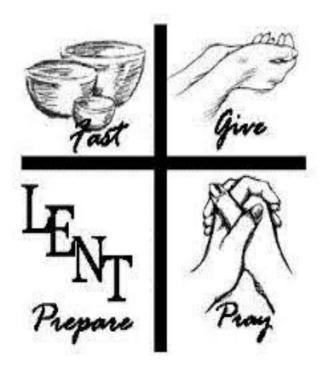


MAGAZINE OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST ANDREW KYRENIA In the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf



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

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ST ANDREW'S SERVICE TIMES

Each Sunday

08.00am Said Holy Communion (Traditional) 10.30am Contemporary Eucharist Service (Sung)

05.00pm N Cyprus International Fellowship Service

Each Thursday

10.00am Said Holy Communion

(1st Thursday there will also be

prayers for healing)

Each Saturday

10.30pm Seventh Day Adventist Service

Additional Services

Each First Sunday

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

05.00pm Evening Prayer at the Hermitage

Each Fifth Sunday

10.30am All Age Service with Eucharist

PALPHA

For information please contact Victoria Scurfield on 0533 820 8158

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



Dear Friends,

We are facing our penitential season of Lent which is marked by the solemn imposition of ashes on 14th February at 10 am. Following that, every Thursday, following the usual 10 am Eucharist we will follow the Lent course of "Broken", which is advertised elsewhere in the magazine. We are all, human beings, broken in one way or another. We are all in need of God's loving healing touch and presence in our lives at all times, not only when we are seriously ill. St Andrew's holds a monthly service of prayers for healing and anointing each first Thursday of the month, which may not be well known to everyone. Here following is an article which shows what we are doing in such a service. It should also point us to the season of Lent we are approaching, where in prayer and fasting we bring before God our brokenness for transformation. That transformation that is fully realised in the victory over death Christ achieved for us on Good Friday and celebrated with joy on Easter Sunday. May you all know the closeness of God's loving and healing touch at every stage of our life's journey. "For behold, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear in the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtle dove is heard in our land". Song of Solomon 2, 11-12.

The Unjust Judge and the Persistent Widow – Luke 18 v 1 – 8

The story of the unjust judge – it's only in Luke, I'm sure you've heard me say before, is known for his inclusion of women in his gospel as well as for his ability as a story-teller.

And this parable is most certainly quite a tale. You can just imagine how those listening to Jesus would be rolling their eyes as the story Jesus tells them unfolds. A widow, who by the social standards of the time, is the

bottom rung of the societal social standing – think of her like we would today consider a homeless street person – this nobody of a woman keeps showing up at court and is badgering a judge – a narcissistic atheist judge to boot, badgering him to the point where he gives her what she's been asking just to get her off his back. And he

gives into her not because it's the right thing to do to provide justice for this poor and oppressed woman, but because he's sick and tired of being pestered – yeah like that would ever happen, either then or now! The more likely scenario would be the poor woman would be thrown in jail by court officers, whether she was in the right or not.



But, Jesus tells his listeners, "Learn a lesson from this unjust judge." (v 6. nlt) If this self-centred, unbeliever of a judge really does do the right thing and gives this poor woman what she's been asking of him, because she refused to give up asking until she got justice (my translation), "don't you think God will surely give justice to (God's) chosen people who cry out day and night? Will (God) keep putting them off? I tell you, (God) will grant justice to them quickly!" (vs 7 & 8 nlt)

There are a number of ways we can unpack this, open it up and learn more about the relationship between God and God's people. The issue of justice of course jumps right out of the scripture; ie. That God is just and will respond fairly to those who are being unjustly treated. There is great solace in that, and we could work with this theme some more, but I'd like to leave that theme for another day. Because today we have a service of prayer for healing, with that in mind as I read this passage, another aspect of Luke's message really jumped out at me: Jesus told hem a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heat." (vs 1)

You know, if you're down and out sick – either in body, mind or in spirit – or if a loved one is ill – whatever it is – and it's been going on for a while we do lose heart, don't we? I think that's just in our human condition. We get despondent, we wonder: 'Will it ever get better, will it ever stop?', and sometime go so far as to ask if God is even there! We wonder why God's doing this to us, why we or the one we love, the one we care about, must go

through this, deal with it. Your mind can go round and round, questions after questions after questions, and I do wish I could tell you I had the answer! I could make one up, or give you platitudes, even find some scriptural references to quote, but it's one of the questions that humanity has had since — well, the dawn of humanity. And that makes it all the harder when things don't happen the way we hope, or we want them too.

And in the last century or so we've had so many medical miracles, and now we figure there should be a treatment or a pill for everything and presto, it's gone. We've become very demanding and expect a cure for all our ills — because so many things have been cured. And honestly, in our medical system today if you don't act a bit like the persistent widow in our parable, people really do get lost in the system.

Besides those clear cut medical issues. We also carry within us emotional, relational and spiritual distresses, or maybe hurtful memories, that really can impact us, they can and sometimes do follow us. They can affect our behaviour and relationships with others, and indeed at times quite deeply, things that a pill can't always cure, and these need healing too. They can even affect our relationship with our Lord.

What the scripture for today tells us is that whatever our distress is, we need to keep on praying, we need to be praying always and not lose heart. Why? Because God is there, God hears us and knows us and will answer us, and God is fair and just, even if it doesn't seem so while we're in the middle of it. How do we know? Because if a narcissistic atheist of a corrupt judge will respond to the persistence of a poor nobody of a woman, how much more will God respond to our prayers, we who are God's children!

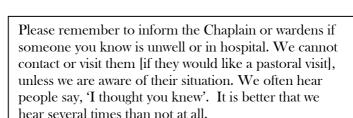
It is my hope that in having and participating in services of prayer for healing, they will help in this, help us to open ourselves to the healing power of God's Holy Spirit, to break down those internal barriers that we all have, those walls of protection that can even make it difficult for Jesus to come in. So, we come together in prayer in song, in the anointing of holy oil, all different ways that help us to open to the healing power of Jesus. We may not be consciously aware of how God is responding and most probably won't be instantaneous, like the miracles that Jesus performed in his earthly time. And yet, we come together as God's children, knowing that God hears us, and responds to us in all our imperfections; because God wants nothing more from us than for us to be whole, and to be at one with God. Persistence

in prayer not only mean that God will finally hear us, but also helps us to be receptive when God answers! Amen

more

God bless,

Wendy



Items for the next magazine should be sent to the Editor by **Thursday 22nd February 2018**. Email graniannie@hotmail.com



Broken - A six-week study course for Lent

The Study Course for this Lent will commence on Thursday 15th February immediately following the 10.00 am Eucharist which will be without homily during Lent.

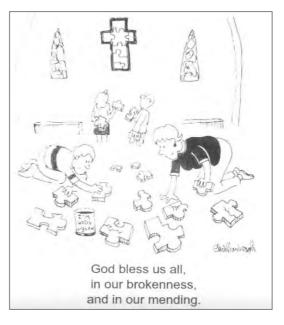
We will be using The TV series, Broken, written by Jimmy McGovern and starring Sean Bean which is set in an estate parish somewhere in the UK. The church used at the centre of the series is in Liverpool, but the series never explicitly states that this is where the narrative is set. The series focuses on the life and ministry Father Michael Kerrigan, a Roman Catholic, priest who, despite past trauma and anxiety about his own inadequacies, attempts to bring the light of Christ into the lives of the people amongst whom he ministers. The series portrays real life at its most gritty and unvarnished, and in doing so raises many questions along the way about how to live faithfully when life is very hard.

Canon Dr Paula Gooder, Director of Mission Learning and Development in the Birmingham Diocese produced the course after numerous conversations she had with people after the series aired.

Canon Paula says, "So many people commented that they thought it would make an excellent Lent or study course that I thought it would be interesting to have a go. I have shaped the course around the principles of the series itself – which raises far more questions than it ever answers. The

idea of the course is to provide the space for people to pick up the questions raised in the series and to explore how they might want to answer them."

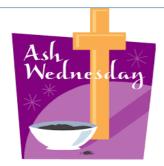
Do come along for what will be a challenging, thought provoking course.











Ash Wednesday, 14th February

To mark the beginning of Lent there will be a service of Holy Communion with imposition of Ashes at 10 am.

Dear Lord, As we enter this solemn and Holy season, we pray that you would send your Holy Spirit upon us that we might prepare ourselves for these coming 40 days of Lent. We seek to humble ourselves so that we can understand the magnificence of your love for us as you humbled yourself and gave your life on the cross that we might receive the gift of Eternal Glory with you. AMEN

CHURCH HALL ACTIVITIES

TUESDAY **TURKISH FELLOWSHIP** 19.30 - 21.00WEDNESDAY KYRENIA CAMBER CHOIR 18.00 - 19.30THURSDAY REHOBOTH CHURCH 18.30 - 20.3019.00 - 21.00FRIDAY FRIDAY WORSHIP (Loudron) SATURDAY SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS 10.30 – 12.00 AA 13.00 - 14.0016.30 - 17.30SUNDAY **RUSSIAN GROUP** (Alex)

For any further information about any of the above please contact our Hall Administrator, Jewel Pearce on 0542 884 1805

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.

Just ring 0542 884 1805



Friends of St Andrew's

A letter from Pat Etherington

Hello Everyone.

Well as it is now the end of January, the Christmas decorations have all been carefully taken down and put back in their boxes, cards collected and earmarked for recycling and as usual everything looks rather bare. I also seem to spend ages removing bits of Blu Tack I missed the first time around, but, I don't miss having to keep going around and standing up all the cards every time a door opens or closes and causes a draught.

As a start our extra celebrations this year as we had a Scandinavian Christmas Service on the 9th of December. It was organised by members of The Foreign Residents Society. Anders Berglund and Ingvar Hindenes were the officiating priests and the choir from the Scandinavian Church in Ayia Napa came and sang. The service was held in their own language. Afterwards everyone was invited to partake of the mulled wine and refreshments.

Our Nine Lessons and Carols by Candlelight service was on the 17th and is a lovely time to be in church with all the different people reading.

As Christmas Eve fell on Sunday we had two services. As usual the Midnight Mass had visitors attending to see Baby Jesus in the crib.

I'm glad to note that this year the weather was much kinder than was the case last year.

On Christmas Morning the Festal Eucharist was held at the usual time of 10.30 am, and after the service many greetings were exchanged and some returned home to enjoy their traditional turkey lunch whilst others had

elected to let someone else prepare theirs and ate in one of the many hotels. As is usual, quite a number of the congregation had returned to the UK to celebrate with family there.

I had a disaster during January with my Mange Tout peas as something had eaten one complete row of the two I had planted. I couldn't believe my eyes when I went out that morning to start the car. I shall just have to replant and hope they all come up okay before it gets too warm for them to have pods.

Whilst out walking on January 22nd, I had my first glimpse of almond blossom this year. I can't remember ever seeing it this early before. It was in quite a sheltered place so of course that would have helped.

I notice there was a mention of Women's World Day of Prayer on last week's pew sheet and this year the service has been designed by the Ladies of Suriname and will take place at the beginning of March.

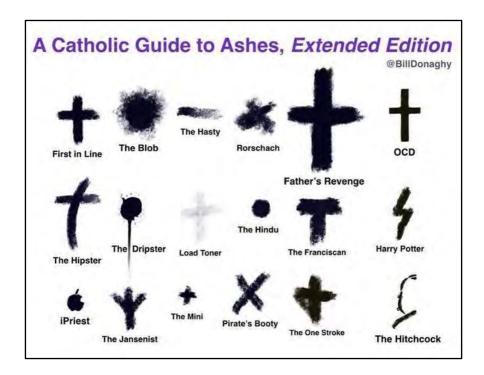
I think I have told you all my news at the moment. Do take care during the bad weather.

Much Love.

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



Spick and span in Aden

Christ Church Aden and its integral eye clinic have been cleaned and repainted under the watchful eye of Mansour, our meticulous and devoted local administrator, who also oversaw necessary repairs after the fierce crossfire of recent years. There's more to do but it's looking good.



Please remember them in your prayers.

Calendar of Services and Duties - February 2018

	ı		1	
Chalice	Precious	Mavis Steele	John Hodgson	Stuart Hillard
Prayers	Chris Brassey	Anne Keevil	Gloria Tattersall	Mavis Steele
Readers	Carolyn Hayes Alan Peek Pat Etherington Clergy	Chris Brassey Gloria Tattersall Gordon Hayes Clergy	Jenny Worton-Grifffiths Frank Gillin Rae Tilley Clergy	Diana Peek Amanda Warrender Shane Barnes Clergy
Text	Proverbs 8: 1, 22-31 Psalm:104: 26-37 Colossians 1: 15-20 John 1: 1-14	2 Kings 2: 1-12 Psalm:50: 1-6 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6 Mark 9: 2-9	Genesis 9: 8-17 Psalm:25: 1-9 1 Peter 3: 18-22 Mark 1: 9-15	Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16 Psalm:22: 23-31 Romans 4: 13-25 Mark 8: 31-38
Readings	1st Reading Psalm 2nd Reading Gospel	1st Reading Psalm 2nd Reading Gospel	1st Reading Psalm 2nd Reading Gospel	1st Reading Psalm 2nd Reading Gospel
Sidespersons	Amanda Warrender and Linda Lister	Frank and Joan Gillin	Stuart and Lyn Hillard Psalm 2nd Re Gospel	Jewel Pearce and John Worton-Griffiths
Service Time		10.30am	10.30am	10.30am
Date	4 February Second Sunday 10.30am before Lent	11 February Sunday next before Lent	18 February Lent 1	25 February Lent 2

The Chaplain requests that all readers, intercessors and chalice bearers are at church by 10.15am 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.

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.

MEET THE MAN BEHIND THE MULTI-MILLION POUND FNTFRTAINFR TOY SHOPS

THE



Christmas Eve is the busiest day of the year for most toy shops. But last year staff at one of Britain's most successful high street toy shop chains were not working. They had a day off work to prepare for Christmas with their own families.

Why? Because Christmas Eve 2017 fell on a Sunday and The Entertainer toy shops don't open on any Sunday.

It's a decision that some see as commercial madness, but for Gary Grant and his wife Catherine, who started The Entertainer toy shops, Sundays are special. He would rather his staff had time off to spend with their families.

The way Gary Grant runs his family business doesn't always seem to make commercial sense. He gives away 10% of profits to charity. When rival store Woolworths was forced to close, Gary invited his senior staff to pray with him for Woolworth's staff, for their own business to weather the recession, and for the government as it sought to steer the economy away from crisis. He was astonished by how many people - around 30 - turned up. They met weekly for around four months, "We didn't make any money, we didn't lose any money, but we survived," is how he sums it up. His Christian faith, common sense and hard work are key factors undergirding Gary's business which has grown from one shop in Amersham to 140 stores employing 2,000 people in stores and online. Born in Wembley, his parents divorced when he was just three. It wasn't easy for his mum to make ends meet, so Gary earned his pocket money

easy for his mum to make ends meet, so Gary earned his pocket money sweeping neighbours' leaves, clearing snow, or cleaning cars. He worked in a sweet shop, a bike shop and on a milk float before he left school with one O-level in maths. "That has served me well," he says. "Numbers are my thing".

He doesn't really need to say it. An hour in his company, the conversation is peppered with numbers: How many shillings make a pound, how old he was when something important happened in his life and the dates of historic occasions. When he can't remember a number, he keeps interrupting himself, returning to the original topic, until he does. To a non-maths person, it's exhausting, but it's an insight into how Mr Grant's mind works. Dyslexic, he wasn't interested in school at all, but says maths was "easy peasy". He failed his 11-plus exam and hence went to what he calls the "failures' school", which he left at 16 with just one qualification - O-level maths.

Now he looks at spreadsheets and can tell instantly if something's wrong, adds up without using a calculator and to this day, despite having a finance director, checks the weekly cash flow, signs every cheque and approves, or not, all outgoings.

The bike shop gave him a job when he left school. It was the mid-1970s and there was a skateboard boom. When the market slumped, Gary bought up the surplus stock and started his own business on the side selling skateboard parts. Spending all his time on the shop phone talking to prospective customers eventually got him sacked but gave him enough

money to start what he planned to be his own bike shop. By then, he had married Catherine, a nurse. He tried to find a bike shop to start his own business, but an estate agent friend suggested a toy shop. Four months later, in May 1981, Gary opened his first shop.

"We knew nothing about toys," Gary says. They named it The Entertainer, which gave them the flexibility to change focus if selling toys didn't work out. Now, 36 years later, they have 140 stores and handle 7-8% of the UK toy trade.

"The first 10 years we made money, however we could," he says. Then in 1991 he had what he calls 'a life changing experience'. His wife had been going to church for years, and she bought him a ticket for a men's breakfast at her church.

"I went along and heard a preacher talk about a relationship he had with Jesus; how the Holy Spirit can influence our lives; guide us; turn things around. I'd done RE at school, but the whole religious thing was very remote. It wasn't a living thing, just something you learned. No one had ever told me that Jesus overwhelmingly, unconditionally loved me." The next day, a Sunday, Gary decided to go back to church to find the preacher.

He sat in the back row but soon found himself crying. He doesn't really know why.

"An hour later I was still crying but something had dramatically changed. I walked out of church that night realising that God really, really loved me. He didn't like everything I did, but he loved me. God doesn't say "If you change what you do, I'll love you." He says, I love you unconditionally." It prompted Gary to re-think everything he did. He had three shops at the time and Sunday trading was still illegal. When the law changed, Gary prayed about what to do and decided not to open the shops on Sundays. "I value families. Did I really want all of my staff working on a Sunday when it's often the only day of the week to have a family meal together?" Since then countless staff have told him "I took a job here because I could be with my family on Sundays." And his landlords tell him he does more trade in six days than competitors do in seven.

His faith was so strong he almost quit to become a missionary, but instead decided to make the business compatible with his beliefs.

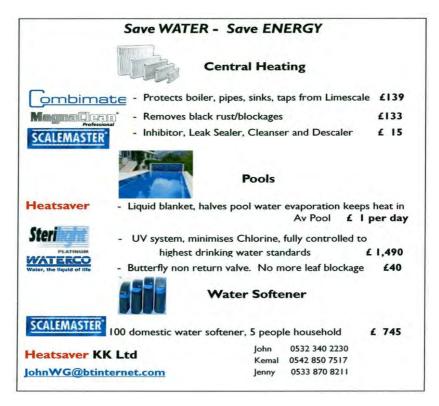
He decided not to stock some toys, including Harry Potter and Hallowe'en merchandise. "I have to feel comfortable with what we sell," Gary says. On The Entertainer's website, the 'Playground Rules' set out the company vision and values. "We want all our products to inspire and delight children. If we wouldn't be happy for our own children to play with a product, then you won't find it on our shelves."

Gary says "I know I can trust God with the money. I have to do what I feel comfortable doing because I am accountable for my life."

As well as giving away 10% of profits. The Entertainer staff are encouraged to join a payroll giving scheme to give to a charity of their choice. Also, the company's Pennies scheme means customers can round up their purchase price to give to charity. Last year The Entertainer staff and customers donated £1.6 million to children's charities.

Looking back to when he became a Christian at 33, Gary says, "Why didn't somebody tell me about Jesus earlier?"





A PRAYER DURING LENT

Loving creator, I am not asking to overcome my weakness, but to use it in some way to glorify you.

Let me be aware of the many ways you reach out to help me today and let me stand in awe of the power that you use in such loving ways.

Signs of Hope?

Please put details of this forthcoming visit in your diary.

Revd Andrew Ashdown and his (priest) wife Victoria (an Incumbent in the Winchester Diocese) will be with us on Sunday 13th May to participate in worship and to speak on Syria at a Bring and Share lunch in the hall afterwards.

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.

Revd 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. As well as being a regular visitor to Syria prior to the conflict, Andrew has visited the country nine times in the last three years. He has travelled widely in the country both independently and as a

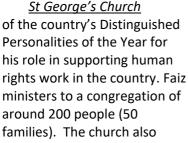


member of delegations, including visiting areas most affected by the conflict, and has met thousands of people from all communal backgrounds, including hundreds of internally displaced persons in different parts of the country. He has met with many senior religious and political leaders, both government 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 focusses on the religious dimensions of Syrian society and context.

Life in Iraq is still harsh for our brothers and sisters in Christ. Their suffering continues, even after the defeat of ISIS. Life in Baghdad is bleak, with Christians fearful to openly practice their faith. Last year, 8 Catholic churches closed in Baghdad because of dwindling congregations. Despite these challenges, St George's (the only Anglican / Episcopalian church in

Iraq) continues to serve those most in need.

The Revd Faiz Jerjees who is Chaplain of St George's Church, was recently honoured by the Iraqi Ministry of Culture as one





supports the work of its free health clinic which treats around 2,000 patients each month.

Revd Faiz, has been involved with St George's since 2006. After ordination, he served as curate at the Church, before being licensed as Priest in Charge in 2015 by the Bishop of Cyprus and the Gulf, Michael Lewis. In the same year, the Church supported some of the internally displaced Iraqis who had fled from what was then the rapidly-advancing Daesh in the Mosul and Nineveh Plain area of Iraq, and who were congregating at and around St George's. With the support of the Church of the Epiphany in Doha, Qatar, St George's provided household goods and provisions to around 60 families.

In October, St George's staged a Festival of Faith, "in the midst of hardship and at a time of disturbing political developments", they provided an

opportunity for many Christians in Iraq to "joyously reaffirm their faith in God the Holy Trinity, who is Lord of all.

St George's Church, originally built as a church for expatriates, its congregation is now entirely Iraqi. The Church was closed in 1991 after the first Gulf War. By the time it re-opened, in 1998, the building had been looted and was restored with funding from the British Embassy in Baghdad and the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf.

Sadly, other churches haven't fared as well. In the Christian town of Qaraqosh in the north of Iraq the church there has been desecrated by ISIS. The black flag of the caliphate had been daubed on the walls, Bibles and



pews burned, and the court-yard had been used as a shooting range. Since the defeat of ISIS, we are seeing more people return to the town, but the church is still badly damaged. Christian refugees are now living in a camp in the heart of the city.

Where the wild things are Jean Meade

A lion, a jackal, and a bear And others of the wild beasts there Were stunned to hear that voice cry out To silence Satan with a shout.

Did they recall another Word That their first ancestors had heard: To call them into life and breath On that sixth day before all death? Angels present at his birth
Rejoiced to hear the Word
on Earth
Rebuke the one who scorned
them all
Then lured Man's parents
to their fall.

Beasts and Spirits pure joined force
To set salvation on its course.



Incorporating Sharon Coomber

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> Town Hall Chambers St Runwald Street Colchester CO I IDS

Diocesan Prayer Requests

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



St Barnabas, Limassol: Pray for the Holy Spirit to be with all those being confirmed that they may walk the path of the Christian faith. We praise God for the mutual enrichment of different cultures and age groups in church life, for lives touched by the grace of Christ.

The Archdeacon in Cyprus: Pray for the parishes of Cyprus and for justice and peace across the island.

St Andrews Abu Dhabi with a daughter congregation in Al Ain called St Thomas: Lord, we give you thanks for the opportunity to minister your love to those expats living and working in our community, praying that you would inspire our worship so that our lives may glorify you in all things. We pray for all who find Christmas a lonely and painful time and pray that the message of 'O Come, O come Emmanuel' will be poignant and meaningful for all who attend our Christmas services and events this year. St Thomas Church Al Ain: We praise and thank You Father, for the people of this church. We thank You for Your presence in our lives. Bless us, bless this place and its ministries and activities to the glory of Your name

Archdeacon in the Gulf: Pray for the nations of the Gulf archdeaconry and all who live in them, citizens and others.

Synod: Pray for those who will soon attend diocesan synod and for wisdom and vision in all they plan and do.

St Paul's Cathedral Nicosia: We praise you God the Father for our ministry team at St Paul's. May you continue to call, equip and support people to lead all who follow you. Heavenly Father as we stand of the cusp of a new calendar year, we thank you for all leaders of this island of Cyprus; may they continue to work for the common good of all the people. We praise you for all peoples in our chaplaincy, those that believe and those that don't even know you; may we be a way for you to reach and love others. We pray for our Diocese, that it may continue to listen to your still calm voice amidst the noise and strife of life. We pray for ourselves, keep our eyes focused on the cross, that we may be in Christ and He in us. We pray all this in the power of the Holy Spirit who makes all things possible, and in the name of Jesus, to the glory of God. Amen

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