

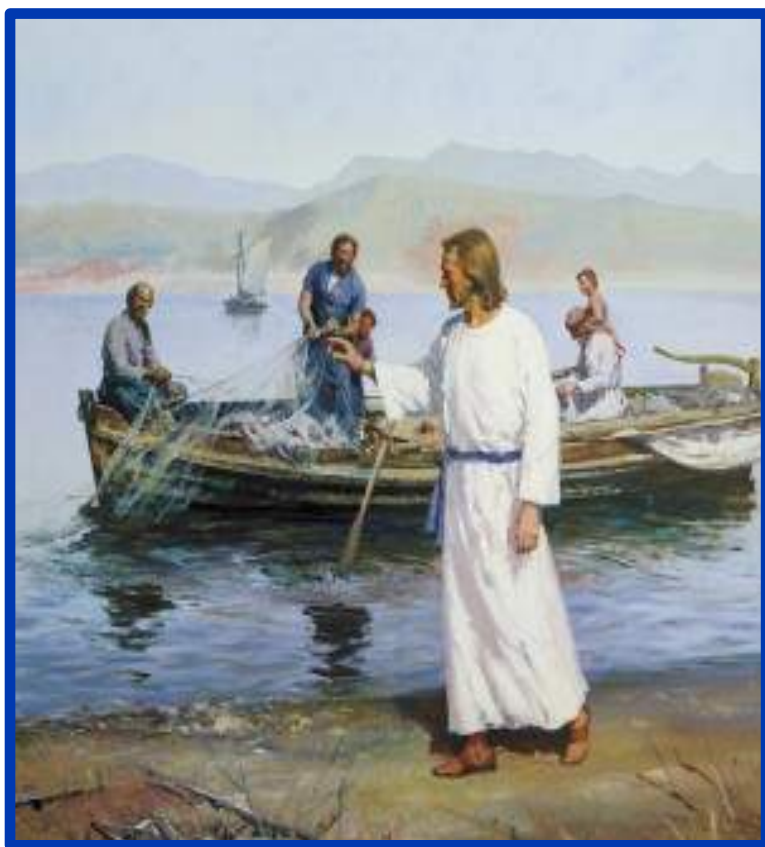
*To Love God, To Love Each Other and to Love Our Neighbour*



# **MAGAZINE OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST ANDREW KYRENIA**



In the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf



**APRIL 2016**

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## WEBSITES

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 St.Andrew'sChurch: [www.standrewskyrenia.org](http://www.standrewskyrenia.org)

Diocese: [www.cypgulf.org](http://www.cypgulf.org)

**Donations** towards the cost of this magazine may be placed in a box at the entrance to the Church or in the Church Hall. When you have read it, please pass it on — the more it is read, the wider the message is spread, which pleases us (and keeps our advertisers happy too). **Suggested donation : 5 TL**

# ST ANDREW'S SERVICE TIMES

## 1st SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

- 08.00am Said Holy Communion (Traditional)
- 10.30am Contemporary Eucharist Service (Sung)
- 12.15pm Informal Prayer & Praise Service
- 02.00pm Russian Language Service
- 05.00pm Cyprus International Fellowship Service

## 2nd SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

- 08.00am Said Holy Communion (Traditional)
- 10.30am Contemporary Eucharist Service (Sung)
- 02.00pm Russian Language Service
- 05.00pm Evening Prayer (In the Hermitage)
- 05.00pm Cyprus International Fellowship Service

## 3rd SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

- 08.00am Said Holy Communion (Traditional)
- 09.00am Said Morning Prayer
- 10.30am Contemporary Eucharist Service (Sung)
- 12.15pm Informal Prayer & Praise Service
- 02.00pm Russian Language Service
- 05.00pm Cyprus International Fellowship Service

## 4th SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

- 08.00am Said Holy Communion (Traditional)
- 09.00am Family Service (In the Church Hall)
- 10.30am Contemporary Eucharist Service (Sung)
- 02.00pm Russian Language Service
- 05.00pm Evening Prayer (In the Hermitage)

## EACH THURSDAY

- 09.30am Holy Communion (On 1st Thu there will also be prayers for healing)

## EACH SATURDAY

- 10.30am Seventh Day Adventist Service



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



Courses are held in this church, contact Victoria Scurfield on 0533 820 8158 for details



## *News from The Hermitage*

### *Dear Friends*

As I write this, we have just celebrated Easter, we continue doing so throughout Eastertide until Pentecost. At Easter, we celebrate the most extraordinary event. Death, the most final thing we know as humans, has been the setting for the greatest regeneration story of all time. Jesus of Nazareth, handed over to the Roman Authorities for execution and a cursed death, has been raised to a kind of life never before experienced. He has a body, the scars are still visible, he talks, he listens and he eats. Yet he is no longer bound by space or time.

In Christ's Risen nature we sense the stirring of that new life described by Isaiah, freed from all the tragedy and pain of mortal life, and full of hope and joy and overwhelming fulfilment. But the resurrection stories are about people who are emotionally drained and confused. The exhausting events of the past

week have them seeing but not recognising, wondering and agonising but not immediately able to make sense of anything. And that is so human and reassuring for us to read.

So often it takes us years of living before we eventually grasp something of God's involvement in our journey of pain. So often the evidence of his real, loving presence is staring us in the face, and yet we assume any number of other factors are responsible, much as Mary assumed Jesus was the gardener. And Peter was wallowing so deeply in his own misery and pessimism that he probably wouldn't have noticed Jesus if he had been standing there next to him. It may well have been that Jesus was!

With great gentleness and courtesy Jesus holds back on revealing the full power and vibrancy of his new life so as to lead people at their own pace to recognise the astounding truth. He lets them see only what they are capable of assimilating, for he loves them, and has no desire to scare or overwhelm. That is just as true for us today. The more we seek this Risen Lord in all areas of our lives, the more of him we will notice, recognise and delight in.

May we as a church community know his Risen Power working amongst us and leading us on to fulfil His vision for us. On Saturday 16th April we have a pivotal day in assessing our vision, based on the attitude to and practice of our welcome. Our Annual meeting will take place also on that day. I look forward to as many people as possible being there to take full part in our hope for the future.

Christ is Risen, He is Risen indeed, alleluia.

Every blessing,

*Wendy*



## **John 21 v 9 - 14**

*When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.*



## **CHURCH HALL ACTIVITIES.**

### **Monday**

(1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> )	C.E.S.V. (112) Steve Collard	19.15 - 21.15
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### **Tuesday.**

Kemal	Turkish Christians	19.30 - 21.00
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### **Wednesday.**

Sandy Oram	Chamber Choir.	18.00 - 19.30
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### **Thursday.**

Linda Smith	Ladies Group	10.30 - 12.00
(1 <sup>st</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> )	Prayer Meeting (Acheme)	18.30 - 20.30

### **Friday.**

Loudron	Friday worship	19.00 - 21.00
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### **Saturday.**

Samir Costa	Seventh Day Adventists	10.30 - 12.30
Cheryl	A.A.	13.00 - 14.00
Ebenezer	Youth Fellowship & Bible Study	16.00 - 19.00

### **Sunday.**

Alex	Russian Group	15.30 - 17.00
Ebenezer	N.C.I.C.F.	17.00 - 20.00.

### **First day of month.**

Ebenezer	Choir	06.30 - 07.30
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For further information about any of the above groups please contact our Hall Manager, Jacqueline McIntyre on 0533 858 4659

## **Lettings**

Do you need a venue for your weekly or special events?

Perhaps you are having a party? Why not consider hiring the hall.

We can also hire out tables, chairs, crockery, glasses, etc.

Just ring 0533 858 4659



# HAVE YOUR SAY DAY



**9.30AM SATURDAY  
16 APRIL**



WHAT IS **YOUR** VISION FOR  
ST ANDREW'S IN 1, 3 OR 5 YEARS  
FROM NOW? WE NEED YOUR  
THOUGHTS AND IDEAS

- How many people 'try out' our church each year?
- Do they feel welcome?
- Do they come back?
- What would happen if 10%, 25% or even 50% of our visitors became regular members?

Do come along on Saturday  
16 April at 9.30am  
and see how we might  
grow our church.

Drinks will be  
provided but please bring a picnic  
lunch, plate and cutlery with you.

**The business of the church year,  
the Annual Church Meeting,  
will be held at the close of this day,  
at 3.30 pm in the church hall.**



**PLEASE HELP US TO MAINTAIN  
ST ANDREW'S THROUGH  
"GIFT AID DONATION"**

**IF YOU ARE A UK TAXPAYER WE ARE ABLE  
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TO ANY COUNCIL MEMBER - OR FILL IN A  
FORM IF YOU WISH TO MAKE A REGULAR  
DONATION TO OUR LOVELY CHURCH  
THANK YOU SO MUCH**

## **God Grant**

### **That I May Live to Fish**

God grant that I may live to fish

Until my dying day.

And when it comes to my last cast

Then I most humbly pray,

When in the Lord's great landing net

I'm peacefully asleep,

That in His mercy

I'll be judged as good enough to keep.

Anonymous



## **USED STAMPS**

St Andrew's collects used postage stamps to raise funds for the Helen Keller Centre for the Blind in Jerusalem. Special commemorative stamps are particularly desirable, as they are overwhelmed with the regular 1st & 2nd class stamps. If you have suitable stamps, please 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 hall where the ladies meet on Thursday mornings.



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## *Friends of St Andrew's*

Hello Everyone

I couldn't believe it this morning, the 28th of March, when I awoke to the sound of hailstones hitting the windows. I'd vaguely heard the thunder during the night and remembered thinking "Oh good, no need to water the peas and radishes."

That makes it sound as though I grow lots of veg, etc, but truth told I have just three little rows of mange-tout between the geraniums and at most, each 2ft long and the radishes take up about a foot, but these provide plenty for me. In fact the peas have done so well I've been able to give some away. They will be finished in another week or so, as one can't grow them in the hot weather; perhaps I should say 'I can't!'

On 4th March we joined with hundreds of other church groups of ladies all around the world to



celebrate the Women's World Day of Prayer. This year it was the turn of Cuba to create the service and what wonderful hymns and songs they chose. About a dozen ladies took part in the service and Anne Lloyd gave a very informative reflection on some aspects of life in Cuba.

We also had a lovely service on Mothering Sunday and I think all the ladies in church received a little posy to take home, which was nice. What made it especially nice was the fact that we had sufficient posies donated for there to be enough for the 12.15pm service of Prayer and Praise as well.

The Good Friday Service, from 12 noon to 3pm was very thought provoking and the Liturgy for the last hour was lovely.

Easter Sunday always gives me a bit of a shock when I walk into church, after the bareness of the previous weeks, to see all the lovely floral arrangements. This

year we had beautiful big, fat white lilies and they looked so good, but then all the flowers did. People take so much time and care with them.

We've recently had bumper donations of used stamps for the Helen Keller School for the Blind Appeal. So thank you to all the people who brought them in.

The children with their families had their service in the church hall on Easter Sunday but dare I say that with the clocks changing I wasn't ready in time to attend it at 9am.

One of the most familiar faces at church has been missing and missed this past few weeks, in the shape of Bill Grundy. Bill is on a two month placement to the cathedral in Nicosia, to widen his experience as a Reader. I believe he is enjoying his time there very much. It will be good to hear about his experience when he returns to us.

The coffee mornings are due to start again and it will be good to be able to just sit and

have a chat together in the Hermitage garden over a cup of tea and piece of cake.

I think that is about all for now.

With love

Pat E

~~~~~

If you would like to keep in contact from overseas, membership of the Friends of St Andrew's costs £30 per annum and the magazine will be posted to you. If you wish to subscribe, please contact us by email at [office@standrewskyrenia.org](mailto:office@standrewskyrenia.org) or by post to: PO Box 171, Girne, Mersin 10, Turkey.



## **WE ARE REPENTERS**

We repent of living for ourselves, and so we commit to trading our personal kingdom agendas for the kingdom agenda of Jesus Christ.

We repent of making God out to be more like us, and so we ask God to change our hearts and make us more like Him.

We repent of our silly attempts to justify ourselves before God and make ourselves pleasing to Him through our own efforts, and so we ask Him to save and sustain us in His unwavering grace and help us rest in Christ's work on our behalf.

We repent of our hypocrisy and self-righteousness, and so we ask God to deliver us from double mindedness and help us seek His righteousness above all.

We repent of valuing most what other people think, and so we ask God to help us value most what He thinks.

We repent of withholding areas of our life from God's command, and so we ask God to invade and overcome every part of us – our hopes, our desires, our dreams, our thoughts, our actions – and show us how to love Him and love others from a whole heart.

We repent of seeking a life of ease and comfort, and so we ask God for the courage to pickup our crosses and follow Christ no matter the cost.

We repent of all the good things we have failed to do, and so we ask God to open our eyes to the opportunities for us to shine His light in a dark world.

We repent of serving ourselves and our own interests, and so we ask God to empower us to serve others in the name of His Son.

Amen

Submitted by Steve Bishop, thank you Steve



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## **THE SOCIETY OF ST ANDREW'S**

### **Notice of the Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting of the above Society will take place on Sunday 24th April 2016 at 12.00 noon in St Andrew's church hall.

A list of the current members of the Society will be displayed on the notice board inside the church and in the church hall. Anyone wishing to become a member of the Society, application forms are available in the church or from Jewel Pearce, to whom completed forms should be submitted, by Sunday 17th April 2016. Any member wishing to contest for a position on the Executive Committee (5 positions) should forward their name and signature to Jewel also by Sunday 17th April 2016 on a nomination paper bearing the names of a proposer and seconder who are current members of the Society, in order that voting papers may be prepared in readiness for the meeting.

(Jewel Pearce 0542 884 1805)

Lord, I have time, I have plenty of time,  
All the time that you give me,  
The years of my life,  
the days of my years, the hours of my days,  
They are all mine.  
Mine to fill, quietly, calmly.  
But to fill completely, up to the brim,  
To offer them to you ....

I am not asking you Lord, for time to do this and then that,  
But your grace to do conscientiously,  
In the time that you give me,  
What you want me to do.



(Michael Quoist)



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## THURSDAY LADIES GROUP



The Ladies Group meet  
in the church hall at  
11am each Thursday.

All ladies are very  
welcome to come along.



# St Andrew's Calendar of Services and Duties – April 2016

## Calendar of Services and Duties -

April 2016

| Date       | Service Times  | Sides Persons                                | Readings                                      | Book & Chapter                                             | Verses                                           | Readers                                              | Prayers          | Chalice Assistant    |
|------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 3rd April  | 8am<br>10.30am | Anne Lloyd<br>Jewel & Jenny Catlin           | 1st Reading<br>Psalm<br>2nd Reading<br>Gospel | Exodus 14 &<br>Exodus 15<br>118<br>Revelation 1<br>John 20 | 10-end<br>20 - 21<br>14 - 29<br>4 - 8<br>19 - 31 | Anne Lloyd<br>Lynette<br>Amanda<br>Clergy            | Joan<br>Standing | Mavis Steele         |
| 10th April | 8am<br>10.30am | Pat Etherington<br>Shane B &<br>Karen Gordon | 1st Reading<br>Psalm<br>2nd Reading<br>Gospel | Zephaniah 3<br>30<br>Revelation 5<br>John 21               | 14 - 20<br>11 - 14<br>1 - 19                     | Josanne<br>Lee McHugh<br>Jacquie McIn<br>Clergy      | Linda Smith      | Joan<br>Standing     |
| 17th April | 8am<br>10.30am | Chris Gibson<br>Stuart & Lynda Hillard       | 1st Reading<br>Psalm<br>2nd Reading<br>Gospel | Genesis 7 &<br>Genesis 8<br>23<br>Revelation 7<br>John 10  | 1 - 5, 11 - 18<br>6 - 18<br>9 - 17<br>22 - 30    | Michael St<br>Joan St'dring<br>Izzy<br>Clergy        | Chris Penney     | Linda Smith          |
| 24th April | 8am<br>10.30am | Christine V'diger<br>Kayleigh &<br>Matthew   | 1st Reading<br>Psalm<br>2nd Reading<br>Gospel | Genesis 22<br>148<br>Revelation 21<br>John 13              | 1 - 18<br>1 - 6<br>31 - 35                       | Linda Smith<br>Ann Iverson<br>Chris Penney<br>Clergy | Mavis Steele     | Gloria<br>Tattersall |
| 1st May    | 8am<br>10.30am | Bill Grundy<br>Bob & Jacquie Taylor          | 1st Reading<br>Psalm<br>2nd Reading<br>Gospel | Ezekiel 37<br>67<br>Revelation 21<br>John 14               | 1 - 14<br>10.22 - 22.5<br>23 - 29                | Bill Grundy<br>Chris Ward<br>Sandy Oram<br>Clergy    | Lee McHugh       | Josanne<br>Stanhope  |

If you are going to be away and are unable to swap your duty please advise Anne Lloyd (0533 841 8306). If you do change your duty please ensure it is recorded on the master list in the vestry.

# St Andrew's Calendar of Services and Duties – May 2016

| Date                                     | Service Times  | Sides Persons                                   | Readings                                      | Book & Chapter                               | Verses                                 | Readers                                            | Prayers           | Chalice Assistant    |
|------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1st May<br>Easter 6                      | 8am<br>10.30am | Bill Grundy<br>Bob & Jacque<br>Taylor           | 1st Reading<br>Psalm<br>2nd Reading<br>Gospel | Ezekiel 37<br>67<br>Revelation 21<br>John 14 | 1 - 14<br>10.22 - 22.5<br>23 - 29      | Bill Grundy<br>Chris Ward<br>Sandy Oram<br>Clergy  | Lee McHugh        | Josanne<br>Stanhope  |
| 8th May<br>Easter 7                      | 8am<br>10.30am | Anne Lloyd<br>Frank & Joan                      | 1st Reading<br>Psalm<br>2nd Reading<br>Gospel | Acts 16<br>97<br>Revelation 22<br>John 17    | 16 - 34<br>12 - 14<br>20 - 26          | Joan<br>Standing<br>Anne Keevil<br>Mavis<br>Clergy | Richard<br>Dobbs  | Bob Taylor           |
| 15th May<br>Pentecost                    | 8am<br>10.30am | Pat Etherington<br>Anne L & Pat                 | 1st Reading<br>Psalm<br>2nd Reading<br>Gospel | Acts 2<br>104<br>Romans 8<br>John 14         | 1 - 21<br>26 - 37<br>14 - 17<br>8 - 17 | Alan Peek<br>Lee McHugh<br>Sue Walker<br>Clergy    | Gloria            | Brian<br>McHugh      |
| 22nd May<br>Trinity                      | 8am<br>10.30am | Chris Gibson<br>James Gibbs &<br>Jenny Catlin   | 1st Reading<br>Psalm<br>2nd Reading<br>Gospel | Proverbs 8<br>8<br>Romans 5<br>John 16       | 1 - 4, 22- 31<br>1 - 5<br>12 - 15      | Gloria<br>John W-G<br>Anne Keevil<br>Clergy        | Charlie<br>Thomas | Anne Keevil          |
| 29th May<br>Trinity 1<br>Singing<br>Week | 8am<br>10.30am | Patti<br>Bill & Jacque<br>McIntyre              | 1st Reading<br>Psalm<br>2nd Reading<br>Gospel | 1 Kings 18<br>96<br>Galatians 1<br>Luke 7    | 20,21,30 - 39<br>1 - 12<br>1 - 10      | Jenny W-G<br>Ingrid<br>Edward J<br>Clergy          | Bill Grundy       | Kathleen<br>Meredith |
| 5th June<br>Trinity 2                    | 8am<br>10.30am | Christine Ven'ger<br>Linda Lister &<br>Precious | 1st Reading<br>Psalm<br>2nd Reading<br>Gospel | 1 Kings 17<br>146<br>Galatians 1<br>Luke 7   | 8 - 24<br>11 - 24<br>11 - 17           | Pat E<br>Anne L<br>Bill Grundy<br>Clergy           | Anne Lloyd        | Colin<br>Backhouse   |

## **Singing week at St Andrew's Kyrenia,**

**1st to 5th June 2016**

**Gordon Appleton**, a good friend of Earl Moffat, our Director of Music, has a very impressive CV covering his involvement in church music over the years. Gordon retired in 2012 after nineteen years as a staff member of the Royal School of Church Music in the UK. He has directed annual residential courses for children and residential RSCM Cathedral Courses for boys, girls and adults throughout the UK and worked with many parish choirs.

Gordon has kindly agreed to come to Kyrenia to encourage and enhance the choral music at St Andrew's and a draft plan for his visit is given below:

- 1) Choir/Singing workshops. 2) Addressing recruitment issues.
- 3) Hosting a "Come & Sing" event.
- 4) Enjoying a "Favourite Hymns Evening", &
- 5) Participating/culminating in a Sung Eucharist on Sunday 5th June.
- 6) Organ tuition for anyone wishing to play the organ/develop their skills for St Andrew's.

Please mark this special week in your diary now and plan to attend if at all possible, encouraging as many friends, family, foes and indeed strangers, to come along too!

-----

Looking even further ahead, to **MAY 2017** - I am delighted that NykkÖ Grégoire will be joining Earl in Kyrenia and will give an organ recital in St Andrew's, during the weekend of 12 -14th May 2017. Please add this very special weekend to your forward planning diary now? NykkÖ gave a superb recital in my home church, St Aidan's, Kilmore in Armagh last week, an extremely well received programme of classical/favourite organ works and some entertaining personal choices. At the end of this inspiring evening our recitalist earned a very worthy spontaneous standing ovation, I've no doubt you too will enjoy his playing, next year in St Andrew's. There will be more information about NykkÖ Grégoire in next month's magazine.



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# Spirituality Days 2016

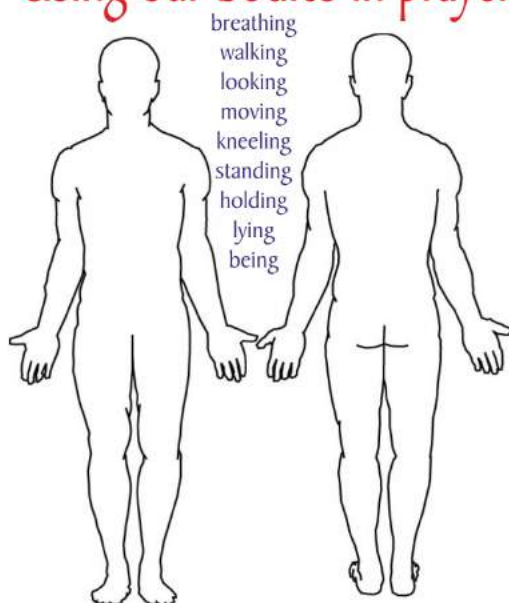
|                         |                                                                                            |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 16 April                | <b>Using our bodies in prayer</b><br><i>led by Paul Maybury</i>                            | tbc                      |
| 7 May                   | <b>How to pray in the power of the Spirit</b><br><i>led by Paul Maybury &amp; Sue Hope</i> | tbc                      |
| 28 May<br>11.00 - 14.00 | <b>The Orthodox Tradition</b><br><i>led by Bishop Michael</i>                              | St Fanourios<br>Deryneia |

Please make a note of these dates and share with others.

All events take place on a Saturday from 10.00 - 15.00 unless otherwise stated.

To be kept informed please email Paul Maybury, [paul.maybury@cypgulf.org](mailto:paul.maybury@cypgulf.org)

## Using our bodies in prayer



Saturday 16 April 10.00 - 15.00 St Barnabas, Limassol

to book and for more information contact [paul.maybury@cypgulf.org](mailto:paul.maybury@cypgulf.org)



A Barnabas Team event



## WHAT'S ON AT ST ANDREW'S?

| Date                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Event                 | Time             | Venue                      | Contact                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Every 2nd Wednesday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Ministry Team         | 9am              | The Hermitage              | Chaplain               |
| Each Thursday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Ladies Group          | 11am             | Church Hall                | Linda Smith            |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Bible Study           | 6.30pm           |                            | Rev Colin              |
| Saturday 16 April                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Have Your Say ACM     | 9.30am<br>3.30pm | Church Hall<br>Church Hall | Rev Wendy<br>Rev Wendy |
| Saturday 14th May                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Leading Intercessions |                  |                            | Rev Wendy              |
| <p>We are to hold a training day in Kyrenia for those who lead intercessions, those who might like to and those who would be interested in finding out what intercessory prayer means.</p> <p>Maybe you are one of the number of people who already lead prayers at St Andrew's, or have expressed an interested in doing so in the future, or you would just like to have more information.</p> <p>The venue of the session is to be confirmed when we know numbers. Please mark the date in your diaries and make every effort to be there.</p> |                       |                  |                            |                        |

# *Diocesan Prayer Requests*

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



## **THIKA DIOCESE**

Please pray for our link with the Thika Diocese. Pray for Bishop Julius and his people and for the links visit next October.

## **CHRIST CHURCH JEBEL ALI**

**One of five parishes in the Chaplaincy of Dubai, Sharjah and the Northern Emirates.**

Pray for Christ's resurrection power to fill the churches this Easter season Give thanks for the 40 congregations that meet at Christ Church. Following their AGM pray for the new Chaplaincy Council and local Church Committee. May they listen to God and seek His will.

After the struggles of recent years may this year be the year that the Chaplaincy finds peace and unity.

## **EXETER DIOCESE**

Pray for Bishop Robert and his people and for the 3-way companion link with Thika.

## **ST MARK'S FAMAGUSTA**

We give thanks to God for the positive results from the meetings between the leaders of North and South Cyprus. We give thanks to God for the new structure at Ammochostos Parish, may we use

this opportunity to utilise our gifts, and to strengthen ties between St Mark's, Christ Church and St John's Pray for the students who might be struggling financially or spiritually, many new students might be away from home for the first time and struggle to adopt to this challenging environment.

## **JERUSALEM AND THE MIDDLE EAST CHURCH ASSOCIATION**

Pray for those who promote and support our Province.

## **OMAN**

Praise God for his faithful people in Oman, giving thanks for their enthusiasm and creativity. Pray for good working relationships with the guest congregations. For mutual respect and understanding. For good communication between all staff and those with particular responsibilities.

## **CLERGY WITH PERMISSION TO OFFICIATE.**

Pray in thanksgiving for clergy who offer voluntary ministry.





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MON - FRI 08:00 - 17:30 CLOSED FOR LUNCH 13:00 - 14:00

SAT 08:30 TO 14:00 - SUN CLOSED

## **Evangelism in an age of terror, homophobia and indifference... An interview with Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby**

Ruth Mawhinney, Christian Today Editor - 31 March 2016

It is just over three years since the Most Rev and Rt Hon Justin Welby, the 105th archbishop of Canterbury, the primate of all England, was installed as Archbishop, after an unexpected rise through the ranks of Church of England hierarchy (he was bishop of Durham for just over a year).

In his in-tray in the last three years has been women bishops, church decline, terrorist attacks, abuse scandals and the unenviable task of trying to hold the Anglican Communion together when divisions over sexuality threaten to turn cracks into craters. So he'd be forgiven for not making much progress with the priorities he laid out for himself at the start of his tenure – namely, evangelism, reconciliation and prayer. It could have become a prolonged case of the urgent crowding out the important.

Welby is from the Holy Trinity Brompton stable – this was the church he attended when he was still working in the oil industry, before his call to ordination – so it isn't really a surprise that he's an evangelism enthusiast. Perhaps more surprising is that he's getting anywhere with it.

We live in a time of general mistrust towards religion, fuelled partly by the terrible acts of violence perpetrated in God's name. Relativism – the idea that 'your truth is fine for you, but I'll follow mine' – is the god of the age. Then there's the Church of England itself, which in the public consciousness goes from being quaint, likeable perhaps but largely irrelevant, to a more ominous home of abuse cover-ups and homophobia.

All that against a pervasive attitude within the Church of England that evangelism isn't really necessary, or that a simple hatch-match-and-dispatch approach was all that was needed, and you've got a job on your hands.



Justin Welby is well aware of this. He quipped in a lecture at Lambeth Palace last year: "When I introduced my third priority as Evangelism and Witness I imagine some, maybe a minority, were high-fiving, while others stopped

and stared into space with a look of horror, thinking, 'Here we go again'." And yet, in spite of everything, something seems to be happening. People within the Church of England describe a sea-change, an awakening, a new enthusiasm for evangelism.

This is in no small part due to a realisation that unless something is done, the Church of England is going to fall off a cliff, numbers-wise. But everyone I speak to about it puts it down, to a greater or a lesser extent, to the leadership of Justin Welby and John Sentamu.

What does Welby himself think is behind it?

"I think it's a lot of things," he says.

"There are good reasons and bad reasons. I think in some ways recognise that decline in church numbers is a serious issue. But that's the bad reason, because you don't evangelise to ensure the survival of the church."



"My view of salvation is found in John 3:16. [For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.] We can argue about eternal conscious punishment or annihilation until the cows come home. What matters is that God has taken all the steps necessary for human beings to have a relationship with God and the good news of the gospel is that. And if people turn that down, obviously in some way that I don't claim I fully understand, that is going to be a very serious matter indeed, the most serious that any human being could ever have."

"But who is saved, and who is not saved, is in the judgment of God and it is not in my judgment. And so who God saves is God's question."

He is also a pragmatist. While he thinks deeply and gives considered answers to questions about the complex problems facing the church, evangelism itself is very straightforward. There is a great confidence and enthusiasm as he describes churches he has visited – churches where lots of older people are becoming Christians, churches running foodbanks and doing community outreach... Do we need strategies and systems and initiatives to see this sort of thing happen? No. We need to pray, we need to trust God and we need to jolly well get on with it.

"I think we do what we've always done at our best, which is we draw closer to God, we serve the communities in which we live and seek to bless them more faithfully and in our outreach and our witness and our evangelism we avoid all manipulation and all trickery and we simply present the reality of the goodness of Jesus Christ through our actions and our words," he says.

"There isn't a big magic button you can press, or magic wand you can wave, which suddenly says well if you do the following six things in this order, the church's reputation will suddenly be changed. We're called to be holy, we're called to be suffering, we're called to be serving and loving. There's nothing big and new about that. What's big and new is when any church does it – and they do from time to time, and when they do, people really see it, and even if they don't agree, they're struck by it."

But what about some of the bigger religious questions that are being posed in the world right now? We are speaking the day after the Brussels attacks, at a time of heightened hostility towards Muslims. #StopIslam was trending on Twitter as we spoke. Is this our problem? Yes. Welby thinks we have a responsibility to "demonstrate hospitality for mainstream Muslim leaders who themselves have taken huge risks and are suffering very significant threats when they stand up against attacks like Brussels."

"Secondly, I think we have a responsibility to be part of the process of developing a narrative that is more attractive within our society than the perverted, cruel and savage narrative which takes young men in particular, but women as well, into extremist action. Hostility to all Muslims because they're Muslims – although we disagree as Christians with their theology – is a deeply unChristian and wrong way of behaving."

Does he think it makes the case for faith harder?

"Yes, I do. For people who are of no faith, this merely seems to confirm the false idea that all faiths lead to war. Actually war and violence, domination, savagery, cruelty, are inherent in the character of a human being, they are part of fallen humanity, they're part of our sinfulness and they're common to every human being.

What Jesus does is change and transform that when we are following him faithfully."

He acknowledges too the lack of trust in organised religion, the reasons for which go far beyond terrorism.

"Oh yes. I think we're living in an era – well, as we know it's a cliché to say we're in an era where all institutions are mistrusted. We know that. But organised religion, because there is a history within organised religion of patriarchy, of cruelty, of the abuse and misuse of power, and we have to live with the inheritance of that, and counter it by the way we behave and act today... We need to be churches who wash each other's feet... We have to keep doing that because the default reaction of human beings is always towards power and oppression."

There's a widespread perception outside the church that its official attitude toward homosexuality is a manifestation of just this bias to oppression. Outside religious circles it is almost inconceivable that you could have a moral objection to someone having a monogamous relationship with someone of the same sex. The issue is inescapable for senior Anglican leaders and it undoubtedly makes evangelism more difficult. So how does the church make a case for the traditional understanding of sexuality, and at the same time convince non-Christians that it is not homophobic? Is it possible to reconcile the two?



"If there was a simple answer to that question someone would have found it who's much cleverer than me."

Welby's approach is first to talk about homophobia, to acknowledge its existence within the church. "Of course there are parts of the church that have been historically and still are homophobic and that is deeply and profoundly wrong, and the church needs to demonstrate its sorrow over that. I loathe and hate homophobia. I find it incomprehensible that people should feel that way about LGBTI people. And I'm always ashamed when I find it."

He points out that the single biggest cause of self-harming and even possibly of suicide for young people, is their own sexuality. But there are other parts of the Anglican Communion where conversations about homosexuality are far more difficult. In Uganda, a fiercely conservative country, parliament passed a bill in 2013 – since declared invalid on constitutional grounds – mandating life imprisonment for homosexual

'offences'. In a previous version it was the death penalty. The Archbishop of Uganda was the only one to walk out of January's Primates Meeting in protest at its handling of the US Episcopal Church's acceptance of same-sex relationships.

Nevertheless, Welby is encouraged by the 'Shared Conversations' which are taking place within the Church of England, in which groups of 50-60 people – some who are LGBTI affirming and others who, on principle, are not – meet to discuss and listen to each other's views.

"The aim of them is not, as it were, to convert the other, but to enable each to listen and see the others as a human being and as a fellow Christian.

"The impact of that has been really significant among those taking part – not everyone obviously. But there's been a real change and I think the shared conversations themselves, saying to people you must listen to people you disagree with on sexuality with respect, with love, is already a step away from the homophobia. It's an action. It's not merely a process towards an action, it's an action in and of itself."

He won't commit himself to where he thinks those conversations are going to go.

"I know it's got to end with a place that any reasonable person looking at what we're saying and doing could say, 'This is not homophobia, but it has integrity' even if they disagree with it. I'm not saying at the moment in any way what I think, because I don't want to prejudge what happens in the synod and so on, and I'll say what I think in due course."

For all the challenges the Church of England faces, regarding evangelism and everything else which goes alongside it, there is a touching lightness to the way Welby approaches things.

When I ask what he seems to regard as an extraordinarily stupid question about putting more resources into youth and children's work "because that's when everyone becomes Christians", the serious mask comes off and he starts to enjoy himself enormously.

"Well that's rubbish for starters... I've seen a number of people in the last 12 months, much later in life, become Christians. It's a myth.... If we say that that is definitive, where's God in that? This is ridiculous! Of course the majority of people become Christians earlier in life, but an awful lot of people don't, and there is no reason in God's economy



why it is only early in life."

"The majority of people who become Christians at the moment become Christians when they're young, but are we satisfied with that? Do we think that's the right answer? Was St Paul a child on the road to Damascus? Were any of the apostles? Did Jesus say 'I'm not going to bother calling Peter, he's a grown up?'

"Are we really saying that we want to abandon all the buildings that can hold hundreds of people because we don't believe God's up to bringing a revival?"

He pauses from his laughing tirade for a quick breath.

"Oh give over. You know, you of little faith!"



**God** grant that I may catch a fish  
So big that even I  
When speaking of it afterwards  
Will have no need to lie!





## CONTACT NUMBERS & EMERGENCY INFORMATION

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|                 | Gazi Mağusa | 366 5310          | Güzelyurt | 714 2140 |
| <b>Fire</b>     | Girne       | 815 2111          | Lefkoşa   | 227 1259 |
|                 | Gazi Mağusa | 366 5389          | Güzelyurt | 714 2125 |
| <b>Hospital</b> | Girne       | 815 2166/815 2254 | Lefkoşa   | 228 5441 |
|                 | Gazi Mağusa | 366 2876/366 532  | Güzelyurt | 714 2125 |

Civil Defence - İbrahim Çağlar (English speaker) 24 hr service - 815 4985

Electricity - Girne office 815 2223

Telephone Faults and/or billing information 163 (then 9)

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Ercan Airport - Information Desk 231 4806

Flight Arrivals & Departures Contact relevant company

(Information on flights is also in *Cyprus Today* every Saturday.)

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Australian 227 7332 (Tues. & Thurs. 09.00 –12.30 hrs)

### Societies, Clubs & Charitable Organisations

Alcoholics Anonymous PO Box 460 0533 8241100/0533 8557743

Anglo-Turkish Assoc PO Box 627 0542 872 4291

British Cemetery Committee (Girne) PO Box 168 0542 852 0236

Foreign Residents Cemetery PO Box 385 0542 872 4291

British Residents' Society PO Box 167 0533 868 9652

Behind PO Sats10-12

The Royal British Legion 0533 8841517

Cheshire Home PO Box 523 0392 815 3767

Küşkor (Bird Preservation Soc) PO Box 634 0392 815 3751

Kyrenia Amateur Dramatic Soc (KADS) 0533 861 9923 (Hon Sec)

Kyrenia Soc & Library Behind PO on Wed & Sat 10-12 noon

Kyrenia Animal Rescue PO Box 450 0533 869 4098 (Office)

(Emergencies and abandoned animals helpline) 0533 863 1950

Rotary Club of Girne PO Box 558 0392 815 3920

### Rotary Club of Girne

Meets on Wednesdays at the Dome Hotel

May to October - Evening Meetings at 7.00pm

October to May - Luncheon Club Meetings at 1.00pm



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