



THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST ANDREW, KYRENIA in the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf

June 2024



Trinity - Painting by Pietro Novelli - Museum of Fine Arts, Budapest

ST ANDREW'S TEAM

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Facebook: St Andrew's Church, Kyrenia









SERVICE TIMES FOR JUNE 2024

Sunday 2 June 10.30am - A service of Holy Communion followed by the baptism of Zak Philip FRASER-SMITH
 Sunday 9 June 10.30am - A service of Holy Communion
 Sunday 16 June 10.30am - A service of Holy Communion
 Sunday 23 June 10.30 - A service of Welcome for the Sixth Bishop of the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf followed by a Reception in the Church Hall
 Sunday 30 June 10.30am - A service of Holy Communion followed by a concert at 12 noon given by a Finnish Choir

All are welcome

WELCOME





The Church Times leader from 9 June 1944,

the first edition after the D-Day landings

LISTENERS to the King's speech on Tuesday evening heard an utterance of manly sincerity in deep contrast to the apologetic whine and fluffy indecision that too often pass for religious broadcasting.

King George prefaced the invasion of western Europe by the Allies with a simple call to prayer for God's blessing and a direct affirmation that their purpose is to put God's will first. He sealed the enterprise with a spirit of true religion.

As he spoke, news was coming in from the beaches, telling of initial difficulties triumphantly surmounted and unexpectedly small losses in the opening phase; whether owing to surprise or policy, or because the preliminary offices of the air commands had been conducted so efficaciously, the enemy made no very strenuous opposition to the landings, and the Navy put the troops ashore with brilliant organization and dash.

Paratroops, gliders and infantry, tanks and guns and engineers, touched down on French soil four years and a day after the completion of the evacuation from Dunkirk.

By the time that these lines are being read, the fierce local conflicts reported from Caen and elsewhere may have given place to bloody fighting between masses of men and machines.

The Nazis are naturally unwilling to commit their main forces of resistance to the Normandy coast until they have had some chance to judge, first, what is the immediate Allied objective, and, second, whether the present landings are to be followed by others at different points on the north coast of France.

It is clear from the news bulletins, Allied and Nazi, that the Germans are fishing for clues which the Allies have no intention of disclosing. Nothing more precise can be affirmed than that the Allies have occupied a wide stretch of coast between Cherbourg and Le Havre and have penetrated some miles inland.

Their position was well chosen to threaten both ports and to prepare for an advance along the left bank of the Seine with the river guarding their flank. The next week is the crucial period for them to make good their footing and to establish bases.

WWII fight for freedom is not over

By Angela Tilby

D-DAY is important here in Portsmouth. This year's 80th anniversary will draw world leaders to Southsea Common to remember the start of the Allied invasion of northern France, which would eventually bring about the end of the Second World War.

At Portsmouth Cathedral we are preparing for a BBC live broadcast on Sunday. Looking forward to this, last week I visited the British Normandy Memorial, conceived just a decade ago. Its almost completed visitor centre is due to be opened by the King on 6 June. It is built in fields overlooking Gold Beach, and within sight of the Mulberry Harbour, off Arromanches. It took a winding route through the Normandy countryside to the village of Ver-sur-Mer to find it.



The memorial is approached along a gently climbing pathway flanked by six carved panels that describe the events of D-Day and the subsequent battle for Normandy. The names of the 22,442 men who fell on 6 June and the following days are inscribed on the 160 limestone pillars of Memorial Court.

During my short visit, I witnessed a dramatic

fly-past by a veteran plane, an address by the broadcaster Nicholas Witchell, founding trustee of the Memorial Trust, and the solemn commemoration of a young Belgian soldier.



Unlike the British war cemeteries elsewhere in Normandy, and in contrast with the village crucifixes near by, the Normandy Memorial has no Christian imagery: no Bible references, no crosses. Memorial Court is inscribed

with quotations from Sir Bernard Montgomery, and from the broadcasts of King George VI, General de Gaulle, and Winston Churchill. I couldn't help remembering that Churchill, although not a conventional believer, recognised the Second World War as a struggle for the survival of Christian civilisation.

It all left me moved, but a little uneasy. We can hardly claim today that the fight against aggressive totalitarianism is over. The freedom that we still enjoy depends on a view of the worth of individuals which comes from a blend of Christianity and Enlightenment humanism. These values are not shared in Russia, China, or Iran, or by Hamas and other militant groups. They are also coming under threat in the West, where increasing numbers seem to see virtue in "strong-man" politics.

Our uncertain future was captured for me on my Normandy visit by David Williams-Ellis's dramatic bronze sculpture on the seaward side of Memorial Court. Three British soldiers are charging forward from the shoreline, their backs to Gold Beach, their heels flying. The leader points his gun in expectation of what is to come. Their faces are determined, but apprehensive. The struggle for them lies ahead, and, at the end of the day, many will have fallen.

Perhaps the struggle for us also lies ahead, as we attempt to assert the value of human freedom to a generation that has lost its spiritual roots.





A Quiet Place

It's quiet here ... so quiet
Standing on this hill
But if I stand here too much longer
My eyes with tears will fill
Looking down ... I'm there again
On that beach ... just down below
Far different ... to that morning
That I remember so
That beach ... it was a hell on earth
Where no man ... should ever go
I remember
I was down there
I should know
Don't cry now ... dear old soldier
That was many years ago

ST ANDREW'S NEWS

On 12th May we were delighted to welcome 3 week-old Tallulah Namakau Altunbasiker into the Church family. May God bless Tallulah, her family and friends.



The recent Bible Study sessions on Genesis, held at The Hermitage, have now ended. They have been well attended and if you were unable to join us, look out for information on our next one.



A Farewell to John and Jenny

A poignant presentation in church today, as John and Jenny Worton-Griffiths prepare to leave their home in Yeşiltepe and return to live in Cheltenham.

John spoke very movingly of their lives in Cyprus and the memories they will take with them.

We all thank John and Jenny for their many years of dedicated service to St Andrew's and for everything they have brought to our church community.





Our new bishop, The Rt Revd Sean Semple, is to be enthroned in his cathedral in Lefkosa/Nicosia on Saturday 22 June. In recognition that many from the TRNC may not be able to attend, he himself therefore intends to come to St Andrew's on Sunday 23 June instead!

We are honoured that this will be his first official engagement here, and are planning a special welcome service, to be followed by a celebratory lunch together.



A Finnish Choir will be joining us for worship on **30 June** and then performing a FREE concert from 12 noon for around 45 minutes.

This is the ONLY concert that they will be giving in the North of Cyprus, during their tour of the island. The concert has kindly been arranged by our friend Tommy Rognmo of the Nordic Churches Abroad.



"Getting a card reader had been the Treasurer's idea"

FRIENDS AND PEOPLE OF ST ANDREW'S

As we read our newspapers and magazines, we learn that these are difficult days for so many. We pray for family and friends, and we pray for all those who struggle.



As most of us know St Andrew's Church is self-supporting, receiving no finance from outside. We give thanks to God that this summer has seen many making the journey to Kibris and coming to worship at our lovely church of St Andrew's again.

Of course, the reduced numbers over the past few years have left St Andrew's without the usual generous collections. If you wish to donate from wherever you are to support the work of the Church, you can make payments to the Church UK Charity bank account by cheque or bank transfer and details are given below.

Bank Details:

Bank – Unity Trust Bank, 4 Brindley Place, Birmingham B1 2HB Account No. 20372187

Sort Code: 60-83-01

Account Name – St Andrew's Church

Kyrenia UK Charity BIC: CPBKGB22

IBAN: GB15UYTB60830120372187

Regular monthly Standing Order donations enable budgeting of church finances. You do not have to be a UK Taxpayer to contribute in this way. However, if you are a UK Taxpayer your Donations can be Gift Aided. Contact the gift aid officer at giftaid@standrewskyrenia.org for assistance with this.

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

Thank you so much for your support.



TODAY'S WORLD



Palestinians wait for aid trucks to cross in central Gaza Strip

ICC Prosecutor pursues Israel and Hamas

by MADELEINE DAVIES

THE decision by the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Court to seek arrest warrants for the leaders of Hamas and for the Prime Minister and Defence Minister of Israel has been welcomed by Christian Aid.

"The ICC Prosecutor has seen through the thicket of self-justifying legal rhetoric intended to stop this case," the charity's head of Middle East policy and advocacy, William Bell, said on Monday. "Today's announcement is a clear sign that nobody is above the law and those responsible for crimes should be held accountable for their actions."

The Prosecutor, Karim Khan KC, said on Monday that there were reasonable grounds to believe that three Hamas leaders "bear criminal responsibility" for alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity, including murder, extermination, and taking hostages. The grounds for the arrest of the two Israeli leaders included "starvation of civilians as a method of warfare as a war crime . . . intentionally directing attacks against a civilian population [and] extermination and/or murder". The decision over whether to issue arrest warrants will be taken by the Pre-Trial Chambers, which must also confirm the alleged charges.

The British Government was critical of the inclusion of the Israeli leaders. The Foreign Secretary, Lord Cameron, said: "To draw moral equivalence between the Hamas leadership and the democratically elected leader of Israel, I think, is just plain wrong."

Mr Bell said: "To avoid complicity, the UK Government cannot continue to provide arms to an Israeli government led by those for whom there are reasonable grounds to prosecute for war crimes and crimes against humanity." The prosecution's case for action stood "in stark contrast to the inexcusable failure by Western powers to bring about a permanent ceasefire.

Only that can stop the relentless slaughter of civilians to allow humanitarian aid into Gaza where people are dying and suffering every day."

One of Christian Aid's partners, Lawyers for Palestinian Human Rights, was among organisations that provided advisory documentation to the ICC.

On Monday, the Security Council was told that 1.1 million people in Gaza faced "catastrophic levels of hunger", and that the enclave "remains on the brink of famine". The director of operations and advocacy at the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Edem Wosornu, reported that, in the past two weeks, more than 800,000 people had been displaced from Rafa, and the once over-crowded camps and emergency shelters had been "largely emptied" as people sought refuge in Khan Younis and Deir al Balah. "The situation that people are finding on their arrival at new sites in these areas is horrendous," she said. "There is exceedingly limited existing infrastructure: they lack adequate latrines, water points, drainage, and shelter."

While welcoming the first aid shipment, delivered last Friday via the floating dock set up by the United States, Ms Wosomu emphasised that land routes "remain the most viable and effective way to deliver the scale of aid needed. . . The toll of death, injury, destruction in Gaza is utterly unconscionable. . . It is only a humanitarian ceasefire and a halt in the ground incursion in Rafah that will fully protect civilians, create the conditions for humanitarians to work to provide assistance at the scale required, and stem the endlessly deepening toll of this travesty in Gaza."

In Israel, Mr Netanyahu is under pressure from members of his war cabinet. On Saturday, Benny Gantz, a retired army general, threatened to resign unless the Prime Minister set out a post-war plan for Gaza by 8 June: "If you choose the path of fanatics and lead the entire nation to the abyss, we will be forced to quit the government." Last week, the Defence Minister, Yoav Gallant, said that he had urged the cabinet to set out a post-war plan for Gaza, including the creation of a new Palestinian civilian leadership.

On Wednesday, the governments of Norway, Ireland, and Spain announced that they would recognise an independent Palestinian state..

The BBC reported on Tuesday that medical workers in Israel had told it that Palestinian detainees from Gaza were "routinely kept shackled to hospital beds, blindfolded, sometimes naked, and forced to wear nappies". Whistle-blowers raised the alarm about procedures carried out without painkillers. One detainee told the BBC that his leg had to be amputated because he was denied treatment for an infected wound.

CNI's first woman bishop consecrated

THE first woman bishop in the Church of North India, the Rt Revd Violet Nayak, was consecrated in the Cathedral of the Redemption, New Delhi, on Tuesday of last week. She was elected Bishop of Phulbani on 20 May, almost 23 years after being ordained presbyter in the diocese. The Church of South India's first woman bishop was elected in 2013.

NEWS FROM UK



The annual ecumenical Whit Walk procession from Manchester Cathedral to a service in St Peter's Square, in the city centre, on Whit Monday.

RC bishops release disarmament document

A new document on disarmament and the ethical use of weapons, "Called to be Peacemakers", has been released by the International Affairs department of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. It argues that Roman Catholics should work to limit the proliferation of weapons and to advance the cause of global disarmament.

The newly elected chair of the department, Bishop Nicholas Hudson, said: "Vast sums of public money are spent on weaponry. One can legitimately argue that these funds could be better used to alleviate hardship and promote the common good of humanity." The document issues three calls for the Church: for nuclear disarmament; for general and complete disarmament; and "to put emerging technology at the service of humanity . . . until a binding treaty ensuring the human supervision of lethal autonomous weapons systems is negotiated".

Church growth at RHS Chelsea Flower Show



The garden from St James's, Piccadilly, "Imagine the World to be Different", which has won a gold award in the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. The garden, designed by Robert Myers, celebrates the significance of urban "pocket parks", which are often connected with historic churchyards.





Buckingham Palace said the King was "greatly encouraged" to be able to carry out some public engagements.

He visited a cancer treatment centre with Queen Camilla and made a surprise visit to an army barracks in Hampshire, where he joked about being "allowed out of my cage".

However, Charles will not undertake a full summer programme of engagements, and the pace of his return will be "carefully

calibrated" while his cancer treatment continues.

His attendance at key summer events such as Trooping the Colour on 15 June, commemorations for the 80th anniversary of D-Day, and Royal Ascot has not been confirmed yet.



Sudan: Children flee hospitals as fighting intensifies in North Darfur

Fifty-six people have succumbed to their injuries, but the death toll and number of wounded are likely far higher. The fighting continues to be so intense that many people cannot reach the hospital. Until now, North Darfur had been a relatively safe haven compared to other parts of Darfur. Now, there are snipers in the streets, heavy shelling is taking place, and nowhere in the city is safe at all.

On Friday, when the fighting began, there was heavy bombing and shooting close to the paediatric hospital, which Médecins Sans Frontières / Doctors Without Borders (MSF) also supports. This hospital is not far from an RSF base, so the SAF were trying to destroy RSF war materials there.

Airstrike kills two children in ICU

There were 115 children receiving treatment in the hospital at that time. They were suffering from conditions like malaria, pneumonia, diarrhoea and malnutrition. However, when the fighting started to take place so close to the hospital, most of the patients and their caregivers vacated the premises in search of safety. Some went to South Hospital, but we do not know the whereabouts of the others.

We do know that 10 children remained in the intensive care unit (ICU), though, and that three remained in the neonatal unit. The medical team, doctors, and nurses also stayed in the hospital to continue providing treatment for these children.

On the same day of this heavy fighting, we received 160 casualties at South Hospital, including 19 children and 31 women. Twenty-five of the 160 arrived in a critical condition, and sadly passed away as a result of their injuries. The following day, the fighting started early in the morning. Again, it was close to the paediatric hospital, and it was very intense.



During this fighting, there were a lot of bomb fragments that landed on the hospital. The roof of the ICU collapsed and two children in the ICU died as a result. Many of the caregivers were also wounded. One of them died and one of them lost his leg.

Mass casualty situation

On Sunday, there was again heavy fighting and we received another

130 casualties at South Hospital. Sixteen people died from their injuries and we continue to receive more and more as the fighting continues. The hospital is overwhelmed and

there is a huge amount to do. Some patients have received surgery, but 40 are currently still waiting. If the situation continues like this, I am afraid that we will run out of supplies to handle all these cases.

Currently, the fighting means that we cannot bring in more supplies, so we urgently need safe access and authorisation from the warring parties to be able to do this. And it is not only that. With the paediatric hospital now out of action, we are one additional hospital down, when there were already far too few operational health facilities available in Sudan.

The original paediatric hospital was looted at the start of the war, and the children were evacuated to the facility that was impacted by the air strike on Saturday. This time last year, it was just a small health clinic with not enough space and not enough equipment. We were asked to rehabilitate it by the Ministry of Health last year, and by June we had expanded its bed capacity and established a neonatal ward, an inpatient department, an inpatient therapeutic feeding centre, as well as a triage area, an outpatient department, emergency room and the ICU where the children were killed on Saturday.

It was full when the fighting started, with some departments over-capacity due to the number of children in need of hospital treatment. What we need to do now is work out how to ensure that children in critical condition can continue to receive treatment.

South Hospital is full, so the children who were taken there on Friday are in a very busy facility. We are looking into all options, but for now, there is no immediate solution. What is clear is that the fighting has had a devastating impact on the lives of the civilian population.

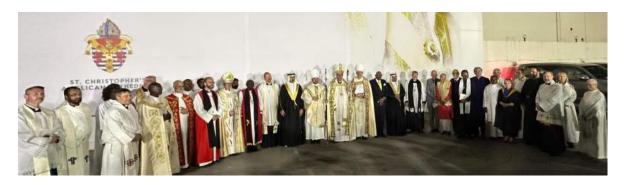


Welcome, Bishop Sean and Jenny

The Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf is delighted to welcome its new Bishop, the Right Reverend Sean Semple, whose Service of Consecration and Enthronement was held at St Christopher's Cathedral in Manama, Bahrain on Friday 24 May 2024, and his wife, Jenny.

Bishop Sean is the first bishop of the Diocese to be born in Africa, and the first Anglican bishop to be consecrated in Bahrain or indeed the wider Gulf region. Paying tribute to His Majesty King Hamad's vision of peaceful co-existence, Bishop Sean expressed his gratitude for "the gracious and respectful welcome offered by the Kingdom of Bahrain for all who had travelled from around the world to attend the service".

The presiding bishop at the Service of Ordination and Consecration was Archbishop Hosam Naoum, Primate of the Anglican Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. The two principal co-consecrating Bishops were the Right Reverend Dr Robert Innes, Bishop in Europe, Chair of the Church of England's Faith and Order Commission and Vice-Chair of the Church of England's Council for Christian Unity; and the Right Reverend Richard Jackson, Bishop of Hereford in England and Clerk of the Closet—head of the College of Chaplains of the Ecclesiastical Household of the King Charles III. Also in attendance were the Right Reverend Anthony Poggo, Secretary General of the Anglican Communion; and the Right Reverend Anthony Ball, Bishop of North Africa in the Anglican Province of Alexandria, Chairman of the Jerusalem and Middle East Church Association (JMECA), and Canon of Westminster Abbey. The Right Reverend Samy Fawzy Shehata, Primate of the Province of Alexandria was sadly unable to take part, called upon to return to Egypt at short notice.



"The Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf has been deeply honoured and encouraged by the bishops' participation in the service," said Bishop Sean. "Their presence indicates something of the significance in which our Diocese is held in the wider Anglican Communion, and further enhances these relationships." He was also particularly grateful for the family and friends who came to support him.

The Service was a wonderful mosaic of influences, drawing on the rich cultural heritage of congregations across the Diocese, including parts in Arabic, Hindi and Tamil—and of Bishop Sean himself, with hymns paying tribute to his birthplace of South Africa and his ministry in the Diocese of Herefordshire. It was also a testament to the dedicated work of the Dean of the Cathedral, the Very Reverend Dr Richard Fermer, its staff and its volunteers in planning and executing this historic and beautiful occasion.

During the joyful, and often moving service, the symbols of the office of bishop were presented—a Bible, an episcopal ring, a stole, a chasuble, a pectoral cross, a mitre and the bishop's crosier, or pastoral staff. And then, crosier in hand Bishop Sean departed, ritually turning back to seek re-admittance by knocking three times on the closed West Doors of the Cathedral.

The doors opened, for Dean Richard to join Bahraini dignitaries in welcoming Sean to his cathedral, leading him to the *cathedra* of the bishop to be enthroned as the sixth Bishop of

the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf. Delivering a pledge of commitment to the vision of King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa for the peaceful co-existence of peoples in mutual partnership with leaders of different faiths, Arab music played on the *oud* and *qanun*, carrying with it a soaring sense of spiritual unity as Bishop Sean stepped into his new role as shepherd of the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf.

Bishop Sean paid tribute to the exceptional musicians taking part in the ceremony—organist Michelle Miles, soprano Hannah Miles, Ziyad Sabt (*oud*) and Mahmoud Al Hashimi (*qanun*).

One of the most notable moments in the Service was Bishop Sean's invitation to the readers and clergy of the Diocese to help him in bearing the responsibility for the care of souls: "In this fundamental and essential partnership in the gospel we must support and edify one another in love."

"I was not expecting to receive this call," he says. "It is the greatest privilege of my life to now begin my ministry with the people of Cyprus and the Gulf; to hold them in my prayers and heart, and to do all that I can to support our Christian witness and service in the region."

Bishop Sean will be installed at St Paul's Cathedral in Nicosia on 22 June 2024. Please pray for Sean, Jenny and their family.

On 23 May, the King Hamad Global Centre for Peaceful Coexistence hosted a panel on 'Healing after Conflict' in the context of Palestine-Israel, South Sudan and Ukraine. Keynote speaker Archbishop Hosam was joined by Bishop in Europe the Right Reverend Dr Robert Innes, Secretary General of the Anglican Communion the Right Reverend Anthony Poggo, and Primate of the Province of Alexandria the Right Reverend Samy Fawzy Shehata.

The speakers shared deep and personal insight into conflicts in their regions. And yet, there was the common theme of hope. While the concept of healing was, said Archbishop Hosam, in his context "premature", he stressed that the message of the church in a time of war remained, as in a time of peace, "a call for reconciliation".

Bishop Sean holds first confirmation service

Bishop Sean concluded an historic visit to Bahrain with his first Confirmation

Service, held at St Christopher's Cathedral, Manama on 26 May. It was an uplifting ceremony that included parts of the liturgy and hymns in Tamil, with a full congregation celebrating seven confirmands, as well as two young people admitted to Holy Communion. A special sense of family carried through to a bring-and-share supper, with music, singing and dance.



Bishop Sean's visit to Bahrain included a Service of Thanksgiving and Welcome at Awali Church, in the course of which the congregation was invited to ask him



questions—an opportunity young members leapt to embrace. There was also a chance for Canon Angela Murray—author of a history of the Diocese—to explain the origins of the East Window (Light of the World), as well as the story behind the cope Bishop Sean was wearing. A beautiful pink damask with stripes of blue Indian silk, the vestment belonged to the third bishop of the Diocese, the Right Reverend John Brown, and was gifted to Bishop Sean by former Archdeacon in the Gulf Canon Alan Hayday, who was given it by Bishop John's widow, Rosemary.

The Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf is uniquely rich in the cultural mix of its congregations and the geographical reach of its parishes.

Bishop Sean continues his tour of the Diocese with a visit to Doha, beginning on 27 May.

Bishop Sean welcomed to Qatar

On a five-day visit to Doha, Bishop Sean and Jenny have been warmly welcomed by parish priest the Reverend Mark Derry and associate priest the Reverend MD Johnson, alongside the Epiphany Church council and board members of the Anglican Centre.

"Jenny and I have been met with great kindness, generosity and joy by the Church of the Epiphany and by the staff of the Anglican Centre," said Bishop Sean.

A highlight of the visit were the two confirmation services where around 30 confirmands drawn from the English and Tamil congregations were confirmed.

"Having experienced the birth of the New South Africa in 1994," he said, "the joyous diversity of people worshipping at Epiphany recalled that wonderful phrase of Archbishop Tutu, of a rainbow nation of God's people."

During his stay Bishop Sean and Fr Mark had the opportunity to meet the ambassador of South Africa, HE Ghulam Hoosein Asmal, and of the UK, HE Neerav Patel. There was also a chance for meetings with the wider parish Ministry Team, as well as a visit to Zubara Fort in the north of the country—the area of the first Christians in Qatar.







Compiled by Rev Gill Nisbet of the Barnabas Team

Sieger Koder Stronghold

God knows that I have a lot of books on my shelf. I love books. Even the ones I bought that I still haven't read (after many years) as I find a comfort in knowing that, well, they're there if I ever need them. One purchase caught my eye a while ago, it was entitled The Imperfect Pastor, as Zack Erswine details how we often enter into pastoral ministry with all good intentions, but then the world's standards take over as a "measurement" of our ministry.

Many, I'm sure, can identify as, like me, you probably aspired to make a difference in people's lives (excellent) but allowed the standards of the world to displace and discourage that original enthusiasm (not so excellent).

Two areas I found helpful were the following premises that Erswine raised. Firstly, instead of viewing ministry, both lay and ordained, as a chance to obviously do great

things, the encouragement was to recognise it as a slow work. The term that captured my imagination was to view myself as a "long-distance grace runner" able to be patient in my particular context.

And, secondly, instead of trying to be everywhere, fix everything, know everything, and do it all quickly, but rather, and I am paraphrasing the argument, to re-learn what it looks like to behold God.

At the end of Colossians (4:17), an almost obscure appendage, is Paul's exhortation to Archippus, also mentioned in Philemon, to "complete the ministry". This, of course, led me down the rabbit hole, when the Master returns (Mark 13:34ff) what will he find?

It's a challenging thought, because when I take the "I" out of my reflection, it's much easier to see the tapestry that God is weaving around my life and others. I normally see what God is doing, if I abide in him, but sometimes I don't. I live in many overlapping stories, most of which are larger than me. Each of us, I know, will die with unfinished stories. Like those who wept by the waters of Babylon (137:1), we may never get to see every dream, hope or answer fulfilled on this side of eternity. Yet, I am reminded that God is God. Ultimately, it is His story and not ours. In the end God sent Messiah Jesus to the temple. The glory of the new Temple was greater than Solomon's. The Jewish poet who wept by the rivers never saw the end of the story. Like the other heroes of the faith (Hebrews 11), he lived with the story unfinished in his lifetime.

The realisation is that some stories won't be tied up until heaven. But, as we await Jesus's return, it draws us into the heart of the Godhead, which is why I was drawn into God's embrace in the first place.

So, if it's weighing you down. Either the perceived "unfinished work", that which you feel guilty about, or procrastinating about (again), or your Achille's heel of taskachievement, both of which I am guilty – perhaps you need to pause. Lift up your gaze. And may God open our eyes to see our unfinished work in the light of his sufficiency and divine love. We are designed to operate from our rest and security in Him!

As Paul declares, we are raised with Messiah Jesus and seated with Him in Heavenly places (Eph 2:6). The imagery is one of rest and repose. Know these gap moments are a space for grace, remembering that you are not the sole "jigsaw piece" in the tapestry the Almighty is weaving. What really pleases God is the yes of your heart and your attitude towards Him.

Which reminds me of this heart cry from table of our Lord, as articulated in a Celtic invitation: So, come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; You who have been to this sacrament often, and you who have not been for a long time; You who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come. It is Christ Jesus himself who invites us to meet him here now. (Even if unfinished business makes you soul weary.)

I CANNOT DO THIS ALONE

by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

O God, early in the morning I cry to you. Help me to pray And to concentrate my thoughts on you; I cannot do this alone. In me there is darkness. But with you there is light; I am lonely, but you do not leave me; I am feeble in heart, but with you there is help; I am restless, but with you there is peace. In me there is bitterness, but with you there is patience; I do not understand your ways, But you know the way for me.... Restore me to liberty. And enable me to live now That I may answer before you and before men. Lord whatever this day may bring, Your name be praised. Amen



Diocesan Prayers for June



Sunday, 2 June 2024 TRINITY 1

Anglican Cycle of Prayer - The Anglican Church in Central America

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer - Pray for Archdeacon Michael's ministry, for the nations of the archdeaconry, and for all who live in them, both

ie archideaconny, and for an wind live in the

citizens and others.

St George's, Baghdad, Iraq; including St George's School

Sunday, 9 June 2024 TRINITY 2

Anglican Cycle of Prayer - The Province of the Anglican Church of the Congo

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer - Pray for thoughtful, courteous, and stimulating

communication across the diocese.

St Mark Student Chaplaincy, Famagusta, Cyprus

Sunday, 16 June 2024 TRINITY 3

Anglican Cycle of Prayer - The Anglican Church of Chile

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer - Pray for St Christopher's and St Paul's, our twin cathedrals,

their deans, their canons, and their people.

St Martin's, Sharjah, UAE

Sunday, 23 June 2024 TRINITY 4

Anglican Cycle of Prayer - The Church of England

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer - Pray for generosity, responsibility, and imagination in the

use of money and resources.

St Paul's Cathedral, Nicosia, Cyprus

Sunday, 30 June 2024 TRINITY 5

Anglican Cycle of Prayer - The Hong Kong Anglican Church

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer - Pray for those currently in formation and training for

ordained ministry as deacons and priests.

The Church of the Epiphany, Qatar

Living God, you bring us together in community
And teach us to love one another as you have loved us.

May we be beacons of your light in the communities in which we are set,
That through truth, justice and action
We may see your kingdom come upon earth,
In Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



For our brothers and sisters at St Andrew's

We remember the needs within our church family of those that particularly need our prayers. These include:

Michael Houston, Carol Blackwell-Gibbs, John and Jane Cotton, Jane Murphy, Julia Lewis, Molly Miller, Sandi Richardson, May McKenzie, Nasim Akhtar, Shane Barnes, Jenny and Bob Hayward, Padmesh Gartaula and Sigi Martin.

a line of the second

We pray also for strength and grace for those who carry the burden of care.

Pray for the recently departed, their family and friends who morn their passing.

"The prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well ... pray for each other so that you may be healed" James 5: 15-16

QUOTES OF THE MONTH

It is a weapon requiring no training, no investment, and it is deployed globally

Sophie, Duchess of Edinburgh, on the use of sexual violence in warfare, The Sunday Times, 26 May

Little wonder our nation is suffering: 5 PMs in 10 years, 16 housing ministers in 13 years, 7 Home Secretaries in 10 years, 7 Foreign Secretaries in 10 years, 10 Environment Ministers in 10 years, 10 Education ministers in 10 years

Bev Mason, Bishop of Warrington, X/Twitter, 26 May



EPIC SUMMER SALAD

Perfect for BBQs and buffets, our epic salad is an assembly job of gorgeous ingredients – no cooking required.

Serve it with lamb kebabs for an impressive summer feast

Prep: 10 mins

Serves 6

Ingredients

400g black beans, drained 2 large handfuls baby spinach leaves, roughly chopped 500g heritage tomatoes, chopped into large chunks ½ cucumber, halved lengthways, seeds scooped out and sliced on an angle

1 **mango**, peeled and chopped into chunks

1 large **red onion**, halved and finely sliced 6-8 **radishes**, sliced 2 **avocados**, peeled and sliced 100g **feta**, crumbled handful of **herbs** (reserved from the dressing)



For the dressing

large bunch mint 1 small garlic clove

small bunch coriander 2 limes, zested and juiced

small bunch basil 2 tsp honey 1 fat green chilli, deseeded and chopped 100ml extra virgin olive oil or rapeseed oil

2 tbsp white wine vinegar

Method

STEP 1

Make the dressing by blending all of the ingredients in a food processor (or very finely chop them), saving a few herb leaves for the salad. You can make the dressing up to 24 hrs before serving.

STEP 2

Scatter the beans and spinach over a large platter. Arrange the tomatoes, cucumber, mango, onion and radishes on top and gently toss together with your hands. Top the salad with the avocados, feta and herbs, and serve the dressing on the side.

Living God, help us at all times to be Christ to others and to see Christ in all people.



If you would like to contribute any articles or comments

to the magazine please contact

the Editor, Anne Lloyd at graniannie@hotmail.com



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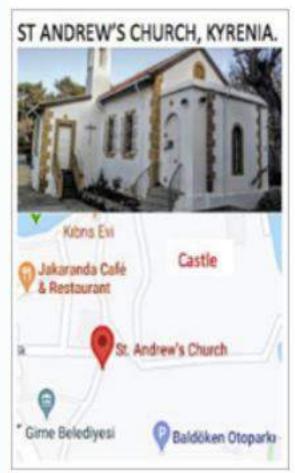
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ST ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY

Roman Catholic Church

(On the right hand side of the road (Ensin Aydin Sokak) opposite the Dome Hobel)

MASS – Every Sunday in the Month at 12 noon. Information 815 2225 or 815 2285

St. Mark's Anglican Chaplaincy, Famogusta

SERVICES - Every Sunday at 11.00s.m. 4.5.30p.m. Details of weekly activities on 364 8664