

SHOTTERY *SEARCHLIGHT*



Forgiven at the
Cross.
Easter 2018





Each Sunday morning the 1662 Eucharist is celebrated at 8.00am

Each Tuesday evening at 7.30pm there is a Said Eucharist

Every Thursday at 10am: Said Eucharist with Address

7th: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

10.00am Family Service.

6.30pm Book of Common Prayer Eucharist.

14th: PALM SUNDAY

10.00am Parish Eucharist starting with donkey procession from the Bell Inn.

6.30pm Sung Evensong.



16th: HOLY TUESDAY 7.30pm Said Eucharist

18th: MAUNDY THURSDAY 10.00am Said Eucharist

7.30pm Special Eucharist.

19th: GOOD FRIDAY 10.00—11.00 Interactive event for children and young people.
1.30pm Before the Cross.



21st: EASTER DAY

5.30am Easter Vigil (followed by breakfast—need to book!)

10.00am Parish Eucharist

6.30pm Sung Evensong.

28th: SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

10.00am Parish Eucharist. 6.30pm Evening Prayer.



MESSAGE OF THE MONTH FOR APRIL from JAN WALKER, Reader.

Easter is nearly upon us, and spring is breaking through once more. The daffodils have arrived along with longer and lighter days, new life begins again.

Easter sees the birth of the church, where Jesus having died to cancel sin and death breathes his loving spirit over us. It is a time of hope, a time of looking forward, a time of growth. Winter is firmly

behind us.

Also now, our time of interregnum is drawing to a close and as a church community we look forward to welcoming our new incumbent. This too, could become a time of new growth, new direction and all in the power of God's spirit.

I love Easter, and not just the chocolate, but the sheer joy of leaving the winter behind, the beauty that blooms in the gardens and fields, the re-creation of God's creation, of light, warmth and hope.

With the pain of the crucifixion now firmly behind us let us pray that the Lord's spirit be born in us again this season, that his love will lead us into the coming months, and let us give thanks for Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and his gifts of eternal love and salvation.

May I wish you all a truly blessed Easter,

Jan





Wardens' Watch by David Whyman

“The end is nigh!” so called the soothsayers. No, I’m not referring to the end of all time, I will leave others better qualified than me to predict such things, but rather to the appointment of our new vicar. For many reasons, names have had to be kept under wraps to protect clergy and their parishes. We are

delighted to now be able to formally announce our new vicar will be Revd. Craig Grocock, currently vicar at All Saints Harbury and All Saints Ladbroke. Throughout the past months so many people have been praying that the right person for our Parish would be led by God to come to lead and guide us deeper in our faith. I am quite sure Revd. Craig will challenge us in many ways - spiritually, physically and mentally as we move forward in faith together. It has now been confirmed that the Collation, Induction and Installation service will be on Wednesday 26th June, 2019 at 7-30pm at Shottery Church led by Bishop Christopher and Archdeacon Sue Field. In preparation for that date there will be so much happening to ensure the service is duly prepared and co-ordinated so as to ensure our Church and Welcome Area is “spick and span” and that the Vicarage is ready to welcome Craig, Su and Gus their Labrador. Elsewhere in this magazine you will see an article from Craig and Su telling us more about their lives, hobbies and interests – all good reading !

May I ask you to please pray for Craig and Su as they prepare to leave their current home and Parish of 11 years. Pray for those congregations and friendships they are leaving behind and we can only imagine how disappointed they might be feeling.

We look forward with joy to a new and challenging ministry with Craig, blessed and directed by the God we worship and love.

May God bless you each one.

David Whyman

Introducing Reverend Craig and Su

-

Hi everyone, I am so excited about being appointed as your new Vicar. I remember 31 years ago being on placement at St. Andrew's as part of my Church Army training. I was under the supervision of Capt. Stephen Payne who lived at Bishopton and Stuart Beake was your vicar then! So to be coming to you this June as your new vicar is a great joy and both Su and I are looking forward to being with you.



I was born and bred in North Shropshire, born in fact on the very day that John Lennon wrote the song 'Help!'. I met a fantastic girl (Su) in my teens and we have been together ever since. We met at church - Su was a chorister and I was a server. Following our marriage in 1987 we both began training with the Church Army in London and moved back to Shropshire to begin our ministries following our commissioning in 1990.

I worked as youth worker for the Shrewsbury Churches Youth Project and Su served as Project Worker for the Telford Young Parents Project. Following Shropshire we moved to Bedworth as I was appointed Youth and Children Minister for All Saints' Church whilst Su established a new project with young families across the town. Another move came in 1996 as I was invited to take up a new post in Warwick as Youth and Children Worker for St. Mary's, St. Nicholas and Christ Church, Woodloes Park.

I began training for Ordination at the Queen's Foundation, Birmingham in 2003 and was ordained in 2005 at Coventry Cathedral. I served my curacy

at St. Nicholas', Kenilworth and in 2008 was appointed Priest-in-Charge of of Harbury and Ladbroke. Su is currently Senior Regional Manager (Volunteer Development) for 'Embrace the Middle East' a charity that together with local Christian communities, are bringing change through healthcare, education and community development projects in the Middle East.

We have two children, Jess (26) an actress based in London and Elliot (21) currently completing his teacher training (Primary) in Canterbury.



So what do we like doing? Well, lots of things. We both enjoy running (with Gus, our Labrador), I play guitar and uku-les, enjoy stargazing when I get the chance and I also hold a black belt in Shotokan Karate (useful for PCC meetings!). We both enjoy reading, hill-walking and eating curries!

So, there you are – a brief snap shot of who we are!

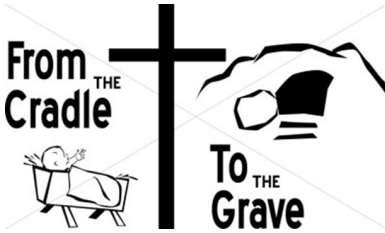
Please pray of us as we prepare to come to Shottery – you may indeed see us at the beginning of May as we begin to sort the Vicarage out – please do pop over and say hello (but beware, you may be given a paint brush!).

We will be praying for all of you too as we move together into this next exciting chapter.

God bless you -

Reverend Craig and Su





Funerals

5th March Ruth Phyllis Kitching (65)

6th March Renie Joyce Barnett (99)

26th March Mary Chaplin (101)



On Sunday the 14th of April, it will be Palm Sunday. But it will also be our Annual Parochial Church Meeting - which will follow our 10am service.

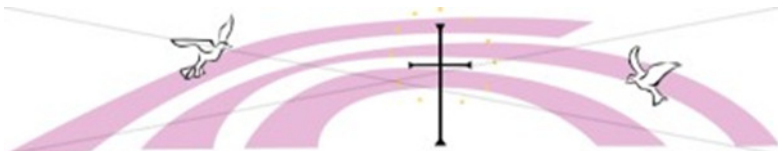
This is our Annual General Meeting where we review the year just ended and look forward to the year ahead. All members of the congregation are welcome and those on the church's Electoral Roll have a vote.

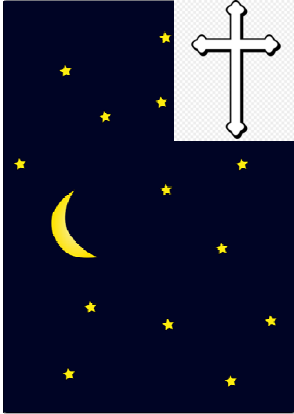
One item on the agenda is the election of Churchwardens and PCC members. This year, three PCC members come to the end of their 3 year terms. We welcome nominations for new members. All three retiring members are eligible and willing to restand for election. In the event of more nominations than vacancies we will have a vote.

Please join us for this key meeting.

David Millington

Secretary to the PCC





MINI EVENING PILGRIMAGES

The Mini Evening Pilgrimage Season kicks off on Tuesday April 23rd with a trip to St. Helen's Church in Clifford Chambers, followed by a Carvery at the New Inn.

In all cases we will meet at the church to be visited by 7.00pm and all visits will now be on **the fourth Tuesday**.

The following dates have been agreed and also some venues.

May 28th. The Greek Orthodox Church in Coventry at Charter Avenue where Fr. Theodoros has offered to sing a shortened version of Orthodox vespers followed by a cup of tea. We shall then adjourn to "The Penny Farthing" .

June 25th. St Gregory Tredington and then to wherever the Reverend Stephen Fletcher decides to take us!!!!

July 23rd, August 27th September 24th TBA

FUND RAISING EVENT

Friday 26th April
by popular request
A Curry Night
Starts at 7.00 pm
Please sign up in the Welcome Area.



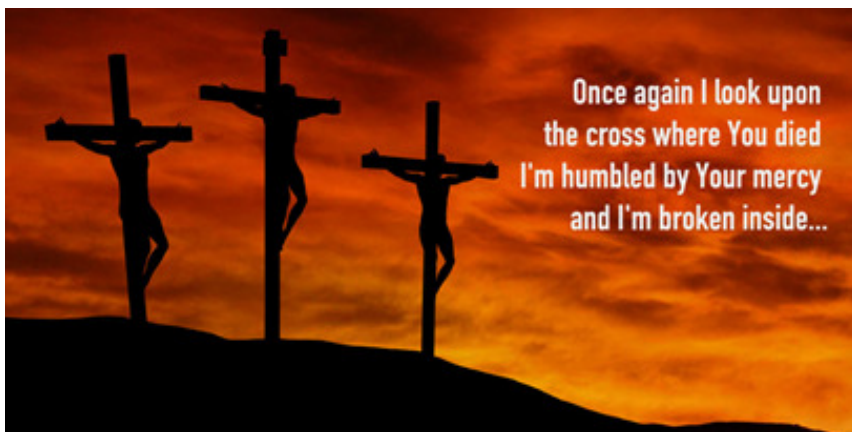
DENISE ADDREO recently received this letter
from her Consultant Neurosurgeon

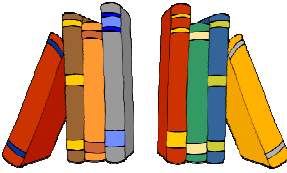
"I have reviewed Denise Andreo in my clinic today. She was waiting on my list for lumbar decompression surgery. I remember her calling my secretary to defer her operation a few months ago. She is now telling me that her back pain and leg symptoms have completely resolved after a healing prayer. She is quite pleased that her symptoms have virtually gone and she has become more erect in her posture and also feels like a new person after this prayer.



I am completely surprised and pleased for the way she has made a miraculous recovery after this healing prayer. I completely agree with her position that we should not be pursuing any surgical option at this point in time. I have discharged her from the Clinic but obviously I would be more than happy to see her should the need arise in future with a new referral."

(ref. pages 21 and 22 of February Searchlight)



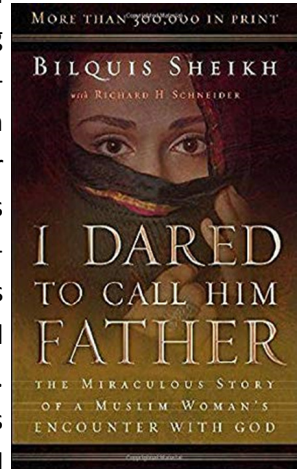


BOOK REVIEWS BY JANET INSOLL

I Dared to Call Him Father

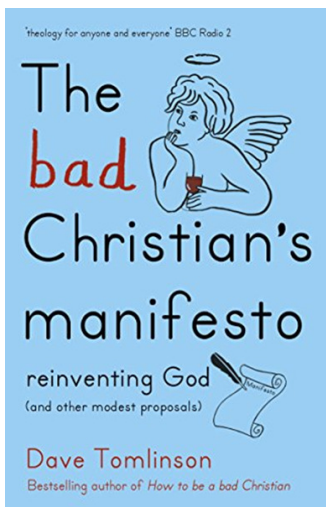
By Bilquis Sheikh

This is a classic. Bilquis is a prominent Muslim woman in South Asia. After a series of disturbing dreams, she reads the Bible, and then visits a Christian couple who explain them to her. Then a nun encourages her to talk to God like as if he were her father. This revolutionises her beliefs. She pursues her new-found faith, making new friends and converts but is ostracised by her old friends, neighbours and relatives, some of whom come around particularly as they see the changes in her attitudes. This book has now reached its 25th anniversary but is still as fresh to read as when it was first written and published.



The Bad Christian's Manifesto : Reinventing God

By David Tomlinson



This is another book by the author of *How to be a Bad Christian but yet a Good Human Being*. It talks about keeping faith without scepticism, making a virtue of pleasure and finding heaven in the ordinary things of life. He feels that our overly religious, formal ideas of God need to be reinvented - and a lot of our spirituality too. He considers virtues, vices, friendship, morality and mortality – and how to make a sacrament of anything from chocolate to cigars. This book could change the way you think about God – and the way you live your life.

PILGRIMAGE TO LEE ABBEY IN DEVON. 19th—22nd March.



Denis Andreo organised an amazing few days at Lee Abbey.. Rooms, food, sea views, welcome, worship, courses and fellowship with others on retreatall excellent.

We enjoyed a trip to the farm and saw lambs being born and also new tiny piglets. There was good walking terrain for those that like hills. I think Bob was the only one who paddled in the sea at the private beach. Some did archery; I think Alan managed to hit the balloon. There was a trip to Lynton and some went on the cliff railway.

Lee Abbey is said to be a thin place, i.e. a place where heaven and earth meet, and that was surely true of the atmosphere during worship in the octag. We raised the roof with our singing and the Taize evening was beautiful.





BILL TUCKER writes of one of the courses he attended at Lee Abbey

The course I attended was 'Loved into Life' and was run by Mike Edson, a priest of great experience and perception. I chose this course knowing that God is love, but very aware that I am rather short in the love department. It is easy to love God and Family and friends, but how about the rest of the community. I soon run out of love there.

It had struck me that the course title was a bit strange. However, I soon understood what he meant. He explained that love is a verb and it doesn't work without action. If we are called to be the body of Christ, we should be using it in the community. Jesus made full use of love in his community, to tremendous effect. Mike gave us examples of love in action from his own experience and told us stories from everyday life to press his points home. That's the same technique that Jesus used!

Mike also tackled how we can communicate with people by thinking of relationships at different levels. He uses five levels for relationships, from casual acquaintance to the deepest love. These can all be opportunities to be used, or to be missed. Do such social skills come naturally to priests? I must try a little harder.

Even so, there are some things I can already do. I can show God's love by helping and through hospitality, always remembering to accept people as they are. In these ways I hope to be moving in the right direction.

[\(more photos on our website\)](#)



ALAN BODDINGTON shares his memories of Lee Abbey.

Four days at Lee Abbey meant that, quite apart from the opportunities to enjoy the fabulous scenery of the north Devon coast, there was time to join one of the study groups – in my case the one entitled “Living a reflective life,” the leader was Anne Holland, wife of the Warden on Lee Abbey.

It is impossible to report more than a small fraction of this lovely gentle lady’s talks, the general theme being prayer – communicating, conversation with God. But two of the sessions I found particularly helpful.

The first was about seeing God in our everyday lives, and worshipping Him in response. Entitled ‘Awareness Walk’ there were headings: look, touch, smell, listen, taste which acted as ‘prompts’ which led us to praise or penitence:-

LOOK at the clouds, notice birds, insects, colour.....

TOUCH feel the warmth of the sun on your skin, the coolness of the breeze.....

SMELL scents, of the flowers, of rubbish and fumes.....

LISTEN to water, our own breathing and heartbeat.....

TASTE water, savour our next meal.....

Such a simple idea but, in its way a profound approach to prayer.

The second was the encouragement to be honest about how we pray when going through difficult times. Anne spoke from the heart about being angry with God when, after only a few months into the job of warden of Lee Abbey, her husband, Simon, was diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer. She described going for a walk around the Lee Abbey estate literally shouting at God “Why?”



.....

“Why us?” “Why now?” It was very moving and very encouraging to be ‘given permission’ to be really honest with God about how we feel. God is big enough to take all our emotions which we bring to Him in prayer, and He can then help us to find a way through to peace.

Anne’s gentle spirit spoke volumes.



MAY I RECOMMEND

SOUNDBITES, at HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Free lunchtime recitals on Wednesdays.

Refreshments served from 12.30pm.

Recitals start at 1pm.

Throughout the year at Soundbites, musicians from

The Royal College of Music, The Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, The King Edward VI Grammar School and The Royal Northern College of Music, together with other talented musicians perform.





12th March was our Anniversary Corporate Communion meeting and we were fortunate to have the Revd.

Canon David Capron officiating together with Alan Minchin and with Jackie Wightman providing piano accompaniment.

We welcomed Catherine Bartlem who came to talk about Coffee Tots which is a drop-in centre for mothers and children based in Coventry. Catherine described how she realised that there were many (often young and single) mothers with little social contact and in need of support and care. She set up a meeting place where these mothers and their children would feel comfortable about coming in and this was how Coffee Tots began. Now it is a community café for families with babies and young children - based at 11, City Arcade, Coventry and open Monday-Friday, 9.30 a.m. - 3 p.m. (www.coffeetots.co.uk.)

Nearby there is ReNEW where play sessions are run and courses in the training kitchen, the computer room and with space for meetings, etc. There is also a Swap Shop for baby and children's clothes, equipment and toys. The whole emphasis is upon help and support and is run by mothers who understand the problems that parenthood can present. Coffee Tots is run by Christian charity Three Spires Family Support Trust and is funded by donations, trusts, businesses and local churches and needs £200/day to keep going. They are very appreciative of the support they have from Mothers' Union. As a Christian, Catherine said that love and care were at the root of the work being done with the 200 parents/per week + children.

We were all inspired by Catherine's talk and commitment in starting this whole venture and the vote of thanks was warmly endorsed and members were able to make personal donations. Plenty of talk followed over tea. Next Meeting - 9th April - Talk by Janet Insoll on "Iona". Visitors always welcome.

Daphne Jones.

Children's Easter Celebration

10 am Friday 19th April 2019

St. Andrew's Church

Shottery

EASTER GOODIES



SINGING

FUN ACTIVITIES

CRAFTS



**J
E
LOVES YOU!
U
S**

MUSIC



DRESSING UP

EASTER EGGS!



MAKE AN
EASTER GARDEN



MAKE AND EAT!



Bring an Adult- There's Hot Cross Buns!



LADIES FELLOWSHIP

Ladies Fellowship met on Thursday evening of the 28th of February 2019. Making a welcome return as our speaker was Neville Evans, a professional Gardner who worked in the gardens of the Shakespeare birthplace trust for many years, but now has his own gardening business. Neville planted up a pot of spring flowers—polyanthus, daffodils and hyacinths, explaining as he planted the importance of placing plants to get the maximum effect; the best soil for planting and the feeding requirements as the planting compost starts to lose its nutrients after about six weeks. He gave us many tips about how to best deal with slugs and snails, and told us about the benefits of using coffee grounds around plant roots also mixing them with compost.

Coffee grounds can be obtained for free at some coffee shops and supermarkets in Stratford. We also had instructions about pruning roses and other shrubs; feeding them and, importantly, dealing with black spot on roses.

Neville told us many lawns had fared badly last year due to prolonged warm weather and very little rain so we were pleased to hear how to make some improvements which, I may say, involves quite a lot of hard work.

He brought with him a garden quiz and he very kindly gave the winner the pot of spring flowers he had planted up. He invited us to ask questions and was able to help with our individual garden problems. We all enjoyed the evening and took away with us a good deal of information and, as usual, we shared a tasty supper together.

Jo Carver. Chairperson

HUMBLE APOLOGIES TO LILY ROBSON!!

I inadvertently wrote that she had been offered a place at **OXFORD** but in fact she has been offered a place at **CAMBRIDGE** to read Music. She will also be singing with Trinity College Choir.

. (A huge senior moment on my part)

On Names, Titles and related Matters.

How many readers will recall who the Reverend Timothy Farthing is? Full marks if you answered the Vicar of Walmington on Sea in the long running TV series Dad's Army. The interesting fact is that he is very seldom addressed by his name. His Verger refers to him obliquely like "his Reverence wouldn't like that" or when addressing him directly calls him "Your Reverence". It is as if the title has taken over the name.

I remember booking in at a Hotel several years ago and noted that the name above mine was listed as Shearingham or some such and I mentioned it to the receptionist saying "I see you are popular with the aristocracy". "Oh yes she replied "they expect extra special service and tip badly!"

In the fifties at the time of the execution of Timothy Evans for a murder which clearly he did not commit my wife, Jean and I hired a Library Hall in Stafford to highlight the issues at stake. To our surprise the attendance was overfull. We had a well-known lobbyist to chair the meeting and we asked all participants in the discussion to give their surname. One such stood up and started with the name "Queensbury". Such a name associated with fairness in boxing gave extra credence to his opinions.

Quite a few instances occur. We often refer to our GP as "Doctor ". Academically most Doctors have first degrees but the title reflects the occupation and of course the training. In my day most engineers stopped at the first degree....experience being related as more important than more academic training. Indeed today there are in general more PhDs than, in those days, first degrees, which reflects the astronomic growth and appetite for knowledge. I was once interviewed for a job in Milan, Italy and was surprisingly addressed as Doctor since that was the local protocol. In Germany the prefix for engineers is Dipl.Ing.

I attended a consultation for my wife, at a London Eye Hospital and during her examination by the Consultant a knock came on the door and a question was posed beginning with "Prof....." Again the title Professor is interesting. The incident reminded me of a personal occasion when in a University Laboratory, where I researched part-time, I was considering setting up an experiment when a technician well known to me came up and said "Right Prof, where do we start with this little lot?". It was my first appearance as a Professor and I almost looked

behind – was he addressing me? I had lost my name for a title....and that too is the protocol in many UK Universities. Interestingly more as a joke one fears I was often called “Prof” by my work colleagues at my normal industrial work place.

The most significant loss of a name probably affects the ladies. When they marry they lose their birth surname and become Mrs.XXXX. I have often felt this to be unfair but such is life. Of course increasingly the ladies overcome the problem by retaining their maiden name professionally and indeed even to secure a double barrelled surname. The son of a dear friend of mine on marrying changed his surname to that of his wife’s at the request of his father-in-law.....and this caused quite a bit of family hurt.

Alas, “A rose by any other name would still smell sweet”.

A peculiarity of the Christian religion is the title we give to Jesus of Nazareth as “the Lord Jesus Christ”. From the Greek “Christos”, the anointed one it became Jesus Christ. To be anointed by having sacred oil poured on one’s head indicated that God has chosen the person for a special task. We have it in our Coronation Service and there are several biblical instances.

Jesus himself explained his kingdom was not of this world (John 18.37). The kingdom of God is made up of those who submit their lives to God. Thus in turn the term for Jesus as Lord is the lead in that kingdom. Note too that Paul proclaims faith in the work of Jesus (Romans 10.9).

Even to His own people Jesus had the term “Rabbi” often defined as Teacher. The Pharisees called Him such in Luke 19.39.

.....and where does this take us? Well we can be sure that titles might be important but not as important as being true to oneself and to acknowledge one’s fellows as being equal “in the sight of God”.

When this acknowledgement becomes human love then we have something truly inspiring. If you have a close love shared with another then you really have something that is beyond worldly value.



R David Langman



BISHOP JOHN'S NEW BOOK

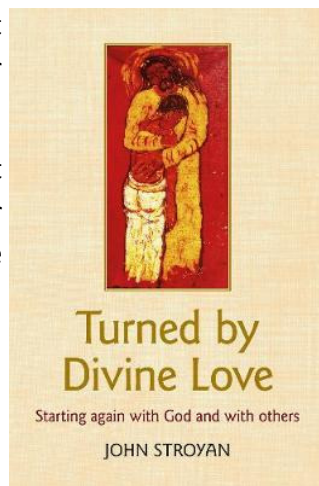
One of the fruits of Bishop John's sabbatical in 2017 was the writing of a book. The book, *Turned by Divine Love, Starting again with God and with others*, is to be published on 22nd March by the Bible Reading Fellowship.

This book, the fruit of prayer, theological reflection and rich human experience, evokes fresh praying and thinking about all the key relationships in our lives, beginning with God. Drawing on the rich Christian traditions of both east and west, it speaks of theology and spirituality, to the head and the heart. It is a book of hope, encouraging us all to make a fresh start with God and, entering more fully into the relationship of love to which he invites us, to go out and to witness to this love. In this unique bringing together of the riches of the Christian east and west is the call to hear God's gracious voice today.

The book includes, among others, illustrations of batiks done by Bishop John's friend, Solomon Raj when he was in Birmingham in the '80s.

The book will be launched in this Diocese at Coventry Cathedral after the Chrism Eucharist (18th April) at which +John will be preaching. Following the service, Bishop John will be interviewed about the book and there will be opportunity for questions.

The book will be available for purchase from St Clare's at the Cathedral. There will be an earlier launch in Oxfordshire, where the publishers are based, on Friday 29th March at St Mary's Church, Bloxham at 7.30pm.





Coventry Cathedral are privileged to welcome the Knife Angel into the heart of our city, which already knows too much about the painful impact of knife crime. The sculpture makes something of real power and beauty from these weapons that can do such harm. It invites us all to consider the choices we make, and to commit to making something better.

Coventry Cathedral is no stranger to pain and destruction so it seems fitting that the Knife Angel should stand beside our own guardian, St Michael, and help us to gather our thoughts and longings for peace in our city.

In making something beautiful from the ugliness and violence of the knives Alfie Bradley follows a pattern that is part of the Cathedral's own DNA – using the pain of the past to build something brighter and stronger – a peaceful future.

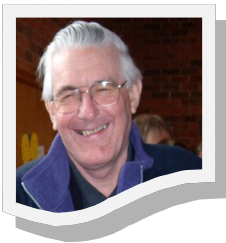
We are proud to be hosting the sculpture here and engaging with its themes of grief and redemption, of violence and healing as we continue to offer a safe space for the whole city to gather and reflect.

It's fitting that it should stand for a while in the space between old and new cathedrals as an invitation to all of us to choose healing and hope. We're looking forward to welcoming 'Knife Angel', a unique sculpture fashioned from 100,000 knives, which will go on display outside Coventry Cathedral. Designed by sculptor Alfie Bradley of the British Ironworks Centre (BIC) based in Oswestry, the 27-foot high sculpture is touring the country to raise awareness of knife crime and send a message to prevent violence in the future.

We know that this is proving to be an emotional experience for a lot of those who have visited, so just inside the New Cathedral there is an opportunity for you to light a candle and leave a message should you wish to. This is available during our normal opening hours.

In addition our Litany of Reconciliation and the Declaration of Hope are taking place outside at midday, alongside the Knife Angel for the duration of its stay here. All are very welcome to pause and join us for this short act of reflection.

The Knife Angel will be at the Cathedral until April 23rd.



THE 50% GOSPEL.

The festival of Easter, as with the festival of Christmas, has given birth over the centuries to much beautiful music and many fine hymns.

One glory of our seasonal hymns is that they nearly all declare biblical/theological truths and themes, unlike many of today's "praise" songs.

In times past when many ordinary folk in church congregations did not have access to Bibles, commentaries, and study books, the words of our hymns served as gateways to the great spiritual truths of biblical Christianity. Over centuries hymns, along with stained glass windows, have served to pass on the great truths of the Christian Faith.

All will have personal seasonal favourites and at this time of the year I find it impossible to choose between "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" and "My Song is Love Unknown".

Both hymns were actually written centuries ago, Isaac Watts (1674-1748) being the composer of "When I Survey....." and Samuel Crossman (1624-1683) writing "My Song.....", and let us not forget those unforgettable tunes - "Rockingham" by Edward Miller and "Love Unknown" by John Ireland.

Though centuries have passed it is a great tribute, both to biblical truth and to the devotional insight of the writers, that these hymns continue to convey unwavering theological truth into an age that is becoming increasingly cynical, unbelieving and spiritually lost. As never before our society - and perhaps most of the "western" world - is in deep need of spiritual rescue.

It was, if my memory serves correctly, three years ago when the results of a survey were published which had asked people what did they think of at Easter.

Chocolate eggs, Easter bunnies, and hot cross buns were the top three with the story of Our Lord Jesus Christ trailing in fourth place, which makes me wonder what Isaac Watts and Samuel Crossman might have said about that ?

But has the Church unwittingly played a role in the modern decline of Christian faith? Some Christian commentators are pointing out that much of the church today is only preaching and teaching a "50% gospel". Though the gospels record that nearly 50% of Our Lord's teaching dealt with judgment, today such things as the crucial need for repentance, the influence of Satan, the reality of eventual

judgment, and the devastation of ending up without God - hell - have all gone missing from much of modern Christianity.

This raises a vital realization. If society is not offered the FULL teaching of Our Lord Jesus Christ - that is that along with the stupendous grace of God there is also the greatest need to be aware of sin, the necessity for repentance and reconciliation, of eventual divine judgment and an eternal destiny to be chosen then why should people be interested in The Church and why should the Christian Easter Festival hold any real meaning for society in general ?

It seems obvious that unless, and until, the Church in the western world regains and shares ALL that Our Lord Jesus Christ had (and has) to say to the modern world (as unpalatable as it may be to some modern ears) then the decline of Christianity will continue. And as Our Lord Himself observed "..... when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth" ? (Luke 18:8 NIV).

However, let us who have heard and accepted the Good News of Jesus Christ come before the majesty of the risen Lord with grateful hearts at this Easter time and may we truly grasp - as did Isaac Watts - that the action of God at the first Easter represents love so amazing, so divine that it demands our souls, our lives, our very all.

Alan Minchin.



When all you have is God, you have all you need. Dennis Fisher

Our collection on 14th April for WaterAid. Wateraid works specifically on the WASH crisis: water, sanitation and hygiene. Our vision is of a world where everyone has access to safe water and sanitation.

WATERAID

Clean water, reliable toilets and good hygiene are what keep us all healthy. They should be a normal part of daily life for everyone, everywhere – but they aren't. We're in a position to change that.

Donate

With the help of amazing people like you, we're working in some of the toughest places in the world. Together, we've already reached millions of people with these three essentials, enabling entire communities to stay healthy, to unlock their potential, break free from poverty and change their lives for good.

And while installing taps and toilets is essential to our work, we do so much more. Our global advocacy team works tirelessly to hold governments accountable and to make sure they are spending tax-payers' dollars efficiently.

The water Kassa drinks could kill him, but he has no choice.



WaterAid works in *26 countries* worldwide, transforming millions of lives every year with safe water, sanitation and hygiene projects.

WaterAid works specifically on the WASH crisis: **water, sanitation and hygiene**. Our vision is of a world where everyone has access to safe water and sanitation.

Water

Clean water is essential for life, but one in eight of the world's population does not have access to it. This, and lack of safe sanitation, result in over two million people dying from water-related diseases every year. The lack of clean water close to people's homes also affects people's time, livelihoods and quality of life.

Sanitation

Sanitation can be defined as access to safe, clean and effective human urine and faeces disposal facilities. 2.5 billion people in the world do not have access to adequate sanitation, one in three of the world's population. Around 500,000 children die every year from diarrhoea caused by unsafe water and poor sanitation - that's over 1,400 children a day.

Hygiene education

To gain the full benefits of safe water and sanitation communities also need to know about the links between diseases and unsafe hygiene practices. Hygiene education focuses on issues such as personal hygiene - the simple act of washing hands with soap and water can reduce diarrhoeal diseases by a third.

Poverty

The most obvious benefit of access to safe water and sanitation is a reduction in disease. But the economic position of poor families is often dramatically improved when they gain access to these basic services.

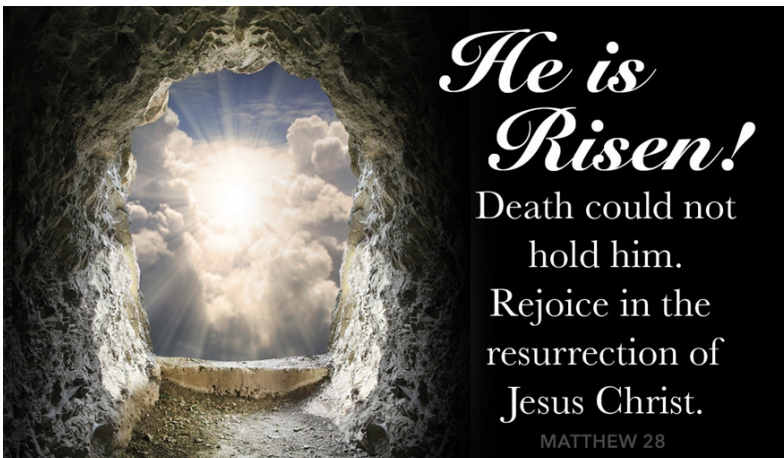
No more drinking filthy river water, teeming with parasites, bacteria and animal waste.

An end to the worry of diarrhoea, which kills 1,400 children every day.

A pump or tap in the heart of the community, rather than a daily trek to the river with a heavy jerry can.

When people's lives are transformed there is always a great story to tell!

**We've made amazing progress but we have a long way to go.
We still need your help to bring clean water to everyone,
everywhere.**



Bishop Christopher has written to express his "sense of deep outrage at the appalling desecration of human life inflicted on innocent Muslim people as they gathered to pray at their Mosques in New Zealand".



In a letter to Dr Abdullah Shehu, Chair of the Coventry Muslim Forum, Bishop Christopher said:

"The scale of the tragedy is appalling and the hatred behind and during its perpetration is truly shocking. It was a dreadful act of terror that will send shockwaves of fear across every Muslim community, including those of Coventry and Warwickshire.

With other religious leaders across the world and in our city and wider region, I stand with you in your condemnation of such violation of humanity, grief in the loss of your brothers and sisters, and in prayer for those who suffered injury to their bodies, minds and spirits, and those who suffered the loss of their dear ones.

We join with the good people of Christchurch who will, I am sure, will do everything they can to restore the name of their good city. Christians in particular will want to ensure that city, with all its special religious resonances, is never defiled in such a way again.

There will shortly be the termly meeting of the Synod of the Diocese of Coventry representing our 206 parishes across Coventry and Warwickshire. We will begin our meeting with silence to remember the victims, pray for all those affected by the tragedy, calling on the mercy of God to heal our damaged world.

We stand ready to support you in other more practical ways.

With my condolences to the whole Muslim community whom we count as our dear Friends in Faith."

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st.andrewschurch@btinternet.com

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Readers: Sarah Cushing and Jan Walker

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Sacrist: Alan Minchin 294731

Asst. Sacrist: Andrew Mills 205276

Stewardship & Gift Aid: Anne Challis 298388

Transport : Parish Office. 293381 st.andrewschurch@btinternet.com

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