



ST ANDREW'S
SHOTTERY

SEARCHLIGHT



Same tree - different views!

Spring is on its way!

FEBRUARY
2020

£1



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 there is a Said Eucharist with Address

2nd: PRESENTATION OF CHRIST

10.00am Family Service.

6.30pm Common Worship Eucharist

9th: THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

10.00am Parish Eucharist and Fellow Travellers

6.30pm Sung Evensong.

16th: SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

10.00am Third Sunday Eucharist.

6.30pm Sung Evensong.

7.30pm Atrium Café.

23rd: SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

10.00am Parish Eucharist

6.30pm Sung Evensong.

26th: ASH WEDNESDAY

7.30pm Parish Eucharist.





‘All you need is love’

Do you remember the Beatles singing about that way back in 1967? A bit difficult for me to remember being only two at the time but it's one the Beatles' most well-known songs and has been covered by countless choirs, artists and musicians ever since. But what is this love we all need?

Victor Hugo once said; ‘The supreme happiness of life is the conviction that we are loved’. Well, I guess we all want that don't we? To feel someone really loves us just for what we are.

We think about love this month as we celebrate St. Valentine's Day, the day when people will make a special effort to declare and express their love for someone. But who was Valentine? Well, there are varying opinions. Some experts say that Valentine was a Roman who was martyred for refusing to give up Christianity. He died on February 14, 269 A.D. Legend also says that St. Valentine had fallen in love with the jailer's daughter (not a plan!) and left a farewell note for the girl, who had become his friend, and signed it "From Your Valentine". Other aspects of the story say that Valentine served as a priest at the temple during the reign of Emperor Claudius. Claudius then had Valentine jailed for defying him. In 496 A.D. Pope Gelasius set aside February 14th to honour St. Valentine. Gradually, February 14th became the date for exchanging love messages and St. Valentine became the patron saint of lovers.

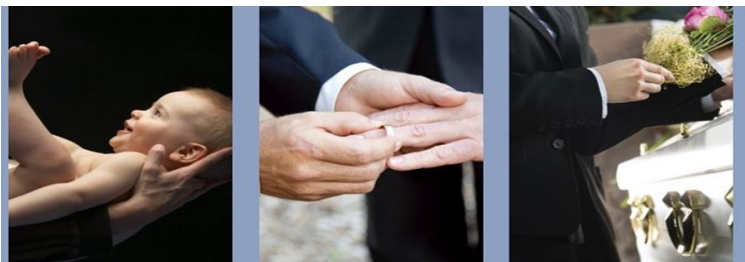
Love is a strange word which expresses a wide range of emotions. We can use the word glibly, casually and throw it around so easily without thinking. As Christians however, we believe that love is expressed most profoundly when it's sacrificial. By this we mean a love that gives without counting the cost and doesn't demand anything in return – unconditional love in other words. We see this in the death of Jesus who gave his life for each of us unconditionally, the perfect and most complete example of love.

So, as we consider love once again this St Valentine's day, may we all know the deep, transforming and unconditional love of God through Jesus Christ.

God bless you.

Reverend Craig.





BAPTISMS:

1st December: Lucy Rose Penn and Eliza Grace Penn.

FUNERALS:

11th December: Ivy May Jones (87)

24th December: Hetty Anne Shenton Hicks (Anne) (85)

10th January: Hilary Josephine Shaylor (Josie) (74)

15th January: Muriel Ann George (84)

17th January: William Raymond Mason (Ray) (85)

Church Cleaner Required

St Andrew's Church would like to hire a reliable cleaner for its church hall and welcome area. The role would be for a total of 5 hours per week split over two mornings.

For more information, contact David Millington on 01789 269598.





Our meeting on the 14th was our usual relaxed January get-together with members bringing along some of their favourite verses and readings to share - a lovely variety of poems made for a very enjoyable meeting especially on a rather gloomy afternoon.

After opening prayers, Audrey Edwards, thanked members for their support for our stall at the Christmas Fayre and the contributions for the Coffee Tots charity in Coventry; there was a letter of thanks for our support.

Several of us had attended the Diocesan Advent Service at All Saints Church at Emscote - a 30 year- old modern designed church with a wonderful atmosphere. The service was well attended and there were plenty of donations of Christmas presents and toys for children whose parents are in prison.

Thanks to Bob McVie for driving us in the mini-bus.

Our December meeting was a mixture of carols and readings and plenty of tea and cakes. It was good to welcome guests to join us and to have Jackie Wightman to accompany us for the carols.

We look forward to a full and interesting programme for 2020.

Next meeting - 11th February-- A talk by Chris Susnik on Churches she has visited which have a special meaning . We are always pleased to welcome visitors - the meetings start at 2 p.m.

Daphne Jones.

I visited a monastery and as I walked past the kitchen I saw a man frying chips. I asked him are you the friar? He replied, no I am the chip monk.

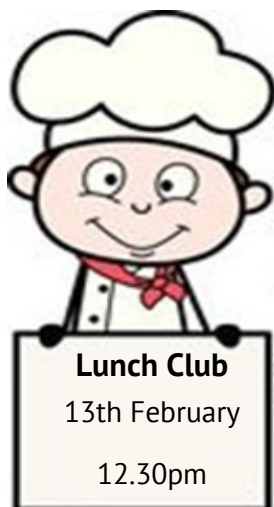
LADIES FELLOWSHIP

We met on Thursday, the 28th of November 2019 for a Holy Communion service which we share together twice each year. Many thanks to our vicar for presiding at the service and to Alan Minchin for assisting.

After the service we moved on to Ladies Fellowship A G M. We were really fortunate that Craig, our vicar, agreed to be in the chair at the meeting. After the various reports were read and the votes of thanks given, we went on to the election of officers. As all existing officers were willing to continue they were all unanimously re-elected to the posts for 2020. In her report the chairman highlighted the events which had taken place during the year.

Our finances are in good order, so as well as a donation to the church for the use of the Parish Centre for our meetings, there were donations to two local charities which this year are the Air Ambulance and Help for Heroes. After a successful AGM, Craig closed the meeting with a prayer and we then shared a light supper together.

Jo Carver, Chairman.





At Coventry Cathedral we have every reason to celebrate New Year - as the birthday of the new Cathedral.

It was on New Year's Eve in 1958 that the Cathedral moved from old St Michael's to the newly consecrated chapel on the site of our present-day new building. That morning a candle was left burning in the ancient crypt chapel beneath St Michael's Cathedral where the celebration of holy communion took place.

As evening approached Provost Howard lit a torch from that candle, and in solemn procession walked from old St Michael's to the new St Michael's. He handed the light to his successor, Provost Bill Williams, and a candle was lit on the newly-consecrated altar of the chapel then named the Chapel of the Cross. (That chapel does not exist today, but it was situated in the undercroft of the present new building.)

Provost Howard was not the sole witness of the birth of the new Cathedral. That New Year's Eve people all over this country watched what was happening in a live BBC TV broadcast. The scene was also described as it took place to anyone across the world with their radio (*or should I say wireless?*) tuned in to the BBC General Overseas Service. It was a major event for us here in Coventry, and it echoed around the globe. The service devised by Precentor Joseph Poole was on a scale to match the importance of the occasion. A special anthem commissioned from Dr Sidney Campbell (organist of Canterbury



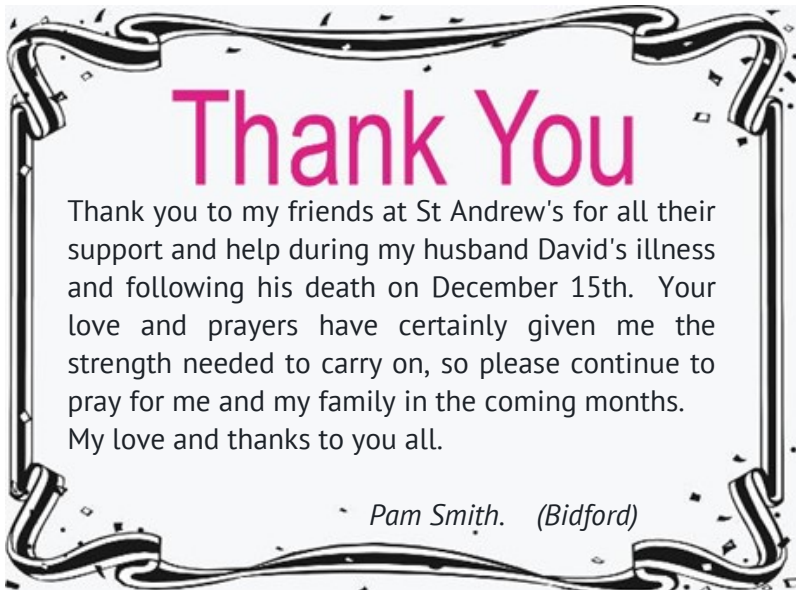
Cathedral)
was sung by
the Cathedral
Choir. As the
candle was
placed on the
new altar
trumpeters of
the 16th / 5th
The Queen's

Royal Lancers sounded out a newly composed fanfare. Other music was specially composed for the occasion by Gerald Knight (Director of the Royal School of Church Music).

The chapel altar was consecrated by Bishop Cuthbert Bardsley. This was almost 4 years before he was to do the same upstairs in the new Cathedral in the presence of H M the Queen.

(Martin Williams, Chairman of the Friends of Coventry Cathedral)

While working for an organisation that delivers lunches to the elderly, I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, 'The tooth fairy will never believe this!'





BOOK

**TOASTED
TEA
CAKES**

SALE

RAFFLE

SAT. 8th FEB.

10am—noon

PARISH CENTRE

READ MORE BOOKS



FOR INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL LIBRARY



ST ANDREW'S
SHOTTERY

Christmas Floral Decorations at St Andrews Church



This Christmas floral decorations of the church proved to be more of a challenge than usual, Margaret Spencer (in Cornwall) and Nic Carree (did 2 arrangements at home and brought them in) both unable to attend. We had to rely completely on Bev Short and members from her Blooming Lovely class. On top of that the budget from the church was cut from £90 to £80, I think you will all agree despite all the handicaps the end result was fantastic. It should also be made aware that a lot of the arrangers are not regular St Andrews congregation members and they just do not give their time they also donate flowers for the event.

As you are aware we decorate the church for major events throughout the year as well as the weekly altar pedestal (which on the whole are donated by the arranger). Should any congregation member wish to contribute to the floral extravaganza which St. Andrews has become renown for, please feel free to speak to me.

Finally a big thank you to Jo and Tony Carver and Betty Young who donated the cost of the flowers used in their floral arrangements.

Nic Carree



More photos on
our Website and
Facebook page.



The first large division of Christianity and the need for evangelism.

The last serious persecution of Christians in the Roman Empire occurred during the period of the Emperor Diocletian (284AD) after a reign of twenty years he saw the futility of a battle against Christianity.

His successor the Emperor Constantine on the eve of a battle against Maxentius dreamt seeing the cross and understanding that beneath its sign he would be victorious. In 313AD he decreed that persecution should cease although he remained pagan until his deathbed.

The Empire was under siege from invasion and for strategic reasons he chose to rule Rome from two capitals, Rome and the former Greek colony of Byzantium on the Black Sea. He renamed it Constantinople –today's Istanbul.

Thus the Western Empire contained Gaul, Italy, Britannia, Spain and North Africa with Latin as its Language and the Eastern Empire contained Egypt, Asia Minor, Palestine, Greece and Macedonia where Greek was spoken. Christianity became the official religion from 380AD onwards. However, each developed separately with their own Bishops and Archbishops involved with affairs of state and new churches were built.

There followed a period of unrest as Asiatic hordes started to invade into Germanic areas whose populations in turn sought refuge in the Roman Empire but then they too were at war with their hosts. The Empire failed to stem the barbarian hordes. One person however, the Pope Leo (Leo the Great) in 451AD confronted Attila the Hun at the gates of Rome and persuaded Attila to turn back thus saving Rome.

Without this concession the Roman Empire of the West might well have ceased to exist for there was no longer any authority from the emperors, the last one being Augustus Romulus Augustus deposed in 476. Theodoric king of the Ostrogoths introduced peace allowing the Vatican to be developed.

The Vatican began with the construction of a basilica over Saint Peter's grave in the fourth century. It became an important pilgrimage site although the Papal Court moved to France in 1309 returning in 1377. The original basilica of Emperor Constantine I was responsible for its original development as a spiritual centre.

From 527 AD in Constantinople Emperor Justinage built the Hagia Sophia a huge church which later became a mosque and today is a museum.

Lombards came from the North conquering Italy leaving the churches in Rome and Constantinople to develop separately. This separation in time gave rise to the first division in Christianity.

The Church based in Rome was governed by a Pope and from the first the Roman Catholic Church developed an outgoing evangelical approach leading to the Church we recognise today estimated at 1.2 billion souls. 40% live in Latin America but the greatest contemporary growth is in Africa,

The Churches based from Constantinople eventually went eastwards and became the Eastern Orthodox Christian Church with about 260 million adherents. It operates as a communion of separate churches each diocese or group led by a Bishop. It has no central doctrinal authority analogous to that of the Bishop of Rome (the Pope). The theology is based on the Nicene Creed. It did remain in communion with Rome until an East-West Schism 1054AD in disputing the authority of the Pope and with various differences in theology. Thus it now possesses an ecumenical Patriarch (*Primus inter pares*) first amongst equals and is usually the Patriarch of Constantinople.

The main division regarding the Papal authority remains but otherwise much of the two liturgies and structures are similar. Both claim the preservation and continuation of the theme of the early church (apostolic succession).

Constantinople itself developed from being the second capital city of Rome (330-395AD) then the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire (Byzantine) from 395 to 1204AD and 1261 to 1453 the intermediate brief years 1204 to 1261 being a crusader state of the Latin Empire. Finally it was the capital of the Ottoman Empire (1453-1923AD). In its Byzantine period it was a true successor of the Roman Empire and it was instrumental in the advancement of the Orthodox churches during the Christian periods becoming the home of the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople and the guardian of the “True Cross” and the “Crown of Thorns” and other holy relics.

It was left to the Roman Church, with the Pope as the Bishop of Rome, to evangelise westwards and to calm the unruly hordes responsible for the decline of the Eastern Roman Empire. Recently historically, the Orthodox Churches have faced changes as their geographical areas came under atheistic political regimes.

This is the eighth of our series “what a Christian should know”.

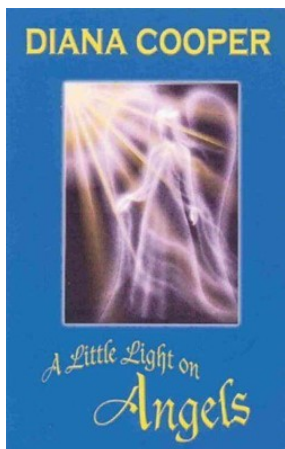
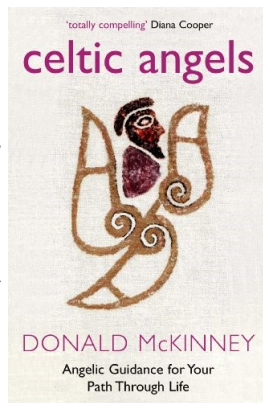
R. David Langman



Celtic Angels

by Donald McKinney

I was drawn to this book by its title as I am interested in Celtic Spirituality. However I found it was more New Age than Christian. The Celts considered angels as part of their every day life, giving guidance and inspiration. The author believes that everyone has a personal angel, who is waiting to be contacted for help with everyday problems. He gives practical exercises for contacting them. Personally I found these exercises beyond my imaginary powers, but that may just be me.



A Little Light on Angels

by Diana Cooper

She describes how everyday folk have experienced angelic help. She then goes on to explain how we can call on them for help and companionship by raising our consciousness and how to communicate with them. Several different kinds of angels are described and their job descriptions given. At the end of the book are a series of exercises for contacting angels. These are easier exercises than in the other book so even I could attempt them. There are also some lovely angelic illustrations in this book.

Janet Insoll.

Trade Unionism. A Christian Perspective???

I have heard the saying, countless times that when there is a strike the Union is being B-Minded. My response to that is, perhaps Yes! but there will most certainly be a B-Minded Management. It takes two to tango. Some years ago, when I was Vicar here, I made friends with a person who was well known in the district, but viewed with some suspicion as not being really acceptable because he had had the nerve to both call a strike and to lead it. Mind you some people thought otherwise and he sat on the bench as a magistrate, so it takes all sorts. I remember when I was training for the ministry I was attached to the South London Industrial Mission and was sent off to a bible study being held at some telecommunications centre in the city. It must have been fairly secret because even then I had to produce ID. The session was being led by a free church lay minister who lovingly held his bible and expounded the scriptures at length with a glorious smile of devotion across his face. I was interested to learn that he had both called and led strikes at National Level. In Coventry I used to visit a small factory where the boss was a definite right winger, but whenever he had problems with his staff, he always called the union in and they invariably sorted the problem out. It was an unusual but good relationship based on mutual respect.

I joined ASTMS over 40 years ago and have never regretted it even though at times it did not make me popular. It was all about the installation of a telephone in my house. I was very happy to pay the costs, but as a curate, I was not living in my own house, but in one that was owned by the PCC. So, I asked permission and was taken aback by the miserable attitude, such as "Why does he want a phone? Curates don't have phones here; they don't need them!" In those days, when the incumbent was away and there was a funeral, the undertakers would phone the butcher who would walk down to my house to tell me, I would then walk up the street and let myself into the vicarage and make the phone call. Eventually, permission was grudgingly given and I was so annoyed that I walked down the road and signed up at the local branch office. The title changed eventually to M.S. F and then to Amicus and now to Unite. I am still a member, but now pay the reduced rate as a pensioner but retain all the benefits.

I have undergone union training and can guarantee that it is of the highest order. There was virtually a mini university at Bishops Stortford with PHDs coming out of the woodwork. This is another side that is not seen, but in addition, many unions have first class research facilities and offer their wares to management who know full well that if they were to employ these services then they will receive a first-rate service for which they willingly pay a professional fee. Members had access to free legal services which can be very helpful and in fact in business many years ago I came up against the Union solicitors---they were very professional. Mind you the accommodation being slightly selfish, was first rate, being en-suite, with a full English breakfast, hot buffet lunch and three course silver service dinner.

One of the things that the Union was very fussy about was as to how we should behave when we went out on a job. We were told to dress correctly, to arrive on time, to know our brief and not to lose our rag and, if there was a strike then the Union had failed. Interesting!

I covered three or four midlands dioceses including Coventry. I was delighted to be congratulated by Bishop Simon on my diplomatic and negotiating skills after one particularly thorny problem that perhaps with the benefit of hind sight, might have been handled differently right from the beginning. It ended up with a full meeting with the entire hierarchy, plus the attendance of a full time Union Official who came up from London to support me. He was an academic, PHD, courteous, charming, articulate. The diocese was eating out of his hand because he was so reasonable and absolutely charming. It did not take long before I received a call from the Diocese asking if I could help them out with a problem in a Coventry Parish between Vicar and PCC Secretary. I got an old friend in to help me and the Union was seen to deliver and be totally fair and impartial. Like diplomats, some of the greatest scoops, if you can call them that are never reported because the problems were sorted out and settled at an early time with both sides being reasonable. The Union would much rather have it that way, after all we are all in this together. To my mind many of the problems that involve the union result from procedural errors, and I for one feel that on this matter, the Church of England has still a lot to learn.

Last but not least I well remember on one training session which was being held in the Ian Mlkardo Room! He was incidentally a practicing Anglo Catholic. The whole business of obeying the law of the land came up for discussion and as you can well imagine the clergy had a lot to say (as usual) But we were told in no uncertain tones that there were no occasions when the Union would break the law of the land and we were to put those ideas well away to one side. This would never be on any agenda, so we should forget it. I remember the lecturer being very definite on that point.

There have been times when I knew full well that I was being viewed with suspicion, but as I have always said, many problems can be sorted out at the beginning with a very informal approach. A telephone call, a drink, a pub meal, a game of golf. It is only when these approaches fail that the heavy artillery needs to be brought in.

I have enjoyed my time with the Union and have no regrets whatsoever.

David Capron



Thank
you

I'd like to thank everyone who sent me good wishes during my recent stay in hospital, and those who kindly came over to welcome me back when Brenda and I came to the Christingle service. I didn't feel well enough to attend one of the main Christmas services, but the Christingle was lovely, a really traditional start to Christmas. With my symptoms fixed, I am gaining strength now and hope to be back to full steam soon.

Bill Cooper.

“There are only a few pretty children in the world and every mother has them.”

God has a sense of humour!

There were 3 good arguments that Jesus was Black:

1. He called everyone brother.
2. He liked Gospel
3. He didn't get a fair trial

But then there were 3 equally good arguments that Jesus was Jewish

1. He went into His Father's business
2. He lived at home until he was 33.
3. He was sure his Mother was a virgin and his Mother was sure He was God

But then there were 3 equally good arguments that Jesus was Italian :

- 1 He talked with His hands
2. He had wine with His meals
3. He used olive oil

But then there were 3 equally good arguments that Jesus was a Californian:

1. He never cut His hair
2. He walked around barefoot all the time
3. He started a new religion

But then there were 3 equally good arguments that Jesus was an American Indian:

1. 1. He was at peace with nature.
2. 2. He ate a lot of fish
3. 3. He talked about the Great Spirit

But then there were 3 equally good arguments that Jesus was Irish:

1. 1. He never got married..
2. 2. He was always telling stories
3. 3. He loved green pastures.

But the most compelling evidence of all - 3 proofs that Jesus was a woman:

1. He fed a crowd at a moment's notice when there was virtually no food
2. He kept trying to get a message across to a bunch of men who just didn't get it
3. And even when He was dead, He had to get up because there was still work to do.



LOVE - ACTUALLY.

I was rather taken aback (to put it mildly) when, on receiving my daily Internet Christian news update via Premier media group one day last November, I read the headline "Richard Dawkins admits a world with no God would be immoral".

What ?? The current high priest of the Atheist religion who has spent so much of his life disavowing God, he who once declared that parents who raised their children as Christians were guilty of child abuse, now admits that atheism does not provide any foundation for morality !!

Writing in The Times newspaper, Dawkins said he fears the removal of religion (for which he has avidly campaigned) would be a bad idea for society because it would give people "license to do really bad things".

These thoughts of Richard Dawkins serve to reinforce the teaching of Christianity as to the importance of the Holy Bible, a witness which Richard Dawkins has constantly denigrated. Without the biblical foundation who is to say what is right or wrong in life, and thus allow decisions to become arbitrary with everyone able to choose what they personally considered right in their own eyes. In other words - chaos - a conclusion that Professor Dawkins may now have reached ?

As I perused the news update I was reminded of one of the many Dawkins' historical tirades against Christianity in which he derided belief in God because of the invisibility to human sight of God, and compared acceptance of God to, if I remember correctly, belief in a "flying spaghetti monster". Which only highlighted how crass were many of the utterances of Richard Dawkins, and how abysmal his actual knowledge of Christianity and theology.

However, as to the invisibility to the human eye of God, Professor Dawkins may have actually highlighted something that might trouble those who are genuinely seeking the Divine - the problem of "connecting" with the unseen.

A little thinking will inform us that if humanity *were* aware of God's *direct presence* we would obviously be overwhelmed and would be *forced* to accept God with no choice in the matter. But this would be a situation of coercion

negating two of God's most precious gifts - the gift of love and the gift of free will.

In life upon earth we have enough evidence, provided by God, to persuade the sincere seeker of His reality BUT ALSO enough ambiguity so that the unwilling are not compelled to belief in God. Thus we are given the opportunity by God to accept or reject Him with no violation of our free will. God has given unto us the freedom to make choices - even to be able to reject and/or distort the truth, and it is through choice that we are enabled, by God, to be moral creatures.

The whole reason, purpose, and justification of the lives given to us is to be able to be in the position of deciding to accept or reject God. But, of course, with this freedom comes our personal responsibility for the choices we make. And the choices we make will take us to our eternal destinies.

However, choices can only be made if one is aware of the facts. God's written Word tells us that God does not wish anyone to perish but everyone to come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9) and this is the task of The Church world-wide. But, despite the Church's best efforts there will be those who, for whatever reason, have not heard / will not hear the message - the Gospel. What of them and their choices ?

God is God of the greatest love and mercy and in His written Word we find the answer (Romans 2 :14 - 15). Those who have never heard the Christian Gospel will not be arbitrarily rejected but judged according to the extent that they have obeyed the promptings of "the image of God within" - their conscience.

There is an old Christian saying which states that "the gates of hell are closed from the inside" meaning that those who might be there are there by their own choice and free will. Because of God's great love (love by definition must be freely given and received), He will not force anyone to accept Him. As C.S. Lewis, the one- time atheist who became one of Christianity's greatest advocates, wrote - "He (God) cannot ravish. He can only woo".

I personally have difficulty in being able to fully comprehend and appreciate the depth, quality and essence of the love of God for we human beings that lies behind the Creation and I doubt if any person ever has or will.

But that *it is the greatest love*, I have no doubt. *Alan Minchin.*



Update from Lee Abbey

So much rain, we've all been dashing from one place to another.

After three weeks closed with no guests, we were excited to welcome 110 guests to our home.

And there had been frantic activity decorating the whole house after some areas had been freshly painted. Choir had been rehearsing for a special concert, food was arriv-

ing and being prepared and house team were cleaning and making beds. Youth and children's team had been rehearsing for the several depictions of the Nativity story, one taking place up at our farm with the cows and sheep.

Christmas Eve, and the Octag was full for the 11.30 p.m. service. Some of us didn't leave that place until after 1.00 a.m. as the Holy Spirit was moving with the arrival of Christmas morning, and it was beautiful. A small group of us went round and switched off the Christmas tree lights for the night.

At 8.45 on Christmas morning all of Community was in the chapel and we launched ourselves around the house to sing carols and wake up our guests! Santa came to the Octag for Community's "secret santa" gift giving and a few elves showed up too.

Then the sun came out for a most beautiful day. We were even able to take our pre dinner sherries outside. What a feast we shared at lunch time, reminding ourselves that we are so blessed here to have good food in plenty and lots of fresh water, companionship and safety from harsh goings on in the world.

Serving guests at table was a joy and even doing a 3 hour shift on reception had its blessings, with good conversations with guests, and being brought Christmas cake and tea. We laughed a lot during the evening quiz and after hot chocolate it was time for bed.

A group of young community were hanging out together and said it had been such a good day, they didn't want it to end.

Back in my room and I had a message that a very dear friend had died early that morning. Our Lord had taken her to be with Him in glory. We had spoken two days earlier and she was quietly confident of where she was going.

In this place we seem to get glimpses of heaven, it has a special peace here. Everyone seems to feel it. Guests come in stressed through overwork, or sad from being lonely or burdened with life's troubles and needing some TLC. So

especially at this time of year we can remember that when we give, we receive. We can give of our time and energy to ministering to others, and we find that as we use our talents to give to others, God has blessed us in so doing.

The New Year will be well under way when you read this, but know that on this Boxing Day I am toasting St Andrew's Church and wishing God's blessings for a Happy New Year. Count them. You'll be amazed how good He is.

With love in Christ *Denise Andreo*

New International Bible for Cats

On the first day of creation, God created the cat.

On the second day, God created man to serve the cat.

On the third day, God created all the animals of the earth to serve as food for the cat.

On the fourth day, God created honest toil so that man could labour for the good of the cat.

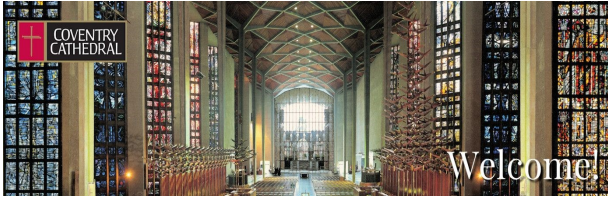
On the fifth day, God created expensive furniture so that the cat would have objects whereon to sharpen its claws.

On the sixth day, God created veterinary science to keep the cat healthy and the man broke.

On the seventh day, God tried to rest, but he had to scoop the litterbox.



Introducing MATT
PENN
our new Organist.



Dan Snow and Sinclair McKay - "Dresden, The Fire and The Darkness"
Coventry Cathedral,
Coventry, CV1 5AB

Tue 4th February 2020 6:30PM

In four devastating raids between 13th and 15th February 1945, the Allies obliterated Dresden, the Florence of the Elbe. Explosive bombs weighing over 1000lbs fell every seven and a half seconds and an estimated 25,000 people were killed. Was Dresden a legitimate military target, or was the bombing a last act of atavistic mass murder in a war already won, to wreak revenge on the bombing of Coventry?

In a one-off festival special event to mark the 75th anniversary of that fateful raid, we welcome the historian Dan Snow and the best-selling author of *The Secret Life of Bletchley Park*, Sinclair McKay, whose book, *Dresden - The Fire and The Darkness*, explore the stories behind the bombing. Writing with warmth and colour about morality in war, the instinct for survival, the gravity of mass destruction and the manipulation of memory, this is a master historian at work.

Beautifully-crafted, elegiac, compelling - Dresden delivers with a dark intensity and incisive compassion rarely equalled. Authentic and authoritative, a masterpiece of its genre *Damien Lewis, author of Zero Six Bravo*

Doors Open at 6:00PM
From 6:30PM to 7:30PM

Location

Coventry Cathedral, Coventry, CV1 5AB

Tickets to the event are available now bit.ly/SNOWCathedral

Individual ticket price
£7.00 - £25.00*
Group ticket price
£14.00 - £32.00*

**Booking fees apply.*

We have recently had the Annual Box Opening and Christmas Fair in the Parish Centre for Boxholders in the Shottery area. I thought perhaps some explanation of this event might be appropriate!

Around 60 people have House Boxes in which they place money throughout the year. This can be small change, bigger change or even notes during the year for The Children's Society. Some people just use it to get rid of irritating small change, others put a regular amount in every week, others use it as a 'thank you' for some special occasion, or blessing they feel they have received – whatever it is it all adds up without you noticing and is a huge fundraising source for The Children's Society. This year in Shottery we raised over £2,100.

Every year people bring their boxes for emptying and while the team of Counters are totting up the totals there is a small Christmas Fair with coffee, mince pies and stalls. A great draw is our Chairperson's, Rose Hutchinson's Craft Stall. Rose is a very talented maker of cards, gifts, toys, Christmas decorations etc and she gives all her proceeds to the charity.

The Children's Society was founded by a Sunday School teacher over 140 years ago to help children in poverty and need. Sadly, it is still all too relevant today even with our social care system. The Society campaigns and runs various projects to address young people's needs which are not being fully met within the care system.

The Children's Society has highlighted in the past the thousands of children and young people facing mental health issues. Pause in Birmingham is a drop in centre where children can visit to access expert advice for their problems. They can join a workshop, create some art, go somewhere quiet to think, or simply have a cup of tea and a chat with someone who will listen and try to help them work things out. The Society has also just published a new report called Counting Lives which covers the issues of County Lines and young people. The Children's Society works with victims and in training adults to identify children at risk.

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If you would like to have a box and contribute in this way, please contact Jackie Wightman 01789 298164 jswightman@sky.com and she will be very happy to supply you. Otherwise, next year, please feel free to pop in to the Parish Centre and seek out Rose's stall and have a mincepie!

Jackie Wightman

Box Opening Co-ordinator and Treasurer of Stratford Fundraising Committee



ALICE HERRING

thanks everyone for their lovely cards, floral arrangements, and good wishes on the occasion of her 100th birthday!

Miscellaneous observations on life in general

Nothing is politically right which is morally wrong. *Daniel O'Connell*

'A vegetarian diet is best for those who would be beautiful," we read. Well, it does not seem to have done much for the elephant. *Punch*

I'm going crazy. Want to come along?

Clones are people two.

"Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."



Our February charity collection on 9th will be for CMS (Church Mission Society)

We are a community of people who have been set free to follow God's call in mission.

Thousands of people from all walks of life are part of Church Mission Society – praying, learning and acting together in pursuit of that call. Currently, there are **Church Mission Society** people in 40 countries across Africa, Asia, South America, the Middle East, Europe and the UK. Some have been sent from Britain and Europe, some have been sent by their local church in partnership with us, some through our sister societies CMS -Africa and Asia CMS. And we are committed to helping Christians in the UK receive the gifts of the global church.



Andrea and Andrew Young are the newish CMS partners for St. Andrew's so here is some background information on them.

“Working with the United Mission to Nepal, we are pastoral carers for mission staff who come from very different parts of the world. We seek to ensure that their health and spiritual well-being is looked after in order to help them have an effective ministry in Nepal. We are passionate about this task, as many are in stressful and challenging situations within a different culture. We previously lived and worked in Nepal during the 1990s.

Our role includes caring for new staff on arrival in Nepal, visiting the sick, leading courses and times of worship, listening and spiritual direction. We have also discovered that hospitality, availability and confidentiality are essential ingredients in all that we do.”

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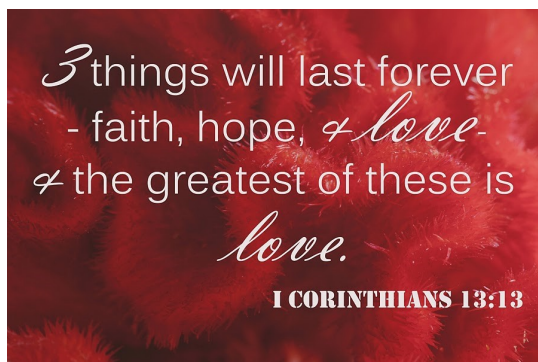
Our Role

Providing vital pastoral care to the United Mission to Nepal in Kathmandu, Tansen and Okhaldunga.

Andrea comes from north Manchester and has a professional background in dance and drama teaching. During their previous time in Nepal, she worked with expatriate and Nepali parents and children. With Andrew, she was a hostel parent at Kathmandu International Study Centre, caring for teenagers whose parents were working outside the city. She also supported the Nepali church, developing children's work and the use of dance and drama in outreach. On our return to the UK she established a community theatre workshop in an area of high deprivation and worked as a psychotherapist in private practice. She also counselled in primary and secondary schools. This has helped her as doors have opened recently to help Nepali counsellors gain skills in working with children and young people.

Andrew comes from Yorkshire and trained as a biomedical scientist, working in the NHS. In Nepal previously he developed medical laboratory services for leprosy treatment at Green Pastures Leprosy Hospitals. In the UK, he ran a youth and community centre for disaffected young people while studying for a masters degree in theology and training for ordination in the Church of England. He was a team vicar in Manchester Diocese for 14 years and was area dean in the Eccles deanery. Back in Nepal, he works with mission staff in spiritual development, has begun to develop relationships in the Anglican Church in Nepal and mentors mission staff studying for masters degrees.

Let us remember to pray for them in their missionary work and support them with our financial donations on 9th February.



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