

Gateway

April 2020



Good Friday is 10th April

St Michael's, Alnwick

The magazine for the people of the Church and the Town

£1 

WEEKLY WORSHIP

SUNDAYS AT ST MICHAEL'S

8.00 am HOLY COMMUNION (said)

A quiet early morning service (CW*) with a sermon. On the third Sunday of the month we use BCP

9.30 am THE PARISH EUCHARIST

Sung Eucharist (CW) with Junior Church for children, a robed choir and the largest congregation of the day. On the first Sunday of the month a 'First Sunday Eucharist' is especially welcoming to children.

11.15 am LATE MORNING WORSHIP

A more flexible and varied service, which includes Holy Communion about once a month. The music includes traditional hymns as well as contemporary Christian songs. A small and welcoming congregation with some provision for children.

6.00 pm EVENSONG

A traditional service of Evening Prayer (BCP) with sermon, choir, hymns and Anglican chant for Psalms and Canticles.

WEDNESDAYS AT ST MICHAEL'S

10.15 am HOLY COMMUNION

A said service of Holy Communion (CW) followed by coffee and the opportunity for fellowship. Once a month we are joined by a class from St Michael's Church School and once a term the service takes place in the school.

DENWICK VILLAGE CHAPEL

A small chapel-of-ease built by the Duke of Northumberland in 1872

11.15 am on the Second Sunday of the month.

MATINS OR HOLY COMMUNION

*CW – Common Worship, BCP – Book of Common Prayer (1662)

For more information on St Michael's please visit our website at
www.alnwickanglican.com

From the Vicar

St. Michael's Vicarage
Alnwick

Dear People of Alnwick,

I am writing this letter on Monday 23rd March – a day after the first Sunday in living memory, perhaps in the history of the Christian Church in this land, when Sunday public worship was suspended by decree of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York.

What a strange day yesterday was! As I stood in St. Michael's early in the morning, I imagined how, down the ages, the faithful folk of Alnwick had, in times of trouble, flocked to their parish church to plead before God for their health, their safety and the well-being of those they loved.

But, in 2020, it is different. Instead of flocking to church, the Church is telling us to stay away – apart from individual visits during the day whilst St. Michael's continues to be open daily for private prayer, for a time of quiet and as a place of reflective contemplation.

My thoughts seemed even more poignant because this was the week when, if things had been 'normal', I would have been dedicating the newly-placed memorial stone in our churchyard which commemorates the 136 victims of the Alnwick cholera epidemic in 1849.

I tried to imagine what it must have been like to have been the Rev'd Court Granville, the Vicar of St. Michael's at that time; when those people – all 136 of them – died within a single month and had to buried and their grieving families comforted.

I wondered if, at that time, the Rev'd. Granville had stood where I was standing thinking of how his predecessors had felt in previous generations when dealing with outbreaks of plague and pestilence.

Our hope and prayer is that Coronavirus might be halted as soon as possible and that our modern day scientific research, medicine and approach to disease control will help in that respect. But the truth is that none of us have lived in such times and so we have no experience to draw on.

And so I wonder if, like me, you might be helped and encouraged by one of the readings for Morning Prayer which was listed for Sunday 21st March –

Continued on page 5

Family of God

Funerals

*May the faithful departed rest in peace and
rise in glory*

17th March Noreen Stewart

Principal Readings for this month

Date	Holy Communion	Evening Prayer
5th Palm or	Isaiah 50:4-9a Philippians 2:5-11 Matthew 26:14 to 27:66 Matthew 27:11-54	Isaiah 5:1-7 Matthew 21:33- 46 Sunday
11th Eve	At least three Old Testament readings, Easter one of which should be Exodus ch.14 Vigil Other readings t.b.a.	
12th Easter Day	Acts 10:34-43 Jeremiah 33:1:1-6 Colossians 3:1-7 Matthew 28:1-10	Song of Solomon 3:2-5 & 8:6- 7 John 20::11-18
19th Sunday	Acts 2:14a & 22-32 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31	Daniel 6:[1-5]6-33 2nd Mark 15:46-16:8 of Easter
26th 3rd Sunday Easter	Acts 2: 14a & 36-41 1 Peter 1: 17-23 Luke 24:13-35	Haggai 1:13-2:9 1 Corinthians 3:10-17 of

the day the suspension of Sunday services began and yet a reading that had been chosen long before.

Again, in the quiet of St. Michael's, surrounded by the stones which have soaked up generations of prayer by the folk of this town, I read these words from the book of the prophet Isaiah:

*"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you." (Isaiah 43: 1b – 2)*

In the midst of all that is happening around us; as we wait from day to day to see what the next development or instruction might be let us hold fast to the fact that God knows each of us by name; that he walks with us through every experience – both good and bad – and that, in all our tribulations, he holds us in the palm of his hand.

On the last Sunday we met together (15th March) our closing hymn at the Parish Eucharist was 'To God be the glory'. We sang it with such gusto – not knowing that it might be several months before we could do so again. What better way could we begin and end each day than to give God the glory – safe in the knowledge that we should not fear for he has redeemed us.

With every blessing,

Paul.

PS: Sadly Government instructions now mean the church is no longer open even for private prayer.

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will
When the road you're trudging seems all up hill
When the funds are low, and the debts are high
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh
When care is pressing you down a bit
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.

Success is failure turned inside out
The silver tint of clouds of doubt
And you never can tell how close you are
It may be near when it seems so far
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit
its when things seem worse
That you must not quit.

Anon.

Thought for the Month

A FEW WEEKS ago my Newspaper had a cartoon of the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse saying “Our time has come”, which is more perceptive than funny.

In The Revelation, chapter 6, vv 1-8, the four riders are often seen as symbolizing Pestilence, War, Famine, and Death.

Death, of course, is always with us, whether caused by accident, murder, suicide, accident, disease or simply old age. War, too, seems to be always in progress somewhere in the world, now in what are called ‘proxy wars’ rather than the world wars of the 20th Century.

And famine is no stranger to many countries, caused by drought, or floods, mismanagement and the greed of more wealthy nations.

But at present the greatest problem is pestilence, in the form of Covid 19 which has spread around the world and resulted even in church services having to be cancelled ‘until further notice’, schools and many businesses, closed and many people being put out of work or having to work from home where this is feasible.

There has been so called panic-buying (I enjoyed the story of the

white van with the notice, “No toilet rolls are kept in this vehicle overnight”) and also heart-warming accounts of people looking out for their neighbours, elderly and house-bound.

Eventually we shall get used to these extraordinary conditions and discover that the shops still have food and drink (and toilet rolls).

The church is sadly closed, but the Church as people of God will still pray and worship at home or wherever they may be.

And we shall look out for each other; those who can will do shopping and other jobs for those who can’t, and perhaps this is one good feature which will not be dropped when things return to normal.

I have written before of the way the Old Testament prophets would understand these difficult times as opportunities given by God to repent and return to Godly standards. If people would do that, it would be a marvellous outcome for the world.

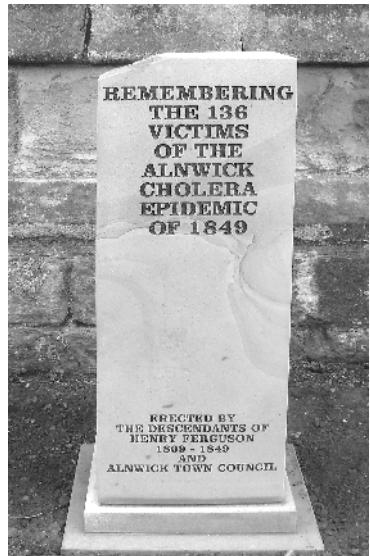
Colin Perkins

Cholera

In last September's Gateway there was an account of the plague of Cholera which ravaged the town in 1849.

Just recently a memorial has been erected in the churchyard. The broken corner is a reminder of the young people cut off before their prime.

Colin Perkins



It's important to me ...

Romans 8.28

"We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose."

Or possibly, *God makes all things work together for good, or, in all things God works for good...*

SOMETIMES WE want to shout at God, 'What are you doing? Don't you care about what we are going through?' We can see no possible good to come from a pandemic which is causing all manner of troubles around the world.

So here it is that faith comes in. Even when we are not suffering from Covid 19 There are plenty of problems and bad things happening to good people. St Paul who wrote these words knew enough about undeserved suffering, and of course the ultimate disaster that God turned to good was what we celebrate on Good Friday.

But the second half of the verse reminds us that it is for those who love God and are called according to his purpose. *CBP*

Ordinary Christians (continued)

THE PRAYER BOOK was produced originally by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer. Until his time all the services were in Latin. He was archbishop under King Henry VIII who caused the church in England to be separated from the Pope in Rome, and thereby created the Church of England. Cranmer compiled the first English Prayer Book in 1549, during the short reign of Edward VI, and had a second go in 1552. As you may remember from your history lessons, Edward VI did not live long and his elder sister Mary became Queen. She was firmly Roman Catholic and tried to arrest the tide of change, putting Cranmer to death in the process, but her half sister, Elizabeth I, moved things forward again and from then onwards the English Church has been Protestant and Reformed. After the death of Elizabeth, James I came from Scotland to be king of England and Wales too, and during his reign the *Authorised Version* of the Bible was produced in 1611. It was not the first English version of the Bible, but it was the most successful and is still *the* Bible for many older people.

After James I came Charles I, the Civil War, execution of the King and the period of the Commonwealth under Oliver Cromwell. During the Commonwealth, the government of the Church of England changed. Bishops were abolished, and the church was run under the Presbyterian system. With the Restoration of the Monarchy in 1660 the surviving bishops were reinstated and a couple of years later the new Book of Common Prayer was produced, and is still in use to some extent today in most churches. It was based on Cranmer's earlier work but includes Bible readings for Holy Communion services from the Authorised Version of the Bible, although the Psalms in BCP are from an earlier translation by Miles Coverdale (about 1535).

What do I do in church?

Many people are worried about doing the wrong thing. A church service is a bit daunting for those who are not used to what happens. There are some basic things which are worth noting.

- Men don't wear hats in church, unless they happen to be bishops or building contractors. Ladies may or may not as they wish.
- Anglicans by tradition tend to sit towards the back of the church. If you are new to the church don't sit in the front or in any seat which looks as if it might be booked or marked by a ceremonial staff.

- Most people, on coming into church for a service, take a moment to say a private prayer when they first reach their seat. Although obviously I have no idea what others are saying in their prayers, the idea is to acknowledge that we are coming into God's presence and to ask his blessing on us in the act of worship we are about to begin. If there is something specially on your mind, this is a good time to bring it to God in prayer.
- There is a motto worth remembering: *Before the service, speak to God. During the service let God speak to you, After the service, speak to one another.*
- You may be handed a book or books containing hymns and the words of the service, or you may be expected to help yourself from the bookshelf or table. In some places the books are already put out in the seats. Look to see what other people have or ask someone what is needed. In the C of E there is almost always a book or leaflet containing the words of the service, and these usually include instructions about standing or sitting or kneeling. If they don't, keep an eye on other people, although it doesn't matter in the slightest if you stand up when others sit or vice versa. But this is another good reason for not sitting in the front row!
- Believe it or not, almost all churches really want you to be there and are pleased to see you.
- In some churches, or at some services, there is an opportunity to light a candle. Small candles or night lights are provided (you may be expected to pay for them) and you can put one on a stand or in a sand tray and light it. This is a visible part of prayer. You need to pray in the usual way too, but the lighted candle symbolises the prayer, reminds you that you have done something definite, witnesses to other people that prayers have been offered, and remains alight for some time after you have left, to show that your prayer has an enduring quality.

..
To be continued

Colin Perkins

You can never do a kindness too soon,
for you never know how soon it will be too late.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Wartime Evacuation

Were you or a relative evacuated to Alnwick Castle in World War 2?

Alnwick Castle is looking for former pupils from Newcastle Church High School who were evacuated to Alnwick Castle.

They are invited to visit the Castle for a special day to mark the 75th anniversary of V E Day, which unfortunately has had to be postponed; further information will be published when possible.

This year also marks the 80th anniversary of the girls' arrival at the Castle.

The grand reunion will include afternoon tea, entertainment and an optional tour of the Castle. Carers will also be welcome.

So if you or a relative were at Alnwick Castle during the War, please contact Daniel Watkins on 01665 511114, or
daniel.watkins@alnwickcastle.com

Or by post, Daniel Watkins, Alnwick Castle, Alnwick, NE66 1NQ



Wartime Evacuation

ON SEPTEMBER 1st, 1939, 214 pupils of Newcastle Church High School arrived by train at Alnwick Station. They were marched through the town to the Northumberland Hall with their gas masks, rucksacks and two tins of bully beef each given to them by the Red Cross for their future hosts.

There, with teachers and children from 4 years to 16 years old, they were met by the many kind, caring residents of Alnwick who were willing and considerate enough to give them a bed in their homes.

Aged 9, I was billeted with Dr and Mrs MacLeod at 12 Bondgate Without. All my fears were quickly forgotten when Sylvia, a black Labrador, and a Siamese kitten came to investigate. There were no animals at home.

Most of the children were accommodated at the Castle, but quite a number of pupils chose to stay with their adopted families and so became Day Girls and the School also welcomed Day Girls from the surrounding neighbourhood. Five boys came too.

If it had not been for the many people of Alnwick who were prepared to open their doors, accept the upheaval and commitment this school evacuation would not have been possible. I will always feel indebted to them, and the guidance from the Vicar who over the years instilled hope and met a spiritual need. St Michael's sheltered us. Thank you.

*Brenda Bird
née Coats*



Children exercising
in the Castle Guest
Hall



St. Michael's C of E Primary School

Head Teacher: Mr G Johnston MEd NPQH
01665 602850

Howling Lane
Alnwick



Colegio Español del Año

Interfaith Day

13th February 2020

St Michael's hosted a very special Festival of Lights in February, to showcase a range of faiths and



cultures and promote intercultural understanding in modern Britain. We were pleased to invite children from Ellingham, Seahouses, Embleton, Longhoughton, Shilbottle and Swansfield Park Primary Schools. In addition to this we were supported by a group of students from the Duchess's High School, many ex-St Michael's who helped out with the day.

We were treated to 'finding out' sessions led by practitioners representing: Judaism, Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism and Christianity.

Children learned by listening, watching, looking and participating. They completed a knowledge treasure hunt and then had a delicious 'Indian themed' lunch together prepared by St Michael's kitchen.



In the afternoon, the children participated in activities including Bollywood dance, Rangoli art and Indian board games. The feedback from all involved was very positive. It was a great opportunity to come together as a group of schools and for the children to learn about a range of faiths and cultures.

We were very proud to host the event.

Courageous Advocacy in Action

Ford Castle

All of our Year 3 and 4 children went on a residential trip to Ford Castle where they stayed for two nights and did lots of exciting



All our Year 3 and 4's having the best time at Ford Castle

activities throughout their stay, like zip wiring, fencing, night lining, visiting a farm and much more! They all had the best time and the best adventure, got covered in mud, tried lots of new things. They had so much fun.

Leprosy Mission

14th Feb 2020



Thursday 13th Feb 2020

Our Year 1's, 2's, 3's and 4's all took part in a Multi-Sports activity day at Willowburn Sports Centre where they did sports like trampolining, bouldering, gymnastics and soft play. It was a great fun-filled day for them and they all thoroughly enjoyed it, whilst learning new skills at the same time!

Jessica Taylor

The future for Prospect?

I HAD A bit of a shock in January this year, when I saw online that the charity Art Fund had a target of £3.5 million to save Prospect Cottage for the arts and the nation. The cottage seems to be just a black tarred shack, with bright yellow window frames, in a shingle garden within sight of Dungeness Nuclear Power Station, but is a lot more than that to the art and film world.

Why a shock? Well, I was sure that it was owned, lived in and maintained by a former young work colleague of mine from Wallsend Research Station. Born in Lanchester, and brought up as a Methodist, he was called Keith Collins, and was in his early twenties when we worked together. Our team used to call him 'Black Keith' because he always wore smart black gear. He was a lovely, good-looking gentle guy—liked to go to 'The Tube' and places like that. He was at one concert in Newcastle when he met an artist/film director and was persuaded by him to go to London. Shortly after that one day at work I can remember him saying to me 'I am moving away to go and take care of an old man who is ill' So, he whom we called Black Keith, moved to London (and from there to Prospect Cottage) was given the nick-name HB (Hinny Beast) by this 'old man'

As is often the case, we didn't keep in touch and I didn't even know the name of the cottage—only that it was close to the sea and to what is called the Ness. It was only when I saw Keith on TV in a brief interview about 8 years later, saying his companion had died and left him the cottage where he stayed and was then living.

I suppose, having been a researcher, I can be a bit like a terrier with a rat! I have spent some time in recent weeks reading about the garden that Derek created, and discovered that he had grown up being a keen gardener. I have a book of photographs called Derek Jarman's Garden, another, which is a sort of diary, entitled 'Modern Nature', and I also found that he directed a film without dialogue—called War Requiem and set to Benjamin Britten's work of

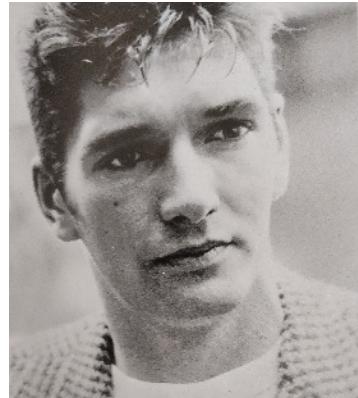


the same name; apparently the opening scenes were filmed in the garden at Dungeness.

You may well have seen something on the news recently—the ‘old man’ was Derek Jarman who, when he was diagnosed HIV positive, bought the cottage and, with some friends and his companion Keith (also known as Kevin when in films) created a garden on the shingle. Keith looked after him until he died in hospital, then did various other jobs in the area, but always lived at Prospect. I read, with sadness, that Keith died in 2018 from a brain tumour—when it was diagnosed, it was typical of the guy that he had all his long hair cut off to be used to help make wigs for children with cancer. So—the cottage is now on the market; at the last count about £2.75 million of the needed £3.5 million has been raised. At the time of writing this, Art Fund charity has 15 more days to raise the remainder—I hope they, for the memory of my pal Keith and his talented artist/director friend, reach their target.

It's not just a cottage, it's a shrine.

Joan Dunn



Keith



Christian Aid Week 10-16 May

From the Chief Executive, Amanda Khozi Mukwashi

Many of you will have been planning house-to-house collections and events. Under the current circumstances, sadly, house-to-house collections should not go ahead. In particular, along with many churches, events such as Big Brekkies or Lent lunches, where food is shared, cannot go ahead. We are looking at alternative ways to virtually meet, share and pray with supporters over the coming months in the likely absence of physical church services.

We are working on alternative plans that will allow people to take part in Christian Aid Week in different, creative ways – by post, by text and online that strengthen our communities during this challenging time. Christian Aid Week is our single-most important fundraiser, so we would welcome your ideas on how we can creatively show love for our neighbours at home and abroad, as a community.

Silently waiting in a cupboard

Hidden away inside a cupboard, unused and forgotten, stand a pair of staves, a link to the past. Certainly, these long black tall staves have been used at St Michael's church and carried by Funeral Mutes whose job it was to look mournful and silently protect the deceased person.



www.iammy.com - GIBORY

It was customary to have two Mutes who would be dressed in a black suit, shoes and gloves with a white shirt. A black sash went across their torso and their black beaver skin hat was swathed with a long narrow black crepe material that trailed down their back. In their hands they carried a long stick or stave draped in a black cloth to symbolise an adult or white for a child's



Mutes would stand outside the door of the departed's house while the body lay inside and then follow the procession to the church yard for burial. When the role of undertaker emerged in the Regency Period they would assist him at the graveside and fill the grave.

death. The Mute's role was often a second income for men and young boys, the most famous child mute being Oliver Twist. Charles Dickens, in his book of the same name has Oliver sold by Mr Bumble from the workhouse to Mr. Sowerberry (an undertaker and coffin maker) as an apprentice. A common occurrence at the time. Oliver's potential as a child Mute is quickly spotted and Mr Sowerberry describes Oliver ...

"There's an expression of melancholy in his face dear... which is very interesting. He would make a delightful mute."

The origin of the Mute attending a death may have started in Roman times when the practice of assigning a lictor or bodyguard to protect prominent citizens. In the 1600's they became popular in attending upper class funerals but by the 1700's they were seen at even modest funerals. St Michael's church yard closed in 1856 for most burials so it must be assumed that they have remained in the church from this time.

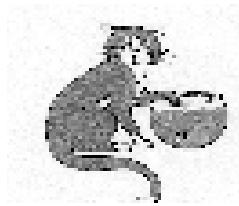
A Funeral Mute, 19th century



When the new cemetery opened on South Road Alnwick Victorian funerals had become more elaborate affairs as can be seen by the gravestones and layout of the cemetery buildings.

The role of the Mute at funerals gradually decreased and by the 1880's they had disappeared due to their image as figures of fun who appeared frequently drunk.

Patricia Jones and Colin Watson



Cats and Dogs



Cats – Add extra letters onto CAT and find

- a A multi-legged bug
- b A disaster
- c A waterfall
- d A funeral carriage
- e A crypt
- f A list
- g A disapproving shout
- h A twin-hulled boat
- I A launching device
- j A type or sort

Dogs – Add extra letters onto DOG and find

- a A principle or belief
- b Worn or shabby
- c Worthless verse
- d Tenacious
- e A tweed pattern
- f A drudge
- g A sharp bend
- h Quiet or out of sight
- i Damn!
- j A melee

Answers to last month's quiz

- 1 Little Miss Muffet
- 2 Humpty Dumpty
- 3 Hickory Dickory Dock
- 4 London Bridge is falling down
- 5 Jack and Jill went up the hill
- 6 Polly put the kettle on
- 7 The Grand old Duke of York
- 8 Ring-a-ring of roses
- 9 Twinkle twinkle little star
- 10 Wee Willie Winkie
- 11 See-saw Margery Daw
- 12 Round and round the garden
- 13 Tom, Tom the Piper's son
- 14 Little Bo-Peep
- 15 Three Blind Mice
- 16 Ding Dong Bell
- 17 Old MacDonald had a farm
- 18 Mary had a little lamb
- 19 Sing a song of sixpence
- 20 Hey diddle diddle
- 21 The North wind doth blow
- 22 I had a little nut-tree
- 23 Pease-pudding hot
- 24 Half a pound of twopenny rice
- 25 Lucy Lockett lost her pocket

A Prayer During Times of a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced,
Remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors,
Remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home,
Remember those who must choose between
preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children
when their schools close,
Remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips,
Remember those who have no place to go.

May we who are losing our marginal income
in the tumult of the economic market,
Remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home,
Remember those who have no home.

During this time when we cannot physically
wrap our arms around each other,
Let us yet find ways to be
the loving embrace of God to our neighbours
Amen.

Contributed by Jean Sawyer

Alnwick District Food Bank

Dear Friends of ADFB,

In these difficult times all of us involved with ADFB would firstly like to wish you personal safety and continuing health for however long this crisis lasts.

With so many adults in our community dependent on catering and tourism, including many on zero hour contracts, we are anticipating demands on us to increase, as employment dries up and the time taken for financial support takes time to kick in, probably, for many, at a reduced income level to what they are used to. .

We are already low on stock having concentrated on packing these last few days ahead of deliveries next week. Meat, fish, tinned fruit, custard and milk puddings as well as tinned potatoes and vegetables are all looking thin on the ground, and, like everyone else being sensible, those who have been panic buying are not helping.

As drop off points at churches are effectively closed, we would like to remind everyone that our drop off points at shops remain open. These include both Morrisons and Sainsburys as well as the Co-op, Bondgate Within and at Longhoughton, Costa Coffee, and Newcastle Building Society.

Many of you are probably self isolating, as some of us need to as well, but if you are in a position to continue donating, every item you can spare is welcome. Our volunteers will continue collecting from our shops, and it goes without saying that we thank you for your continued support as best as your own circumstances allow.

As mentioned at the beginning - be sensible and take care.

With every good wish from us all at ADFB

Toilet Twinning – a final word

I reported in the magazine last month that enough money had been donated to twin one loo. It thrills me to be able to say now, that by the end of February £190 had been popped into the pot, enough to twin 3 loos! (This means that the individual cubicles in both the ladies and the gents in our church hall can be twinned). The countries that have been chosen are Zambia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and The Ivory Coast. In the due course of time we will receive three lovely framed photos of our ‘wins’. Please take a moment to rejoice at the hope and change these represent for the individuals and families involved. Thank you once again to everyone who gave so generously.

Sue Wiltshire

Smile

Back to the Future

As we are all becoming increasingly aware, the clothes industry is having a huge environmental impact. In an effort to reverse the trend of buying a new garment for the sake of a simple repair, some major retailers and high street brands are offering to repair, or alter, clothes free of charge. While some companies are imposing an age limit on the garment, others will step in regardless of when the item was purchased, and one brand of clothing is giving away free sewing kits. ‘Make do and mend’ is back !

A Helping Hand

An Oxford graduate has put the £200 which he had left over from his grant to excellent use. Joe Sedden went to a state school and knew that navigating the Oxbridge admissions process was a daunting task. Aware that students from private schools would automatically get help, he wanted to ensure that young people from every background had the same advantage. He has created an app which puts year 12 pupils in touch with current students who give them an hour-long online tutorial.

So far this has helped 60 underprivileged young people win Oxbridge places.

Contributed by Sue Wiltshire using information which first appeared in ‘The Week’ magazine.

Please note that many scheduled events have had to be either cancelled or postponed because of the current coronavirus situation.

Weekly events

Tuesdays 3.00 pm Julian Group for Contemplative Prayer
in St Catherine's Chapel POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Thursdays 1.00 pm 'Places of Welcome' at the Community Centre

Thursdays during term time

CANCELLED 9.30 am Mini Michaels in church

7.00 pm Rock Solid Youth Group at Alnwick Methodist Chapel

Wed 1st 12 noon Ecumenical Lent Lunch at

CANCELLED St James' Church Centre, Pottergate

Thurs 2nd 7.30 pm Lent Course

CANCELLED 'Christ and the Chocolaterie'

Fri 3rd 10.30 am Palm Cross making in church

CANCELLED It is inadvisable for a group to meet.

There may, however, be Palm Crosses in church on Palm Sunday for you to collect one

Sat 4th 10.00 am Big Clean in church

Wed 8th 2.00 pm Mothers' Union in church CANCELLED

Sat 11th 11.00 am Messy Church in St Michael's CANCELLED

Wed 15th 7.30 pm Baptism Preparation in Church

CANCELLED

Fri 17th 7.30 pm A Feast for Syria in the Parish Hall

POSTPONED

Sat 18th 7.30 pm Northumbria Sinfonietta concert
in St Michael's Church POSTPONED

Sun 26th 2 & 3.00 pm Holy Baptism CANCELLED

Tues 28th 9.30 am Gateway planning meeting in Parish Room

CANCELLED

Parish Information

VICAR

The Rev'd Canon Paul Scott 01665 603078 St Michael's Vicarage

Howling Lane, Alnwick, NE66 1DH

Email: paulscott1957@btinternet.com

The Vicar's day off is Friday and Gerard's day off is Monday. They would be glad to be spared all but the most urgent matters on these days

CURATE

The Rev'd Gerard Rundell 07394792277

10 Allerburn Lea, Alnwick, NE66 2NJ

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The Rev'd Canon Sue Allen 01665 605361

The Rev'd Colin Perkins 01665 510445

The Rev'd Natasha Schemanoff 01665 603815

The Rev'd Jane Scott 01665 603078

The Rev'd Martin Turner 01665 603815

The Rev'd Canon Dennis Winter 01665 602658

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Vacant

CHURCHWARDENS

Anne Blades 01665 602020

Pat Taylor 01665 603811

CHURCHWARDEN EMERITUS

Albert Brown 01665 602700

ASSISTANT CHURCHWARDEN

Pat Tweed 01665 479280

PCC TREASURER

Richard Dale 01665 606804

PCC SECRETARY

Rosie Buxton 01665 604830

THE PARISH SECRETARY

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E-mail stmichaelandstpaul@btconnect.com
or joan.d.dunn@btinternet.com

READER EMERITUS

Bill Callaghan 01665 602348

MOTHERS' UNION

Meets in church at 2.00 pm on the second Wednesday of each month from March to December

Branch Leader

Val. Hawker 01665 602348
(Mobile) 07732431056

ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER

Susan Trafford 01665 606180

COMMUNION

for the **SICK** and **HOUSEBOUND**

can be arranged by contacting

The Vicar 01665 603078

Or

Pat Taylor 01665 603811

BAPTISMS and WEDDINGS

Contact the Parish Office

on a Thursday

from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

or leave a message on the answerphone

01665 602797

For more information on St Michael's,
please visit our website at www.alnwickanglican.com

To hire the PARISH HALL

Phone Mariana on 07424272903 or email bookstmichael@gmail.com

noticeboard

Bradley Creswick
(Leader Emeritus – Royal Northern Sinfonia)

with the
Northumbria Sinfonietta
(Conductor – Bryan Jackson)

Saturday 18th April 2020

The Programme will include –

"Fidelio" overture – Beethoven

Romance for Violin and Orchestra – Dvorak
The Lark Ascending – Vaughan Williams

Soloist – Bradley Creswick

Pastoral Symphony – Beethoven

St. Michael's Church, Alnwick
7.30 pm

Tickets £10 at the door

Supporting Church Charities

Postponed

Postponed until a later date

"We can't do everything,
but what we can, we must"
Help to support the terrible situation in Syria
A FEAST FOR SYRIA

A GET-TOGETHER TO ENJOY AN EVENING OF
DELICIOUS SYRIAN FOOD

Postponed—Will take place at a later date

Tickets £10
To order please phone 01665 603078
ALL PROCEEDS TO EMBRACE THE MIDDLE EAST



EMBRACE
the Middle East

Friday 3rd April
from 10.30 am
For as long as it takes!
Palm Cross making
Sorry—Cancelled
Owing to Covid 19 restrictions



Saturday 4th 10.00 am
Big Clean in Church
All welcome—help us to make
St Michael's spic-and-span for
Easter

**Please check—may
be postponed until
a later date**



Copies of '**The Gateway**' can be obtained in St Michael's Church
or ordered for delivery in this version or **large print**
☎ The Parish Office 602797 (Thursdays, or leave a message)
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'The Gateway' is Desktop-Published by St Michael's Magazine Group