

Roath News

Levit

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LENT 2021

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THE PARISH OF ROATH, CARDIFF

The Vicar:	Canon Stewart Lisk Tel: 20487854; 07794157604 email: <i>stewartlisk@live.co.uk</i>
NSM Assistant Curate	The Reverend Ruth Coombs
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Roath Church House bookings	RCH Booking Secretary Mrs Anna Mason Tel: 07720641653
Parish Website:	www.roath.org.uk

The Clergy are always available to minister to the sick and dying. Please inform the clergy of sickness. Holy Communion may be received at home by those who are unable to come to church.

*The Parish Surgery is open on Mondays (except Bank Holidays) between 6.00.p.m. and 7.00.p.m. in Roath Church House to arrange **Baptisms and Weddings**. (Contact no. 20487854).*

Confessions and the Sacrament of Healing by arrangement.

Copy date for the next magazine (Easter) is 22nd March

Letters sent by email from the Vicar of Roath, the Reverend Canon Stewart Lisk during the Coronavirus lockdown

Newsletter 17 January

My dear Friends,

I wonder what brought you first to Church? Statistics tell us that most people come as children with their families. Others however may have been brought by friends in later life. I remember after having worshipped at Llandaff Cathedral throughout my childhood and youth going to university and having a variety of experiences in church life. My college was one with Christians from all different denominations and backgrounds. Of course I also met people of other Faiths and none.

When Sunday came I found myself going to different Anglican Churches, College Chapels and the Cathedral of Christ Church. There were a wide range of traditions from free evangelical worship services, through broad, middle of the road matins to Anglo Catholic masses. Also I went with friends to Baptist, Methodist and Roman Catholic Churches. All had something special to offer and made their appeal and claim on those who regularly and devoutly attended.

Eventually I settled in a church which helped nurture my faith and spiritual development throughout those early years. It was not so much the style of worship which held me but my fellow Parishioners and clergy. I remember more recently a very wise and telling comment from a worshipper at one of our churches, "The music brought me here but the people made me stay".

In our Gospel reading this week from St John Ch. 1, we hear the story of Nathanael. He is initially sceptical about coming to see Jesus when encouraged to do so by Philip. "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" he asks. "Come and see" Philip responds. When Jesus sees Nathanael he recognises him as an honest and upright young man who might be outspoken in his views but without malice, one who could be a loyal and faithful supporter. For his part Nathanael immediately believed and trusted in Jesus for he knew him through and through. Nathanael is not mentioned in the other Gospels, however we think he is there called Bartholomew. He went on to become a missionary sharing the good news of Jesus to Syria and Asia Minor.

This Sunday marks the beginning of the week of prayer for Christian Unity when we can celebrate and value what our friends in other denominations have as well as sharing our own strengths. It is also perhaps a time to remember that we can learn from other Anglican parishes and communities as we seek to follow our Lord through these demanding days. In the years to come we are called to widen our vision and enhance what we seek to offer not of ourselves but in the name of Jesus. We pray that more may come to know him, let us say to our friends as Philip did, "Come and See".

Best wishes and prayers

Stewart

Newsletter 24 January

My dear Friends,

This week brought one of those days that we remember where we were when we heard some special news. Late on Wednesday afternoon it was quite dark, I was driving home from Thornhill Crematorium and put on the car radio. Straight away it was clear I was listening to the Radio 4 commentary of the Inauguration of President Biden. It was a privilege to hear the words of the new leader of the United States.

We should not be surprised that the President made many Biblical and religious references in his address. He is a practicing Roman Catholic and had attended St Matthews RC Cathedral in Washington DC to pray in the hours leading up to that most important ceremony of his career. He did not shy away from the challenges that face him, his nation and the world. He referred to climate change, racism, economic difficulties and of course the global pandemic, among other concerns. Mr Biden is not alone in this as most of the world's rulers face the same issues. However as the leader of arguably the most powerful and influential democratic country he is in a unique position. It is reassuring to us that he places his trust in God to guide him in his life and in the decisions and choices he has to make.

One of the things that he stressed was the need for unity. The United States of America have appeared less in union in recent times than at other moments in their history. The President called upon his people to live up to their name and for everyone to play their part in working together for unity. Many presidents have called for the same in the past

and our own prime ministers and monarchs have also urged us to come together for the common good. It is all too easy to develop factions and opposing groups. It is much harder to see the points of view of others and, as the President's mother urged him to do, to stand in their shoes.

This weekend we come to the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, not an event that hits the headlines in these secular days. However the political world can see that denominations and traditions of Christians who were once deeply opposed to each other can now stand alongside one another in prayer and action for the good of the people we are called to serve. At the inauguration ceremony there were Christians and leaders of many Faith communities supporting Mr Biden and Ms Harris. As we look to the future and seek to do what we can for our people and parishes, let us pray for unity in church and state and in everything we can achieve for our sisters and brothers in our human family. As the psalmist puts it, "How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity". Psalm 133.

Best wishes and prayers

Stewart

Newsletter 31 January

My dear Friends,

Last Sunday afternoon we had a Baptism service in St Margaret's Church. This would normally be an unremarkable statement as we are fortunate in the normal pattern of things to welcome many young families throughout the year either to our morning services in each of our churches or to afternoon services for the Sacrament of Baptism. They are always joyful occasions and often with very large gatherings of family and friends supporting the newly Baptised. Last Sunday was certainly joyful but there was a very limited attendance. The two parents were joined by three godparents and the baby was supported by his sister and two brothers, all of whom I have Baptised in St Margaret's. Strict social distancing, hygiene and all the current guidelines were scrupulously followed. I am pleased to say that none of this distracted from it being a delightful experience.

This coming week in Church we recall another young family coming to their place of worship to follow the traditions of their Faith. We learn from St Luke Chapter 2 that Mary and Joseph brought the infant Jesus to the

temple to present him to the Lord, "Every first born male shall be designated as holy to the Lord." They offered the sacrifice of two pigeons or two turtledoves. This was something that all Jewish families would have done.

There was however for them an unusual turn of events. The devout, righteous, aged Simeon was guided by the Holy Spirit to visit the temple at the same time as the Holy Family. Simeon had been promised that he would not die before seeing the Messiah. The old man took the baby in his arms and praised God declaring that he had now seen the salvation that was foretold, Jesus was "a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." Naturally Mary and Joseph were amazed at these words. The reaction of the prophetess Anna, a devout woman of 84 was also extraordinary. She never left the temple but now made every effort to spread the good news of the arrival of the new Messiah to all who had awaited his coming.

This festival in our Christian calendar we celebrate as the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. Since Simeon called Jesus a light to lighten the Gentiles we light special candles at this time, hence the popular name Candlemas. This event marked a new beginning for Mary and Joseph, they are now parents. It was also a new start for Anna and Simeon and all the people who had like them looked forward to the long expected Saviour.

Many I know who read these words are still waiting for new beginnings, a fresh start, perhaps to be brought by a vaccine. Others will already be rejoicing as they have received this hope for better health in the future. Some will still be in dark times coping with illness and others facing bereavement and loss. During Advent, at Christmas and now at Candlemas we have been lighting candles in Church and at home. We do so throughout the year to pray for the sick and remember the departed. In houses and flats we light candles for special meals and birthdays. We can do so now too recalling the past, looking with hope to the future and praising God for sending his Son to be with us all for ever, alongside side us in all our joys and sorrows.

Best wishes and prayers

Stewart

Newsletter 7 February

My dear Friends,

Some of you who regularly read these weekly letters from me will have received them in the parishes of Grangetown, St Dyfrig and St Samson, Grangetown, St Paul, Llanishen St Isan and St Faith. You will have done so as you are without a parish priest or because of clergy sickness over the period of almost two years. I have been in contact with you in my capacity as Area Dean of Cardiff. It has been a privilege to come to chair your PCCs and Vestry meetings, to meet and get to know you as officers and Parishioners and above all to share in worship with you from time to time when my own extensive parish commitments allowed. Thank you all for the wonderful work you have done for our Churches and people and the help and support you have given , as well as the warmth of welcome you have afforded me.

It is four years since our outgoing Archbishop John appointed me as Area Dean. I am delighted to say that the Bishop of Llandaff has selected the Reverend Dyfrig Lloyd, Vicar of Dewi Sant, to be my successor. He will be licensed in a Zoom service on Thursday 11 February. I know he will lead and assist us all with care and devotion drawing on his long experience as Chapter Clerk, Parish Priest, Diocesan and Provincial Officer. We send him our very best wishes and keep him and our Deanery in our prayers at this turning point in our church and community life.

All of us are experiencing change and a different way of living in these challenging days. I have reflected on this with you on several occasions over the last year. We are constantly adapting to rules and regulations and how we conduct ourselves in the most mundane things of life. However we know that it is nevertheless a matter of life and death. Change is underway too in our Church life as we participate in the reorganisation of the diocese into Ministry Areas. We shall all be involved in this new arrangement over the coming months and years. Please keep reading Llandaff Matters and updates on how we as parishes, people and clergy will be working together in future.

This Sunday we mark Creation Sunday, a time when we give thanks to our Heavenly Father for the beauty of the earth and the wonders of the natural world. We glory in the fact that God sent his Son into this world to love us, help us and give us the hope of salvation, our Gospel is from the first Chapter of St John. An elderly priest who had lived through the traumas of two world wars once said to me how through all those troubles

the unchanging pattern of the seasons and the constancy of God's creation gave a feeling of encouragement and hope even in the darkest times.

As we look forward let us do so in a sense of renewal and fresh start as there are many signs of good things to come not only in the gift of nature but in the health and strength of our communities and churches. Had we all been in Church this Sunday we might have been singing that uplifting hymn, "Great is thy faithfulness", read it at home if you can, it sums up much of what Creation Sunday is about and reminds us that we have "strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine with ten thousand beside."

Best wishes and prayers

Stewart

News 13 February

Dear Friends,

Many of you will have heard that our much loved, hardworking and valued Church Warden, Mrs Gill Day was taken into hospital last week. She has been undergoing tests and scans. We believe that Gill has suffered a stroke. We keep her very much in our prayers. I contacted the hospital chaplaincy department this week to request their assistance. The Reverend Caroline John emailed me today and said that she had visited Gill and prayed with her. She has also offered to take her communion. Gill was very grateful for our good wishes and prayers and wanted to thank you all.

On a completely different note, you may have heard that the BBC have been filming an episode of Casualty in St Margaret's this week. Just to reassure those of you who wish to attend they were following strict Covid procedures throughout. Many thanks to Bob Hyett and Anna Mason who helped with the arrangements. They finished filming on Thursday afternoon so it will be three days before we use the church for our Eucharist at 9.30am tomorrow. I aired the church this afternoon and washed all the floors with eco bleach. The best news is the church is bedecked with floral displays, white lilies and carnations which look amazing!

St Edward's is still temporarily closed for worship so regulars there are welcome at St Margaret's. Please book in the usual way by text, email or

phone. Also you may have seen that this year we are only having one Eucharist in the parish on Ash Wednesday 17th February at 7.30pm in St Margaret's. Please book in the usual way.

Best wishes and prayers

Stewart

Newsletter 14 February

My dear Friends,

This coming Sunday is the 14th February, a day upon which some may be awaiting a card through the post, or even the gift of flowers or chocolates. How do you purchase such things which are non-essential?! We learn from the media that online sales in such things are booming which is not good news for our local shops which normally do well leading up to St Valentines Day.

Valentine is not a saint which features in our liturgical calendar. We are not even sure which early Roman cleric out of two he was, a priest martyred in Rome in 269 or a bishop of Temi who was also executed in Rome. It is also curious why he is associated with lovers and romance. The best explanation is the centuries old belief that the 14th February, his day, was thought to be the time that birds chose their mates. If we venture out into our gardens or make our daily walks around the parks we can certainly see evidence of very active bird life. By the time of Chaucer and Shakespeare it was firmly established as a day for lovers.

Some reading these paragraphs might think they are beyond the days of Valentines but surely it can also be a day when we think outside our own concerns and needs. It might be the opportunity of showing friendship and kindness in making a surprise phone call or FaceTime visit? Such glimmers of light and love can make someone's day showing them they are not forgotten in these still troubled times.

Our Gospel this week does not deal with romance or marriage but refers to a life changing moment and an expression of the highest love. Jesus takes his closest disciples Peter, James and John and leads them up a high mountain. (Mark Ch 9). There he is transfigured, becomes dazzling white and is amazingly flanked by Moses and Elijah, representing the Law and the Prophets. The whole scene is shrouded in cloud, a sign of the presence of God. As if this were not astonishing enough a voice is heard, "This is my Son the Beloved; listen to him!" This

extraordinary event showed the disciples God the Father's recognition of Jesus and his relationship with him and emphasised our Lord's authority to which they should pay due attention.

The Transfiguration is regarded as a turning point in Jesus' ministry. However it is followed by him telling the disciples not to tell anyone about it and them all going back down the mountainside to resume their normal lives, at least for a time. We might experience moments of discovery of deep feelings and revelation ourselves maybe in a spectacular natural environment or in a holy place or even in the most unexpected location, we can be surprised by joy. God calling Jesus the Beloved shows us how unique he was but also how special we are to him as he gives us our Saviour to love us and care for us. Let us pray that we will share that love in our lives as we seek to follow him.

Best wishes and prayers

Stewart

Newsletter First Sunday in Lent. 21 February

My dear Friends,

So Lent has begun, something which we are well aware of in the family of the Church but largely forgotten in popular culture. It is only remembered in many households by Pancake Day, our youngsters love to have a go at tossing the pancake and eating them even more! Few people however will know these days that it is properly Shrove Tuesday, traditionally the day when the faithful were shriven, they made their confession and received absolution.

The traditions of Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent go back to the 7th century. In the early church in Rome penitents in great numbers were ceremonially admitted on this day. This was symbolised by the imposition of ashes on the forehead of the people and clergy in token of mourning and penitence. These customs still continue in both the Roman Catholic and Anglican churches throughout the world. Under our present restrictions the priests were only permitted to sprinkle the Ash and not make the sign of the cross physically on the members of the congregation. Normally in our parish around 100 worshippers attend our three Eucharists, this year we were understandably far fewer in number but we remembered in our prayers those of you at home as we all try to make a good start to our Lenten observance.

The forty weekdays of Lent beginning at this time mirror the forty days and nights that our Lord Jesus spent in the wilderness. There he spent his time in fasting, prayer and reflection. You can see why this idea of no food is not so attractive to popular culture as enjoying pancakes! However people still do attempt to give things up for Lent and take things on. Those concerned with health and fitness will value a boost to their efforts which the Church seems to encourage. In our spiritual lives there is in many of us a constant struggle between the times when we are attentive and when we are negligent, when we put others first or when we are self-centred, when we devoutly pray or when we forget and make other priorities.

As we embark on another lockdown Lent, let us use the opportunity to reflect on how we can better listen to the word of God and act upon it in our lives. You will see elsewhere on our newsletter details of the Zoom Lent Course led by our curate the Reverend Ruth Coombs, in Llandaff Matters you can see other resources offered by the Bishop and our Canon Theologian, Trystan Hughes. They will help us nourish our thoughts and reflections. We can also make practical moves in self-denial by supporting our charities and remembering that this has been a very financially challenging time for our churches with vastly reduced income yet still necessary expenses to be met. As one of our Ash Wednesday readings reminded us, "where your treasure is there will your heart be also."

Best wishes and prayers

Newsletter Sunday 28 February.

My dear Friends,

Those of you who have been in Church recently and those at home who remember well our Lenten customs will recall that our churches are no longer decorated with flowers. Our altar frontals and hangings as well as the priests' vestments are now in deep purple. This colour is used, also worn in Advent, as a reminder that this is a solemn and thoughtful season when we look seriously at our faith. The solemnity of purple is also the colour used in our funeral services. It is also worn by priests when hearing the confessions of the devout which is also something we consider more in Lent.

Last week we recalled our Lord's forty days in the wilderness, a time of reflection, fasting and prayer. In our Gospel reading this week, Jesus is seen out and about in the district of Caesarea Philippi. He was asking his followers and those who encountered him who they thought he was. Some thought him John the Baptist, others Elijah, some a prophet. Peter alone recognises him as the Messiah. However Jesus tells them all not to tell anyone about this. He also went on to say that he would have to endure suffering, be rejected by the religious leaders, be killed and then rise again. Peter is shocked at the idea of a Messiah who might undergo suffering, this was not something they expected.

Jesus goes on to tell all those who want to become his disciples that it will not be an easy path. "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." (Mark Ch 8, v34). This was not just addressed to a few close friends but to a crowd of people listening. They were not just the people who knew him well and were of his kinsfolk but were strangers and maybe unlikely at first to be called to his service. A time of being away from others as Jesus spent in the desert and we are experiencing in lockdown might give us the desire and impetus to come out with renewed strength and energy to do more in the service of Christ and his Church. We know however that life will not be easy in the coming days and that we will have to continue to bear burdens of responsibility and duty to our families, friends, our work and our Church. Nevertheless if we set our mind on things divine as Jesus told Peter, he will send us his Spirit to inspire and lead us in his path. May God bless us all as we seek to follow our way through Lent.

Best wishes and prayers



The Reverend Canon Stewart Lisk
Vicar of Roath

**I have spoken to many of you by telephone. If any of you want to chat please
ring
02920 487854 or 07794 157604
It's good to talk!**

Roath and Cathays Ministry Area Transition Team Formation

1. It is proposed that the parishes of Cathays, Roath, Roath St German and Roath St Martin are to be formed into a Ministry Area (MA) by Bishop's Decree by 1st January 2022.
2. The purpose of the MA is to enable us to be more effective in our service to our Lord Jesus Christ in Word, Sacrament, pastoral work and mission in this part of the City of Cardiff
3. The Ministry Area Leader is to be Canon Stewart Lisk, the Vicars are the Reverend Caroline Downs and the Reverend Irving Hamer.
4. The MA Handbook advises that in order to prepare the ground and make the necessary changes to make a successful change to a MA a dedicated MA Transition Team (MATT) should be established. The MATT is a working group which will oversee the formation of the MA. When the MA is formed the MATT will be dissolved and a MA Council (MAC) will be created which will be responsible for the ongoing governance and leadership of the MA.
5. The MATT should have fair representation from all churches and be of a size that is manageable to maximise efficiency.
6. It is suggested that there are no more than 15 members in the MATT to include the three stipendiary incumbent clergy, ex officio. Two lay representatives from each church, i.e. St Edward's, St German's, St Margaret's, St Martin's and St Michael's. The Lay Chairperson is also ex officio. The Bishop of Llandaff has appointed Mr Mike Payne as our Lay Chair. This will total 14, allowing for a possible co option of another for specific assistance.
7. Although the constituent parishes have other clergy and readers they cannot all be co-opted to the MATT but of course will be fully involved in the future work of the MA.
8. The diocese has produced a MA planning template which advises that the MA is to focus on four main areas: Finance, Governance and Building Ministry, Outreach and Engagement, Children and Young People. These will be prioritised as time and engagement increase over time
9. It is proposed that this MATT formation is approved by each individual church/ parish in order to move forward with our plans and discussions.

Stewart Lisk
17th February 2021.

ST EDWARD'S NOTES FEBRUARY 2021



‘Found on the pavement near the recreation ground, this simple question invites us to count our blessings.’

Alabama church bombing victims honoured by Welsh window

By Neil Prior BBC News, Wales Published 10 Mar 2011

On 16 September 1963, a splinter group of the Ku Klux Klan planted a bomb at the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, which killed four black girls attending Sunday school.

While few outside of Birmingham's African-American community displayed much sympathy, youngsters in Wales were so touched by the tragedy that they quickly raised the funds to replace the church's stained glass windows.

Kathleen Bunton, a member of the church and lifetime resident of Birmingham, said: "I was surprised that people cared about blacks altogether. Because if you had encountered the situations that were going on here...it was as if nobody cared. Of course you want to feel that I know God cares and he loves us all, but to think that another race would respond to this was very moving for me."

News of the bombing reached artist John Petts in Llansteffan, Carmarthenshire. He quickly offered his services to create and install a replacement window from Wales at the 16th Street Church.

Then editor of the Western Mail, David Cole, launched a front-page campaign to raise funds for the venture. There was to be a maximum donation of half a crown (30 old pennies, around 12.5p in today's money), so that the window was truly from all the people of Wales.

Speaking to the BBC in 1987, John Petts recalled: "They had never heard of Wales, they had no idea where it was, but they were very quickly told something of the little country Wales was, and how it put great value on independence and freedom, to bandy with the great big words. "An idea doesn't exist unless you do something about it," he said. "Thought has no real living meaning unless it's followed by action of some kind."

In an incredibly short space of time, the Western Mail's campaign had gathered force, with black and white children alike queuing in Cardiff's docklands to hand over whatever they could afford.

Within just two years, Petts had delivered his gift from Wales, a defiant and heart-warming image of a black Jesus beneath a rainbow of racial unity; his right arm pushing away hatred and injustice, the left offering forgiveness.

The current [2011] 16th Street Pastor, Reverend Arthur Price, says it is an image which draws comment to this day. "The boldness - in this country - of having a black Christ speaks volumes. For the African American community that's not a stretch at all, but for many people in the white community during that time, to say that Jesus Christ was black and of African descent would be blasphemous,"

"But I think the major message we try to take out of the window is not so much identifying Christ's colour but knowing that Christ identifies with us.

"To the white community this is that the Jesus you love identifies himself with the African-American community, so you are really crucifying him again when you persecute someone who does not look like you."

[Alabama church bombing victims honoured by Welsh window - BBC News](#)





NEWS FROM THE LYCHGATE

My first thing to do before writing these notes is to phone Gill Day and ask “is there any news?” because, of course, if there is Gill will know of it. As most of you now will know Gill has had a stroke and now is in the rehabilitation ward at Llandough Hospital, where she is improving. Our thoughts and prayers are with her, not only is she our friend but she does a terrific job as Church Warden especially during these difficult times. She has been a tireless hub of information about all of us in St Margaret’s. Already, as one person told me she is very much missed. We wish her a good recovery and hope she will be back among us before too long. Meanwhile it is incumbent on all of us to take up some of the work that Gill has been doing. We must make sure and care for each other.

Do you sometimes come across things in your household and wonder how they have survived over many years? One such, in our household was a birthday card, given to me by my sister in 1949. On floppy brownish paper it shows a squirrel holding a cracker with “8” on it. Inside the cracker has been pulled, and toys are flying out of it. It says “a cracker full of good things from” and then my sister’s name, Rosalie. This is especially pertinent as I have just turned 80. Where have all those years gone? I had thought, in writing those notes to overlook this important event in my life, and not mention it. But due in part to the

excellent offices of Mrs Day many people have remembered. So now I have a chance to say thank you for all the cards, emails and good wishes I received. I did have a lovely birthday.

As we approach, hopefully, the end of Lockdown we can look forward to a time when we can resume going to church, being part of the parish community, running bazaars and coffee mornings; all the stuff of normal life which has been taken from us by the virus. It was good to hear that the church was filled with flowers from a "Casualty" wedding, to be broadcast in June. We have a lovely church, and great it will be our rejoicing when we can fill it again.

Sally reports that she would like to pass on the congregation's thanks to our Vicar, Stewart and the team for making it possible for us to come and worship in church whilst ensuring that we are abiding by the rules of maintaining 2m social distance and sanitising our hands on arrival and departure of church. We really appreciate all the work you guys do during these difficult times and always.

Have a blessed Lent
Julia & Sally



They're Back! Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank God for the church ladies with typewriters. These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married [on October 24](#) in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held [on Tuesday evening](#) in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Pot-luck supper [Sunday at 5:00 PM](#) - prayer and medication to follow.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement [on Friday afternoon](#).

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

And this one just about sums them all up

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours'.

Frances Duffell? (née Goble)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT – TIME TO PRAY

I got up early one morning
And rushed right into the day.
I had so much to accomplish
That I didn't have time to pray.

Problems came tumbling about me
And heavier came each task.
“Why doesn't God help me?” I wondered,
He answered, ‘you didn't ask’.

I wanted to see joy and beauty,
But the day toiled on grey and bleak.
I wondered why God didn't show me,
He said, ‘but you didn't seek’.

I tried to come into God's presence,
I used all my keys to the lock.
God kindly and lovingly chided,
‘My child, you didn't knock’.

I woke up early this morning
and paused before entering the day.
I had so much to accomplish
That I had to make time to pray.

From the magazine of Malpas & Threapwood Cheshire

With thanks

Copy date for the next magazine (Easter) is 22nd March

Please send hard-copy (typed, hand-written or cut-out) to the Parish Office; email contributions to:

Sue Mansell, smmansell@icloud.com

or Gwynn Ellis, rgellis@ntlworld.com, (preferably using Arial font 12)



**For the latest information on Covid Guidance and Church services
please visit our Website <http://www.roath.org.uk/>**

**Articles in this magazine reflect the views of their authors, and not
necessarily those of the editors, or the official teachings of the
Church.**