

Mediator News

SPRING EDITION

OCTOBER 2019

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR RECTOR

Dearly Beloved

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace. (1 Cor. 1:3)

It's now two months since I have returned after a blessed sabbatical of 3 months, which was partly spent at home and abroad.

Abundant thanks for allowing me this time of rest and reflection.

It started off with the marriage of our only Daughter, Vivienne Apples to Tyron Lloyd on the 4 May 2019. A day that flew past me and the mixed emotions of letting someone go that are so close to your heart. And finally, after a number of days, an empty room, then the acceptance, that she has started a new life with someone else, who is now our new son. I only then understood what it meant to let someone go. Many will perhaps try to reassure me that she will remain in your heart and thoughts, but there is a new distance of knowing they are there, but not in your house.

Eventually jetting off to the United Kingdom, to spend 3 weeks with the Monks of the Community of the Resurrection in Mirfield.

Slotting into a monastic rhythm was relatively easy, as I prefer a structured program per day. We had plenty of time for silence, to pray,

to read, to eat, to sleep, to write and to relax. A very different life as to the one we all live.

I was struck by the simplicity of their worship. The chanting of Psalms, the reading of Holy Scripture with patience and clarity, the celebration of the Eucharist with "awe" and "wonder".

CR House with its surroundings was beautifully kept, a happy home for all kinds of birds, chirping and singing along. As I was sitting in the garden, watching a bird hopping along on the beautiful outstretched lawn, it flew off, only later to return to a "chalice like" fountain to drink from it. A reminder to us, that we need to all return to drink from the chalice "Blood of Christ" to remain connected to the true Vine, Jesus Christ. (John 15:5)

I started to attend An Individually Guided Retreat from the 2nd June 2019. Fr Nicolas was my guide for the week. I was required to reflect on a number of Scriptures that was given to me on a daily basis.

Reflecting on my ministry these past 7 years, the Holy Spirit made me realise the following:

□ Whatever good happened – It was God who still allowed miracles to happen on a daily basis. Sometimes we are blind to see it. Do we still see the miracles happening on a daily basis in our lives?

Continues on page 3



And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. - **Romans 8:28**

BRAINTEASER TIME

What are the next three letters in this combination?
OTTFSS



Curate's Message

I thank God for the new every morning.

During the month of Easter, I had the privilege to hand the sick/housebound an Easter gift. This initiative was a way for the church to acknowledge the sick/housebound and to let them know the church has not forgotten about them. The parishioners were very excited and grateful as they received these gifts.

During the school holidays the Holiday Club was hosted at Christ the Good Shepherd. Once again, we were reminded of the serious social issues being experienced in our communities. Many children are faced with extremely difficult issues where poverty seems to be high on the list. This has also reminded us that the church must be the Beacon of Hope in our communities. We pray for the ministry of the Mother's Union as they have taken the responsibility of heading the soup kitchen on a weekly basis during the winter months. We also pray for the AWF who contributes to the soup kitchen when possible.

During the three months while Rev Dean has been on Sabbatical, I have realised that many parishioners are not aware of the different offices and the responsibilities of clergy. The parishioners also need to be refreshed with regards to the meaning of the sacraments and how it must be exercised. My prayer is that as a church we will be open to be refreshed with regards to teachings of the church.

A Distinctive Deacon, also known as a Permanent Deacon, is a Servant of the Servants. Their responsibility is to visit the sick/housebound and serve the less fortunate/vulnerable. A transitional Deacon also has the responsibility to visit the sick/housebound and later to be Ordained as a Priest. A Full Stipendiary Priest has all the responsibilities of a parish and receives a stipend.

A Non-Stipendiary Priest, also known as a Self-Supporting Priest, is a priest who is employed on a full-time basis and offer his/her available time to the parish. The parish gives the SS priest a travelling allowance. I am a Non-Stipendiary Priest who is currently a Hospital Chaplain at Lentegour Psychiatric Hospital. It was interesting to juggle my time between work and church, however, I strived to do my best as far as it was possible.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one at the parish for your love support while Rev Dean was on sabbatical.

Love and Blessings
Revd Desiree Jackson

Winter Warmer

The Soup kitchen at Eastridge has been operational for the past three years and our Mothers Union has been very active feeding the hungry and the needy for the past Winter season.

The totals of persons fed weekly varies from between 200 and 265 persons, mostly children.

Our heartfelt thanks to the Mothers Union for their love and support as we have been making 4 large pots of soup and buying 20-30 loaves of bread, weekly.

Thank You to all the parishioners who have been donating towards the soup kitchen. Let us continue our giving towards this worthy course. Any donations in cash or kind is well appreciated and can be dropped off at the church.

God Bless You

A simple and beautiful prayer

When you wake up, say: JESUS I love you...
When you leaving the house, say: JESUS come with me...
When you feel like crying, say : JESUS hug me...
When you feel happy , say: JESUS I adore you...
When you do something, say : JESUS help me ...
When you make a mistake, say : JESUS forgive me...
When you go to sleep, say : Thank you JESUS and cover me with your holy mantle. God loves you.



Continued from page 1

❖ Then the assurance, God have chosen us, and He will use us to bring about change in the lives of His people. I was reminded of Acts 9:15, "The Lord said to him, Go, because I have chosen him to serve me, to make my name known to Gentiles and kings and to the people of Israel."

The IGR gave me a further opportunity to admire the relationship between God and David, and the Spirit confirming that such a relationship is possible with God.

It led to the writing this prayer (Based on Psalm 63:1-4):

Nurturing my relationship with God
O God, you are my God
My soul thirsts for You

My flesh longs for You.
As in a dry and weary land where no water is.
So, I have called out to You in my heart
Sensing your power and glory
Because your wondrous Love is
Life in me
My lips will praise You
I will radiate your love for as long as I live,
Becoming a blessing to others in gratitude to You. Amen

Let us continue to keep this community in our prayers as they pray for the church and Christ mission here on earth.

More about my sabbatical will follow.

May God continue to bless us all as we journey together in love.
Rev. Dean F. Apples



EVENT GUIDE

1. FOOD FAIR – 08 June 2019

What a trip around the world this event was! The day's festivities commenced with an opening prayer by lay minister Marlene Nel which was preceded with a colourful parade of all the countries represented on the day. An array of delicious dishes was on sale such as proudly South African boerie rolls, zesty nachos & quesadillas from Mexico, a fragrant assortment of curries and akhni from India, good ol' fashioned burgers, hotdogs and fries from USA, aromatic paella from Spain, mouth-watering pastas from Italy, something fishy from Portugal and refreshing beverages from Hawaii. Dance entertainment was provided by a group of confirmation, pre-confirmation and bible study candidates (known as The Boys). A heartfelt thank you to all area leaders, organisations and parishioners for their contribution and donations towards this successful event. The total funds raised amounted R22 074.00.

2. WOMEN'S DAY HIGH TEA - 09 August 2019

The theme for the high tea was inspired from 2 Corinthians 5:7 "I will walk by faith even when I cannot see" and the afternoon commenced with an opening prayer by Rev. Desiree Jackson. Ladies (and a few of our men too) stepped out in style on the day and were enthralled with the motivational talks of the two guest speakers. Both speakers acknowledged the plight of women who had experienced various forms of abuse. Ms. Yolanda Charles, a local business woman, encouraged women to rise above their circumstances, to persevere and to have faith in God. The second guest speaker and one of the biggest highlights of the day, Mr David Rees, a well-known actor best known for his role as Nick Naude in Egoli and Chris Welman in 7de Laan. Mr Rees reminded all of the importance women play in the home, society and community. Along with the delicious savoury and scrumptious sweet treats provided on the day, guests were also treated to song performances by the Praise and Worship team, dance entertainment by

The Boys and a special liturgical dance rendered by Neil Oortman who accompanied David Rees. A sincere thank you to all involved, from the beautifully decorated tables and stage area, to the contributions toward each tables' treats, spot prize donations, music and entertainment and most of all to everyone who attended the event. The event was a blazing success and the total amount of funds raised amounted to R12 068.00.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

3. DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA – 27 October 2019

This year's theme is "In the Presence of the Most High". The Dance Extravaganza is a wonderful afternoon of praise and worship where various liturgical dance groups display their ministry to the Almighty. Be sure not to miss this event! Tickets are available from Iris Tremble and the liturgical dance members.

4. ANNUAL BAZAAR – 02 November 2019

This year's theme: Back to the 80's! So, whether you come dressed in your 'Miami Vice' suit, best disco outfit, leggings with a headband, etc. who knows? You might stand a chance to win a prize. Stalls to look forward to:

- ❑ Sweets galore..... Cakes and more!
 - ❑ Curry in a hurry, hotdogs, hot chips, boerie rolls and many more dishes to choose from;
 - ❑ Fun rides and entertainment for the kiddies;
 - ❑ Mediator and Shepherds Got Talent live winner announcement;
 - ❑ General stores where you can buy fresh homemade baked bread, braun, clothing and lots more; and
 - ❑ Our famous White Elephant stall
- Bring your family, friends or neighbours and come along to join in the fun and great fellowship!



Memories: Bazaar 2018



Crossword Puzzle

The resurrection of
Jesus Christ

from the Books of Matthew and Mark

Bible Crossword
No.3



Across

- 1 where they laid Jesus after He died (Matt. 27:60)
4 the place where Jesus died (Matt. 27:33)
5 Jesus and two thieves were _____ together (Matt. 27:38)
8 mother of Jesus
9 The angel said "He is _____ He is not here" (Mark 16:6)
10 They made Jesus wear a scarlet _____ (Matt. 27:28)
12 Jesus was betrayed for _____ pieces of silver (Matt. 27:3)
14 Jesus was _____ of any crime (Matt. 27:4)
15 The 12 companions of Jesus

DOWN

- 2 Jesus shed His _____ for our sins
3 Judas Iscariot _____ Jesus (Matt. 27:4)
5 Roman commander of a hundred men (Matt. 27:54)
6 Jesus said "My God, My God why hast thou _____ me" (Matt. 27:46)
7 a title of Jesus (it means anointed one) (Matt. 27:17)
11 They laid the _____ of Jesus in a tomb (Matt. 27:59)
12 Jesus wore a "crown of _____"
13 our Lord and Saviour

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JOKES

A friend was in front of me coming out of church one On their way to get married, a young Catholic couple is involved in a fatal car accident. The couple found themselves sitting outside the Pearly Gates waiting for St. Peter to process them into Heaven. While waiting, they began to wonder: Could they possibly get married in Heaven? When St. Peter showed up, they asked him. St. Peter said, "I don't know. This is the first time anyone has asked. Let me go find out," and he left. The couple sat and waited, and waited. Two months passed and the couple were still waiting. While waiting, they began to wonder what would happen if it didn't work out; could you get a divorce in heaven? After yet another month, St. Peter finally returned, looking somewhat bedraggled. "Yes," he informed the couple, "You can get married in Heaven." "Great!" said the couple, "But we were just wondering, what if things don't work out? Could we also get a divorce in Heaven?" St. Peter, red-faced with anger, slammed his clipboard onto the ground. "What's wrong?" asked the frightened couple. "OH, COME ON!," St. Peter shouted, "It took me three months to find a priest up here! Do you have any idea how long it'll take me to find a lawyer?"

What car did the wise men drive to see Jesus?

Honda Accord. The Bible says the wise men all came in one accord.

What kind of person was Boaz before he got married?

Ruthless!

Editorial Information

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Please send all stories to communications.ctm@gmail.com to have your stories featured in future issues.

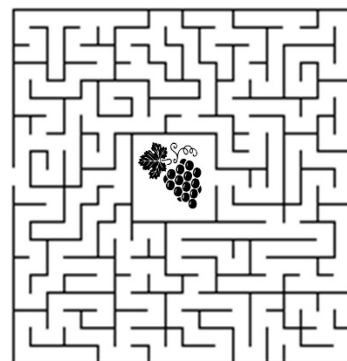
Cryptogram

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Answers will be posted on the church Notice Board and across all social media platforms in 2 weeks. Please like and follow our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages for the latest news and any updates.



THE CHURCHWARDENS STAVE



Each Week when you attend church services, you will see two brass staves fixed to the pews, about half way down the centre aisle. Have you ever wondered what are they and what are they used for? These are simply the Church Wardens Staves and are symbols of the office that they hold. Church Wardens are the principal representatives of the congregation and are officers of the Bishop, hence the top of the cross representing the Bishop's mitre. These staves go back to the earliest days of the Anglican Church and it is reminder that Wardens are not just administrators and book-keepers. With the Rector, they share a responsibility of the spiritual welfare of the parish. For that reason, they are kept in the church and not in the parish office. On important occasions, the Wardens, on behalf of the congregation, bear these symbols when they welcome the Bishop they enter the church for worship.

On a lighter note: In years past they had another function, to jab parishioners who had fallen asleep during a sermon!



Thank You for your Thanksgiving contribution!

Our sincere thanks to all who have given generously towards this project.

A total of R 102 000.00 was collected.

These funds have been banked in our Stanlib account together with other funds - so that we can earn some good interest. The funds have not been allocated for any project as yet, but as soon as Parish Council decides, we will advise you.

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PARISH FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The past winter months have been very tough on our finances. With the rain and cold keeping people away from church, income from collections and pledges are down by 18%. Why does this matter? It matters because despite the bad weather that keeps us away from church, the costs of running the church does not slow down and as reported in our last newsletter, income from collections and pledges are used for the operational running of the church.

THANK YOU! To those of you who have been very diligent in your dedicated giving!

*Thank
you*



PLEDGE NUMBERS

We have noticed that there are some parishioners who are still using the old pledge numbers, or just their names – on the Pledge Envelopes. This makes it difficult to allocate the pledge amount to the correct person on the system. If this applies to you, please contact the Parish Office to obtain the new number.

What is the Anglican Communion?

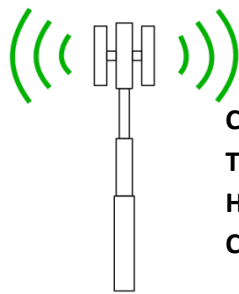
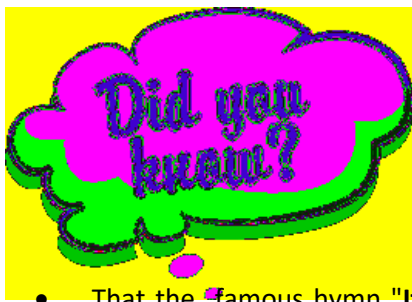
We are sure that you have heard that we belong to the Anglican Communion and wondered: ***"What is the Anglican Communion?"***.

The Anglican Communion is one of the world's largest Christian communities. It has tens of millions of members in more than 165 countries around the globe. Anglicanism is one of the traditions or expressions of Christian faith. Others include Roman Catholicism, Eastern Orthodox, Lutheran and Baptist.

The Communion is organised into a series of provinces and extra-provincial areas. The provinces are subdivided into dioceses, and the dioceses into parishes.

There are 40 provinces and, from March 2019, five extra-provincial areas. Some provinces are national, others are regional. All are in communion – or a reciprocal relationship – with the See of Canterbury and recognise the Archbishop of Canterbury as the Communion's spiritual head.

But there is no central authority in the Anglican Communion. All of the provinces are autonomous and free to make their own decisions in their own ways – guided by recommendations from the four Instruments: the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lambeth Conference, the Primates' Meeting and the Anglican Consultative Council.



CELL PHONE TOWERS AND HEALTH CONCERNS

With the installation of the cell phone tower on our church property, there have been some questions asked about the health concerns. The following is an extract from:

American Cancer Society - Latest on Cell Phone Towers

Some people have expressed concern that living, working, or going to school near a cell phone tower might increase the risk of cancer or other health problems. At this time, there is very little evidence to support this idea. In theory, there are some important points that would argue against cellular phone towers being able to cause cancer.

The American Cancer Society has updated its public information on cell phone towers and cancer.

Do cellular phone towers cause cancer?

Some people have expressed concern that living, working, or going to school near a cell phone tower might increase the risk of cancer or other health problems. At this time, there is very little evidence to support this idea. In theory, there are some important points that would argue against cellular phone towers being able to cause cancer.

•First, the energy level of radiofrequency (RF) waves is relatively low, especially

when compared with the types of radiation that are known to increase cancer risk, such as gamma rays, x-rays, and ultraviolet (UV) light. The energy of RF waves given off by cell phone towers is not enough to break chemical bonds in DNA molecules, which is how these stronger forms of radiation may lead to cancer.

•A second issue has to do with wavelength. RF waves have long wavelengths, which can only be concentrated to about an inch or two in size. This makes it unlikely that the energy from RF waves could be concentrated enough to affect individual cells in the body.

•Third, even if RF waves were somehow able to affect cells in the body at higher doses, the level of RF waves present at ground level is very low – well below the recommended limits. Levels of energy from RF waves near cell phone towers are not significantly different from the background levels of RF radiation in urban areas from other sources, such as radio and television broadcast stations.

• That the famous hymn "It Is Well With My Soul", written by hymnist Horatio Spafford and composed by Philip Bliss, was written after traumatic events in Spafford's life. The first was the death of his son at the age of two and the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, which ruined him financially (he had been a successful lawyer and had invested significantly in property in the area of Chicago that was extensively damaged by the great fire). His business interests were further hit by the economic downturn of 1873, at which time he had planned to travel to Europe with his family on the *SS Ville du Havre*. In a late change of plan, he sent the family ahead while he was delayed on business concerning zoning problems following the Great Chicago Fire. While crossing the Atlantic Ocean, the ship sank rapidly after a collision with a sea vessel, the *Loch Earn*, and all four of Spafford's daughters died. His wife Anna survived and sent him the now famous telegram, "Saved alone ...". Shortly afterwards, as Spafford traveled to meet his grieving wife, he was inspired to write these words as his ship passed near where his daughters had died.^[2] Bliss called his tune *Ville du Havre*, from the name of the stricken vessel.

