

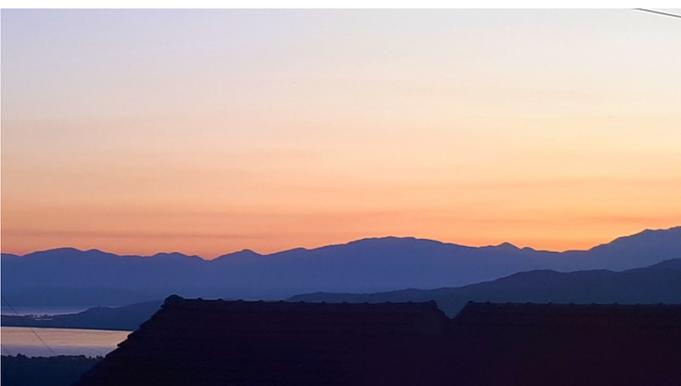
A NEW DAY

Dear Friends,

Anyone who has been awake at dawn on Corfu, will be very familiar with the racket that starts the day here. It is almost comical. The cockerels compete to be heard across the island, the dogs decide it's time to wake up everyone and compete with their feathered friends... There's little doubt that night has passed and the day lies open before us. There is almost a desperation to get the day started. And, of course, the sunrise that follows is spectacular; the colours gradually change from the starry blackness, through purple and orange, then through the deeper shades of indigo that will eventually become that brilliant blue of the day. It's like the animals and birds are telling us not to miss out.

FULL OF HOPE

I usually do. Miss out, that is. I just turn over and hope beyond hope that someone will silence that din! But when I don't do that, when I accept their insistence... I never regret it. There is something about sharing the new beginning that each day offers that is life-giving and full of hope. It seems that new beginnings are built into the very fabric of the world. Hope, as they say, springs eternal. Creation itself has a sacramental-like quality and when we look closely and quietly enough, in a moment of stillness (or dawn chorus!), we see the patterns of nature pointing the way to life in the Spirit; a pattern of new beginnings and growth; rest and renewal; the gift of a new start and potential yet unrealised. This is the deeper foundation of our lives with God. The life that Jesus calls us to see beneath the busy-ness and routines we formulate for ourselves.



As that day unfolds, billions of us will live our own unique version of the gift we have been given. When we begin that day in prayer, we remember the different experiences that this day will bring to so many. It doesn't take long for the realities we take with us from the day before to pile in upon us. Some of us will be waking up to an exciting day - a day we've been looking forward to; for others there will be a gap in our lives which we will always feel. Some of us will be waking up holding a new life in our arms with the overwhelming sense of love and joy that brings; others will be starting the day in a trench embracing a weapon and ready to defend our loved ones knowing we may well use it to take another's life. Yet others will be planning an hour or two enjoying the sunshine; others will be watching the sky to see if the floods will stop. In prayer, we hold all these lives before God, knowing that He will be there, in every life, no matter what. This too is life in the Spirit. The Holy Spirit, that is with us in each breath and sustains us from one moment to the next, is not only in the quiet moments - He is in every moment of every life; Hoping with us, groaning with us, offering to show us the heart of God no matter what we are doing or where we are.

WHAT SHAPES THE DAY?

And these two aspects of our lives, the fresh start and the inheritance of the day before, wrestle for our attention; they compete for influence over us. Can I grow into the life of grace and peace that Jesus offers me every morning? Can I hold onto that? Or will the hangover of the day before, good or bad, shape the way I am today? Will I be able to trust in the love of my Saviour or will I find myself succumbing to the patterns I have created for myself or others have created for me?

There is a very beautiful moment in a very horrible scene in the Passion of Christ, when Jesus is carrying his cross through the streets of Jerusalem (we can imagine what he has gone through) and he sees Mary, his mother, and she takes in the horror of her son's experience. Without any condemnation of those who have inflicted his wounds upon him, Jesus says to her the words of Revelation 21:5, "See I am making all things new". Jesus is telling one he loves that what he is bearing is part of the transformation of the world. And as she

looks upon him, she does so not only with horror but with hope. A sure hope. Jesus is changing everything.

IN THE PRESENT

What strikes me about these words of Jesus, coming as they do at the end of the book of Revelation, is not that they are a statement of finality on a vision of fulfilment; he's not speaking from the future the new heaven and the new earth represent, completed and presented in its fullness... he's speaking to his troubled followers about what was happening to them there and then; speaking into what was happening to them at that time during a dark age of persecution and violence. He doesn't say to them that he has made all things new looking backwards from a moment of finality... but rather he speaks in the present, he is making all things new. He is helping them to understand that everything they experience has meaning and ultimate purpose. He is encouraging them, and us, to take

hold of the life in the Spirit that we have been born into in the midst of the realities of the current age. A life where each new day, whatever it holds, is a life where the Holy Spirit, our companion and our friend, can draw us closer into the life of God; where we can grow, day by day, into people capable of living in the grace we have been given. Holding the reality of our broken, and yet loved world alongside the glorious hope our Father in Heaven has for each of his children.

So, whether it's an alarm or the cacophony of critters that awakens us in the morning and whether or not we ask for five more minutes sleep or rise to meet the morning, maybe the first thing we should remember, as we stare bleary eyed into the bathroom mirror, are the words of Jesus. See, I am making all things new.

With every blessing,

Jules.



Peter Woodhams and wife Margaret , who regularly visit us in the summer.

Peter the is son of The Venerable Brian Woodhams, Archdeacon of Newark who died in 1992. Brian regularly came for 15 years as seasonal chaplain with wife Vera before we even had a permanent chaplain. A great encouragement to us and lovely friendship over the years.

On Sunday 24th July, Peter gave a little talk about his father and much loved times in Corfu .

PULSE PRAYERS



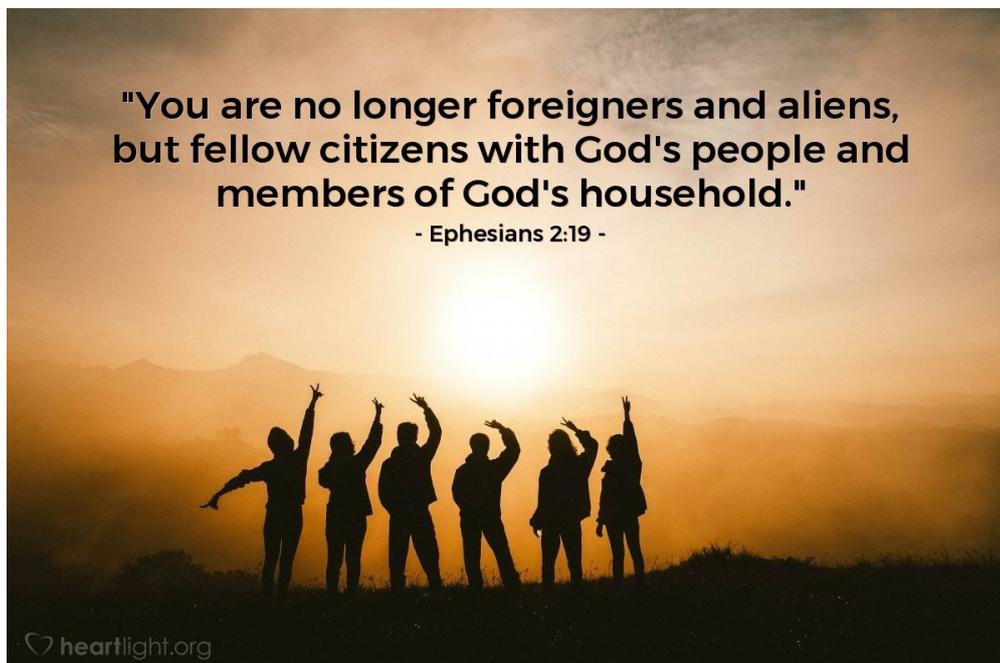
Lord, heavenly father, we thank you for the beauty of our world. Thank you for the seasons, each one fulfilling our needs. As our climate changes life has become different and difficult. We have abused our world and we fear the consequences. Please look upon the people who are moving because of natural disasters, lands that are sinking into the sea and please look after people who are suffering from extreme weather events. We have not been good stewards of our precious resources and we ask for forgiveness. God of life, help us to share your gifts and make changes for all of your creation. Lord, hear our prayers.

We pray for those suffering oppression, war and injustice. In your kindness, watch over refugees and victims of war. Those separated from their loved ones. Young people who are lost or who have run away from home. The war still rages on in Ukraine causing so much human suffering. Lord, we ask you to stop this war. May your peace be with all those who are suffering as they continue to survive in such misery. In the power of your spirit, your strength, renew us, call us to be peacemakers.

We pray for those living in fear of persecution. For those living on the outskirts away from family and friends for their Christian beliefs. Lord protect them and instil your love in their hearts. Fill them with hope and dignity as they faithfully serve you and may we stand alongside them and pray for them in your name.

We pray for Afghanistan for the oppression of women and girls under the Taliban regime. A year has passed since the mass exit of people left the country when it was handed back to the regime. We pray for the missionaries who leave their homes to minister to lost people in other countries especially Afghanistan. We ask you to protect them and that they will be a light in the darkness for you. Let their witness spread, give them courage to defend your name under persecution. Lord, hear our prayers.

(Continued on page 4)





We ask you Lord to help us grow in compassion for those who are displaced from their homes. Those who leave their homes to find safety in any other country they can. Help us not to see them as problems or threats. Help us to see refugees as fellow humans who have been forced to leave everything they knew. Lord, hear our prayers.

Our world and economy have been turned upside Lord due to the raging war in the Ukraine. In this time of economic insecurity help us trust that all our security is in you. We ask that you give our world leaders the wisdom to guide our nation and the world out of the current economic crisis. Help us to protect the poor and all those who are struggling during this difficult time. Encourage those who are able to share their resources with those who neglect to have the necessities of life. Lord, heal our broken world. Lord, hear our prayers.

We pray for the Christian mission of ICS for their outreach in pastoral care throughout the dioceses. May your kingdom continue to grow and every blessing be on their mission. Bless our mission and the outreach of this church. Bless our families near and far. We thank you for our chaplain, Jules and his wife Trish. Bless them, their lives and their family. Bless our council members and we thank you for all they do for the good and life of our church. Thank you, Lord, that the project to renovate the library is still on track. We look forward to when its finished and with your blessing Lord, make it a place for everyone to enjoy. Lord, hear our prayers and thank you for all our blessings. Amen



We give thanks for the life of Brian Waterman who passed away on 9th August in hospital shortly after having his 85th birthday and just before his final move back to the UK.

Brian and Joy first came to Corfu in 1986 and found so many welcoming friends, Joy thanks all for their kindness. They also became active members of HTC family and Brian was a Churchwarden. In later years they were also part of the fellowship in the North of the island. We give thanks for the service, friendship and fellowship of Brian. May the God of all comfort come alongside Joy, family and friends.

Jesus said, " *I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?* "

John 11.25-26.



Joy & Brian, with Lorraine at HTC at a past event.



Brian's valued Greek residency card.

FRIENDLY FOCUS



Our interview for the Friendly Focus this month is with **Mignon Kolp**. Who to many may be known first and foremost for her faithful piano playing every Sunday.



First of all I would like to say thank you Mignon for taking the time to chat with me for The Pulse Magazine.

This is the fourth in our series where we find out a little more about members of our church family. As we connect again together after the pandemic and remember what an amazing and diverse church we belong to we appreciate once again the privilege and blessing it is to meet together in person.

Well Mignon we all know that you are from the United States originally. Could you tell us a little bit about what life was like for you in the States and where you lived?

A very little bit I can tell you. I was born and brought up in New Orleans. And that's where I learned my love for jazz. I guess I heard it from childhood all the way through. My mother was singing in the choir so in order to spend some time with mum I went with her to choir practice so church music has been with me forever and I love it especially because it was something that I did with mother.

Do I miss something from New Orleans? I miss the food. I miss it terribly - the best food in the world - but of course, it is not good for the hips! You have to take it sparingly.

I had a nomadic life. My Father was a pharmacist and he worked for Pfizer and we moved continually. I had many high schools and primary schools to go through. And I still am a nomad still moving from one country to another. When I started working it was from one country to another. I'm not big on taking a two week holiday. I like to go and live somewhere for a year or two and try to come to terms with what it's like to be in that culture.

(Continued on page 6)

I guess this is a kind of two part question if that's okay...how long have you lived in Corfu and have you lived in other parts of Greece as well? I'm kind of curious as your Greek is basically fluent. Which is another talent that you seem to have (I mean for languages as well as music).

Ah.. thank you. I've lived in Corfu for seven years now and been in the Holy Trinity Church family for all those seven years... they really saved me! I worked for seven years also in Salonica, (Thessaloniki) teaching at the international school there. I'd gone from one international school to another and I was in Hong Kong, then Mexico City, then Casablanca. Then I came to Greece and out of all these different experiences teaching abroad I liked Greece best.. So when I retired, of course, I came back here.

How did you end up in Corfu (the musical island)?

I didn't know anyone in Corfu - I expected to return to Salonica and still kept up with my friends there from the school. In my travels I kept hearing about this musical island; it's a dream of mine to retire to an island... no big cities for me unless I had to work for it. I heard about Corfu being the musical island of Greece and I came here for a holiday for a few days to see what it was like. And I never left. I just fell in love with it.

Can you say what your favourite and least favourite things about Greece are?

Well my favourite thing about Greece is the people for sure. They have such a love for life that it bubbles out of them! I just love them. My least favourite thing is Greek timekeeping. They are clueless about time. There's Greek time and then there's the rest of the world. It can be frustrating but the people are so great.

When did you first get involved with Holy Trinity Church?

Good question... I don't remember but it was immediately. I came and I heard for the first time a group of people, the congregants, actually singing out. I have had choirs everywhere I have worked - I've always done choir and church work - and I've never had a congregation that sings - the choir usually has to do all the work. And this church just blows my mind how they love to sing and support the musicians with their voices. It's very unusual.

We all know that you are a fabulous piano player and a beautiful singer. There are rumours that you were a famous jazz singer in New Orleans! Please could you tell us just a little bit about those times. For example the name of your band and actually anything at all about that sort of life of gigging and clubs etc.

Well, my group was called "Chez Mignon" which in French (Mignon is French anyway - it isn't really a name, it's a word, Chez means home) so it means "you're at home with Mignon". And my husband was the pianist. We had a saxophone player and bass player... There were seven of us. There was a shortage I guess of groups that actually gigged in the white community because it was an all black town. I also sang with a seventeen part big band and we did things like the church does here now. Some weddings but mostly fundraisers - no pay involved... we could always get work that way! We were doing it for fun so the money didn't matter but we wanted to pay for our instruments.

What is your all time favourite song to sing?

Mmmm... Summertime, probably. (*Trish: I love that it really has the chill factor*) *It's something we do every year so...I love it.*

You seem to have a great network of friends here in Corfu. How did you manage during the lockdowns? I mean were you somebody that coped well with lock down or like me struggled with all the restrictions?

Well, I remember arriving on the island way before Covid and I was checking into my hotel for three days (I thought I'd stay on the island for 3 days), there was this big noise coming out of the dining room of the hotel and then all of a sudden it got very quiet. I thought Greeks going quiet what could this be cos they're noisy -they like noise? I went in and there was a huge group of maybe eight or nine tables of bridge players and they were playing and you can't speak when you're playing tournament bridge and I immediately started with them and we play twice a week.

We continued that through Covid. It was like a “bubble” and through that and through the church I managed to make some friends and stay afloat during the lockdowns. Lockdowns ...well I read a lot and did my music and I don't really require that much interaction on the street so it wasn't that difficult for me. It felt nice in town as there were no tourists.

Is Tula your cat your best friend? I'm kind of joking but my sister always says her dogs are her best friends!

No, she's probably my enemy! She rules in the house. I'm just there to feed her and clean up the messes. My best friend was my dog that I had for seventeen years, a little Yorkie that I took even to the movies with me in my bag. She was tiny, tiny. She was my best friend. Dogs can be. I don't think cats have this same thing.

Would you consider that you have been and are still a lucky person in life? I guess I'm asking in general have things turned out for you how you wanted in your life or are there regrets.

Absolutely, absolutely. I keep thinking, I keep telling Jules that any moment it's going to fall through that my good luck is going to fall away and I'm going to catch up on all the bad stuff cos it's been a blessing. The music has been a blessing, the people, unbelievable people ...I just feel very, very blessed.

And no regrets then, as you look back?

Well looking back helps you from making the same mistakes again. I don't regret anything because through the people that I have met I've found work in places ..for instance my first husband and I never lived in the same country at the same time. He was a diplomat and was serving in (I don't think you need all this) he was serving in Vietnam and the closest I could get to him was Hong Kong. So I was thrown there as I wouldn't have gone by myself and they needed a teacher at the international school so I ended up working there while he was serving in Vietnam. But the marriage didn't last for obvious reasons. I think looking back he was always threatened with his life. His house was blown up, burned down, whatever, in Vietnam and so we became friends after that but never wanted the marriage to continue. So that was a regret but it also got me into teaching in international schools.

I usually end with a more tricky question if I may? Can you describe what place faith has in your life or another way of asking that question is how would you describe your relationship with God?

That is tricky because I really haven't ever had (outside of music I guess) a confrontation where I needed more faith than I was given through the Baptist church that I grew up in. Faith to me is through the love you find with your friends and every time I'm in church, especially our church, and there's the music, I feel close to my Maker I feel absolutely in line or in the same place as God. Because the blessings come through the music. I'm in sync with God, that's what music does for me.

Wow, that's a lovely way of describing it. I think when you are in the worship group with Steve and Jules, a lot of people feel the same. There is a special atmosphere when you are together.

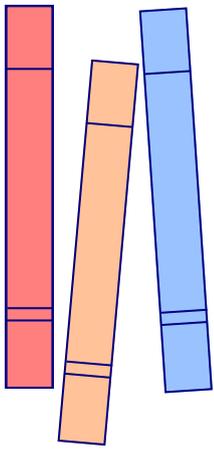
I hope so. I hope so. That's the hope.

Well, thank you so much Mignon for taking this time to chat with me. It has been a real pleasure and a privilege to hear a little bit of your incredible "story."

It's been my privilege thank you.



Mignon on percussion at Agiofest 2019

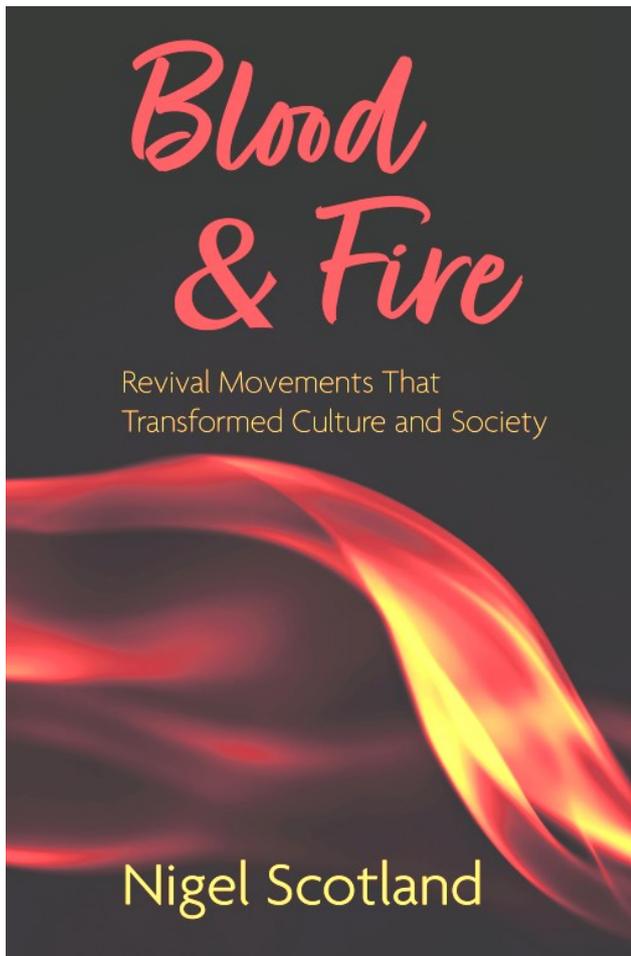


A NEW BOOK

FROM NIGEL SCOTLAND

In this time of pandemic, spiralling prices, fuel shortages, war in Ukraine, strikes and the threat of strikes, political uncertainty and a steep decline in church membership I have written this book about revival movements which transformed societies and cultures. I trust and pray it will raise our hopes and renew our commitment to following Jesus in these uncertain days. The book is 261 pages long but commended on the back cover (see attached below) as easy to read. It has been beautifully produced with a number of photographs by Wipf and Stock publishers of Eugene, Oregon, USA.

Published on 11th August, 2022 it should be readily available through Amazon UK and UK Christian book shops. If all else fails send an email to orders@wipfandstock.com and it will be sent in just a few days. **Nigel.**



In this book, historian Nigel Scotland examines ten powerful revival movements that hugely impacted the social life and culture of large sections of America and the British Isles. Revivals represent a high point of Christian experience, renewing and empowering the life and worship of Christian communities. In consequence they draw large numbers of new people to personal faith in Christ, which in turn brings lasting and positive change to social life and culture. In this book special attention is given to the ways in which vibrant Christian faith challenged racism, fought and overcame slavery, helped to birth trade unions, campaigned for temperance, led to a rapid growth in education, from Sunday schools to universities, provided equal opportunities for women, and renewed family life and relationships.

"A great read. For those who yearn to see a true movement of the Spirit and for those who are starting to lose hope, this is an important book. Allow yourself to be inspired."

—TIM HASTIE-SMITH, missionary, Diocese of Gloucester

"Nigel Scotland has undertaken careful research into significant revivals in Britain and North America from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries. Each chapter contains a compelling account of the features of a particular episode of revival. This is a book which both informs and inspires. It will be highly valued by all those concerned for spiritual renewal. I am delighted to commend it."

—IAN RANDALL, research associate, Cambridge Centre for Christianity Worldwide

"This book is a fascinating read for anyone interested in the history of American and British revivals. Written in a lucid style, this account makes the various stories come alive to the reader. Importantly, insights from these revivals have implications for the life of the contemporary church. I commend this book most warmly."

—MARK J. CARTLEDGE, principal, Middlesex University London

"Thousands of passionate young evangelists and revivalists around the world can benefit from Nigel Scotland's careful historical research of ten revivals. Hope is rising for a great movement of youth turning to Christ. We can gain much wisdom from studying previous generations who experienced revival and renewal in society."

—JOHN S PEACHEY, chairman, Youth With A Mission (YWAM) Harpenden

Nigel Scotland is an Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Gloucestershire and lectures in Christian doctrine at Ripon College, Cuddesdon. He is the author of more than twenty books.

COVER DESIGN: Savannah N. Landerholm
www.wipfandstock.com

 **Cascade Books**
An imprint of WIPF and STOCK Publishers



Celebration

28th August saw Jules celebrate his 58th birthday, by working!

(Maybe it was made up for with cake & bubbly after the service!)



The Safe Space

Have you recently lost someone you love? Are you feeling isolated or anxious? Does the world seem overwhelming and scary since the pandemic? Is your mental well-being languishing or your self-esteem low? Then perhaps it would be beneficial to spend an hour in the "Safe Space".

The Safe Space is an informal Christian counselling setting where you can receive one-to-one confidential on-line space to explore your feelings



To book an appointment:

email Trish: trishmariawilson@gmail.com or phone: 0030 6986644271

<https://sites.google.com/view/trish-wilson-christian-counsel/home>

Cartoons (with thanks to Reverendfun.com)



Thanks to Mark Patterson 09-13-2000
WALLPAPER TO SATISFY THE PASTOR'S EGO



Thanks to Mikel Rice (See John 4:13-14) 09-08-2000



WHAT'S ON at HTC

Keep up to date with what's on at Holy Trinity Corfu by visiting our website calendar.

<http://holytrinitycorfu.bravesites.com/whats-on>

OR



Links



<https://europe.anglican.org/prayer-diary/prayer-diary>



<https://www.ics-uk.org/Pages/Category/prayer-diary>



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https://www.facebook.com/groups/CorfuForum/?ref=group_header

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We are happy to accept prayer requests for inclusion in Pulse or in the morning service. If you are requesting prayer for someone other than yourself please make sure you have their permission to be mentioned publicly.

*Please remember the submission **deadline for PULSE is 25th of each month**. Articles, news, information etc. received after this time may not be included and will be carried over to the next edition if appropriate. Thank you.*

Editorial: htccorfupulse@gmail.com



HOLY TRINITY CORFU

21 L.Mavili Street, Corfu 49100

DIOCESE IN EUROPE
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN GREECE



www.holytrinitycorfu.net

htccorfugmail.com

(0030) 6976 196 322

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