



THE NEWSLETTER OF HTC - June 2019

A LITTLE CHURCH on a LITTLE ISLAND

Dear Friends,

Well it has been another exciting and surprising month at HTC! A royal visit, HRH The Duke of Kent, the British Ambassador, HE Kate Smith and a special service for those in the Order of St. Michael and St. George. – an honour bestowed for successful and outstanding service in the diplomatic field. It was a very special morning – with a great deal of care taken to ensure a warm welcome and meaningful time together. I was very proud of our little church on this little island... everyone worked so hard and the feedback from our guests was that it was all worth the effort! So a big thank you to us all!!

Once life had returned to a more normal pace, a couple of thoughts occurred to me as I reflected on the week that was.

A ROYAL VISIT

Firstly – a royal visit. The truth is that we have a royal visit every Sunday - in fact we live with royalty!! Our Lord Jesus honours us with His Presence in a very tangible way as we worship Him here. We do our best to prepare for worship on Sunday, but I wonder sometimes if we sometimes take for granted just who it is that comes to visit us. Speaking with someone this week, I heard again the very popular idea that we don't have to go to church to pray or worship. This is of course true. But in honesty, how easy is it for us to put an hour or two aside in our homes to do nothing but focus on our Lord as we would in church. When we decide we can do without our "royal visit" do we really set that time aside on our own? Honestly? Do we?

I visited a church on my break in the UK and it was, at the same time, a blessed and sad experience. It was blessed, because the team who ran the church had carefully thought about every aspect of their worship, the sermon was well researched and thought provoking, focused on our Lord Jesus and the musicians involved were very skilled indeed! It was a magnificent, warm, well cared for building. Sad, because at the beginning of the service there were two of us in the congregation. Yes, two (although there were closer to a dozen by the end – very Greek, I thought). Blessed and sad. The team had prepared for a royal visit – and the congregation had thought it easier to pray on their own.

Sunday worship is worth the effort. Meeting together, in His Royal Presence, is *always* worth it! The second thought was about what it means to be successful. It was quite something to hear the stories of the members of the order. These people, quite literally, had a hand in shaping history. For example, one person had put the UK and Argen-

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tina on speaking terms after the Falkland's Crisis, another instrumental in developing Maltese relations, another for work in the Middle East and so on. People of influence – shaping history. But what or who is to say whether this influence is exercised in a way that is "successful"? What does that mean?

I, like many of us I'm sure, have often wrestled with the idea of what "success" is. I can remember in my twenties, pacing the house, trying to understand what it meant to be "successful" as I thought about where my life might lead. I was a young man, with a beautiful growing family, a career taking off, just moving to a new home... but what was success ?? Well, I am very pleased to say that the answer did find me and it was not what I expected. After God had relieved me from the stress, anxiety and delusion of trying to measure success in material terms, He showed me that our true success is not measurable in this way; but it is knowable. "Success" is our growth in love. It is the greatest gift humanity has and it is the only measure in life worth anything. As we know, St Paul says that we may speak with tongues of angels, give our bodies over to the fire, sacrifice what we like, achieve what we like.. but if love is not growing in our true spiritual selves - it is all for nothing.

Think again of the characteristics of love (1 Cor 13) – patience, kindness, humility – not pride, not boastful, not self-seeking but truth seeking. Success is allowing God to grow our souls, our character, our true selves in His way that reflects this love... His love, the love He has shown us in Jesus. A life lived in pursuit of love is a life lived successfully – and more still – we are assured that when we seek these things, we will find them.

But again, we need each other for this growth... we cannot love on our own. We need to love *others* and we need to be able to receive their love in return. So again. Jesus calls a community... *together*.

Who knows what will happen this month! There is plenty planned – but the real joy of HTC is that you never quite know just what is around the corner... With every blessing, Jules.

The Master's Crafters & Water colour Class



This month we experimented with coloured inks. We used three colours to decorate the surface of the tile by letting them flow into each other. This method gives a pretty abstract effect.

Rita

FROM COMMENT TO COMPLETE

It's not every British ex-pat that can lay claim to having a private chapel in their garden! But that's exactly what Gordon & Clare Doig have in the garden of their Corfu home.

Wednesday 22nd May was a special occasion for them when Jules came up to Acharavi to conduct a service of blessing & dedication for the recently completed chapel.

Family, friends and neighbours joined Jules and the two church wardens, Pauline and Anne, for prayers, a hymn and asking for God's blessing on the chapel as a place of peace.

Q. Why a chapel in your garden?

Clare. It started as a bit of a joke really! Gordon remarked about the time it took for me to go into town for services at HTC. I flippantly told him that it would be better to have a chapel in Acharavi! And so the idea was formed.

Gordon. I'd done a lot of stone work in the garden since our house was built, laying paths, repairing terrace walls etc. And I'd really run out of projects to do outside. So, why not a chapel in the garden for Clare.



Q. What was the hardest thing during the build?

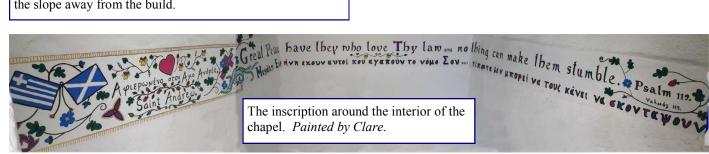
Gordon. I didn't have any plans, so I designed as I went along. The chapel is on a sloping site and I found that the rain coming down the path flowed straight into the doorway, as a result I had to break up the path and re-lay it to change the slope away from the build.



Q. What do you hope for your garden chapel?

Clare. I would like it to be a small sanctuary of peace. where someone can come and feel a closeness to God, away from the troubles of the world. Both now and in the future.





The Adventures of Mrs Mop

During 'Megali Evdomada', Greek Easter, I suddenly realised time had passed so quickly, the season soon starting, and when would I see Maria. So I decided spontaneously to go the next morning and come back that same day. A little time together was better than nothing. Not an easy time to get away, but with the Lord's help that is what I did on Megali Thursday 25th April.

Maria's son, Gente, picked me up from Saranda and drove me to Ksamil, and what a nice surprise to find that Maria's sister Beka from Lazarat was there too! It was just good to be together and catch up on family talk.

Since Agoras died 2 yrs ago sadly there have



been more disappointments and pain. Maria was struggling with her faith. My heart went out to her, "Oh Lord help, what to say what to do?" The answer came I shared a little from Jules sermon, about Jesus understanding our pain as he had been through so much suffering himself; that Jesus could feel her pain and that God was with her in her every situation and to hang on to our future eternal hope. That is what Easter, the resurrection is all about. With a few tears and big hugs, she suddenly looked better, and said " My eves have been opened." The next day at home I saw this scripture

"The Lord opens the eyes of the blind, the Lord lifts the burden of those bent beneath their loads'. Psalm 146.8

He certainly does! Hallelujah!



Anyway I left Maria with scripture gifts and Easter eggs to give out to family friends and neighbours! If anyone fancies a visit, Maria lets out rooms in pretty Ksamil between Saranda and Butrint, the sunken city and archaeological site.

As always Maria asked about our church and together with Beka they send their greetings to H.T.C.

Blessings *Lorraine*



LOGOS CAFÉ REFURBISHMENT UPDATE

Just a quick note to say, "thank you" and to update everyone on progress to date.

"Thank you" because there has been a very kind and supportive response to our request to help with the financial and prayer aspects of the project. If you haven't had the opportunity to respond yet, here's the link where your prayer and financial support can be pledged.

https://goo.gl/forms/fJzcDqB6CKuJV8Op2



Behind the scenes, the project is moving for-

ward. We discussed the project with four potential contractors and what has come to light as a result of this is that the law concerning developments to historic buildings in Greece was changed last year! Anyone who has anything to do with Greek building regulations will tell you the fun and games the regulations can be! In this particular case, the law has changed and all changes to historic buildings (including refurbs) are now required to pass through the Archaeological Department for approval. (Deep sigh – if anyone has ever had fun with faculties and the Victorian Society in the UK, you may be "feeling the dread").

BUT, we prayed for the right help to come along and this prayer has been answered in the form of a particular architect in the public machinery here who has offered to help us to ensure that what we request will find sympathetic ears in the approval process by advising us before we apply. More wonderfully still, he has offered to facilitate this process by drafting the initial drawings which will be used in the approval process.

So what does all this mean.

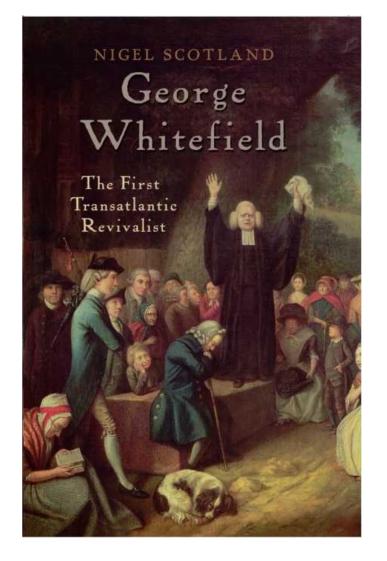
Firstly, the financial support you have provided alongside the Diocese, is in place to enable the work to take place. It is likely that there will be additional costs, so if you haven't yet made your pledge, please do so.

Secondly, the process is underway. We are being helped to navigate the approval processes to ensure the changes are legal and above board for the generations to come AND in line with our vision for HTC. By the end of the second week in June we should have a good idea of the timetable for the refurbishment and we are hoping that we are not going to be too far off our end of August target.

We will keep you informed!

Jules, Pauline and Anne.

A familiar name at HTC releases his latest book



George Whitefield proclaimed the Christian message to more people in history than anyone else, before or since, who spoke with an unaided voice. A preacher of revival almost from his childhood, when he prophesied his own destiny, he had a profound impact on the social, religious and political life of both Britain and America. He crossed the Atlantic thirteen times, and merged as a celebrity figure, whose message captivated both rich and poor alike. Whitefield heralded a new kind of revival that was both spiritually powerful and entertaining at the same time. He was also a man of contradictions. He loved the Anglican liturgy but would happily break canon law. He was a devoted Puritan yet he was also able to befriend those with more liberal morals, Above all, Whitefield was a driven man, and his overwhelming passion was to preach New Birth in Christ - the theme he was to speak on over a thousand times. He valued education, opposed slavery, cared for orphan children and changed the course of both British and American history.

Nigel Scotland and his wife Anne are well known at HTC having provided locum cover a number of times.

Nigel is honorary research fellow in religious studies at the University of Gloucestershire and author of more than twenty books, including *Christianity Outside the Box* (2012) and *The New Passover: Rethinking the Lord's Supper for Today* (2016).

His new book about George Whitefield is published by Lion Hudson and will be in the shops this month. (ISBN 9780745980287)

Nigel & Anne will be with us again at HTC towards the end of this month. "Scotland fuses biography and theology to produce this thoroughly inspiring and commendable read."

Revd Dr Tim Welch, director of studies at Bristol Baptist College

"A fascinating and revealing study of one of the great founding fathers of revivalism."

Canon Dr James Steven, academic dean and coordinator at the Centre for Liturgy and Worship, Sarum College

"Scotland shows how the eighteenth-century revivalist was one of the most effective preachers of the Christian gospel in world history."

Prof David Bebbington, professor of history, University of Stirling "George Whitefield was one of the founders of the evangelical movement in the mid-eighteenth century. This book gives readers an introductory taste of the man and his ministry."

Dr David Ceri Jones, reader in early modern history, Aberystwyth University

"A valuable resource for anyone wishing to become better acquainted with one of evangelicalism's 'founding fathers'."

Dr Ian Maddock, senior lecturer in theology, Sydney Missionary & Bible College

Moving On...

As we prepare to move from our lovely house to a nearby flat we are having a break at our caravan near the Shropshire Union canal at Whitchurch. It's a very peaceful spot and yesterday we took this photo – Peter suggesting this may be a suitable subject for his next work of art.

We have been very grateful for family and friends praying for this move – there have been various challenges along the way but we are sure it is right and are looking forward to it.



From Thursday, May 23rd we will be at:-43, Montpellier House, Montpellier Crescent, Wallasey CH45 9NF – the phone number 0151 639 7860 remains the same.

It is a block of 43 flats with a house manager and we look forward to getting to know the other residents. There is a partial sea view – best viewed from a sitting position on the living room window sill - but there is an excellent view of the River Mersey and Liverpool from the residents' lounge downstairs. It is a 2-bed flat but also there is a guest room downstairs we can book too, so please come and visit.

It was a delight in April to get together with Jordan and his family to celebrate his 50th birthday



and especially so as Lisa and family were able to join us.

It was brilliant to see brother and sister chatting in a way they have not been able to for many years due to Lisa's illness. She is better and below we include her recent testimony. ***



With our love and grateful thanks to you for your love and prayers and to our Almighty God who is always with us.

Peter and Barbara

(Ed. - Peter & Barbara Jordon came to HTC last year as locums when Jules was unwell.)

*** You can read Lisa's testimony on page 8

For those who've been asking/wondering about my healing... It's a long story, but in a nutshell: God gave me promises many times over the years that he would heal me, as my ME got worse especially in the last 4 years.

Then last year it hit hard and I was bed/ house bound all year, getting more severe up to Christmas. (For info. on ME you could look at the ME Association).

In the midst of it the Lord was teaching me to listen, trust and obey, and also speaking about the future.

In January he started leading me on a journey (which I could see in my 'mind's eye) including climbing a mountain and stepping off the top - the day He said to stop taking painkillers - holding on to Jesus' hand. In the worst moments he showed me he was with me 'in the boat through the storm'.

We spent a lot of time at/in the River of Life (as described in Ezekiel and Revelation) and when healing started (8th Feb) he showed me He was rebuilding my life, seen as ruins, into a house (in 3 days). He showed me what each room meant (eg. the living room is my heart, with a constant fire in the fireplace - Jesus' presence, love and light - which warms the whole house) and used many more 'pictures' to show me what he was doing as he healed me.

There is far too much to tell here, but He wants me to make my journals into a book, so that's one thing I will be doing in the future. Looking back, I realise the process started a long time ago; he has healed my past, my heart, my spirit, my mind and finally my body (that bit took 6 weeks).

I thank my God for his wonderful love and faithfulness; he never leaves us to struggle alone and carries us through every storm. Every word He speaks is fulfilled; we can trust Him completely.

Lisa Hart - April 2019

Cartoons (with thanks to Reverendfun.com)



YES, YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER, BUT THIS SHRINE IS TAKING IT A LITTLE BIT TOO FAR



IF WE ARE BORN AGAIN, THEN HOW COME WE ONLY HAVE ONE BELLYBUTTON?

That Special Visit...

Sunday 19th May saw a visit to HTC of members of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, including the Grand Master, His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent KG GCMG GCVO (see last month's PULSE for information about the order and its links to Corfu.). The Duke was met by an honour guard from HMS Duncan

which was also visiting Corfu.

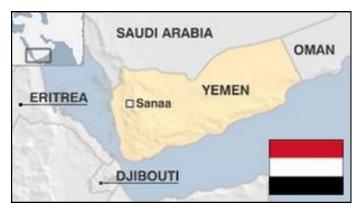


More photos of the visit to HTC, The British Cemetery, and the exhibition are available

in the Galley of our website. http://holytrinitycorfu.bravesites.com/gallery

A FORGOTTEN CONFLICT?

My school friend Sabina, who is half Yeminis and half Czech went to see her dad in Sanaa, the capital when she was 18 and fell in love with her distant cousin and got married and has three children and is living there ever since.



She loves the country, as she describes it, people are amazing. Friendly, tolerant, although quite a large part of the society are Muslims, she claims that she never had any problems, even when she arrived in jeans and a T-shirt.

I got in touch with her when the war broke out in 2015 and made a several interviews for some Czech newspapers , as nobody used to write about the biggest famine over the past 100 years on this planet. There is a conflict within the country but Saudi Arabia is involved, bombing so many places, killing so many people and the others, who survive, have no more resources. The schools have been closed for years, people have no jobs, no money, no food. Even drinking water became really expensive. Because Saudi Arabia is such a powerful country, nobody dares to really go against them and the people of this country feel totally forgotten.



Sabina, thank God, has a job as an English teacher in a private school (there are still several people who have money, she is earning around 100 dollars a month a that's a great pay...) and her husband used to have a company helping foreigners to invest in the country but that is, of course, over. They are partly supported by the husband's family in England, so they survive reasonably well.

Sabina decided with two Czech friends who used to work in Yemen for some humanitarian companies to make this kitchen to feed about 300 people a day. When I started helping them raise money and saw, how difficult that was, I suggested they would start with a smaller plan and if everything goes well, they expand. But it would be really sad to do it the other way round and close because of no finances. They totally agreed, after a little hiccup, so they will probably start with about 50 people a day.



The original target for getting and equipping a very simple kitchen was about 8,000 Euros. I wrote about it in a popular internet newspaper and suddenly complete strangers started sending money!

Then I decided to make the Facebook auction. I got so many excellent people involved: tourist agencies in Corfu, restaurants in Corfu and the Czech republic, Czech people all over Greece and my country, musicians, authors, artists and other very original people who donated their services, goods, books, pieces of arts etc. When I started that in the middle of May, I told Jules about it and asked him to pray for this project. The next day 1,200 Euros appeared on the transparent account! Sud-

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denly people were really so kind and started sending me thing to the auction so I (almost) didn't have to beg anybody any more!



But... there is always a but ^(C) Suddenly I felt a bit that the spirit of Sabina and the girls who started the project was sinking. I was a bit afraid that we might have an argument, because I suggested reducing the numbers of families in order to proceed, but the girls suggested we should forget about a kitchen and just give people some packs of food and Sabina was sad because she already promised to some poor women with children in her neighbourhood that a warm meal would be given every day.

I realized that no money is of use without God's blessing. I started praying for that again. I called Sabina, tried to lift up her mood a bit and wrote to these girls that this is not about our egos but we all are trying to do together one great thing. Suddenly everything went back to normal and friendly and I was so relieved.



As Jules announced it in the church, suddenly a massive support from the members of our congregation and also from the members of the order of St. Michael and St. George came. It was so overwhelming! So I was able to collect 482 Euros on one day. Then more people came to me or wrote to me they would like to give 10 Euros a month for this project. Amazing. On one Sunday one lady who comes to the church regularly, gave me a 100 Euros!!

And right after the service I got another donation by a Czech- Swiss lady Simona who promised to spread the message around Switzerland. And about five hours later a pastor from a protestant church in the Czech republic send me this message: "Dear Pavla, I announced the story in our congregation and said that you, the daughter of our ex "arch bishop", were organizing it. And in our tiny congregation we managed to raise 430 Euros!"



I also got other messages of support from my home church in Prague as well and from many people, some of them I have never even heard of!

In the meantime the auction is finishing on Tuesday and it seems we have raised about 2,000 Euros in it. So basically the project can start and people already will have some food. But of course, the other responsibility is to keep it going . So if anybody is interested to donate a small amount every month, please, contact me.

The cost of one warm meal per day is around 70 cents per person including all the expenses. I could have never imagined that we could raise about 8,000 Euros in one month but we did. Thank to you and so many others all over the planet, who I am very grateful to. And as I said, no money helps without a real blessing. So, please, pray for the people there, for the war to stop and for people to send enough that the project can not only start, but really keep going.

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If you are interested in more information, please look on this site>: <u>http://www.pomuzujakmuzu.cz/</u> index.php?page=i-want-to-help

And if you want to see the funds coming in, have a look here: <u>https://ib.fio.cz/ib/transparent?</u> <u>a=2701537846&fbclid=lwAR3xKcBC_qLDCpXqyQe</u> <u>oV_504dFCeLUUJJixNlua14JlhPJXhLtF57xzQ7w</u>

Just for your information: 100 crowns is about 4 euro.

And if you want to have a look at the auction, although it in Czech but at least you can see how many things we have there, click here: <u>https://</u> <u>www.facebook.com/events/2289406081342088/?</u> <u>active_tab=discussion</u>

If it doesn't show everything, click on "discussion" or "show more".

I am really grateful to everybody praying, paying, thinking of anybody in need and participating in any way!!!

Love, Pavla

As many of you know, over the past few years we ran a scheme where people pledged 10 Euros a month to support directly the refugees and the crisis in Greece. In this way we were able to directly send several thousand Euros via those directly involved.

It seems that this is an opportunity to do something similar with the connection through Pavla. I would like to ask us all to consider pledging 10 Euros a month to be transferred to HTC where we can pass on the accumulating funds via Pavla to the kitchen in Yemen.

If you would like to do this, please inform me by email and I will pass on the information to Christine, our treasurer, who will identify the contributions into our HTC accounts and transfer them to Pavla.

Please keep this initiative and the people of Yemen in your prayers. - Jules

Ed. The pictures in the article from the BBC website's <u>'Yemen profile.'</u> and <u>'Yemen war: UN appeals to Houthi rebels over aid'</u>

ALREADY A BLESSING ...



Just to say that alone in the chapel at Gordon and Clare's I really felt a healing peace, and these verses sprang to mind:-

'I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and glory Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. I will praise you, as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods with singing lips my mouth will praise you.'

Psalm 63.2-5



For prayer and praise!

"I will ask the Father and he will give you another counsellor to be with you forever, The Spirit of truth."John 14.16-17

Lord we thank you for your Holy Spirit, the comforter ,the counsellor. Empower us to come alongside others and speak the truth that you Jesus are *THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE*..

We give thanks for:-

- The summer mission of I.C.S and pray for the Holy Spirit to draw people to the tavernas they visit in Kassiopi, the Marina and Messonghi. We also pray for good attendance at both the Men's and Women's breakfasts on 1st June. For Geoff and Veta speaking.
- The wonderful time together with The Order of St. Michael and St. George.
- For all those who worked hard and performed for Music and mezedes evening .Tickets sold out two weeks before the event.!
- For Jackie's Ministry in Lefkada and especially pray for community work through ESCOL (English Speaking Christians on Lefkada).
- For Pavla and Sabina sparking off help to feed people regularly in a village in YEMEN . May God continue to guide and bless this.
- Praise God for Daniels continuing recovery and Lisa's healing
- The community trying hard, and successfully creating recycling posts in most areas of Corfu. May all islanders make good use of them. We pray for wisdom and courage for those responsible for the rubbish disposal..

We pray for:-

- Please pray for a full recovery for Geoff Hollingsworth, the ICS summer mission chaplain who was here with wife Marilyn for only a short while, became unwell, and returned to the UK. He has been admitted to hospital for at least 2 weeks with guillian barre syndrome, and has big loss of mobility.
- The refurbishment plans to meet with the Archaeological department's approval
- Young people taking exams.
- Those especially suffering with mental health problems. That they will find the right help and anxiety replaced with the peace of Jesus .
- Safety on the roads
- We continue to pray for Roger and Lester.
- For all those we know sick in body mind or spirit, bereaved, relationship, financial or other problems which weigh them down. For practical help, release and hope in Jesus

"The Lord opens the eyes of the blind, The Lord lifts the burden of those bent beneath their loads .The Lord loves the righteous"

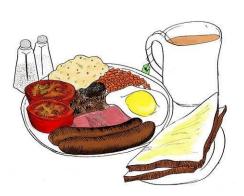
Come Holy Spirit, Thy Kingdom Come.





*Men's Breakfast -

Due to Geoff's illness (see Prayer & Praise, page13) Mark will now talk about his *'Life Changing Experience'*.



Check out our website for the next Ladies' & Men's Breakfasts



http://holytrinitycorfu.bravesites.com/specialevents



What's on at Holy Trinity Corfu

c .			
Sat	1		Men's Breakfast / Ladies Breakfast
Sun	2	10:30	Family Communion
Mon	3	18:00	Home Group
Tues	4	10:00	Water Colour Class
Thurs	6	10:30	Bible Study at HTC
		17:00	Worship Group
Fri	7		Prayer Meeting
Sun	9	10:30	Family Communion
Mon	10		Home Group
Tues	11		Master's Crafters
Wed	12		Lunch 'n Meet
Thurs	13		Bible Study at HTC
			Worship Group
			Church Council Meeting
Fri	14		Prayer Meeting
~			HTC South Communion, Messonghi
Sun	16		Family Communion
Mon Thurs	17 20		Home Group
inurs	20		Pastoral Care Group Meeting
			Bible Study at HTC
			Worship Group
Fri	21		Prayer Meeting
Sun	23		Family Communion
Mon	24		Home Group
Tues	25		Water Colour Class
Thurs	27		Bible Study at HTC
Fri	28		Worship Group
r'II	28		Prayer Meeting
C	20		HTC South Communion, Messonghi
Sun	30	10:30	Family Communion

Pentecost Prayer

Holy Spirit Come with fire Ignite us with holy desire Burn in us the love of God Fill us with your mighty power

We always welcome contributions to our publications; however, we will not publish any material which infringes copyright. When sending in items for inclusion please state your source and the name of the author.

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

