



Sharing this journey together

Dear Friends,

We are half way through Lent already and hopefully many of us are enjoying The Lent Pilgrim programme that we, as a church family, are following. As the emphasis is on sharing this journey together, it seems a good thing that Trish and I write this together. We have built it into our morning routine and it has led to some interesting and stimulating conversation. We would encourage those of you that haven't had a chance to follow the 'pilgrimage' to have a go. It is not too late to start, and you can download the programme on an App for your phone if you prefer. This is very well produced and has an additional thought for the day which is not included in the booklet.

The Beatitudes are such well known statements that many of us probably know them off by heart already, but they always give us something fresh to consider every time we return to them. Many people who do not profess a Christian faith have a familiarity with these eight statements of Jesus and will give them particular importance in their life. We have also heard on many occasions people declare that The Sermon on the Mount is easily their favourite part of the Bible.

WHY DO WE LIKE IT SO MUCH?

Is there something about this chapter in Matthew that makes it so powerful, uplifting and at the same time perturbing and poignant. Why do we like it so much? Well we have a few tentative suggestions. Could it be that it is because Jesus appears to be so fully a man and yet so much God in this teaching? On the one hand Jesus is pottering around on the mountain with his closest followers. On the other hand, He is disclosing serious truths to them that they ignore at their peril! The scene can so easily be imagined in our creative mind. We can almost see the sandals and dirty sandy

feet. The group of guys (and girls) are on the move. There is almost a type of festival atmosphere. These people are in awe of the 'teacher' and will follow him anywhere. Normal life, for the time being, has been suspended and there is a building of momentum and excitement that carries along anyone who comes near.

ENTHRALLING AND CAPTIVATING

Everyone is greedy to spend time with Jesus the man. He is enthralling and captivating - you just can't get enough. What would it have been like to be there as part of his group... how would it feel? The scene draws us in because it is so visual so vital. Then within this context of a rugged, bucolic scene Jesus comes out with these guidelines for life that are so serious and different from the often complex parables that his followers were used to.

When the *Rabboni spoke* the wind changed. His followers sensed something was afoot. This is seri-

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ous stuff and the atmosphere must have been electric. Everyone wanted to hear what He was saying and would hang on every word. This was divine guidance and Jesus meant business. There must have been something for everyone in those important statements then and there *is* something for us all today.

COMFORT & CHALLENGE

The Beatitudes can comfort us and can challenge us almost simultaneously, therein lies their timeless attraction. Jesus's followers were drawn to them then and we are drawn to them now. They give us hope when we feel wretched and trapped in our human condition and they also inspire and give us an aspirational vision to go forward on our journey. What dreadful statements what marvelous statements!

They are preparing us for something wonderful and awe-full... Something that will both terrify and ignite the closest followers of Jesus. His Passion and Resurrection. The inspiring teacher will use so much more than words to show just how real and inevitable the Kingdom is... He will live out the heart of the beatitudes in his self giving sacrifice, meekness, humility and yet power and strength. Then he will demonstrate the fulfilment of the promised blessings in His glorious resurrection.

We have this to look forward to and celebrate as we approach Easter again this year. And let's make sure we do this together. The journey is so much richer that way.

With every blessing,

Jules and Trish.

The Master's Crafters & Water colour Class



This month in The Master's Crafters we decorated some solar powered light bulbs.

The light bulbs can be bought from Jumbo and Clare and Shirley demonstrated how to decorate the bulbs. We used glitter crystals and coloured sand to line the bottom of the bulbs and then added artificial flowers and butterflies.

A pretty design but any small decorative embellishment can be used. They look good hanging outside, on a tree, as a different feature.

If you wish to join us please contact me.
Bye for now Rita.

alamanourita81@gmail.com

LENT & EASTER AT HOLY TRINITY CORFU

Ash Wednesday (6th March)
11:00 Ashing Service

Sunday (31st March)
10:30 Mothering Sunday Service

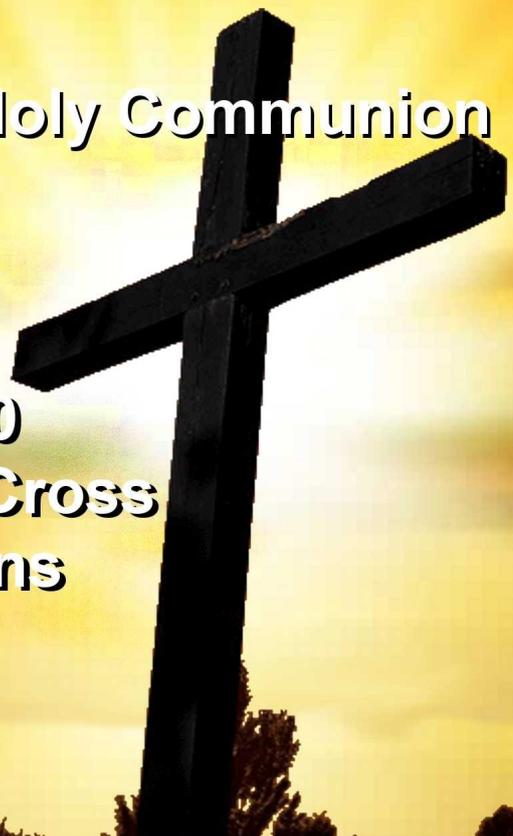
Holy Week 14th - 21st April

Palm Sunday 10:30
The Passion Story with Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday 19:00
A Passover Meal

Good Friday 12:00 - 15:00
Liturgy / Stations of the Cross
The Final Hour Meditations

Easter Day 10:30
Easter Celebration



*Please remember that at Holy Trinity Corfu we follow the Western Church calendar, which this year is **ONE WEEK AHEAD** of the Greek Orthodox Church Easter.*

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE!

There are ten differences between these two pictures of the beautiful beach in Kassiopi. See if you can find them all. (Solution later in this issue; *NO CHEATING!*)



THE GIVING BASKET. Our Giving Basket requires continually topping up for unexpected needs as they arise. Contributions of toiletries, non-perishable foods, especially tinned meat and fish are very welcome. Freezer meals are very useful for sick and housebound.



Who do we give to? We give as needs arise or requests are made, we can't say when that will happen so it is always good to have the basket topped up and ready . Over the time, as well as to our own congregation and families in need we have given to the Orthodox collection at Saint Barbara's just down from H.T.C., Beka and family in Albania, Smile of The Child, The Old People's Home, Soup kitchens, refugees, Sister Theonymphe collecting for local families. Recently Veta requested food for a Romanian family who had been sleeping in a car. Hungry people also come by and ask for food, for example a man from another part of Greece who came to seek work in Corfu and had not found any. We were able to sit him down with coffee and biscuits and gave him a meal to take with him. He didn't ask for more and was very appreciative .These are a few examples, and of course, we do give the odd packet of pasta to the gypsies.

God loves a cheerful giver, be blessed

If you would like to take food for someone in need, please let us know.

Lorraine

"Remember this whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will reap generously. Each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times having all that you need; you will abound in every good deed."

2 Corinthians 9.6-8

Congratulations to Matthew & Cindy Wright on becoming Grandparents for the first time; and of course to proud parents Erin & Jacob.

Matt & Cindy's daughter gave birth to **Aspen Selah Burgess** on 16th March weighing -in at 8lb 3oz - exactly the same weight as her mother when she was born!

TWINKLE
Twinkle
SHE'S A
STAR!
amazing news



My Cousin, Daniel...



I've been asked to share the story of my cousin Daniel, who suffered an aneurism last summer. First I thought why bother people with my family problems/joys and then I realized that I often write on my blog about any nonsense happening around me, so how was I even thinking of not sharing a really positive story?

Well, here you are then.

Some of you met my cousin Daniel and his wife Marketa two summers ago, when they were staying with Mignon. Daniel is a protestant priest and is in his mid forties. He and his wife had quite a hard life (Daniel lost his mother at the age of 12, about 10 years later he lost his dad. Then he got married and they had a baby boy called also Daniel who was very sick and died at the age of three, then Marketa had cancer.... And last year yet another Job's news...)

They have, despite their fate, still kept their belief that God exists and loves them. (To the surprise of many, especially of Marketa's atheist parents, who got really angry with the God they didn't believe in).

Anyway, as most of you know, when Daniel was in a coma last summer, the doctors said it would be a miracle if he survives and if... nobody could tell what was going to happen. Probably he would be paralyzed, that was the best scenario, but most probably he would also not see, speak and understand.

Under these circumstances... do you wish for your beloved person to survive or die? What is life going to be like? Living next to a breathing dead body? How would they manage practically, financially?

Marketa, as did many friends of their church and also many of you (thank you so much!) kept praying. She never gave up hope. After a week, Daniel woke up. He could not talk, he hardly understood what was going on, and he could not move much. He was waiting for almost 12 weeks for an artificial part of the skull to arrive from the USA and to have the bone; the doctors had to brake to pieces while rushing to stop the bleeding, replaced.

I saw him in October after this operation in the hospital. He recognized me and was clearly happy to see me. But his speech and understanding were really quite bad. He, though, really wanted to pray together with me and my mum.

After I came back to Corfu I only knew bits and pieces Marketa wrote in collective emails. I knew he had been to a rehab clinic for 2 months, where they were trying to teach him how to walk, move and talk again. He came home in January and according to his wife, there were some improvements but very, very slow ones. His sight in one eye was affected so he had real difficulty in seeing.

I spoke to him about a month ago, first time on the phone. We could communicate and I could see the progress he made since October. Although sometimes I had to use quite a bit of my imagination (no problem for me J) when he said things like: "And how is your dear ... motorcycle? Is he happy? Does he have enough... eeeemmm... grass?" I was thinking a bit and asked: "Do you mean how is my husband, Andreas and if he has enough work...?" Got it!!

Daniel managed to tell me that Marketa's dad died. He had Alzheimer's and just before Christmas he fell and broke his hip. So he was in a clinic ever since.

I wrote her a letter but had no reply for a few weeks. Just a couple of days ago she called me and told me that about ten days before he died she felt like she should go and talk to him about Jesus. She understood from some verse from the Bible (I don't know which one) that his end was coming. She was quite hesitant as her parents never liked the fact that she was so devoted to Jesus. She came to the clinic and prayed next to her father's bed and then she talked to him. He looked at her and told her he knew Jesus loved him but he didn't really know Him, who he was and would like to know more about Him. So Marketa was telling her dad about Jesus and prayed with him and her mum was just watching that and couldn't utter a word. This was one of the few things her and her husband had in common. Not believing in God. Sud-

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denly she was left alone and when he died, she was even more alone. Marketa is praying for her change as well.

But back to Daniel; Marketa also told me, that about three weeks ago a lady from their congregation called them and told them she had a vision, that she should pray intensively for Daniel and lay hands on him. They took the message seriously (how many of us would? I, probably, wouldn't...) and went to this lady. She prayed with them and really laid hands on him and according to Marketa, Daniel started seeing on that eye which was affected instantly. And ever since that he started making incredible progress!

He started travelling on the public transport by himself to a phoniatic clinic, where they are trying to improve his speech and which is quite far away. He can now also stay at home without anybody around him and warm up his food and do simple things.

After Marketa had told me all this, she asked me to speak to him myself. I am usually very skeptical about laying hands and such miracles (call me Thomas...), but when I spoke to Daniel I almost dropped the phone. He sounded almost like the good old Daniel!! He spoke almost normally, understood everything and I could clearly hear the change since I last spoke to him a month ago! I was really amazed and very grateful.

Marketa told me that although everybody thinks this is impossible, she strongly believes that he would be able to continue his job as a priest one day.

Well, that's it. So far the end of one episode and I hope for many more good ones to come.

Sometimes I wonder what else has to happen before we actually stop doubting that God can do anything? Is this story enough for me or am I going to doubt again and think this was a pure luck?

And how about you??

Thanks for reading this saga!

Lots of love, Pavla

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE!



Did you find all 10?

A prayer inspired by Psalm 63

Our God, we look to you.

We open our hearts and wait for your Spirit.

Enter our hearts with your life giving grace.

We will sing your praises and lift your name on high!

Bless us dear Lord, this day, and always .

Amen

Following on from The Beatitudes...

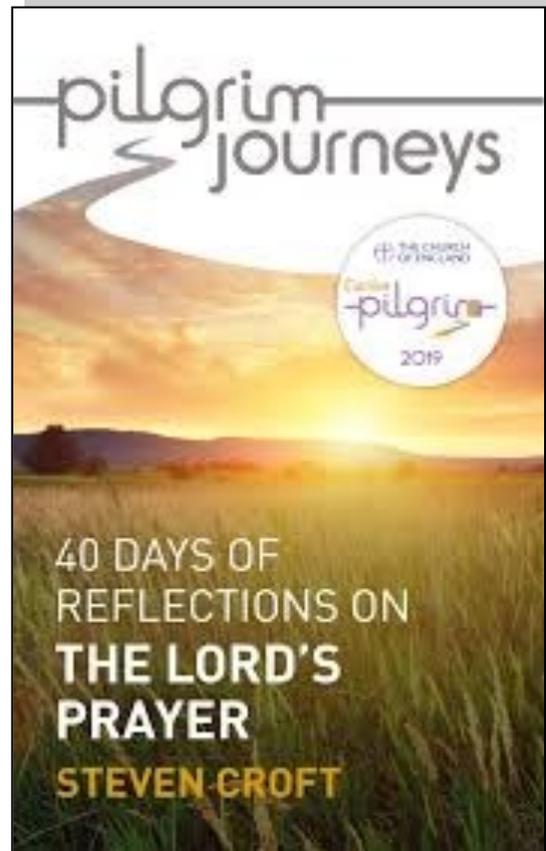
There has been a lot of positive feedback about sharing something together as a church family and the Pilgrim material has been well received. It feels like it would be a good thing therefore to carry on our shared journey through the 40 days of Easter.

The Pilgrim series recommend continuing with a prayerful study of the Lord's Prayer, which, again, we all know well and may be a great opportunity to explore it's depths together.

As a result, we have ordered copies for everyone here in the church family in Corfu and would like to encourage us all to share in this. Again, the material is available on an App for those who prefer it or even a daily email if that works better for you.

I hope we can continue our Lent pilgrimage into an Easter one together.

Be blessed,
Jules.



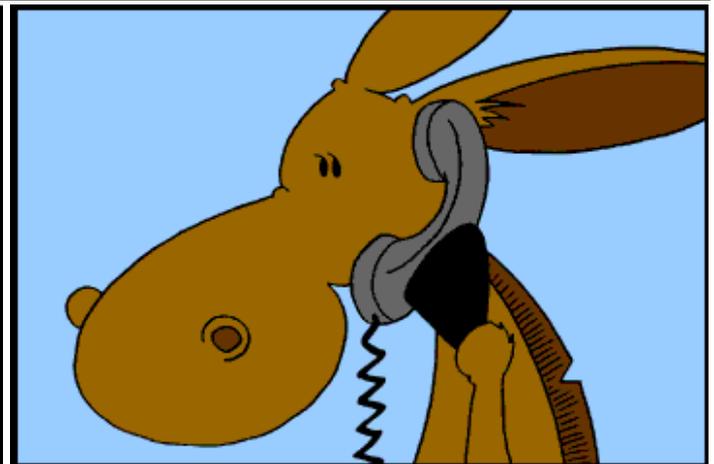
Cartoons (with thanks to Reverendfun.com)



Thanks to Mikel Rice

DON'T YOU THINK THAT YOU ARE TAKING THIS "HIGH PRIEST" GIG JUST A LITTLE TOO FAR?

05-12-1998 (See Numbers 22:22-34)



05-25-1998

NO, I'M SORRY, BALAAM IS NOT IN AT THE MOMENT ... MAY I TAKE A MESSAGE?



Holy Trinity Church Corfu

*Presents
An Evening of*

Music & Mezedes

On

Friday 31st May 2019

at 7.30 pm

In the Church Garden

(Weather permitting, otherwise indoors)

Admission by ticket: €12

*Includes a variety of mezedes
(beverages: available to purchase)*

*Event held in support of:
Holy Trinity Corfu & Local Charities*

**Tickets available: At Holy Trinity Church,
or from**

Rhona Barker: Tel 697 5914 378 or Brian Cogan: Tel 693 8786 147



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Most of you will have received an email from Jules giving the latest information about Logos Cafe. Thank you for the responses we have already received

Please keep this exciting project in your prayers. Below is a link to the form, which you can still use to respond if you haven't done so already.

A small image of a white RSVP form with a black header. The header contains the word "RSVP" in white. Below the header, there are several lines of text, some of which are handwritten in black ink. The form appears to be a standard response card for an event.

[Response Form](#)

Our Bank Details

HTC Bank Account Details:

UK:

Barclays Bank, Portman Square Group
Sort Code: 20-69-17
Account Name: Holy Trinity Anglican Church Corfu
Account Number: 40494887

Greece:

Piraeas Bank
Account Name: THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN GREECE
H.TRINITY CORFU
Account Number: 5050086327568
IBAN: GR 07 0172 0500 0050 5008 6327 568



Please pray for Nina Gerekou and her family following the death of her husband Dimitri.



Bless those who mourn eternal God, with the comfort of your love, that they may face each new day with hope. Hold Nina and her family in your arms; comfort them in their grief. May their memories become joyful, their days protected by your love. Amen.

"WE CANNOT FORCE SOMEONE TO HEAR A MESSAGE THEY ARE NOT READY TO RECEIVE; BUT WE MUST NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF PLANTING A SEED"



What's on at Holy Trinity Corfu

Mon	1	17:30 Home Group
Tues	2	10:00 Water Colour Group
Thurs	4	10:30 Bible Study at HTC 17:00 Worship Group
Fri	5	09:00 Prayer Meeting 10:30 Little Angels Mums & Tots
Sun	7	10:30 Family Communion & Sunday School followed by the AGM
Mon	8	17:30 Home Group
Tues	9	10:00 Master's Crafters
Wed	10	12:30 Lunch 'n Meet
Thurs	11	10:30 Bible Study at HTC 17:00 Worship Group 18:00 Ministry Team Meeting
Fri	12	09:00 Prayer Meeting 10:30 Little Angels Mums & Tots 18:00 Messonghi Communion Service
Sun	14	10:30 Palm Sunday Family Communion
Mon	15	17:30 Home Group
Thurs	18	09:15 Pastoral Care Group 10:30 Bible Study at HTC 17:00 Worship Group 19:00 Maundy Thursday Passover Meal
Fri	19	09:00 Prayer Meeting 10:30 Little Angels Mums & Tots 12:00 Good Friday Liturgy / Stations of the Cross / Final Hour Reflections
Sun	21	10:30 Easter Celebration
Mon	22	17:30 Home Group (Other usual activities suspended this week due to Orthodox Holy Week)
Sun	28	10:30 Family Communion (Orthodox Easter Sunday)

For Prayer and Thanks

- Pray for progress, direction and wisdom from the outcome of the presentation on ideas and plans for refurbishment and Logos Café. Thanks for a good sense of togetherness at the meeting and presentation.
- Pray for the A.G.M. and lunch on 7th April, that the Lord will guide us clearly in " HIS plans and changes" for H.T.C and extension of His Kingdom. Pray that as we go through the past year and look to future vision may our excitement and enthusiasm increase our desire to witness and serve.
- Pray also for a good response to our Lent course which will give each of us the opportunity to join in at home, in church, individually and in groups.
- We give thanks for the wonderful time of fellowship and increase in friendship during the ecumenical weekend of World Day of Prayer, Greek Bible society and Ecumenical forum of European Christian Women. 38 women, 13 nationalities and 13 various churches.
- Pray for Jackie and her ministry on the island of Lefkada. May she be refreshed and inspired as she meets with others at the Readers course on discipleship at the end of the month.
- We give thanks for the Alpha course and pray for 'What's Next'.
- Pray for the desperate need to a peaceful solution to the waste disposal problem on Corfu.

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



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