

Dear Friends,

Life is very complicated today – especially it seems for young people. Later in this edition is the story of Shayanti’s baptism... a wonderful occasion that I am really sorry to have missed (the service coincided with my time in England with Josh taking his A levels). With roots in India and her husband’s roots in Russia, both working at Cambridge with an international set of friends, many of whom are also living transitional lives involved with the university... it’s a long cry from popping along to see the local vicar to organise a baptism! But again, the wonder is that when people gather in the name of Jesus to celebrate and accept personally His saving work for and in us – well, it’s like the world fades in to soft focus and the Kingdom of God is made powerfully visible. The international nature of this particular baptism may have some parallels with the World Cup (dare I say) – so many countries of the world gathering together to enjoy sport which draws the world a little closer; but there are some important differences! And maybe these differences give us the contrast between the best of this world and the wonders of the Kingdom of God that Jesus is building through and with us.

Firstly, we don’t have to qualify!! The wonder of God’s Grace means that the door is open to every single person on the planet; no matter where they started out in life or where they have ended up; no matter whether they have known success or been hurt by their failure or the failure of others. All can be healed, forgiven and planted firmly within the eternal life that Jesus secured for us.

Secondly. We don’t have to beat others to stay in!! in fact, those who are last will be first. This is the upside-down beauty of God’s dealing with us. We are accepted for who we are, where we are and given the Holy Spirit’s mighty yet gentle power to learn and grow in His ways. We don’t need to prove or feel ourselves better than others. Rather, we learn to love and accept others; and loving means that we want others to have the very best for them. God’s Kingdom values of blessing and generosity releases us to share with each other and live in peaceful thankfulness for the goodness in our lives. Which leads us to the third comparison...

Thirdly, following Christ is not about getting rich in the wealth of the world. In some ways, it feels like the tremendous amount of money that flows around the football scene taints it – and we know of the scandals that have followed this potentially uniting festival of sport. Following Jesus means travelling lightly with regard to material gain; seeing the gifts we are given as gifts to be used for the glory of the Kingdom and care of others as well as meeting the needs of “our daily bread”.

So those who attended Shayanti’s baptism and supported her during this wonderful occasion may not have had tickets to the world cup(!) but the truth is that they experienced something far more wonderful and lasting in that beautiful ceremony in the sea.

Over the next couple of months ICS Seasonal Chaplains will be coming to Corfu to work around the island, based, in Gouvia with the hope making connections that will encourage others to take their own next step into the Kingdom of God. Please hold these people in your prayers as they prepare their mission here in July and August. They are KELVIN & JEAN WOOLMER, IAN & MELANIE GREENHALGH, CHRIS & JO PEARSON, CHARLOTTE ELEY & PAUL MIDDLETON. And let’s pray that we will see His Kingdom Come through their work.

With every blessing,

Jules

Whilst Jules has been away in the UK as Josh ploughs his way through his 'A' levels, we have had the pleasure of the company and leadership from Dr Rev Nigel Scotland and his lovely wife Anne. The Scotlands have visited us several times during and since our interregnum.

On Saturday afternoon 16th June Nigel and Anne Scotland had the unexpected pleasure to be invited to the wedding of Shayanti and Igor Romanov. The marriage which took place in the grounds of the Acapulco Hotel at Paleokatritska had been arranged by the bride with the chaplain Jules Wilson earlier in the year. It later transpired that Jules had to be away in England while his son took his A level examinations. This meant that Nigel conducted the ceremony which proved to be a beautiful occasion. The bride arrived by boat across a brilliant blue bay. She arrived at the foot of the cliff where she was met by the groom and a group of friends. They all climbed the steps up to the garden venue which looked out across the bay. The service which had been organised by the chaplain was from Common Worship. The bride, Shayanti a former Hindu has recently become a Christian. The groom Igor was Russian Orthodox. The best man Ishmael read 1 Corinthians 13 and his wife Olga then read it in Russian for the benefit of the groom's parents who didn't speak any English. Shayanti's parents both Hindus were present along with Igor's parents who flew in from Moscow! There were no hymns or songs but there were some nice classical instrumental pieces to listen to instead. One novel feature was the drone helping to provide some overhead views of the ceremony. The guests were mainly all friends from Cambridge University. Shayanti has been working on making mathematical four dimensional computerised images of the brain and the prostate.



Continues on page 3

In this Issue...

Dear Friends - from Jules	1
Wedding and Baptism	2/3
Let Christ Break your Chains - Rebecca Coatsworth	4/5
June Photos	6
Master's Crafters	7
Cartoons	7
What's On in July and August	8
Sunday School	8
For your Prayers	9

JOY IN JESUS

Jesus says, *"As the father has loved me, so I have loved you. Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete". My command is this: Love one another as I have loved you.*
(John 15.9-12)

On Sunday morning the church was full with lots of visitors and lively worship. At 3.00pm in the afternoon we had a baptism service for Shayanti. Her Hindu parents and sister and quite a few of her Cambridge University friends came to support her along with some HTC members. The baptismal liturgy began in the church with the Creed, declarations and a testimony from Shayanti. Following this the congregation made a short walk to the sea for a full immersion baptism. Reverend Dr Nigel was assisted in the baptism by Mark Hyder-Smith. Full immersion baptism which is in accord with the Book of Common Prayer has become more frequent in the Church of England in recent times and of course it is fully endorsed in Paul's Letter to the Romans chapter 6. Following the baptism the congregation returned to Holy Trinity for the signing of the cross and the presentation of the lighted candle to Shayanti. It is customary for converts from Hinduism to take a new Christian name and Shayanti took the name Angelina. Anne asked Shyanti why they had decided to have the marriage and baptism at HTC because they had previously made enquiries in other countries across Europe. She said it was because Jules was so welcoming when she first telephoned to make an initial inquiry about the wedding and baptism. They hope to return next year for a visit and meet Jules.



Chris, Lorraine and Pauline remained after the morning service and decided to decorate the sanctuary with cream tulle and the church steps with white tulle and lanterns for Shayanti Baptism. Anne came and joined us in a glass of wine, sandwiches and a chat before the service.



Shayanti giving her testimony



This is the first time that there has been a request for a Baptism by total immersion. The beach chosen is a five minute walk from HTC. It is a local beach where the Corfiot's swim all year round. This is also where at Epiphany, 6th January the Orthodox Archbishop Nektarios throws the Holy Cross into the sea and young males dive into the sea to retrieve the Holy Cross. The people on the beach gathered around to watch the Baptism with interest



After returning to the church Shayanti, Nigel and Mark changed into dry clothes and the service continued by Nigel giving Shayanti her Baptismal Candle. When candles are required for Liturgical processions Pauline goes to the Orthodox Church of Ag Paraskvi. When she went to collect the candles generally the entrance is full of people but this time the old priest was sitting there with an attendant. After taking the candles and leaving a donation she felt that she had to give an explanation. Pauline told him there would be a Baptism in the Anglican Church and the candles from his church would be used. The old priest smiled and nodded his head.

We are proud to share the following from Rebecca Coatsworth who was one of the organisers of the Festival Jubilate last year.

This is the runner-up entry in the Sermon of the Year competition held by Preach Magazine and London School of Theology.

Let Christ break your chains

Let me set the scene for you. You're in your neighbour's bathroom, you shut the door to take a shower, taking note of the fact that there's no lock on the door, and then 10 minutes later when you try to leave, the door handle doesn't work. You're stuck. Trapped. It's happened to us all! No? Just me then...?

This happened to me a few years ago while I was dog-sitting. Unscrewing the handle from the door with a pair of tweezers revealed the issue. The inside of the handle was disconnected from the bit of metal keeping the door closed.

Disconnection. That was my problem. That's what was keeping me captive.

Captivity takes many forms. It can be illness, it can be people, it can be possessions or addictions – it can even be our own thoughts. Whatever it may be, there are things in our lives that keep us from living life to the full, that keep us from living our lives the way God intended.



We're held captive by all kinds of things.

God doesn't want us to live in captivity. How do I know this? Because of Jesus.

Jesus came 'to proclaim good news to the poor', to 'proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind' and 'to set the oppressed free' (Luke 4: 18-19). He came so that '[we] may have life, and have it to the full' (John 10:10).

And did he do those things? Well, let's take a look at the evidence. The blind saw, the lame walked, the infirm and the sick were healed, the demon-possessed were released, and the dead were raised to life. I'd say that's pretty conclusive!

But Jesus didn't stop there. Receiving freedom from Jesus was not for the lucky few who lived in his local area 2,000 years ago. When Jesus stretched out his arms on the cross and died, he broke all the chains, past and present and future. He broke the ultimate chain – the power of death and sin – from us, so that we could live with God forever, free from pain and sadness and separation.

Because that's what began all this business of captivity: separation from God, right back at the beginning, in Eden. We chose that separation, and as a result, we began to forge our own chains. We yoked ourselves in slavery to sin. To selfishness. We set ourselves up as gods and decided that we knew best how to look after ourselves. I will let you in on a secret: we're not actually very good at that at all.

Disconnection from God causes a whole heap of problems. In Romans 8, Paul talks about living two different ways. One way is to 'live according to the flesh'. The other is to 'live in accordance with the Spirit'. You can either live disconnected from God, or you can live in connection with God. One way brings death. The other brings 'life and peace'.

What springs to your mind when you think of freedom? For some reason, whenever I think of being set free, I either immediately think of the song by Queen, or, perhaps more so, I think of the 2000 film, *Chicken Run*. A farm full of clay-mation chickens dream of the perfect place, where they can roam free and reproduce and lay eggs at their leisure, and not at the demand of the terrifying farmer's wife, Mrs Tweedy.

The chickens want to be free to be able to do whatever they want, whenever they want, however they want.

Is that God's definition of freedom, though? I'm not so sure.

Continues on page 5

'Okay, Rebecca,' you might say, 'so God sets you free from your sin. What do you do next? Where do you go from there?'

And I would reply, 'Well, you run to God.'

And you might then say, 'But what's the difference? Isn't that just running into another form of slavery? All you're doing is exchanging slave masters. What's so good about that?'

Good question. The answer to that lies in Paul's very subtle language in Romans 8:5.

'Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.' 'According to', and 'in accordance with'. Two very similar phrases, yet with two very different meanings. If you live 'according to' something, then you live by its rules. You take everything it says as fact. It says jump, you ask how high. You keep in line with it. You live under its rule. That is what it's like when we let our 'flesh' dictate to us. We live 'according to' our own desires and rules and pleasures – things that grow to become out of control, and ultimately consume us.

However, to live 'in accordance with' something is very different. To live 'in accordance with the Spirit' means that you live in agreement together. You work in tandem. Relationship with God is not a dictatorship – it's a partnership. That is how God intended it from the beginning. He intended us to work with him to care for the creation He provided. This is what we see when we look at Israel's history throughout the Old Testament. Even if God's people went astray, we see individuals who partnered with God and saw and did amazing things. Partnering with God brings 'life in all its fullness'.

If partnership with God sounds good to you, you might wonder how to connect. And that's where Jesus comes in. Jesus came, not only to break our chains and free us from what holds us captive, but He also came to restore our connection with God.

In Romans 8:3, Paul says, 'For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering'. Amazing. We cannot break our own chains. And even though we deliberately shunned our connection with God, he chose to restore it. He saw our pain. He saw what our separation does to us. And he loved us so, so much, that he chose to come to earth as one of us – to live amongst us in the brokenness of humanity, so that he could break our chains, bind our wounds, and bring us home.

If you want to connect with God, start with Jesus. Jesus is an exact representation of God, because he is God! Connection to Jesus in the gospels brought freedom to so many people. (Just read them if you don't believe me.) Connecting with Jesus is so powerful that he was able to heal one Roman soldier's servant with just his words! Those people began to live in the fullness of life that Jesus promised.

When we live in connection with God, when we live 'in accordance with the Spirit', when we are 'led by the Spirit of God', we 'are the children of God'. The Spirit we received does not make us slaves, so that we live in fear or captivity again. When we are connected to God, we are his children. And God wants the very best for his children.

Where do you long to see freedom in your life?

There is no gap too wide that Jesus cannot bridge it. There is no chain too strong that he cannot break it. There is no pit too deep that he cannot lift you out of it.

Freedom comes when we know Christ. And he is reaching out his hand to you today. Will you take it?



Rebecca Coatsworth is a copywriter for a Christian charity. The 10 best entries in the Sermon of the Year competition have been printed in a book, 'Be Set Free', available from Christian Publishing and Outreach. www.cpo.org.uk

June Photos



Harvey and Suzy with Daughter Hanna and husband James and baby Ben were with us two weeks ago. They were the Body Builders team Childrens summer club at Ninas around 1998. Harvey is still involved with youth work and Suzy preaching and prayers. Lovely to see old friends visiting again.

Photos from Sunday 3rd June.
Service led by Area Dean Lennard
Doolan and Farewell to Mila



From Marie in Paxos.
Locals and tourists enjoying a chat after the service on Sunday 17th June. Since we lost our big tree in the November tornado we need to provide shade with a large sun umbrella.

MASTER'S CRAFTERS GROUP

In June we made an altered embroidery hoop. The hoop was covered with material and decorated with gorgeous antique flowers and other elements. The hoops can be decorated even with paper, although not any old paper, scrap booking paper is best, and with your choice of elements.

Come and join our next meeting Tuesday, 10th July 10am

Rita.

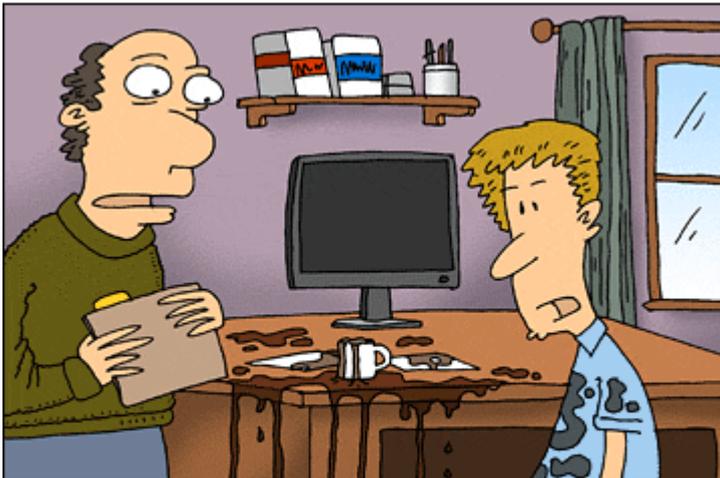


THANK YOU

THANKS HAVE BEEN GIVEN BY THE VOCATIONAL SCHOOL FOR SPECIAL NEEDS, ANO KORAKIANA FOR THE SHARE OF MONEY PRESENTED TO THEM FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF CHRISTMAS BAZAAR. THEY PURCHASED POLO SHIRTS FOR THE CHILDREN TO BE WORN DURING NATIONAL PARADES.

Cartoons

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



Thanks to Mikel Rice
HISTORICALLY, WHEN MY CUP RUNNETH
OVER IT'S BEEN A GOOD THING



Thanks to Daniel Gutscher (See Genesis 5:27) 11-01-2010
THOSE JERKS ARE RAISING RETIREMENT
AGE TO EIGHT HUNDRED!!!

Services for July/August:

Chaplain Rev Jules Wilson leads the services.

Sunday 1st July

10:30 Family Communion Service
Sunday School in Church Room.

Sunday 8th July

10:30 Family Communion Service

Sunday 15th July

10:30 Family Communion Service

Sunday 22nd July

10:30 Family Communion Service

Sunday 29th July

10:30 Family Communion Service

Sunday 5th August

10:30 Family Communion Service
Sunday School in Church Room

Sunday 12th August

10:30 Family Communion Service

Sunday 19th August

10:30 Family Communion Service

Sunday 25th August

10:30 Family Communion Service

HTC South

Friday 13th July & 10th August

18.00 Communion Service at the Catholic
Chapel Messonghi

*I sought the Lord and he answered me; he
delivered me from all my fears. Psalm 34:4*



Weekly Events during July:

The church is open Tuesdays & Wednesdays
10:00 to 12:30 for coffee, chat and exchange of
library books.

Weekly Events during August are suspended.

Monday

17:30 The Kontokali group meets

Tuesday

10:00 10th - Master's Crafters Group

10:00 24th - Coffee Morning in the church room

Wednesday

11th - 12.30 Lunch 'n' Meet

Thursday

10:30 Bible Study 12th & 26th only

17.00 Worship Group at HTC

18.30 Al Anon Group Meeting

Friday

10.00 Prayer Meeting

Other Events during July:

Thursday 12th July

18.00 PCC Meeting

Thursday 19th July

09.15 Pastoral Care Team Meeting

Next Sunday Schools 1st July & 5th August



HTC Sunday Services continue as normal but we take
a break from weekday events and will come back
refreshed in the autumn. Keep cool.

For your Prayers and Thanks

- We give thanks for a wonderful service of encouragement, fellowship and Jesus pointing from our Area Dean and his wife Lynne.
- Thanks to the donation from The Redlynch Players of 115 euros for the cancer unit of the General Hospital.
- Also the many God stories from a variety of visitors and opportunity to witness Shayanti's baptism in the sea nearby, following her marriage to Igor in Paleocastritsa.
- Blessings on the ministry of Jackie in Lefkada, Marie in Paxos and guidance for an increase North and South.
- During the busy hot summer we pray that the Lord will provide and equip us in our pastoral work especially hospital and clinic visiting, and that those we visit will be drawn closer to Jesus.
- From 17th July Kelvin Woolmer and wife Jean arrive to begin the summer seasonal ministry in the Gouvia area, followed by Ian & Melanie Greenhalgh, Chris & Jo Pearson, Charlotte Eley & Paul Middleton. We are excited and grateful for these extra labourers for God's kingdom here, so pray that they will feel warmly welcomed and be encouraged in their mission as the Spirit leads them to see and seize opportunities.
- During the summer several of our congregation work in tourism. long hours in the heat. Pray that they be strengthened, and opportunities come to witness.
- Pray for all students having finished their exams that they achieve the marks they need to progress to the next level of education and follow the course they desire.
- We pray for Peace and strength of The Lord for those at present amongst us suffering emotionally, financially, with family members sick.
- Pray for those who have lost loved ones recently.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

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.*

To be included on the mailing list please send details to email below.

Editorial: htccorfupulse@gmail.com



**HOLY
TRINITY
CORFU**

21 L.Mavili Street, Corfu 49100

DIocese in Europe
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH
IN GREECE



www.holytrinitycorfu.net

htccorfu@gmail.com

(0030) 69865 38755