

THE HEART OF OUR FAITH

Dear Friends,

It's been a busy and encouraging month as many people who haven't been to HTC before, or for a while, have joined in the developing programme at the Cafe Logos and in church. It has been a real blessing to see so many enjoying the new space and each other and really feeling at home as we work towards launching the Cafe properly later in the year. A huge thank you to all those who have made all these opportunities possible. Keep the great ideas coming!



It is, of course, our hope and desire that many of those who become part of the events find not just friendship and fun but the fellowship and grace of the One who is the source of all that is good in our lives and in the world.

As we approach Lent and Easter, the most significant season of our Christian year, we return again to the heart of our faith in Jesus - His call for us to turn to Him ever more deeply, seeking His life, hope and purpose for our lives. We will remember all He experienced and gave for us that we might learn to walk in His ways with His help and share in the resurrection life He secured for us. And our hope and prayer is that those who are coming together at HTC for so many reasons, may take another small step of faith and come and see for themselves how wonderful the love and grace of

Jesus is during the special opportunities this season provides.

WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Of course, every person's relationship with God is their own - He knows us each personally and specifically - and it is only the work of the Holy Spirit that ultimately can release and nurture each one of us into the new life in Jesus. Our part is to be as welcoming and supportive as we can be as a church in offering hospitality and welcome - care, creativity and community being our focus. We offer these gifts to the community because they are good in themselves - an offering made in love. Yet even as these physical gifts are offered, there is always the hope that the greater spiritual gift will be received too. So, we pray for those we meet - that the ultimate gift of faith leading to life in all its fullness would be received.

And as we are all different, all individually known and loved by our Creator, the steps of faith of each of us will be individual too and the one who helps and encourages another on their journey of faith will be different for each person. It's like a complex tapestry of interwoven strands all working together in His wonderful pattern to draw us together in Jesus. Which means that each of us may well find that we have a role to play in encouraging another as and when we are needed. St Peter put it like this... "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect. (1 Peter 3:15).

This is such a lovely way to understand what Jesus asks of us. To be ready and not anxious. To honour, respect and trust those whom God is calling and simply to be ready to share what we have received

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of His grace and love. It's often been said that the Holy Spirit is a "true gentleman", never forcing, always respecting the freedom of those into which He breathes life... a perfect guide for us when we are called to have those three-way conversations between ourselves, Him and one who asks us to give an answer for the hope we have.

COME AND SEE

But if you ask anyone who makes what they do look easy - sportsmen, musicians, dancers, speakers... anyone who needs to be ready for something, there are three key ingredients. Preparation, preparation and preparation. So, this Lent, I would like to encourage us all to take the time to become more prepared to respond in love to those who ask us, those whom the Spirit will lead us to. To this end, there will be opportunities to

read and pray together through a Lent course designed to help us with just this. The course is called "Come and See" (it's available [here](#)) and the resources are offered free by the Exeter Diocese. We will explore passages from the Bible where the invitation to "come and see" was offered and what we can learn from those; we will be encouraged to think about our own experiences of walking with Jesus - in good times and difficult times - and how these stories, our own journeys, may well be the means of helping another when called to do so. I'll be sending out more details in the coming weeks.

So, I hope that you will be able to join the course during the Lent period and that we can prepare together so that we are ready when we're called upon.

With every blessing,

Jules.



PULSE PRAYERS



“Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.”

As we move forward in this New Year of 2024 and a new exciting phase at HTC, we thank & praise God for all He has done. We thank Him especially for his provision for all the amazing changes to our church building and the development of LOGOS CAFÉ. We give thanks that things are really starting to flourish and grow, that new groups and meetings and events are sprouting up! We pray that from this, people will have a desire and thirst to know more about you Lord.

We pray for inspiration and new ideas of what to offer in both a social & spiritual way. Give us servant's hearts and the boldness to share your love with others. We pray your church here will be a light, a haven drawing people to you Lord. Equip and empower us to do your work. *Not by might, nor by power, but by your Holy Spirit.*

We thank you for Jules & Trish, and pray for them as they faithfully lead us here at HTC.

We pray for the Woman's World Day of prayer in March, hosted by HTC. For all those involved in organising it, especially Pauline & Veta. This year, written by a group of Palestinian Christian women... and we remember them especially in our prayers as they struggle with the ravages of war. The theme "I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love". Lord, we pray this for Palestine & Israel in the midst of their conflict; for Ukraine & Russia; for Yemen and for Sabina's work there, feeding so many people each day. For all places where there is war and unrest, Lord, we beg you, that they will bear with one another in love.

We thank and praise you Lord, for the many stories of hope and hearts changed in the midst of trials and tribulations. YOU ARE the HOPE of the world. The LIGHT in the darkness.
"Let us tell of the power of your awesome works, and proclaim your great deeds."

We pray for the sick & those in need of your healing touch. Especially for the little ones... Piper, Nellie, Gracie, Yiannis & Ben. Lord heal their bodies and make them whole.
We pray for peace and strength for those grieving loved ones, especially for Jackie & her family on the loss of her dad.

*His love is like the mighty ocean, His love for me will never stop
Oh, His arms are strong enough to carry me, Through it all, by the grace of God
(from the song, By the Grace of God)*

AMEN & AMEN



World Day of Prayer



World Day of Prayer

**I beg you, bear with
one another in love**

1 March 2024 - Palestine

The Christian women of Bethlehem are calling us to connect with the land from where Jesus was born; where he ministered, died and rose again— and from where our faith began and is rooted. Despite living in an area of the world where there is ongoing conflict and the future is uncertain, the women are sharing with love a reminder that they are there, and want to give hope to everyone.

The theme of the 2024 service 'Bear With One Another In Love' seems appropriate for these women who will not give up witnessing the love of Jesus Christ.

Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organization which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world – through Asia - Africa – the Middle East – Europe – the Americas before finishing in America Samoa some 38 hours later.

This year hosted
by HTC

Friday 1st
March at 18:00





‘Come and See’ is a new course that looks at the gospel references for “Come and See” and explores how we can share our own faith with others in an authentic and engaging way.

The course material is available [here](#) and will also be sent out to those requesting it before the course begins.

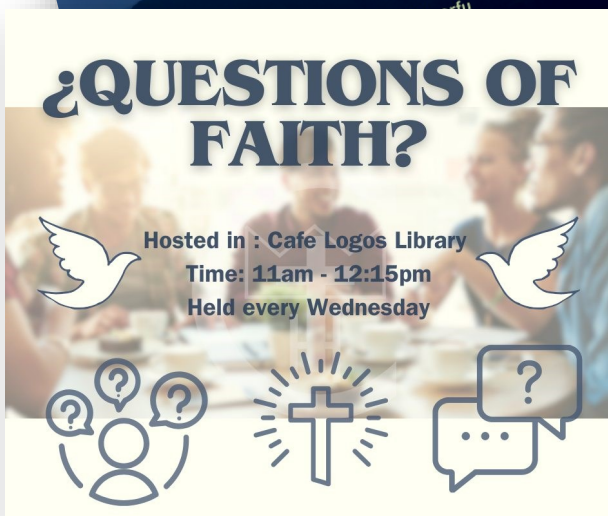
Course Dates:

Sessions 19:30—20:30

1	Thursday	18th Feb
2	Thursday	25th Feb
3	Thursday	7th Mar
4	Thursday	14th Mar
5	Thursday	21st Mar
6	Wednesday	27th Mar

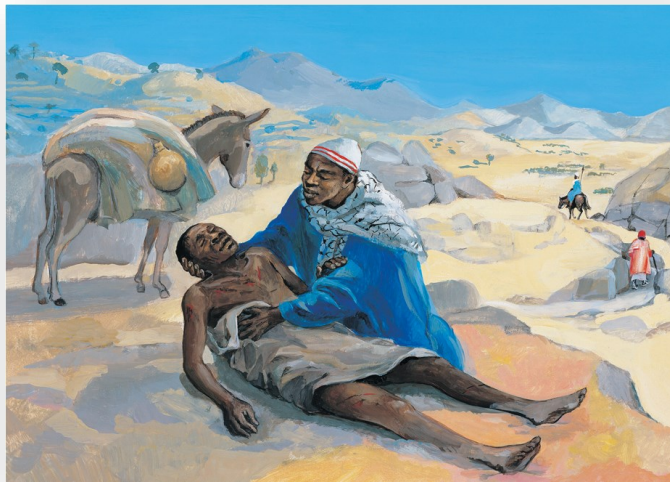
Please note: At the moment, the plans are to offer this as an on-line course only. If you would like to attend the course in person at church, please let Jules know and he will happily organise this.

What's GOING ON?



Keep up to date—

Follow Holy Trinity Church Corfu on Facebook



The week of Prayer for Christian Unity is an International Ecumenical observance kept annually between 18-25 January.

With roots going back over a 100 years, the dedicated octave of prayer has been jointly commissioned and prepared since 1966, by the Roman Catholic Church and the World Council of Churches. This service of Christian Unity is held every year in the beautiful Catholic Cathedral on the 20th January at 18:00.

The theme “You shall love the Lord your God...and your neighbour as yourself. Luke 10:27.

Archbishop George invites representatives from the Orthodox Church, The Greek Evangelical Pastor, Miltidias Pantellios, and Jules to speak in turn on the theme.

It is only in Corfu that other priests from other denominations are permitted to share their Christian view by giving a short sermon in a Catholic Cathedral.

During the service prayers were read by members of the Catholic, Evangelical and Anglican Churches.

This is such an important service which unfortunately most of all our congregations do not realize, and so was poorly attended.



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)



02-08-1999

MY DOG ATE MY SERMON



02-24-1999

HMMMM ... YOU'VE BEEN GNASHING YOUR TEETH AGAIN, HAVEN'T YOU

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>

The Agiot

<http://www.theagiot.com/>



<https://enimerosi.com/en>



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

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.*

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