

The parish of St André de la Pommeraye

www.standrewschurchguernsey.org



Newsletter for Trinity 20, 17 October 2021

The Rector writes ...



I remember that one of the biggest surprises after moving to Guernsey nearly six years ago was when I flicked through the Telephone Directory and found that the home address and telephone number for the Bailiff was listed – for anyone to see. Intrigued, I discovered that it was normal for Guernsey people not to hide such information.

When I was working in south Lincolnshire, I knew where my MP lived. But even then, there was increasing caution about privacy and

safety. A few years ago, I drove through the area of south Manchester where I had grown up. Near to where we lived were some roads with large houses. Over the years, previously open driveways had been closed, with security gates obviously in place. A combination of risk aversion and sensible precautions was evident everywhere.

Last week, I was walking through Westminster, and noticed yet more heavy steel barriers outside the Palace of Westminster. Gone are the days, just twenty years ago, when one could walk into the central lobby with only minimal observation.

In recent years, it seems that some aspects of our common life have become so much more toxic and dangerous. That is, sadly, true even here in Guernsey, with comments on social media and news media websites suggesting a mistrust of politicians and others in positions of influence and authority, expressed in a more visceral way than would have been conceivable just a few years ago. I suspect that the same is true, and perhaps even more so, in the UK.

However much we have become used to this change, and sadly have even become hardened to it, only a person devoid of all humanity would not be shocked by the murder of Sir David Amess MP on Friday lunchtime, whilst he was undertaking a regular surgery, meeting constituents, and listening to their problems and concerns. The surgery was being held in a church in his constituency.

Of course, there are many other human tragedies, known and unknown. Why have I not written about them? My response is this: such a tragedy, the death of a MP, touches in a very significant way all who value the democracy in which we are privileged to live and where many are still committed to public service.

As one journalist commented on Friday evening, ‘The awful news about David Amess is a reminder that for all the clichés about MPs [*for which, read also ‘deputies’*] being “out of touch”, the diligent ones – that is, the great majority – routinely meet and talk to a broader range of people than many other professions, most journalists included.’

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the soul of David Amess, for his family and friends in their desolation, for the police and other who responded to the 999 call last Friday, for MPs and others who are fearful of their safety, for politicians and public servants in this island, and for the community of faith at Belfairs Methodist Church where this terrible murder was committed.

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Jill Bishop writes,

I have laminated a few posters and flyers for the **Christmas Coffee Morning** on Saturday 13 November. They are at the back of the church, if you can think of an appropriate place to put them. We still need lots of flyers delivered to houses in Guernsey.



Please bring to church next Sunday any books, Christmas gifts, or hats and accessories, which we can use for the event.

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I am delighted to inform you that the churchwardens and I have invited **Paul Dowinton**, an architect who a director of Tyrrell Dowinton Associates, to work with us in developing the plans for the development of better access to our church, the provision of a toilet and the improvement of our ministry of welcome and hospitality. We had a most constructive meeting with Paul last week, and look forward to seeing his proposals for the sympathetic development of our church.

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The **October rota** has been circulated. A few printed copies are available in church.

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The 2021 **Real Advent Calendar** is a fun way for parents, grandparents and Godparents to share the Christmas story. There is a Fairtrade chocolate and a line of the Christmas story behind each of the 25 windows. The free book has a page for every day of Advent, expanding on the Christmas story and includes some fun challenges.

The Real Advent Calendar is designed to share and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas so that Christ is not written out of Christmas

Responding to church requests already received, Mondomundi is happy to arrange bulk orders. The deadline for orders is Monday 8 November. Individual price £4.50; or £4.00 each for orders of more than 10. Please email stevemauger@cwgsy.net to reserve your calendars.

This week ...

We welcome **Oscar Charles De Carteret** and his family as they come to St Andrew's church for his baptism at 12 noon on Sunday 17 October.

Thursday 21 October 7.00 pm (Augmented) Choir practice

Sunday 24 October **Trinity 21**
8.00 am Holy Communion
10.00 am Holy Communion

St Andrew's church is open daily, without restriction, from around 10 am until the late afternoon or early evening.

Holy Communion, and laying on of hands and prayers for healing on Wednesday at 10.30 am at the **Monnaie Chapel**. The Monnaie Chapel is a remarkable place – accessed off the Rue du Monnaie (halfway up the road, on the left, when approaching from Les Poidevins).

Prayers for the week

A prayer for this week:

God, our light and our salvation:
illuminate our lives,
that we may see your goodness in the land of the living,

and looking on your beauty
may be changed into the likeness of Jesus Christ our Lord.



Please pray

- for all those who are affected in any way by the senseless murder of Sir David Amess MP;
- for decency and charity in our common life, and for wise and careful use of social media;
- for those killed and injured in the explosion in a Shia mosque during Friday prayers in the Afghan city of Kandahar, and for the people of Afghanistan.

We pray, in the Guernsey churches prayer list, for Penny Graysmith and all who work with her in the chaplaincy at Guernsey Prison; and for the Society of Friends in Guernsey.

We pray for all who live in the parish of St Andrew and for our church community.

By name, for Stella Machon, Audrey Gollop, Jean Walpole, Chris and Cindy Kennedy, Georgina, Chris and Diane Lesbirel, Ann Nicholson, Fletch O'Hara, Elisa Wales, Jonathan Charmley and Ray Tonkinson.

And for those who have died; amongst them, Deirdre Bell.

Finally ...

The Delta variant of the Covid-19 virus remains the most predominant. It spreads relatively easily and is readily transmitted by aerosol infections. As the winter draws closer, please maintain good hand hygiene, and feel free to wear a mask. If you feel unwell, the message is 'Please stay at home'. For our good health, if not for our comfort, I suggest that the church windows should remain open.

With my prayers and best wishes,

Tim

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Collect

God, the giver of life,
whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church:
by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ
and make us eager to do your will,
that we may share with the whole creation
the joys of eternal life;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Hymns at 10 am

576 And did those feet in ancient time
454 Love is his word, love is his way
828 Ye that know the Lord is gracious
739 Now thank we all our God

Readings

New Testament reading: Hebrews 5 verses 1-10

Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not presume to take this honour, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.



So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

'You are my Son,
today I have begotten you';
as he says also in another place,
'You are a priest for ever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.'

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Gospel: Mark 10 verses 35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, 'Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.' And he said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' And they said to him, 'Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.' But Jesus said to them, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?' They replied, 'We are able.' Then Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.'

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, 'You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

Prayer after Communion

God our Father,
whose Son, the light unfailing,
has come from heaven to deliver the world
from the darkness of ignorance:
let these holy mysteries open the eyes of our understanding
that we may know the way of life,
and walk in it without stumbling;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.