



ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PAPHOS



St Stephen's
Tala



Ayia Kyriaki
Kato Paphos



St Luke's
Prodromi

WEEKLY NEWS

**Sunday 28th May 2023
(Pentecost)**

WELCOME

Howling winds and tongues of fire. No not the weather forecast for next week (hopefully) but a description of the Holy Spirit descending on the disciples. We will be celebrating this event at all our churches with Holy Communion this week so wear something RED. Enjoy this week's edition.

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Collect:

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Prayer for the week ahead for our Parish and Ourselves.

Lord you make all things new, the Creator who is continually nurturing, renewing, and developing every aspect of our remarkable universe. Open our eyes this week to see all things in a new light; the light of Christ. Let us rest in your creative arms, let us dwell in the hope of this renewal, let us hope in the strength of your mighty hand. Take all that we are, all that we care for, and all that we love into your gentle arms. Come to touch and heal, mend and restore, release and minister. Lord thank you that you make all things new. Thank you that there is always a new start in you. Thank you that this new week our life is being remade anew. Amen.

A Prayer for a new Incumbent.

Please pray for someone to see the advert in the Church Times for a new Priest for our Parish and feel called to come and serve you lovely people.

Our Diocese:

See the downloadable Prayer Calendar here: <https://www.cypgulf.org/prayer-diary/>

Daily Readings

For readings and the daily service of morning prayer, evening prayer and compline, please download <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer/daily-prayer-app-and-podcast>

Encouraging Words.

"May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy." (Colossians 1: 11)

GOD SLOT

People who preach often are used to the fact that you don't know what is happening in the lives of those listening. Even when you know the other people in church well, you have no idea if someone has just received a diagnosis that they aren't ready to share; if someone saw an angel this morning at the bottom of the garden; if someone is quietly wondering how to murder their husband. We are mysterious to one another, and our polite church faces conceal as much as they display. Perhaps nothing within Christian practice varies as much as people's ideas about, or experience of, the Holy Spirit. For people to have extraordinary encounters with the divine is not, in fact, extraordinary – it is actually quite common.

Various academic studies have suggested that between one-third and one-half of people have had some such experience that has profoundly affected their lives: often, a mystic sense of connectedness or a sense that the universe is aware of the person and has benign intent; but sometimes involving hearing or seeing. But we are often bashful about discussing these experiences; even in church. Perhaps we are especially shy of speaking about such things in our traditional Anglican church.

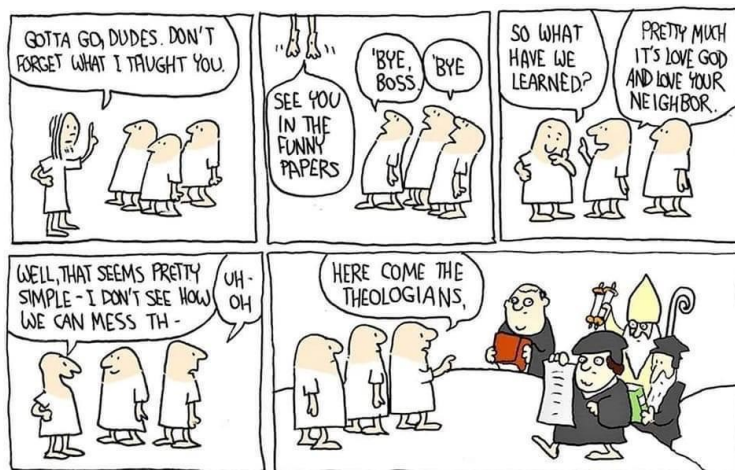
One group of people who are not the least shy about speaking of religious experience are Christians from the Pentecostal tradition, or those who might call themselves 'Charismatic'. Such Christians regard religious experiences as normal, even as essential signs of Christians entering fully into God's will. Experiences such as 'speaking in tongues', faith healings, 'words of knowledge', or even rather strange phenomena such as people roaring like lions or physically collapsing. In the last half-century, Charismatic experience and practices have influenced not only Pentecostal denominations but also some Anglicans and Roman Catholics churches. Many Christians who are not themselves Charismatic are curious about such phenomena. Some feel a vague sense of inferiority that they cannot give such concrete or exciting account of the Holy Spirit's action in their own church or life.

Indeed, we might well wonder if the story we hear from Acts at Pentecost is the first instance of Charismatic Christianity? Any response to such questions must begin with a biblical theology of God. It is not a coincidence that Pentecost is followed immediately by Trinity Sunday; we can only understand the Holy Spirit as part of the Triune God. In all things God does, all three persons of the Trinity are involved. So, we can best judge religious phenomena by asking whether they seem godly. Are they loving and benign? Do they further the cause of justice? Do they free people from sin and open up an abundance of life?

The Spirit enables us to exercise various ministries (1 Cor: 12). The Spirit calls and inspires us to give of our time and energy to serve others. The Spirit draws to our attention the work or people that need us. The Spirit enables us to raise children and build families. The Spirit leads us into truth and holds the church in unity. I began by observing that that God is at work, and we often do not know about it. If we are curious about the work of the Holy Spirit, our best course is to find out what is already happening. I close by inviting you to be curious about others' experience of God. And to be ready to help others, by trying to find words to share with them your own experience of God. If you finish your service by drinking coffee together then, why not, for once, ditch the small-talk and talk about the Holy Spirit?

God Bless,
Revd Ken

JOKE SPOT



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

“Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.” (Mahatma Gandhi)

CHURCH COUNCIL

Another new addition. Just to keep everyone up to date we are adding a synopsis of Council meetings.

Extracts from the 10 May Church Council Meeting

Finances: April continued to show a modest surplus. Wedding and ROV numbers (47 for 2023) are running well ahead of the 40 that were budgeted with bookings taken for 2024 and 2025.

Fundraising: €2,058 was raised for church funds at events during March and April.

Vice Chair: Graham Hare was elected as Vice-Chair and Secretary to the Council due Jacquie Hammond's ending of her term of office on the Council.

New Incumbent: Advertisements for a new incumbent have been running in the Church Times during this month, with a closing date for applications of 26th May. Shortlisting and initial interviews will take place during June.

Other: Investigations into the purchase of a new external notice board for St Luke's are in hand with quotations being obtained.

NOTICES

RAS MOBAT CLINIC

Last month Revd Anne and Archdeacon Christopher visited the Ras Morbat clinic in Aden, on the southern coast of Yemen. This was their second visit having gone first almost 2 years ago. They sent this note. It is wonderful to hear from Fr. Ken that ACP's Lent Appeal this year is in aid of the Ras Morbat Clinic in Aden. The Ras Morbat clinic is in the same compound as Christ Church, although the church is not in regular use at the moment as there has not been a parish priest or congregation there for about 8 years, since the beginning of the civil war, when some of the fighting was in and around Aden. Anne and Christopher used the church for morning and evening prayer during their stay. It is kept in good clean condition. It is holy and peaceful. Occasionally to mark festivals local Roman Catholics gather there as their own church has been vandalised and is currently unusable, and individuals are always welcome into its quiet space.

Currently Aden is peaceful, though there are many signs of damage from bombs and gunfire, and there is a lot of visible security with military checkpoints and barriers, both around the town and airport. A peaceful settlement is badly needed to bring an end to this awful conflict that has left millions in this country in abject poverty and hunger. In Yemen, eye problems are a very significant issue, particularly for older people and for children. The harsh sunlight means that problems like glaucoma and cataracts begin at much younger ages than in more northern climates.

Ras Morbat focuses on eye surgery; treating trauma injury, cataracts and so on. And for a small clinic it does huge work. People gather in the outdoor area waiting to be seen. The clinic treats anybody. Those who can, pay a small sum to see the doctor and then receive treatment and follow-up checks with no further charge. But even that small sum will be waived for those who can't afford it. On Tuesdays refugees come into the clinic travelling long distances.

BIBLE STUDY

There is no meeting this week, our next session will be on Monday 5th June at 10.30am at St Stephen's, if you are interested in joining this lively group then please contact me. We are studying a different topic each session so you can join anytime. The study is aimed at people who are new to the faith and those of us a bit long in the tooth in our journey. Why not come along and give it a try.

THINGS ON AT THE CATHEDRAL

On **Saturday 3rd June at 4 pm** there will be an Island-wide service at St Paul's Cathedral in thanksgiving for the many years of service Archbishop Michael and Julia have given to this Diocese. A reception will follow in the Cathedral Hall and garden. All are warmly invited.

POST

I have an item of mail addressed to Margaret Brown and Anne Renshaw. Please contact me if this is yours.

SAVE THE DATES

27 th May	Variety Show (Tickets available at the door)
24 th June	Mini Golf
22 nd July	Annual BBQ

SERVICES

Sunday 28th May – Pentecost

8.15am Sung Eucharist + Incense Ayia Kyriaki	Revd Ken
11.00am Holy Communion St Luke's	Revd Ken
11.00am Holy Communion St Stephen's	Revd Andrew

Readings:

Acts 2: 1-21; Psalm 104: 26-37; 1 Corinthians 12: 3b-13; John 20: 19-23

Sunday 4th June – Trinity

8.15am Sung Eucharist Ayia Kyriaki	Revd Ken
11.00am Holy Communion St Luke's	Revd Ken
11.00am Holy Communion St Stephen's	Revd William
6.00pm Holy Eucharist Ayia Kyriaki	Revd Ken

Readings:

Isaiah 40: 12-17, 27-31; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13: 11-13; Matthew 28: 16-20

Mid-week Holy Eucharist every Wednesday at 9.00am at Ayia Kyriaki



The Sausage

Oh I do like a sausage
Be it grilled or be it fried.
A sausage always hits the spot
That cannot be denied.
You can fancify a sausage meal
With bacon, eggs and beans.
You can tart them up in casseroles
Or pair them with mash and greens.
But no matter what you do with it
A sausage rules the plate
And I'm cooking yours for tea tonight
So please do not be late.
(or the dog'll have em)
(Victoria Burman)



Parish Priest:

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(Don't forget Friday is my day off (most weeks☺))

Website:

www.paphosanglicanchurch.org
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