



**ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PAPHOS**



St. Stephen's  
Tala



Ayia Kyriaki  
Kato Paphos



St. Luke's  
Prodromi

# WEEKLY NEWS

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
(Advent 2)**

## **WELCOME**

Another week closer to Christmas and as I write this we still haven't got our tree or decorations up yet. I'm strongly suggesting to the Grinch, Oh I mean Wendy, that it's time; but she's not taking the hint yet! I've also got a puppy sitting at my feet under the desk and it's not Floki. We picked up a young puppy on our walk this morning that was obviously lost and scared. No microchip, so I've put a notice on the Paphos Lost & Found page on Facebook. He is gorgeous though and very friendly. No proof-reader this week so you can play the game of finding mistakes and letting me know. Enjoy this week's edition.

## **PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK**

### **Collect:**

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

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

May we find a gift in the week ahead laid out for us by the Lord. A beautiful sunrise or sunset, an email or card from someone we haven't heard from for a long time, the laughter of friends and family. These are a reminder that life is good and sets our hope in flight. May we notice birds above us and insects below, may we notice the beautiful natural world around us. Know that as we lift our prayers to God it fills our hearts and lets our souls sing. May we know that God's love is all around for us to dwell in and share with others. May this week be like a present that fills our hearts with awe and takes our world from grey to gold and soothes our very souls. Amen

### **A Prayer for peace.**

Compassionate God, as you know each star you have created, as you know the secrets of every heart; in your loving mercy bring to your table all who are fearful and broken, all who are wounded and needy, that our hungers may be satisfied in the city of your peace; through Christ who is our peace. Amen.

### **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:

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

## GOD SLOT

**“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”** (Matthew 11:28-30)

The invitation of Jesus was wide and deep, inviting all to come and find rest in him. As we are preparing our Advent and Christmas services, and Christmas parties, we'll already be thinking about who we will want to be inviting. It's a time when people think about going to church and it provides us with an opportunity to help people encounter Christ afresh. We'll be encouraging our congregations to invite others as together we journey towards the manger, and encourage others to join us on that journey too. I've been reflecting that invitations are really powerful. They speak of value and welcome and love, and an invitation creates an opportunity to belong. Christ's invitation speaks of those things too. And in a sense, the invitation speaks, irrespective of whether the invitation is accepted or not. We have an opportunity to offer our community a generous invitation to encounter a generous God.

God Bless,

Revd Ken

## JOKE SPOT

*Little Johnny visited the vicarage and asked to see the vicar's wife, who was well known for her charity. As he spoke to her he said in a voice breaking with emotion, 'I'd like to draw your attention to the terrible plight of a poor family in this district. The father is dead, the mother is too ill to work, and the nine children are starving. They are about to be turned out into the cold streets unless someone pays their £400 rent arrears.' 'How frightful!' exclaimed the vicar's wife. 'May I ask who you are?' Little Johnny wiped his eyes with his handkerchief and said, 'I'm their landlord.'*



## SAVE THE DATES

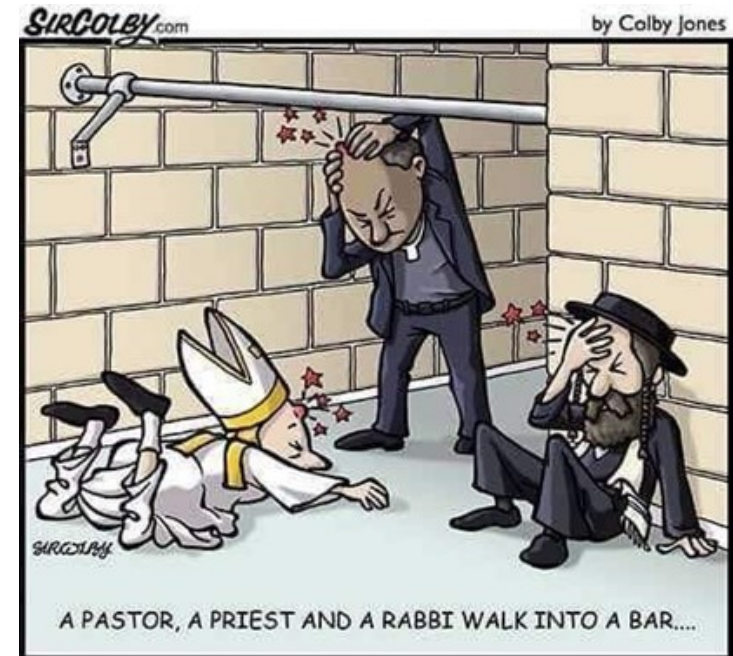
9 <sup>th</sup> December	St Luke's Carols for Christmas
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Carols in the Mall
5 <sup>th</sup> January 24 at AK (confirmed)	Revd Ken's final service in the Parish to be held
13 <sup>th</sup> February 24	Beetle Drive (Stephanie Restaurant)
30 <sup>th</sup> March 24	Easter Lunch
2 <sup>nd</sup> April 24	Nicosia Coach Trip
27 <sup>th</sup> April 24	Spring Fair
18 <sup>th</sup> May 24	Mini Golf
September	Sunset Cruise to the Blue Lagoon
October 24	Annual BBQ
November 24	Quiz Night



## CAROLS IN THE MALL

We want to make this a big event for people to learn about the Anglican Church of Paphos so do please make an effort to come along and sing Carols with us at the **Kings Mall** on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December**. We want lots of people to come and can you please assemble by **3.34pm** ready for a 4pm prompt start. (I'll be there and it's my day off! So I'll not be accepting any excuses.)

*I didn't make it to the gym today. That makes five years in a row*



## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

*"All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt." (Charles M Schulz)*



### Parish Priest:

The Reverend Ken Waters telephone: 99 555290

email: [anglicanpriest.acp@cytanet.com.cy](mailto:anglicanpriest.acp@cytanet.com.cy)

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

### Website:

[www.paphosanglicanchurch.org](http://www.paphosanglicanchurch.org)

[www.facebook.com/Anglican Church of Paphos](https://www.facebook.com/Anglican Church of Paphos)

### Weddings:

[www.yourcypruswedding.org](http://www.yourcypruswedding.org)

[www.facebook.com/Anglican Church of Paphos Weddings](https://www.facebook.com/Anglican Church of Paphos Weddings)

## CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS FOR KOFINO

This year, as in recent years, Ayia Kyriaki Church was asked as part of the Cyprus Diocese Project to get involved with the Gifts for Christmas to refugee children in the camp at Kofinou. Kofinou is a very basic camp, a "first" holding camp, and numbers fluctuate rapidly as the Cypriot Authorities try to find better and more permanent solutions for the families there. Members of our congregations [8.15 am and 6pm] swung into the Christmas spirit of love and generosity. 20 stockings were filled and a few were brought into church to represent those filling the whole of Revd Ken's car. Revd Ken blessed the children who would receive these gifts and thanked all concerned in their efforts. There will be 94 happy children at Kofinou when the stockings arrive early next week. The other churches taking part are Nicosia, Larnaca, Deryneia and Limassol.



## CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR MISSION TO SEAFARERS

Thank you to all who have contributed to the 25 boxes donated from St Luke's for the Mission to Seafarers. Each box has 10 items, which include a hat, fingerless gloves, socks, shampoo, shower gel, deodorant, soap, toothpaste, a toothbrush and chocolate. They have been taken to Limassol and given to Revd John Attenborough, the Mission to Seafarers Chaplain, who will distribute them to seafarers who are many miles away from their families at Christmas. Well done and many thanks once again.



## NOTICES

### ORGAN RECITALS

Our organist, Richard, would like to thank everyone who came along and supported the Organ Recitals last month, which were in aid of St Michael's

and The Friends Hospices. €303 was raised. A special thanks to Tim for his videos and for suggesting Widor's Toccata!

## SERVICES

### Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December

5.30pm Carols for Christmas St Luke's Jayne Preston

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Advent 2

8.15am Sung Eucharist Ayia Kyriaki Revd Ken

11.00am Holy Communion St Luke's Revd Ken

11.00am Morning Worship St Stephen's Bryn Jones

#### Readings:

Isaiah 40: 1-11; Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3: 8-15a; Mark: 1: 1-8

### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Advent 3

8.15am Sung Eucharist Ayia Kyriaki Revd William

11.00am Morning Worship St Luke's Jayne Preston

11.00am Carol Service St Stephen's Ann Bailey

6.00pm Lessons and Carols Ayia Kyriaki Revd Ken

#### Readings:

Isaiah 6: 1-4, 8-11; Magnificent; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1: 6-8, 19-28

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

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

9<sup>th</sup> Dec 5.30pm St Luke's Carols for Christmas

15<sup>th</sup> Dec 4.00pm Kings Mall Carols in the Mall

(*Compulsory* for all good singers)

17<sup>th</sup> Dec 11.00am St Stephen's Carol Service

6.00pm Ayia Kyriaki Lessons & Carols Service

24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	11.00pm	St Stephen's	Midnight Mass
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	8.15am	Ayia Kyriaki	Sung Eucharist (with Incense)
	11.00am	St Luke's	Holy Communion
	11.00am	St Stephen's	Holy Communion
	1-3.00pm	Home or friends	Christmas Dinner (Don't forget to sing Happy Birthday to Jesus)

## New Pants for Christmas

In halls decked with holly, and trees all a-glow,  
I feasted on goodies, let my inhibitions go,  
From gingerbread houses to mulled wine so bold,  
I consumed with abandon, in holiday's hold.

Eggnog flowed like a river, a creamy delight,  
Pies disappeared faster than stars in the night,  
Turkey and stuffing, and oh, the mince pies,  
I ate 'til I felt like a stuffed Christmas prize.

Dear Santa, I plead, as the scale gives a sigh,  
Bring stretchy new pants and don't ask me why,  
For I've eaten like royalty, bursting at seams,  
Now I need new attire, for my dining regimes.

So here's to the feasting, our holiday rite,  
Merry Christmas to all, let's eat day and night,  
With waistbands expanded and spirits held high,  
May your holidays be filled with joy and pie!

(*Brann Rafferty*)