

Ministers Muse from Deacon John

Earthquakes & Eruptions

Did the world stop? Or was it on hold? Did the unthinkable actually happen and the world came to a standstill for almost a week? No, well almost!

At least that is how it must have felt for holidaymakers, and business people, who were desperately trying to get home or get to their destinations be it for business or leisure. Their lives were certainly put on hold. Throughout it all people used ingenuity, some found alternative ways of reaching their destinations, by road, rail, or boat, it brought to the fore qualities of hospitality and companionship helping one another through the difficulties. This however was not caused through the intervention of industrial action, but through the more natural forces already here on earth. A volcano in Iceland which had remained inactive for a long time suddenly became active again, spewing out tons of molten lava on to the ground and volcanic ash into the atmosphere. It was deemed too risky to fly modern aircraft through this cloud of ash which encroached into the fly zones of a few countries. This precaution was taken so as to prevent any risk to human life. Fortunately no lives so far have been lost .

Another natural incident but an earthquake this time in Haiti, destroyed many buildings, and lives causing a massive disaster, it is estimated that it claimed in the region of two hundred thousand lives.

Some respond by saying ‘Where is a loving God, who allows this to happen? It is an understandable question.

A vulcanologist commenting on the volcanic eruption explained that earthquakes and volcanoes, although undesirable are a necessary part of the ongoing existence, of the world, without them the earth would have no atmosphere, it would be unfit to inhabit, the molten lava from volcanoes eventually forms new land which is rich in minerals for growing crops. Human responsibility also has to be taken into account, many of the buildings on Haiti were poorly constructed, they should never have been built in the places where they were. It is no secret that the earth is subject to earthquakes and volcanic activity in some areas more than others.

The created natural world is a place of wonder, but it demands our utter- most respect, it is also a place of danger and risk; there are destructive forces which connect to bring about ongoing constructive forces. I don’t believe that God deliberately causes such events to happen, but accept that there are side- effects to the way the world and universe were created. Which we can feel most uncomfortable with.

Commenting on the recent grounding of flights in and out of the United Kingdom a panellist on Any Questions said, ‘May be this event will make people realise even more, that we are only residents here and that we don’t own it.’

Blessings, *John*

Bible a Month Club: Cameroon

*“Never give up praying. And when you pray, keep alert and be thankful”
Colossians 4. v2. (CEV)*

Cameroon is a country in West Africa, about twice the size of the UK. It is bordered by Nigeria, Chad, Central African Republic, Congo, Gabon, and Equatorial Guinea. It has a population of nearly 19 million, which is about 31% of that of the UK. Literacy rate is 67%. There are 24 major African languages, plus English and French.

In the Essos district of Yaounde, an orphanage run by the Christian Family Foundation (FACT) “welcomes, protects, and educates” the young people in its care.

Those whose parents have died are joined by children who have been abused or abandoned, as well as street children. The orphanage puts huge emphasis on religious education, and ministers are welcomed in to teach, and to provide spiritual guidance. “We are most grateful for the Bibles we received from Bible Society” said supervisor Etienne Nzome. “They mean a lot to the children who read them every day.”

Prayer Pointers

- For orphans who, through the Bible message, know the love of God in their hearts.
- For Bible Society’s continued distribution of the Bible at the orphanage, and to other children’s agencies in Cameroon.
- For the revised translation of the Fulfulde Bible, due for completion in 2012. Fulfulde, after Swahili, is the most widely spoken indigenous language in Africa.
- Pray that the translation, which is being revised, corrected and updated, will be well-received by the Fulfulde speaking community, and equip them for mission.
- Pray for the Good Samaritan Bible-based education programme running in Cameroon, that it will touch the hearts of those living with HIV/AIDS.

Thank you for helping others to encounter the Bible, through regular Bible a Month donations and your prayers

Pray with the Bible Societies

Each paragraph below mentions Bible work in a particular country, and is a pointer to prayer. It indicates areas the national society would like us to focus on.

India

We are grateful for answered prayers and for the encouraging response to our distribution and fundraising efforts. We have published several new scripture resources in different languages, and are continuing to develop Scriptures in different formats for special audiences. Give thanks for this and for our work among widows, which is changing lives. Ask for God's blessings as we celebrate the bicentenary of our work this year. Please also pray for our work in Bhutan.

Nepal

We have much to praise God for: the wide acceptance of the Simple Nepali Holy Bible; the audio recording of the Newar New Testament, and the successful launches of the New Revised Version Nepali Bible, the large print New Testament with Psalms and Proverbs and the Book of Genesis in Tibetan Common Language. Please pray as we launch the Year of Women and Children, and for the revision of the Nepali Bible, for political stability and for the completion of Nepal's new constitution.

Afghanistan

Please pray for the people of Afghanistan and for peace in their country. Remember too, the many Christians who are persecuted for their faith; ask God to bless and protect them. Give thanks for the Dari Bible, which has been published by a partner agency, and continue to pray for Bible work in this country.

Pakistan

Please pray for Pakistan, where regular terrorist activities have thrown the country into economic, social, political, and religious turmoil. People are very frightened. Ask God to protect them, to bring an end to the attacks and to restore peace in our country. Please pray that the newly launched Urdu Study Bible will be well received, and bring blessings to many people.

Iran

The demand for Scriptures is greater than the resources available, so please pray for funding to help us meet these needs. Pray for communal peace in this nation, and that the government will recognise the needs of the Christian Churches to access Scriptures.

The battle to beat malaria

A child dies from malaria every 30 seconds- one of the clearest scandals of poverty in a world in which there are effective and affordable ways to help children and adults avoid infection.

Christian Aid has announced a major increase in its commitments to tackle poverty-related, preventable diseases to give more attention to malaria prevention and treatment. Much like HIV, malaria can have a devastating effect on communities. And, just like HIV, it is both as a result of, and cause of poverty.

HIV and malaria account for four million deaths every year. Both infections hit hard in the same areas of the world, so essentially, this means that Christian Aid is able to increase its response to malaria with limited additional cost.

In Nigeria, where 300,000 children die of malaria every year, the partners are already in the third year of distributing 250,000 long-lasting insecticide-treated nets. Beginning with pregnant women, children under the age of 5, people living with HIV and the elderly, distribution will eventually include all families in the areas in which they work.

Christian Aid is also providing on-the-ground education and training in malaria prevention and treatment and advocating better, more effective drug therapy and diagnostic testing.

The notice

We have a very important but sensitive notice. We're sorry, but the toilets have been closed because of excessive use. Each person in church has been using 50 sheets of toilet paper a day, and using a toilet on average 500 times a year. And this, combined with excessive hand washing has led to the drastic action.....

An alternative has been found- if anyone needs to use the toilet they should collect a plastic bag and use that. You are urged to respect each others privacy during this process. And then you simply throw the used bag out of the window. If that is a problem, you could walk to town where there are facilities. Any questions?

Of course, we are joking- but how much we use the toilets is true. Toilets are a big issue around the world. Around 5000 children die every year from drinking unsafe water and not having proper sanitation and washing facilities- 3 children a minute.

One of the poorest areas of Nairobi, Kenya, is called Matopeni. People in this area have built their own drains and a couple of toilets to service 300 houses, but the toilets don't work properly. So the children walk across wooden planks above the drains, which contain stagnant water, sewage, and rats. A magnet for disease. During the rainy season, the drains overflow and flood the houses with sewage and rats. Most of the houses also only have one room so people often have to go to the toilet in front of their family. They use plastic bags and then have to throw these bags outside as there's nowhere else for them. These are known as "flying toilets"

One little boy says, "I don't like living here. The bad thing about the place is that when it rains, the drains fill up and water floods into the houses and we have to use a basin to get rid

of it. It's dirty and we get sick. I've had a very bad cold and some pain in my throat. It smells bad. It's because....people have no proper toilets”

Christian Aid is working in the area with a partner called Maji na Ufanisi, and are hoping to bring water and sanitation facilities to Matopeni, as they have elsewhere in Nairobi. In Kiambiu, Christian Aid has built five toilet and shower blocks and employed people from the local community to clean and maintain them. They charge a nominal fee to use them and invest the money back into the community, for example, to fund building of more toilets or emergency health care for families. They've also got clean drinking water now.

A Prayer

Because we know you love everyone on earth, we pray to you.

Because we know that all people deserve to live with dignity, we pray to you.

Because we know that the privilege of our birthplace has given us rights and comforts that others are denied, we pray to you.

Our prayer is this: move us to action. Move us to generosity in our support of these needy people; move us to bring in your kingdom.

We see spaces still longing for your kingdom to come- in the streets of Matopeni, among the flying toilets and beds flooded with sewage; in the frustrated hopes of poor people everywhere; in our own hearts when we place our comfort and convenience above another's need.

Loving God, today, this year, move us to bring in your kingdom.

A British weather joke

A farmer goes out into his field one morning to find all of his cows frozen solid. As far as the eye can see are cows, motionless like statues. It had been a bitterly cold night, but he'd never thought anything like this would happen. With his entire livestock gone, how would he make ends meet? How would he feed the kids? How would he pay the mortgage? He sat with his head in his hands, trying to come to terms with his impending poverty.

Just then, an elderly woman walked by. “What's the matter?” asked the old lady. The farmer gestured towards the frozen cows and explained his predicament to the woman.

Without hesitation, the old woman smiled and began to rub one of the cows noses. After a few seconds, the cow began to twitch and was soon back to normal, chewing the cud.

One by one, the old woman defrosted the cows until the whole field was full of healthy animals. The farmer was delighted, and asked the woman what she wanted as a payment for her good deeds. But she didn't want anything, and just walked off across the field.

A passer-by who had witnessed the whole thing approached the farmer.

“You know who that was, don't you?” asked the passer by.

“No” said the farmer, “Who?”

(This is worth it.....)

“That was Thora Hird”

Prayers for God's World

We pray for the church in Somalia, a country brought to our attention because of pirates operating from its shores and terrorising people. Let us pray for the victims of piracy, and for the background poverty which leads to such a culture.

We pray for the church working in the midst of anarchy and lawlessness, trying to work against a background of gangs and tribal warfare.

We pray for the church's work with the poor and weak and seek God's blessing upon all they try to do.

Prayers of the Church

O God, the refuge of the poor, the strength of those who toil and comforter of all who sorrow, we commend to your mercy the unfortunate and needy in whatever land they may be. You alone know the number and extent of their sufferings and trials. Look down, Father of mercies, at those unhappy families suffering from war and slaughter, from hunger and disease and other severe trials. Save them, O lord, for it is truly a time for mercy. Amen.

Peter Canisius (1521-1597)

Send peace into my heart, O Lord,
That I may be contented with the mercies of this day
And confident of your protection for this night;
And having forgiven others, even as you forgive me,
May I go to rest in tranquillity and trust, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)

Prayers for the church here at Trinity

We pray for those who worship Sunday by Sunday, that we may know we are the children of God and may speak together of the saving Grace of Jesus.

May we have unity in Jesus and the Holy Spirit working in our midst so that those who worship with us may see God's love in our eyes, and all will recognise each other as brothers and sisters.

*Father, as we go forth from our church,
Strengthen us for service in the world;
That the words we have heard and said and sung
May find expression in our daily life and work,
To the glory of your holy name.*

Aphorisms-

short, pointed sentences expressing a wise or clever observation or a general truth, an adage.

1. The nicest thing about the future is that it always starts tomorrow.
2. Money will buy a fine dog, but only kindness will make him wag his tail.
3. If you don't have a sense of humour, you probably don't have any sense at all.
4. Seat belts are not as confining as wheelchairs.
5. A good time to keep your mouth shut is when you're in deep water.
6. How come it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark to become a teenager who wants to stay out all night?
7. Business conventions are important because they demonstrate how many people a company can operate without.
8. Why is it that at class reunions you feel younger than everyone else looks ?
9. Scratch a cat and you will have permanent job.
- 10.No one has more driving ambition than the boy who wants to buy a car.
- 11.There are no new sins; the old ones just get more publicity.
- 12.There are worse things than getting a wrong number at 4 am- it could be the right number.
- 13.No one ever says, "It's only a game" when their team is winning.
- 14.I've reached the age where the happy hour is a nap.
- 15.Be careful reading the fine print. There's no way you're going to like it.
- 16.The trouble with bucket seats is that not everyone has the same size bucket.
- 17.Do you realise that in 40 years we'll have thousands of old men and women running around with tattoos ? (and rap music will be the Golden Oldies !). No! Say it isn't so!
- 18.Money can't buy happiness- but somehow it's more comfortable to cry in a Porsche than in a Yaris.

With thanks to LIVERNEWS, the support newsletter for Liver patients, their carers and families in the northern region.

You Took My Place

One day, a man went to visit a church, He got there early, parked his car and got out. Another car pulled up near the driver got out and said, "I always park there! You took my place!"

The visitor went inside for Sunday School, found an empty seat and sat down A young lady from the church approached him and stated, "That's my seat! You took my place!" The visitor was somewhat distressed by this rude welcome, but said nothing.

After Sunday School, the visitor went into the sanctuary and sat down. Another member walked up to him and said, " That's where I always sit! You took my place!" The visitor was even more troubled by this treatment, but still He said nothing.

Later as the congregation was praying for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood up, and his appearance began to change. Horrible scars became visible on his hands and on his sandaled feet. Someone from the congregation noticed him and called out, "What happened to you?" The visitor replied, as his hat became a crown of thorns, and a tear fell from his eye, "I took your place.."

Can cold water clean dishes?

This is for all the germ conscious folks that worry about using cold water to clean.....

John went to visit his 90 year old grandfather in a very secluded rural area of the country. After spending a great evening chatting the night away, the next morning John's grandfather prepared breakfast of bacon, eggs, and toast. However, John noticed a film like substance on his plate, and questioned his grandfather, asking, "Are these plates clean?" His grandfather replied, "they're as clean as cold water can get them. Just you go ahead and finish your meal!" For lunch the old man made hamburgers. Again, John was concerned about the plates, as his appeared to have tiny specks around the edge that looked like dried egg, and asked, "Are you sure these plates are clean?" Without looking up, the old man said, "I told you before, those dishes are as clean as cold water can get them. Now don't fret. I don't want to hear another word about it!"

Later that afternoon, John was on his way to a nearby town and as he was leaving, his grandfathers dog started to growl, and wouldn't let him past. John yelled and said, "Grandfather, your dog won't let me get to my car" Without diverting his attention from the football game he was watching on TV, the old man shouted, "Coldwater, go lay down now, yah hear me!" Meet Coldwater!!!

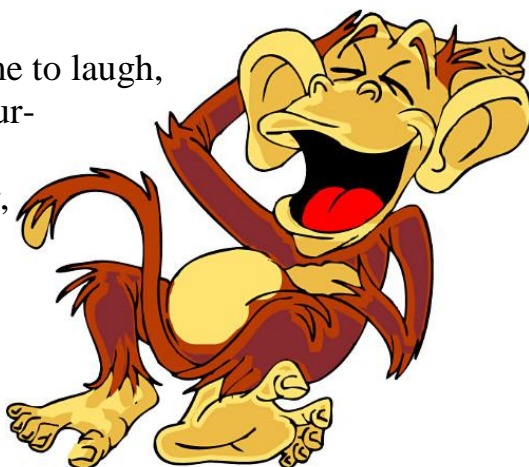
Observations On Love from 4-8 year olds

- When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth. Billy, aged 4.
- Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other. Karl, aged 5.
- Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well. Tommy, aged 6.
- Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your chips without making them give you any of theirs. Chrissy aged 6.
- I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones. Lauren aged 4.
- Love is what makes you smile when you're tired. Laura, aged 6.

A Prayer of Thanksgiving for Laughter

Loving God,
I thank you for the things in life that make me laugh,
The things that bring a smile to my face.
I thank you for a sense of humour
Helping me to see the funny side of life,
Enabling me to share a joke even when it is on me.
I thank you for those with the special gift
Of bringing a little light relief
Into the seriousness of our world.
I know that there is a time to weep and a time to laugh,
A place for solemnity and a place for humour-
Help me to get the balance right in my life.
Teach me to appreciate your gift of laughter,
And to share it with those around me.
Amen

(Nick Fawcett)



A Christian's Alphabet

A is for Alpha. God is the first.

B is for beginning. God created the heavens and the earth.

C is for the cross on which Jesus Christ died for our sins.

D is for the devil – the enemy of us all.

E is for everlasting life given to all who believe in Jesus.

F is for faith; my trust in God.

G is for good deeds; being kind and helpful to others.

H is for heaven – the home of God's family.

I is for impossible; but nothing is impossible for God.

J is for Jesus; perfect man and son of God.

K is for king. Jesus is the king of kings.

L is for love. Love the Lord with all your heart and love others as you love yourself.

M is for me; loved and cared for by God.

N is for never. The Lord will never fail me or forsake me.

O is for obedience to Christ's commands.

P is for prayer; sharing my life with God.

Q is for quest. "I am the way, the truth and the life", said Jesus.

R is for the resurrection and the return of Jesus Christ.

S is for sins – forgiven only by Jesus my Saviour.

T is for Trinity; God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

U is for understanding. God understands all about me.

V is for voice. I can use my voice to tell others about Jesus.

W is for God's word, the Bible, his message to us.

X is for example. Follow the best example; the life of Jesus.

Y is for youth. Remember your creator in the days of your youth.

Z is for zealous. Be zealous to serve the Lord.

I'm fine, thank you

There is nothing the matter with me,
I'm as healthy as I can be.
I have arthritis in both my knees,
And when I talk, I talk with a wheeze.
My pulse is weak, and my blood is thin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

Arch supports I have for my feet,
Or I wouldn't be able to be on the street,
Sleep is denied me night after night,
But every morning I find I'm alright.
My memory is failing, my head's in a spin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

The moral is this as my tale I unfold-
That for you and me who are growing old,
It's better to say "I'm fine" with a grin,
Than to let folks know the shape we are in.

A Prayer for Today

Lord, let us not dwell in the past,
Nor worry about the future.
We cannot undo what is done,
We cannot foresee what will come.
Let us instead dwell in your peace,
Love and be loved,
Heal and be healed.
We give the past to you and rest in your forgiveness.
We give the future to you and rest in your love.
We live in your light, open our eyes that we may see.
We live in your love, let your love flow through us,
To the fulfilment of your kingdom.

Amen

(Author unknown)



Someone cared

Caring starts with little things
A smile, a word, a deed.
The quiet understanding
Of another person's need.
It grows with every thoughtful act
Each laugh or secret shared.
And all the little kindnesses
That whisper, "Someone cared".

The Books of the Bible

All sixty-six books of the Bible are hidden in the puzzle below. Backwards, forwards, up, down, diagonally, horizontally, but always in a straight line, without any letters being skipped. The same letters may be used in more than one word. When you have finished, the letters unused will spell out a description of the book.

Y	P	M	T	S	C	O	L	O	S	S	I	A	N	S	J	H	S	C	S	S
H	H	A	B	A	K	K	U	K	K	S	A	E	O	O	M	U	H	B	E	G
T	I	L	L	M	P	S	O	H	R	U	G	N	H	A	C	R	P	N	T	N
O	L	A	E	U	E	N	A	A	A	D	G	N	T	I	O	H	O	P	S	I
M	I	C	I	E	T	O	U	I	M	O	A	T	T	N	I	I	R	A	A	K
I	P	H	K	L	E	I	H	A	F	X	H	I	I	L	T	O	M	S	I	J
T	P	I	E	E	R	T	S	S	O	E	V	C	E	A	V	O	E	M	S	O
S	I	K	Z	D	N	A	O	I	W	E	L	M	L	E	S	G	U	E	E	H
N	A	L	E	U	H	L	J	S	L	E	O	E	R	N	D	H	K	Z	L	N
A	N	J	A	J	O	A	O	F	S	N	V	B	A	U	A	U	S	R	C	S
I	S	O	T	M	J	G	H	E	O	E	S	I	J	N	L	I	L	A	C	N
N	H	B	O	D	E	U	T	E	R	O	N	O	M	Y	S	S	H	Z	E	A
O	A	N	D	H	A	N	O	J	A	O	N	D	L	E	R	N	A	E	N	I
L	I	S	R	A	N	E	T	H	L	W	T	E	N	E	S	A	I	P	E	H
A	M	W	E	C	E	A	S	A	S	T	O	E	H	H	R	I	R	H	H	T
S	E	E	T	I	A	E	S	I	T	J	G	T	S	T	E	S	A	A	E	N
S	R	R	E	M	M	S	U	D	M	I	S	E	T	U	B	E	H	N	M	I
E	E	B	P	A	E	O	T	A	N	E	O	T	C	R	M	H	C	I	I	R
H	J	E	J	H	S	H	I	B	L	E	I	N	A	D	U	P	E	A	A	O
T	Y	H	T	O	M	I	T	O	S	M	L	A	S	P	N	E	Z	H	H	C
S	N	A	I	H	T	N	I	R	O	C	S	A	M	U	E	L	J	O	H	N
S	E	L	C	I	N	O	R	H	C	S	G	N	I	K	R	O	M	A	N	S

- | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|---------------|------------|
| Genesis | Nehemiah | Obadiah | Corinthians | Peter |
| Exodus | Esther | Jonah | Corinthians | John |
| Leviticus | Job | Micah | Galatians | John |
| Numbers | Psalms | Nahum | Ephesians | John |
| Deuteronomy | Proverbs | Habakkuk | Philippians | Jude |
| Joshua | Ecclesiastes | Zephaniah | Colossians | Revelation |
| Judges | Solomon | Haggai | Thessalonians | |
| Ruth | Isaiah | Zechariah | Thessalonians | |
| Samuel | Jeremiah | Malachi | Timothy | |
| Samuel | Lamentations | Matthew | Timothy | |
| Kings | Ezekiel | Mark | Titus | |
| Kings | Daniel | Luke | Philemon | |
| Chronicles | Hosea | John | Hebrews | |
| Chronicles | Joel | Acts | James | |
| Ezra | Amos | Romans | Peter | |

Ten (Almost) Unbelievable Facts

1. Thousands of years ago, the horse, from which modern day horses developed, was the size of a fox.
2. The number of variations in the first four moves in a chess game is 318,979,564,000.
3. A man is strong enough to hold open the jaws of a crocodile because they are so weak.
4. The town of Calgary had fifty kilos of pig manure dropped on it by an irate pilot who had had his application for the renewal of his licence refused.
5. The boulders which blocked Hannibal's way as he crossed the Alps were broken up by pouring vinegar into the cracks.
6. King Louis XIV of France made it illegal to have any handkerchief that was not square.
7. Regardless of the size of paper you use, when you fold it up, the seventh time is the last.
8. A popular prescription for stomach pains up until the eighteenth century was powdered Egyptian mummy.
9. In 1740 in France, a cow was tried and found guilty of witchcraft. It was hanged for this crime.
10. A new born baby has approximately 350 bones but adults only have 206.

The Witing of the Wongs

Su Wong marries Lee Wong. The next year the Wongs have a new baby. The nurse brings over a lovely, healthy, bouncy, but definitely a Caucasian, WHITE baby boy.

"Congratulations" says the nurse to the new parents. "Well, Mr Wong, what will you and Mrs Wong name the baby?"

The puzzled father looks at his new baby boy and says, "Well, two Wongs don't make a white, so I think we will name him.....(are you ready for this?)Sum Ting Wong.

Smile....

At Sunday school the topic was Elijah and the prophets of Baal. The teacher explained that Elijah built an altar, placed wood upon it, cut the sacrificial bullock in pieces and laid them on the wood. He then commanded that the people fill four jars and pour water over the sacrifice.

“Why do you think that they did that?” asked the teacher.

A little girl raised her hand and said, “To make the gravy”.

At a crowded church meeting the minister asked, “Can you hear me at the back?”

A voice at the back said, “Yes, I can hear you perfectly well but I don’t mind changing with someone who can’t.”

Dial a prayer: they have dial-a-prayer for atheists now. They dial this number, and it rings and rings, but nobody answers.

The curious business of raising children: you spend the first two years of their life encouraging them to walk and talk. Then you spend the next sixteen telling them to sit down and shut up!

A little girl in Sunday school was asked to describe Jesus. Not even the most learned among us could have come up with a more concise or conclusive answer: this is what she said: “Jesus is God with the skin on”.

The Bishop is in the breakfast room, warming his back against the blazing log fire, waiting to be joined by his three sons. Son number one appears, a vicar. The Bishop greets his son and asks if he slept well.

“Very well, thank you” comes the reply. “I had a wonderful vision of heaven”.

“What was it like?” the Bishop enquires.

“Angels were singing, and Jesus was there in all his glory” reports the son.

“Wonderful” says the bishop, “come and join your dad in front of the fire.”

Son number two appears, a curate. The Bishop greets his son and asks if he slept well.

“Very well” the son replies. “In fact, I dreamt of heaven.”

“Tell me about it” says the Bishop.

“I saw Jesus in all his glory, and felt so very peaceful”, says the son.

“Marvellous” says the Bishop. “Come and join your dad in front of the fire.”

Son number three appears, an atheist. “Before you ask” the son says, “I had a lousy sleep. I dreamt I was in hell”.

“What was it like?” the Bishop enquired.

“Just like this place” comes the reply. “You couldn’t get near the fire for clergy warming their backsides.”

Baptising an Irishman:

An Irishman is stumbling through the woods, totally drunk, when he comes upon a preacher baptising people in the river. He proceeds to walk into the water and subsequently bumps into the preacher. The preacher turns around and is almost overcome by the smell of alcohol whereupon he asks the drunk, "Are you ready to find Jesus?"

The drunk shouts, "Yes, oi am"

So the preacher grabs him and dunks him in the water. He pulls him up and asks the drunk, "Brother, have you found Jesus?"

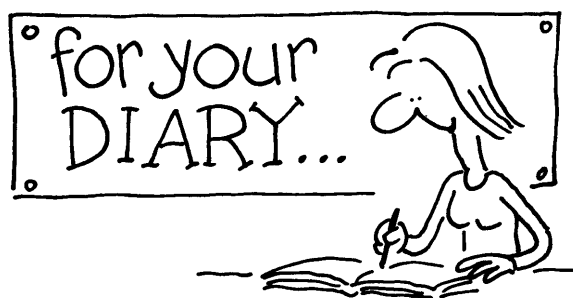
The drunk replies, "No, oi haven't found Jesus"

The preacher, shocked at the answer, dunks him into the water again for a little longer. He again pulls him out of the water, and asks him, "Have you found Jesus, my brother?"

The drunk again answers, "No, oi haven't found Jesus".

By this time the preacher is at his wits end and dunks the drunk in the water again, but this time holds him down for about 30 seconds and when he begins kicking his arms and legs he pulls him up. The preacher again asks the drunk, "For the love of God, have you found Jesus?"

The drunk wipes his eyes, catches his breath, and says to the preacher, "Are you sure dis is where he fell in?"



Preachers

June 6 th	10-45 a.m.	Mrs Margaret Gilks.
13 th	10-45 a.m.	Ms Liz Barnes.
20 th	10-45 a.m.	Rev'd Frank Sykes Holy Communion.
27 th	10-45 a.m.	Mrs Dorothy Michaelson
July 4 th	10-45 a.m.	Deacon John Hill.



Door Stewards Rota

(All 10-45 a.m. unless otherwise noted)

June

6th Mrs L Morgan

13th Miss E Lake.

20th Mrs M McCullough

27th Mrs O Lindsay

July

4th Miss S Bewley.



Coffee Morning Rota

June

5th Susan Bewley &
Lynda McQuillan

12th Girls Brigade

19th Mick & Zoe Watson

26th Mr & Mrs Filmer

July

3rd Ruth Young &
Margaret Allison

Special Open Church Council

Thursday 10th June at 7-30 p.m.

We urge all our members to attend this meeting where we will discuss our future visions for Trinity and its role in our society.

We also need more of our members to take on the duties of Church Stewards, Communion Stewards, Pastoral Visitors, Representatives to Wallsend Churches Working Together and helping with the general day to day running of our church.

If you feel you could take on one of the rolls or help in any way please approach Rev'd Frank Sykes, Bill Filmer or Alan Barker.

Flower Rota

Sunday 6th June

Olive Lindsay

Sunday 13th June

No Donor at time of printing.

Sunday 20th June

Susan Bewley

Sunday 27th June

Margaret McCullough

Sunday 4th July

Linda Bennett

Articles By ?

(Due to summer holidays etc; the next magazine will be for two months.)

All articles for the July / August magazine MUST be handed in by Sunday 20th June.