



## ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PAPHOS



St. Stephen's  
Tala



Ayia Kyriaki  
Kato Paphos



St. Luke's  
Prodromi

## WEEKLY NEWS

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2022**  
**(3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent)**

### WELCOME

It's getting nearer!! The Christmas music and films are in full swing in the Waters household, decorations up most of the lights working and the service 'to-do' list getting longer by the hour. Hope you enjoy this week's edition. Hope to see lots of you at the Mall on Friday at 4.00pm for a community singing of Carols. (Ground floor by the big Christmas Tree.)

### PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

#### Collect:

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

#### A Prayer for the weeks ahead for our Parish and Ourselves.

Heavenly Father, We praise you for your insatiable desire to welcome all into your Kingdom, for your endless willingness to cast aside our failures so that we might be your flock, and you our shepherd. Thank you for the riches that are contained within that Kingdom, for the immeasurable wealth that you offer us access to, may that treasure be what our hearts are set on. We gratefully pursue the lavish excess that you offer. An excess not, of course, of earthly money, but of forgiveness, kindness, justice, generosity, and peace. Thank you, that you make those treasures of the Kingdom available to us now. Thank you that we have something to strive for other than earthly riches. Thank you that we can use what earthly treasure we do have, to bring your Kingdom nearer. We pray this through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

**Psalm 48: 14.** *"For this God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even to the end."*

#### 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>

## GOD SLOT

We tend to forget where we came from and to remember how frail we are and how good we were at hiding that frailty to maintain some form of perfection in our appearance. After all, Christians must be perfect and we cannot allow people to see our weaknesses or they will not respect us. Sadly, that kind of mentality leads to hypocrisy and self-righteousness excusing our own sin while bashing other people's sins. We are people of God showing no quarter to the enemy, but not realising that in all our purported boldness we are as much an enemy to the Gospel as the devil, for we do not portray Jesus as Saviour extending arms of forgiveness in grace; but we sometimes judge and that is not our task. It is with judgment Jesus returns and our 'job' is to try and bring people out of the darkness into the light BEFORE the Christ comes again. We can't do that if we are acting as the judge. We are called to rescue and redeem. Yes, speaking the truth in love and calling sin what it is, but not in harshness but in love for that person who is made in the image of Christ. At this time of year it is a great opportunity to invite someone to one of the Christmas services, a Carol Service or Christingle is perfect for those not used to church to come along and hear the story of new birth, of forgiveness and the gift of love. Let's give it a try.

God Bless

Revd Ken

## JOKE SPOT

*Little Johnny was shopping in Alphamega (other supermarkets are available) when he noticed an old lady following him around. Thinking nothing of it, he ignored her and continued shopping. Finally he went to the checkout, but she got in front of him. "Pardon me," she said, "I'm sorry if my staring at you has made you feel uncomfortable. It's just that you look just like my son, who I haven't seen in a long time." "That's a shame," replied Little Johnny, "is there anything I can do for you?" "Yes," she said, "as I'm leaving, can you say 'Good bye, Mother!' It would make me feel so much better." "Of course I will," answered Little Johnny. As the old woman was leaving, he called out, "Good bye, Mother!" She smiled and waved. As he went to pay his bill, he saw that his total was €127.50. "How can that be?" he asked, "I only purchased a few things!" The checkout girl said, "Your mother said that you would pay for her."*

## BIBLE STUDY

We are looking at starting up our Bible Study sessions again from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January (10.30am to 12.00pm) on a weekly basis. If you are interested please let me know.

## LENT COURSE

2<sup>nd</sup> March to 13<sup>th</sup> April 10.30am to 12.00pm. Location to be decided, depending on numbers. Please let me know if you are interested in attending.

## CHURCH ORGANS

Richard has submitted the following report regarding the on going repairs to the church organs: 'With the help of "Repair man" Mark in Tala, we have been attempting to get the two church organs into a reasonable state of repair, particularly the pedal boards. On a good note, the organ at St Stephen's has been repaired, and I for one am very happy with the work Mark has done on this. Furthermore, a month on from the repairs, all seems to be functioning well, with no major issues arising. Unfortunately the same cannot be said for the organ at Ayia Kyriaki. You may have noticed the organ there sounding a little strange for a few weeks, as the pedal board had been taken away, and repairs were attempted. Sadly, the switches that were replaced, also seem to have been faulty, probably through age. We are now investigating alternative solutions, to get the pedal board working again, including the sourcing of new chipboards from Germany. This will take time, and, as a result, the organ at AK will be "manuals only" for some period of time, quite possibly for several months. On the positive side, we have now identified the problems, and are actively seeking solutions.'

# NOTICES

## CONGRATULATIONS

We have been really blessed with a much longed for new granddaughter, Freya Elizabeth, born on 3<sup>rd</sup> December to my daughter Katie and son-in law Craig. I shall be flying back to the UK this week for lots of cuddles and to spend Christmas and New Year with the family. As I will not be in Church now until the New Year, I would like to wish everyone a happy and blessed Christmas and very best wishes for the New Year. Warmest Regards, Gerry Rock.

## HYMNS FOR JANUARY

Do you have a favourite hymn? Well I'd like to fill January's services with hymns chosen by the congregation. So get emailing (or dropping a note) of your favourite hymns and we'll celebrate them in our services throughout January. Starting to come in; but need more please.

## BE ON GUARD

There have been a number of burglaries recently, so please be careful. Make sure your house is secure.

## EVENTS

16 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Carols in the Kings Mall (4.00pm)
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Christingle at St Stephen's (4.00pm)
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Service at St Stephen's (11.00am)
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Service at Ayia Kyriaki (6.00pm)
20 <sup>th</sup> January	Bowling
21 <sup>st</sup> February	Beetle Drive
March	Nicosia Coach Trip
25 <sup>th</sup> March (TBC)	Barn Dance
22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Spring Fair
8 <sup>th</sup> May	Coronation Garden Party
3 <sup>rd</sup> or 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Mini Golf

## SERVICES

### Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December

5.30pm Carols for Christmas St Luke's

### Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Advent 3

8.15am Sung Eucharist Ayia Kyriaki

11.00am Holy Communion St Luke's

11.00am Morning Worship St Stephen's

#### Readings:

Isaiah 35: 1-10; Psalm 146: 4-10; James 5: 7-10; Matthew 11: 2-11

### Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December

4.00pm Carols in King's Mall – we need all the support we can get PLEASE.

### Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December

4.00pm Christingle St Stephen's

### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Advent 4

8.15am Sung Eucharist Ayia Kyriaki

11.00am Morning Worship St Luke's

11.00am Carol Service St Stephen's

6.00pm Lessons and Carols Ayia Kyriaki

#### Readings:

Isaiah 7: 10-16; Psalm 80: 1-8; Romans 1: 1-7; Matthew 1: 18-25

This week's poem is a bit long; but well worth it.

### **The Christmas Story**

Can you imagine the enormous surprise  
When the scholarly men who studied the skies  
Looked up to the heavens one cloudless night  
And saw a new star - glowing and bright  
Those three sober men started dancing a jig  
Something was up and it had to be big!

Then Mary was given a huge surprise too  
An angel appeared right out of the blue  
His name was Gabriel and what he told Mary  
Many young girls would have found a bit scary  
God had chosen her to give birth to His Son  
The Everlasting King, the Most Holy One

Mary loved Joseph - he was good and so kind  
But surely he'd think she was out of her mind  
And sadly poor Joseph thought she was dreaming  
Or else he said she was terribly scheming  
Then Joseph dreamt she should still be his wife  
How together they could treasure this special new life

Those scholarly men consulted their scrolls  
They read of a king - a saviour of souls  
The Christ who was promised to the Jews of old  
So frankincense and myrrh and gold  
Seemed fitting gifts to bring from afar  
As they travelled beneath the twinkling new star

Then Caesar declared that people be counted  
So pregnant Mary on a donkey was mounted  
For the journey to Bethlehem had to be done  
Mary so aware she was carrying God's son  
But Bethlehem had no room at the inn  
And the baby's birth was about to begin!

Some shepherds were quietly minding their sheep  
Some were awake and some falling asleep  
When an angel appeared in a glorious light  
He instantly told them not to take fright  
For he had wonderful news - the birth of a boy  
A saviour for all - the cause of great joy

The shepherds, excited hurried off to see  
For they knew the place where a lamb might be  
The angel had said they'd find the babe in a manger  
Then more angels came - it couldn't have been stranger  
Could this be the Messiah with parents so poor?  
The saviour king they had all waited for?

The answer was Yes as soon as they saw him  
Though the light in the stable was terribly dim  
There was nothing of darkness in that holy place  
They fell to their knees as they gazed at his face  
And Mary and Joseph smiled at each other  
Mary's heart bursting with love as his mother

The star-gazing kings were still on their way  
They'd called in on Herod that had caused a delay  
Now they were hurrying to Bethlehem town  
And were thrilled that their star was still shining down  
They knelt to worship the babe they had sought  
Then gave him the gifts for a king they had brought

And the star in the sky  
Heaved a satisfied sigh  
He'd led the kings well  
But had much more to tell  
About a heavenly birth  
On this planet of Earth

### **CHRISTMAS QUIZ**

(Answers on the website closer to Christmas)

#### **Name That Christmas Carol or Song - Clues:**

1. Bleached Yule
2. Castaneous-coloured Seed Vesicated in a Conflagration
3. Singular Yearning for the Twin Anterior Incisors
4. Righteous Darkness
5. Arrival Time 2400 hrs – WeatherCloudless
6. Loyal Followers Advance
7. Far Off in a Feeder
8. Array the Corridor
9. Bantam Male Percussionist
10. Monarchial Triad
11. Nocturnal Noiselessness



**Parish Priest:**

The Reverend Ken Waters

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

**Website:**

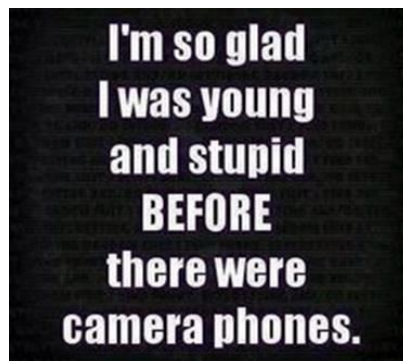
[www.paphosanglicanchurch.org](http://www.paphosanglicanchurch.org)

[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)



*What's the best Christmas present you could possibly get?  
A broken drum. You can't beat it.*

*My wife said to me that if I got her another stupid gift this Christmas, she would burn it.  
So I bought her a candle.*

*My wife has set a limit on how much we spend on each other this Christmas.  
It's €50 on me, and €1,000 on her.*