



ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PAPHOS



St Stephen's
Tala



Ayia Kyriaki
Kato Paphos



St Luke's
Prodromi

WEEKLY NEWS

Sunday 11th June 2023
(Trinity 1)

WELCOME

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Collect:

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; 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. Amen.

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

As we begin a new week let us think about our thanks. Thanks can lift our hearts each day. Our thanks can build our churches. Our thanks can change each circumstance. Our thanks can shift and grow whatever we hope to achieve. Our thanks should be more than an afterthought; it should be our joy and delight to give thanks in all things. And so in our hearts, despite any circumstance, we should give thanks. We can stand beside the empty cross and understand again that we've so much to thank you for, our God. 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.

'Jesus said, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."' (John 13: 34-35)

GOD SLOT

Part 1. The Clerical Joke.

When I read it in the paper this week I just couldn't believe it. Then I heard it on the radio, and I still couldn't believe it. People don't find clergy funny. In a recent survey of Christians, only 2 % of people said that they liked it when clergy told jokes in sermons. Two percent? So 98% of you *don't* find me funny? How can you *not* find clergy funny? We are all so comical. Clergy are just odd, and we know it. It's why we can't stop ourselves telling lame jokes all the time. Because the big joke is us. In us, people can see that God reaches out to everyone. If clowns like us can be Christians, anyone can. It's why we wear vestments. Yes, they are ancient and holy symbols. But they also make us look, just a bit, clownish. I like that. We are clowns for God.

Part 2. I'm not religious.

With empty hands I pray, Come Holy Spirit. Because here's the thing: I'm a priest, and I'm not remotely religious. Most of the time I'm not even sure I want to be a Christian. On a good day, I can say, 'I want to want to love like Jesus'. But most of the time, I can't even manage that. And I'm not the only one. I remember reading the words of a fantastic nun who said, 'what I've learnt from all my prayers is this: I am selfish to the core!' Most of us clergy, thank God, are not very religious, and that is comical. It could be sad or tragic, but for one glorious truth: Christianity, in its heart, is not a religion.

Part 3. Christianity is not a Religion.

Religion is all about us trying to reach up to God; but Christianity is all about God reaching down to us. Religion is all about trying to reach up to God with clean, successful lives. Well, all I can say is, good luck with that. Christianity is all about God reaching down and reaching out to fragile, flawed people like me, and you, through Jesus, and through the Spirit, to do for us what we could *never* do for ourselves. Christianity is the only game in town for naturally self-centred, irreligious people like me. It's not in me to want to be good, or kind, or loving – I just want be left alone with my books and my computer. Yet every day, I have to pray, 'Lord, you must be the wanting in me. You must be the desiring in me. You must be the affection, the kindness, the energy of love in me, because it's so not in me and so come and live and breathe and 'Be in me''. By giving us His Spirit, Jesus answers that prayer. Because that's what the Holy Spirit does in and through clowns like me.

God Bless,
Revd Ken

JOKE SPOT

Little Johnny was the driver for the King and they were super early for his flight. The King asks Little Johnny, on his way to the airport, if he could drive around for a while because they have time to kill and he hasn't driven a car since becoming the King. Naturally, he's a bit rusty, so he's driving poorly, when suddenly he sees police lights behind him. He pulls over and when the officer comes up to the window his eyes go wide. He says to the King, "Hold on for a minute," and goes back to his car to radio his chief. "Chief we have a situation. I've pulled over an important figure." The Chief says, "How important? An MP or something?" "No sir. He's bigger." "So, what? A celebrity or something?" "More important, sir." "The Prime Minister?" "No sir, he's much more important." The Chief screams down the radio, "WELL WHO IS IT!?" The policeman replies, "Well actually I'm not sure. But the King's his driver."

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"If God is your partner, make your plans BIG!" (D.L. Moody)

NOTICES



The **Major Fundraising Team** organise events to raise funds for the Anglican Church and we need more people to help. We regularly meet, via Zoom, to exchange and discuss ideas for forthcoming events but we need more people, especially those who are willing to be 'hands on'. Are you able to give some of your time to aid your Church? If so, please contact Chris Hoskins on 97 753973.

MINI GOLF

A welcome return to this popular social event, which is to be held at Island Cove in Kato Paphos on Saturday 24th June 2023, 5.00 for 5.30pm. After enjoying a round of golf there will be a 'bring and share' buffet, total cost €15. If you can help, a list of food requirements is posted on the notice board in each church, and you are kindly asked to purchase drinks at the venue bar. Your usual ticket sellers will be promoting this exciting evening (tickets are €15 each) and there will be a trophy for each Lady and Gentleman with the highest golf score. Please come along and support this event.

BIBLE STUDY

Remember, Bible Study is not on 12th June but resumes on Monday 19th 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. Why not come along and give it a try.

SAVE THE DATES

24 th June	Mini Golf
22 nd July	Annual BBQ
16 th September	Songs of Praise in the Park
September	Boat Trip from Latchi Harbour
24 th September	Harvest Lunch – venue to be advised
November	Hot Pot Supper

SERVICES

Sunday 11th June – Trinity 1

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 Andrew

Readings:

Genesis 12: 1-9; Psalm 33: 1-12; Romans 4: 13-25; Matthew 9: 9-13, 18-26

Sunday 18th June – Trinity 1

8.15am Sung Eucharist Ayia Kyriaki	Revd William
11.00am Morning Worship St Luke's	Jayne
11.00am Holy Communion St Stephen's	Revd Ken

Readings:

Genesis 18: 1-15, 21: 1-7; Psalm 116: 10-17; Romans 5: 1-8; Matthew 9: 35-38, 10:1-23

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

Our confidence,
God's will
our desires
He'll fulfil.
Our words,
God hears
He'll calm
our fears.
Our pleas,
God knows
our needs
He bestows.
Our entreaties,

God listens
granting us
our petitions.
Our mouths,
God's ears
our prayers
He hears!



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

Website:

www.paphosanglicanchurch.org

www.facebook.com/Anglican Church of Paphos

Weddings:

www.yourcypruswedding.org

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STILL NOT FOUND MY OTHER
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