



ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PAPHOS



St. Stephen's
Tala



Ayia Kyriaki
Kato Paphos



St. Luke's
Prodromi

WEEKLY NEWS

Sunday 11th December 2022
Third 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.)

COLLECT and 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.”*

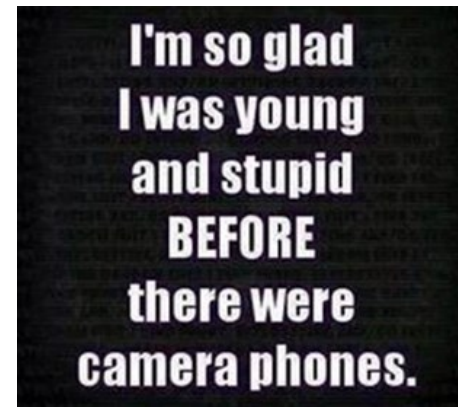
Our Diocese:

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>



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.



Parish Priest:

The Reverend Ken Waters telephone: 99 555290

email: anglicanpriest.acp@cytanet.com.cy

(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

www.facebook.com/Anglican Church of Paphos Weddings

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 9th January (10.30am to 12.00pm) on a weekly basis. If you are interested please let me know.

LENT COURSE

2nd March to 13th 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 3rd 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

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-colored 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. Monarchical Triad
11. Nocturnal Noiselessness

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

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

SERVICES

Sunday 11th 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 16th December

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

Saturday 17th December

4.00pm Christingle St Stephen's

Sunday 18th 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

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

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!