



Autumn 2006

# CrossRoads

The Anglican Chaplaincy in Stuttgart

## Contact Information:

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Rev. Kenneth Dimmick

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### SYNOD & CAECG REPRESENTATIVE:

Hilary Norman

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAPLAIN

### The Big Blur

Since arriving June 1<sup>st</sup>, my life seems to have been a big blur. Whizzing by me and around me are new faces, new places, new liturgies, and a sense that I am a bit disoriented. No, I am not suffering from international displacement syndrome. I am just coming to grips with a huge number of changes in my life. Living out of a suitcase for two months was hard, even though Eric and Renate Jarman did a super job of making my temporary homelessness as pleasant as possible.

From Eric I have learned the rules of football, cricket, and two kinds of rugby. I've learned that curries are as English as boiled beef. From Renate I learned which bin is appropriate for which type of garbage. Being able to share in several of her family celebrations in the village of Holzmaden has given me insight into the Swabian love of family.

Jackie and Rainer Wellhäußer taught me that house-hunting in Stuttgart is a full time job. Step by step they led me through the process, helped me deal with rejection, and ultimately negotiated for me the best possible apartment. Rainer's engineering and handyman skills were irreplaceable. Nothing like a good toolbox to make all things possible.

In the same way, many people help me adjust to the European way of life: Bill Morris's computer advice has helped me get online and active in a virtual sense. Jan Kulok smoothed the way through the bureaucracy so that I could get permission to live and work here. [What a diplomat he is! He is an excellent translator, being able to speak a specific form of High German known as "Beamter".] Hilary Norman has and I hope will continue to enlighten me about the wider Anglican and Episcopal work around Germany. Her knowledge of history is amazing, and there is still much to be gleaned from her vast treasure trove of knowledge. John Thompson has been my administrative right hand, typing, and producing each week the service leaflet which helps me so much in worship. Lauris Prince-Schroeter, while out of town most of the time, nevertheless proved herself a great photographer, preserving the events of my Installation in July. Mel Spiese was a solid rock of common sense, always ready with just the right suggestion to clarify many a sticky situation at meetings of the Parish Council. Jutta and Donald Ross, Pauline Kiess, Christopher Sloan, Alison Seyerle, and Margaret Brauch have reminded me through their shared experiences of several decades of

Morris, and Jim Martin have assisted me in helping me find the right shops, and, more importantly on occasion, transport me and the “treasures” back to the apartment. Who knew shopping could be so much work! I am so grateful also to Bill White and Joseph Dornbach who donated much in the way of furniture for my apartment.

Even in my blurred state I feel a special sense of obligation to Surya Prakash, Michael Naidu, Hanns Engelhardt, Joachim Pfützner, and Julie and Leslie Lipp-Nathaniel for being part of the wide network of clergy who either prepared the place for my arrival or have made my time here one of such welcome and promise.

My life in four short months has been enriched so much by Issac Wani, Andy Dewar, all three Glasers, Bishop Geoffrey, Gudrun Kaper, the editors of Accents Magazine, John Gerrish and his Eucom Harmonizers, Pfarrerin Heidi Abe of Tübingen, the local Aggie Bill Torbett, the CAECG, the DAZ, the VVS, the Uni-ÖZ, the CEL, the AGBC, IFA, FIFA, EKK, AML, and about 88 other people or organizations in some way associated with my being vicar of St. Catherine’s. If this *CrossRoads* were only about 23 pages longer I could go on and on about all the other people for whom I am so grateful. Worship at St. Catherine’s is a delight to me. It is such a blessing to meet families each week who show either the effect of the work in years past or the hope for years to come. I really like being part of a community of faith, which includes people from Canada, Hong Kong, Kenya, Uganda, Nigeria, South Africa, India, Turkey, Britain, the USA, and Germany.

Thank you dear people of St. Catherine’s Anglican Church for having me be your vicar. Thank you, Stuttgart, for helping me live and minister in such a beautiful city. Thanks be to God that the blur is lifting... a great and glorious work is beginning to reveal itself.

*Rev. Ken Dimmick*

## WARDEN'S CORNER

More years ago now than I care to remember I, younger and fitter then (and not yet a churchwarden!), was on a backpacking holiday in Wales. My aim was to walk from Aberystwyth to the North Coast, and the particular day I have in mind was to take me along a remote mountain ridge called the Rhinogs. The route I had planned took me from sea level directly up on to the ridge, and this entailed a steep, unbroken climb up grassy tracks. It was a hot day in August, and this soon became quite a test with my backpack.

But the physical challenge was exhilarating, and my main feeling was one of determination to get my backpack to the top. All the same I will never forget the feeling of lightness and relief on reaching the first summit on the ridge and shedding my pack. Even better – the view. I had become so involved with the physical challenge that I had quite forgotten that the Rhinogs command one of the finest views in the whole of Wales. I spent a long time on that summit and it is a day I will never forget.

Our Council has been doing something similar now for a number of years: making sure services could take place, planning worship, coming up with ideas to make sure that things didn’t stagnate – and sometimes it certainly was a “steep and rugged pathway”. In the last few months, Father Dimmick has taken that load from us, and this has given us all a chance to take a different perspective and “enjoy the view”. I personally have welcomed the novelty of driving to Church on a Sunday not wondering if there was something important I had forgotten. What is more, there has also been time to look round, take stock, and realize just how far the Spirit had already led us.

But there is much more to it than just this. Even in these early days things are moving, and nothing could illustrate this better than the baptism of Abigail Rose McCoy, with a

congregation of over 70, including a lot of children, and an inspiring service which gave us all something precious to take home, not just the happy family.

Earlier I wrote of “shedding” my backpack. Of course, I didn’t get rid of it in any permanent way – the path continued along the ridge towards the evening and the promise of a campsite, and after a “breather”, the pack had to be hefted again and carried on. We at St Catherine’s have a long way to go, but now we have a glimpse of what our church life could be like in the future to keep us going.

I enjoyed the whole of my walk all those years ago, and I have enjoyed life at St Catherine’s over the years. But just as I did when I reached the top of the ridge that day, I feel that the best is yet still to come.

*Eric Jarman*

#### ST CATHERINE'S ON-LINE

Don't forget to click onto our website, [www.stuttgartanglicans.de](http://www.stuttgartanglicans.de), every now and then for the latest news. We would welcome any feedback.

#### INSTALLATION - 16 JULY 2006

Over 60 people were in the congregation to attend the installation of Ken Dimmick as our new chaplain. Presiding over the ceremony was the Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Rowell, who was assisted by Rev. Joachim Pfützner.

It was a colourful and joyful ceremony and thanks go to everybody who helped make it possible: Renate for the lovely arrangements of sunflowers, John for producing the commemorative programme, to Andy for playing the organ, to Jackie and Hilary for arranging the buffet lunch and to all the helpers in the background, who greeted guests and prepared the community hall.



Due to the short notice of the service unfortunately very few clergy from out of town were able to attend. We did, however, receive many emails of best wishes from those who had been invited and here are a couple of them.

*From our former Archdeacon, The Revd. Canon David Ratcliff:*

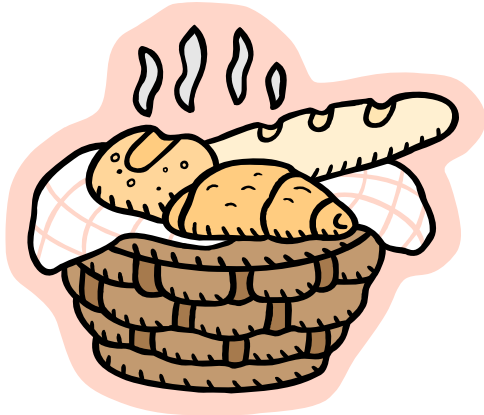
Dear Friends at St. Catherine's Stuttgart,

This is just to send you greetings from our retirement home near Canterbury and to say how delighted my wife Gillian and I are to receive your Newsletter with the news of your Chaplain. As one who tried to help with your mission and ministry planning in the past I am both relieved and excited by this development. We have always said that the potential in the large city of Stuttgart and its surrounding area for English worship and fellowship is enormous. The long relationship with your Old Catholic friends and other ecumenical contacts means that you bring an important dimension to the work mission. Gillian and I have many fond memories of you all and will continue to think of you in our prayers. May God bless you all.

*From Christopher Jage-Bowler, Chaplain in Berlin:*

Many congratulations from St George's Berlin and blessings for you all and Father Kenneth at this new stage in your life together!

### HARVEST FESTIVAL - 15 OCTOBER



We will be holding our harvest festival service on 15 October. Please bring along non-perishable goods as a gift, which will then be donated to the Schwäbische Tafel.

### BLESSING OF THE VICARAGE

Joachim Pfützner, Hanns Engelhardt, Michael Naidu and Axel Schweigert were all on hand to bless Ken's new flat in Möhringen on 29 September. Well over 40 parishioners attended the ceremony and thanks go to all who provided refreshments and food.



### CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST. CATHERINE'S

This year we will be holding our traditional Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at St. Catherine's on 10 December followed by refreshments and the sale of Christmas goodies, such as mince pies, marmalades, chutneys and Christmas crackers.

At our service on 17 December there will be a children's pageant/nativity play. There are currently no plans for a service on Christmas Day but we will be having a service on Christmas Eve starting at 7.00pm.



### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



St. Catherine's congregation is pleased to once again participate in Operation Christmas Child. Operation Christmas Child sends a message of hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes and Christian literature. This programme provides an opportunity for individuals of all ages to be involved in a simple, hands-on missions' project that reaches out to suffering children while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas – Jesus Christ, God's greatest gift.

Participating has never been easier. Here's how to make and fill your box(es):

1. Collect an empty shoebox and wrap the outside, and the lid, with Christmas paper.
2. Decide whether your gift will be for a **boy** or a **girl** and choose an age category: **(2-4)**, **(5-9)**, or **(10-14)**. Attach the appropriate boy/girl label on the **TOP** of your box.
3. Fill your shoe box with a variety of gifts:

*Toys:* small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, plastic kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, small Etch A Sketch®, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky, etc.

*School supplies:* pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, colouring books, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, etc.

*Hygiene items:* toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, comb, washcloth, etc.

*Other:* hard candy, lollipops, mints, gum, sunglasses, flashlights with extra batteries, ball caps, socks, T-shirts, toy jewellery sets,

hair clips, watches, small picture books, etc. and mark the correct age category.

Bring your completed shoebox to St. Catherine's by 16 November where it can be taken to the local collection point for pick-up and distribution.

We need people to pray intentionally and regularly, all year round, for the children we reach. If you are unable to participate in sending a shoebox this year please be willing to make the commitment to pray for those that receive these special gifts and make this ministry possible. Also, if you would like to donate money towards the making of a shoebox please contact Susan Morris on her email at CBS@CBSMorris.com

*Susan Morris*

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

I was slightly alarmed to discover that my expression of interest in Children's Work at St. Catherine's had led Ken to give me the rather grandiose title of Director of Christian Education. The title may be grand, the vision of the future likewise, but it's always best to start with small steps and work upwards, which is just what we are doing at St. Catherine's.

In recent weeks many of you, especially the children, will have noticed the appearance of colouring sheets and bags of crayons at the back of church. The colouring sheets relate to the gospel reading for the day - whilst the children are balancing the lectionary on their hands/ heads so that Ken can read the gospel lesson to us, they have their ears free to hear, the colouring sheets will then help them relate to what they have heard at their own level. Please do encourage your children to take a bag of pens and a colouring sheet as they come into church. Please also feel free to take sheets home for any children in your family who haven't made it to church that particular Sunday. If you discover the crayons are

running out, or we need writing pencils in the bags or any other suggestions please do let me know. The current sheets are aimed at 3-6 year olds but there is a companion book for older children, which we shall endeavour to obtain.

You will also be aware that Ken has started a programme of Sunday School Classes for adults and children - the schedule from now until Christmas is given following this article. These classes have provided wonderful learning opportunities for young and old alike. If you haven't seen the result of our last All Age Class - do have a look at our paper people St. Catherine's family pinned up in the side room - not everyone may have the gift of drawing but we have plenty of other talents and interests in evidence to make up for it and to add breadth to our church family. In the near future we are hoping to start a mid-week children's class in the newly blessed children's room at the Vicarage - watch out for more details in the weekly notices.

Which leads me to one final item - helpers. Jesus knew that helpers were necessary, he called the twelve to help him and he sent the Holy Spirit to be our helper when he returned to heaven. Although the Holy Spirit can inspire our Sunday School classes for more practical tasks: supervising children, reading stories, pouring juice, helping with cutting out etc., we need human helpers.

If you feel that you can offer to help in any way with the Christian Education Programme - however infrequently - please get in touch with either myself or Ken.

In the meantime here's to the growing number of children at St Catherine's!

*Frances Buttle*

### SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES

October: "God Gives us so much!"

- 22 Class for Adults and Children together:  
The 3 Greatest Gifts
- 29 Ecumenical Service with Guest Choir

November: "We are Thankful People"

- 5 Fellowship time: Pot luck Luncheon  
Bring and Share
- 12 Adult Class: Sacramental Thinking
- 19 Children's Class: The 10 Lepers
- 26 Class for Adults and Children together:  
What things mean

December: "We look for Jesus"

- 3 Fellowship time [Advent Calendars]
- 17 Children's Class: Come to Bethlehem
- 24 Christmas Eve Eucharist at 7 p.m.
- 31 Ecumenical Christmas Service: Gift  
Giving Project

### NEWS FROM FORMER PARISHIONERS

Greetings to you from India!! I hope this letter finds you in good health and spirit. We have survived our first summer in India and thank God for that. We always remember and pray for you and for the good times we had in Stuttgart.

It has been an interesting time of adjustment for us here in India – amidst church politics, health problems, job searches for me and just generally getting used to the Indian church mentality. We face challenges everyday, but we are remaining strong in faith.

Bosi is with us and will soon be leaving to Germany to do her MA in International Relations at the International University of Bremen where Sarah is. So since both the girls will be in the same place, it reduces our anxiety a bit.

We read the latest edition of the Crossroads and are very delighted to welcome the new pastor and know more about him. We wish him

all the very best. It was also good to read that the proceeds of the Cookery Book will go to the India Widow's Project. I recently visited the Project in Prodattur and also attended the wedding of Brother Sagar's only son. There are currently 24 widows and two of them are in serious condition. A few of the other widows are regularly selling seasonal fruits and working in the fields. It was joy to see the widows' home coming up. They still sleep in the church because the home still requires a roof. They have all requested us to help complete this widows' home. It consists of a big room where they shall all sleep with inbuilt cupboards to keep their belongings. Right now Brother Sagar is providing them with food.

I request to kindly continue to pray and support the construction of the widows' home.

We thoroughly enjoyed watching the World Cup. I hope you are enjoying the summer in Stuttgart. Please continue to pray for us and for the mission of the church in India. All the best to the new pastor – we hope that our church continues to grow in faith and mission.

*Vindhya Prakash*

Martin Otto, our former music director, moved from New Jersey to California in August. He writes:

"The move was prompted by the fact that my mum is now 82, my step-dad 85, both have stopped driving and my mum uses a walking stick to get about. I just want to be close to them to help them out with shopping, etc. and of course "for future eventualities". This has been going through my mind ever since my step-dad gave up his driver's license in January and I took over their car, but I love New York and the church so much. But finally I realised this was the right thing to do, so I came out here in July and found a nice house in the San Gabriel mountains at 6000 ft, only 35 "Autominuten" away from mum.

"I have found a nice Anglican church that also has mass in Spanish AND needs help with music, etc., so things are falling into place.

"Love to all and sundry."

Martin hopes to meet up with Andy Dewar, who is currently on a three week tour of the United States giving organ recitals in numerous cities, including Los Angeles.

**WELCOME AMY WELLHÄÜBER**

Congratulations to Jackie and Rainer on the birth of Amy on 22 August at the St. Anna hospital in Bad Cannstatt. Amy has already become a regular member of St. Catherine's.



**BAPTISM - 17 SEPTEMBER**

Ken's first baptism at St. Catherine's took place on 17 September when Abigail Rose McCoy, the young daughter of Christian and Jan McCoy, was welcomed into our church. Looking beautiful in a lovely white dress with a "Superman" (or should that be "Superwoman"?) cape she thoroughly enjoyed her day in the limelight.

Thank you to the McCoy family and friends for providing the magnificent buffet after the service.



**CALLING ALL MUSICIANS**

Does anyone out there play a musical instrument and, if so, would you like to show us your talent and play during an interlude in the service or accompany the organist during one of the hymns? Please contact Ken if you are interested.

**ST. CATHERINE'S COOKERY BOOK**

The St Catherine's Cookery Book (second edition) is here!

The first edition of the St Catherine's Cookery Book was sold out soon after it appeared. So Frances Buttle has arranged a second printing.

This is a truly international recipe collection with recipes from various members of the congregation and friends. It is a must have. Books will be available at the Christmas bazaar on 10 December or can be ordered from Frances.

All profits from the sale of the books will be donated to the Indian Widows Charity. (Minimum donation per book 5 Euros)

**TWO ARCHBISHOPS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE TRAIN TICKET**

**(SOME NOTES ON THE CELEBRATION OF THE BONN AGREEMENT IN FREIBURG IN AUGUST 2006)**

As, on the whole, smallish continental Anglican parishes tend not to be overvisited by purpled clergy for obvious logistical problems, the advertisement that no less than two archbishops would 'come to a place near you' earlier this year certainly drew some attention. In this case, the comparatively near place in question was Freiburg im Breisgau and the archbishops involved were the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Rowan Williams, and his Old Catholic opposite number, the

Archbishop of Utrecht, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Joris Vercammen. To witness this historic occasion, when the two eminent church leaders would concelebrate the Holy Eucharist in St. Martin's Church in Freiburg on 9 August 2006, a festive delegation from St Catherine's went there by train - clergy and laity being represented in (equally small) numbers. Having said that, St. Catherine's visit to St Martin's was not just about seeing the ecclesiastical great and good from less far away than usually. It was especially about experiencing a feeling of Christian unity and universality.

In the every Sunday life of continental Anglican churches there is a risk that the global and catholic concept of the Church – i.e. small-c catholicism with its Greek universal meaning – does not reach much further than the Nicene Creed. Given the large size of the Church of England's Diocese in Europe, parishioners might at times struggle to sense the presence of their own church as real rather than merely virtual. Thus ecclesiastical universality beyond Gibraltar and Canterbury might easily drift out of sight. However, one might want to argue that universality starts far closer to home. Call it ecumenism and universality might be just round the corner. It does not take a world to make it happen. It only takes at least two committed churches active in the area.

In the Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, the Czech Republic and Austria Anglicans have in fact found such an ecumenical partner church. There they are in the very favourable position that for 75 years they have been able to experience and develop fruitful ecumenism, thereby practising 'small-scale universality' in the hope of its growing into larger dimensions in the future. This has been made possible because in 1931 the Anglican churches and the Old Catholic churches of the Union of Utrecht signed what became known as the Bonn Agreement. In this document the two unions of professing catholic churches declared to be in full communion with each other. Thereby they opened up a wide range of possibilities for local

Anglican and Old Catholic co-operation. In Stuttgart co-operation ranges from church-sharing as far as to priest-sharing in times of the odd interregnum.

It was precisely the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bonn Agreement that was commemorated and celebrated at the 29<sup>th</sup> International Old Catholic Congress in Freiburg in August. At the centre of this festive congress stood the Holy Eucharist on 9 August, concelebrated by the two presiding archbishops who were assisted by a great number of Old Catholic and Anglican bishops, among them Bishop Joachim Vobbe of the German Old Catholics and Bishop Pierre Whalon of the Convocation of American Churches in Europe. The service was followed by a reception in the Late Gothic *Kaufhaus* opposite Freiburg cathedral.

At this reception many prominent well-wishers praised the ecumenical dimension of the Bonn Agreement in their addresses, among them the *Ministerpräsident* of Baden-Württemberg, Günther Oettinger, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Freiburg, Dr Robert Zollitsch, and the President of the Council of Evangelical Churches in Germany, Bishop Dr. Wolfgang Huber. But laud and praise was not all there was. The ecumenical dimension of the communion between the Old Catholic Churches and of the Anglican Churches could truly be felt at every step during the church service. The liturgy was multilingual, the children's choir sang "Praise ye the Lord" in no less than six languages, and Communion was given by bishops from around the world. Dr. Rowan Williams preached on Luke, 1-10, developing the idea that the Church is called to make an effort to reach out to people in whatever house and that its messengers should be prepared to stay in these houses and cities forever – if welcomed, as it has been the case in Europe from the time of its Christianisation onwards.

As the Church's vocation to spread the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ and to proclaim God's

peace truly surpasses local, cultural and denominational frameworks, it certainly requires ecumenical unity among Christians. At the service at Freiburg, the spirit of the Church's universality could be sensed, and the hope was expressed that more ecumenical unity could be achieved. Working for ecclesiastic unity is a demanding task, especially at the present time, as Anglicans are only too aware of. It needs every presiding archbishop available. Two is a good number to start.

*Jan Kulok*

### CAECG MEETING IN SIEGBURG

The meeting of the Council of Anglican and Episcopalian Churches in Germany was held at St. Michael's Abbey in Siegburg between 22 and 24 September. Thursday 22 September was reserved for the clergy and it was an opportunity for Ken to get to know his fellow colleagues from around Germany and meet the Archdeacon, Mark Oakley. The laity joined the clergy the following day.

Friday afternoon was taken up by CAECG official business. Your editor was elected as secretary to replace Sue Heise from Wiesbaden, who has now returned to the UK. We heard reports from all the churches represented - Berlin, Leipzig, Hamburg, Düsseldorf, Cologne/Bonn, Wiesbaden, Frankfurt, Karlsruhe, Heidelberg, Freiburg, Munich and of course Stuttgart. Mark also reported on the Scandinavian and Baltic churches over which he has jurisdiction. He reported on an alarming incident at the Anglican church in Riga, Latvia following a service held there on 22 July for the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene. There had been a Gay Pride march through the city that day and there were, therefore, members of the gay and lesbian community present at the service. At the end of the service, as the chaplain and members of the congregation were leaving, they were pelted with excrement and eggs by a

group of violent people. The police did not arrive on the scene for 7 minutes during which period the life of the chaplain was in serious danger. In addition to this Mark advised that there was some distasteful and spiteful literature in circulation, which had contributions from Latvian clerical leaders and he had, therefore, written to the Archbishop of Latvia to complain of this and to express his concern at the violent actions outside the Anglican church and the fact that these were not denounced by any Latvian clergy. The CAECG delegates supported Mark's stance and agreed to write in similar vein to the Archbishop of Latvia and to extend financial assistance to the Anglican chaplain to support his mission.

On Friday evening and on the following day the delegates took part in a retreat led by Emma Pennington, chaplain at Worcester College, Oxford, with the theme of "The art of being". In her three lectures, each of which preceded a period of silence for us to reflect on what she had said, we were asked to look at who we are, at who we are in front of others and at who we are in front of the world. In her at times humorous talks she emphasised how overwhelming God's unconditional love for all of us is and that we need to be God's feet, hands and eyes to let his love shine through, as we are the face of Christ and are God's blessing to everyone we meet.

*Hilary Norman*

### SO, JUST WHERE IS SHERBURN?

Renate and I have recently come back from another enjoyable holiday in England, staying in a holiday cottage. I could write a whole article about the beauties of Dove Cottage - it actually had a fully occupied dovecot in its delightful back garden, with inquisitive doves who popped their heads out every time we went out there. But this is not what I have in mind.

The cottage is in a little village called Sherburn, which is a few miles outside Durham. So, as soon as we had booked the holiday, we had already firmly decided to attend Evensong in Durham Cathedral. This we duly did, and it fully lived up to our expectations of beautiful traditional church music and a prayerful and meditative atmosphere. Durham is reputed to be one of England's loveliest cathedrals, and we have brought back wonderful memories.

But this again is not my main point. We were part of a congregation of a few hundred. We were made welcome by volunteers from the cathedral congregation, but apart from that, we were never really part of anything.

This was on our first Sunday, and we had already gone along to the local church in Sherburn to check times of services on our arrival the previous day. We duly went along to the church on Sunday morning, just in time for the ten-thirty service advertised outside. We found the place deserted, and as we stood outside the door, rather non-plussed, two ladies came up in a car. They had come to water the flowers, and informed us that the service that day was in a neighbouring village, as there were three parishes combined. They assured us that there would be a service the following week.

The following Sunday was wet and blustery, but we braved the weather (though we took the car for the three-hundred yard journey!) and were rewarded with a very warm welcome. The service was almost exactly as we know it apart from the music (Mission Praise), and afterwards tea and coffee were served at the back of the church. The priest herself made us welcome and introduced us to others, including some who had been to Germany, and they were interested to hear about our chaplaincy. They explained their local difficulties – falling congregations, as everywhere in England, but the congregation was certainly lively and outgoing enough. They were even considering giving up the burden of a traditional church

building in order to concentrate on mission, which we found sad, but inspiring.

So we had two completely contrasting perspectives on worship, and we wouldn't have missed either of them. Why is there always so much argument about what is the "right" way to worship?

*Eric Jarman & Renate*

### KEN AWAY

Ken will be in Texas from 5 to 16 October. Julie Lipp-Nathaniel has kindly agreed to take the services on 8 and 15 October during his absence.

### HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO YOU ALL!

A young man named John received a parrot as a gift. The parrot had a bad attitude and an even worse vocabulary. Every word out of the bird's mouth was rude, obnoxious and laced with profanity.

John tried and tried to change the bird's attitude by consistently saying only polite words, playing soft music and anything else he could think of to "clean up" the bird's vocabulary.

Finally, John was fed up and he yelled at the parrot. The parrot yelled back.

John shook the parrot and the parrot got angrier and even ruder. In desperation, John threw up his hands, grabbed the bird and put him in the freezer.

For a few minutes the parrot squawked and kicked and screamed. Then suddenly there was total quiet. Not a peep was heard for over a minute.

*Contributed by Susan Morris*

Fearing that he'd hurt the parrot, John quickly opened the door to the freezer. The parrot calmly stepped out onto John's outstretched arms and said, "I believe I may have offended you with my rude language and actions. I'm sincerely remorseful for my inappropriate transgressions and I fully intend to do everything I can to correct my rude and unforgivable behaviour."

John was stunned at the change in the bird's attitude. As he was about to ask the parrot what had made such a dramatic change in his behaviour, the bird continued, "May I ask what the turkey did?"

Enclosed with this newsletter is the latest membership directory. Please let the editor (details at the back of the newsletter) know of any inaccuracies or any additional information you would like to have included in the next directory, e.g. e-mail addresses, birthdays, etc.

### LECTIONARY FOR SERVICES AT ST. CATHERINE'S

<b>Date</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b>	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
8 October	Genesis 2, 18-24	8	Hebrews 1: 1-4, 2: 5-12	Mark 10: 2-16
15 October	Amos 5: 6-7, 10-15	90: 12-17	Hebrews 4: 12-16	Mark 10: 17-31
22 October	Isaiah 53: 4-12	91: 9-16	Hebrews 5: 1-10	Mark 10: 35-45
2 November	Wisdom 3: 1-9 or Isaiah 25: 6-9	24: 1-6	Revelations 21: 1-6a	John 11: 32-44
9 November	Deuteronomy 6: 1-9	119: 1-8	Hebrews 9: 11-14	Mark 12: 28-34
16 November	Jonah 3: 1-5, 10	62: 5-12	Hebrews 9: 24-28	Mark 1: 14-20
23 November	Daniel 12: 1-3	16	Hebrews 10: 11-14, 19-25	Mark 13: 1-8
1 December	Jeremiah 33: 14-16	25: 1-9	1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13	Luke 21: 25-34
15 December	Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11	126 or Magnificat	1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24	John 1: 6-8, 19-28

**THE ALL-IN-ONE ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH SCHEDULE**

<b>DATE AND TIME</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
<b>OCTOBER</b>		
8 <sup>th</sup> at 9.00am	Holy Communion - Rev. Julie Lipp-Nathaniel (followed by Council meeting)	St. Catherine's
15 <sup>th</sup> at 11.15am	Holy Communion - Rev. Julie Lipp-Nathaniel Harvest Festival	St. Catherine's
22 <sup>nd</sup> at 9.00am	Holy Communion - Rev. Ken Dimmick	St. Catherine's
29 <sup>th</sup> at 10.30am	Joint Service with Old Catholics	St. Catherine's
<b>NOVEMBER</b>		
5 <sup>th</sup> at 11.15am	Holy Communion - Rev. Ken Dimmick	St. Catherine's
12 <sup>th</sup> at 9.00am	Holy Communion - Rev. Ken Dimmick (followed by Council meeting)	St. Catherine's
19 <sup>th</sup> at 11.15am	Holy Communion - Rev. Ken Dimmick	St. Catherine's
26 <sup>th</sup> at 9.00am	Holy Communion - Rev. Ken Dimmick	St. Catherine's
<b>DECEMBER</b>		
3 <sup>rd</sup> at 11.15am	Holy Communion - Rev. Ken Dimmick	St. Catherine's
10 <sup>th</sup> at 4.00pm	Holy Communion - Rev. Ken Dimmick	St. Catherine's
10 <sup>th</sup> at 5.00pm	Christmas Carol Service (followed by refreshments and Christmas Bazaar)	St. Catherine's
17 <sup>st</sup> at 11.15am	Holy Communion - Rev. Ken Dimmick (the service will include a children's Christmas pageant/nativity play)	St. Catherine's
24 <sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm	Holy Communion - Rev. Ken Dimmick	St. Catherine's
31 <sup>st</sup> at 10.30am	Joint Service with the Old Catholics	St. Catherine's
	St. Catherine's Women's Group meets every month on a Thursday or Friday. Please contact Alison Seyerle for details of the meetings.	

ANY QUESTIONS/COMMENTS ABOUT CROSSROADS?

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