

Thought for January 2022
By Revd. Claire Claxton

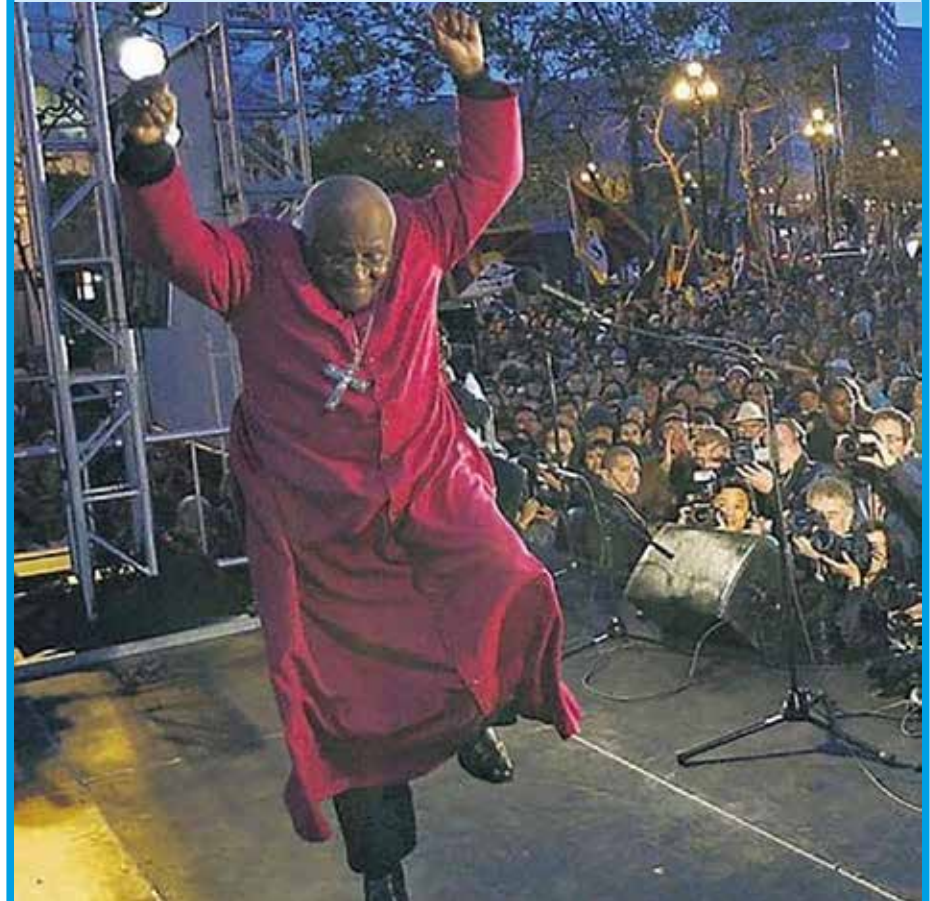
The Christmas Tree Festival in church has ended and the displays have been dismantled. In our homes, as the tinsel, lights, baubles and nativity figures get put away until next December, it is easy to think that Christmas is over. If that is what you are thinking, whether sadly or gladly, you are mistaken. The Bible tells us that the birth of Jesus at Christmas was a launch pad for God's great rescue mission for the world.

Our world is broken and hurting in so many different ways and we have seen the impact of sickness and disease and the effects of injustice and inequality, and yet Jesus' birth shows us that God gets involved in human life. He is involved not just in the sparkly and wonderful but in the messy, confused, sorrowful and ordinary parts too. The reassurance of Christmas is in the meaning of the name of the promised Saviour, "Emmanuel" promising that, even when we are separated from those we love, even when life is disrupted, 'God is With Us.' In the face of our fears and anxieties, it is easy to allow any joy in life to slip away. Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who will be much missed, was an inspiration not only to Christians but to everyone. He seemed to exude joy. I particular like a photo I saw recently that shows him dancing during an address he was giving (see front cover) and I love the poem that accompanied it:

I sometimes forget that I was created for Joy.
My mind is too busy.
My Heart is too heavy for me to remember
that I have been called to dance the Sacred dance of life.
I was created to smile....To Love...To be lifted up
And to lift others up.
O' Sacred One Untangle my feet from all that ensnares.
Free my soul.
That we might Dance and that our dancing might be contagious.
'Hafiz'

I WISH YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR AND PRAY THAT GOD WILL BLESS YOU IN
2022. MAY YOU KNOW THE JOY THAT HE PROMISES.

STE MARGUERITE DE LA FORÊT



JANUARY-2022

CONTACTS

Rector: Revd. Claire Claxton

Tel: 238815

e.mail: carillon@cwgsy.net

Licenced Lay Minister (LLM)

Mrs Margaret Boden-Heaume

Tel: 265370

e.mail: mbodenheaume@outlook.com

Peoples' Warden:

Mr Keith Bienvenu

Tel: 238838

e.mail: krbienvenu@cwgsy.net

Rector's Warden:

Mrs Linda Archard

Tel: 266135

e.mail: lmcc@cwgsy.net

Flowers in church in January

January 2nd Festival (final Sunday)

January 9th Nancy Smith

January 16th Nancy Smith

January 23rd Liz Chamberlain

January 30th Liz Chamberlain



A Prayer for Today

Lord God of all, we pray for all who face difficulties in their personal lives – those who are sick, those with problems in their families, in their friendships, in their neighbourhoods or in their workplace. Help us all to be calm in times of uncertainty, patient with those around us and steadfast in the knowledge that you share each and every moment and emotion with us. We ask you to guide us so that we can give love, help and support to others around us who are in greater need than ourselves.

Did you Know...

the Forest Church once had it's own band, a group of woodwind players who sat in a gallery above a room at the back of the church where the electric box now is. Previous excavations revealed a chimney flue in that corner and the room was used at some time for douzaine meetings.

If you look up and to your right as you enter church you will see the old instuments high on the wall next to the door. For the musicians among you the instruments are:

One clarinet in B flat with six brass keys

Two flutes with a single key.

One flageolet with one key; the top tone hole of this has been plugged to raise the pitch (key now D major?)

One piccolo with five keys and one cross touch.

Such instruments as these were generally used in parish churches to provide the music before organs came into general use.

Our own organ has recently been renovated by a visiting organ expert and sounds splendid played by our own John de Lisle every Sunday. Listen for the often appropriate music at the end of a service, e.g. The Dam Busters march on Remembrance Day or Sarnia Cherie for Liberation.



January Dates and News

Knit and Natter

Due to Covid numbers we are cancelling the January meeting, hoping to see you all in February.

Coffee Morning

Wednesday 12th January, (please check to confirm).

Our next coffee morning will take place from 10.30am to 12 noon in church.

Do come and join us for a cuppa, some cake and a chat. All are welcome!

Strategy for Nature

Following a successful application, we have been awarded a grant by the States Strategy for Nature Fund to help us to increase bio-diversity in the land around the church. St. John's Church has introduced some of the ideas that we would like to implement and have invited us to visit at a later date so that we can see for ourselves. Anyone who would like to come along please let Claire know.

Headway

The combined singers at the Forest Stores on Saturday morning December 18th raised £100. Funds raised will be for Headway Guernsey, supporting local people who have experienced brain injuries and their families.

Thank you

Thanks to our dedicated bell ringers who come every Sunday to call everyone to worship, it would be sorely missed if the bells didn't ring out as they have done for many years. We are delighted and congratulate a long time ringer Anne-Marie, who won the Christmas Hamper.

Teddy

The draw for "Name the Teddy" will take place on Sunday 2nd January.





Welcome to Forest Parish Church Services in January 2022

Sunday 2nd January 11am Family Service

Reader ?

Prayers: Nicola Hoyland Birch

6pm we are invited to join the Methodist Church for their
Covenant Service

Sunday 9th January 11am Parish Communion,

Reader: Keith Bienvenu Isaiah 43 v1-7 Acts 8 v14-17

Prayers: Margaret Boden Heaume

Sunday 16th January 9am Puppets and Praise

11am Parish Communion

Reader: Syd Bowsher

Isaiah 62 v1-5 1 Corinthians 12 v1-11

Prayers: Vivienne Rees

Evensong 6.30pm

Reader: Vivienne Rees Daniel 9 v9-10, 13, 14

Sunday 23rd January 9am Traditional Communion

11am Parish Communion

Reader: Stephen Le Poidevin

Nehemiah 8 v1-3,5-6, 8-10

1 Corinthians 12 v12-31a

Prayers: Peter Gallienne

Sunday 30th January 11am Parish Communion

Reader: Debbie Dorey

Ezekiel 43 v27- ch 44 v4

1 Corinthians 13

Prayers: Keith Bienvenu

Sunday 6th February 11am Family Service Candlemas

Reader ?

Prayers: Katie Blampied

Evensong 6.30pm

Reader: Geoff Harrison Malachi 3 1-5 Luke 2 v22-40

Morning Prayer

Every Monday and Thursday morning at 9am, a short service of
Morning Prayer is said in church, a good way to start the day.