



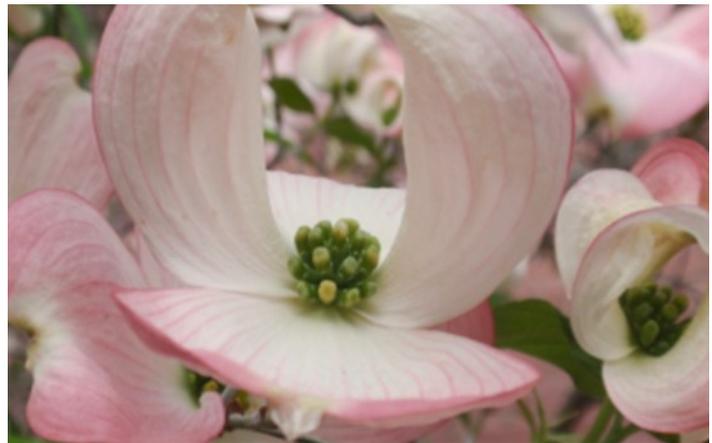
# NEWSLETTER Advent 2019

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world: indeed it's the only thing that ever does.  
*(Margaret Mead)*

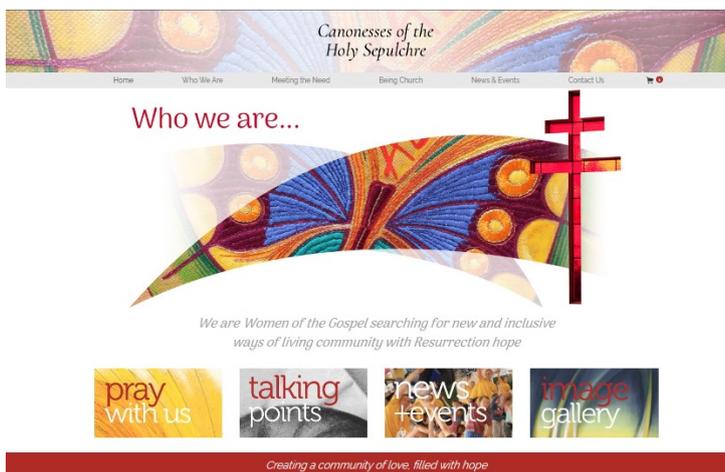


Dear seasons that pass over our fields and through our hearts, you are the word of God spoken to us from the cathedral of the great outdoors. Stir up our love for life this Advent. Fill us with joy and passion, wisdom and stillness. Reveal to us our own endurance, patience, and ability to trust. Prepare us for your coming through reflection and solitude as we move into the mystery of your Incarnation. Teach us to say "Yes" to the unfolding work of the Creator in our lives.

## PAUSE FOR THOUGHT



## OUR NEW WEBSITE



Our new website has now gone live! The website has more versatile news and events pages which we hope you will enjoy. The look will be familiar in places but there are new pages too - where we hope to engage your interest in a variety of topical issues eg climate change. Do let us know what you think.



'Prepare the way of the Lord, he says, as though he were saying: 'I speak out in order to lead him into your heart, but he does not choose to come where I lead him unless you prepare the way for him'.

**St AUGUSTINE**

## IN THANKSGIVING FOR BRIAN'S LIFE



The Community joined the Beattie family for Brian's funeral in November. Brian was a Companion and friend of the Community over many years.

At his funeral service, we heard that: "Brian endured a lot with his health and was "bowed but not broken". And that "His unwavering belief and trust in his God became a beacon of hope and example to all of us who knew him".

The following quotation is from Brian's service sheet: 'Death is not extinguishing the light but putting out the lamp because the dawn has come'.

## FROM OUR ARCHIVES

The 17<sup>th</sup> century silver gilt Liège Chalice pictured here is embossed with foliage decoration and mounted with pearls and amethysts. It is inscribed in French on its base *Donné par le Reverend Mère Susan Hawley 1678*.

The story goes that the original jewels were sold at a time when the Community was in desperate need of money, but in the Benefactors Book 1875-1955 there is an account that in 1928 the (sham) jewels were replaced by authentic ones again.



## FURTHER RESEARCH INTO OUR ARCHIVES



In January 2020, Dr Cormac Begadon will start a year's research project using our rich and unique archive material which is for the most part now being looked after in Durham.

Cormac will keep us abreast of his work throughout the year and there will be at least two opportunities for everyone to hear a public presentation from him.

## CLIMATE CHANGE

Our theme for this year is Climate Change and we began our sessions by looking together at the first Al Gore film; 'An Inconvenient Truth'.

Although the film is several years old it sets out the issues clearly and is updated by the sequel entitled 'An Inconvenient Sequel'.

We recommend both DVD's as a good introduction to the topic.



As a follow up, we invited Jack Wakefield of 'Tearfund Action' to lead a session entitled 'Climate Change - No Planet B'.

A good crowd of interested people followed his passionate exposé and practical suggestions of how each of us can contribute to helping alleviate the destruction of our planet.

A summary of his talk will be available later this week on the Climate Change page of our new website: <https://canonesses.co.uk/climate-change/>

## MASS FOR THE DEAD

Our Annual Mass for the Dead at New Hall was well attended, and we were very pleased to welcome Mgr Kevin McGinnell, a longstanding friend of the Community, as Celebrant.

After Mass we took advantage of a bright clear day to visit the Cemetery where Fr Kevin blessed all the graves.



## HELPING AT LOCAL FOODBANK

The Foodbank recently arrived in Greenstead two days a week. It is welcomed by the residents of the estate.

S. Diana and S. M. Gabriel have joined the team of helpers.



## WISDOM COOKERY

The Wisdom Group in Melbourne enjoyed their first cookery session in the newly built Langton Hall.

Under expert guidance, they made individual chicken pies and seasonal chocolate truffles.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Sundays of Advent December 8th and 15th:** Meditative Evening Prayer at 74 Howe Close, Colchester, CO4 3XD. Tea from 4pm, Prayer 4.30pm.

**Wednesday 11th December:** Quiet Day at 74 Howe Close, Colchester, CO4 3XD, 10am to 3pm.

**Sunday 15th December:** Advent Reflection followed by mulled wine and mince pies at Blessed Sacrament Church, CM1 2DU at 7pm.

**Wednesday 25th December:** 12pm - 2pm for a drink, snack and festive company, Langton Hall, Melbourne, Chelmsford.

All welcome to any of the above - for details and booking please contact [crssuk@canonesses.co.uk](mailto:crssuk@canonesses.co.uk) or phone 01206 867296

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