



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)



PAUSE FOR THOUGHT



What does it say about a God who's willing to be this vulnerable with us? To come into the world through the statistical risk of ancient child bearing? To wait and grow in the human womb? To also be fearfully and wonderfully made... just like we are? Grace slowly forming and taking shape. Embedded in the womb of a middle eastern teenage woman, trusted to care for its fragile knitting process.

What it says about a God who is willing to be this vulnerable is that God is willing to open up deeply to connect with us.

The real question for us this Advent is: are we willing to do the same?

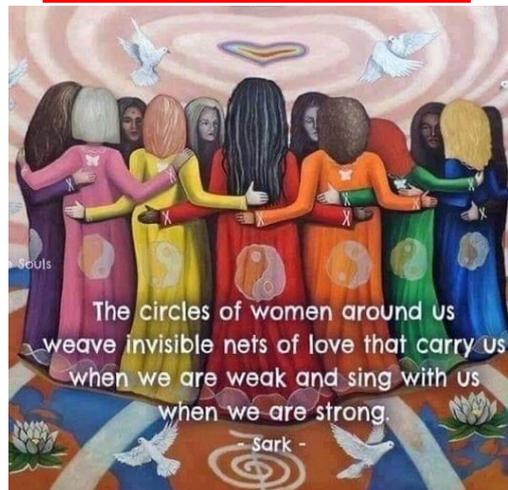
Scott Erickson

St AUGUSTINE



"My brothers and sisters, believe firmly what you believe-that Christ will return. What does it matter when? Prepare yourself for his coming. Live as though He were coming today, and you will not fear His coming." Sermon 265, 3-4

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



UNDERSTANDING FAITH-BASED COMMUNITIES



We were delighted to welcome John McCafferty, who is Professor of History at University College, Dublin, to give a talk in our series on *COMMUNITY*. His title was:

'Understanding faith-based communities through their stories'.

John helped us gain an understanding of why, and how, different faith-based communities grow, develop, sustain themselves, change, adapt or dissolve. We explored with him the relationship between faith-based communities and the individual and looked at new and emerging stories: faith-based communities during and post-pandemic.

We were joined by many friends on ZOOM for the session and although we were disappointed not to be together 'in the real' we were pleased to connect with so many far-flung friends and contacts. The discussion session after John's talk was lively and thought-provoking.

The session is available on our website via this link:

[Understanding faith-based communities through their stories - Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre](#)

OUR ARCHIVES



We are delighted to tell you that we have asked Dr Cormac Bégadon to work with us for a further year delving into the deepest recesses of our history through our rich archive material.

Cormac's research this time will focus on the period immediately after the Liège period.

COP26



We have all been praying along with the rest of the world for some positive outcomes to the recent COP Conference and would like to share this prayer with you which is in Winchester Cathedral:

'God of creation, your works are wonderful and in wisdom you have made them all. Forgive our abuse of Mother Earth for short-term ends. Give us wisdom to cherish, with reverence and delight, the abundant gifts of our fragile planet. Bless us with the will to change, and give us we pray hearts to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with you.'

Winchester Cathedral COP26 prayer

EVENING PRAYER ON ZOOM



You are very welcome to join us for Evening Prayer on ZOOM on either a Monday or a Thursday evening at 5.30pm.
The links are available on our website at:
<https://canonesses.co.uk/category/pray-with-us/>

MASS FOR THE DEAD

We were joined by a lot of friends and local people for our Mass for the Dead at New Hall - held every year on the first Saturday of November. This year was especially poignant after we were unable to be together last year. Father Stephen Morrison O.Praem was the celebrant, and after Mass he went to the cemetery to bless the graves of the friends and relatives buried there. We were able to show a paper copy of our COVID prayer tapestry which is currently being sewn and will be complete by the end of the year.



CEMETERY NOTICEBOARD

We have recently installed a fine new noticeboard outside the Beaulieu entrance to the cemetery. It gives practical informative information as well as an historical outline of the history of the cemetery - it is well worth a visit and can be seen on a stroll through the adjacent community gardens in Beaulieu Park.



WISDOM CLUB ROCKS!

The Wisdom Club in Melbourne sang along enthusiastically to the strains of Rule Britannia played on the tuba and trombone by our very own bursar Anne Bray and her daughter Claire. It was a very happy morning and people were clamouring for more at the end of the session.

ZOOM links on our website:

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<https://canonesses.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/ZOOM-LINKS-ADVENT-REFLECTIONS-AND-PRAYER-2021.pdf>

Advent Meditative Reflections Every Sunday on ZOOM at 5.30pm for 30 - 45 minutes.

November 28th - Learning to Wait

December 5th - Seeking the Light

December 12th - Finding Joy

December 19th - Preparing for the Coming of the Christchild

Themed prayer for Advent on ZOOM Tuesdays during Advent at 7.30pm for 30 minutes.

November 30th - Waiting

December 7th - Seeking the Light

December 14th - Finding Joy

December 21st - Preparing for the Coming of the Christchild

SUNDAY JANUARY 9th Dr Gemma Simmonds - Global community in a time of crisis: towards a better future, 2.30 - 4pm.

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 8th Various representatives from local groups - The global is local: building hope through action in the local community, 6.45 - 8pm.

MY ABILITY TO
REMEMBER SONG
LYRICS FROM THE
60S FAR EXCEEDS
MY ABILITY TO
REMEMBER WHY I
WALKED INTO THE
KITCHEN.

END WITH
A SMILE!!

