



**Image of the day - President opens Carrig Eden facility**

Tiglin Challenge volunteer and St Patrick's NS Principal Rachel Harper chats to President Michael and Tiglin Chair Aubrey McCarthy at the opening ceremony.

## People and places

# Greystones community and churches celebrate as President opens Carrig Eden facility

**The President, Michael D Higgins, and his wife Sabina visited Carrig Eden in Greystones as their first public engagement since the Covid–19 pandemic.**

At the opening ceremony to dedicate the building to its future work President Higgins spoke passionately about the need to confront the problems of addiction that surround us in everyday life. He instanced the coverage of sport on television that is often accompanied by alluring advertising for gambling. We need to recognise and build communities and a society that behaves more responsibly in the face of the temptations that lead to addictions, he said.

During their two–hour visit the President and Mrs Higgins spoke with residents and staff and planted a sapling cherry tree. The President said that Tiglin Carrig Eden was something that Wicklow and Tiglin could be proud of. “You have this magnificent facility available for all of the people who want to use it. I hope that when county managers and councillors meet they will take this example and ask if they could not do something like this in their own area,” he commented.

Following a substantial refurbishment and retro–fit for Tiglin Challenge, Carrig Eden, a landmark building on Greystones seafront, has been relaunched as a



The opening ceremony began with prayer led , on behalf of Greystones Churches Together, by the rector of Greystones, Canon David Mungavin.

a transitional housing centre for men on the recovery stage of the Tiglin programme. It is a vision of what can be done to serve the needs of a community within a community. Carraig Eden is a 34–unit aftercare centre which complements the residential rehabilitation services for men in Ashford and for women in Brittas Bay.

Formerly Carraig Eden was a holiday home under the ‘Christian Endeavour Ireland’ banner. It provided traditional seaside holidays (relatively inexpensively), to families from all over Ireland, mostly Church of Ireland or reformed churches it seems. People from all corners of the country still link Greystones with nostalgic memories of Carraig Eden holidays.

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The Rector of Greystones, Canon David Mungavin, highlighted the continuation of Christian outreach from the prominent building. “It is something of a miracle that the building continues to be a place of Christian outreach and service. Through Tiglin Challenge this place of tranquillity and beauty is devoted to the rehabilitation of those progressing through the addiction programmes that Tiglin offers to so many across Ireland,” he said. Canon Mungavin led the opening prayers at the ceremony on behalf of Greystones Churches Together.

In a related recent development it has been announced that the nearby YWCA site in Greystones at Coolnagreina on Trafalgar Road will also come under the Tiglin umbrella. It will continue to be a place of Christian service both in its current format and in providing women’s care and facilities related to the work of the Tiglin charity. “This is a remarkable development, given that so many buildings and sites in prime and prestigious locations tend to be developed into exclusive private accommodation....a little victory for the Kingdom!” Canon Mungavin remarked.

## **Disestablishment 150: A Virtual Tour**

**The theme of Heritage Week 2021 is Open the Door to Heritage. “Disestablishment 150: A Virtual Tour” opens the door to some of the Church of Ireland’s most iconic built heritage. This new short film is available to watch below.**

150 years ago, on 1st January 1871, the Church of Ireland was officially disestablished, meaning it was no longer tied



## Caoimhe Leppard, Coordinator of the D150 National Programme

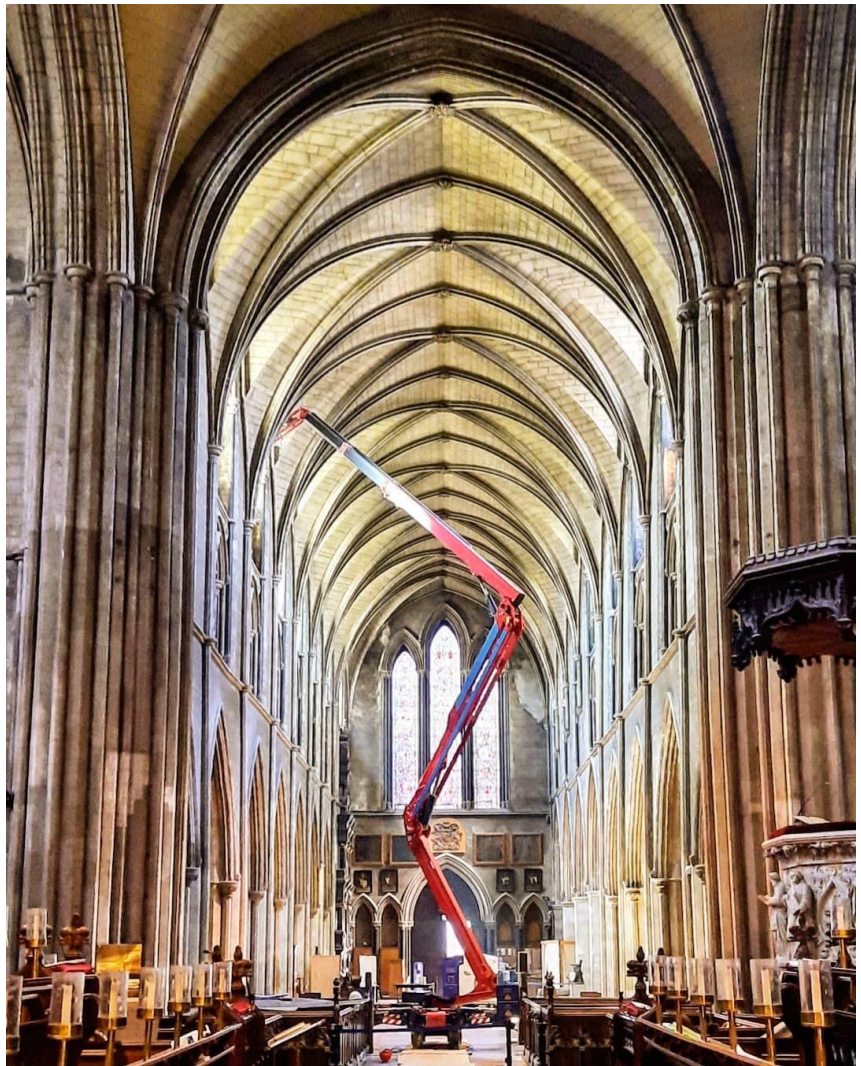
to the Church of England or to the state. Disestablishment was a time of religious, political, and social changes – in which a formerly established church became a voluntary one – and walking through these buildings associated with that period can really help us flesh out this story and bring it to life in our times.

This virtual walking tour looks at the Cathedral of Christ Church Cathedral as a monument restored post–Disestablishment, a powerful symbol saying: “We are still here.”

Dr Stuart Kinsella, Christ Church Cathedral’s Research Advisor, expertly provides the finer details of this elaborate restoration and the contribution provided by the distiller and patron Henry Roe and architect George Edmund Street.

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We are also taken inside of the former Synod Hall purposely built after Disestablishment for the new democratic representation of clergy and lay, now home to Dublin. A visit to St Audeon's provides us with an example of and insight into an Irish parish church during the time of Disestablishment.



The final stop of the tour takes us to St Patrick's Cathedral rebuilt and elaborately restored, due to the generosity of Benjamin Lee Guinness of the famous Guinness family, before Disestablishment as a bulwark to Disestablishment.

Restoration and preservation are a constant concern for the guardians of the Cathedral. We also speak to Cathedral Administrator, Gavan Woods, who shares with us the scale of the most recent restoration of Saint Patrick's Cathedral, the largest scale restoration the Cathedral has seen since the Guinness Restoration.

## LINKS

To You Tube -

[churchnewsireland@gmail.org](mailto:churchnewsireland@gmail.org)

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[\[https://dublin.anglican.org/news/2021/08/16/watch-disestablishment-150-a-virtual\]](https://dublin.anglican.org/news/2021/08/16/watch-disestablishment-150-a-virtual)

Disestablishment 150

A National Programme of initiatives to mark the 150th anniversary of the Disestablishment of the Church of Ireland through the Irish Church Act 1869.

[www.ireland.anglican.org/d150](http://www.ireland.anglican.org/d150)

## **Canon Barbara Fryday says she will miss Clonmel and the parishioners**

**Barbara Fryday admits that it was with some reluctance that she moved to Clonmel 15 years ago, Eamonn Wynne writes in Tipperary Live.**

But now, as she prepares to leave when she retires as Canon of Old St Mary's and the Church of Ireland Clonmel Union of Parishes, she says she will miss the town and its people.

Canon Fryday is retiring on her birthday this Friday, August 13, when she will leave the rectory in Silversprings and move back to her home in Dundrum in west Tipperary.

She leaves with many fond memories of her time in Clonmel, including the annual Christmas party in the rectory and summer fundraisers.

She was also a mould-breaker, as she was the first female rector appointed in Clonmel when she succeeded Rev George Knowd in 2006.

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Born Barbara Kearon in Gorey in county Wexford, the family lived in Courtown before moving to Ferrybank on the north side of Waterford city when she was six.

This was a significant event in her life, as she recalls it was the first time she encountered the luxuries of electricity, running water and a bath.

Pre-ordination, Canon Fryday was a primary school teacher and served for a number of years in Scoil Chormaic in Cashel in the 1980s.

She was ordained a deacon in 1992 and the following year was ordained a priest.

In the early days of the priesthood she served as a non-stipendiary in the Cashel Union of Parishes before moving to Kilcooley in the Slieveardagh area of Tipperary.

During her time in Clonmel she also served as chairperson of the board of management of the Parochial School on the Western Road in Clonmel.

Canon Fryday is married to John and the couple have two daughters and a son, Laura, Maeve and Howard.

She says she will miss her parishioners (of which there are more than 200 in the Clonmel Union) and she will miss Clonmel.

Her successor won't be appointed until after she has departed.

Plans for the future include taking life easy and devoting more time to gardening at her Dundrum home.



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She is wished all the very best in her well-earned retirement.  
Courtesy Tipperary Live. August 12, 2021

## News briefs

**Nations' Climate Sunday Service** - Sunday 5 September – 4pm. We're so excited to gather together live online and in Glasgow Cathedral, to celebrate and share the commitment of churches ahead of COP26. Will you be there? Sign up to join online: <https://nationsclimatesunday.eventbrite.co.uk>

**COP26** - In the run-up to COP26, young Christians are taking part in a relay from Cornwall to Glasgow, and inviting fellow young activists in Scotland and the north of England to join them for an online networking event on Thursday 19 August.

**Polish Catholics** - are mourning the death by covid of Archbishop Henryk Hoser, a former Vatican envoy who helped rebuild the church in post-genocide Rwanda and later represented the pope at the Marian shrine in Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

**Hospitals in Haiti** - have become overwhelmed with people injured in a devastating 7.2 magnitude earthquake, with doctors forced to perform surgery in makeshift theatres outside. The death toll soared to nearly 1,300 as searches continue.

**Support for Afghans** - Doug Beattie MC MLA calls on the NI Executive to offer a safe home to “those brave Afghans

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who worked and fought alongside the allied forces in Afghanistan”.

'Despite what we have witnessed, I still believe the soldiers on the ground in Afghanistan helped to give the Afghans the building blocks to create a better and sustainable Afghanistan,' says Andy Allen MLA who lost his legs during his service there

## Reports

### **Universal Credit: Church leaders urge Rishi Sunak to keep uplift**

**Church leaders from the north of England, including Anglicans, Roman Catholics, Baptists, Salvation Army and Methodists, have made an appeal in a joint letter, written as thousands of people are due to be hit with a deduction in finances when the £20 uplift ends on the autumn, the Northern Echo reports.**

The letter to Rishi Sunak says: "Chancellor you have had to confront deep challenges. We recognise that you have made some very tough decisions and thank you for the work done on the furlough scheme and the £20 uplift in Universal Credit.

"Both have been hugely significant in helping the nation through the pandemic.

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"In relation to Universal Credit we are deeply concerned at the impact the proposal to now cut the £20 uplift will have on the poorest in our nation. This will come at the very point when the furlough scheme ends. It will also coincide with significant increased costs for electricity and gas just when the weather begins to turn."

They add: "We note that this concern has been expressed widely by all organisations who work with the poorest, and those who monitor the impact of such policies on them."

"As Church Leaders in the North East we are aware through our churches on the ground serving communities of the continuing struggles faced by large numbers of families."

"Many of these are not unemployed but in low paid work and need the additional income provided by Universal Credit. We accept that this is a major cost to the nation as a whole but believe that those in most need must be protected by the nation."

"We urge you to make the £20 uplift permanent to ensure that UC really does achieve its purpose."

The signatories are:

The Right Reverend Paul Butler, Bishop of Durham

The Right Reverend Christine Hardman, Bishop of Newcastle

The Right Reverend Paul Ferguson, Bishop of Whitby

The Right Reverend Sarah Clark, Bishop of Jarrow

The Right Reverend Mark Wroe, Bishop of Berwick

The Right Reverend Terence Draine, Bishop of Middlesbrough and Chair of CSAN

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The Right Reverend Robert Byrne, Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle

Doctor Mark Bonnington, Independent Churches

Representative

Reverend John Claydon, Regional Minister, Northern Baptist Association

Reverend Richard Andrew, Chair, Darlington Methodist District

Reverend Stephen Lindridge, Chair, Newcastle upon Tyne Methodist District

Reverend Dave Herbert, Moderator, Northern Synod of the United Reformed Church

Major David Burns, Divisional Commander, Salvation Army

Reverend Paul Revill, Regional Minister, Northern Baptist Association

## **Without the parish church, we lose our roots and even more of our relevance - Angela Tilby**

**“Door to the Kingdom kept open” is the title of Canon Angela Tilby’s column in the current issue of the Church Times. She writes-**

Those who follow the career of the detective Hillary Greene (creation of the crime writer Faith Martin) will understand the attraction of a canalside walk through Thrupp, on the River Cherwell. Hilary lives on a canal boat, The Mollern, while solving crimes in Kidlington near by.

Last Saturday, meeting with friends for coffee and lunch, we walked through sun and showers along the tow-path. North-

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west from Annie's Tea Rooms, we stumbled on a hidden treasure: Holy Cross, Shipton-on-Cherwell. We entered the church through an open door, and found a medieval interior restored in Gothic-revival style.

Light streamed from the east windows, drawing our eyes to the sanctuary and the altar. Everything was spectacularly clean, tidy, and well-ordered. Near the entrance were attractively produced service booklets for Sunday morning prayer and holy communion. The annual parish report of the previous year was on display for all to see, as was the parish paper. None was damp or crumpled. A notice reminded us to pray for all who had died from Covid-19. There was hand sanitiser in abundance, but also, outside the porch, a bowl of water for visiting dogs.

This was a parish church that signalled that the two things that matter most are worship and welcome. Anyone could find sanctuary here, and, if they wished, find signs of faith, silently proclaimed. I later discovered that Holy Cross is part of the benefice of Yarnton with Begbroke, and that services are held there on only two Sundays out of four. Yet, to me, the church was alive and breathed community, service, and uncluttered holiness.

The Church of England is an incarnational Church, proclaiming and finding God in the physical and material realities of people's lives. There may be other ways of "expressing" church, but we must always be discerning. Even the freshest of expressions is likely to go off — a sell-by date is implied by the very name. We are part of a fickle society that craves spiritual experience at the same time as it becomes more secular.

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What the parish church has to offer has become counter-cultural. It is costly to prioritise place, continuity, and landscape. It takes sacrifice and loving service from volunteers and hard-working clergy. Yet parishes are where generations continue to learn the habits of worship and service, bringing to God not only their own joys and griefs, but also those of their neighbours and the world beyond.

Last week, Save the Parish was launched: an initiative to ensure that parishes remain central to the Church's mission (News, 6 August). Without the parish church, we lose our roots and even more of our relevance. My fee from this article will go to the PCC of Shipton-on-Cherwell, with love and grateful thanks, for keeping open a portal to the Kingdom, both within and beyond.

## Tribute

### **John L Leckey: Former coroner who presided over the Omagh bombing inquest**

**John L Leckey, who died on August 5, had served as senior coroner for Northern Ireland until his retirement in 2015. He conducted the inquest into the Omagh bombing of 1998 by dissident republicans, in which 29 people, including a woman pregnant with twins, were killed, Deaglán de Bréadún writes in the Irish Independent.**

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Born in Belfast Royal Maternity Hospital on August 25, 1948, John Land Leckey was the first child of Norman and Sheila (née Land). His arrival was followed five years later by a sister, Ruth, and later still by a brother, Richard. Both of his siblings also became solicitors and Richard sadly predeceased him.

Brought up on a farm at Magheragall in Co Antrim, John attended Friends' School in Lisburn, founded by Quakers in 1774 (his own denomination was Church of Ireland). He commenced law studies at Queen's University Belfast in 1967 and qualified as a solicitor in 1974.

Leckey practised as a partner in the Belfast firm John McKee and Son, and in 1984 was appointed deputy coroner for Greater Belfast. He left private law practice in 1992 to work full-time as a coroner and became senior coroner for Northern Ireland in 2006, a post he held until his retirement in 2015, making a total of 31 years of coroner's service.

He co-authored with Desmond Greer the textbook Coroners' Law and Practice in Northern Ireland, which was published by SLS Legal Publications (NI) in 1998. He could have also written a very readable account of his career as a coroner but always said he would never profit from the bereaved.

The point in his career which drew the greatest public and media attention was his time as coroner at the inquest into the Omagh bombing, which began on September 7, 2000, just over two years after the atrocity had taken place on August 15, 1998.

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The inquest, which lasted almost four weeks, took place at the Omagh Leisure Centre, and Leckey started off by apologising for the choice of venue because this was where families had gathered in the wake of the bombing but no other suitable inquest location was available.

Recalling the tragic chain of events on the day of the bombing, Leckey said that, following three telephone warnings, the police were clearing Market Street, which was packed with Saturday afternoon shoppers, as the 200kg bomb exploded. Among the 29 people killed was mother-of-four Avril Monaghan (30), who was in an advanced state of pregnancy and expecting twins; more than 300 people were wounded.

Barry Fox, a solicitor representing Michael Monaghan, husband of Avril, asked Mr Leckey to include the unborn babies in the inquest's proceedings. Mr Leckey requested a full application from him and said he would make a decision later.

He subsequently declared he would press the courts to prosecute the bombers with the destruction of unborn twins. He had no doubt 31 people were killed in the bombing and would write to the Director of Public Prosecutions urging him to consider charging anyone apprehended for the atrocity with child destruction.

In a report for the New York Times, as the inquest was coming to an end, Sarah Lyall wrote: "For many people numbed by decades of terrorist war, the gentleness of the coroner, John Leckey — who never fails to thank the witnesses or to say how sorry he is as he elicits the details



of each death — represents the first time they have heard anything approaching an official recognition of the war's emotional cost.”

In the same article, Michael Gallagher, whose 21-year-old son was killed in the bombing, expressed particular appreciation at how Leckey had emphasised in this and in as many other cases as possible that Aiden had died instantly, without consciousness.

Speaking on the recent death of the former coroner, Aiden's father said he was very sorry to hear of Mr Leckey's passing. “He was hugely professional and respectful. He was a great person,” Mr Gallagher said. “Both him and his staff conducted a very difficult process with dignity, respect and professionalism.”

Unlike in England and Wales, inquest rules in Northern Ireland allowed only the most basic findings on what had taken place. Leckey, who was close to tears, told the victims' relatives on October 3, 2000: “The last four weeks have been a difficult time for us all. I personally found it an emotional experience the like of which I have never encountered previously and which I will never forget. I have no doubt many others found it that way too.”

The coroner, who also left a tribute of flowers to the victims at a memorial garden in Omagh, continued: “The Real IRA claimed responsibility for the car bomb though they sought to pass responsibility to the police for the casualties. As far as I am concerned they were responsible for all that happened.”

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John Leckey was appointed on a part-time basis as the first Northern Ireland Commissioner to the newly established Criminal Cases Review Commission (CCRC) in 1997. The CCRC is the statutory body that investigates alleged miscarriages of justice in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and was set up after a series of convictions were found to be miscarriages of justice such as those of the Guildford Four and Birmingham Six.

In 2002 he was appointed as a Parole Commissioner, taking part in decisions on the release of life-sentence prisoners. Explaining why he took up these appointments, he said: “I felt I needed not to be confined to the grim coronial work I was encountering.”

In 2015, Ulster University honoured him with the award of Doctor of Laws in recognition of his outstanding public service. In the same year he was awarded, by his alma mater, ‘Queen’s University Graduate of the Year’ and was also made an Honorary Member of the Coroners’ Society of England and Wales.

He had other interests such as sailing (in his younger days), golf, theatre and music and found time in his busy life to give back to society through his involvement with various charities such as Cancer Focus and the Halifax Foundation for Northern Ireland. He was a past captain of Greenisland Golf Club and a founder member and past president of the Northern Ireland Medico-Legal Society, consisting of members of both professions.

In a statement on Mr Leckey’s death, the retired Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland Declan Morgan said: “John

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presided over a significant number of complex and contentious inquests during his time in office including the inquest into the Omagh bombing.

"His courteous manner was respected by families and those who appeared before him. John's book on coroners' law and practice in Northern Ireland was a much respected and valuable source for coroners and practitioners alike."

Highly experienced northern journalist Deric Henderson said: "He was very even-handed, a thoroughly decent man who really did serve his community extremely well. I don't ever remember anybody criticising John Leckey: I'm not saying he wasn't criticised privately by some people but publicly I'm not aware of any criticism. For somebody holding such a public office, that's a testimony to the man's work."

John Land Leckey died peacefully at home shortly before his 73rd birthday. He is survived by wife Jane and sons Simon and Peter.

Leckey himself expressed a wish for a private family cremation. Instead of flowers, mourners were invited to send donations to Queen's University Foundation, Prostate Cancer Research c/o Fleming & Cuthbert Funeral Directors.

Courtesy the Irish Independent, August 15 2021.



## Poem for today

# In Killarney by Francis Duggan

Rain clouds like dark woolly fleeces are in the southern sky  
Where the pied oystercatchers are piping as they fly  
Above the beach at Killarney on Sunday the first of May  
In the grayness before sunset in the fading light of day  
Autumn in south western Victoria is a pleasant time of year  
The weather not too chilly though the Winter days are near  
The humidity of Summer died in the Autumn rain  
From a personal point of view it is nice to have the cooler  
weather back with us again  
A calm Autumn evening by the ocean the weather nice and  
cool  
In Killarney between Port Fairy and the City of Warrnambool  
On the beach a woman walking her golden Labrador the only  
person apart from me  
It is usually a quiet old place Killarney by the Pacific Sea  
The silver gulls are mewling and the pied oystercatchers call  
On Mayday in south west Victoria in Killarney in the Fall

## Pointers for prayer

For the week following the 11th Sunday after Trinity.

Creator God,  
you call us to love and serve you  
with body, mind, and spirit  
through loving your creation  
and our sisters and brothers.  
Open our hearts in compassion  
and receive our petitions

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on behalf of the needs of the church and the world.  
Holy One,  
hear our prayers and make us faithful stewards  
of the fragile bounty of this earth  
so that we may be entrusted with the riches of heaven. Amen.

We praise your abiding guidance, O God,  
for you sent us Jesus, our Teacher and Messiah,  
to model for us the way of love for the whole universe.  
We offer these prayers of love  
on behalf of ourselves and our neighbours,  
on behalf of your creation and our fellow creatures.  
Loving God,  
open our ears to hear your word  
and draw us closer to you,  
that the whole world may be one with you  
as you are one with us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God of salvation,  
who sent your Son to seek out and save what is lost,  
hear our prayers  
on behalf of those who are lost in our day,  
receiving these petitions and thanksgivings  
with your unending compassion.  
Redeeming Sustainer,  
visit your people  
and pour out your strength and courage upon us,  
that we may hurry to make you welcome  
not only in our concern for others,  
but by serving them  
generously and faithfully in your name. Amen.

Living God,  
you are the giver of wisdom and true discernment,  
guiding those who seek your ways to choose the good.  
Mercifully grant that your people,  
feasting on the true bread of heaven,  
may have eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Almighty and everlasting God,  
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray  
and to give more than either we desire, or deserve:  
Pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,  
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid,  
and giving us those good things  
which we are not worthy to ask  
save through the merits and mediation  
of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.



## Speaking to the Soul

**I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.**

Philippians 4:11-13 NLT

Advertising is a major influence in the modern world. Its deliberate intention is to stir up discontent. We are continually urged to buy newer, trendier, brighter, faster and

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more efficient products. Being consistently pounded with these messages it can be difficult to live contentedly but that must surely be the most desirable life of all. To live with contentment is to live a life without strain and stress because things are fine the way they are and don't need to change. Epicurus, the Greek philosopher, said, "He who doesn't find a little enough, will find nothing enough." There is wisdom in this quotation but Paul wouldn't have agreed with it. His contentment didn't flow from a particular philosophical understanding of life but from his relationship with Christ. Because he was completely secure in his faith it didn't matter what his personal circumstances were.

Because of the continual pressures of society and of the changing circumstances of our own lives, it is a daily challenge to live with contentment. However, it can be done just so long as we keep our lives focused on Jesus. I have met many people over the years who have been wonderful illustrations of this. For one reason or another their lives have suddenly changed. Sometimes it is because of a change in their relationships or their finances but I have been particularly moved by those who have suddenly seen their health taken away from them. This is probably the biggest shock of all. How is it possible to continue to be content after the sudden loss of mobility or of eyesight? Miraculously, it is possible but only when we have learnt to focus on Jesus rather than our circumstances.

## **QUESTION**

Are you content with your present life, and if not what do you think you could do to become contented?

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## PRAYER

Thank you Lord for the blessing of knowing you. Help me to find such pleasure in my relationship with you that I will always be content. Amen

