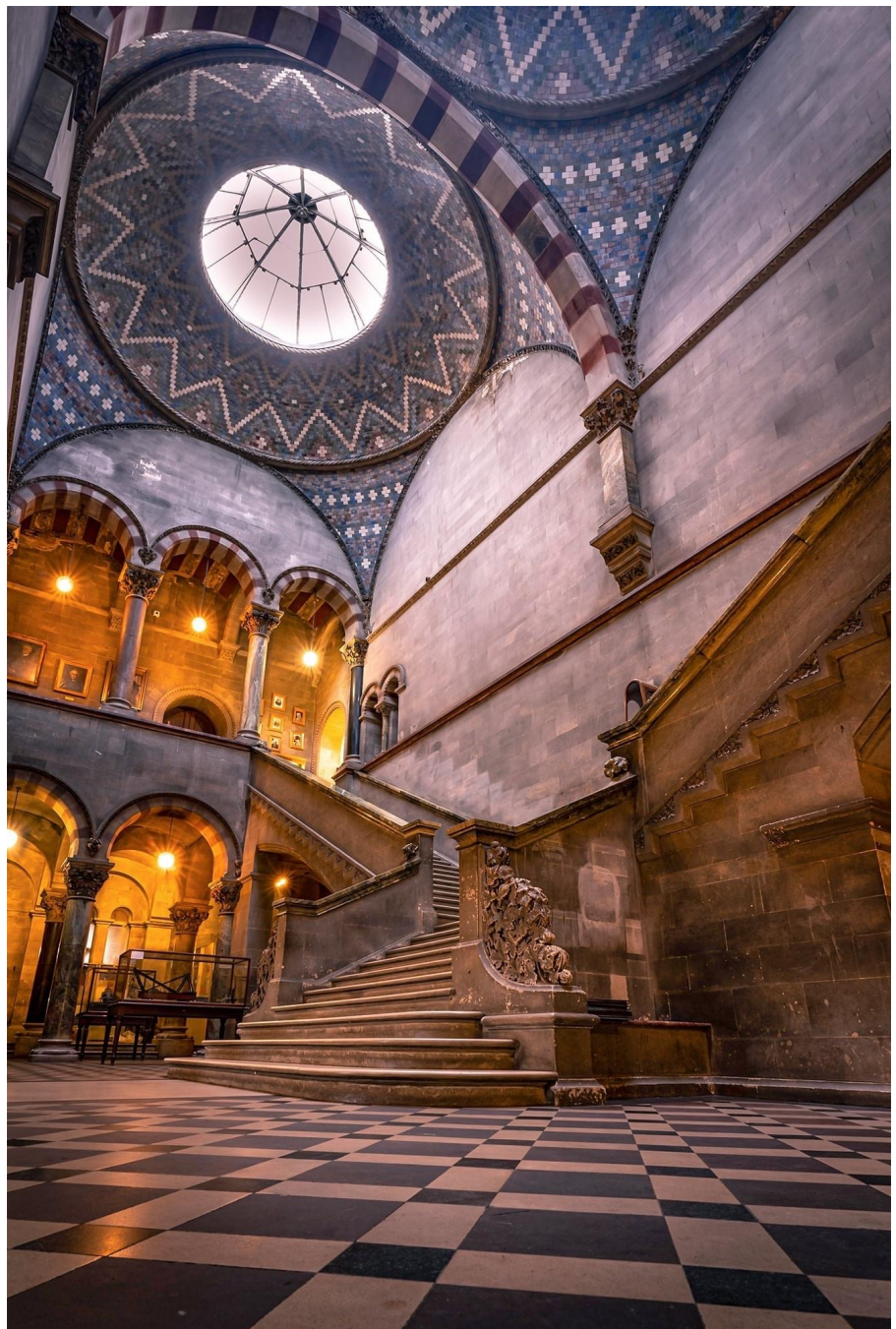


**Image of the
day -**

**the Museum
Building TCD**



The Pope and religious leaders call for better EU immigration policies

As the remains of a rickety boat, pulled from the floor of the Mediterranean Sea, were enshrined as a memorial to the hundreds of migrants who died when it sank, Pope Francis prayed that such tragedies would “challenge everyone’s conscience and foster the growth of a more supportive humanity that tears down the wall of indifference.”

“The Mediterranean has become Europe’s largest cemetery,” the pope told visitors gathered in St. Peter’s Square June 13 to pray the Angelus with him.

In Augusta, on the island of Sicily, local government officials and representatives of humanitarian organizations were about to inaugurate the memorial to the migrants who drowned when the rickety boat sank in April 2015. Only 28 of the estimated 1,000 people on board survived.

Father Bruno Ciceri, the Vatican-based international director of Stella Maris, was present at the ceremony and told Vatican News that the remains of the boat “belong to the whole world as a symbol” as “a question mark for everyone” about how to help people enjoy the right to remain in their homelands safely and with a dignified existence and how to improve safeguards for those forced to flee.

The European Council, made up of the heads of state of the European Union members, is scheduled to meet in Brussels

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June 24-25; a review of the EU migration policy is on the agenda.

When Cardinal Jean-Claude Hollerich of Luxembourg, president of the Commission of Bishops' Conferences of the European Union, and other officers of the commission met Pope Francis June 11, the continent's immigration policies were on the top of the agenda.

The EU policies must be rethought, the cardinal told reporters. "Countries like Italy, Spain, Malta and Greece are left on their own" in rescuing, welcoming, verifying and trying to integrate migrants. "This is a shame."

"We must keep our hearts open," he said. "The pandemic should have taught us that without social contact, we are reduced in our humanity, and at the doors of Europe we have people who have truly been separated from everything. It pains me. We must do something."

For the lay Community of Sant'Egidio, one of the first things is to move beyond the EU's 2013 Dublin Regulation, which stipulated that a migrant's first country of arrival was responsible for handling that person's claim for asylum and that even those granted refugee status were required to maintain residency in that country of first arrival for five years.

The rule meant that Italy, Spain, Greece and Malta — the countries with the most arrivals — also are the countries that bear the greatest burden for welcoming and integrating the newcomers, even if many of them have family and potential jobs in other EU countries.



Marco Impagliazzo, president of Sant'Egidio, said the community, which helps thousands of refugees each day, was calling on the EU to eliminate the five-year residency requirement when families in other EU countries want to sponsor their newly arrived relatives or when they have job offers in other countries.

“This is just good sense,” Impagliazzo told reporters June 14 at a Rome news conference. “People have been discussing this for years and doing nothing about it” while people are suffering.

EU leaders have said their late June discussions aim at promoting legal migration and stemming the flow of “irregular” migrants to Europe, but it really does only the latter, Impagliazzo said. “It must be reexamined.”

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As for Italy, he noted how leaders in the tourism industry, agriculture and nursing have been reporting a serious shortage of workers; he pleaded with the government to open pathways at least for seasonal workers in those fields.

“Legal pathways to immigration would discourage irregular migration,” he insisted.

The vocation of a politician is one of immense complexity, Archbishop McDowell

In a personal statement issued yesterday (Monday, 14th June 2021), the Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland, the Most Revd John McDowell, said:

“I have known Arlene Foster for a number of years, both as a senior politician and as a member of the Church of Ireland in the Diocese of Clogher when I was Bishop there. In both capacities, I have admired Mrs Foster’s commitment to her vocation as a political figure and as a diligent member of her parish.

“The vocation of a politician is one of immense complexity, nowhere more so than in a divided society like Northern Ireland. The demands of high office mean that much else is sacrificed by way of leisure and family commitments. I trust and pray that Arlene will have more time to employ her many talents in other contexts, but still with the appetite for the service of others which she has shown throughout her career.”

Safeguarding process finally concluded for Lincoln Canon

789 days after he was first asked to “step aside” from his role as Canon Chancellor, Church of England processes have cleared him completely. He had been acquitted of any criminal charge by a Cardiff jury in December 2020.

The Church Times reports - Safeguarding process drove us close to suicide, says Lincoln canon:

THE Canon Chancellor of Lincoln Cathedral, the Revd Dr Paul Overend, and his wife, Sue, contemplated suicide because of the safeguarding investigation that he faced, he said on Sunday.

On Saturday, it was announced that a church investigation had concluded that there was “no case to answer” after a protracted investigation by the police and the church authorities.

In a personal statement that was read out on Sunday, Canon Overend writes: “The diocese and the Church of England will now need to take stock of their safeguarding and CDM processes, which have harmed a great number of people and brought my wife and me close to suicide.”

He said on Monday that, at one point, his wife had been admitted to the Maytree Respite Centre in London for residential suicide-prevention care.



In his statement, he notes that his ordeal began 789 days earlier, when he was asked to step aside from his work as Canon Chancellor after an allegation that he had grabbed and kissed a Cardiff University student in 1997 (News, 10 January; 29 November, 2019).

He has always denied the charge, and was acquitted after a jury trial at Newport Crown Court last December (News, 4 December 2020).

As soon as the acquittal was announced, the Church initiated its own investigation under the Clergy Discipline Measure (CDM), saying: “With the criminal process concluded, time is now needed to consider any further response that is required by ecclesiastical law, and according to House of Bishops’ guidelines and practices.”

This took a further six months, until the announcement on Saturday: “After due process, a ruling has been made in the case brought under the Clergy Discipline Measure against the Revd Canon Dr Paul Overend, Chancellor of Lincoln Cathedral. It was determined by the Deputy President of Tribunals that there is no case to answer and no further

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steps should be taken. This has been a long and difficult process and our thoughts and prayers are with all those who have been affected by it.”

A spokesperson for the diocese of Lincoln said: “The events of the last two years have been extremely stressful and emotional for many people, in a variety of different ways.”

In his personal statement, Canon Overend repeats the points that he made after his acquittal in Cardiff: “Clergy work pastorally with people and make themselves vulnerable in so doing. I advise all clergy to join the Faithworkers Branch of Unite the Union and to take out insurance to protect themselves and their families.”

It is understood that the couple are still receiving therapy.

Orphaned son of asylum seeker granted indefinite leave to remain after Church campaign

The Home Office has listened to the appeals of the Church of Scotland and others, and told a 13-year-old orphan he can stay in the UK permanently.

Giorgi Kakava, who lived with the threat of deportation for 10 years, said a "big weight" had been lifted off his shoulders.

Originally from Georgia, in the Caucasus region, his mother Sopio Baikhadze fled the country with him in 2011.



She feared her son, who was only three at the time, would be killed or sold to sex traffickers by gangsters because her late husband owed them money.

Finding refuge in Glasgow, she was awaiting the outcome of an asylum application when she tragically died after a long illness in 2018.

Before passing away, she expressed her wish for her son to remain in Scotland and grow up a "Scottish boy".

The Church of Scotland took up his case and launched a national campaign led by Springburn Parish Church minister, the Rev Brian Casey, who lobbied the UK and Scottish governments on his behalf.

Giorgi's case garnered the support of politicians and the public alike, with an online petition being signed by over 90,000 people.

Commenting on the Home Office's decision, Giorgi said, "I was very excited when I heard that I have been granted permanent residency and can continue staying here.

People and places

Church Service affirmed in Queen's Birthday honours

A Church of Ireland clergyman and senior Army Chaplain, Rev Andrew Totten, was awarded the OBE in last week's honours list. He has ministered in every major deployment in areas of conflict over the past decade. He has been in charge of the programme equipping and development of the new tri-service training facility Beckett House and the related Forces Museum at Shrivenham.

Congratulations to Mrs Sharon Smith, Captain of 150th NI St Columba's, Belfast on receiving Medallist of the Order of the British Empire (BEM) for services to the Girls' Brigade NI and to the community in Whiterock, West Belfast.

Robert Alexander Yarr for services to Church Choral Music in Ballinderry Parish Church was awarded the BEM. Robert, a retired jewellery agent, and has been organist in Ballinderry for an incredible 60 years this month.

Rosemary Steele, organist in Magheragall and Stoneyford parishes, received a BEM for services to community relations. Rosemary started playing the organ at St Peter's, Ballymacward (The Rock Chapel), when she was just 16. Outside of the pandemic, Sunday is a busy day for

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Rosemary, as she plays at St Peter's at 10am, St John's, Stoneyford, at 11.30am and in more recent years, Magheragall at 6.30pm.

The Church of Ireland Board of Education (Northern Ireland) has congratulated the Principal of Banbridge Academy, Mr Robin McLoughlin, on his award of an OBE for services to education. Mr McLoughlin is a member of the Board of Education. Archbishop John McDowell, Chair of the Board, said: "I would like to add my congratulations to those of Robin McLoughlin's many friends within and beyond education. Robin's wise counsel and extensive knowledge and experience will continue to be greatly valued by the Church of Ireland Board of Education (Northern Ireland)."

The founder of the orchestra at All Souls Langham Place is among those recognised. Dr Noël Tredinnick joined All Souls, the church of the late John Stott, in 1972 as its organist and Director of Music, and would remain there for nearly half a century until his retirement in 2019. An annual highlight was the orchestra's performances at the popular Prom Praise concert, held each year at the Royal Albert Hall. Tredinnick received a British Empire Medal for services to church music and to music education.

Elizabeth Butterfield, Deputy Governor of Anglican youth organisation Church Lads and Church Girls Brigade, received an OBE for services to young people.

RUC GC Widows' Association chair Thelma Corkey - whose husband was shot dead with colleague manning police checkpoint in Markethill in 1982 - is also awarded the BEM.

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Professor Nigel Biggar, Regius Professor of Moral and Pastoral Theology, at Oxford, who has been appointed CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

New hymn inspired by C. S. Lewis marks centenary of Northern Ireland

A novel way in which the centenary of Northern Ireland has been marked has been by the commissioning of a new hymn by St Mark's parish, Dundela, in East Belfast. The hymn, 'The Lion in our Hearts', by Belfast musician Darren Day, reflects the parish's association with C. S. Lewis. This is one of the many topical stories in the current issue of the Church of Ireland Gazette, edited by Dubliner Emma Blain, which is published monthly both in hard copy and as an e-paper. Subscription details may be had at www.gazette.ireland.anglican.org

C of I Bishop welcomes appointment of Bishop of Ferns

Welcoming the news that Fr Ger Nash has been appointed bishop-elect of the diocese of Ferns Bishop Michael Burrows had this to say:

"I have just spoken to Bishop Brennan and Bishop-designate Nash on the phone. I thanked the former for his friendship and warm courtesy over the last fifteen years, and assured the latter of the congratulations and prayers of Church of Ireland people in Ferns.

"Ferns has always been a beacon of ecumenical cooperation and shared vision and I look forward to working

with Bishop Nash to ensure that this fine tradition continues.
"

Belleek confirmation

Belleek Parish welcomed the newly installed Bishop of Clogher Right Revd. Dr. Ian Ellis and his wife Heather for a service of Confirmation and Holy Communion. The service was led by the Rural Dean, Rev. Canon Alan Irwin. The candidates were Avril Thompson, Claire Thompson, Glen Brock and Sarah Johnston. The organist was Mrs. Sadie Moore and the Churchwardens were Rachel Love and Robert Johnston.

40th Anniversary of Ordination and new responsibilities

Congratulations to Fr Michael Canny who celebrates the 40th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood this week. Fr Michael has also been appointed by Bishop Donal as Vicar General of the Diocese in the last week. Mass was offered for him this evening in St Columb's Church Waterside.

Two new Canons installed in Saint Fin Barre's Cathedral, Cork

On Sunday, 13th June in Saint Fin Barre's Cathedral, Cork during an Evening Service broadcast live on the Cathedral webcam, two Canons were installed. Both had been appointed by the Bishop, Dr Paul Colton, in 2020.

Canon Andrew Orr was appointed an Honorary Canon in February 2020 under the provisions of a Statute passed in 2018 by the General Synod of the Church of Ireland.



Pictured is The Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross The Right Reverend DR Paul Colton (2nd from left) and The Very Reverend Nigel Dunne, Dean of Cork (3rd from left), with The Revd Canon Andrew Orr and The Revd Canon Denis MacCarthy, at the Cathedral Church of Saint Fin Barre, Cork following Evening Prayer with The Installation of The Revd Canon Denis MacCarthy, as Prebendary of Kilbrittain and Holy Trinity and The Installation of The Revd Canon Andrew Orr, as Honorary Canon with Special Responsibility for the Fifth Mark of Mission. Picture: Jim Coughlan.

Honorary Canons are assigned areas of special responsibility. Bishop Colton, having consulted the Dean and Chapter, has assigned Canon Orr responsibility for helping the Diocese of focus on Climate Change and Ecology, in line with the fifth Mark of Mission of the Anglican Communion: 'To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.'

Canon Denis MacCarthy was appointed in November 2020 to succeed Canon Ian Jonas a Prebendary of Kilbrittain and

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Holy Trinity. He will also be Prebendary of Donoughmore in the Cathedral Church of Saint Colman, Cloyne where he will be installed in due course.

The two new Canons were joined at the Service by some of their family members, and also by representatives of the parishes and chaplaincies in which they minister. Canon Orr is priest-in-charge of Youghal Union of Parishes and is also Chaplain to Middleton College. Canon MacCarthy is incumbent of Bandon Union of Parishes

30th birthday of Delgany National School's current building

Pupils and teachers, past and present, gathered online on Friday morning past (June 11) for a special service to celebrate the 30th birthday of Delgany National School's current building. The parish school has been in existence since 1665, with the Old School House having been constructed in 1839. The new building was officially opened on June 14 1991 although pupils moved in the preceding February.

Friday was a day of celebration not only of the school's history but of all the birthdays pupils have missed out on celebrating during the year. There were balloons and ice creams at the school and while all the children couldn't be present in Christ Church Delgany for the special service, they watched online from their classrooms. They were joined in the virtual congregation by past pupils and former teachers who watched from around the country.

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Former
principal Sally
Watson and
her
grandchildren.

Opening the
service, the
Revd Nigel
Waugh
commended
the school on
its wonderful
record over the
last year. He
gave thanks for
all who had

been associated with the school over the years, particularly
members of the board of management who had given
hundreds of hours to the school.

School principal, Anna Ovington, herself a past pupil who
was in sixth class when they moved from the old prefabs
across the road, said she wished the whole school
community could be with them but was delighted to
welcome former principal, Sally Watson, who was at the
helm at the time of the move. She also welcomed the
school's trustees. Most important in any school were the
pupils, she said, hoping that they were enjoying the service
from their classrooms.



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One of the trustees, Wilson Evans, outlined the history of Delgany National School and its 20 year struggle to bring the new building to fruition on its current site. David Proger, another trustee, read a report on the opening of the new school from the Bray People of June 21 1991. The article quoted the then Rector, Archdeacon Cecil Price who highlighted the saga of the search for the site for the new school, the mothballing of the plans due to the recession of the '80s and then the start of work in 1990. The third trustee, Dickie O'Connor, spoke of the progressive school which has continued to grow and thrive resulting in further extensions in 2000 and 2017. The five teacher school has grown to become a school with 20 teachers and staff and 232 pupils. Many of the current families have a long association with the school and his mother, wife and children were pupils at Delgany and his grandchildren are current pupils, he said.

Wisdom from Methodist Justice Lecture



Gordon Brown "Faith gives us the capacity to resist worldly trends towards selfish individualism."

Caretaker / Verger required – St Brigid’s Cathedral, Kildare

The Caretaker/Verger will receive a free house in return for... Read more

<https://meathandkildare.org/vacancies/care>

Books, Broadcasts, Resources and Webinars

RTÉ Service from St Mary’s Cathedral, Limerick

On Sunday 20th June 2021 at 2.15pm, RTÉ News Channel will broadcast a Service of Holy Communion from Saint Mary’s Cathedral, Limerick. The celebrant will be the Dean’s Vicar, the Revd Bernie Daly. The preacher will be the Dean, the Very Revd Niall J. Sloane.

What is God trying to teach us? - Bishop of Derry

The question is never 'How can we get the church back to way that we want it?'. Rather the disciple's question is always 'What is God trying to teach us as he remakes the Church?' + Donal McKeown

[[] <https://www.derrydiocese.org/news/homily-11th-sunday-in-ordinary-time-bishop-mckeown>]

MCI Conference Bible studies, services and sessions

If you would like to catch up on the Bible studies from MCI Conference21 led by Graham Philpott (Director of an MCI partner Church Land Programme Flag of South Africa), you can download them wherever you get your podcasts!



Watch back on the recordings from all services, sessions and bible studies → buff.ly/3uPVLcU

Membership to the New MCI Governance Board

Conference 2021 saw the announcement of members to the new Governance Board for the Methodist Church in Ireland. Read who the new members are here: buff.ly/3wpw30e

Clergy Support Trust Choral Festival

Clergy Support Trust has shared its annual Festival Service. It is probably the oldest choral festival in the world, continuous for 366 years, except for 2020.

Hosted at St Paul's Cathedral, it was filmed for the first time with the visiting choirs from Southwark and Liverpool cathedrals and stories from four people (Anglican clergy and their families) that the Trust support.

https://youtu.be/6j2ovr_Eqmg



Pointers for prayer

O Lord,
we beseech thee mercifully to hear us;
and grant that we, to whom thou hast given
an hearty desire to pray,
may by thy mighty aid be defended and comforted
in all dangers and adversities;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts
whereby we call you Father:
Give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,
that we and all creation may be brought
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus' homecoming was attended by enthusiastic crowds but also by dissenters, who attributed his good works to Satan. That we might be faithful to the One who calls us his "family", blessing his goodness and striving to follow his example, we pray "True Son of God and Son of Man," and respond, "Keep us faithful, keep us true."

That the Christ's church would remain faithful in its witness to the truth of the gospel, we pray: True Son of God and Son of Man.

Keep us faithful, keep us true.

That where the church of Jesus Christ finds itself a minority in the midst unfaith, it may not succumb and accept defeat.

True Son of God and Son of Man.

Keep us faithful, keep us true.

That homes of the church that are afflicted with violence, anger, or abuse, may find refuge and counsel in God's Word. True Son of God and Son of Man.

Keep us faithful, keep us true.

That our congregation may be enabled to embrace the lost, the fallen, and the wayward of our community. True Son of God and Son of Man.

Keep us faithful, keep us true.

That those who participated in baptismal and confirmation preparation , may be blessed with increasing faith and strengthened in continued, regular worship we pray: True Son of

God and Son of Man.

Keep us faithful, keep us true.

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Pardon us, O God, when we are so concerned with ourselves and those near to us that we fail to pray for others. Instill within us your compassion. True Son of God and Son of Man.

Keep us faithful, keep us true.

Let your loving Spirit, O God, announce again the "Abba" word of our divine parentage and our sure inclusion as members of your family. Amen.

Speaking to the Soul

But there was a certain man named Ananias who, with his wife, Sapphira, sold some property. He brought part of the money to the apostles, claiming it was the full amount. With his wife's consent, he kept the rest.

Acts 5:1-2 NLT

This is a chilling story. Ananias and Sapphira were not obliged to give all the money from their property sale to the apostles, but they made the false claim that they had done so. They lied. There's no getting away from it. They conspired together to trick the apostles and the result was that when confronted with their lies they both, one after the other, dropped dead. Given that everything seemed to have been going so well for the infant church this must have been a shattering moment. No wonder Dr Luke concluded the story by saying that great fear gripped the church and everyone else who heard what had happened.

Lying is always serious. Facing up to what we have done may be painful but massaging the truth for our convenience

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is always destructive. It undermines trust and a relationship that is built on lies cannot possibly last long. Above all, we need to be truthful in our relationship with God. Nothing could possibly be more foolish than lying to him because he already knows the whole truth about us.

Jesus said that he himself was the truth and that the truth would set us free. We need to face up to the fact that we are sinners and that we often let him down. I love the blunt straightforwardness of John in his letters. He hasn't got time to waste and so simply states that anyone who says that they have no sin is "fooling themselves and not living in the truth" (1 John 1.8). They are liars! But he goes on to share the wonderful news that if we own up to our sins, God is faithful and will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all wickedness.

The spine-tingling story of Ananias and Sapphira doesn't need to worry us if we stick to the truth. But if we don't, then their story is a timely warning.

QUESTION

Have you ever struggled to tell the truth?

PRAYER

Lord God our Father, I own up to the fact that I have sinned. Thank you that you are willing to set me free from my sins. Amen

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