



Image of the day - Fund raisers for Gaza hospital

Some of the participants completing their 100km - clockwise from top left - the Revd Abigail Sines, Canon Peter Campion, the Revd Sean Hanily, the Revd Nigel Pierpoint and David Reynolds.

Dublin & Glendalough appeal raises almost €18k for Gaza Hospital

Some of the participants completing their 100km - clockwise from top left - the Revd Abigail Sines, Canon Peter Campion, the Revd Sean Hanily, the Revd Nigel Pierpoint and David Reynolds.

A three week fundraising appeal in Dublin & Glendalough has raised €17,874.50 for Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza city. Donations to the appeal, which was launched by Dublin & Glendalough Council for Mission in the wake of the latest conflict in the Holy Land, will be transferred directly to our partners in the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem which runs the hospital. Al Ahli continues to be at the forefront in treating those affected by the conflict providing services ranging from medical treatment to food.

Over three weeks from May 24 to June 11, nine people walked (or in one case rollerbladed) 100km – the distance from Gaza city to Jerusalem – to raise funds and awareness. Their target for donations was €10,000.

Those who took to the highways and byways include: the Revd Abigail Sines, Dean's Vicar, Christ Church Cathedral, who coordinated the appeal; Diocesan Lay Reader from Christ Church Bray, David Reynolds; Lydia Monds, Bishops' Appeal; Canon Peter Campion, Chaplain, King's Hospital School (on rollerblades); the Revd Martin O'Connor, Clondalkin and Rathcoole Parishes; the Revd Stephen Farrell, Zion Parish; the Revd Nigel Pierpoint, Taney Parish;

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the Revd Sean Hanily, Rathmichael Parish; and Canon Adrienne Galligan, Rathfarnham Parish.

Al Ahli Arab Hospital is run by the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem with whom Dublin & Glendalough has had a link for the past six years. Although Anglicans make up a minute proportion of the population in Gaza, Al Ahli Arab Hospital serves all people of Gaza city, no matter what their religion, gender, social or political background.

On June 1, the World Health Organisation reported that staggering health needs were emerging in the wake of the conflict as the threat of Covid-19 continued.

Meanwhile, Individual Giving and Campaigns Manager with USPG, Janine Goddard, gave an update on the situation in Gaza and in Al Ahli Hospital having received news from their programme manager in the region. She said there was a huge need for funds for Al Ahli Hospital.

She reported that the power in Gaza city was cut so the hospital was relying on generators to run and desperately needs funds to fuel the generators. The hospital is undertaking emergency surgery for those injured in the bombing, trauma counselling and care. The hospital is also feeding local people, providing basic food and sanitation to those who have lost their homes and families in this crisis.

The Council for Mission appeal was launched following a plea by the newly installed Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem, the Most Revd Hosam Naoum. He said: "The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem is continuing its Christian mission of bringing healing to the wounded, relief to those

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who have lost their homes and livelihoods and comfort to those who mourn the loss of loved ones. Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza has been on the frontlines of these relief efforts, becoming a beacon of hope to those trying to remain alive under such dire circumstances.”

All the money donated is being channelled directly to the Diocese of Jerusalem for Al Ahli Hospital. The donation portal is now closed.

Church probes source of its wealth over slave trade links

The Church of England is investigating a royal endowment Queen Anne set up for poor priests over its links to the slave trade.

Queen Anne’s Bounty was a fund established by the monarch in 1704 to support clergymen in buying land from which they could generate income.

It is overseen by the Church Commissioners for England, who manage property assets and arranges the payment of stipends to clergy.

This body is now investigating the endowment of Queen Anne, who herself held more than a fifth of the South Sea Company’s stock.

The commissioners’ annual report, published yesterday, stated: “Long-established endowment funds may give rise to a reputational risk linked to the possibility of their original



source, or early investment of funds, having slave trade connections.

“This could be the case for the original Queen Anne’s Bounty and Ecclesiastical Commissioners’ funds.”

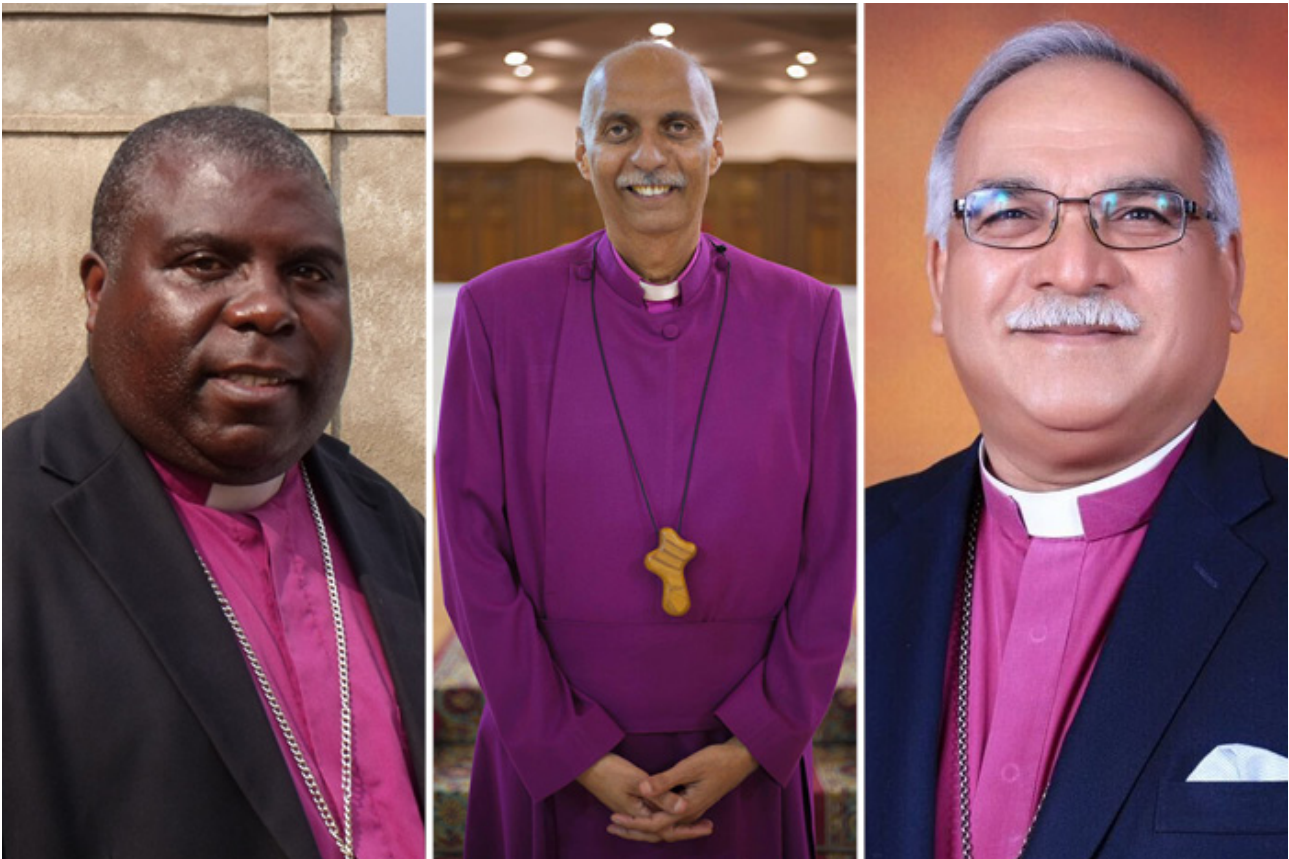
The Commissioners’ report outlined this risk, alongside priorities of the body, including “monitoring societal attitudes and proactive consideration of social justice issues”.

Lambeth Palace officials have not said what could happen to the wealth if links to slavery were established. A spokesman to the Church Commissioners for England said: “Like many organisations, we are looking into our past and have commissioned external research into the origins of our predecessor bodies, Queen Anne’s Bounty and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

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“We are doing this work of our own volition to better understand where our funding came from and to see if our predecessor bodies had links to or received profits from the historic transatlantic slave trade. That research is under way.”

Trio of new primates as new Anglican leaders are appointed in Alexandria, Burundi and Pakistan



(Left to right) Bishop Sixbert Macumi, Bishop Azad Marshall and Archbishop Sami Fawzi

A new Archbishop of Alexandria and Moderator of Pakistan have been installed as Burundi looks forward to its new Archbishop in August.

Two new primates have been installed in the Anglican Communion, and another will take up his post in August. Archbishop Sami Fawzi has been installed as the Episcopal / Anglican Archbishop of Alexandria and Primate of the Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria, succeeding Dr Mouneer Anis. In the united Church of Pakistan, Bishop Azad Marshall has been elected Moderator, to succeed Bishop Humphrey Peters. And in Burundi, Bishop Sixbert Macumi will succeed Archbishop Martin Blaise Nyaboho as Primate in August.

Archbishop Sami Fawzi was installed at All Saints Cathedral in Cairo. Speaking at the service, he said: “the Church will continue to support the poor, the needy, the marginalised, and the people of determination and cares in particular [for] refugees through the Episcopal Care Institution.”

He added that “the vision of the Episcopal Church is the main focus of a strong, real communion relationship with God” and that “this is how a spiritual revival is achieved in our churches”.

He said: “my prayer is at the beginning of a new service that the Lord honours and entrusts to me in the region of Alexandria and the Archdiocese of Egypt to offer everything I can in the different dimensions of service in the Church with my fellow priests, deacons, lay servants and workers in the region and the parish, in spiritual, social, cultural, educational and medical work in an ecumenical spirit of cooperation with all the churches and in the spirit of dialogue and mutual love within our great Egyptian society and all the societies of the region in North Africa and the Horn of Africa.”

During his inauguration speech, he thanked his predecessor, Dr Mouneer Anis, saying: “we all served and lived under his care and supervision for many years after he devoted his entire life to the development and growth of the Episcopal / Anglican Church service in Egypt and North Africa and the Horn of Africa, where his efforts and dedication over 21 years of tireless work . . . saw the adoption of the Diocese of Egypt to become a new region of the Episcopal Church in the world, and his inauguration as the first Archbishop of Alexandria on 21 June 2020”.

The Province of Alexandria came from the Episcopal / Anglican Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East, which was inaugurated in 1976, with Egypt, North Africa and the Horn of Africa as a diocese within it. In January 2020, Anglican Primates approved the decision of the Anglican Communion’s Standing Committee to recognise the Diocese of Egypt with North Africa and the Horn of Africa as the new autonomous Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria, serving 10 countries. It is the 41st province of the Anglican Communion.

Last month, during the 16th triennial meeting of its Synod, the united Church of Pakistan unanimously elected Bishop Azad Marshall as Moderator and Primate. Bishops from all eight dioceses and members of the synod council were present. Bishop Marshall, the Bishop of Raiwind, succeeds Bishop Humphrey Peters of Peshawar as Moderator.

Speaking to Pakistan Today after the election, Archbishop Azad said that he was grateful to the council members and his fellow bishops for their trust in him. “I’m humbled by the confidence shown in me by the synod members and I look

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forward to working closely with them to address the challenges facing the Church of Pakistan and the community at large,” he said.

“The church has a key role in community building and ensuring the welfare and security of its followers. Pakistani Christians are facing extraordinary challenges and it is important that the church leadership engages with the government and other stakeholders to find concrete solutions to these problems.”

He said that during his 12 years of service as the Anglican Bishop of Iran in the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East, he had always strived to promote interfaith harmony and regional peace.

“Being a Pakistani Christian, it is also my responsibility to remove the negative perceptions about my country”, he said. “Issues like forced conversion and underage marriages of minority girls, misuse of the blasphemy laws, rising intolerance in our society [and] poverty bring a bad name to Pakistan and affect the efforts being made to project a positive image of the country.

“Therefore, it’s important that the government and other stakeholders work with us to address these crucial issues as a priority so that we are able to allay the concerns in the Christian world emanating from propaganda by Pakistani’s enemies.”

The Anglican Church of Burundi also met last month to elect their new Archbishop. Bishop Sixbert Macumi of the Diocese of Buye will succeed Archbishop Martin Blaise Nyaboho, of churchnewsireland@gmail.org

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the Diocese of Makamba, when he is installed as the Province's fifth Archbishop on 21 August.

Bishop Sixbert was born in Gakoni in the eastern province of Musinga. At the age of 22 he felt called to full time service in the Church. Supported by Buye diocese, he studied theology at the Theological Institute of Matana from 1991-1994. During that time, he was ordained as a deacon. After his studies, he returned to Buye diocese and taught at Bishop Barham Theological College. He was ordained as a priest in 1996 and continued to work at Bishop Barham College whilst also pastoring Gatukuza parish and All Saints Cathedral in Buye.

From 1997 he was Diocesan Secretary for Buye diocese. In 2000, he resumed his theological studies at Uganda Christian University. He returned to Buye where he continued to teach at Bishop Barham College. He was also involved in the coordination and development of Boys' and Girls' Brigade in Burundi.

Bishop Sixbert became the third Bishop of Buye in 2005. He is also the chaplain to the Mothers' Union. He and his wife Clotilde Muhimpundu have three daughters.

People and places

Youth Worker for Titanic Parish

Welcome to Andrew McCaw who recently started as Youth Worker for The Gathering Church Plant in Titanic Parish, Belfast in the Diocese of Down & Dromore. Andy (22) is a



graduate from CYM and is also now training as a Diocesan Evangelist.

Just a few weeks into his new job, Andrew says that he's looking forward to what God will do.

“There's something about this place here in St Martin's Church on the Lower Newtownards Road where I feel that God is on the move. I'm really, really excited to see what we can do for the young people in this community to meet their needs.”

Andrew's new role is a pioneering one and completely different to anything he has done before, but he's up for the challenge. “I've found that in The Gathering there's an openness to stepping out in faith with the Holy Spirit so wherever God wants to take us on this journey we're willing to go.”

Ross Munro, Church Plant Leader at The Gathering said:

“As you can imagine our community is so excited to have Andrew on board in this new role. He'll be responsible for

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leading youth initiatives with a focus on evangelism, outreach and discipleship in the Titanic Parish and working closely with me as we continue to establish a new worshipping community here.

“It’s a broad and busy remit. Andrew will be working alongside the Belfast MET student chaplaincy and other bodies to support students as well as making connections with charitable organisations within the parish to promote work among youth and children.

“Andrew is a really capable young man with such a heart for God and young people. Please pray for him as he builds relationships in the community and takes these exciting first steps into full-time ministry.”

End of an era as Desertmartin Primary School closes after over 130 years

The Church of Ireland maintained school was earmarked for closure last year by the Department due to a falling enrolment.

There were hopes it could be saved by a merger with nearby Knocknagin Primary to become Northern Ireland’s first joint-faith school.

However, the four main churches were not able to reach agreement over the ethos of the new school.

The school, which opened in 1888, will close at the end of this month for the final time.

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“It is will great sadness that the school will close, but we want to celebrate the many years of education that there have been at the school and allow past pupils etc to visit before closure, the staff have organised an open week,” said a spokesperson, inviting former pupils to attend the event.

Portadown Times reports on former colleague's ordained ministry

Former Portadown Times journalist Carlton Baxter has been appointed as the new Rector of the Parishes of St Aidan's Kilmore and St Saviour's The Dobbin.

He succeeds the Rev Rosie Diffin and was instituted on Monday night, June 7, by the Archbishop of Armagh, The Most Reverend John McDowell during a service in St Saviour's Parish Church, The Dobbin.

“It's great to be here to serve the people of Kilmore and The Dobbin in their walk with Jesus,” said Carlton, who is married to primary school teacher, Jane, and has been ordained almost 14 years.

He spent a long career in journalism and public relations during which he trained for ministry in the Church of Ireland and served in several parishes in the Diocese of Down and Dromore.

After getting a start in the Banbridge Chronicle back in 1986, he worked, for what was then Morton Newspapers, writing for titles – The Portadown Times, The Mid Ulster Mail and

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The Dromore Leader before moving into business journalism.

He also worked for The Telegraph and Argus in Bradford.

With his move into the ministry he served in several parishes before spending the last four years in the Parish of Magheralin, which includes Magheralin Parish Church and St Saviour's, Dollingstown.

"It's been a privilege to serve in Magheralin and Dollingstown where the people have been wonderful to Jane and myself," said Carlton. "We've thoroughly enjoyed our time here and it will be sad to leave.

"I'm most grateful to the rector, Rev Simon Genoe, and the select vestry for their love and support over the years.

"But it's time to move on and when God calls I find it's usually a good idea to follow!

"And so we are excited to go to Kilmore and The Dobbin and look forward to serving the people there as we explore what God has planned for us all together in that small part of his kingdom."

Director of Pastoral Planning & Development sought

Archdiocese of Cashel & Emly invites applications for position of Director of Pastoral Planning & Development. This is a 3-year fixed-term contract.

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The purpose of this role is to assist the Archdiocese of Cashel and Emly and its constituent parishes and agencies in the establishment of the 2021-26 'Seeds of Hope' strategic plan for the pastoral work of the Archdiocese.

The Director will work under the guidance of the Archbishop of Cashel & Emly and the Diocesan Pastoral Council and the Council of Priests. The role is critical to the implementation of pastoral initiatives and programs at the parish level, working closely with parish pastoral teams and other pastoral groups as required.

The appointed person will be accountable to the Archbishop of Cashel & Emly.

A detailed job description is available on www.cashel-emly.ie
Closing date for applicants by post or email, on or before 5 pm on
Friday 25th June 2021 to:

Archdiocese of Cashel & Emly,
Archbishop's House, Thurles, Co. Tipperary, E41 NY92

Email: pastoral.office@cashel-emly.ie
Phone: (0504) 21512

Please note that incomplete or late applications will not be considered

The Archdiocese of Cashel & Emly is an equal opportunity employer.

Books, Broadcasts, Resources and Webinars

Master Class on Augustine by Rowan Williams & John Cavadini

“Give me a lover and he will know what I mean.”

St. Augustine, in his Homilies on the Gospel of John, was making the point with this pithy sentence that those who can find delight in earthly loves have at least some inkling of the kind of delight God wants to give us in himself, Mac Stewart writes in *The Living Church*

But Augustine’s saying could also serve as a good summary of a recent webinar on these homilies, a full, new translation of which is now available from New City Press. The publisher teamed up with The Living Church Institute and the Augustinian Heritage Institute to provide a two-hour Zoom session on June 8 for more than 1,800 participants. The session was primarily aimed towards active preachers, who will encounter four consecutive weeks with Gospel texts from John’s “Bread of Life” discourse in the Revised Common Lectionary later this summer.

The panelists, whose discussion was moderated by Augustine scholar and Episcopal priest Paul Kolbet, were two of the leading lights in contemporary Augustinian studies: Professor John Cavadini of Notre Dame, and former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, recently retired as master of Magdalene College, Cambridge. Each of them described Augustine as the “theological love” of

their lives, and their status as Augustine's "lovers" in the ancient bishop's own sense was clear throughout the session.

Williams, a preacher himself, and Cavadini, a lifelong "listener" of preaching (as he put it), both emphasized the deep contemporary relevance of Augustine's preaching. To the question of whether ordinary lay people could possibly have paid attention to what often seem like long and meandering homilies, the panelists pointed to the evidence of the texts themselves.

The homilies, taken down by stenographers in the moment and edited very little by Augustine afterwards, display moments when Augustine is actively engaging with a responsive congregation: he affirms their enthusiasm, engages their puzzlement, and addresses their worries.

He does not reduce the images of Scripture to abstract concepts or dilute the power of its stories with his own quaint anecdotes. Rather, he shows at every turn his deep confidence in the disorienting and transforming force of the images and stories of Scripture themselves.

The good news that they deliver is not a neatly packaged set of final answers, but an invitation into a new world opened up by Jesus Christ. Augustine invites his congregation to romp through that world with him, and his preaching is carried forward as much by exploratory questions as it is by settled interpretive solutions.

Both panelists avoided the old commonplace that wrote off Augustine as the puritanical originator of a self-destructive

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kind of Christian “contempt of the world.” One need only peruse these homilies, they pointed out, to see the “warm-heartedness” of this ancient bishop, his practical love for his flock, and his fundamental sense that God is, at the end of the day, a hedonist. Both also encouraged preachers of the Church in our day to have the same kind of warm-hearted joy in the world-transforming news they have to share.

Podcast at -

[<https://anchor.fm/living-church/episodes/Bonus-Episode-Rowan-Williams-on-Preaching-the-Gospel-of-John-with-Saint-Augustine-e12dttl>]]



Evangelical Alliance launches 7Conversations

EAUK says these will help your church understand 20s and 30s and bring them into a lasting relationship with Jesus.

Join the conversations at -

[<http://eauk.org/7-conversations>]

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Hear the Reuter organ of Christ the King in Oklahoma City

An invitation - "Join us in a visit to see and hear the Reuter organ of Christ the King Catholic Church in Oklahoma City, OK."

[<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=awlKEHwqH3o&lc=UgwSxG8Hj5LTL1Xis5R4AaABAq>]

'SONGS OF LOVE,
FAITH, TRUST
AND PRAISE'
AS THE
IRISH CHURCH
MUSIC
ASSOCIATION
SUMMER SCHOOL
GOES VIRTUAL
THIS JULY



WWW.CATHOLICNEWS.IE



@CATHOLICNEWSIRL

Irish Church Music Association Summer School goes virtual this July

[<https://catholicnews.ie/irish-church-music-association-summer-school-goes-virtual-this-july/> @ICMAMusic]

Choir guide website curated by John Rutter

Brand-new website to help singers learn their voice parts, featuring a music catalogue personally curated by composer John Rutter.

Try their free demo at: [<https://choirguides.com>]

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."

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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.

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 as the believers rapidly multiplied, there were rumblings of discontent. The Greek-speaking believers complained about the Hebrew-speaking believers, saying that their widows were being discriminated against in the daily distribution of food.

Acts 6:1 NLT

If you have ever been part of a church or other human organisation you will know exactly what is meant by rumblings of discontent! They are part of life and are exhausting. It isn't open war, but it isn't something that can be brushed to one side either. The problem on this occasion was a practical one but it was clearly causing great unhappiness. The church in Jerusalem was composed of Jews from different backgrounds. Some of them had always lived in the Jerusalem area and spoke Hebrew or Aramaic, but there were others who had lived in neighbouring countries and largely spoke Greek. Some of the latter had come to live in Jerusalem at the end of their lives and were far from their families and so were particularly vulnerable.

The response of the apostles gives us a good model as to how to handle rumblings of discontent. Firstly, they acted quickly. So often, in my experience, people live with the hope that, if they ignore a problem, it will go away. This is

rarely the case. The action they took was to appoint seven people to oversee the distribution of the food, to ensure that fairness prevailed. This would then release the apostles to get on with their central work of prayer and preaching.

It interests me that the qualifications for performing this practical task were that the selected people should be full of wisdom and the Holy Spirit. This is a helpful reminder that every role in the life of a church is spiritual. I sometimes hear people talking about the different jobs that need doing in a church as if some are spiritual and others are practical. It is not so. Every role is spiritual and, as people do the many practical tasks that need to be done, it is vital that they are full of wisdom and the Holy Spirit.

QUESTION

Why is it so crucial that church work should be done by people who are full of wisdom and the Holy Spirit?

PRAYER

Lord God our Father help us to be wise in responding to rumblings of discontent. Fill us with your Spirit as we serve you. Amen

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