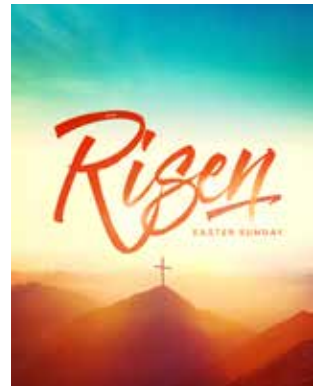


THE ANGLICAN



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The Resurrection Spirit. Easter Message from Bishop Leon Golding

Over the years, first as a parish priest preparing persons for Baptism and Confirmation and now as a Bishop Confirming persons, I've been inspired by those individuals who have engaged the ministry of Christ and His Church with great enthusiasm and dedication. These persons often see no task as insurmountable in the name of Christ and commit their energy and resources to make the mission of God possible where they are located. It is evident by their commitment that something has inspired their lives and they have been energized by a new spirit. This is the Spirit that raised our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, and it is what I call here the Resurrection Spirit. The Apostle Paul writing to the Church in Rome put it this way.

9... Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. 10But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you. (Romans 8:9-11)



Living the Resurrected Life

If the Spirit that raised Christ from the dead lives in us,

Cont'd on pg 2

we should live as people of the resurrection. As the hymn writer puts it, "Christ is risen, we are risen." We should be energized as the early Christians were in the service of Christ. Our Diocesan Vision statement invites us to joyful and energetic discipleship and captures the spirit of the post-resurrection Christian community.

A Diocese inspired by the Holy Spirit through the joyful energetic discipleship of all its members, as an assertive influence for good and justice, always reaching out to engage the wider society through collective and individual mission and ministry, in faith, hope and charity, welcoming, inspiring and enrolling new members of the body of Christ as faithful stewards of God's resources.

The Resurrection Spirit summons us to work to right the wrongs in our society, and to work for justice, reconciliation and peace. Commemorating the resurrection invites us to be open to the Spirit of the risen Lord and so be re-energized for the work of his Church. Throughout the Lenten season, we are encouraged to lay aside the things that prevent us from living the resurrected life in Christ.

As our churches ring out with alleluias and we reaffirm our baptismal promises, may the Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead inspire us to serve as faithful witnesses of the living Lord. Alleluia!

+ The Rt. Rev. Leon Golding
Suffragan Bishop of Montego Bay

Clergy Spouses Outreach and Tree Planting Ministry



ABOVE:
Denise Minott and Charmaine Gregory prepare the ground for planting

LEFT:
Careen Smalling, and Denise Minott

Ministry to individuals and care of the environment nature is the responsibility of everyone. When we respond to this call, we display our love for God. Clergy spouses have responded to the call and participated in an outreach activity and tree-planting exercise. In December 2022, we visited the Open Arms Centre, located on Windward Road in Kingston. We presented to the Centre: toiletries, towels, clothing, cakes, and bottles of drink. Two fruit trees were also planted in the Centre's garden.

The Open Arms Centre, established in November 2006, serves to rehabilitate and reintegrate the homeless (adult males and females) into society. The facility offers a 24-hour, medium to long-term residential programme exclusively for men.

Prepared by: Denise Minott



Simone Blackwood, Denise Minott and Charmaine Gregory make a presentation to a staff member.

THE
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Human Dignity – Conflict and Resolution in the Anglican Community

As those who followed the Lambeth Conference last year will recall, our Diocesan and Archbishop, the Most Rev. Howard Gregory chaired the group which was responsible for the 'Call on Human Dignity'.

The Call – which was the term used to describe declarations presented to the Conference for discussion – affirmed the dignity of all human beings and dealt with thorny issues such as the legacies of colonialism, the trans-Atlantic slave trade, other abuses of power and the legitimizing or blessing of same-sex unions.

Same-sex Unions

This issue has divided the Anglican Communion, as the Call affirmed Resolution 1:10 as the existing statement of the Communion's position. It also acknowledged, "Provinces have blessed and welcomed same-sex union/marriage after careful theological reflection and a process of reception". Under the adroit leadership of Archbishop Justin Welby, the Bishops at the Lambeth Conference agreed to disagree on this issue and the Conference ended on a harmonious note.

However, the decision by the Church of England (COE) at its General Synod in February 2023 to bless same-sex unions set off a wave of protest in the Communion. The decision was criticized by some persons who believed it did not go far enough as the Synod did not agree to the marriage of same-sex couples, while others felt it went too far in consenting to the blessing of persons in same-gender unions.

Prominent among the latter was the Global South Fellowship of Anglican Churches (GSFA) which says it represents 14 of the 42 Provinces in the Communion. On February 20, GSFA issued a press statement signed by 10 Primates who condemned the Church of England's decision. They stated that:

With the Church of England and the Archbishop of Canterbury forfeiting their leadership role of the global Communion, GSFA Primates will expeditiously meet, consult and work with other orthodox Primates in the Anglican Church across the nations to re-set the Communion on its biblical foundation.



Queen Anne's Bounty

In January 2023, prior to the Synod, another matter relating to the Call on Human Dignity – namely, the historic links of the Church of England with the Transatlantic Slave Trade – received international attention. This information was highlighted in the report of the Church Commissioners. The Report found that the endowment fund managed by the Church had part of its origins in Queen Anne's Bounty, which was founded in 1704. In the 18th century, it invested significantly in the South Sea Company, which traded in enslaved people. It also received numerous benefactions, many of which are likely to have come from individuals linked to, or who profited from transatlantic chattel slavery and the plantation economy.

In response to these findings, the Church Commissioners said the Church would try to address some of the past wrongs by investing in a better future. The Report said **"It will seek to do this through committing £100 million over the next nine years commencing in 2023 to invest in a better and fairer future for all, particularly for communities affected by historic slavery."**

Some of the documentary evidence used to support the findings of the report were displayed in an exhibition at the Lambeth Palace Library entitled *Enslavement: Voices from the Archives* which opened on January 12, 2023 and has generated wide interest. (See report by Dr. Trevor Hope who viewed the exhibition).

CPWI Perspectives – Archbishop Gregory

I met with Archbishop Gregory on March 22 to discuss the implications of these dramatic, and groundbreaking developments for the Church in the Province of the West Indies (CPWI). We covered the following:

- Same-sex unions: As the Communique of the Meeting of the House of Bishops held in early March stated, the CPWI is an independent member of the Communion, so the decision of the Church of England has no authority over our Province.
- Why the CPWI is not a member of the Global South Fellowship of Anglican Churches (GSFA): He referred

to the same Communique, which said that the CPWI was not in agreement with the kind of structure the GSFA was apparently promoting for the Communion. The Communique affirmed that: "Mutual respect, dialogue and Christian forbearance must fortify our common life".

- The Exhibition Enslavement: Voices from the Archives at Lambeth Palace Library to which he and the Most Rev. Cyril Kobina Ben-Smith, the Primate of the Province of West Africa were invited for the small opening ceremony. Archbishop Gregory said their attendance as Primates from both sides of the Atlantic was very symbolic.

In a short address at the ceremony, he said he welcomed the initiative of the Church in acknowledging its link to the period of slavery and hoped that it would be the beginning of further admission of the role the Church played. Archbishop Gregory explained that the Report of the Commissioners only dealt with the Church's involvement with the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. However, he noted that the Church of England, as a whole, was still to deal with its involvement in slavery, as well as entities such as the USPG which were trustees for the Codrington estates in Barbados.

* The visit by delegates of the Anglican Consultative Council (ACC) to Cape Coast Castle in Ghana on February 15: Built in the 1650's, the Castle was the site from which persons were shipped to the Americas and enslaved. (Incidentally, Archbishop Gregory said he was told that the visit was an informal one, and so he dressed casually for the occasion). This was his third visit to the Castle, but he said it never ceases to be a moving experience. He said

it was a privilege to be a part of this tour in the company of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of West Africa and other leaders of the Anglican Communion.

After touring the Castle, the group attended a Service of Reflection and Reconciliation at the nearby Christ Church Cathedral. During the Service, the ACC members and others prayed for forgiveness and heard a reading of the Beatitudes.

According to a report in the magazine Living Church, Archbishop Gregory in introducing a time of reflection, said that "Our world can sometimes seem a very unjust place, where people with the loudest voices get the most attention. But Jesus describes a world turned upside-down; a world where suffering people, the meek and those who act with justice, mercy, and courage, are blessed. Today is a chance for each of us to reflect on what type of world we are building. Let us reflect on the Beatitudes and think about our own actions and inactions."

Prepared by John A. Aarons

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The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby (center) in conversation with the Archbishop of Ghana and Primate of West Africa, Archbishop Cyril Ben-Smith (l) and the Bishop of Jamaica and Primate of the West Indies, Archbishop Howard Gregory (r), in a dungeon at the Cape Coast Castle, a former trans-Atlantic slave trading post

Photo: Neil Turner / Anglican Communion

<https://www.anglicannews.org/news/2023/02/acc-18-visits-former-british-slave-castle-in-ghana-with-the-archbishop-of-canterbury.aspx>

Deaconess Esmin Peters – Model Servant Leader

In 1957, a motivated nurse, Esmin Peters, from the parish of St. Catherine attended a Mothers' Union presentation at the Diocesan Synod. The presentation inspired her to offer herself for full-time ministry.

She was trained at Deaconess House, St Peter's College, and Women's College in Canada, and became a licensed Lay Worker utilizing her skills at the Nuttall Hospital, St. Monica's Home (a Diocesan Children's Home in Clarendon), and in West Kingston where she ministered in the Majesty Gardens community. In January 1967, "Sister Min" as she was called, was admitted to the Order of Deaconess and served lovingly in the St. Michael's Cure as she laid the physical and spiritual groundwork for the creation of the St. Boniface church community in Harbour View.

The love Deaconess Min had for God and people was the solid platform for her ministry of word and service and this was most evident when she encountered persons on the streets, homes and sacred spaces in Porus, Toll Gate, St Toolies, Hammonds and Banana Ground in Clarendon. Her selfless commitment to duty, the incorporation of her nursing skills and the heart for sharing the living presence of God propelled her to assist at the Lionel Town Hospital, and Lennon Secondary School as Guidance Counsellor. Such was the service of our pioneer Deaconess whose legacy can be described as unparalleled as she administered the Mocho Cure in the absence of Rectors and even baptized children. Deaconess understood that changing hearts was an important key in creating a community of love and forging lasting bonds.

Living out her Vocation

Theologian, Henri Nouwen opined "trust your vocation and heal the minds and hearts of many generations who come after you." Deaconess claimed and trusted her vocation and lived it out faithfully. Twelve years after she was assigned to the Porus Cure, she was afforded the opportunity to minister at the place of her ordination, St. Luke's Church Cross Roads, where she worked with her beloved Archdeacon Alvin Stone. She was the epitome of a Daughter of the King, an organization of the Church initiated to facilitate the spiritual growth of young girls.

The Deaconesses who were fairly close to Sister Min's age were extremely respectful. They included Jean Forbes, Venice Guntley, Judith Daniel, Doreen Hall, Winnie Hoillette, Marjorie Parker, Sybil Morris, Joy Parker, Judith Timoll, and Gloria Wesley Gammon. The younger ones – Patricia Donald, Evie Vernon, Patricia Johnson, Sonia Johnson, Beverley Donald, Annette Brown, Grace Jervis and Elaine Cunningham found her to be a treasure, who advised them on a range of issues, including marriage. In our meetings, she was usually quiet and attentive, however when she said "Listen to me", or "Can I say something": you automatically knew that a gentle admonition or encouragement was about to be said in an unhurried manner.

Psychiatrist and author, Elizabeth Kubler Ross states: "People are like a stained glass window. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within." The true beauty of Deaconess Peters shone through her character, devotion and service. In tribute to her the Deaconesses, past and present, thank her for her example of service without seeking the limelight, but impacting many generations. She has left an incredible legacy and a model for servant leaders. Well done good and faithful servant, enter into the arms of your Saviour.

Extracted from the Tribute by Deaconess Dr. Elaine Cunningham at the Funeral of Deaconess Esmin on Saturday, February 25



"Deaconess Peters, who was the first Jamaican Deaconess, died on 1 February, just two months short of her 100th birthday.

Happenings at St. George's, Grand Cayman

45th Anniversary of the Laying of the Cornerstone

February 17th marked 45 years since the laying of the cornerstone for the church building by former Diocesan Bishop, Herbert Edmondson. To commemorate the occasion, pictures taken at the time were posted on the Church's Facebook page. We now begin to look forward to 2024 when we will celebrate the 45th anniversary of the dedication of the Church building and our Christian witness in the community.

Shrove Tuesday Social

The annual Shrove Tuesday Social was held on February 21, with a marked intergenerational flavour this year. The event involved our young people and the young-at-heart. To add variety this year, five teams: Jeremiah, Daniel, Ezekiel, Lamentations and Isaiah were identified, and members of the congregation were asked to pick a random card on which they found the name of the team, the leader and the food items for which the team would be responsible. Each team was also asked to provide one item for the entertainment programme. Also included, was a Jeopardy-style Bible/Lenten trivia which involved one representative from each team. Suffice it to say, this was very entertaining for all, with some persons expressing the need to brush up on their trivia information. The event allowed persons to mix and mingle and fully enjoy the fellowship before the start of Lent.

Mothers' Union Monthly Challenges

Transformation Now was the theme of the Mothers' Union Prayer Breakfast in November 2022. As a follow-on they have dubbed 2023 as the year of transformation with a focus on health and wellness, which includes a monthly challenge to the congregation. In January, the test was to switch to and drink more water daily. February's challenge was to get the annual medical check-up, especially if this was being avoided or placed on the back burner and in March, during Lent, the challenge is "What fast do I choose?"

Annual Commonwealth Day Service

The annual Commonwealth Day Service was held at St. George's on March 13, under the theme: "Forging a Sustainable and Peaceful Common Future". This year coincides with the 50th anniversary of the Commonwealth Youth Programme and has been designated by the Commonwealth Secretariat as The Year of Youth. The Service was well-attended, with schools and youth



Service, presided over by Rev Jerome Small, the Rector commemorating Commonwealth Day

groups including Boys Scouts, Brownies and Girl Guides being well represented. The reflection, done by Jelani Hanson, a 16-year-old high school student and youth parliamentarian, focussed on how Christians can forge a common future every day, by showing tolerance to persons who look, speak and act differently; learning to coexist with each other; as well as ensuring the protection of our environment. He also noted that young people have a part to play and a voice that can amplify the needs of the society and offer solutions. The Service was followed by a reception at which the Pandemix Steel Panners from the University College of the Cayman Islands entertained.

Contributed By: Andria Dilbert

Transformation Now - Mothers' Union AGM



**Mothers Union - The Enrolling of 27 new members
Bishop Minott preaching the sermon at their Annual General Meeting**

Members travelled from all parishes and the Cayman Islands to the Kendal Conference Centre in Manchester on February 26 to participate in the first face-to-face Annual General Meeting of the Mothers' Union since the onset of Covid-19. More than 600 members representing 89 Branches attended the meeting which was held under the theme "Transformation Now."

The Rt. Rev. Garth Minott, Bishop of Kingston, was Celebrant and Preacher. He charged the members to see themselves as servant leaders called to be good stewards and to be at the forefront of community building. He encouraged us to walk in holiness as we are created in God's image and are already covered in holiness. He reminded us that Transformation-Now! was a solution-oriented approach to mission.

During the afternoon, the Mothers' Union, for the first time at an AGM, enrolled 27 new members, including two priests, Rev. Hilda Vaughan and Rev. Monnecia Duncan. Bishop Minott conducted the enrolment, and he invited all prospective members to make the commitment to Transformation-Now!

Following the enrolment, there were reports by the Regional Presidents, Treasurer, and another first, the Auditor. The Awards Committee report closed this section.

Keynote Speaker for the afternoon, Mr. Owen 'Blacka' Ellis took the stage and immediately grabbed everyone's attention. Using personal experiences, he spoke to the

theme noting that our initial circumstances do not have to dictate our destination. He noted that whereas we cannot always determine the situations in which we may find ourselves, we can determine how we FRAME our responses. FRAME: Focus on what is important/do not be easily distracted; consciously Respond to situations in which we find ourselves/do not allow others to push our buttons; Approach everything in an orderly manner/this determines how others respond to us; Manage the way in which we interact with persons/avoid toxic individuals; and, our Expressions should represent Christ in all situations. He closed with a reference to the thieves at Golgotha noting that the one to the right of Christ chose to make it right with God. He invited us always to choose to be complete in Christ.

The day ended with the Awards Ceremony:

- Jean Murray Trophy, Most Improved Branches
 - Cathedral, Spanish Town
 - Church of the Conversion of St. Paul, Portmore.
- President's Award, Most Outstanding Branches:
 - Over 20 members:
 - Church of the Ascension, Mona
 - St. George's, East Street, Kingston
 - Under 20 members
 - St. Simon and St. Jude's, Ewarton

Submitted by: Sandra Becca - MU Diocesan Secretary

The Hon. Michael Fennell: Tireless Church Worker



Mrs Peggy Fenell, Mr Fennell, Mrs Zailla McCalla, the Chancellor, Mrs Charmaine Gregory, Archbishop Gregory, Mr Vivian Crawford

We take this opportunity to recognize and thank the Hon. Michael Fennell, who retired in 2022 after serving for 20 years as Chairman of the Diocesan Financial Board (DFB).

Although his role was that of a volunteer, Mr. Fennell was literally on call, and he was frequently “in office” at Church House as he conscientiously carried out his tremendous responsibilities.

Despite his demanding schedule at the helm of the Jamaica Olympic Association and the Commonwealth Games Federation, Michael Fennell was always readily available to the Diocese, and driven by his commitment to our Mission, he worked tirelessly to promote understanding of the Church's financial operations. This led him to conduct numerous workshops for Clergy, Church Wardens and Treasurers across the country; and this capacity-building initiative was further expanded with the Wardens and Treasurers being granted access to the annual Regional Pre-Synod Meetings.

Another achievement for this former private sector executive was the restructuring of the annual Budget and Estimates of Expenditure to ensure greater appreciation of the factors impacting Diocesan finances.

Astute, meticulous, straightforward, and down-to-earth with a sharp wit and sense of humour, which effectively



diffused potential conflicts, Mr. Fennell earned the respect of stakeholders at every level of the Diocese.

Commenting on his experience, he concludes: “We are a family with a common purpose.”

We pray for God's continued blessing on his life.

The Christian, Money, and the Search for Contentment

The recent incident of fraud at the firm Stocks and Securities Limited (SSL) has brought into sharp relief once more the extent to which persons are willing to sacrifice their personal well-being, and perhaps that of their families, to get rich. Of course, this is not a concern for SSL only. There seems to be an epidemic of fraud and corrupt practices at our financial institutions. The worrying thing about this is that those perpetrating these acts are from the young to the middle-aged demographic, and an alarming number of them, notably, are women.

Any well-thinking person must be duly concerned about this metastasizing cancer on the social fabric of our nation. It is a question with which the church has to wrestle and come to terms as many of the crimes being committed are by people who say they subscribe to Christian values and see religious faith as being important in their lives. Yet, there is a disconnect between what is professed and their willingness to compromise those values as they genuflect at the altars of mammon (the god of money). In doing so, they seem not to care whom they hurt or even the pain they are visiting upon themselves or their family members. It is greed run amok.

The Christian Perspective

As Christians, we need to look at this problem from the standpoint of faith. Again, the perennial concern of the place of money in one's life comes to the centre. It is for good reason that Jesus spent more time talking about money or the acquisition of wealth and the consequences of this behavior, than any other topic in the gospels. One of the prominent passages, of course, is Jesus' encounter with the rich young ruler recorded in Mark 10: 17-27. Here the young man could not consider divesting himself of his riches, which meant making a decisive change in his life and following Jesus. Neither could the disciples understand why such a prominent young man who had acquired much and should be admired, would have difficulty getting into heaven. Jesus further compounded



their difficulty by telling them that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to get into the kingdom of God (Mark 10: 25). Ouch!

Gaining the world and losing one's soul as Jesus admonished is not a thought that detains many people in this fast-moving, hyperactive, technological age. The accent is on the unbridled accumulation of material things. The sad thing is that more people are increasingly using illegal means to this end. They find all kinds of justifications for their actions.

The followers of Christ should be urged to discover what believe the Apostle Paul referred to as the power of contentment in his letter to the fledgling church at Philippi. He told them that he had learned in whatever state to be content. That he knew how to be abased and how to abound, how to be full and to be hungry, and how to abound and suffer need (Philippians 4: 11-13). He understood what I describe as the theology of the enough. This takes patience, integrity and diligent watchfulness over one's character. It is about policing the moral imperatives in one's life so that the arms of the state do not have to do it for you. Finally, and most importantly, it means bearing true fidelity to the one we say we believe in, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Contributed by Dr. Raulston Nembhard



PASSING OF THE RT REV ROBERT THOMPSON

Numerous tributes have been paid to the late Bishop Thompson, who died on February 10 after a period of illness, and only a few months before the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the ordained ministry. For a profile of him, see the article on him when he retired in 2020.

<https://www.anglicandioceseja.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/THE-ANGLICAN-Sum2020-10-1.pdf>

Reproduced here in the Tribute from the Diocese of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands. So highly was the late Bishop regarded at home and abroad, that the Requiem Mass for his life, which was streamed on social media, attracted over 12, 000 'views' from Jamaica other countries around the world.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP ROBERT

A Stalwart Servant of Church and Nation

Bishop Robert is remembered across the Diocese of Jamaica & The Cayman Islands for the "single-minded passion" which he displayed for his lifelong pastoral vocation.

A strong, decisive, no-nonsense leader, who was action-oriented, and brutally honest at times, he was an extremely caring and compassionate clergyman who, remained a parish priest at heart, and enjoyed working with his fellow clergy and lay members in the Kingston Region's six parishes for which he had administrative responsibility.

Raised by parents for whom service to church, community and nation was second nature, it's not surprising that our late brother first felt the call to ministry at the tender age of six years. By age 20, that early spark had become an irrepressible flame that led him to the United Theological College of The West Indies (UTCWI) – a decision which he said "was made for me by God."

There was no turning back following his ordination as a Deacon in 1973; and his determined efforts to improve the lives of persons in the Church and the wider community became the hallmark of his 47 years of active ministry. The transformative work undertaken by The St. Andrew Parish Church in Majesty Gardens and the development of the St. Andrew Care Centre for Street Boys which he spearheaded, are testimony to Bishop Robert's commitment to human development. Over the years, he successfully mobilized the voluntary and material support of congregants, private and public sector heads for these and many other projects.

At the Diocesan level, he provided visionary leadership as Chair of the Liturgical Commission, The Jamaica Church Missionary Society, and the renowned Diocesan Festival Choir with which he shared a special bond. He was equally dedicated to the mission of the Church in the Province of the West Indies (CPWI) and the worldwide Anglican Consultative Council which he served in several capacities.

A true patriot and nation-builder Bishop Robert impacted organisations such as The Jamaica Foundation for Lifelong Learning, the Kingston Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), the Institute of Jamaica, The Police Services Commission and the Kingston College Board which benefitted from his insight.

Ever concerned about the relevance of the Church as an agent of change, Bishop Robert has bequeathed an enduring legacy for Christians in Jamaica and post-colonial societies in the developing world with the publication of his seminal book Redemption Song in 2020. His outstanding contribution was recognised by the Government of Jamaica which conferred on him the Order of Distinction, Commander Class (CD) for his exceptional leadership in Church and Community.



The Diocese of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands salutes this "Man of God" who was called to higher service on February 10. May his soul rest in peace and light perpetual shine on him.



*I have fought the good fight,
I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.
2 Timothy 4:7*

Rev. Nina-Rae Barrett: Vibrant and Multi-Skilled

Although she entered the job market as a trained Commis Chef, with Level 2 Certification from the Heart Trust/NTA and an Associate Degree from Western Hospitality Institute and Liaison College, in Canada, The Rev. Nina-Rae Omoy Barrett, never gave up her dream of becoming an ordained minister. This desire took hold after she left high school, and was nurtured over the years, thanks to her mother, Elaine, Canon Glen Prince, Rev. Monique Campbell, and Sister Andrea Taylor-Smith.

On November 6, 2023, she was admitted as the first female Rector of the Lucea Parish Church in Hanover. Described as a humble and loving priest, Rev. Nina-Rae sees her admission as a benchmark for fulfilling God's Glory. Her pastoral journey began in 2013 when she entered the United Theological College of the West Indies (UTCWI), where she obtained a Diploma and a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Ministerial Studies. She was ordained deacon in 2017, and priest in 2018. Prior to her appointment in the Lucea Cure in October 2019, she served her curacy at St. Gabriel's, May Pen from July 2017 to September 2019.

How would you describe your ministry as a woman in the cure and wider community?

My ministry is well received, as the focus is not on my gender, but on the fact that I am a vibrant priest. My congregants believe that I have brought new insight as it relates to Biblical and doctrinal studies. I am also perceived as being approachable and reachable, and this is largely attributed to my dedication to pastoral care. For instance, I visit their homes when they are ill or there is a death in the family; and they appreciate this.

Ministry can be challenging at times. What helps you to remain grounded?

Being able to find God in ordinary activities, and having friends and family help me 'reset and recharge'. I also read a lot, and reflect on those promises that God will be with me always. I love to cook and the kitchen is my sacred space, where I talk with God as I prepare meals. Recently, I have taken up gardening, which allows me to experience God in nature, and converse with Him. I also enjoy going to the beach in my spare time.

What is the most challenging aspect of your ministry at this time?

People are not availing themselves to do ministry. God has done so much for us (post-COVID) and it is discouraging



that people are not responding to God's love. Many are not willing to participate in the life of the church, and they seem to believe that it is the priest who must do everything.

What would you say is the most exciting part of your life in ministry?

Community work! I, along with volunteers from Lucea Parish Church, enjoy working at the Soup Kitchen which is run by the Ministers' Fraternal of Lucea. In this programme, we feed the hungry. Similarly, at Grange, there is the Saturday Soup Ministry, which caters to the elderly in the community at least twice per month. At St. Bartholomew, Dalmally, the church caters to the needs of students doing the Primary Exit Profile (PEP) exams, by feeding and conducting extra lessons. Members also lead devotion at the school. The joy of meeting people where they are and responding to their needs makes me excited about ministry.

Concluding Reflection

Looking back on my journey, my culinary skills are not wasted, as I realise that God equipped me for ministry to cater to the needs of others. Comments by members, such as, "Rev, I can see that you love what yuh duh" are a certain confirmation that God has called me; and I am committed to serving Him to the end.

**Based on an interview conducted by
The Rev. Orlando Gayle**

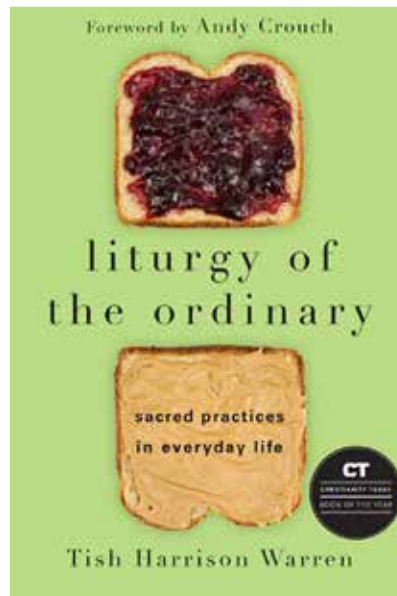
Liturgy of the Ordinary – Sacred Practices in Everyday Life: 2016: IVP Press

As an Anglican Christian, life is lived and reflected in liturgical seasons, walking through the life of Christ yearly. We celebrate and participate in Baptism, the Eucharist, confessions, and other practices. But, very often, we do not reflect on our daily activities as being sacred.

Tish Warren, a priest in the Anglican Church of North America (not affiliated with the Anglican Communion), walks through a day and theologically reflects on the routine activities. The book is an easy read and is a real eye-opener as what and how she describes daily activities is very relatable. She suggests that we are not only to believe theological concepts but also to live by them, giving new meaning to living incarnationally. This demonstrates God and the sacred playing an active role in the banality or dullness of life.

I believe that everything we do is worship. Warren's chapter titles are interesting and take this concept to another level. This allows us to see God in the little things we take for granted and shows that the sanctity of life exists in small actions.

Chapter 1: Waking she refers to as Baptism and learning to be beloved. In this chapter, she says when "we first emerge from sleep, we are nothing but human, unimpressive,



vulnerable, newly born into the day." She is reluctant to leave "the womb of her covers." She says Jesus was called beloved before he had done anything grand when he was unknown and just a commoner. Jesus is sent into ministry (his new beginning) with the love of God. Jesus, we understand, acted not to gain the father's love but because of the father's love for him and the world (John 3:16)

Other chapter titles are: **Making the Bed** – Liturgy, Ritual, and What Forms a Life; **Brushing teeth** – Standing, Kneeling, Bowing, and Living in a Body; **Losing Keys** – Confession and the Truth About Ourselves; **Fighting with My Husband** – Passing the Peace and the Everyday

Work of Shalom; **Checking Email** – Blessing and Sending; **Sitting in Traffic** – Liturgical Time and an Unhurried God (If only we could see traffic that way); Sleeping – Sabbath, Rest, and the Work of God.

There are questions and discussion topics, as well as sacred practice suggestions toward the end of the book, allowing readers to reflect further on the liturgy of life.

Jesus did mundane things, not just perform miracles. He saw all he did as being to the glory of God. Tish Warren has managed to show us how our day is a testimony to God's work within us and through us to others.

Review by: The Rev. Hilda Vaughan

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 11 – 14: The 152nd Synod of the Diocese of Jamaica & The Cayman Islands under the theme: **"A Renewed Church for a time of Critical Social Change."** Opening Service on April 11 at 4.00 pm at the St. James Parish Church, Montego Bay. The Service will feature the Archbishop's Charge to the Church and the Nation and it will be streamed live. Business sessions will be held at the Holiday Inn Resort and Spa.
- May 19-21: The annual Healing Conference celebrates its 50th Anniversary under the theme: **"50 Years of Healing and Beyond."** The Conference, which has consistently attracted participants from Jamaica, the Caribbean and North America, will be held at the Holiday Inn Resort and Spa in Montego Bay. Highlights include the publication of a 50th Anniversary Magazine, Youth Night

on Friday, May 19, and the Healing Service on May 21 at which Archbishop Howard Gregory will be the Celebrant.

- June 15-24: Bishops of the Diocese of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, as well as the Province of the West Indies, will be attending a series of activities being hosted by the Anglican Communion in London to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Empire Windrush which transported thousands of West Indians to Britain following the second World War, to assist in rebuilding the country. A Diocesan Commemorative Service is also proposed for a date to be announced.
- April 23: A benefit performance of The Pantomime Company's Trash and Hype will be staged at the Little Theatre to support establishment of the Ancile and Barbara Gloudon Scholarship Fund. See details on our Social Media platforms.

THE GIBSON-MCCOOK RELAYS – 50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

The annual Gibson-McCook Relays is one of the most iconic track and field events in Jamaica, known for its vibrant atmosphere and the high level of competition. This event was introduced in 1973 as the Gibson Relays, in memory of Bishop Percival Gibson, the founder and legendary first headmaster of Kingston College.

Bishop Gibson was a revered figure in the Anglican community in Jamaica. He played a significant role in the education of young men, and his contributions to Kingston College were immeasurable.

The idea of Kingston College's track coach, Dennis Johnson, the first Gibson Relays held at the National Stadium on February 24, 1973, was a massive success, attracting more than 6,000 spectators. Kingston College earned the Championship Trophy, winning five of the twelve events which included relays, sprints, hurdles, and field events.

Over the years, the Meet has grown in popularity, and it has become one of the most anticipated sporting events in Jamaica. In 2015, it was renamed the Gibson-McCook Relays, to also honour the first chairman of its organizing committee, Neville "Teddy" McCook.

Neville "Teddy" McCook was a former President of the Jamaica Athletics Administrative Association (JAAA) and played a significant role in the development of track and field in Jamaica, as well as the growth of the Gibson-McCook Relays.

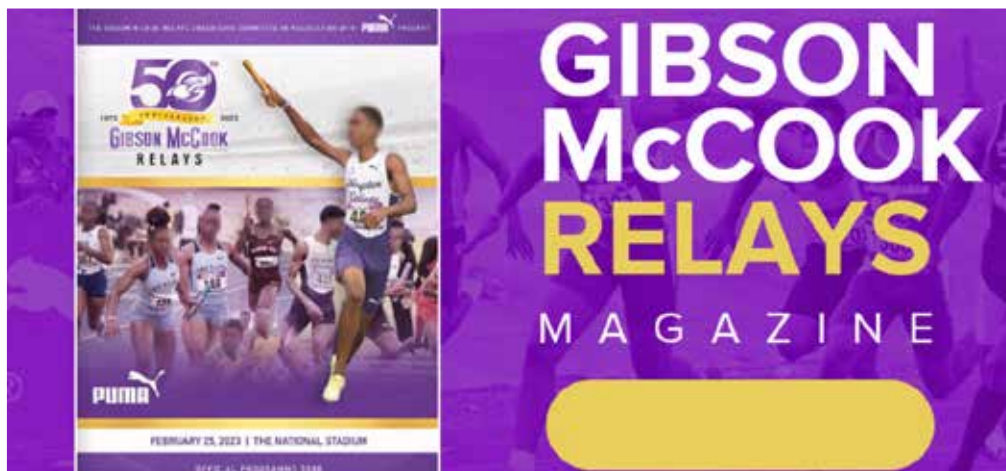
The Gibson-McCook Relays has continued to attract top talent from Jamaica and other

countries, including the United States and Canada. Some of the world's best athletes have competed in this event, including Jamaica's Usain Bolt, Yohan Blake, Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, and Elaine Thompson. The Relays have also provided a platform for young athletes striving for excellence, to showcase their talents and earn scholarships to universities in Jamaica and abroad.

The success of this event has highlighted the importance of sports in the holistic development of young persons, and encouraged the establishment of other track and field meets in Jamaica, which has further enhanced the country's reputation as a powerhouse in athletics.

As we reflect on the history of the Gibson-McCook Relays, we are reminded of the important role that sport can play in bringing people together and promoting goodwill and fellowship. We are grateful for the contributions of Bishop Percival Gibson and Teddy McCook, and we look forward to many more years of exciting and memorable track and field competition at this event.

Contributed by: The Rev. Michael Brown



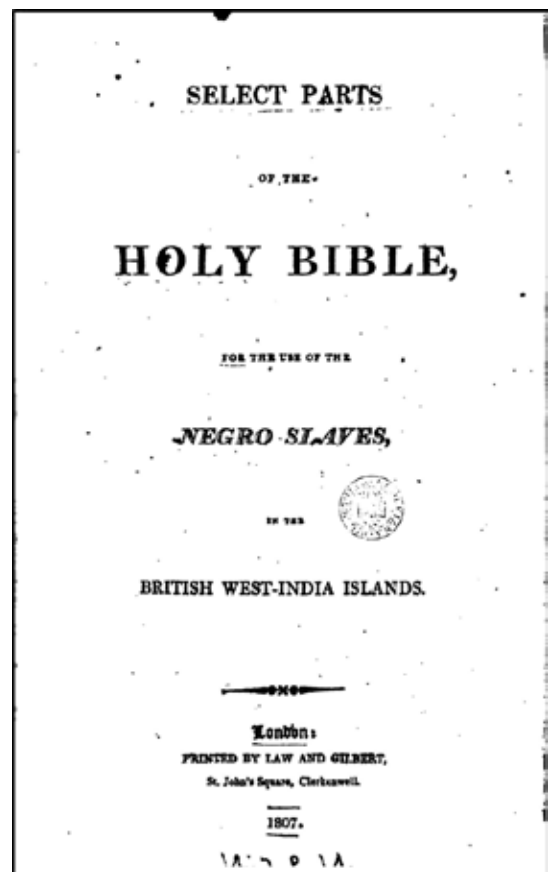
LAMBETH EXHIBITION ON SLAVERY

In January 2023 an exhibition was opened in the Library of Lambeth Palace, London, displaying the involvement of the Church of England in trans-Atlantic slavery. It is part of the ongoing attempt to illustrate the ways in which all sectors of British society, including the Church, became involved in that 'odious business'.

The display showed documents relating to Queen Anne's Bounty, the scheme which drew on monies generated by the South Sea Company, which was involved in transporting 64,000 African slaves to the Americas between 1715 and 1731. It was those accumulated profits that eventually formed part of the revenues of the Church Commissioners from which it is proposed to finance a 100-million-pound fund to help those still struggling with the effects of slavery. Among the items on display were a personal appeal by a slave in the 18th century to the Archbishop of Canterbury seeking relief from bondage; letters from Anglican priests in the West Indies relating to the baptism of slaves; and reports on the religious instruction and education of slaves, in which the Church played a prominent role.

Also featured was the controversial 'Slave Bible' of 1807. This contained selections of scripture and was produced by the Incorporated Society for the Conversion and Religious Instruction of Slaves, an organization set up by the Bishop of London, Beilby Porteous, in 1794 to bring the message of the Gospel to the slaves. Although scholars have argued over the omission of some portions of Scripture relating to slavery, analysis of the 'Slave Bible' is important to our understanding of the Church and slavery in those times. The Lambeth copy is extremely rare, being one of only three known copies still existing. To date, no copies have been discovered in the Caribbean. The exhibition closes on April 4.

Contributed by: Dr. Trevor Hope



From the label of the Slave Bible

Whereas a standard protestant Bible contains 1,189 chapters, this version contains only 232. It excludes 90% of the Old Testament, and 50% of the New Testament. Many references to freedom and escape from slavery were removed and some passages encouraging loyalty and submission to masters were emphasised. For instance, the text skips directly from Genesis 45:28 to Exodus 19. It includes the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), but the first 18 books of Exodus, in which the Israelites escape slavery in Egypt, have been removed.

CONGRATULATIONS

Rev. Olando Gayle and wife, Loren on the birth of their daughter Gabrielle on January 28

Rev Mark Barrington Jones, on his installation as Rector of the Christ Church, Christiana, Cure on 19 February

Mrs Joan Thomas Edwards, on her appointment as Jamaica's High Commissioner to South Africa, effective April 1. She was nurtured at St Boniface Church, Harbour View, and is a member of the Church of the Transfiguration, Meadowbrook



L-R (Pic1) Canon Dr. Georgia Jervis with Ambassador Joan Thomas Edwards and (pic2) also with Archbishop Dr. Howard Gregory



AROUND THE DIOCESE

Welcome

Ms Kareen Stoddart, new Administrative Assistant at Hillcrest Diocesan Retreat Centre, effective February 1. She has over 20 years' experience in the Customer Service Environment and is skilled in planning and executing events and is certified in Events Planning and Management. The mother of three children, enjoys Baking, Singing, listening to Music, Decorating, and her involvement with cultural activities are some of the ways our new Administrative Assistant relaxes.

CONDOLENCES

We offer condolences to the families of the following persons who have died since the beginning of 2023

- Deaconess Esmin Peters, on February 1 (see page 8)
- Mrs. Cynthia Major-Campbell, mother of The Very Rev. Sean Major-Campbell, Rector of Christ Church, Vinyard Town and Rural Dean of Kingston, on February 3,
- The Rt. Rev. Robert Thompson, retired Suffragan Bishop of Kingston, on February 10. (see page 10)
- Mrs. Julia Manderson-Steele, sister of The Rev. Canon Charles Manderson, Rector of the Church of the Resurrection, Portmore
- Mrs. Winnie Blackwood, mother of The Rev. Seymour Blackwood, the Church of the Ascension, Mona



SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS

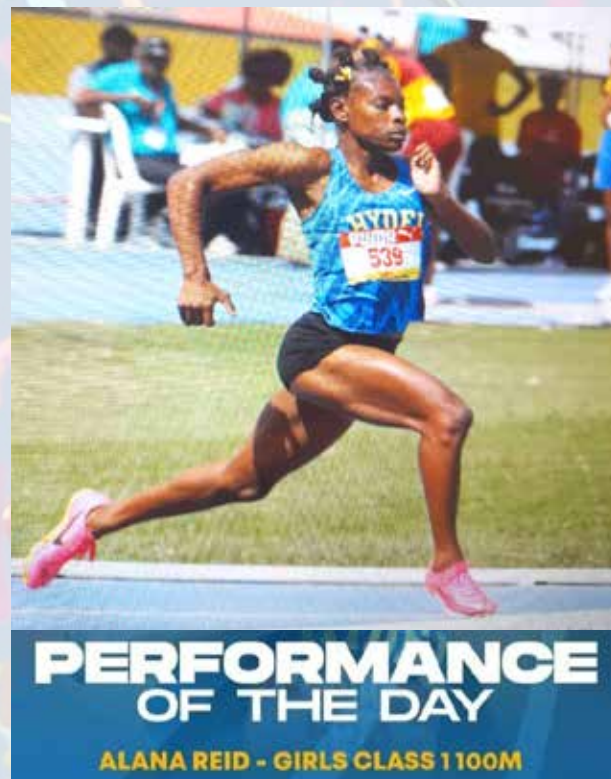
Congratulations to
KINGSTON COLLEGE
Winners of Boys' Champs



Congratulations to ALANA REID a member of
Church of the Holy Spirit, Portmore and from
the winning Girls School HYDEL HIGH



*Rev. Michael Brown, Chaplain at Kingston College with the
Championship Trophy*



WINNERS

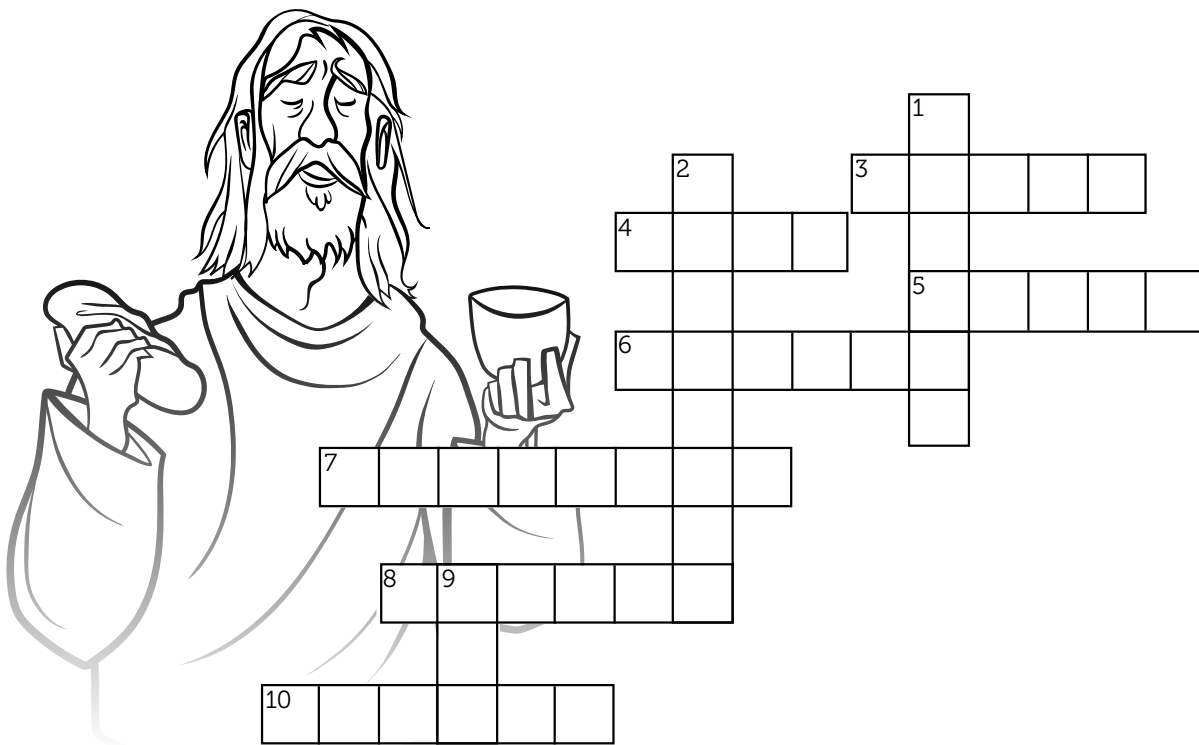


*From left: St. Jago Board Chairman Lissa Grant, Deputy CEO, TVJ, Dr. Claire Grant,
celebrate the Schools Challenge Quiz victory, along with Gill Chambers, a friend.*

PUZZLE CORNER

THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

**Matthew 26:1-27:55,
Mark 14:22-15:40;
Luke 22:1-23:56; John 18:1-19:37**



Across

3. The disciple who betrayed Jesus was _____.
4. Jesus died for the _____ of everyone in the world
5. Who denied knowing Jesus?
6. What was the Roman leader's name?
7. Jesus was crucified on a hill called _____, which means 'Hill of the Skull.'
8. Jesus _____ the injured soldier.
10. Jesus told his disciples that one of them would _____ him.

Down

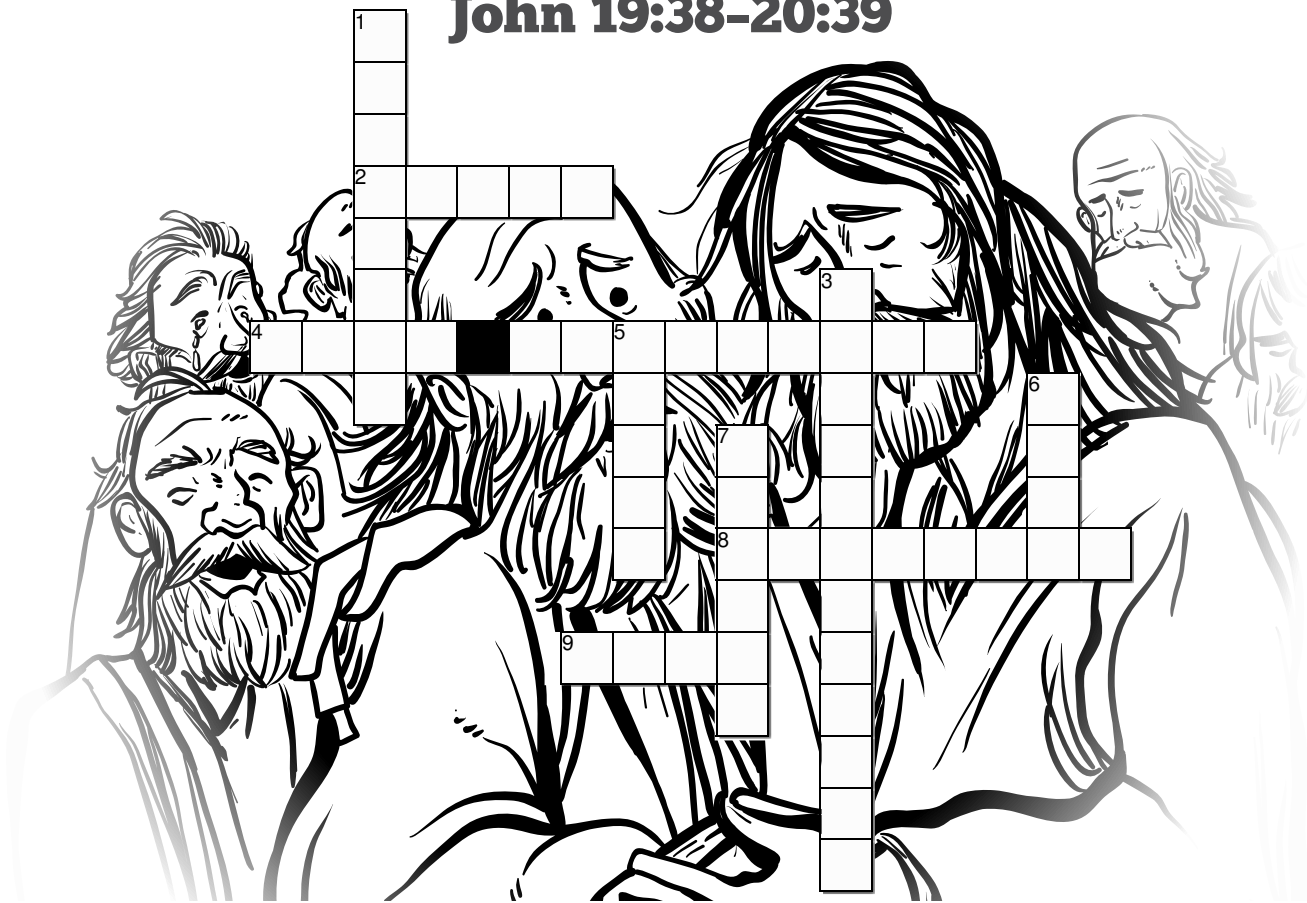
1. During the festival of Passover, Jesus and his disciples had their last _____ together.
2. Jesus's last words were 'It is _____.'
9. When Peter was trying to protect Jesus from the soldiers he cut off the _____ of one soldier.



PUZZLE CORNER

THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

**Matthew 27:57-28:15;
Mark 15:42-16:8; Luke 24:1-49;
John 19:38-20:39**



Across

2. On the ____ day after Jesus's burial, a few of the women decided to visit the tomb.
4. Who was the first person to reach the tomb?
8. Mary thought Jesus was the ____ at first.
9. When Jesus visited the disciples, he didn't use the door. He just walked through the ____.

Down

1. Jesus told Mary to 'Go and tell my ____.
3. Jesus appeared to many more people and word spread of his ____.
5. To prove that he wasn't a __, Jesus ate with his friends.
6. Jesus told Thomas to touch his hands and __ so that he would believe.
7. Who told the women, "Jesus isn't here. He has risen!"?



Tune in to

Think on these Things

Every Sunday at 4:45pm
on Radio Jamaica
or Listen to the repeat on our website



LIFELONG STEWARDSHIP

Based on the gift each one has received,
use it to serve others, as good managers
of the varied grace of God.

1 Peter 4:10

While you are contemplating bequeathing your assets, you may wish to consider a charitable bequest to the Diocese of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands and its various ministries. Bequests may be made in your memory, if you so desire. We suggest that you discuss the matter with your attorney-at-law (or financial planner) prior to making any final decision.

For further information please contact
The Diocesan Secretary
Mrs Jacqueline Mighty
Tel: 960-0905
email: jmighty@anglicandiocese.com

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DIOCESE OF
JAMAICA & THE CAYMAN
ISLANDS



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