

## Advent Calendars—in September!!

The Real Advent Calendar Team Writes:

“As autumn approaches and the situation around a possible second wave of the virus remains unclear, it might be tempting to 'cancel' Christmas. But I believe it is more important than ever that we find ways to share the Christmas story and support Fairtrade.

**That is why we have decided to produce** a special edition 2020 Real Advent Calendar, with rainbow markings and a new Christmas story activity book.

**Because of the uncertainty this year** we need you to buy now or to start planning to buy for Christmas early. I realise this is unusual but production across the UK is going to be limited this year.



**For the past ten years**, we have relied on people being champions by buying direct from us, spreading the word, collecting orders and encouraging others to buy. **Will you be a Champion and collect orders from your church family.**

If you would be willing to be the email contact and organise this for us, we can get the Christmas Message out this year. The Calendar will be £3.99” Please **email Raymond to let him know that you are happy to take this on.**

## Vietnam—No 21

**Vietnam is now a very popular country with tourists.** Many don't realise the extent of the very distressing persecution local Christians face in Vietnam.

**The Christian minority in Vietnam** endures persecution from both the government and their own tribe. Seen as traitors to their cultural identity, village leaders exclude Christians from the community. Villagers also work with local authorities who disrupt Christian meetings, beat up Christians and expel them from their homes.

**Ethnic minority Christian children are discriminated** against in schools; Some aren't even allowed to attend. Their medical needs also are often neglected.



## It is 1662 Holy Communion on Sunday at 9am

**Thomas Cranmer produced the first Book of Common Prayer (BCP)** back in 1549 as an all-in-one resource for congregations. He drew on many existing texts and liturgies.



**The BCP** was printed two years after the restoration of the monarchy! Charles I had already been beheaded and Oliver Cromwell's time as Lord Protector was already in the past. The BCP had been revised in 1552, 1559, 1604, and finally in 1662.

**Its first hundred years proved to be a very stormy time for the Prayer Book.** Its original author, Thomas Cranmer, was burned at the stake by Queen Mary. Oliver Cromwell disapproved of it. The Puritan element in Britain wanted to see it done away with root and branch.

**The Scots were so hostile towards it** that the Bishop of Brechin once celebrated Holy Communion from the Prayer Book while pointing a pistol at the heads of his congregation! Happily the 9am don't usually need that kind of persuasion.

**We love its wonderful words and phrases**, its profound Biblical theology and its strong call to personal holiness.

**The language is of course archaic. 1662 was a long time ago.** The vicar says most of the words in the service, congregation does not participate in the liturgy in anything like the way we do when using Common Worship. Nevertheless, there is so much to appreciate in it as we hope you will discover if you join us.

## Orchid Care Home - Worship Services Continue

**Although Raymond is not allowed to enter Orchid** at the present time, services are continuing, thanks to the initiative of the irrepressible **June Freeman**.



**June, who is 91**, has been attending our 11am service with her son **Ivan** for a couple of years. She led her very first service in Orchid on Monday afternoon. CS Lewis words seemed very appropriate.

**This is a first for June and for Orchid.** But it will not be "a last". The next service at Orchid will take place on Monday. June has proved that Covid19 need not bring everything to a halt.

**Prayers: June Westwood** as she keeps the flame of faith alive for the residents in Orchid Care Home. (see p 3). **Our PCC and MLT**— that we may be imaginative and make the very best of the opportunities God gives us to serve him. For **Cathy Okoronkwo** in her role as Adviser on Racial Justice: **Daphne Carter** who has had a diagnosis of macular degeneration. We thank God it is still at an early stage and does not affect her sight. Pray for **Daphne and Donald** as they come to terms with this unexpected news and put their hands into the hand of God.

**Next Week's Bulletin—Two important items.**

- ◆ **Revd Cathy Okoronkwo has taken the trouble to answer** a number of questions that congregation members asked about her sermon last week. We will publish them next week in full so you can all read them.
- ◆ **We will also bring you up to date** with the latest news of **Godfrey Kasana**. Although PCC was prepared to pay the full cost, two other churches and our own church members have contributed to get Godfrey back on the road. It is another wonderful story of generosity.



**Please pray for our church family**

Mon	Pauline Stacey
Tue	Ann Startin-field
Wed	Dorothy Strowger
Thurs	Brian and Susan Sweetman
Fri	Maureen Taylor
Sat	John and Jane Tibangu
Sun	Doreen Titcombe

**Lesley Hawkes** recently celebrated a significant birthday.

It's a bit late but we want to say



**Services Next Week**

20 Sept	9am live	New Series Paul Under Pressure (Lessons from the End of Acts)	Raymond Adams
20 Sept	11am		Raymond Adams



**Sunday**  
**13th Sept. 2020**  
**Trinity + 14**



***“People Judge Me Before They Even Know Me”***

Time	Service	Preacher	Readings
9.00 am	1662 Holy Communion	Raymond Adams	Matthew 7:1-5 1 John 4: 18 to end
11 AM	All Age Service	Raymond Adams	Matthew 7:1-5 1 John 4: 18 to end