

# SAINTS ALIVE!

Palm Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup> 2008

Volume 3 Number 5

Canon Berkley regrets his inability to write for **SAINTS ALIVE!** this month; this has been a very busy and difficult time for him, with too many conflicting demands on his time.

He has indicated, however, his desire to thank those parishioners who took the time from their busy schedules to attend our very important AGM on Wednesday and to congratulate and welcome our new Vestry members and Synod Representatives. Their names are indicated below. He is grateful, too, to the past Vestry and its various committees for their hard work. In this context, he extended very special thanks to Mr. Eric Drew for his committed leadership in bringing our infrastructural development to the current stage of near completion – we await only inspection by T&TEC, and can then test and commission the Air Conditioning units.

He noted that our Lenten Mission Services, the Friday midday services and the Stations of the Cross, while not as well attended as might have been hoped, have been very meaningful to those present. He hopes that as many as possible will be able to take part in the Parish Day of Prayer and Fasting, to be held on Tuesday March 18<sup>th</sup> at the Chapel of Ease, as part of their Holy Week observances.

Further, he observed that, by the time you read this, our Assistant Curate should have been able to move into the refurbished Curate's Apartment. It should be noted that Rev'd Tenia chose to live with her family at home in San Fernando, driving daily to Port of Spain, while awaiting the completion of the work. She graciously declined the Canon's offer of accommodation closer to All Saints'. Major-General Ralph Brown, the Rector's Warden, was thanked for overseeing the work and ensuring that the apartment is now in excellent condition.

## ***ALL SAINTS' VESTRY – 2008-2009***

***Rector & Chairman*** Rev'd Canon Claude Berkley

***Assistant Curate*** Rev'd Shelley-Ann Tenia

***Rector's Warden*** Major-General Ralph Brown

***People's Warden*** Mrs Caryl Hinkson

## ***Members*** Mr Eric Drew

Ms Louella Edwards

Mrs Pat Garcia-Quintal

Mrs Beverley-Anne Holford-Jack

Mrs Edith Johnson

Mrs Paula Kalkman

Mrs Tressa Lawrence

Mrs Roxane Lee-Affonso

Ms Marguerite Moore

Mrs Dianne Piper-Salandy

Ms Brenda Reid

## ***Chapel of Ease Management Committee***

Mrs Patricia

Clarke

Mr Brian Jones

Mrs Roberta White

## ***Delegates to Synod***

Mrs Patricia Clarke

Ms Louella Edwards

Mrs Pat Garcia-Quintal

## ***The following will be selected at the first meeting of the new Vestry:***

1. Persons to perform the roles of Secretary and Treasurer

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2. Members of the Facilities Management, Finance and Administration, Social Outreach and Welfare and Christian Education Committees
3. Three representatives to North West Regional Council

## **THE ANGLICAN WAY: SIGNPOSTS ON A COMMON JOURNEY**

### **THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION FOR THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION (TEAC)**

*This document has emerged as part of a four year process in which church leaders, theologians and educators have come together from around the world to discuss the teaching of Anglican identity, life and practice. They clarified the characteristic ways in which Anglicans understand themselves and their mission in the world. These features, described as the 'Anglican Way', were intended to form the basis for how Anglicanism is taught at all levels of learning, involving laity, clergy and bishops.*

*This document is not intended as a comprehensive definition of Anglicanism, but it does set in place signposts which guide Anglicans on their journey of self-understanding and Christian discipleship. The journey is on-going because what it means to be Anglican will be influenced by context and history. Historically, a number of different forms of being Anglican have emerged, all of which can be found in the rich diversity of present-day Anglicanism. But Anglicans also have their commonalities, and it is these which hold them together in communion through 'bonds of affection'. The signposts set out below are offered in the hope that they will point the way to a clearer understanding of Anglican identity and ministry, so that all Anglicans can be effectively taught and equipped for their service to God's mission in the world.*

***The Anglican Way** is a particular expression of the Christian Way of being the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ. It is formed by and rooted in Scripture, shaped by its worship of the living God, ordered for communion, and directed in faithfulness to God's mission in the world. In diverse global situations Anglican life and ministry witnesses to the incarnate, crucified and risen Lord, and is empowered by the Holy Spirit. Together with all Christians, Anglicans hope, pray and work for the coming of the reign of God.*

### **Formed By Scripture**

1. As Anglicans, we discern the voice of the living God in the Holy Scriptures, mediated by tradition and reason. We read the Bible together, corporately and individually, with a grateful and critical sense of the past, a vigorous engagement with the present, and with patient hope for God's future.

2. We cherish the whole of Scripture for every aspect of our lives, and we value the many ways in which it teaches us to follow Christ faithfully in a variety of contexts. We pray and sing the Scriptures through liturgy and hymnody. Lectionaries connect us with the breadth of the Bible, and through preaching we interpret and apply the fullness of Scripture to our shared life in the world.

3. Accepting their authority, we listen to the Scriptures with open hearts and attentive minds. They have shaped our rich inheritance: for example, the ecumenical creeds of the early Church, the Book of Common Prayer, and Anglican formularies such as the Articles of Religion, catechisms and the Lambeth Quadrilateral.

4. In our proclamation and witness to the Word Incarnate, we value the tradition of scholarly engagement with the Scriptures from earliest centuries to the present day. We desire to be a true learning community as we live out our faith, looking to one another for wisdom, strength and hope on our journey. We constantly discover that new situations call for fresh expressions of a scripturally informed faith and spiritual life.

### **Shaped Through Worship**

5. Our relationship with God is nurtured through our encounter with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in word and sacrament. This experience enriches and

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shapes our understanding of God and our communion with one another.

6. As Anglicans we offer praise to the Triune Holy God, expressed through corporate worship, combining order with freedom. In penitence and thanksgiving, we offer ourselves in service to God in the world.

7. Through our liturgies and forms of worship we seek to integrate the rich traditions of the past with the varied cultures of our diverse communities.

8. As broken and sinful persons and communities, aware of our need of God's mercy, we live by grace through faith and continually strive to offer holy lives to God. Forgiven through Christ and strengthened by word and sacrament, we are sent out into the world in the power of the Spirit.

### ***Ordered For Communion***

9. In our episcopally led and synodically governed dioceses and provinces, we rejoice in the diverse callings of all the baptised. As outlined in the ordinals, the threefold servant ministries of bishops, priests and deacons assist in the affirmation, coordination and development of these callings as discerned and exercised by the whole people of God.

10. As worldwide Anglicans, we value our relationships with one another. We look to the Archbishop of Canterbury as a focus of unity and gather in communion with the See of Canterbury. In addition we are sustained through three formal instruments of communion: The Lambeth Conference, The Anglican Consultative Council and The Primates' Meeting. The Archbishop of Canterbury and these three instruments offer cohesion to global Anglicanism, yet limit the centralisation of authority. They rely on bonds of affection for effective functioning.

11. We recognise the contribution of the mission agencies and other international bodies such as the Mothers' Union. Our common life in the Body of Christ is also strengthened by commissions, task groups, networks of fellowship, regional activities, theological institutions and companion links.

### ***Directed By God's Mission***

12. As Anglicans we are called to participate in God's mission in the world, by embracing respectful evangelism, loving service and prophetic witness. As we do so in all our varied contexts, we bear witness to and follow Jesus Christ, the crucified and risen Saviour. We celebrate God's reconciling and life-giving mission through the creative, costly and

faithful witness and ministry of men, women and children, past and present, across our Communion.

13. Nevertheless, as Anglicans we are keenly aware that our common life and engagement in God's mission are tainted with shortcomings and failure, such as negative aspects of colonial heritage, self-serving abuse of power and privilege, undervaluing of the contributions of laity and women, inequitable distribution of resources, and blindness to the experience of the poor and oppressed. As a result, we seek to follow the Lord with renewed humility so that we may freely and joyfully spread the good news of salvation in word and deed.

14. Confident in Christ, we join with all people of good will as we work for God's peace, justice and reconciling love. We recognise the immense challenges posed by secularisation, poverty, unbridled greed, violence, religious persecution, environmental degradation, and HIV and Aids. In response, we engage in prophetic critique of destructive political and religious ideologies, and we build on a heritage of care for human welfare expressed through education, health care and reconciliation.

15. In our relationships and dialogue with other faith communities we combine witness to the Lordship of Jesus Christ with a desire for peace, and mutual respect and understanding.

16. As Anglicans, baptised into Christ, we share in the mission of God with all Christians and are deeply committed to building ecumenical relationships. Our reformed catholic tradition has proved to be a gift we are able to bring to ecumenical endeavour. We invest in dialogue with other churches, based on trust and a desire that the whole company of God's

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people may grow into the fullness of unity to which  
God calls us that the world may believe the gospel.

***SAINTS ALIVE!** acknowledges, with gratitude, the final issue of 'Anglican Episcopal World' (Advent 2007) as the source of this thoughtful and thought-provoking article.*

TEAC Anglican Way Consultation  
Singapore, May 2007

### **ONE DAY I WILL BE ME**

I will soar higher than the  
eagles,  
Not because of the eagles  
But because I want to soar.

I will howl at the moon  
Because it's there  
And I want to howl.

And I will listen to people  
Not because I'm afraid not to  
But because I WANT TO!

And yes, I will love my  
neighbour,  
Not because I should  
It will just bet something that I  
WANT TO DO!

And on that day,  
My God will say  
This is My Creation  
In My Own Image,  
In My Own Likeness.  
And she's simply being ME.

By Joan M. Christopher  
Copyright 28-02-08  
*SAINTS ALIVE!* thanks Joan for her  
permission to print this.

### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

Cowardice asks the question, 'Is it safe?' Expediency asks the question, 'Is it politic?' Vanity asks the question, 'Is it popular?' But, conscience asks the question, 'Is it right?' And there comes a time when one

must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular but one must take it because one's conscience tells one that it is right.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

### **GROWTH**

**One day all the employees reached office** and saw a big notice on the door. It read 'The person who had been hindering your growth passed away yesterday. You are requested to join the funeral and prayers which have been organized in the gym'.

**At the start, all were sad for the death of one of their colleagues**, but after a while they started getting curious to know who it was that hindered their growth.

**The excitement in the gym grew** such that security agents were ordered to control the crowd within the room. More the people reached the coffin, more the excitement heated up. Everyone thought: 'Who could this be? Who was hindering my progress?'

**One by one the thrilled employees got closer to the coffin**, and when they looked inside it, they suddenly became speechless. They stood nearby the coffin, shocked and in silence, as if someone had touched the deepest part of their soul.

**There was a mirror inside the coffin:** everyone who looked inside it could see himself. There was also a sign next to the mirror that said: 'There is only one person who is capable to set limits to your growth: it is YOU. You are the only person who can revolutionise your life. You are the only person who can influence your happiness, your realisation and your success.

You are the only person who can help yourself. Your life does not change when your boss changes, when your friends change, when your partner changes, when your company changes.

**Your life changes when YOU change**, when you go beyond your limiting beliefs, when you realize that you are the only one responsible for your life.

**The most important relationship** you can have, is the one you have with yourself.' Examine yourself, watch yourself. Don't be afraid of

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difficulties, impossibilities and losses: be a winner, build yourself and your reality.

**The world is like a mirror:** it gives back to anyone the reflection of the thoughts in

which one has strongly believed. The world and your reality are like mirrors laying in a coffin, which show to any individual the death of his divine capability to imagine and create his happiness and his success.

**It's the way you face Life that makes the difference.**

*Received via e-mail*

## THE ALL SAINTS' OFFICE

How much do parishioners know about the work of our office? There are lots of perceptions, of course, but are they accurate? Surely, it's a gentle, slow-paced job – more of a pastime really? There can't be much real work involved. So, anyone could do this work? OK! Well, let's consider it from several angles:

### 1. The Expectations

As an office worker, the following qualities are expected; All Saints' office is no exception:

- Smiling – you must always wear a smile.
- Welcoming – yes, we are so pleased to see you.
- Clairvoyant – able to divine the very specific needs of a thousand very different parishioners, whose explanation especially by phone may not always be quite clear.
- Expert at multi-tasking – able, for example, to deal with the painters and the A/C technicians, create the Bulletin, receipt monies and respond in person to the needs of a parishioner – all at the same time! And answer the Canon, when he phones to find out why incoming calls are not answered immediately – like within three rings! O dear .....
- Accurate – mistakes are made, of course and, in written material, the Canon has his teacher's red pen always at the ready – very ready!
- Committed, humble, ever-smiling and thick-skinned (or better, deaf!) to comments about you, your performance, what you are wearing or, well, much more... These may be made directly or relayed by a number of mechanisms.
- Patient – yes, very patient; always, no matter what ...

Assuming you possess these qualities, what will you experience in your work in the All Saints' office? While this may not accord with the job description, we will consider your experiences in two categories:

### 2. The Hazards – A Somewhat Lengthy List!

- Regular visits from vagrants, old and young, clean and well-dressed or otherwise – all very insistent in their demands that you, as a representative of your Church, MUST attend to their needs – usually, of course, financial. And, should you do so, they'll be back. And, should you fail to do so, they'll be back. But the vagrants and other undesirables are becoming more frequent in their visits, and more insistent in their demands for attention, sometimes shaking the door vigorously. And the door isn't quite as secure as the walls of Jericho may have seemed; nor is the staff fit to withstand a siege.
- Another regular occurrence – someone, or perhaps several persons, calls on Friday needing a last minute insertion, rarely brief, into the Bulletin. But, as the bulletin went to the printers on Thursday morning, this necessitates apologetic, begging calls to our very understanding printers; they must now re-format the document prior to printing it and getting it back to us before they finish work late on Friday evening.
- And there are some parishioners who don't seem to be in possession of a phone book. Yes, many of us are guilty of that one – some repeatedly! For Directory Enquires, please dial 6411, not 627-7004! And we have a website with lots of useful information, including times of services, upcoming events, photos of recent events and much more, at **[www.allsaintschurchtt.org](http://www.allsaintschurchtt.org)**. Yes, we know not everyone is connected, but those who are – please make use of it!
- The photocopy machine ceases to function, but all outgoing documents must be copied, and all copies filed. The concept of the paperless office

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is yet to arrive at All Saints'. So, where's the nearest copy machine? Down Woodford Street.

- Lunch at 2.30 or 3 pm – or perhaps not at all. But perhaps that's a bonus for those with weight to lose! With the further benefit of not needing to prepare and bring lunch the next day, as yesterday's remains in the fridge.
- The burglar alarm in the Church can easily be forgotten. Oooooooooops! A loud reminder will inform the world of your sin!

Sometimes '*a real grind*' is the only accurate description, caused by, for example:

- The operation of what one might describe as '*The City Gate Syndrome*'. If you have ever been to City Gate you'll understand. It has to do with too many people, all in a hurry, all needing urgently to be somewhere else ...
- There are times when there's simply too much to be done in too little time, as for example, seven Bulletins to be produced in one week before the printers take their Christmas break. And this is alongside all the regular work.
- Friday afternoon arrives and there's been no time to deal with the weekly finances spreadsheet. Now this is an accounting masterpiece in Excel for the competent; for the incompetent, it's Friday afternoon horrors! It has to balance – and doing it in a rush is not conducive to achieving this happy state of affairs!

Do our employees lie awake at night worrying about their work? Surely there could be nothing to cause this? Think again! There are worries:

- Another earthquake; the last one caused severe alarm to persons usually resilient in such events. A computer monitor shook violently, windows rattled, chairs conveyed interesting sensations to those seated thereon and Fr. Ackbarali was rudely awakened from his afternoon nap. But, as always, God was with us; the wobbly angel on the reredos, which surely would have fallen and been smashed, had been fixed firmly in place just the day before.  
The Canon was in Diocesan Synod in Antigua, where it was much stronger. How do clergy react to such things, one wonders? Stoicism, for

God looks after His own? Prayers? Or do they follow established procedure and dive under the tables before starting the prayers?

- A beautiful blushing bride, complete with bridesmaids, groomsmen, ring bearer and flower girls, arrives for her wedding – and no-one knows anything about it! YOU are the reason for this comprehensive and disastrous failure. That's a real nightmare scenario!
- Similarly with a beautiful and well-pampered baby and its proud parents and godparents.

### **3. The Rewards – Fewer in number but greater in quality.**

And what are the rewards of working in our office? Perhaps that should be re-phrased: Are there any rewards? Not financial, certainly, for corporate salary structures do not apply! But there might be:

- A light day without stress or major problems. How would we ever retain employees if this boring situation were the norm?
- A ride on the Port of Spain bus to register marriages or pay the Health Surcharge. Now the PoS bus is a real joy; for \$2.50 (and careful timing of your exit from the office), you'll take the hourly bus from Marli Street corner to town, via Frederick or St Vincent Street. The buses are clean and comfortable, the drivers competent and polite. Some passengers haven't understood about specified bus stops – 'Drive, I'll take it here' is not the way it's done!
- Understanding, or perhaps even grateful parishioners. You'll get the opportunity to learn life's valuable lesson that, while you'll never succeed in pleasing everyone, sometimes you will succeed in pleasing someone.
- Significant assistance in times of need, or with specific duties, from committed parishioners – to whom real appreciation is in order.
- Visitors who are grateful for being taken to see the Church; no, it's not in the job description, but it happens.
- And the General organises a good staff Christmas lunch!

But perhaps that doesn't say it all for, as the Canon is wont to remind you, service is a vocation. And working in our office is a form of service, valued by our community and rewarding to those who serve. But it can also be hectic, stressful and very

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challenging. So what is the reason for this article? is there any way you could make it easier for them?  
To ask you to spare a thought for those who serve –

***SAINTS' PASSAGES - FEBRUARY 2008***

***Baptisms***

Tionne Naima Frederick	February 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Cierra Khaleefa Jordan	February 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Tonika Charlotte Johnna Daniel	February 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Ben Chriss Rajnauth	February 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Adanna DeFreitas-Holder	February 3 <sup>rd</sup>

***Weddings***

Anika Bacchus & Gareth Ballah	February 9 <sup>th</sup>
Allison John Baptist & Sheldon Reid	February 10 <sup>th</sup>

***Funerals***

Lucille Joseph	February 1 <sup>st</sup>
Stephanie Phyllis Gill	February 21 <sup>st</sup>

## ***TEEN DISCOVERY #1 – A GREAT SUCCESS***

On the weekend of February 15-17, about 35 teens arrived at All Saints' Church Memorial Hall, with luggage in hand, prepared to embark on a journey through Teen Discovery, unsure of what awaited them. During the weekend of Teen Discovery, we had the pleasure of hosting youth from the parish, Bishop Anstey High School and Bishop's Centenary College. The theme of the discovery being: Walk in the Light. Participants had the opportunity to connect with other youth from the parish, discuss topics of interest and consider the relevance of teachings of the gospel to daily life.

Participants attended sessions on the church compound during the day and were housed at Community Education Centre in St. Ann's during the night, making the weekend a full residential experience. Youth of the parish had an opportunity to intensively get to know each other in the short space of time, forming strong bonds of friendship that continue even after the weekend's culmination.

In order to make this venture possible, many individuals and groups of the parish came out in full force to lend support and expertise, sacrificing time and resources for the benefit of our youth. A list of all involved would necessitate a full and lengthy document, but attendance at the closing ceremony for the Teen Discovery weekend, fully demonstrated the church-wide effort and support for the weekend that existed. Participants, parents, siblings and those involved in organising the weekend were out in full force. The atmosphere at the closing service was

overwhelmingly one of solidarity, but also thankfulness and joy. Special thanks should be extended to Canon Roach of the Bahamas for his advisory role and for bringing the discovery experience to All Saints'.

So, what did the youths experience during the weekend? Well, as was stated to all the participants: "What happens in Discovery, stays in Discovery!" However when asked what they got out of the weekend, many revealed that they very much enjoyed the experience, it surpassed their expectations and they very much appreciated the opportunity to learn more about God through the weekend.

The weekend was a blessing to all those involved, especially the youth. The fervour of the youth, instilled during the weekend, continues to be evident through record attendance at Saturday youth group meetings. I expect we will see more youth-led endeavours in the future as our youth begin to discern their place in the parish. Through our prayer and encouragement, I believe we can all have a hand in assisting this journey.

The discovery experience is over for now, but hopefully in not too distant future, we will all have a similar opportunity to Discover, through future Teen and even Adult Discoveries.

***SAINTS ALIVE!*** is very grateful to Mark Henry for giving us so much renewed hope for our worrying young people.

## ***PRAYER MADE POSSIBLE***

Let us never forget that our prayers are heard, not because we are in earnest, not because we suffer, but because He suffered. Because our Lord Jesus Christ went through the depths of agony to the last ebb in the Garden of Gethsemane, because he went through Calvary, we have 'boldness to enter into the holiest.' (Heb 10:19).' Oswald Chambers.

This joyful Eastertide can be a bit of a mixed bag of emotions from a spiritual point of view. There's the incredible awe in our salvation right there – the glorious springing from the tomb, the work of redemption achieved once and for all. But there's the agony of the cross, the misery and fear in the garden, the appalling suffering of the innocent and loving

Christ, and the recognition of just what God was prepared to do to bring his people back to him.

Turn-of-the-last-century Baptist minister and inspirational orator, Oswald Chambers, in a compilation of his talks, *'If you will ask'*, considers how the evident suffering of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane is so

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well documented in order to help us begin to fathom the depth of our atonement: 'My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death.' (Matthew 26:38).

Jesus was not known for his exaggeration. Have you ever known such sorrow that it feels like it might kill you? This is the agony of Christ. 'This is the agony of God as Man. It is God as Man, going through the last lap of the supreme, supernatural redemption of the human race.'

And for what? So that we could come back to God. Prayer is the most direct, active thing we can do as a testimony, a recognition, that the way back to God is open to us. Pastor

Jonathan Oloyede..., one of the instigators behind the Global Day of Prayer this 11<sup>th</sup> May (<http://gdoplondon.com>), is driven by the message to pray found in 2 Chronicles 7:14: ***'If my people who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.'***

Pastor Jonathan says, 'Jesus prayed all the time. He prayed in Gethsemane. He prayed on the Cross. Why do we feel now that we can act and do more, and do less of prayer? Everything about the early Church in terms of its foundation, its pillars, was

prayer. My passion is to see the church... united in prayer.'

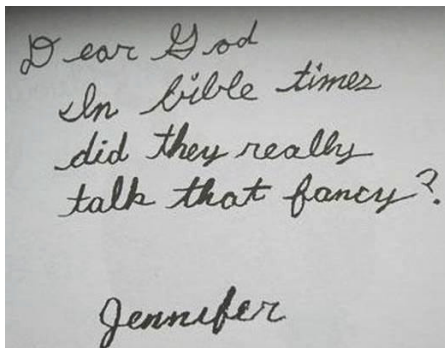
Spend some time this Easter thinking on the sorrow of Christ in that garden, and what it was all for.

Then gladly take up the invitation offered of relationship with him and pray, pray, pray - glorying in how miraculously simple it is, because of how much it cost him.

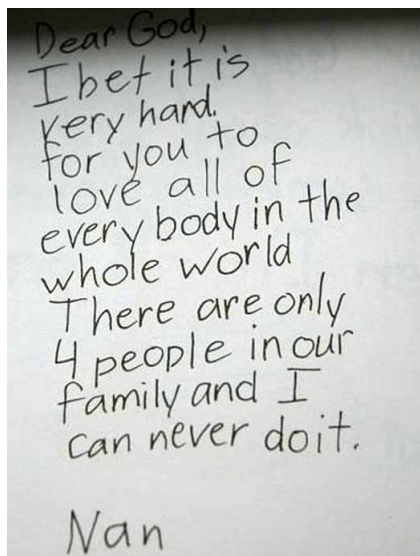
***SAINTS ALIVE!*** acknowledges its gratitude to the Tearfund website (<http://www.tearfund.org/Praying/Reflections/Prayer%20made%20possible>) as the source of this article. You can sign up to receive Tearfund's quarterly prayer diary, along with Tear Times, and pray for a world in need.

***'Prayer is not what it cost us, but what it cost God to enable us to pray.'*** Oswald Chambers

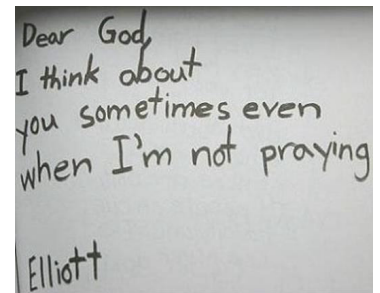
### **ON A VERY DIFFERENT NOTE, HERE ARE SOME CHILDRENS' PRAYERS**



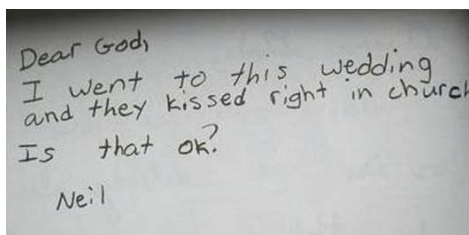
Dear God  
In bible times  
did they really  
talk that fancy?  
Jennifer



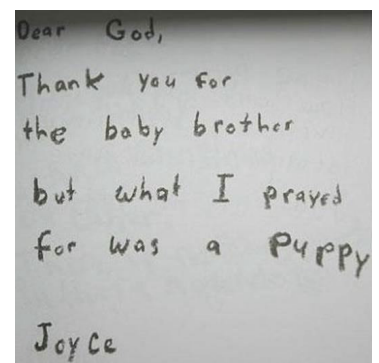
Dear God,  
I bet it is  
very hard  
for you to  
love all of  
every body in the  
whole world  
There are only  
4 people in our  
family and I  
can never do it.  
Nan



Dear God,  
I think about  
you sometimes even  
when I'm not praying  
Elliott



Dear God,  
I went to this wedding  
and they kissed right in church  
Is that ok?  
Neil



Dear God,  
Thank you for  
the baby brother  
but what I prayed  
for was a puppy  
Joyce