

**UNITED BENEFICE OF
CORLEY PARISH
CHURCH &
ST MARY & ALL SAINTS
CHURCH, FILLONGLEY**



WITH FILLONGLEY METHODIST CHURCH
Anglicans and Methodists in Unity.

Dear Friends,

I have received the following message from Revd Ali which she has asked me to share with you in this bulletin ~

“Dear Friends

I am sorry to say that this will be my last message to you on our weekly e-bulletin. Unfortunately, my mental health issues have not improved, and I have suffered what used to be called a ‘nervous breakdown’. A combination of mental and physical illness that means that I can no longer fulfil my role as Rector. It has been a great pleasure and privilege to be your Rector for the last 18 months and I will miss you all enormously.

We will be moving out of the vicarage over the next couple of weeks and moving to our home in Norfolk. I am hopeful that being in such a special ‘thin’ place, where heaven and earth feel so very close, will be the best place for me to rest and heal.

I am so sorry that I don’t have the strength to say goodbye to everyone in person, but please be assured of my continued love and prayers.

I’d just like to say thank you for welcoming me to the parishes, for all your prayers, help and support, and especially for all the kind messages and cards recently – it really has made such a difference. Thank you all.

God bless you and yours

Ali

reverendalimassey@gmail.com”

It continues to be extremely poignant that the theme of the Methodist Modern Art Exhibition, currently on display in our churches, is “Stories of Change: Hope, Faith and Love. Another artist with strong connections with the Cathedral, whose work is in the collection, is Ralph Beyer. Beyer

Stop press
Services for
Sunday 26th September 2021
9:00am Fillongley
10:30am Corley
Please continue to bring
and wear a face covering if
you will feel more
comfortable doing so.

was commissioned in 1962 to create *The Tablets of the Word* which are found on the walls of the Cathedral. In the previous year he did a study for one of the tablets, entitled *The Son of Man is come* which is pictured above and which is in the Art Collection. On each tablet are carved inspirational words from the New Testament. We hope and pray that Revd Ali will continue to receive comfort from these words, that they will re-strengthen her faith, and that she will be reminded how much she is loved by us all.

With every blessing to you all

Suzanne

Churchwarden

Readings and Prayers for Sunday 26th September ~ Trinity 17

Collects

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life: deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Readings

Esther Chapters 7 & 9

Psalm 124

James: vs 13-end

Mark 9: vs 38 –end



HYMNS & WORSHIP SONGS

Here are the Hymns that we **WILL BE** singing in Church this Sunday:-

[Angel voices ever singing \(StF 39\)](#)

[Faithful One, so unchanging \(StF 628\)](#)

[What a friend we have in Jesus \(StF 531\)](#)

Here is the link for you to sing along with the third hymn ~

[What A Friend We Have In Jesus \(lyrics\) - Bing video](#)

[Praise, my soul, the King of heaven \(StF 83\)](#)

PRAYERS

We continue to pray for all those affected by the global pandemic in any way.

A prayer for God's guidance

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we ask you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**



For dealing with a difficult situation

Sovereign God, the defence of those who trust in you and the strength of those who suffer: look with mercy on our affliction and deliver us through our mighty Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

For those who are lonely

O God, our sovereign and our shepherd, who brought again your Son Jesus Christ from the valley of death, comfort us with your protecting presence and your angels of goodness and love, that we also may come home and dwell with him in your house for ever. **Amen.**

Abide with us, Lord, for it is evening, and day is drawing to a close. Abide with us and with your whole Church, in the evening of the day, in the evening of life, in the evening of the world; abide with us and with all your faithful ones, O Lord, in time and in eternity. **Amen.**

Poet's Corner 17 SEPTEMBER 2021

On a visit to Norwich Cathedral, Malcolm Guite reflects on dinosaurs and dragons

THE other day, I had an appointment with a dinosaur, which makes a change from the meetings with the bright young things of Cambridge which were part of my life as a chaplain. The dinosaur was, I must say, an awe-inspiring creature. It was "Dippy", the Diplodocus, who normally inhabits the special hall built for him in the Museum of Natural History, but who has been "on tour" this summer, and has taken up residence for a while in Norwich Cathedral.



His visit has been a great success, and has inspired something of "dino-mania" in the cathedral city: little dinosaur models and statues are everywhere, children are encouraged to follow Dippy's dinosaur footprints, leading from all over town to the cathedral, and, at the cathedral itself, there are great queues of excited families waiting to see him. But the cathedral has also arranged a series of evening talks, all taking place in sight of his enormous and intricate skeleton, and, indeed, under his great, arching, many-jointed tail.

I was there to give the talk "Of Dinosaurs and Dragons: The Awakening of Wonder", though it scarcely needed a word from me to awaken wonder. I remember my own first encounter with Dippy as a little boy, holding my mother's hand as we entered the Natural History Museum on a rare visit to England from Africa. My second meeting, more than 50 years later, was no less inspiring, but certainly more multi-layered. The extinction of the dinosaurs, after they had flourished so long, has given pause to an age in which extinction is not only visited by us on other

species but threatened to us ourselves by our own folly, and the cathedral's exhibition has drawn those issues out very well.

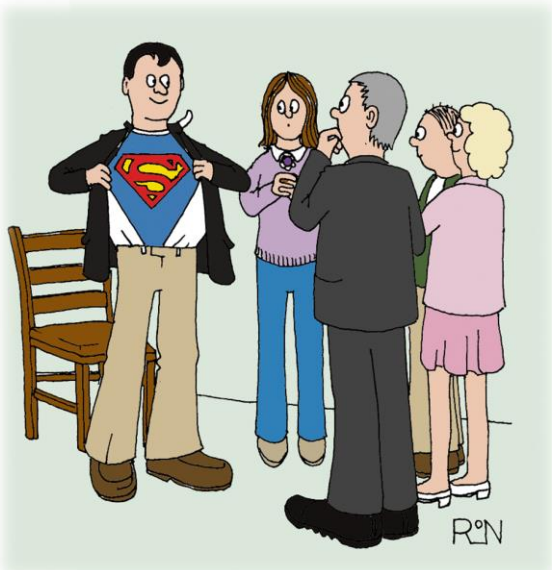
But that evening I was there to talk not only about dinosaurs, but about dragons! I reflected on the curious fact that we had already imagined dragons before ever we discovered dinosaurs, that the imagination had once more been the forerunner of reason. Perhaps it is not surprising, I suggested; for the mind of God, which imagined dinosaurs and breathed them into being as part of the marvellous evolutionary process of his unfolding cosmos, also imagined humanity, and brought us, too, into being, but made us in his image and endowed us with something of his divine imagination.

Perhaps those who first dreamed dragons were looking a little into the mind of the God who made dinosaurs; for, as Tolkien says in his poem "Mythopoeia": "We make still by the law in which we're made." And the name of Tolkien naturally led me on to dragons themselves. I read the tremendous account from *Beowulf* of the final battle with the dragon, and then the passages from *The Hobbit* which carry such telling echoes of the earlier poem, and I read C. S. Lewis's wonderful account of the "dragoning" and "un-dragoning" of Eustace in *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*.

But, all the while, it wasn't the secondary creations of these fine authors, but the splendour of God's primary creation, which was filling us with awe; for those two splendid structures in all their glorious intricacy — the cathedral and the dinosaur — are as nothing compared with the marvel of the human mind: the minds of those great scientists who painstakingly pieced together the evidence for Dippy, to show us the glory of creation, and the minds of the great builders and sculptors who raised the cathedral to the glory of the One who is beyond and behind all creation.

Dippy should rightly be at home in both the Temple of Natural Science and the Cathedral of Supernatural Glory.

Malcolm Guite is a poet, priest and singer-songwriter. He was a Chaplain of Girton College and Associate Chaplain of St Edward King and Martyr in Cambridge until his recent retirement to Norfolk. He is the author of many anthologies of poetry. He is a weekly columnist in the Church Times where he writes the very popular 'Poet's Corner' which is included here each week for you to enjoy.



He convinced the PCC he was the vicar they were looking for

AND FINALLY DON'T FORGET

If there is anything that you need or know of someone who would appreciate being contacted or added to the mailing list for this weekly e-bulletin, please do not hesitate to contact Revd Jane or any of the Churchwardens and Church Stewards listed below. ⁱ

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