



nacukie news

Newsletter United Kingdom, Ireland and Isle of Man

February 2021



Thought for the Day

Christ's perspective.

Monday 22nd February 2021

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A distinguished art critic Robert Cummings describes a day when he visits London's National Art Gallery and was standing in front of an exquisite painting by an Italian Renaissance master. He stood gazing

at the fifteenth century depiction of Mary holding the infant Jesus on her lap with the saints Dominic and Jerome kneeling nearby. But the painting troubled him. Even though he recognised the painter's skill of the brush stroke, the beauty of the colour and the composition, the proportions of the picture were slightly wrong. The hills in the background seemed exaggerated, as if they might topple out of the frame at any minute onto the gallery's polished floor and the two kneeling saints just looked awkward and uncomfortable. He stared at the painting for some time and it suddenly occurred to him that the problem might be his. It was a very busy day in the art gallery and he surveyed the painting for some time and then this thought came to him. What if this was never meant to be in an art gallery. What if this painting was meant to be hung in a place of prayer? So, this very well dressed, very well-known art critic did something that he said he has never done before in his life, he got down on his knees in the art gallery in front of the painting and he

looked up and it changed everything. He realised this was not a painting that was supposed to be stood and stared at, this was a painting that had been commissioned to be seen through the eyes of worship. From that place on his knees, as he gazed up, everything about the painting had changed. Mary was holding the baby close to her and the hills were in the background. Everything became beautiful because he changed his stance.

Sometimes when we stand and stare at our world or look at our lives, everything may also seem wrong and everyone is doing wrong. What if we changed our perspective and started seeing things through the eyes of Christ? How would it change our lives if we viewed this world instead from a position of worship? In humbleness and on our knees, would we then begin to see this world through the eyes of Christ. It may then also become easier to display the fruits of the spirit, love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. ■

Introduction

Family Evans in Wales.

Sabine Evans and her four children; Angelina 14, Benjamin 11, Joshua 9 and Daniel 6, attend Brynamman congregation in Wales. They share some of their experiences during lockdown. Although this is a challenging time, they, like so many other families, have found ways to enjoy their time together and have shared

a few of their thoughts on what family life is like during lockdown.

? How is studying at home working out?

Benjamin says he enjoys studying. He is in year 7 having joined his secondary school in September last year. Along with his school friends, Benjamin sadly missed out on the last two months of primary school and apart from a couple of months at his new school in the autumn, he has been studying from home.

Angelina is in year 9 and is at an important stage of schooling as she is choosing her subjects to study for GCSE. Angelina says that this important decision is made harder by not being able to sit down in person with her teachers and to talk through her options. Online is not Angelina's preferred way of communicating and she will attend lessons with her camera off and microphone muted whenever she can.

Joshua is in year 4 and is struggling with home-schooling but is doing what he >



> needs to do with a lot of encouragement from mum. He has 3 half hour-long live lessons a week and gets 2 tasks set each day. He can get a bit over excited during live lessons and finds it very hard to concentrate. Not being able to get out and about with his friends and the lack of routine is taking its toll on him.

Daniel, who is in year 1, will be the first of the children to go back to school and this does create challenges for Sabine, who as a single mum, needs to do both the morning and afternoon school run as well look after the children at home. Thankfully she is in a social bubble with her parents who live close by and they are always happy to help. It is also a challenge for Daniel, who at the age of six, is struggling to understand why he is the only one who has to go to school and would much rather stay at home with mum and his sister and brothers.

? What are your favourite subjects?

Angelina's favourite subjects are maths and art

Benjamin's favourite subject is English, and he likes his teacher who takes the time to ask her pupils about their home life and how they are getting on.

Joshua, on the other hand enjoys PE and looks forward to playing baseball again with his friends at school. Along with all the children he is also studying Welsh, which is mandatory in Wales.

Daniel loves the 'out and about' days, which the school has especially arranged. This occurs once a fortnight where the children spend all day outside learning no matter what the weather is like. He also enjoys maths lessons and is very good at numeracy.



? What is your favourite meal?

A special time of day for many families is being able to sit down for a meal together and Family Evans are no different. Angelina has a sophisticated palate; she likes beef in red wine sauce; Benjamin loves a good curry whereas pasta carbonara is Joshua's favourite. Daniel, just like Garfield the TV cat, loves to eat lasagne.

? If you could change anything in the world what would be?

Joshua was the first to answer: 'No more COVID,' was his immediate wish and with that response I think he spoke for all of us. Angelina's wish was for peace in the world and if this is how our young people feel we can have great confidence in the next generation.

Benjamin's wish would be that everyone can be healed from all illnesses such as cancer and Daniel's answer was to be able to spend time with his friends again and no more lockdown.

? What do you enjoy doing that makes you the happiest?

Joshua gave his mum a big hug and said, 'Hugging mummy is my favourite thing.' Benjamin loves playing football with his friends, and not surprisingly, as it's her favourite subject at school, Angelina's favourite pastime is drawing and painting, for which she has a real talent.

The family always look forward to a Sunday, when following church service, Sunday school and confirmation lessons take place. Omi and Opi (Grandma and Grandpa) come around for Sunday lunch and an afternoon of board games.

Angelina, Benjamin, Joshua and Daniel want to say 'Hi,' to all the other confirmants, and Sunday school children who are living through similar circumstances and look forward to seeing everyone again soon. ■

Divine Service

In Preparation for the Divine Service for the Departed.

On Sunday 7th March, we again celebrate a special divine service for the Departed.

In 1 Peter 3:18-20, we can read that the souls in eternity received special love and care from Jesus Christ, who went into the realm of the dead to preach the gospel of eternal life. *(Catechism 9.6.3)*

This shows that the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus was brought for both the dead and the living and that it is God's will for all of mankind to be saved. *(1 Timothy 2:4-6)* With this act of love and mercy the Lord

Jesus illustrates that we should show the same consideration and care for the souls in eternity by interceding on their behalf.

Over the past year, we have had daily news updates on the number of Coronavirus-related deaths, which has been a constant reminder of the many souls who have gone before us and therefore the magnitude of the work in eternity. These statistics have also included a number >



> of our own loved ones and brethren from our congregations who have gone before us. I am sure that these faithful brothers and sisters are still active in the Beyond in bringing the gospel of God's love to the souls there.

We too can show love to all souls by interceding on their behalf; that a longing can be awakened within them for God's grace and mercy, and that they find the strength and trust necessary to draw close to God and accept His love.

We look forward to this special divine service, not in sadness but in the hope for our future glory. Let us use this opportunity to demonstrate the love and care of our Saviour and pray for the souls in eternity that they can experience that He can be their loving Saviour too. (NAC Hymnal 278) ■

Life Story

In Memory of District Evangelist Fred 'Fritz' Mueller (24.11.1921 - 16.12.2020)

The retired District Evangelist Fred Mueller, one of our pioneers of the Lord's work in the UK, passed away peacefully in December last year. It was through his, and the many sacrifices and labours of love of his wife and family plus other pioneering brethren, that congregations could be established in the East Midlands, North of England and Scotland.

Fritz, now known to us all as Fred, was born into poor circumstances, in the village of Silberbach, East Prussia, which is now in Poland. Home was a single room, which he shared with his two brothers, parents and two grandparents. Four other families also lived in the same house.

From an early age, Fred was taken by his mother to the New Apostolic Church, which was located in the nearby town of Mohrungen. They couldn't afford a ticket for the whole journey so would take the train for half of the way and walk the rest.

At the age of 14, Fred started his apprenticeship working for the city council. He continued to attend his local congregation of Mohrungen where he played the violin.

In spring 1939, Fred volunteered to join the German forces hoping to be a pilot. This was, however, not possible as he was colour blind, and he instead was assigned to be a morse code operator and worked on the historic enigma machine. This also meant he could remain safely behind the front line and avoid the worst of the fighting. One night, however, he experienced special angel's protection, when he escaped death by getting up in the night to use the bathroom at the very moment a bomb exploded on where he would have otherwise been sleeping.

Fred was eventually taken prisoner by the Americans and was shipped to the USA where he spent the remaining months of the war as a POW in North Carolina working as a lumberjack.

With the war over, he was transferred back to the UK to Swanscombe, Kent, where he was demobbed. Fred's old home in East Prussia no longer existed as it had become a part of Poland following the war. His surviving family had been evacuated to Germany to avoid the in-coming Russian army, so it was with his mother's blessing that Fred decided to



District Evangelist Fred 'Fritz' Mueller

remain in England and support the Lord's work here.

Fred, made contact with the church in Laindon, Essex and it was also around this time that District Evangelist Bert Woll had been sent from Canada to help with the work. Fred and Bert became good friends and they would often travel through the night so they could return home in time for work the following day. >



> It was an exciting time for the church with brethren, who were prisoners of war, deciding to stay in England, as well as English soldiers returning, having married New Apostolic German girls. This is also how Fred met Margot, his wife to be, who had come from Germany to be a nurse in a hospital in North London.

In 1951 Bert Woll asked Fred to conduct a divine service even though Fred wasn't an ordained minister. 'Don't worry,' said Bert, you will be ordained when the apostle next comes over. In the same year Fred was ordained to the priest ministry by District Apostle Kraus.

Fred and Margot were asked to move to Nottingham to start a congregation and, arriving with their worldly possessions packed in two suitcases, they rented a place to live and to hold services in. Equipped with the names and addresses of three members, Fred and Margot set off on foot to walk some 25 miles to visit these families. It was through these first great efforts the congregation in Nottingham began with some eight guests attending. Initially, these first services in Nottingham were held on Saturdays because our Priest Fred Mueller needed the whole of Sunday to travel on various buses to Manchester and back to serve

the few members there. When Fred did manage to purchase a car, he travelled all over the UK including Glasgow and Banchory (Aberdeenshire) conducting services and visiting members.

In June 1959, Priest Mueller was ordained as district evangelist, with responsibility for the UK North, Scotland and East Midlands. Under his guidance new congregations and missions were started in Corby, Kettering, Wellingborough, Leicester, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Northallerton. The authentic love and humbleness he radiated had a big impact on these congregations and his visits were always happy events.

In those early years money was tight, so much so that he and his family would eat porridge for a few days so he could afford to buy petrol to visit the more distant congregations. He then had to carefully manage his petrol consumption to glean the last drop of his precious fuel but sometimes even this wasn't enough and on one occasion he ran out of petrol five miles from home. It was raining and stormy and his only option was to walk home. Thankfully a motorist stopped and generously gave Fred a gallon of petrol so he could drive home. There are

many other experiences of faith such as this which our district evangelist used to relate.

In September 2001, Fred and Margot celebrated their golden wedding anniversary blessing together with their good friends District Evangelist Baron and his wife. Only a few short months later his dear wife Margot died suddenly leaving a big void in his life.

In his retirement Fred Mueller remained a wonderful example of faith to the brethren as well as a rock-solid support to the ministers in the congregation. It was always his joy to be in the house of Lord and we give thanks to our heavenly Father for giving us such a loving and committed teacher and look forward to our joyful reunion with him and all our faithful brothers and sisters in eternity.

The family of our District Evangelist Mueller would like to express their heartfelt thanks to everyone for the many kind thoughts of sympathy and prayers which they received at the time of his passing. ■



Fred and Margot





March Schedule

Online and telephone divine services in the UK and Ireland

Sunday Service (Sunday 10am GMT)

Sunday 7 th March	UK & Ireland	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC53Bwh_W17_uolxroG8BLA
Sunday 14 th March	Ireland	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/606478949
	UK North	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC53Bwh_W17_uolxroG8BLA
	UK South	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxy3AuyLqU59Nf_tT_ZKfqg
	UK West	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/183268877
Sunday 21 st March	Ireland	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/606478949
	UK North	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/669815005
	UK South	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxy3AuyLqU59Nf_tT_ZKfqg
	UK West	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC53Bwh_W17_uolxroG8BLA
Sunday 28 th March	UK and Ireland Family service	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/669815005
	UK and Ireland seniors and singles service	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC53Bwh_W17_uolxroG8BLA

Midweek Devotionals (Wednesday 8pm GMT)

Ireland	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/606478949
UK North	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/669815005
UK South	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/140348093
UK West	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/183268877

Telephone Connection

Ireland	Ireland	+353 15 295 146	Access Code	606-478-949
UK North	UK	+44 330 221 0097	Access Code	669-815-005
*UK South	UK	+44 330 221 0088	Access Code	140-348-093
UK West	UK	+44 808 178 0872	Access Code	183-268-877

**only available for midweek devotionals. Use UK West telephone connection for Sunday morning services.*

Other Activities

Songs of Fellowship - every Monday evening at 8pm	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFVvskXVeE3D3xHCbKNOSdA
Thought for the Day - 6am, 7am, 8am weekdays	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/669815005

Additional notes

We have a limited number of GTM licences for each district. Please therefore use the login assigned to your district so we remain under the maximum limits.

Online Access

For those using the online service for the first time please allow an extra few minutes to install the browser extension OR Desktop app. See below:
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/183268877>

Telephone Access

For those connecting by telephone you will need the telephone number and access codes which have been assigned to your district. Once you have dialled the telephone number you will be asked to enter the access code followed by the pound or hash sign (pound or hash = # button)

You will be then hear the following:
 To enable audit controls please enter your audio pin or pound or hash sign.

If you do not have a pin, please enter your pound or hash sign.

At this point, please press # on your phone. You will then be placed into the meeting. The line will be silent until the divine service begins. Please place your phone on mute by either pressing the mute button or press * followed by the number 6.