

Issue 68/October 2016

# Becket News

**The Anglican Church of  
St Thomas Becket**

**Zeughausmarkt 22, 20459 Hamburg  
[www.anglican-church-hamburg.de](http://www.anglican-church-hamburg.de)**

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*Cover photograph: Roland Magunia*

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## From the Chaplain

At the very outset, it is with warmth and gratitude that I write these first words to you as your new priest at St Thomas Becket. I am deeply grateful for the beautiful service of institution at which Bishop David Hamid presided, for his generous words of empowerment and the wonderful reception. It was for Julie and myself a deeply moving experience.

Thank you all for the good wishes and kind gifts that we have received. Thanks also to all those who have helped prepare a new home for us in Hamburg and familiarised us with our immediate neighbourhood and the wider city. We have experienced so many gestures of welcome and support from members of the St Thomas Becket family, but also from ecumenical partners and friends.

This move to Hamburg, special as it is, has in common with the other major moves I have made in my life the fact that it came up quite unexpectedly. I was not contemplating a change at that juncture, but when my attention was drawn to the vacancy, I felt strongly drawn to apply for the post. I understand it as a response to new challenges, a missionary calling if you like. In making this move I have been guided by Ephesians 4:11, which speaks of preparing the faith-



Photo: Roland Magunia

ful for the work of the ministry and the building up of the local church.

I am aware that St Thomas Becket is a very special place of worship. Its history, the present context and location is unique and significant and every Sunday brings together a large worshipping community from different nationalities and language backgrounds. This makes it well placed to take up exciting local ecumenical opportunities for building a Christian presence of confidence in an increasingly secular and pluralistic Europe. With its Anglican rootedness, St Thomas Becket can offer something distinctive to the city of Hamburg, namely its musical and liturgical tradition. I have already discovered a wealth of talents and commitment among us.

*continued overleaf*

*continuation from previous page*

My hope for the future is to use my long years of inter-cultural and inter-church experience in a more pastorally grounded way; and I will seek to serve, inspire and lead, so that together we in this parish can strengthen our worshipping presence, and become a more caring, sustainable and serving Anglican church equipped within its ecumenical setting to meet the challenges of today.

I am privileged and humbled that you have chosen me to be your priest. Please feel free to share or discuss any matter that would help us support one another personally and as a community to grow and mature in our faith.

It is in this spirit that I write the above and request your prayers for my ministry.

*Leslie Nathaniel*

## Bishops 'paired' to work on unity

Bishops Robert and David have been nominated by the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby and Pope Francis to be commissioned among 19 pairs of Anglican and Roman Catholic bishops from across the world to take part in united mission in their local areas.

The commissioning and sending out came in the setting of a Vespers service, led jointly by Pope Francis and Archbishop Justin Welby, at the Church of Saint Gregory on the Caelian Hill in Rome, the church from which Pope Gregory sent Saint Augustine to evangelise the English in the sixth century.

The service was one of the highlights of an ecumenical summit organised by Iarccum (the Interna-

tional Anglican Roman Catholic Commission for Unity and Mission) to mark the 50th anniversary of the meeting between Pope Paul VI and Archbishop Michael Ramsey in 1966 – the first such public meeting between a Pope and an Archbishop of Canterbury since the Reformation.

The 'twinning' links in the Diocese in Europe mean that in Belgium, Bishop Robert is paired with the Roman Catholic Bishop of Antwerp, Johan Bonny. In France, Bishop David will work with the Catholic Bishop of Toulouse, Robert Le Gall.

You can find the full version of this story on the Diocese in Europe website – <http://europe.anglican.org> (News, 6 October). The Iarccum website is at <https://iarccum.org/>

# Ecumenical joy at St Thomas Becket

Ecumenical friends from near and far turned out in force for the licensing on 17 September of Revd Canon Dr Leslie Nathaniel as new Chaplain of the Anglican Church of St Thomas Becket by the Suffragan Bishop in Europe Rt Revd Dr David Hamid. Also there to welcome him was the British Honorary Consul, Nicholas Teller.

On the following pages we publish excerpts from Bishop David's sermon, while Roland Magunia's photographs provide a graphic record of a joyful occasion with a strong ecumenical turnout. You can read the sermon in full on our website at <http://bit.ly/2duuPHQ>.



Front row: Pastor Uwe Onnen (Methodist Church, Chairman ACKH), Revd Deacon Frances Hiller (Chaplain to Suffragan Bishop in Europe), Revd Canon Dr Leslie Nathaniel (Chaplain, St Thomas Becket HH), Rt Revd Dr David Hamid (Suffragan Bishop in Europe), Ven Colin Williams (Archdeacon of Germany and Northern Europe), Pastor Walter Jungbauer (Old Catholics). Second row: Pastor Dag Eidhamar (Norwegian Church HH), Pastorin Anna Eklund (Finnish Mission to Seamen HH), Pastorin Britta Eger (Swedish Church HH), Revd Erika Anders (Assistant Chaplain, St Thomas Becket), Pastorin Dr Viola Schrenk (Lutheran Church Württemberg), Rt Revd Dr Rupert Hoare (former Dean of Liverpool and Bishop of Dudley), Revd Julie Lipp-Nathaniel (Assistant Chaplain, St Catherine's Anglican Church Stuttgart). Third row: Pastor Paul Oppenheim, (Oberkirchenrat retired, Lutheran Church Württemberg), behind: Hauptpastor Alexander Röder (St. Michaelis HH), Pfarrer Andreas Maurer (Degerloch, Stuttgart), Pastor Frank Michael Wessel (Eirene Kirchengemeinde HH), Pastorin Corinna Schmidt (Spiritual Director, Hamburg Ecumenical Forum), Veronika Pielken (Ecumenical Commission, RC Archbishopric HH), Probst Matthias Bohl (Lutheran Church N Germany), Dekan Immanuel Nau (Lutheran Church Württemberg, retired), Revd Dr Martin Heath (UK).

**Sermon by Rt Revd Dr David Hamid, Suffragan Bishop in Europe  
Licensing of Revd Canon Dr Leslie Nathaniel as Chaplain of  
St Thomas Becket, Hamburg, 17 September 2016 (excerpts)  
Eph 4.4-16; Psalm 84.8-12; St Luke 4.16-21**

**D**ear brothers and sisters in Christ, it is a great day for the people of St Thomas Becket Church here in Hamburg. It is a happy day for Fr Leslie too as we celebrate the beginning of a new ministry here in what is one of the most beautiful Churches in our diocese, in one of the most historic places of Anglican ministry on the continent. It is an exciting day for all our ecumenical friends in ministry who, today, are receiving a colleague and a priest to work with them in bringing the good news of Jesus Christ to this city.

He begins his ministry in a Church of England parish on the continent of Europe at an auspicious time, when, despite what politicians may engineer or envision, we declare most strongly that the Church of England remains a European Church! We continue fully

committed to the Pentecost vision of a united family of 'saints from every tribe, language and nation'.

Fr Leslie comes to you already well known by me as a much loved and



respected priest, an outstanding ecumenist, a creative theologian, and brother citizen of the world. When it was known in Church House Westminster, in Lambeth Palace, and among ecumenical partners that Leslie would be leaving the post

of European secretary of the Church of England to become the Chaplain of St Thomas's Hamburg there were gasps of panic. Church leaders and Church bureaucrats alike who have depended on Leslie's guidance and vision realised immediately what a huge gap this would leave in the heart of the Church of England's ecumenical life.

...

So just a word of caution. If any of you happen to be in London for any reason, and run into anyone in the central institutions of the Church of England, it may be best that you do not reveal that you are a member of St Thomas's Hamburg! We will not just be accused of sheep-stealing, but in this case, we will be accused of stealing one of the key shepherds!

What this says is that you are really privileged to be welcoming Fr Leslie; his ministry will now enrich your own community life and that of this deanery, arch-deaconry and diocese. And I am truly overjoyed that he is among us a colleague in ministry in this diocese.



...

There is another very rich dimension to our celebration today. As Anglicans in Europe, we are deeply aware that our life and mission must be in partnership with those Churches which are part of the very soil of the

place we find ourselves. Here in Germany we are blessed that for so many years we have enjoyed a deep unity in Christ with EKD brothers and sisters, through the Meissen Agreement. We also live in visible unity with the Nordic and Baltic Lutheran Churches through the Porvoo Agreement, who like us have a venerable historic presence in this

Hanseatic city. We are in full communion with the Old Catholics and we seek and long and pray for the restoration of communion between ourselves and the Roman Catholic Church. We Anglicans are essentially sojourners in

this German land, but we are united with our Sister Churches in the task of proclaiming the one Gospel of our Lord in this part of the world which we have come to make our home and which we love.

...

Your particular calling Leslie is to be a servant and a focus of the work

of this community of disciples. Your vocation is to hold these members together so they can act together and collaborate with other Christian sisters and brothers in the great work of spreading Christ's love, compassion and justice in the world. The tools you have at your disposal to build up the community for this task are the tools that the Church throughout all ages has used. First the sacraments through which the Gifts of God flow into this people, so that they receive the new life in Christ which comes in baptism, so they are fed with none other than Christ himself in the eucharist, so that they may know the power of the Holy Spirit in the times of blessing, healing and reconciling. Then your ministry will centre on preaching and teaching the Word of God, so that Christ, who is the Incarnate and living Word can truly take root in their hearts and minds. But all this you are doing so that this community



can live, act, minister, witness and worship as part of Christ's Body.

This means, dear members of St Thomas's that Fr Leslie is here among you, not to do all the work of ministry, but to stimulate you, lead you, inspire you and pray for you. You are the members of the Body, you are the ambassadors for Christ in your daily lives, and your calling is to bear fruit in your lives, to build the kingdom, to love your neighbour. A priest's job is not to do the work of ministry, but to make sure you do that work.

...

Dear friends, you are welcoming an excellent priest and coach. He is deeply devoted, hard-working, a sensitive pastor, a challenging and prophetic leader, and a person with a warm embracing heart.

But let me tell you a little secret, it is part of the truth I want to share with you: A loving, caring church can turn a good priest into an extraordinary priest. That is your role. All pas-



tors are dependent on the prayer and moral support of the people of God. Fr Leslie is in one of the loneliest and trickiest jobs there is. The loneliest and most dangerous parts of the job are the weariness that comes from trying to satisfy conflicting demands, from being on call day and night, from not knowing when the next pastoral crisis will come, from listening to criticism when confidentiality demands that you can't say everything you know, and from dealing too often with the huge gap between expectation and reality.

So it is your task to be good to him. Not only because he's my colleague and because I care for him, but also because you will never know when he most needs some encouragement from you.



...

Father Leslie, in a moment I will give you a licence, which is really a licence to love your people. Enjoy leading them in the celebration of

our faith, never tire of teaching them the wholesome doctrine of Christ, and constantly remind them of who they are: the Body of Christ, and that the Spirit moves among them and strengthens and guides them for their mission in this world. And my friends, I am not giving you a licence, but nevertheless love your new priest

and pay attention to his coaching, for he is here to help you grow in your discipleship. Forgive him when he is less than you want him to be, as he is only human. Together with him I want you to build a wonderful community that is

committed to the mission of Jesus, to transform your lives and the lives of others, and to be busy with the work in this city of building God's kingdom of justice, love and peace.

You can read the sermon in full on our website at <http://bit.ly/2duuPHQ>. All photographs by Roland Magunia



Photos: Roland Magunia



## Church recorders delve into archives

In connection with our work for the Church Recorders, I paid a visit to the London Archives where I spent an interesting and fruitful day looking at our Church Archives which started over 200 years ago!

They contained the records of births and deaths starting in 1815, but most interesting were the 'bundles' of documents which contained a mass of correspondence beginning in January 1834, with details of the 'Articles of Concessions granted to the Church' and lists of donations towards building the Church and ending with its Consecration on 11.11.1838.

There were many papers written by Henry Canning (the former British Consul General who is buried in the church) and many others con-

cerning the building and progress of the church, with Canning's original copy – 14 pages – of the Consecration Ceremony with his handwritten notes and signature.

There are lots of details of the discussions leading to the building of the church, the various donations, contracts with the architect, rebuilding the organ and the dissolution of the Merchant Adventurers in Hamburg. It is really impressive to see the amount of time and effort that went on during these five years.

During our other research we have also come across interesting documents, such as a letter from John Milton dated 1649 to the Hamburg Senate concerning the Merchant Adventurers.

Working with the Church Recorders has proved most interesting and I am glad to be able to take part.

*Peter Eckford-Jones*

*The (BRIDFAS) Church Recorders meet approximately bi-monthly, in between which they all conduct their own research inside the church as and when they can. This is a long-term, ongoing project and anyone who would like to join us, or offer any information about the interior of the church, is asked to contact Pat Pledger on 040 821858, or email [patpledger.bet](mailto:patpledger.bet) (at) [t-online.de](mailto:t-online.de).*



Photo: Jo Dawes

## Christmas cards go on sale

Recycled Christmas cards will once again be on sale from the end of October in aid of church funds. The cost will be the same as last year – that is €12 for 10 cards, including envelopes, and €1.30 for single cards.

For the newer members of the congregation, we have been making and selling recycled cards now since 1986, having started that first year with just 300 and with a profit for the church of DM 145. We now sell between 5000 and 6000 cards per year, and because of a very generous donation towards the card project by the former British Honorary Consul, Claus Budelmann, made a net profit last year for the church of €7000.

The Christmas cards have a Christmas and New Year message in both English and German, and state on the inside that they are ‘Sold on behalf of the Historic English Church of St Thomas Becket, Hamburg’. They are within the 20 g limit for normal postage and the envelopes are the standard size. There is a great variety of different designs – both religious and non-religious: nativity scenes, wise men, shepherds, angels, doves, stars, robins, Christmas trees, snow scenes, ex-Unicef designs, Victorian scenes, humorous cards, Father Christmases, children’s cards, etc.

We sell on average about 1000 cards at the bazaar, and others of course after church during November and December. However most of the cards are sold within the different English-speaking and international societies and clubs in Hamburg and also among friends privately and to work colleagues. In this way we are able to reach out to a far wider community. Every single card sold outside the church community is one more than we would otherwise have sold. So it is good whether you sell 5 cards or 50 to your friends, family, neighbours or work colleagues. It all adds to the total profit and is also an excellent way to publicise the church. If you think you could help by doing this, please contact one of us.

We are dependent on used cards from previous years to make new cards again for next year, so please don’t throw away your old cards but bring them to church to give to us. We also need flower and used birthday cards to make ‘all the year round’ greetings cards.

And finally we are a small team making the cards and are always grateful for additional offers of help.

*Jane Harding (Tel 597 616)*

*Linda Rainer (Tel 738 56 24)*

*Judith Holst (Tel 880 07 27)*

## What our children teach us

On Sunday at Junior Church our children were given an acorn and we spoke about how our faith may start off tiny but can grow as strong as an oak tree. The children were then paired off and one was blindfolded while their partner led them. At first, they were afraid, but then they learnt to trust and became braver. How can an acorn of faith become as strong as an oak tree? The children showed us: By learning to trust our invisible Good Shepherd, who is God.

The Sunday before we had a good discussion about homelessness, a topic which greatly moves our children. We then played a game of throwing a soft ball into the basket.

There was one ball between about 15 children and they all loved to throw. So a queue formed; one smaller boy tried to jump it, but the others noticed and he was gently shown his place. The children shared the ball graciously and with patience and they looked out for each other. Everyone could have a go, no one was left out and those who behaved unfairly were gently admonished. What an example to us all!

We have great kids at our church and are looking for more staff to help us teach and guide them on the good path which, as you can see, they have already embarked upon.

*Sally Wandrey*

## Mothers' Union's first children's day



On 10 September MU hosted its first St Thomas Becket Children's Day. Even though we didn't manage to fill the church with hordes of children, a few little ones and their parents found their way through the doors of our church. They enjoyed making loom bands, buttons, getting their faces painted and listening to piano music by Matthias Peisker.

The grown-up kids had as much fun as the small ones. Our three semi-professional clowns (Daniel,

Thomas and Benita) did a great job entertaining the guests. Many thanks to all who contributed to this event.

### Grenada meets Hamburg

Our branch was very pleased to welcome a MU member from Grenada visiting our wonderful city of Hamburg during the whole month of October. Gertrude Niles, branch leader of the MU group at St Georges, joined our meeting on 7



October, sharing stories of her own branch, singing and praying with us.  
*Lucia Förthmann*

### LCF enjoys a garden tea party

Ladies' Christian Fellowship met in August for the annual Garden Tea Party in Ellen's garden, when 14 members and friends gathered on a warm sunny afternoon to enjoy the traditional sandwiches, scones, etc. We are a small group and because

of holidays, visitors and other commitments we didn't manage to get together during the summer, but look forward to our lunch and bring and buy with Jane in October.

*Ellen Ziesmann*



## Town and country wanderings

On Saturday, 16. July a cheerful group of Wanderers met for a summer picnic in the Jenisch Park. We were delighted to be joined once again by our locum, Tania Witter, and her husband, Nick, and set off at a smart pace from Klein Flottbek station. We slowed down to an amble once we reached the park grounds, taking our time to admire the elegant exterior of the Jenisch House, the green slopes leading down to the Elbe and the wonderful old trees.

It was not ideal picnic weather, being cool, windy and overcast, but at least it didn't rain! The so-called 'Eierhütte', where we were able to

share our picnic lunches, was unfortunately a little shabbier than on our visit in 2015.

After lunch, we continued down to the river and parted at Teufelsbrück, where half of us decided to return through the Jenisch Park to the Botanical Gardens. The other group, lured by the river views, voted to take the ferry over to Finkenwerder. It was quite tricky crossing the Elbchaussee at this point, because one of Hamburg's numerous cycling events was in full cry and I was quite daunted by the many racing cyclists whizzing past at breakneck speed. Fortunately, as is always the case these



Photo: Ulrike Lemke



days, friendly helpers guided us to a cordoned pedestrian crossing.

It seems to be fun being on a boat, however unspectacular the craft, and approaching the Landungsbrücken from Finkenwerder certainly offers beautiful views of the city. When we got off the ferry it was to be met by some of the 375,000 people gathered in Hamburg for the twentieth Schlager Move. The last one of us to take the much delayed U-Bahn was pulled into the hopelessly overfilled train by loud but friendly revellers dressed in hippy costume!

Since so many people are away in August, there was no 'official' Wanderers walk in August when many other church groups take a summer break.

*Nicki Schiller*

September saw the Wanderers off to Burg (Dithmarschen). On a sunny Saturday, three of us, plus a guest, took a very full train to Burg where, despite a delay with our first train to Itzehoe, we were happily awaited by the rest of the walkers. Our tour started from Burg station with lots of chats and laughter. We followed a varied and very attractive route through peaceful woods and meadows, and by an idyllic pool.

Once we reached the Kiel Canal (see photo on facing page), we

strode along under a blue sky until we reached the Fährhaus Cafe. Of course, some of us could not resist the (free) return trip across the Canal! After a great break for ice cream, we resumed our walk with renewed energy and enjoyed the final stretch through the fields on our return to our starting point at Burg station.

*Andrea Grantz*

## Kitchen spacesaver

When coming back from shopping, sometimes one needs to create space either in the fridge or the freezer. In both cases, these days it is the bulky packaging that is the main challenge we face.

For the fridge, use plastic stackable containers, e.g. Tupperware. Remove the item from packaging and place in the container. You can also add the label cut off the old packaging.

For the freezer, again strip the hard plastic casing off the article, keeping the label with the sell-by-date. Wrap tightly in clingfilm, placing the tab/label under the top layer of the clingfilm. In the freezer, stack similar shapes together – it's surprising how much space you'll have.

Happy Freezing!

*Lottie Lankenau*

## Chunky pear and walnut chutney

This chutney is an ideal recipe for using up hard windfall pears. Its mellow flavour is excellent with cheese and also good with grains such as in pilaff or with tabbouleh.

### **Ingredients:**

1.2 kg firm pears

225 g tart cooking apples

225 g onions

450 ml cider vinegar

175 g sultanas (golden raisins)

finely grated rind and juice of

1 orange

400 g granulated sugar

115 g walnuts, roughly chopped

2.5 ml ground cinnamon

### **Method**

1. Peel and core the fruit, then chop into 2.5 cm chunks. Peel and quarter the onions, then chop into pieces the same size. Place in a preserving pan with the vinegar.

2. Slowly bring to the boil, then reduce the heat and simmer for 40 mins until the apples, pears and onions are tender, stirring the mixture occasionally.

3. Meanwhile, put the sultanas in a small bowl, pour over the orange juice and leave to soak.

4. Add the sugar, sultanas, and orange rind and juice to the pan. Gently heat until the sugar has dissolved, then simmer for 30–40 mins or until the chutney is thick and no

excess liquid remains. Stir frequently towards the end of cooking to prevent the chutney sticking to the bottom of the pan.

5. Gently toast the walnuts in a non-stick pan over a low heat for 5 mins, stirring frequently, until lightly coloured. Stir the nuts into the chutney with the cinnamon.

6. Spoon the chutney into warmed sterilised jars, cover and seal. Store in a cool, dark place and leave to mature for at least 1 month. Use within 1 year

*Ellen Ziesmann*

## New mailing list

Some of us on the Chaplaincy Council have been thinking about how to improve the way we tell you about what's going on in church. We want to set up an e-mail distribution list as well as notices in church.

If you'd like to be on the list, we need your e-mail address and your permission to use it. We will only use the list for legitimate church business and will not share it with anyone else. Please send an e-mail to communication (at) anglican-church-hamburg.de asking to be added to the list, or fill in one of the forms in church. and either hand it to a sidesman or post in the box provided.

*Jo Dawes*

## Forthcoming events

We meet every Sunday at 10:30 for a service of Holy Communion followed by refreshments – all welcome

For more events, please see our website:

[www.anglican-church-hamburg.de](http://www.anglican-church-hamburg.de)

### November

- 2 19:00 – Holden Evening Prayer
- 4 19:00 – Taizé Prayer
- 6 10:30 – Judy Bailey singing at service
- 13 10:30 – Remembrance Sunday
- 19 10:00 – 16:00 Bazaar  
11:00 – Morris Dance  
17:30 – African Evensong

### December

- 2 18:00 – Carols Sing-Along with MU, plus Holden Evening Prayer
- 4 17:00 – Ceremony of Carols (visiting choir)
- 10 18:00 – Nine Lessons and Carols
- 24 16:00 – Christmas Eve Family Service  
23:30 – Christmas Night, Holy Communion
- 25 10:30 – Christmas Day, Holy Communion

**ANNUAL ENGLISH CHURCH BAZAAR**  
19 NOVEMBER 2016  
10:00 - 16:00 H

English preserves - Homemade cakes - African and Indian specialties - DVDs, CDs, Videos, Records - Accessoires - Greeting cards - Second-hand books - Crafts and decorations - Grand Raffle with exciting prizes and more...

**ALSO JOIN US FOR:**  
11:00 Morris Dance Presentation  
17:30 African Evensong

**THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST THOMAS BECKET** ZEUGHAUSMARKT 22 HAMBURG  
BUS 6 TO MICHAELISKIRCHE / U3 TO ST PAULI

# Who's Who at our Church

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## Other Ministries

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FWO Giving Envelopes	Emmanuel Saarkodie	(040) 641 2157	-
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