

# TOGETHER

The magazine of the Anglican Chaplaincy in Norway

June-September 2025



The theme of this issue is:  
'Journeys in faith'

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For further information see our websites: [www.osloanglicans.no](http://www.osloanglicans.no), [www.bergenanglicans.net](http://www.bergenanglicans.net),  
Stavanger: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/8466/> and Trondheim: [www.achurchnearyou.com/church/8468](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/8468).  
The diocesan website is [www.europe.anglican.org](http://www.europe.anglican.org), and the Church of England's website is [www.cofe.anglican.org](http://www.cofe.anglican.org).

## From the Senior Chaplain

**“It’s from the old I travel to the new, keep me travelling along with you.”**

Journeys are a central feature of the Christian life as we are reminded by the popular children’s hymn “One more step along the world I go”. St Peter’s first letter likewise reminds us that we are sojourners and pilgrims in this world, just as in the Old Testament, God’s people so often experience they are on the move. Our lives are very much a journey of faith and we explore that journey for ourselves and as part of God’s Church.

This Spring within the Anglican Chaplaincy in Norway we have enjoyed a rich season journeying with our candidates for Confirmation. Since January two groups have been meeting online, our Young People’s group and a smaller group of interested adults, to explore the significance of the Christian faith for our lives. It has been a privilege journeying with such engaged participants and we’ve enjoyed contributions about living the Christian faith from a wide range of people including a space physicist and a trainee aircraft pilot, setting our sights high and broad as we explore together the territory of engaging with both the divine and human in our lives. We continue to marvel at how these are uniquely brought together in Jesus Christ, both fully human and fully divine, and how the unity of God is preserved in speaking of God as the Holy Trinity who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

These are essential questions for how the Christian faith is expressed. In the early centuries of the Church, various local creeds developed to affirm the faith of the Church and the Christian understanding of God. Over time as differences and disputes developed over language and doctrine, it became desirable to bring together the bishops, as leaders of the local churches, to discuss and agree together the words and language which should best be used to describe our faith. Through the Roman Emperor Constantine, the first ecumenical (worldwide) council of the Church was held in 325 in Nicaea in modern-day Turkey which became known as the Council of Nicaea and from which originates much of the Nicene Creed which we

recite each Sunday in church. This year of we celebrate the 1700th Anniversary of this Council and so there have been special opportunities to mark this significant occasion for our faith.

During Lent, we held a Chaplaincy Lent Group following the Diocese in Europe’s Lent study course on the Nicene Creed. This proved a lively if sometimes complex discussion as we looked at terms used in different languages, including the original Greek. There was interest in these important definitions in our Young People’s Confirmation Group too and the group benefitted from a carefully researched presentation on the Council’s debates by group member James Karkada, including about the Greek term “homoousios” meaning the Son was of the same substance, or being, as the Father, rather than simply of like substance, a definition which was excluded by the Council. These discussions have brought renewed interest in what we are expressing as we say together the Nicene Creed in our worship.

Singing the Creed also gives the opportunity to take it in more deeply. There is a surprising dearth of musical settings of the modern Common Worship translation of the Nicene Creed, whereas musical settings of the traditional English version by Merbecke and Martin Shaw were very much taken to heart by earlier generations. So it has been a great boon that John Chapman, the organist and choir director at St Edmund’s, has composed a splendid new setting of the Nicene Creed which we have been singing most weeks since before Easter. This has brought a fresh interaction with the words, and also highlighted the variety of textual styles within the Creed, using the refrain of “We believe” for each of the Trinity: the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, around a chanted narrative of Jesus’ passion, death and resurrection.

Another exciting part of the Nicaea anniversary celebrations has been an ecumenical pilgrimage arranged together by Anglican and Eastern Orthodox churches to visit Nicaea and the places of the other early councils of the Church. Nicaea, Constantinople, Ephesus and Chalcedon, all situated in modern-day Turkey: these were the church councils which fashioned the Christian doctrine we hold

in common with other churches. You can read more about visiting them in an article on this historic pilgrimage.

The Churches in Norway are also celebrating this 1700th anniversary of the Council, starting with the Assembly of the Norwegian Christian Council held in Sandnes, and continuing through to a national celebration at Pentecost when an ecumenical celebration will be held in the Nidaros Cathedral in Trondheim, preceded by an afternoon seminar about the Council of Nicaea's enduring significance.

It is fitting that this issue of *Together* takes *Journeys in faith* as its focus. We hope it will encourage and inspire all of us to explore our own journeys of faith. Many thanks to all who encourage us with the questions we bring and help us to find our own responses. May all our journeys be in the very best company walking with our risen Lord Jesus Christ and may we be blessed with supportive companions along the way. As the same children's hymn continues:

*Give me courage when the world is rough  
Keep me loving though the world is tough  
Leap and sing in all I do  
Keep me travelling along with you.*

*Rev'd Canon Joanna Udal, Senior Chaplain*

## Stavanger and Bergen notes

### "Spring Up – Fall Down"

The bells are ringing, and nature is bursting into life — Spring has arrived! As we inch closer to Summer, one can't help but notice the colourful transformation taking place all around us. Yellow flowers, often symbolic of warmth and vitality, now blanket the landscape, bringing with them a renewed sense of hope and joy. While some may joke that Summer in Norway is merely a single day in July, we embrace each sunlit hour with gratitude.

### Stavanger: A Season of Renewal

In Stavanger, the change in season is being met with an equally vibrant spiritual awakening. Our

congregation continues to gather for services at St Petri Church and the Menighetshus, with Rev. Geir faithfully leading many of these gatherings. His leadership and devotion are truly appreciated.

One of the most uplifting developments has been the reintroduction of Café Church. It has quickly become a beloved part of our spiritual life. Watching children run freely and engage with the Gospel in their own joyful way has reminded us that worship can be alive, playful, and deeply meaningful. This initiative not only draws people together but breathes new energy into our communal experience. We are hopeful that Café Church will become a permanent fixture.

Looking ahead, we anticipate joining other local churches in celebrating Pentecost — the arrival of the Holy Spirit. We will share final details as plans are finalized, and we invite all to participate in this uplifting occasion.

### Bergen: Through the Tunnels, Into the Rain

As the familiar saying goes, "At the end of the tunnel, there's a light." However, after many journeys between Stavanger and Bergen, I have found a more local interpretation: "At the end of the tunnel — there is another tunnel." Norway's majestic landscapes teach us to see even well-worn sayings in a new light. Bergen, with its reputation for heavier rain and snow, carries its own challenges — but also blessings. Despite the weather, we continue to gather for services, offering heartfelt thanks for the gifts of life, nourishment, and community.

We are especially grateful for the musical life of the Bergen congregation, supported by four regular organists and two guest organists. Their dedication adds beauty and reverence to every service.

One unique insight I've gained in Bergen is the importance of fellowship beyond the liturgy. While our services tend to be short, the meetings and post-service gatherings often stretch long. This is not by accident — many of our members live alone, and these extended fellowships provide a vital space for connection, conversation, and



shared life. As a result, we are challenged to think creatively about how to foster more interactive activities that support and uplift this need for togetherness.

### Upcoming Events

On 9th June, we will celebrate an ecumenical Pentecost service, bringing together various Christian communities. In addition, on 22nd June we have been warmly invited to attend the ordination of a priest in the Church of Norway — a significant event in the spiritual life of the wider church. Please watch the space for details.

As we move toward Summer, may we continue to grow in faith, fellowship, and love.

*Rev'd Martin Chirume, Assistant Chaplain,  
Stavanger and Bergen*

## Trondheim Notes

We had a joyful Easter! We were blessed with a wonderful turnout and a truly special celebration, marked by two baptisms, a flower procession, and the sweet touch of mini Easter eggs and Easter fairy cakes. Thank you to everyone who joined us in making it such a memorable occasion.

### Upcoming Services & Activities

Chaplaincy Bake Sale & Café

Date: Friday, May 31

Time: 11:00 – 15:00

Location: Waisenhuset

Come enjoy homemade treats and warm fellowship. All proceeds support our ministry.

Pentecost Service & Potluck

Date: Sunday, June 8

Time: 11:15

Location: Fjellseter Chapel

Join us for worship and bring a dish to share as we celebrate Pentecost together.

Trondheim Congregation AGM

Date: Sunday, June 8 (following the Pentecost service)

Location: Fjellseter Chapel

Nominations for the Trondheim Committee are welcome in advance. Please email Logan if you'd like to

nominate someone or be nominated yourself.

Ecumenical Pentecost Cathedral Service

Date: Sunday, June 8

Time: 18:00

Location: Nidarosdomen

Senior Chaplain Joanna will be taking part in this special ecumenical service. All are warmly welcome.

Cathedral Services

Date: Every 3rd Sunday of the month

Time: 1800

Location: Nidarosdomen

### Other Notes

- If you would like a visit from a priest, please don't hesitate to let us know.
- A heartfelt thank you to all who help lead and support our services.

*Logan Boese, Assistant Warden, Trondheim*

## Oslo notes



*An Easter Vigil—undeterred by the rain!*

The Spring has been a fine journey in faith as we have sought to keep together a holy Lent, Holy Week and a holy celebration of Easter. It was a great gift to have deacon Donneta Thomas on

placement with us for a month during Lent. Donneta is a distinctive deacon in the Diocese of York who joined us as part of her curacy training so as to have the opportunity to experience diaconal ministry in the Church of Norway. Donneta was soon making connections with deacons ministering across the Diocese of Oslo as well as sharing with us her rich experience in children's ministry. Her placement also gave the opportunity to experience the liturgical role of the deacon in our liturgy and enabled us to have the church open daily for Evening Prayer during Lent on Tuesdays - Thursdays allowing regulars and newcomers to drop-in and join us.

Holy Week included special services at St Edmund's for Maundy Thursday, for Good Friday jointly with the American Lutheran Church, with a wealth of hot-cross buns afterwards, and the Easter Vigil on the evening of Holy Saturday, starting with a holy fire outside the church for lighting the Paschal candle. Peter and Robert did amazingly keeping it blazing as the rest of us sheltered under umbrellas! We were delighted to welcome Revd Canon Edward Carter to preach for the vigil during his sabbatical leave from St Peter Mancroft in the centre of Norwich.



*South Sudanese Maban Celebrations*

Easter celebrations continued unabated with a full church on Easter Day, an Easter celebration for

the South Sudanese Maban Community at Bragernes Church in Drammen on Easter Monday, and a smaller but no less festive service there on Easter Thursday with members of the Drammen Ladies' Guild. Our appreciation as ever to our friends at Bragernes church who make this possible.



*Revd Canon Joanna and the choir at Sylling Church*

The St Edmund's Choir and Senior Chaplain were also invited to take part in a special service at Sylling Church on Wednesday 9th April to mark the 85th anniversary of the loss of a British Sunderland seaplane and all but one of its crew on the first day of German invasion of Norway. After the service, wreaths were laid at the Commonwealth War graves in the village before everyone enjoyed refreshments in the hall. The local community are marvellous at keeping the graves tended and the memory of these servicemen and their sacrifice alive.

At the St Edmund's AGM, Peter Pang's dedicated service as assistant church warden was warmly appreciated and we wished him God's blessing as he departs from Norway. We are very grateful to Annet Karkada for continuing and to Robert Moses elected as a new assistant warden. We are also grateful to Sherine and Jill for continuing as Oslo secretary and treasurer respectively.

Looking ahead we are excited to be welcoming a new deacon in the summer to undertake their curacy training at St Edmund's, and we continue to press on with fund-raising and grant applications for the crypt appeal to enable the long over-

due renovations to go ahead. All efforts and support are hugely appreciated.

*Rev'd Canon Joanna Udal, Senior Chaplain, Oslo*

## Journey to confirmation



*The candidates on tour*

Asking questions; interacting; growing in faith; all important parts of the journey towards Confirmation for our candidates from around the Anglican Chaplaincy in Norway. It has been really nice to accompany them and to watch them growing in faith and confidence. Every year is different with different interests and experience but what is always super is seeing how the candidates grow in confidence and friendship together.

Living far apart means that Zoom is the best vehicle to meet together weekly for study and exploration of our faith as well as having the opportunity for simple evening prayers together online. Meeting together in person for the first time, it's not self-evident how well the young people will interact together. But it wasn't long before they were no longer fixed to their phones but were having a lot of fun together. By the end of the day we couldn't stop them!

A weekend of activities was arranged for the Young People in Oslo. After an interactive discussion about baptism and the chance to practice reading in church, we had a fine time exploring the different churches in the neighbourhood. We learned a lot visiting the oldest church in continuous use in Oslo, Gamle Aker Church; the Swedish Margareta church where we heard the Göteborg Cathedral Girls' Choir sing beautifully; about Catholic symbols and tradition in St Olav's Cathedral, and being welcomed to the Greek Orthodox church and given an insight into their Lenten practices of prayer and fasting. It was so good to discover the other churches with their different histories and cultures and to see ourselves as one family in our shared Christian faith.

Perhaps the highlight of the programme was when the Young People's group were left to their own devices to produce a Gospel Drama. The text of the week wasn't the most promising but the group proved to be highly creative, turning a more challenging collection of Jesus' sayings and parables into a memorable drama which they performed in St Edmund's at the Sunday morning service. They also proved very willing and talented at writing their own intercessions both at that service and on the day of the Confirmation itself.



*Our creative confirmands—whose dramatic retelling of the Gospel was a particular highlight!*

It was a blessing to have our new Suffragan Bishop, Andrew Norman, come to confirm, and in one case also baptise, our candidates. He interacted personally with each of them and encouraged all the friends and supporters present at the service

			Oslo			Bergen	
JULY							
Sun	01	Easter 7	11:00	All Age Service Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	
Sun	08	Pentecost	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Holy Communion	
Sun	15	Trinity Sunday	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	
Sun	22	Trinity 1	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Holy Communion	
Sun	29	Trinity 2 Peter & Paul	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	
JULY							
Sun	06	Trinity 3	11:00	All Age Service Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	
Sun	13	Trinity 4	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	
Sun	20	Trinity 5	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	
Sun	27	Trinity 6	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	
AUGUST							
Sun	03	Trinity 7	11:00	All Age Service Sung Communion	11:00	Holy Communion	
Sun	10	Trinity 8	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	
Sun	17	Trinity 9	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Holy Communion	
Sun	24	Trinity 10 Bartholomew	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	
Sun	31	Trinity 11	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Holy Communion	
SEPTEMBER							
Sun	07	Trinity 12	11:00	All Age Service Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	
Sun	14	Trinity 13 Holy Cross Day	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Holy Communion	
Sun	21	Trinity 14 Matthew	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	
Sun	28	Trinity 15	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Holy Communion	



Readings	Stavanger		Trondheim	
JUNE				
Acts 16. 16-34 John 17.20-end	10:30	Holy Communion	18:00	Holy Communion Chapter House
Acts 2.1-21 John 14.8-17,25-27	10:30	Service of the Word	11:00 18:00	Fjellseter/Morning Prayer Cathedral / NKR
Romans 5.1-5 John 16.12-15	10:30	Holy Communion	18:00	Holy Communion Cathedral
Galations 3.23-end Luke 8.26-39	10:30	Holy Communion	11:00	Messy Church Waisenhuset
Acts 12.1-11 Matthew 16.13-19		No service		Online Gathering
JULY				
Galations 6.1-16 Luke 10.1-11,16-20		No service	18:00	Evening Prayer Chapter House
Colossians 1.1-14 Luke 10.25-37		No service	11:00	Morning Prayer Waisenhuset
Colossians 1.15-28 Luke 10. 38-end		No service	11:00	Holy Communion Cathedral
Colossians 2.6-15 Luke 11.1-13		No service		Online Gathering
AUGUST				
Colossians 3.1-11 Luke 12.13-21	10:30	Holy Communion	18:00	Holy Communion Chapter House
Hebrews 11.1-3, 8-16 Luke 12. 32-40	10:30	Holy Communion	11:00	Messy Church Waisenhuset
Hebrews 11. 29- 12.2 Luke 12.49-56	10:30	Holy Communion	18:00	Holy Communion Cathedral
I Corinthians 4.8-15 Luke 22.24-30	10:30	Holy Communion	18:00	Evening Prayer Chapter House
Hebrews 13.1-8, 15 -16 Luke 14.1, 7-14	10:30	Holy Communion	11:00	Holy Communion Cathedral
SEPTEMBER				
Philemon 1-21 Luke 14.25-33	10:30	Holy Communion	18:00	Holy Communion Chapter House
Phillippians 2.6-11 John 3.13-17	10:30	Holy Communion	11:00	Messy Church Waisenhuset
2 Corinthians 4.1-6 Matthew 9.9-13	10:30	Holy Communion	18:00	Holy Communion Cathedral
1 Timothy 6.6-19 Luke 16.19-end	10:30	Holy Communion	11:00	Online gathering

to support them in their calling and to be encouraged themselves by the candidates to explore and take action regarding their own calling. Those newly confirmed carried the light of Christ out into the world as they successfully carried their candles outside the church and managed to protect them during the photos from the wind! Many congratulations to Elise, Emma, Skylah and Tanzi, and also to group members Fritjof confirmed in Stjørdal the same day and James confirmed in Bangalore several months earlier. It has been a great joy journeying with you all.

*Norah Kwagala, Bergen*

## Congratulations to our confirmands!



*Our confirmands with Suffragan Bishop Andrew Norman*

We are very proud of all our confirmands who were confirmed together on 11th May. As Norah has written, their contributions to our services allowed their creativity to shine through. We look forward to seeing where their journeys take them!

## A homecoming to Balestrand

Once again, folks from both Oslo and Bergen met in Balestrand for the opening weekend of St Olaf's Church summer season, known locally as the English church. For the past 128 years, this small church with intricate wooden carvings has welcomed tourists and travellers to the quaint village of Balestrand on the Sognefjord. Appropriate since

the inspiration for the church back in the 1890's was an English woman, Margaret Green, who came to Balestrand to enjoy its nature but ended up staying after falling in love with and marrying Knut Kvikne. The connection to the Kvikne family means we all overnight at the picturesque Kviknes Hotel, where we feel very welcome and well looked after.

This year we were 15 in total, with 2 newbies, one from each congregation. "It was a very good opportunity to get to know people in a more social setting. I enjoyed it very much." And for those who have been countless times before, it was lovely to meet up with old friends. One constant is Welsh David, the head waiter, who looks after all he meets, but seems to have a soft spot for our group, evident by the fact our assigned table was directly by his station at the door to the large, window-filled dining room. The hotel appeared to be fully booked, with a wedding party of 45 Americans and a local 95th birthday celebration on Friday and a confirmation reception on Saturday.



*A happy band of pilgrims*

Rev'd Joanna opened the season with Saturday evening compline and a Sunday morning Eucharist service, the latter involving folks from St Peter's Great Totham Essex, Bergen and Oslo. Congregants included visitors from Minnesota, USA, the UK and South Sudan, and folks around Norway who joined on Zoom. As Joanna quoted in her sermon, "There's no place like home." We feel like we're coming home every year. God willing, we will return.

*Penny Mietle & Barbara McIntosh, Bergen*

## Where worlds meet: a pilgrimage in faith



*Izmir in Turkey by the lake of Nicaea*

Approaching Turkey by air from Norway brought us in over the Black Sea and tracing our way to Istanbul along the Bosphorus, the crucial waterway across which Asia and Europe meet. Officially now known as Türkiye, this land has been a meeting place for millennia. Today its vast new airport brings people in from all corners of the earth.

In the 4th Century AD, the region of modern-day Turkey was already a great meeting place. In 325 AD the Roman Emperor Constantine convened a Council of the Church to which bishops travelled from across the known Christian world, by land and by sea, to meet at Nicaea, a day's ride from the Byzantine capital of Constantinople. This became known as the Council of Nicaea. To celebrate the 1700th Anniversary this year, an ecumenical pilgrimage was arranged bringing together Anglican and Orthodox pilgrims to visit this place of such consequence for our Christian faith, for it was there that substantial parts of the Nicene Creed were agreed, the expression of our faith used down the centuries ever since by Christians around the world.

Although led jointly by the Greek Orthodox Archbishop of Great Britain and Thyatira, Archbishop Nikitas, and Lord Chartres, the former Bishop of London, under the auspices of the Anglican and Eastern Churches Association, the pilgrimage was

also very much a Diocese in Europe affair, arranged locally by the Anglican Chaplain in Izmir, Revd James Buxton, supported by the Chaplain in Athens, Revd Ben Drury, with Bishop Robert Innes' involvement including collating James as a Canon of the Diocese at a splendid celebration at the Church of St John the Divine in Izmir.



*Images from Revd Canon Joanna's visit to Izmir*

The modern place name Izmir is derived from the city's historic name Smyrna, the seat of St Polycarp, one of the early bishops of the Church martyred amid persecution in 155 AD. Similarly, the modern place name Izmir derives from the historic place name Nicaea, the location where the emperor had built a summer palace, and convened the first ecumenical council of the Church. Likewise the Turkish name Istanbul derives from the Byzantine Constantinople, which was the site of the second and fifth ecumenical councils. We were so privileged to be able to visit all three of these cities as well as Ephesus and Chalcedon, the places of the third and fourth ecumenical councils respectively. For all of us interested in the theology and history of our faith, this pilgrimage was an amazing opportunity to visit and pray together at these sites of such historic significance.

As well as visiting the historic sites, it was also a

great joy to visit living churches in these places. We were invited to join worship in both Anglican and Orthodox churches and one of the highlights was to be welcomed by the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew at the Phanar, the headquarters of the Patriarchate of Constantinople, and to join the Evening Liturgy there. We also participated in an ecumenical vespers in Smyrna in the recently re-established Orthodox Cathedral together with Catholic and Anglican leaders, in a fine building which the Catholic Church has given over for the use of the Greek Orthodox community.



*The burial place of St John at Ephesus*

Everywhere there were multiple layers of history to be discovered. On top of earlier Greek and Roman structures we admired rich Byzantine artwork and impressive feats of engineering, such as the domes of the churches of Hagia Sophia and the even earlier church of St Sergius and Bacchus and the exquisite mosaics of Kora church. In several places these churches are now partially used as mosques, mostly sensitively adapted with respect for both faiths. We also visited biblical sites from the New Testament, such as those associated with the missionary journeys of St Paul and the churches with which he corresponded, as well as the church and burial place of St John at Ephesus. We also visited Pergamum, one of the seven churches addressed in the Book of Revelation and appreciated the challenge faced by the early church in remaining faithful and distinctive when living side by side with pagan temples and worship.

For me the climax of our visit was visiting the rural city Iznik, beside the Lake of Nicaea, and discovering connections with the Council of Nicaea back in 325. We visited the ancient gates of the city through which those travelling to the Council would have arrived; we saw the later basilica church with rounded apse where the second Council of Nicaea was held; we saw exquisite artifacts in the local museum such as a pottery chalice and mother-of-pearl brooch of Mary, affirmed as Mother-of-God by the Council of Ephesus; and we visited the lakeside beside the now semi-submerged ruins of the basilica church where the Council of Nicaea is believed to have been held. Beside it, a new walkway is being constructed out over the water, intended so that the Pope and the Ecumenical Patriarch might be able to visit the site together. Alas Pope Francis was unable to fulfil this invitation before his death but it is hoped that Pope Leo will be able to do so as a strong sign of united Christian witness.



*Revd Canon Joanna and Diocesan Registrar, Aiden Hargreaves-Smith beside the site of the Council*

We made our own united sign of witness to our faith a little further along the shore line, between the reeds and the beach, as we declared together



the Nicene Creed and sang together the suitably trinitarian hymn, Holy, holy, holy, to the hymn tune appropriately known as 'Nicaea'.

The Nicene Creed continues to be both proclamation and benchmark of our Christian faith, in recognising the full divinity of Jesus Christ as well as his humanity, and in expressing the unity of God whom we worship as Father, Son and Holy Spirit - "God in three persons, blessed Trinity." This is our faith we celebrate together, whether Anglican, Orthodox, Catholic or from the Protestant churches. It has been a great joy to meet and journey together for this pilgrimage of faith. As well as making new friends, I hope that celebrating this common inheritance of faith on the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea can be a lasting sign of unity and witness for the world .

*Revd Canon Joanna Udal, Oslo senior Chaplain*

## Margot Friedländer



*Photograph courtesy of: Wikimedia Commons/ Scott-Hendryk Dillan (CC BY-SA 3.0)*

Margot Friedländer had FAITH, Faith in Humanity and Human Kind. Just like GOD always has shown Faith in us, his people. Her journey in faith lasted 103 years. She died on 9th May after short illness. The same day she should have been award-

ed with the highest decoration of the Federal Republic of Germany. Maybe she didn't want to be recognised for this, the woman with an award.

Margot Friedländer, nee Bendheim was born on 5th November 1921 in Berlin where she was raised. She was a German Holocaust survivor and a public speaker. She was forced to go into hiding when her mother and brother were arrested by the Gestapo in 1943. She was captured in 1944 and taken to Theresienstadt concentration camp, but survived. After the war she emigrated in 1946 with her husband to the States. After her husband's death in 2010 she decided to go back to Germany, to her hometown Berlin. She then began speaking to German youth about her experiences in Nazi Germany and surviving against all odds. She received various honours for promoting human rights and fighting against anti-semitism.

Never too tired to tell school classes how it was and what had happened to her and her family in the past. She always had faith in human kind and humanity. Finishing her talks to school classes and also at other occasions she at the end blew kisses to the class and to the audience and said: be human, be sensible. You need to tell others what happened and that these things Must never happen again.

Her last speech was on May 7th in the red town hall in Berlin when she took part in the celebrations after 80 years of the ending of World War II. Though already frail she again used her voice and said: BE HUMAN, BE KIND. Following her speech that day, none would believe that her life journey in faith ended two days later. What a remarkable journey in faith she had shown, never being too tired to repeat her message and to encourage people to tell the truth. On May 15th Margot Friedländer was laid to rest at the Jewish Cemetery in Berlin-Weissensee next to her beloved grandparents. May She rest in Peace!

Shalom Margot!

*Ingeborg Wörheide, Oslo*

## Hiraeth

*“Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God.” Ruth 1: 16*

The book of Ruth is only 4 chapters long, and it’s not one of the books that first perhaps springs to mind when we think of journeys in faith. Yet, Ruth contains one of the most poignant messages of journeying. Ruth leaves her home of Moab, where she has lost her husband, to join her mother-in-law, Naomi. She leaves behind her culture, her life, and all her connections behind, out of love for Naomi, and the great unknown of a new beginning. Ruth’s choice, as her story tells us, leads to a new life with Naomi, work, and eventually, a new marriage and being adopted into a new culture. However, I have always wondered how Ruth felt about her identity after the story ends. Is Ruth now fully an Israelite, is she still a Moabite and an outsider, or is she something more complex, a hybrid of the two?

Perhaps Ruth sometimes felt the untranslatable Welsh feeling of “hiraeth”. Hiraeth is akin to a deep longing, nostalgia, and bittersweet emotion connected to the Wales of the past, often associated with Welsh immigrants across the globe and efforts to preserve Welsh language and culture. In my own family, hiraeth is most present when my mother passionately breaks into the Welsh national anthem, often before a depressing rugby scoreline! Rugby commiserations aside, the word hiraeth has been associated with several projects working with refugees – often ones allowing individuals displaced from their homes to share their own stories. Refugees from different lands, cultures, languages, and religions, yet all connected through this sense of hiraeth. Perhaps our Anglican community was born out of a sense of Hiraeth, a longing for the faith and culture that was familiar in a foreign land.

Our own journeys through life and faith may sometimes feel like a step into the unknown. It is a journey that often leaves us changed, perhaps with a deep longing for a place that we left behind. That

journey is not simple, nor is it easy. However, we find in Ruth a figure of courage and determination. Ruth placed her trust in God, a God she did not know, and God walked with her into the unknown, guiding her to a new beginning, without erasing her past. It is the same God who walks with us through our own journeys in life and faith, who knows all facets of our different identities, and who meets us and our uncertainties with love, joy, and peace.

*Beth Winther-Noble, Oslo*



## Upcoming events



### Chaplaincy

**7th-9th June** 750 years of Kvamsøy kirke

**9th-13th June** Cologne, Germany: Diocesan Synod

**4th-7th September** Archdeaconry Synod, Bad Boll

**16th September** Chaplaincy Council

**21st September** Balestrand, Summer Chaplaincy closing

**9th November** Remembrance Sunday

### Bergen

**9th June** Ecumenical Pentecostal celebrations

### Trondheim

**8th June** Fjellseter chapel followed by potluck lunch

**8th June** AGM Trondheim congregation

**8th June** Ecumenical Pentecost service, Nidaros Cathedral, 18:00

### Stavanger

**9th June** Ecumenical Pentecost celebrations

### Oslo

**8th June** festive service and party

**8th June** Ecumenical Pentecost celebration, Furuset Kirke

**2nd September**, Families Barbecue

**12th September**, Choral Evensong – Oslo Kulturnatt

**13th September** Creation hike

**5th October** Harvest Festival with product auction

**15th November** Bazaar

## From the registers

### HOLY BAPTISMS



*Vår Frue Church, Trondheim*

Moira Polic- Bachynski, 20th April

Patrick Polic- Bachynski, 20 th April

*St Edmund's, Oslo*

Skylah Meekin de Boer, 11th May

### CONFIRMATION

*by Bishop Andrew Norman, 11th May, at St Edmund's, Oslo*

Skylah Meekin de Boer, Oslo

Elise Marie Sandved, Oslo

Emma Louise Stannard, Bergen

Tanzi Fiona Meekin, Oslo

### BLESSING OF A MARRIAGE

*at St Edmund's, Oslo on 15th March*  
Agnes Bodi and Ryan John Machan

### DEATHS

Stephen Charles Golding, Oslo

Margaret Emma Nyhamar, Oslo

Brian Tomlinson, Sola

Joyce Thornley Wendel, Oslo

Celia Flaaten, Bærum

Marion Bø, Stavanger

Mary Beatrice Johannesen, Trondheim

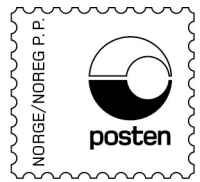
Linda Dorothy Frøyland, Drammen



THE ANGLICAN CHAPLAINCY IN NORWAY, SUSAN, IRIS & NORRAH INVITE ALL CHILDREN TO  
**Choom, Children's Zoom**

ON THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH 9.40 – 10.15

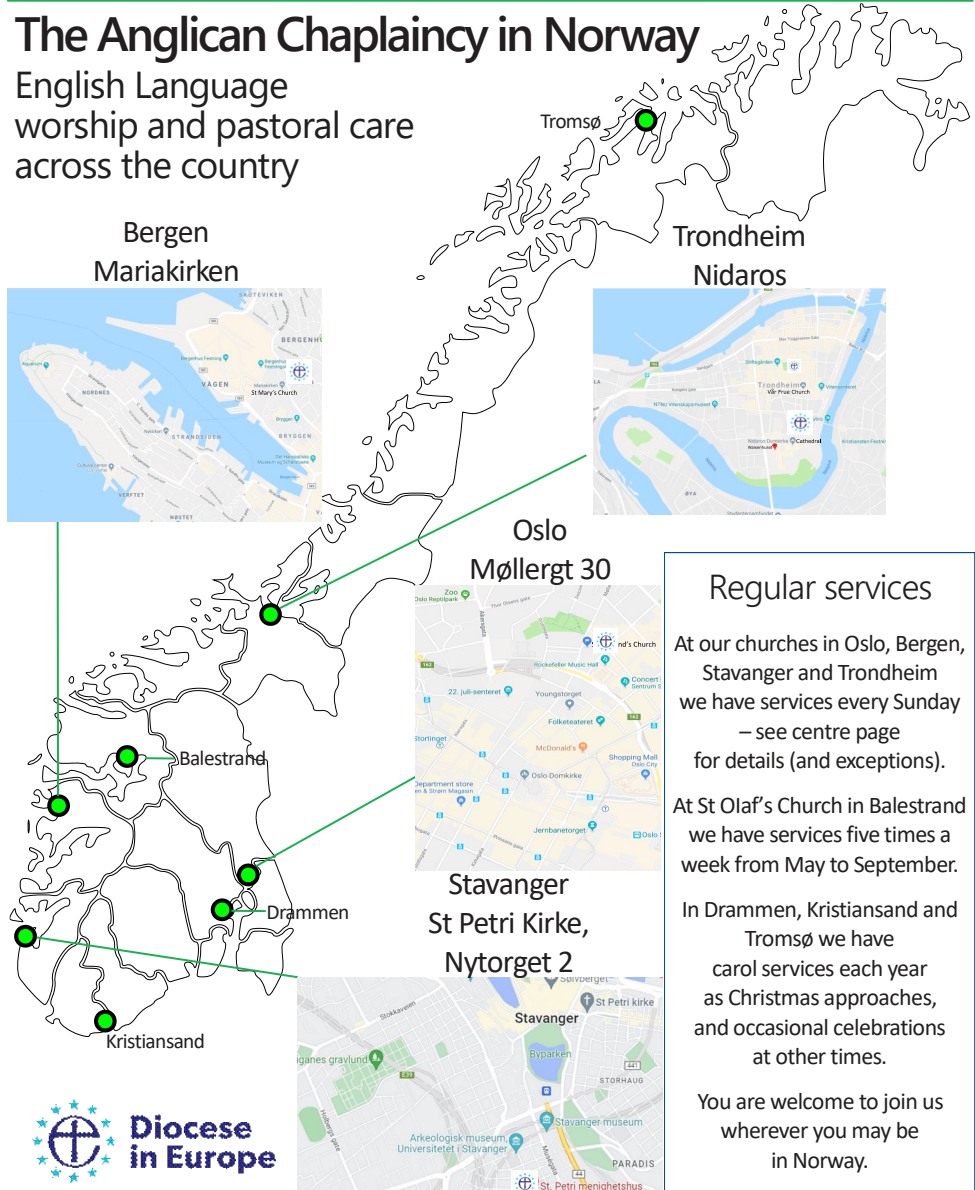




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# The Anglican Chaplaincy in Norway

English Language  
worship and pastoral care  
across the country



## Regular services

At our churches in Oslo, Bergen, Stavanger and Trondheim we have services every Sunday – see centre page for details (and exceptions).

At St Olaf's Church in Balestrand we have services five times a week from May to September.

In Drammen, Kristiansand and Tromsø we have carol services each year as Christmas approaches, and occasional celebrations at other times.

You are welcome to join us wherever you may be in Norway.

