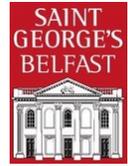


# The Parish Church of Saint George



## PARISH MAGAZINE

*An open door in the heart of the City*



**FEBRUARY 2021**

## From the Rector's Desk



Dear Friends in Christ,

As I write, the N.I. lockdown and consequent church closures have been extended until the beginning of March. It seems likely that this may be extended beyond that date unless there is a significant drop in Covid-19 infections and a decrease in the 'R' number. So many people have died as a result of Covid-19 and many more have been severely affected by it that the full effect of the pandemic is only now starting to become clear in terms of human suffering, the economy and societal structures. The good news is the development and distribution of effective vaccines in record time.

However I am dismayed by the sheer amount of 'fake' news out there, especially on the internet which downplays the seriousness of this disease and the absolute tripe promoted by the anti-vax lobby. I never knew we had so many medically and scientifically qualified people who seem to spend all their time on bizarre conspiracy theories suggesting that Covid-19 is a hoax and part of a sinister plot engineered by the 'deep state', 'big pharma', the Chinese, aliens etc. (delete as appropriate!). The vaccines offer the best way out of our current predicament, so please do get yours as soon as you are called. You will not only be protecting yourself from the effects of Covid-19, but you will also be helping to combat the prevalence of this disease and helping others to be safe as well.

I will speak to the Bishop about the Easter Liturgy and the Confirmation due to take place on Easter Eve. We will see what can be done to ensure that those who prepared for confirmation last year and missed out because of the first lockdown can somehow be confirmed this year.

There are a number of items of altar linen and hangings which need repair or replaced. I have had quotes from my wife for the various items and set them out below in the hope that parishioners might like to sponsor an item.

<b>Red Festival Front</b> Complete restoration of all gold silk and repair of vertical panels and centre design	£575.00 (est)
<b>Red Frontal top section</b> Repairs	£120.00
<b>New Purple Frontal</b> Repairs	£30.00
<b>Old Purple Superfrontal</b> Re-line	£60.00
<b>Old Purple Frontal</b> Restoration of appliqué and banding	£200.00
<b>Funeral Pall</b> Repair to fringing	£10.00
<b>High Altar</b> New neutral runner and backdrop	£85.00
<b>White Frontal</b> Additional supports and hanging rings	£20.00

If you would like to sponsor one of these repairs/renewals, then speak to me as soon as possible so we can have them all completed by the time lockdown is over.

Please don't hesitate to contact me on 028-9070-1350 (Rectory) or 07902792080 (Mobile) if you need any pastoral support.

With my prayers and best wishes to you all.

*Brian Stewart*

## PARISH NEWS

### Front Cover Picture

The picture on the front cover of this edition of the Parish Magazine is of hungry children. In the UK there many such children and in many parts of Asia and Africa there are similar starving children.

Lent is a time of discipline and self-denial. During this time we should make sure that we are hungry at some time every day in order to show solidarity with all hungry children, and we should give the money we save to a charity which helps hungry children.

WOS

### REGISTER OF VESTRY MEMBERS: 2021

The next annual review of the **Register of Vestry Members** will take place on **Tuesday, 2nd March 2021**. This is a reminder of the registration process.

First, if you are already registered, then there is nothing more you need to do; you can check that your name is on the 2020 list of Vestry Members, which is on the noticeboard in the narthex or will also be available from the Rector's Church Warden, Michael Clendinning, at Tel: 9066-8549. If you are not registered and would like to be 'signed up', Forms of Declaration will be available from our Churchwardens during the month of February, either in church (Covid willing!), or again by contacting the Rector's Church Warden, Michael Clendinning, at Tel: 9066-8549.

Membership of the Vestry entitles you to participate and vote in the elections, which are held at the Easter General Vestry meeting. The 'terms' for those who may be included on the Register of Vestry Members are that (a) they must be a resident or accustomed member and (b) they subscribe to the funds of the parish by a receiptable collection. The Free Will Offering (FWO) scheme is an ideal way to subscribe to parish funds and satisfy this latter requirement; for further information on the scheme please consult Selby Nesbitt, FWO co-ordinator or Douglas McIldoon, our Treasurer.

If you have any general queries about the Register of Vestry Members, please speak with the Rector or Peter Hunter, Hon. Secretary.

It is proposed that the **Easter General Vestry** will be held on **18th April at 12.30pm**.

### PRINTING AND STATIONERY FUND

This is the month we normally seek support for the Printing and Stationery Fund. This fund supports the printing cost of all our publications such as the Magazine, the Sunday Service Sheet, Special Service Sheets, etc. We would be grateful therefore if you could make a donation to the Printing & Stationery Fund in order that we may continue to produce what we believe to be essential parish publications.

If you would find it helpful to be able to donate electronically, the bank details are Sort Code: 98-00-10; Account No: 09028029; Reference: Print and Stat. Thank you.

## THANK YOU

Betty Flynn writes:

A Healthy and Happy New Year to you all and a massive thank you to all who contributed to the Storehouse Christmas Appeal. I want to share the following thank you we received from Matt at Storehouse on Christmas Day.

*This year has been one of the most challenging years we will ever face, but here at Storehouse we have been blown away by the levels of kindness and generosity we have received. I just wanted to say thank you to all of our partner churches for the ways in which you've responded and helped us throughout this time. We couldn't have done it without you.*

*This week, we finished the year with a bang and delivered over 2200 Christmas hampers. Considering that due to restrictions, we had to limit the number of volunteers in the warehouse at any given time, we still managed to produce bigger, better and more hampers than ever before.*

*I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas today!*

**Matt Orme**

Partnership Manager

## CHRISTMAS CHARITY APPEAL

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Charities appeal. At short notice and in chaotic circumstances, the total donated by parishioners (including gift aid) to the four charities, i.e. *Bishops' Appeal, Simon Community, Welcome Organisation and Christian Aid*, was £3086.90p. The Select Vestry decided to round up the payment to each one to £1,000.

I am certain this money will be put to good use by each of these organisations, so again thank you for such a generous response.

I pray you are all keeping well and that post lockdown we will be able to enjoy each other's company in St George's once again.

*Eleanor Maynard*

# THANK YOU

Dear Zambia Link Parishes,  
Greetings from CMSI!

As we start off another year of relationship and interaction with your Global Partner, we at CMSI wanted to **thank you** for your ongoing

prayerful and financial support. Enclosed is a poster outlining two of the ways in which your parish was able to support our Global Partner in 2020. The main way has been in supporting Keith and Lyn Scott as Mission Partners at St John's Theological Seminary, Kitwe.

We hope that you will highlight and display the posters for the encouragement of your parishioners, and we look forward to another year in partnership with you. I will also send you a hard copy in the post.

My role is to help you develop your parish partnership for the building up of the church both in your

global partner's community, and in your own parish. I will be in contact after Easter to talk through ideas for growing your link or switching to supporting another Global Partner as the Scott's move into retirement and have taken on more of a peripatetic role through CMSI.

Every Blessing,  
Gillian Maganda



Keeping Church at the centre of mission, through Partnership Links

## St John's Seminary, Kitwe (Diocese of Northern Zambia)

Partnering in Mission with...

- Antrim Parish
- Aughrim & Ballinasloe Union
- Ballymacash Parish
- Bangor Abbey
- Bright and Balle (Lecale Group)
- Carnmoney Parish
- Carrigrohane Union
- Castlecaulfield & Donaghmore Parishes
- Douglas Union
- Castleknock Parish
- Magheragall Parish
- St Finian's, Cregagh
- St George's, Belfast
- St John's, Malone
- St John's, Newcastle
- St Patrick's, Jordanstown



With your help in 2020, we were able to support:

- ◆ CMSI Mission Partners Keith and Lyn Scott
- ◆ Upgrade and repair to services for the Seminary's staff housing

A huge thank you from Archbishop Albert Chama, Fr Francis Mwansa, Keith and Lyn Scott, the community at St John's Seminary and all at CMSI. May you know God's blessing on your partnership in the coming year.

[www.cmsireland.org](http://www.cmsireland.org)



## HOW TO BE A TEACHER - A TRUE STORY by Jeffrey Johnston

Dave was a car mechanic in a small town in county Down. He was competent at his job and well respected. One evening he was surprised to receive a call from the principal of the technical college. Dave, he said, I would like you to teach a class in Car Mechanics starting in September. Dave was delighted and readily agreed. However, the next day he had second thoughts. What did he know about being a teacher? What time had he ever spent on a teacher training course? He needed advice and a name readily came to mind.

Mr McIlhinney was a teacher that he had always admired. He called him up, told him his problem and asked could they have a chat? Certainly, was the reply. What about lunchtime on Thursday?

So, he came to the college as agreed and received a very warm welcome. They were not talking long before Dave found that his former teacher was more interested in exchanging stories about how his former classmates had got on in life. He was so keen that Dave could not get a word in edgeways.

Then a bell rang, and his former teacher said "Sorry, Dave, I must go. I have got a class now." "Just a minute," said Dave, "you haven't told me how to be a teacher."

Mr McIlhinney paused for a moment, then he said "Just remember, Dave, when you teach a class, it's a performance. You're on stage every day." Jim never forgot that.

He was a popular teacher in the college for many years.

### I THANK YOU GOD

*E. E. Cummings (1894-1962)*

I thank You God for most this amazing day  
For the leaping greenly spirits of trees  
And a blue true dream of sky  
And for everything which is natural, which is infinite, which is yes

I who have died am alive again today  
And this is the sun's birthday  
This is the birth day of life and of love and wings  
And of the gay great happening illimitably earth

How should tasting, touching, hearing, seeing, breathing any  
Lifted from the no of all nothing  
Human merely being doubt unimaginable You?

Now the ears of my ears awake  
And now the eyes of my eyes are opened

## MAKE ME AN ISLAND

by Paul McLaughlin



It might be an e-mailed enquiry from a French academic, a telephone call from a confused soon-to-be married woman, a little white envelope containing a small donation coming through the letterbox or a whopping great press enquiry requiring urgent attention. It might even be all four as a day at the office

has become a day at home.

The small mixed marriage charity that employs me decided to close its Belfast office just as the pandemic's first lockdown emptied city and town centres. It was a strange and surreal coincidence that the building in which we had rented office space for more than 25 years, closed its doors for the last time that day before going under hammer and being mothballed for future development.

We shut up shop as our finances hit rock bottom. Everyone else it seems followed suit as office workers deserted their places of work in droves and a new 'normality' left Belfast looking like a scene from a post-apocalyptic movie.

More than 40 years of our charity's history was packed – essentially very selectively - into a small family-sized saloon and transported to my home in the North of the city. We had reviewed our future prospects, decided to cut our coat according to our cloth long before the decree from Stormont and saw home-working as the only plausible alternative to no working at all.

Many others registered shock, horror and disappointment at being 'forced' to work from home. I saw it as a great opportunity to allow us to continue our work regardless of the restrictions of the pandemic. I also saw myself as very fortunate to be in a position to work from home. NHS staff, shop assistants, postal workers and bus drivers would not be so lucky. They would remain in the front line facing the direct and dangerous threat of Covid 19 on a daily basis.

From the relative luxury and safety of my home office, formerly a box bedroom that became a little oasis for writing for pleasure more than twenty years ago, I have been able to carry on my work.

All of the important files are here, the old warhorse of a PC that defies all logic, the excess of books from our last publication, the incomparable office library, there is even a corner for my favourite cabinet – a chic gunmetal grey. Certainly not drab as my wife

maintains. I have, in fact, everything I need to carry on very nearly as before. The routine is much stricter now as I work on a freelance basis, the hours shorter but, amazingly, much easier to fill productively, and the focus on what we are about much tighter than in our city centre incarnation.

I know what I have to do. I don't need any outside motivation to do it. I too have listened to all that nonsense from home-workers who seem to actively seek out distractions at every turn, whose get up and go has got up and gone. My work gets done and there is no tiresome travelling, no bad weather and no grumpy commuters. Just me surrounded by my favourite things.

The little Rosary from Medjugorje hangs from my nautical-styled clock, the Book of Common Prayer and a fine ceramic Celtic Cross, courtesy of my late friend Nan, sit proudly on a shelf and the poster of the painting 'The Light of the World' is at my right hand. My wife's sewing machine is lodged below my desk. Okay, not all of my favourite things.

Early mornings are still the normal practice as they have been for more than twelve years, but I can dip in and out of work as I wish or in the case of e-mailed or 'phone enquiries, respond right away. It is what I want it to be.

Others may long for the camaraderie of workmates, the drone of water cooler gossip and the lunchtime stroll around Winter streets. I don't and really they shouldn't. Stay at home if you can is the only way to beat this modern day plague.

Our work of pastoral care continues, and our quality of service remains high. I admit that we have been lucky in that our funders have responded favourably to our cost-cutting and that our type of work is very suited to the home-working environment. Long may it continue.

The poet John Donne coined the phrase 'No man is an island' to explain that human beings do badly when isolated from others and they need to be part of a community in order to thrive. To thrive, perhaps. To work. Not I.

After all is said and done – no pun intended – one's man isolation is another man's solitude, and I am more than happy on my island.

*Editor: Paul is Development Office for the charity, Northern Ireland Mixed Marriage Association (NIMMA)*



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# *St George's Lenten Lunch 2021 on the First Sunday in Lent February 21<sup>st</sup>*

It's time to organize a Parish Lunch.

A socially distanced lunch – of course.

And one that allows us all to stay inside in the warm - of course.

A lunch with a purpose – in fact, several purposes:

To mark the beginning of Lent

To raise funds for Lenten charities

Because we haven't had a Parish Lunch for almost 12 MONTHS

Because there are still ways to do things together

How can this be arranged?

Very conveniently because – just for a change – we will stay at home.

And cook our favourite soup to accompany our favourite cheese.

Please join in.

Two charities have been chosen:

*Embrace the Middle East* and *USPG*

Information about the charities, their topical Lenten projects and on how to donate, can be found on the following pages.

And one more request!

Please email photos to [p\\_tilson@hotmail.com](mailto:p_tilson@hotmail.com). We hope to include as many as possible on Facebook and in the March magazine.

*BON APPETIT!*

## EMBRACE the Middle East Inspired by Hope – Lent 2021

**Embrace the Middle East** is a Christian charity established in 1854, working to support Middle East Christians transform the lives of some of the most marginalized and excluded, such as families escaping violence and persecution, those living with disabilities and women and children deprived of access to education and health services. The charity works by establishing long term partnerships serving the communities which have suffered social and economic marginalization and exclusion. It encourages the social witness of Christians in building a culture of inclusion, justice and peace amid the ravages of suffering and war.

**Embrace** invests in a range of constructive projects, providing grants and emergency funds. It encourages community collaboration, provides resources and tools and promotes alliances with centres of excellence. And it works across the Middle East to support the development of a new generation of Christian leaders.

Families caring for a disabled child always face difficulties and this is a particular issue on the West Bank where circumstances are often challenging and particularly so during the current COVID-19 pandemic when support facilities cannot operate in the usual manner.

**Embrace** works with the Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre and understands the worries of parents of disabled children who can no longer reach much needed services because of fear of infection. A virtual therapy service has been set up to reach the children who cannot reach the centre. The **Embrace** appeal, **Inspired by Hope**, will use our donations to improve both the IT systems to further develop the virtual care model in the Princess Basma Centre and to supply essential PPE for the staff.

For lots more information and Lent resources, please go to [www.embraceme.org](http://www.embraceme.org).

## USPG - FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS – Lent 2021

USPG is an Anglican mission agency founded in 1701 and familiar to us in St George's through our long-term support, our Sunday prayers and also through the placement that the Rev Gerry Lynch undertook in S Africa for the agency some years ago. Gerry was recently home in Belfast and preached at the Christmas Midnight Mass. USPG works in partnership with churches and communities around the world to 'enliven faith, strengthen relationships, unlock potential and champion justice'.

This Lent, USPG will be focusing on the theme of Creation by showing solidarity with young people in their fight against climate change. They ask us to support a Green Schools project run by the Church of S India, which it delivers across 5 states, through donations for the provision of educational materials and teacher training. The project teaches the theory and implements the practical, so a school can install large tanks to collect rainwater, which can then be used for hygiene, gardening, and cooking, hence becoming eco-friendly.

The appeal is called **FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS** and you can find further information and resources at [www.uspg.org.uk](http://www.uspg.org.uk). It is a timely appeal for the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the many environmental problems that have arisen through climate change and the destructive impact we are having on our natural world. And our Lenten Lunch is also timely because it falls on the First Sunday in Lent which is USPG'S Climate Sunday and also draws our attention to COP 26, the United Nations Climate Change Conference which the UK is hosting in Glasgow later this year.

### TO DONATE TO THESE LENTEN CHARITIES

We are supporting the Lenten projects of two charities this year, **USPG** and **Embrace the Middle East**. We ask for your generosity. Donations will be divided equally between the two charities.

You can donate in the usual way by electronic transfer to St George's bank account using: Sort-code: 98-00-10; Account No: 09028029; and Reference: Lent2021.

Or you can write a cheque to St George's Parish Church and send it to: The Hon Treasurer, St George's Parish Church, 105 High Street, Belfast, BT1 2AG. Please include a note to confirm that the donation is for the Lent Appeal.

Gift Aid will automatically be assumed if we already have your instruction. If you want to set up Gift Aid, please email Selby Nesbitt for further information [selby.nesbitt@bopenworld.com](mailto:selby.nesbitt@bopenworld.com).

Thank you All for Your Support!

## **BANGORS** by Terence Mayne

The northwest wind was blowing wild across the lough from Whitehead after a bad summer when the early mid and late crop north Down potatoes had failed. Fed up, my farmer friend, Jefferson tells his young sister to overwinter the farm while he investigates the Bangors of this world, going off to Dublin to catch the ferry to Holyhead and Bangor; population 19,000, swollen by 10,000 university students. This has the remains of a Norman castle for tourists to visit, a cathedral of age and a much to be recommended Menai bridge.

To continue our traveller trains it to Heathrow, flying on to the granite and coral islands of the Seychelles. Here lives his beautiful, cigar-smoking Danish aunt, Olga, from Odense, with the loves of her life: An Irish terrier (Audrey), a Glen of Imaal (Chitterabob), an Alsatian (Commando), and the blond Afghan (Gremalkin), not to forget the cat, Anderson, the husband and son having moved out. A very relaxing seven days, much of the time spent eating well, walking and distance swimming with the hounds. He could have stayed longer with Auntie, but moved off to Perth with Qantas, by rail to Adelaide, 3 nights camping on Kangaroo Island, plane to Tasmania where another Bangor beckoned. This is a lovely hamlet (population 76), 10 miles north of Laurencetown. Here is a very well appointed shop, the talk of the nation (The Bangor Vineyard Wine Store). He was pleased to meet Pat and Llana with the 12 metre mural they made depicting farming scenes, captain Spottiswood, tipsy wombats, a runaway convict, and more. The place was so characterful he could have stayed forever, but moving on he stopped in Bangor, Sydney (N.S.W.), a residential suburb, population 6,000, could be anywhere, for Christmas and fun.

My farming friend then moves north via Honolulu and Montana to Bangor, Maine, an oldish city of big time shipbuilding and timber. He loved the Penobscot River Walkway, the casino and the Discovery Museum. From these parts came Paul Bunyon, the hero of the lumber camps, a symbol of bigness, strength and vitality, a fashioner of lakes and rivers and too much more to mention. He had Babe, the blue ox, a source of much conversation, as a pet. Another local Stephen King the author, apart from writing, not many people know, composed music with Michael Jackson.

Next stop Paris and on to Bangor, Belle Isle, a much favoured holiday spot on west coast France. He found it a very peaceful couple of weeks after his vigorous world Bangor study. Then back to Ireland, stopping off in Bangor, Erris to stay in Ennisdrum House for fishing and visiting our newest island, Claggan, population 8, approached by a sandy causeway.

Then, back to the town he knows and loves. The history, the castle on the site of St Congal's Abbey (555 AD), the churches, Pickie pool, coal boats, Pieros, "The Widows", Royal Hotel, state of the art Tonic cinema, featuring A & B films, Stanley on the organ, and dancing girls (known as The Tonic Follies) and not to forget the Royal Ulster Yacht Club and its association with Liptons tea.

Jefferson did not go back to farming; he became a geography teacher at the grammar school and as the old boys will tell you, they know their Bangor's.

## *Endpiece by Jo Calder*

### **PRAY AND HOPE**

Sadly, 2021 has had a terrible start – indeed it appears the situation has only worsened in relation to the Covid 19 pandemic. Not being a scientist or clinician I am at a total loss to understand all the ramifications involved; I can only rely on those in a position to inform us. I know there are now several more dangerous strains of the virus, but of course I have no idea why this has happened.

I do watch some news items, though to be honest I try to avoid every news piece mentioning Covid 19 – perhaps like others I'm feeling there seems to be nothing else going on in the world at the moment, though of course this is not the case. One of the items dealt with the Chinese regime being less than forthcoming in their handling of what happened in Wuhan in the Autumn of 2019; the journalist presenting the story had said how they had been unable to use their report due to a clamp-down by this awful regime and its secretive behaviour. (Another example of its punitive restrictions is the inhuman, dreadful treatment of the Uighur Muslims). It was only in January the journalist was able to give the facts to other countries about what had **really** been taking place at the time, including a 2 month lock-down at the end of 2019, which was not disclosed at the time. There was also the case of the 35 year old doctor who first disclosed the seriousness of what was happening, but again was silenced by the Chinese regime.....and died of Covid 19 not long afterwards. I won't discuss again the horrors taking place in these wet markets in China and other parts of Asia, and what is being done to animals in the name of "food" and "traditional" Asian medicine, which, according to those who really know about medicine, seems to be quite ineffectual.

Here in the UK a vast majority of people are totally confused – the so-called 4 nations all have different instructions on what can and cannot be done, and we really are unsure. Again, I'm not in a position to comment on every edict handed out, but I think there have been times those who do make these decisions have not been fully transparent about what is going on. There is the ludicrous example of 2 women being stopped by police and each fined £200 for having a walk ("socially distanced" of course) in a park and both drinking a cup of coffee. This was interpreted as having a picnic. In no way am I advocating the flaunting of sensible and safe precautions, but I feel this was ridiculous; an example of how the regulations are being interpreted by some officials.

At the end of 2020 I signed up as a volunteer in a dual study by the Department of Health and the Office of Statistics to be tested for Covid 19 by a laboratory in Oxford. It entails an initial interview (which was done on my doorstep and "socially distanced") my taking a swab from both my mouth and nose each week for 5 weeks, and then once a month for the remainder of this year. So far I'm negative for the virus. Of course I pray and hope this will continue; due to my spinal problems and very limited mobility I don't go out

anyway other than my weekly visit to my local Tesco, accompanied by my son (who wears a mask) to help me. I am medically exempt from wearing a mask due to having asthma – the other 3 illnesses are emphysema, bronchitis and chronic obstructive airways disease. I carry documentation, including my negative test, guidelines from NI Government and my inhaler. I explained this to the store manager and he was wonderful, telling me not to worry at all. Sadly, there are now nasty individuals falsely claiming exemption for health reasons, which I find awful – one example being the actor Laurence Fox. I had always admired him but no longer. I had tried wearing a mask covering my mouth and nose, but after a short while my breathing became difficult. Having had several asthma attacks in the past it is not pleasant, though in no way would I compare this to the dreadful symptoms of Covid. I decided to wear a mask to Church to make things less stressful for others in the congregation, though could not fully cover my nose. At the Carol Service on the last Sunday we were allowed to attend Church I was admonished like a naughty schoolgirl by another member of the Congregation, being told it “looks bad”. I tried to explain how I was clinically exempt, but to no avail.

We have also seen how Covid is severely impacting in other parts of the world; as always it is the poorer countries who are having the worst time in proportion to other more affluent countries. The exception to this seems to be the USA, where former President Trump was a disgrace in his handling of the virus, as well as other important issues such as climate change, and the poverty of those who cannot afford the luxuries many Americans take for granted. Perhaps all those with untold wealth throughout the world could remember how Jesus lived. I pray and hope Joe Biden will be a more realistic, caring leader of his country. We have heard the expression from all Presidents “*God Bless America*”. I wonder how many of them actually were calling on God to help and guide them. I do hope when Mr Biden says those words he actually is acknowledging the presence of God. I will never forget the image that beamed around the world during the protests following the murder of George Floyd, of Trump standing outside St John’s Episcopal Church in Pennsylvania Avenue with the Bible in his hand..... upside down. Or the words he spoke when encouraging his followers to take part in the disgusting spectacle at the Capitol building which led to the untimely deaths of 5 people. Did he ever wonder what he was actually saying while he uttered the words “*God Bless you all*”. I am sure not only Americans but everyone around the world will indeed thank God the inauguration of Mr Biden did not develop into the awful situation it could have been.

**Pray** and **hope** we can emerge from this global pandemic currently facing our world, and then we can go on to tackle the many, many other man-made disasters also facing God’s beautiful planet.

