

Word and Light

St John's Anglican Parish, Ōtūmoetai



Stars

July 2022

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Theme for Word and Light

The theme for the next edition will be **Gardens and Gardening**. Articles on other topics you think may be of interest are also welcome. As ever, please use your imagination – there are many possibilities. We look forward to your contributions. Photos will be very welcome!

Please send your contributions to Lynda, the Parish Administrator, by **18th September**. Remember that, to keep readers' attention, your articles should not be too long (*up to 700 words*). If you have ideas for future themes, please let us know. *The Editor has the final say as to the suitability of articles for inclusion.*

Vicar's Voice

Welcome to another edition of our Magazine. As each edition approaches, I wait in anticipation to see if the chosen theme will result in articles from our contributors. I am delighted that once again we have a range of excellent articles. I hope you enjoy reading them.

Several our contributors refer to the mention of stars in the Bible. It is a sobering thought that the stars that shone on the people we read about in the Bible are still shining on us now.

I am pleased that we have an article about the observatory at Mt John, Tekapo. John and I have walked up Mt John during daylight hours (see my photos) but have never managed a night visit. I gather it is a real treat.

Did you notice that there was a recent news report about the Mt John Observatory? On 28 June Stuff reported that 'Tekapo, the home of New Zealand's largest telescope, has just become the location for a new research collaboration with the United States' National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) has signed an agreement with Nasa that has enabled a collaboration between the NASA Capstone mission team and a University of Canterbury-led research team.'



"Mount John Observatory (which overlooks Tekapo and is owned by the University of Canterbury) is the largest observatory in New Zealand, and it has the largest telescopes," Associate Professor Stephen Weddell, a UC electrical and computer engineering academic, said.

“At the most basic level, we are spotting spacecraft orbiting the moon using earth-based telescopes and new innovative methods. This is a very, very early form of lunar traffic management which will become increasingly useful to help enable the safe co-ordination of multiple international missions



focused on the sustainable exploration of the Moon. To be able to contribute to this epic project is just fantastic.”

With every blessing

Sue (Vicar)



The Night Sky

by Suzanne Franklin-Gard'ner

On a lovely dark clear night, I love to look heavenward and marvel at all the brilliance from the twinkling of the stars; are they angels looking down on us? However, more importantly, they remind me of a very special man, Dr Frank Bateson, the ‘Father of NZ Astronomy’, who dedicated his life to knowing and sharing the night skies, both here and internationally.



Dr Bateson was made responsible for selecting a site in the Southern Hemisphere for erecting an observatory and after a great deal of research it was decided that Mt John, near Lake Tekapo in South Canterbury would meet the requirements. The site had to be one that would provide the darkest spot with no interference from nearby town street lighting etc. The township of Lake Tekapo has remained committed to this and also organises night tours to visit the observatory.

My late husband, John, and I visited Mt John in April 2007 (just shortly after Dr Bateson died) and were absolutely 'blown away' as to how he managed to have a home built there! To access the site then must have been a 'logistical nightmare' because, even now, you have to travel several kilometres up a narrow and windy road, and this was all new territory for him to develop. However, this amazing man of vision was able to build a lovely home for him and his dear wife Doris, so that he could then concentrate on the establishment of the observatory. The observatory came to fruition in 1963 and is run by Canterbury University. His dream of providing for the young people of NZ to be able to study astronomy at university had become a reality.

I think it is appropriate here to pay tribute to his wife Doris for whom I have the greatest admiration because of her supportive and courageous devotion to agree to join him on this isolated mountain top! Imagine living in a caravan during this building period, how cold that would have been and all the while he was digging a trench for the electrical lines – now that's pioneering stuff! You could hardly 'pop down' to the dairy if you ran out of milk! Maybe there was some compensation in the magnificent and unbelievable panoramic views of the surrounding mountains and Lake Tekapo.

To give justice to the life of this amazing and respected New Zealander would be a book in itself. His life was dedicated to 'the stars' so that he and others could learn as much as possible about what was 'out there in the night sky'. He lived a full, interesting, and challenging life and was responsible for the discovery of many stars, lectured internationally, was an adviser to international astronomical societies, and NASA and his publications included Variable Stars and his autobiography 'Paradise Beckons'. He was awarded a doctorate by Waikato University and made an OBE. We have much for which to thank him. If you travel to South Canterbury, near Lake Tekapo, be sure to take a trip to the Mt John Observatory, it is an interesting and enlightening experience. Just try to imagine those trying times of hard work and sacrifice to make it all possible.

I am honoured and blessed to have had Dr Bateson as a friend and cherish the times spent with him as he enlightened me on many

aspects of life in general, a mentor in many respects. Also, as his travel consultant I had the privilege of organising his many overseas trips.

‘By profession I was an accountant, by accident a businessman and by nature an astronomer’ – Frank Bateson, ‘Father of NZ Astronomy’.

Stars

by Bob Shaw

The night sky has always fascinated me since I was introduced to celestial navigation in the Boy Scouts. Living in Switzerland with our two small girls I often took them out on the patio, dressed in their warm ski suits to look up at the winter night sky, while all around the snowclad mountains bathed in moonlight. I told them some of the names given to the brightest stars, and Katja innocently asked ‘Are they people’. ‘No’ I replied ‘Just names we give them like the name ‘ToTo’ we call our old Corolla’



Our home in Luzern was in the austere Catholic centre of Switzerland where the feast days of nine saints were always celebrated. These saints’ days did not mean much to ordinary working people, but they were observed as holidays where factories and offices were closed. Because our office of AGBA AG was part of Electrowatt Engineering Services Ltd. of Zurich, we had to work an extra half hour each day to compensate for the saints’ days we observed as holidays.

We always looked forward to ‘Maria Auffahrt Tag’, the bodily assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven, because it occurred on 15th August in lovely summer weather, ideal for a picnic on the Alps. The concept of her departure caused some children, born into a world becoming used to the idea of space travel and moon landings, to question the mechanics employed. Their questions were largely ignored because we loved the holidays and no way were we going to give them up.

'No Susi' I said, 'She just ignored the law of gravity and up she went'. I then had to explain the 'law of gravity'. 'Can I ignore the law of gravity', questions came thick and fast as usual. 'No' I replied, 'it is a very strong law and only special people can ignore it'. This seemed to satisfy them, but a little later when we went out to look at the stars, Katja asked, 'Is Maria on one of those stars'. This question caught me by surprise, and I had to think quickly. After a moment when they both looked up at me expectantly, I replied slowly and carefully 'Yes I think it is possible' and at that time I think I did believe it could be true.

I do not know what they told their school friends about what I had said, but the parents seemed to find me less a stranger from England, a protestant heretic, and accepted me as one of their community. Later as I became disenchanted with the Schweitzer Evangelischer Kirche and started to attend the mass in the village church no one objected. I was one of them! There were eight other saints' days, some remembered fondly, like St Nicholas, others no one seemed to know anything about, but we always had a holiday from work.

The Anglican Church does not seem to have given birth to any saints in recent years nor have we listened to our own prophets or teachers. Worldwide there have been outstanding voices, such as Nelson Mandela, Mahatma Gandhi, and Martin Luther King, each with a powerful message. In the news media hordes of 'personalities' and 'celebrities', shoot up like shooting stars or meteorites, and quickly fizzle out. However, there is one person, David Attenborough, who has appeared on the horizon due to his fearless devotion to the diversity of creatures that inhabit this planet earth. He has shown us in great detail how life on this planet has evolved and continues to evolve.

Sir David, knighted by our Queen Elizabeth, has shown us how our human species has progressed so far and so fast in the evolutionary battle, that we are selfishly destroying the



very balance of nature that makes life possible, not only for the other myriad forms of life but for ourselves. He has progressed from entertaining us with discoveries of life in the wild, to a dreadful warning of the unthinking harm we are doing to the environment that allows life to exist. His message is simple, the whole of the human race must **now**, at this moment in time, take full **responsibility** for every action we take in our daily lives.

Stars in the Bible

by Sue Beverly

In the Bible, the most well-known star occurs above the nativity scene of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem. The Three Wise Men follow this star to find the new-born King and bring him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. However, the Bible mentions stars, their importance, and their relation to God beyond just this story. Daniel 12:3 speaks of the symbolism of stars, saying ‘And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.’

Stars appear frequently in the bible, from the creation story in Genesis to their appearance in Revelation. In the Old Testament Hebrew, the term ‘star’ probably referred to all heavenly bodies, except for the sun and moon. From a New Testament perspective, stars are mainly connected with the light Christ brings, with angels and with leadership.



Several passages refer to the *Morning Star*. ‘It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.’ *Revelation 22:16*.

‘So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.’ *2 Peter 1:19*.

The morning star precedes the day and symbolises Christ bringing the gospel light. It also symbolises the Spirit illuminating the hearts of those who have accepted Christ, as suggested in 2 Peter.

By contrast the *Day Star* in Isaiah 14 refers to the King of Babylon, who wanted to become greater than God: 'How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low!' *Isaiah 14:12*. As 2 Corinthians 11:14 suggests: 'Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.' So, stars in the Bible are not always positive.

At Christmas we hear how a *star directs the Magi*: 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' *Matthew 2:2* The star spoken of in Numbers 24:17 – '...a star shall come out of Jacob, and a sceptre shall rise out of Israel...' – is interpreted by Christians as referring to Jesus, the 'King of the Jews,' which the Magi recognise and follow. This introduces the theme of leadership – in ancient times the stars were used as a guide to travel at night. Revelation 1 describes Jesus holding 'seven stars' in his hands which represent the angels of the seven churches, also leading the way.

Those who believe in Jesus Christ are called to *shine like stars*. Philippians 2:14-15 says, 'Do all things without murmuring and arguing, so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world.'

Albert Einstein said: 'The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science. He to whom this emotion is a stranger, who can no longer pause to wonder and stand rapt in awe, is as good as dead: his eyes are closed.' One of the tragedies of modern life is the loss of mystery. We have become so accustomed to discoveries and technology that we are in danger of being perpetually unimpressed. Remarkable new advances barely capture our attention. As a result, we have become resistant to a sense of wonder. Think about it. When was the last time you took time to pause in wonder and stand in awe as you looked into the night sky? I am not talking about just a fleeting glance, rather a long lingering

look into the heavens. For as much as we know, and as advanced as we have become, there is still one place where mystery is the rule and not the exception, and that is the sky. If we hardly ever look up and scurry around from task to task so preoccupied with the little things in front of us, we will miss majestic things above us.

Psalm 19:1-2 reads: 'The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge.'



According to Psalm 19,

the heavens show us the handiwork of God. The stars are a display of God's creativity and the universe is a testimony to God's wisdom.

Psalm 8 is a hymn, or a song of praise. In it, the poet meditates upon the grandeur of the night sky and humankind's seeming insignificance in comparison with it. But the speaker's faith reminds him that human beings are made in God's image: 'When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?' *Psalm 8:3-4*. The 'heavens', that mysterious realm of marvellous lights, have astonished humankind from our earliest days.

When we look at the heavens today, our understanding of what we see, due to advances in science and technology, far exceeds the psalmist's understanding. The poet would have had only a hint of how minute he was in relation to the heavens. What we know, while still very limited, is astronomically greater. But do we marvel more? When the psalmist surveyed the sky, part of what he saw belonged to our solar system – sun, moon, and a couple of 'stars' that were really planets – some belonged to our Milky Way galaxy, and some were distant stars and perhaps other faraway galaxies. The psalmist would have had barely a clue how massive and distant these heavenly bodies were.

Matariki

by Sue Genner

People who came from the north brought their calendar with them, so the New Year which had been celebrated in the middle of winter became a summer celebration here in the Southern Hemisphere. The indigenous peoples also had a calendar. As for Europeans, the Māori New Year Festival fell in the middle of winter. From time immemorial humanity has used the stars to mark time and for navigation.

Matariki or Māori new year was signalled by the stars – in this case a cluster which rose in the winter. This cluster can be seen in many parts of the world at other times and other cultures have given it names in their languages. Did you know Matariki appears in the Bible? There it uses the Greek name, Pleiades. ‘Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades or loose the cords of Orion?’ Job 38:31

We now know that Matariki contains hundreds of stars but there are only 9 visible to the naked eye and in Māori mātuaranga each of these is named and has a significance. When one's life is run according to sun, moon, stars and



seasons it has a different rhythm. In today's industrial technologically-driven society we have lost those rhythms; Matariki gives us an opportunity to reclaim them. The middle of winter with its short days, when the earth is resting, is a good time to reflect. Matariki's stars can help guide our reflection.

Pōhutukawa is the star that serves as a reminder of those who have passed on, encouraging us to take the time to remember them and acknowledge their impact on our lives.

Tupuānuku is the star connected with everything that grows in the ground to be harvested or gathered for food.

Tupuārangi is the star associated with food sources that come from the sky, such as birds, or fruit and berries from trees.

Waitī is connected with all freshwater bodies and the food sources sustained by those waters. Waitī watches over freshwater environments such as awa (rivers), roto (lakes), kūkūwai (wetlands), and waipuna (springs).

Waitā represents the ocean and the seafood that can be harvested from it. This star encourages us to respect our coasts, oceans and marine life.

Waipuna-ā-Rangi is connected with rain, hail and snow.

Ururangi is connected with the various winds.

Hiwa-i-te-Rangi is a wishing star, helping us to realise our hopes and aspirations for the coming year.

The final star is **Matariki**. It's the name of the star cluster as a whole and a specific star which signifies reflection, hope, our connection to the environment and the health and wellbeing of people.

Matariki is a time to look back with sadness and gratitude, look forward with hope and look around at our environment with gratitude and respect. Matariki is a time to meditate on what it means for us and our world to flourish. How will you celebrate Matariki this year?

‘And God said, ‘Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.’ And it was so.’ Gen 1:14-15

The psalmist prayed ‘When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; ...’ and went on to reflect about humanity. Above all we are grateful to our gracious Creator God for the beauty of the stars and for all they can teach us.



My Impression of a Star

by Merina Foster

Recently I was outside on a clear crisp night and happened to gaze up into the night sky. The stars were exquisitely bright and there were thousands upon thousands that my eyes could see. How delightful they are, shining for all the world to see. Innocent, pure, and free. If you are lucky enough to see one fly, treasure that moment, as that is truly a gift from heaven.



It led me to think about stars and what they represent to me. I

personally think that stars have been given their rightful place in the sky, their own reserved resting spot to shine. Every star has a name, and the name has been chosen by our Heavenly Creator. *‘He determines the number of stars and calls them by name’*. Psalm 147:4 (NIV)

The stars are up high for a reason – to shine. To shine bright; to create a sense of hope in a sky that is dark when night comes. *‘Those who are wise will shine as bright as the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness will shine like the stars forever’*. Daniel 12:3 (NLT)

I view life here on earth in a similar way. The church is a beacon of light in our community. Look where our church (St John’s, Ōtūmoetai) is located. It’s on a corner, on a crossroads; houses and shops surround us. People are all around. They walk past going about their daily duties, and there we stand, steadfast and strong, glowing for all to see.

I view my role as the Toy Librarian in the same way. Reverend Sue said a profound thing whilst blessing the library after it had been burgled last month. During her blessing she said, ‘Let this library be a shining light in the community’. This statement touched my heart because, a few days before, I stood in the same place Sue was standing and said that very same thing.



One of the most important things I hold dear is people. We were all created in God's image, and we should take care of one another. We can be that shining light in someone else's life or journey they are on. Imagine how different the world would be if we all took on this Christ-like attitude? There

would be peace and justice throughout the world. But I can't change the world or other people, but I can change myself and my journey that I am on.

Over the years during my counselling profession, I learnt that people need people, people need community, and people need kindness. We need to open our eyes and ears to see the people around us. There are people who need a smile; there are people who need an encouraging word or a pat on the back. There are people who need forgiveness, and people who just need an ear to listen. There are people who need a shoulder to cry on, or a warm embracing hug. There are people who need you to greet them by name, to show them they are noticed. There are people who need some help to carry items that are too heavy or bulky for them. And there are people who just need a bit of patience, and a few more minutes while you wait would do a world of difference.

Surely, if we embrace some of these Christ-like attributes, we would be a light to others in this world. A bright, glorious, radiant star for others to see. For others to feel warmth and acceptance. If I reach the end of my life and Jesus greets me on my way to heaven, and puts His loving, embracing arm around my shoulders and says, 'Merina my star, well done, come fly with me home', I will be one delighted, satisfied, and peaceful soul.

'In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven'. Mathew 5:16.
(NIV)

Starry Starry Night

by Judith Davies

This song meant a lot to me as a teenager. I liked Don McLean, who wrote it. I even went to the Town Hall to listen to him when he came to Auckland.

The song *Starry Starry Night* is all about Vincent van Gogh and his life, and is based on a painting van Gogh did of a starry sky.

In a sense the painting represents life and death. The cypress tree, which stands out all in black, represents death – and van Gogh’s eventual suicide. *Starry Starry Night* was painted in 1889. The big swirls he painted have been discovered in the constellations. The painting is as relevant today as it was then. God is represented as far away in the heavens, and man’s destiny locked into earth. Many people think like this still. However, Jesus came so there would be a bridge between man and a holy God and so there could be hope.

Vincent van Gogh became a painter when his missionary attempts didn’t get accepted by his peers. He took the Bible literally – and gave away all his personal possessions to the poor. Those supporting him did not approve, and he was sacked. After this, his connection with the church appeared to be negligible.

Van Gogh had a heart for the poor and thought he could reach out to them through painting their dilemmas and thus give consolation. He trained with some of the best Impressionists of the time and his main work took place in a period of ten years.

In this time, he created about two thousand and one hundred paintings and eight hundred and sixty oil paintings, which were done in the last two years of his life. He is classified as a post-Impressionist. Van Gogh’s brother believed in him and his talent, and did his best to support him. However, van Gogh remained poor, suffered poor mental health and only sold one painting in his whole life. His brother died not long after van Gogh, and it was his sister-in-law who promoted van Gogh’s paintings.



He became famous in the 20th century and remains so today. Starry night is worth over one hundred million today. (9.2.2022)

These are the words of Starry Starry Night, a poem in its own right (I have left out the chorus):

Starry starry night
Paint your palette blue and gray
Look out on a summer's day
With eyes that know the darkness in my soul

Shadows on the hills
Sketch the trees and the daffodils
Catch the breeze and the winter chills
In colours on the snowy, linen land.

Starry starry night
Flaming flowers that brightly blaze
Swirling clouds in violet haze
Reflect in Vincent's eyes of China blue

Colours changing hue
Morning fields of amber grain
Weathered faces lined in pain
Are soothed beneath the artist's loving hand.

For they could not love you
But still your love was true
And when no hope was left inside
On that starry starry night

You took your life as lovers often do,
But I could have told you, Vincent,
This world was never meant for one as beautiful as you.

Psalm 8: 'You have set your glory in the heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars which you have set in place. What is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?' (NIV)



Cervantes

by Lynda Wallace

When I think of Stars one thing immediately comes to mind – a trip to Cervantes, Western Australia.

In 2003 we were visiting our family in Fremantle. My brother-in-law (Bob) organised a road trip to Cervantes so that we could see the Pinnacles. By a direct route Cervantes is 217 km north of Fremantle – but as usual Bob took us on a circuitous route via Yanchep National Park, New Norcia, Regans Ford and Lancelin making the trip nearly 400 km. Well worth the detours – Yanchep National Park is interesting to explore, New Norcia is an amazing Benedictine monastery founded in 1847, and Lancelin has huge white sand dunes.

Cervantes is a small coastal fishing town. In 2003 it was renowned for two things – its lobster catch and being the gateway to the Nambung National Park, home to the

Pinnacles, a desert area with many ancient rock pillars amid shifting sand dunes. We were able to visit the Pinnacles in late afternoon the day we



arrived and also at sunrise the next day. What a breath-taking sight on both occasions – you could almost imagine you had been transported to an alien planet.

After our first viewing of the Pinnacles we walked from our motel to the one restaurant in Cervantes – the Lobster Shack. What a bonus for us – it was the time of the SARS epidemic so Australia could not export lobster so we each had lobster at the grand price of \$10! While walking back to our motel late that evening Bob asked us all to lie on the grass and look at the sky. We did think the whisky might have got the better of him but we complied. What a sight to behold – the most amazingly



clear view of the Milky Way, dense with stars, and in its centre the Scorpius constellation, including the bright stars Antares and Shaula, the Butterfly Cluster, and the Cat's Paw Nebula. We were spellbound – never before had we seen stars so bright and seemingly so close. Cervantes became an astrotourism site in 2018 and the Pinnacles is now an important viewing site.

Twinkly Reminders

by Judith Davies

Whenever I have a chance to lie on my back and look above me at the night sky, I am transported to my childhood holidays at Te Maika, Kawhia. My school friend Cathy took me to their family's bach on summer holidays. There we would look at the huge black sky coated with sparkling diamonds whenever we went outside at night. There were no city lights to spoil the view. It was majestic.

Te Maika in 1967 to 1970 was reached by ferry from Kawhia, a small fishing town on the west coast of the North Island. To me, at age twelve to fourteen, it was a fantastical place, a place of magic.



The beach was strewn with little wooden huts, where people desiring a private summer paradise, would come to rest and play. The harbour was calm, and perfect for dips or sailing. Dr McGeorge had a small boat which he would take out, often with us in tow. At that time, I was smitten by the sailing bug, and was happy to be the crew. Days were left to our imagination and we climbed the hills to look at the amazing views. Sarah, Cathy's sister, would come along and practice her handstands every chance she got. We were set free to explore to our heart's content. On special days we would go as a family group over the big hills by a bush track – to the surf beach on the other side. Dr. McGeorge commented that I was like a dolphin playing in the waves. I was born for it. Such happiness!

Night time meant kerosene lamps and card games, and reading in bed. All these activities were more of my favourite things.

The primitive nature of our abodes made the holiday all the more exciting. There was a long drop toilet with no door facing the bush. We used as a shower water heated and put in a bucket. The bucket would be hauled up by a chain, and attached to a hook on the wall. The tap attached to the bottom of the bucket would be opened and the luxurious warm water would come down.

Dr and Mrs. McGeorge were friends with one of the few permanent residents, the McNeish's. James McNeish is a well-known NZ author. The McNeish's telephone would help us order supplies from Kawhia town. We drank milk from a can, condensed milk. To this day I still think it is delicious.

Māori residents would appear now and then – and some were friends of the McNeish's. This added to the mystery and magic of the place.

It was a place I would have liked to stay forever, but holidays would come to an end and like the children of Narnia, I would be taken back to reality all too soon.



A few quotes

Contributed by Helen D'Ath

Are the stars out tonight
I don't know if it's cloudy or bright
'cause I only have eyes for You Lord
I can't live without You
So please don't disappear from view
cause I only have eyes for YOU...

My World, by G Campos

‘What is written in the stars? And what do God and the Devil know of me?’ ‘They say fate is written in the stars, but the irony is that stars don't project the future, they reflect the past. If you think about it, every time you look at a star, you're looking back in time.’

Milan Sime Martinic

‘Light in your soul kindles the light in your world.’ ‘It is impossible for a star to shine and not get noticed, even in the dark.’ ‘Letting others shine their light gives you enough illumination to light your own.’
‘When stars shine, they bring forth the light in darkness.’

Matshona Dhliwayo

‘We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars.’

Oscar Wilde, Lady Windermere's Fan

About this Magazine

This Magazine is called *Word and Light* because our parish church is dedicated to St John the Evangelist. At the beginning of the Gospel of John there are many powerful images. Two of these are *Word* and *Light* and they are woven together. Jesus as the *Word* of God echoes the story of creation. Jesus, the *Light* of the World, is the one who shines in the darkness.

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