

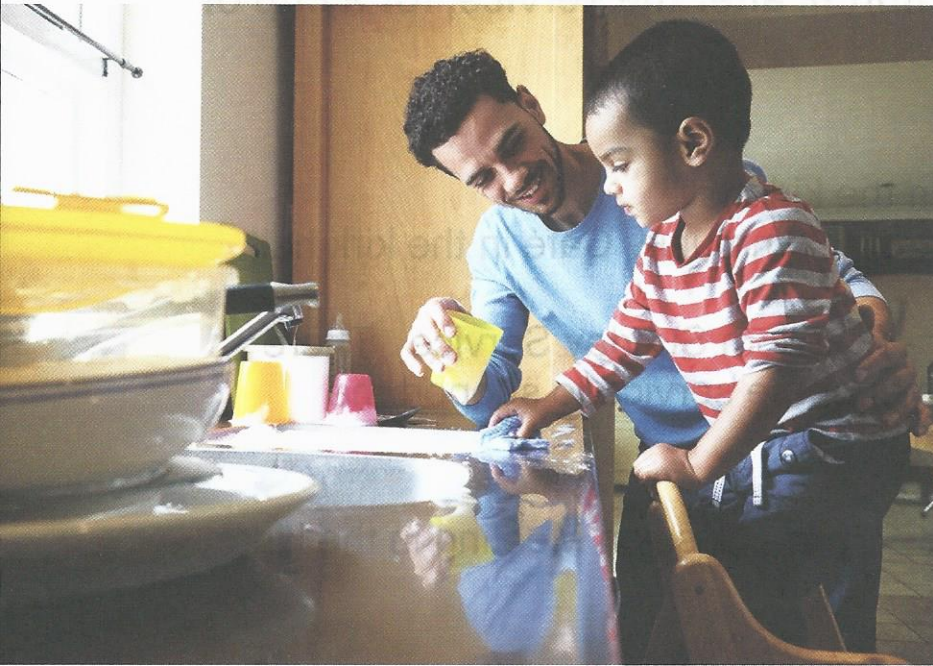
Third in our series of special issues written by men about men and masculinity

A new identity

Andrew Lyon *reflects on* Luke 16:1-13

One of the great changes we are seeing for men is that the pressure to be the main breadwinner for the family is reduced. As we get better at breaking down gender stereotypes and achieving workplace parity between the sexes, it actually brings huge opportunities for men as well as women. Men can reassess their own roles, and we can let it become more natural for men, should they wish, to work part-time, take shared parental leave from their careers to look after children, or otherwise realise the value that lies in life outside a job title or salary.

Men should find today's Gospel liberating, although many won't. Still today, so much of our self-respect is bound up with our careers and salaries. To be sure, in a consumerist world, our pay cheque has a real effect on the way we live and we need to make sure we earn enough to provide for ourselves and those for whom we are responsible. But if we're not careful the pursuit of money for its own sake can become a god we honour as we try to keep up with the Joneses. And, like man flu, "male pride" is a real phenomenon, and a strong contributor in driving men to pursue greater monetary wealth at the expense of other aspects of life that have, let's face it, eternal significance. Today's Gospel is clear. No one can serve two masters: "You cannot serve God and wealth." 🍌



Give me the wisdom, O Lord my God, to know that my identity lies in you. Encourage me to discover who I am outside of my work, and uncover my other talents and interests. I pray for the grace to be an enabler of others around me in turn. Amen.

Lancelot Andrewes

Bishop and spiritual writer Lancelot Andrewes is commemorated on Wednesday. Richard Greatrex looks at his life and legacy.

Cambridge-educated Andrewes was born in London in 1555 and was a leading scholar of his generation, becoming Master of Pembroke College, Dean of Westminster, then Bishop of Chichester (1605), Ely (1609) and finally Winchester (1619). He was instrumental in the genesis of King

James I's Authorised Version of the Bible during the 1604 Hampton Court Conference and, being proficient in fifteen languages, was responsible for much of the translation of the Pentateuch and historical books of the Old Testament.

A formidable exponent of the emerging High Church movement within Anglicanism, he was best known by his contemporaries as a writer, defender of the faith against antagonists, such as theologian Cardinal Robert Bellarmine, and as a wonderful preacher, many of whose sermons were published, including those which inspired the opening lines of T.S. Eliot's "Journey of the Magi". He died in Winchester in 1626 and is buried in Southwark Cathedral. 🍌

Men and masculinity in the Bible

Trevor Dennis continues his series by looking at Jesus of Nazareth.

For Christians the supreme example of masculinity in the Bible is furnished by Jesus of Nazareth. The Bible generally presumes that power and authority lie with men, including authority over women. Yet Jesus treated women with such honour

that some of them became his most devoted disciples and were the first to understand him. His impact was such that Paul could claim, "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."

Jesus demolished barriers between people; he brought those who were lonely and despised into his circle; he broke the rules when the rules were to the hurt of the vulnerable. And though he was hailed as a king, he never behaved like one. Instead he washed the feet of his friends and so acted as their slave. 🍌

“Our scientific power has outrun our spiritual power. We have guided missiles and misguided men.”

Martin Luther King Jr (1929-1968), American Baptist minister and activist

Church of Scotland: Orphir and Stenness Parish
Interim Moderator: Rev June Freeth 721449
Locum Minister Rev Martin Prentice **Session Clerk:** Nicol
811242

There is a loop system. Adjust hearing aids to benefit.
A warm invitation is extended to everyone to meet in the hall at the back of the church, after the service, for a cup of tea.

Intimations

Tuesday - 8pm – Choir in the kirk hall

Thursday – 10am – 12noon Community Café in the kirk hall

Sunday 29th September - Freedom Sunday Service . There will be a retiring collection after the service to support the International Justice Mission

Monday 30th September – 7pm - Session Meeting in the kirk hall

Readings

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

Hymns:

468 Son of God, eternal Saviour

159 Lord, for the years

502 Take my Life Lord

542 Lord speak to me that I may speak

547 What A Friend we have in Jesus

Doxology Hymn 786

May the God of peace go with us, as we travel from this place

May the love of Jesus keep us firm in hope and full of grace.