

I am a born Anglican - a rarity these days I often find. I have watched 75 years of change.

New mothers no longer have to go to church "at the usual time after her delivery" "decently apparelled" and "offer accustomed offerings".

I no longer have to fast for twelve hours before communion. This was a real problem since as a teenager we had a 9.00 Family Service followed by breakfast. During the long reading at the end from John, I would sway more and more from hunger. I never have liked that important reading! We servers would then rush to the Hall to grab breakfast and be told off for our exuberance (but not for our hunger).

We were unable to be married in my church because of the rules on the marriage of divorcees.

Then they brought women into the clergy.

When my daughter was married, we had readings from the Bible and the Koran.

Amazingly the church has survived all of these changes, and has survived because it **has** made changes. It has listened to society and tried to change with society, while not giving in to its basic belief: a love of one another. I believe that today there are as many weddings of same sex couples as there are of men and women.

Unless we accept the blessing and acceptance of all, we will be doomed. Remember we look for Christ in everyone: I wonder whom we may be rejecting?

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