

Poetry and Prose

The bi-centenary of the Battle of Trafalgar is observed on the 21 October this month.

While not wishing to glory in war; and mindful that over 5,000 men of all nations died that day, the battle was after all, a pivotal point in history.

All nations? Yes, Navies in those days were not too fussy about where the sailors came from. So the crews were a multinational mixture of volunteers and conscripts (or pressed men). There were even a number of women on board the British flagship Victory during the battle.

But maybe, on that day we could remember the common sailors who fought that day. When the war ended, most of them were discharged. Those men crippled in battle received no help, they were taken off the ships and left to fend for themselves. The same fate awaited the families of those who died.

But for some, bought up as sailors, with the peace, they could return to the sea, as all they wanted was a tall ship, and star to steer her by.

Page:12

Sea-Fever

*I must go down to the seas again, to the
lonely sea and the sky,
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to
steer her by,
And the wheel's kick and the wind's song
and the white sail's shaking,
And a grey mist on the sea's face and a
grey dawn breaking.*

*I must go down to the seas again, for the
call of the running tide
Is a wild call and a clear call that may not
be denied;
And all I ask is a windy day with the
white clouds flying,
And the flung spray and the blown spume,
and the sea-gulls crying*

*I must go down to the seas again to the
vagrant gypsy life.
To the gull's way and the whale's way
where the wind's like a whetted knife
And all I ask is a merry yarn from a
laughing fellow-rover,
And quiet sleep and a sweet dream when
the long trick's over*

John Masefield 1878 - 1967



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The Chaplain writes

Thanksgiving - Not until late November (at least for Americans)? No. As I reflect

on two big events in the month of September, the first ever Diocesan pastoral conference from the 12th to the 16th in Cologne, and my official institution service later on the 24th, I am filled with thanksgiving.

Admittedly, before going away to the Conference, there were plenty of other things on my mind, what with getting to know the chaplaincies here better and preparing for the institution, so that I wasn't certain time away was what I needed at the time. Such is often the way with 'retreats' - we seldom realize how needed they were till we are on them. But the conference, which drew together clergy from all over our vast Diocese, turned out to be a very good thing. We gathered; we shared experiences and ideas about how to work better in our chaplaincies and archdeaconries; and we worshipped and prayed together. We have all come away with new insights into our ministry as well as more perspective on the places where we serve in the broader context of an extremely diverse, continent-wide Diocese. Particularly rewarding, too, were the sessions led by Prof Grace Davie (Sociology, Exeter), who spoke about trends in European church-life in the 21st century, and by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, whose keynote address focused on how Christian life and ministry can be compared to the three-fold action of the Eucharist: taking, blessing, and breaking. The Lord takes us, whoever and wherever we are. We are blessed us - not so much a blanket endorsement of what we do as a bringing us into contact with God, to be challenged and changed by the divine. To use us best, the Lord also sometimes must needs break us like the bread - break into us and break us up, in a way, in order to break through to us. For these highlights, we the clergy went away thoughtful, enriched and thankful.

(Continued on page 5)



Weldam Castle Fair - Saturday, 10 September
 CONGRATULATIONS EVERYBODY, it was a success, due solely to the hard work and co-operation of almost the whole congregation of St. Mary's. I must admit the weather certainly helped, we were truly blessed with

fantastic weather, particularly when you consider the storms and floods in Brabant the same day!

It is not my intention to thank everyone by name (after all we all know what we did and "Virtue is its own reward"- I always hated that saying as a kid.) However I want to thank Count Alfred for the use of his castle forecourt and the inestimable help of his men in getting the stands set up and creating a very creditable Art Gallery in the stables. Then again the beautiful classic cars brought for display by Hans Ribbens and his friends were a great attraction and even took Kathleen Rusius back to the days of her youth when, apparently, she was taken to school in a Rolls Royce. Who said we aren't a classy church.

And what is a Fair without a Tea Room, which Agnes and Colin ran with super efficiency and many willing helpers. Personally I do not know what we would have done without Hans Siertsema and family at the gate and whenever a loud voice was needed for announcements.

The visiting stallholders all seemed to enjoy themselves and the Songs of Praise at the end was made extra enjoyable by the presence of Geoffrey back in our midst for the occasion.

The end result, a net profit of about 2,100 euros, was certainly worth the effort and cheered up the treasurer no end, as now his books are likely to balance.

But we must not allow this success to lull us into a

A few thoughts on Christianity

1. Give God what's right - not what's left
2. Man's way leads to a hopeless end -- God's way leads to an endless hope.
3. A lot of kneeling will keep you in good standing
4. He who kneels before God can stand before anyone.
5. In the sentence of life, the devil may be a comma--but never let him be the full stop.
6. Don't put a question mark where God puts a comma
7. Are you wrinkled with burden? Come to the church for a face-lift
8. When praying, don't give God instructions - just report for duty.
9. Don't wait for six strong men to take you to church.
10. We don't change God's message -- His message changes us.

No-way puzzle

All the answers to this puzzle begin with the letters NO - can you say which NO is....

1. A Biblical land, and where in nursery rhymes you go to sleep?
2. Big Ears little friend?
3. He built the Ark and the animals went in two by two?
4. French for Christmas?
5. What you smell with?
6. The opposite of south?
7. Zero?
8. The 11th month of the year?
9. A type of frying pan?

What is watery, very frightened and full of noodles?

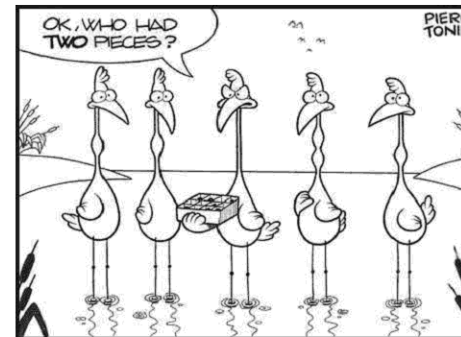
Chicken soup

Who wrote the novel, Great Expectations?

Charles Dickens

What can you make that nobody can see?

A noise



After a short rummage in the fuse box, the Vicar realized why the power had cut out.



9. Non-stick
8. November
7. Nought
6. North
5. Nose
4. Noel
3. Noah
2. Noddy
1. Nod

What was that ?

The moon is moving away at a tiny, although measurable distance from the earth every year. Do the math and you will clearly see that 65 million years ago it was orbiting the earth at a distance of about 25 feet from the earth's surface.

This would explain the death of the dinosaurs. Well, ... the tallest ones, anyway.

If people from Poland are called "Poles," why aren't people from Holland called "Holes?"

Do Roman paramedics refer to IV's as "4's"?

Why is it that if someone tells you that there are one billion stars in the universe you will believe them, but if they tell you a wall has wet paint you will have to touch it to be sure?

Birthdays

Belated birthday greetings to Kemi Olaniyi, who celebrated her birthday on 23 September. Sorry this is late, do hope you had a nice birthday, with cakes and presents.

Best wishes on the 22 October to Maureen van der Heide, who celebrates her birthday on that day. The greetings to you are as warm as your smile is to all of us.

On the 30 October, Ben Dieduksman celebrates his birthday. Very appropriately, that is All Saints Day. Happy birthday Ben.

A Birth Day

At 02:00 on the 26 September, Louw Talstra became a grandfather for the second time with the birth of his grandson, Milan Willem Johaness. Congratulations to Grandpa Louw and to your family.

Marije's message

On 28 September, I'll be leaving for a five month stay in Italy. I'll be studying at the Università Degli Studi di Parma (close to Milan and Bologna), working on my Masters thesis in Medieval Philosophy. I have to study medieval texts at the libraries of Padua, Florence, Milan and even in the Vatican in Rome. I'm really looking forward to it, and I hope it will be a very exciting time for me, which I'll never forget! As a consequence of my stay in Italy, I'll have to miss the good company of the St. Mary's congregation. In order to stay in touch, I've opened a weblog, where you can read about my experiences in Italy and where you can send your reactions and comments. I'd love to hear from you all!

The address is: www.marije.dovesei.org

Login code: marije

Password: parma

Besides putting down my experiences in my weblog, I'll be writing in the St. Mary's magazine on a regular basis to let you know my wanderings. For now, I wish you all the very best. I'll miss you all a lot...

Best regards, Marije van Houten - Hettinga

false sense of security. Such an event costs more than 1,000 euros in expenses and if the weather is bad or a disaster occurs that could be a loss or we might just cover those costs. This does not make the success less real but it does mean that we must not forget our freewill offerings or donations on the basis of this success.

Altogether I think that we have shown we can work together and put on a show worth visiting,

(Continued on page 4)

Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain has been operating for several months and has received many requests for prayer. You are always welcome to request a private prayers if you do not want to request an intercessory prayer in church. The chain is always open for new requests, either to Mariska Olaniyi or Frances Gothard. Preferably in person or by e-mail.



We now have six members and if anyone else would like to join us please contact Mariska.

Intercessions



If you wish to have someone included in the intercession, please contact the Chaplain or one of the Church Wardens before the Service.

If you know of anyone who is sick or in need of pastoral care, please contact the Chaplain or one of the Church Wardens.

11. The church is prayer-conditioned.
12. When God ordains, He sustains.
13. WARNING: Exposure to the Son may prevent burning
14. Plan ahead -- It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark.
15. Most people want to serve God, but only in an advisory position.
16. Suffering from truth decay? Brush up on your Bible.
17. Exercise daily -- walk with the Lord
18. Never give the devil a ride -- he will always want to drive.
19. Nothing else ruins the truth like stretching it.
20. Compassion is difficult to give away because it keeps coming back.
21. He who angers you controls you.
22. Worry is the darkroom in which negatives can develop.
23. Give Satan an inch & he'll be a ruler.
24. Be ye fishers of men -- you catch them & He'll clean them.
25. God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.
26. Read the Bible -- It will scare the hell out of you.

Management Logic

A man piloting a hot-air balloon discovers he has wandered far off course and is hopelessly lost. He descends to a lower altitude and locates a man down on the ground. He lowers the balloon to within hearing distance and shouts, "Excuse me, can you tell me where I am?"

The man below says: "Yes, you're in a hot-air balloon, about thirty feet above this field."

"You must work in information technology," says the balloonist.

"Yes, I do," replies the man. "And how did you know that?"

"Well," says the balloonist, "what you told me is technically correct, but of no use to anyone."

The man below says, "You must work in management." "I do," replies the balloonist, "how did you know?"

"Well," says the man, "you don't know where you are, or where you're going, but you expect my immediate help. You're in the same position you were before we met, but now it's my fault!"

Eating Healthy..

A dietician was once addressing a large audience in Chicago: "The material

(Continued from page 3)

but ideas, suggestions and CONSTRUCTIVE criticism are welcome for a future occasion.

Once again, THANK YOU for all your support and hard work, all for the benefit of St. Mary's.

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The Library

As you may have already noticed, most of the books that form part of the library of St. Mary's have been inventoried. All pertinent information have been put in a computer database, which makes it possible to print a list of books in alphabetical order, by author, book title, etc. The books on the bookshelves are now placed in alphabetical order of author, and in 4 categories.

Each book is identifiable with an author code, which makes it easier to return the books to the bookshelves. In addition to this are four lists of books, each one having a list at the end for filling in information when you want to borrow books. Please remember to return the books, preferably within three weeks, or otherwise you may extend the date on the list provided.

White = Literature / novels. Green = Books for bible study. Blue = Books for service preparation. Yellow = Children and youth books.

If you wish to have a copy of the list of books, either by e-mail or on paper, please contact Mariska. She can also provide you with updated versions. If you wish to receive a copy by e-mail this will require Microsoft Office XP or later version on your computer. This has to do with compatibility.

New books are very welcome, preferably books relating to Christian faith. Especially children's books are insufficient. Kindly give them to Mariska, who will register and add them to the library. With the Sunday School hopefully starting again these books will be very much appreciated! © Mariska Olaniyi

your thoughts and views.

Some reasons offered for moving to a 10:30 start include:

- arguably better for families with younger children
- allows time after church for special events (like seminars, choir practices, prayer meetings, etc.)
- enables people to get home and to lunch sooner
- leaves more of the Sunday to enjoy

Arguments against include

- 30 minutes less time to lie in on a Sunday
 - squeezes time before church for some who participate
- Please let a Council member know what you think about the proposal for a 10:30 service time sometime before the end of October.

Sam Van Leer



What is Incense?

Incense is made from various aromatic resins and gums taken from trees and other plants. When burned it gives off scented smoke. In church it is normally burned in a CENSER or THURIBLE.

Because it is difficult to burn on its own, and to create the maximum amount of smoke, it is burned along with charcoal

Which Churches Use Incense?

Most of Christianity use, or have used, incense in worship. All the Eastern Orthodox Churches burn incense at most of their services, or liturgies. In the 'west' the Roman Catholic Church burns incense at many of its services. The Church of England used incense throughout its history, until the mid 1600's, when it fell into disuse generally. From that time, though, it continued to be used in worship in isolated churches such as York Minster, and since the mid 19th century its use has spread and increased. Nowadays many churches are rediscovering the benefits to be gained from burning incense as part of their worship.

stop me?" the little boy asked.

The big sister pointed to the back of the church and said, "See those two men standing by the door? They're hushers."

Little Johnny

Johnny was coming home from church one Sunday morning with his mother. His mother noticed he had a serious look on his face.

"What's on your mind, Johnny?" she asked.

"Is it true what the vicar said about us all coming from dust and turning back to dust?"

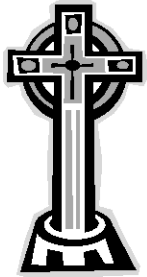
"Why, Yes, it is, Johnny," she said. "Why do you ask?"

"Well, when we get home," he answered, "You better look under my bed, because someone's either coming' or going!"

What was that?

One Sunday after church Mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about. Her daughter answered, "Don't be scared, you'll get your quilts." Needless to say, Mom was perplexed.

Later in the day, the Vicar stopped by for tea. Mom asked him what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about. He said, "Be not afraid, Thy comforter is coming"



**Saturday 24th
September, 2005 –
Institution of the Revd.
Sam Van Leer, .**

A Few Words

Three boys are in the schoolyard bragging about their fathers.

The first boy says, "My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper; he calls it a poem, they give him €50."

The second boy says, "That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper; he calls it a song, they give him €100."

The third boy says, "I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper; he calls it a sermon and it takes four people to collect all the money!"

Noisy Boy

A six year old little girl and her four-year old brother were sitting together in church. The little brother, a typical four year old boy, couldn't stop giggling, singing and chattering. Finally, his big sister had had enough, and hissed into his ear; "You're not suppose to talk out loud in church!"

"Why? Who's going to

A great day which brought people from all corners of the globe (almost) to the Studentenkerk in Nijmegen to help us celebrate the official start

of Sam's work with us. The Archdeacon came from Antwerp to preside and friends and colleagues came from Switzerland, Belgium and the UK. There were also many representatives of the Anglican churches in the Archdeaconry and representatives of local churches and religions, a thoroughly ecumenical happening. And Sam's parents were over from Florida to witness this celebration which was also his father's birthday.

The Warden's team from Arnhem/Nijmegen did a great job organising the event and the contributors of food etc. provided lavish refreshments which were thoroughly enjoyed by all the visitors.

The service itself, was very impressive, in the sense that it impressed upon us the importance of the work Sam has undertaken and the importance of our all assisting him in that work. It was also fun, in that the children had a small roll to play and a small group of African singers sang a lovely African hymn which got the whole congregation singing with them. Altogether, a very satisfying and enjoyable event.

© Marykay Schouten

Time change, anyone?

Yes, you will want to be aware that your clocks will need to be set back on the night of the 29th to the 30th of October, so you do not show up way too early to church on Sunday the 30th. But better early than late.

That said, the Council is currently mulling over whether to move the Sunday service time half an hour earlier in the New Year, and would like to know

(Continued from page 1)

On the 24th of September, family, friends and colleagues from all over the Benelux, Britain, Switzerland and America came together in Nijmegen for my 'official' service of welcome into the life of the East Netherlands' Chaplaincies. Though Coretta and I and the kids had really already begun really to settle in among you, it was right and good to have a big celebration to mark our new beginnings with you here. In the liturgy of institution, we all made clear our commitment to each other, to support *each other* in prayer and pastoral care. Archdeacon Dirk van Leeuwen preached on our interconnectedness in Christ, our abiding in the one true vine – vital to us as communities and individuals as dispersed as we are, from Nijmegen to Arnhem and to Twente. We enjoyed beautiful music, played and sung. Everyone, young and old, added a block with his/her name on it to the children's model church (and the new chaplain was duly warned not to knock the whole thing over!). The reception food and drink were fantastic. But most crucially, alongside representatives of our brother and sister churches of this area and the Archdeaconry, we shared the Eucharist. Eucharist, of course, means thanksgiving, foremost for Christ's gift of life-giving sacrifice to us. Through it, we express our thanks for all that God gives. At this time, I am especially thankful to my conscientious and caring Wardens, Councils and Congregations in Arnhem-Nijmegen and Twente, for all you have done to prepare for our coming and up to and on the day of my 'official' welcome. We will not forget the kindness and generosity you have shown us, and very much look forward to the coming time of sharing in Christ's ministry with you here. Every blessing to you and yours,
Sam Van Leer



we put into our stomachs is enough to have killed most of us sitting here, years ago. Red meat is awful. Soft drinks erode your stomach lining. Chinese food is loaded with MSG. Vegetables can be disastrous, and none of us realizes the long-term harm caused by the germs in our drinking water.

"But there is one thing that is the most dangerous of all and we all have eaten or will eat it. Can anyone here tell me what food it is that causes the most grief and suffering for years after eating it?"

A 75-year-old man in the front row stood up and said, "Wedding cake."

Kids

A ten-year old, under the tutelage of her grandmother, was becoming quite knowledgeable about the Bible. Then one day she floored her grandmother by asking, "Which Virgin was the mother of Jesus? The Virgin Mary or the King James Virgin?"

One particular four-year old prayed, "And forgive us our trash baskets as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets."

2nd October	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev Sam Van Leer
Harvest Sunday	First Reading Mrs. M. v.d. Heide	Isaiah 5.1-7
Nineteenth after Trinity	Psalm	Psalm 80.8-16
Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Mrs. E. v.d. Heide	Philippians 3.4 ^b - 14
	Gospel	Matthew 21.33 - end

9th October	Officiant & Preacher	Frances Gothard
Twentieth Sunday after Trinity	First Reading Mr. Van Houten	Isaiah 25.1-9
	Psalm	Psalm 23
Morning Prayer	Second Reading Mrs. Collins	Philippians 4.1-9
	Gospel	Matthew 22.1-14

16th October	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev Sam Van Leer
Twenty First Sunday after Trinity	First Reading Mr Yallop	Isaiah 45.1 - 7
	Psalm	96.1 - 13
Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Mrs te West	1 Thessalonians 1
	Gospel	Matthew 22.15 - 22

23rd October	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev Paul Rayner
Bible Sunday	First Reading Mrs Wigboldus	Nehemiah 8.1 -14a, 5 - 6, 8 - 12
	Psalm	Psalm 119.9 - 16
Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Mr van Dijk	Colossians 3.12 - 17
	Gospel	Matthew 24.30 - 35

30th October	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev Sam Van Leer
All Saints Day/ Diocesan 25th Jubilee	First Reading Mr Rauwerda	Exodus 13.17 - end, 40.36 - end.
	Canticle	A song of Ezekiel
Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Mrs Rusius	1 Peter 2.4 - 10
	Gospel	Matthew 5.11 - 16

6th November	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev Sam Van Leer
Third Sunday before Advent	First Reading Mrs Talstra	Amos 5.18 - 24
	Psalm	70
Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Mr Talstra	1 Thessalonians 5.1 - 11
	Gospel	Matthew 25.1 - 13