

Poetry and Prose

Irish Blessing

Worries about a risk

There is a story about a monastery in Europe perched high on a cliff several hundred feet in the air.

The only way to reach the monastery was to be suspended in a basket which was pulled to the top by several monks who pulled and tugged with all their strength.

Obviously the ride up the steep cliff in that basket was terrifying. One tourist got exceedingly nervous about half-way up as he noticed that the rope by which he was suspended was old and frayed.

With a trembling voice he asked the monk who was riding with him in the basket how often they changed the rope. The monk thought for a moment and answered brusquely, "Whenever it breaks

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

May God be with you and bless you:
May you see your children's children.
May you be poor in misfortune,
Rich in blessings.
May you know nothing but happiness
From this day forward.

May the road rise up to meet you
May the wind be always at your back
May the warm rays of sun fall upon your home
And may the hand of a friend always be near.

May green be the grass you walk on,
May blue be the skies above you,
May pure be the joys that surround you,
May true be the hearts that love you.



St Mary's Magazine

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JUNE 2005

The Warden's Write

After the excitements of April, life has been fairly quiet at St. Mary's in May.

We have been enjoying our second locum, Paul Rayner, whose sermons are much appreciated by most of us. On 5th May there was the traditional picnic after the Ascension Day service. This year it took the form of a sausage barbecue with extras contributed by everybody. Unfortunately I was unable to attend but I hear it was a great success with FINE weather and a large group from Arnhem/Nijmegen attending. I think such events are very important in keeping the chaplaincy together, but I am a little sorry to say that I feel that we at St. Mary's are not as good at making an effort to attend A/N events as they are at attending ours. We shall have to make up for that by attending the institution of our new Chaplain in Nijmegen in September en masse.

We are developing a reputation (I'm not sure if that is a good or bad thing) as a party church and it is true that we always seem to have something to celebrate and I am sure that this is right as it shows that we appreciate what life offers us. But we must be careful not to get our priorities wrong, we attend church on Sundays firstly to worship God and to refuel spiritually for the following week and secondly for the social get-together afterwards. This is not to undervalue the social aspect which is very important to us all particularly as we live so far apart that separating the social element from the Church Service is geographically and time wise very difficult. One thing is sure, we must be doing something right as our numbers are growing!

I shall be on holiday in June so any questions or comments must be addressed to Caroline. I shall take over while she goes on holiday in July. As you see your wardens have your best interests at heart and even arrange their holidays to ensure continuity.

After Paul Rayner's last service with us on 5th June, the Rev. Jake Dejonge will be taking care of the Sunday services at St. Mary's until our new chaplain arrives, most of you have met him and I am sure will make him very welcome, he certainly enjoys coming to us as does his wife Irene.

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Twente News

Sausage Sizzle

On the 5 May, following the Ascension Day service, the congregation gathered together on the lawn outside the church for the sausage sizzle. Scattered across the lawn on a wide variety of garden furniture were members of all three congregations. Tables were laid out with

the salads and desserts that everyone had brought. Ferdinand van Dijk had a fire going under his black three legged cauldron in which he was preparing a spicy example of African cuisine. He also generously donated wine to help it on its way. The Lee's, Colin and Agnes, manned the barbeques, ably assisted by James Olaniyi, and got them sausages sizzling. There were mutton sausages, beef sausages, pork sausages, vegetarian sausages and, well, sausages, of sizes shapes and tastes. Everyone had a great day and raised over a €100 as well. Thanks are also owned to Pauline Talstra for getting the idea on the road and realised.

Plant Sale

On the 15 May a plant sale was organized to raise money for the St Mary's flower fund. A wonderful variety of plants were available at very reasonable prices. Linda ten Berge was there giving expert advice, taking the money and making sure that everything went smoothly. A great single handed effort in the context that she was still recovering from shoulder surgery and only had the full use of her left hand. We all owe many thanks to you Linda and to the rest of the flower ladies. The total amount they raised by the way was €60. Wow!

Baroque Music Concert

On the following Sunday, the 22 May, a Baroque music concert was held in St Mary's Church. Caroline Siertsema helped to organize and run the catering to support the concert. Through the magazine we can thank all the willing volunteers who helped on that day. Their efforts raised an impressive €100. Another big wow! (See Page 4 for story)

Ark humour

When the ark came to rest on Mt. Ararat the occupants were more than ready to leave. Noah made one last sweep and found a despondent snake in the hold.--

"Why are you sad and why haven't you left?" asked Noah.--

"Because I'm so inadequate" replied the snake.--

"Inadequate?" queried Noah.--

"Yes" continued the snake, "The Lord commanded that we go forth and MULTIPLY and I'm an ADDER."

Length of a Sermon

How long should a good sermon be? It should be like a woman's skirt, long enough to cover the essentials and short enough to keep you interested!



Q. How many animals did Moses take on the Ark?

A. None. Moses didn't go on the ark, Noah did.

Q. Why couldn't anyone on the ark play cards?

A. Because Noah was standing on the deck

Q. What was the first thing Noah said when he got off the ark?

A. Should have killed them mosquitoes when I had the chance.

Q. The ark was built in 3 stories, and the top story had a window to let light in, but how did they get light to the bottom 2 stories?

A. They used floodlights.

Jesus Appears to His Followers

Luke 24:13-50

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EMMAUS
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**Social
 News**

Birthdays

The magazine is deluged with birthdays this month because, with last month being an ANT month, the May people missed out.

Love

Give her two red roses, each with a note.

The first note says 'For the woman I love' and the second, 'For my best friend.'

~ Unknown ~

A good marriage is like a casserole, only those responsible for it really know what goes in it.

~ Unknown ~

To the world you may be just one person, but to one person you may be the world.

~ Unknown ~

Faith makes all things possible. Love makes them easy.

~ Unknown ~

Where there is love, there is God also.

~ Leo Tolstoy ~

So, belated birthday wishes to our treasurer, Colin Lee on the 8 May, our Master of Ceremonies, Hans Siertsema on the 18 May and our Organist, Louw Talstra on the 27 May.

In June, best wishes to Nettie van Sisseren, celebrating her birthday on the 14 June. Both the Wardens celebrate their birthdays this month, Marykay Schouten on the 18 June and Caroline Siertsema on the 21 June. Warm well wishes to the Wardens.

Weddings

Congratulations to Ferdinand van Dijk and Pandu Hailonga, who on the 21 May, were wed in St Georges Cathedral, Windhoek, Namibia.

May your lives together be full of happiness and remember, marriage and wine are similar, properly cared for they both improve and age well.

Footnote. St Georges Cathedral, the smallest functioning cathedral in Southern Africa, has a single bell in the tower that came from St Mary's Church in Canterbury.



**RSCM Music Group Archdeaconry NW
 Europe - Information and Dates for the
 diary - Dates and venues**

18 June — Choral Festival 2005

St Bavo's Cathedral, Haarlem, the Netherlands.

Proposed director Andrew Carter.

The service will be a choral Evensong with music from Bob Chilcott, Grayston Ives, Brian Kelly, Edward Elgar and Simon Lole. Information and festival books will be available from Information from Frances Gothard 026 3332461 e-mail frances.gothard@tiscali.nl

The festival booklet is compulsory for singers wishing to participate.

27 August 2005 — Singing in Ghent An ad hoc afternoon of choral music in the Anglican church of Ghent during the local street festival. Further information from Graham or Karine Look Tel.

+32 (0)9 223 2382 e-mail graham.look@pandora.be

24 September 2005 — RSCM singing workshop

Introducing the Voice for Life training programme and the new carol book, The Carol Book, edited by John Barnard and David Iliff, published by the RSCM August/September 2005

Intercessions

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



Sheep

The teacher at the village school came up with a good problem. "Suppose," she asked the second-graders, "there were a dozen sheep and six of them jumped over a fence. How many would be left?"

"None," answered little Norman.

"None? Norman, you don't know your arithmetic."

"Teacher, you don't know your sheep.

When one goes, they all go!"

Parents

A teacher was supervising a class of new students as they completed their enrolment forms. She watched as one young man paused at the section marked "Next of kin" before writing his father's name. At the next section marked "Relationship" he sighed and wrote "Deteriorating".

Baroque music in St. Mary's. May 22

Who was first

It was lunch break on a building site and three tradesmen were having a friendly argument over which trade had been around the longest.

The builder said that the builders were as they had built the pyramids.

The carpenter pointed out that the Ark had been built of wood and pre-dated the pyramids.

The electrician listening to this grinned broadly.

When asked to explain what he found so funny he explained that the electricians were the oldest trade.

After all, at the very beginning of the Bible, in Genesis it says that on the first day the Lord said 'Let there be light' and there was.

Well who do you think laid in all the cables? asked the electrician.

On Sunday, May 22, members of the ensemble "Il Concerto Barocco" held a concert in St. Mary's chapel, Weldam. They brought a program of Baroque music, their specialty, with pieces from various composers of the late 16th up until the 18th century. Well-known

composers like Monteverdi and Vivaldi, and some lesser-known ones as well. Count Alfred Solms welcomed the group and wished everyone a pleasant hour.

The group of performers were: Andrew Read playing the Violone (a predecessor of the modern Violincello), Ronald Moelker playing the Flauto Dolce (a baroque version of the recorder) and Jan Grütter playing two instruments: the Chitarra (a baroque version of the guitar) and a very impressive instrument called "Théorbe", (a kind of bass-guitar or archlute, with a very long neck). When Jan was tuning his Théorbe, he had to stand next to it and reach up high to get to the knobs to adjust the strings. Andrew, Ronald and Jan are all members of Il Concerto Barocco. The vocal soloist was the soprano Valeria Burmistrova, who has a very clear voice, her non-vibrato singing was a good example of performing vocal music in baroque style.

Each item of the program was introduced to the audience by Mr. Andrew Read, the founder and conductor ("Maestro di Capella") of Il Concerto Barocco. It was funny to see that one of the composers was apparently so unknown that Andrew could not remember the composer's name when he introduced one of his Sonatas. Incidentally, the name was Giovanni Battista Granata.

Before the break, compositions by Vivaldi, Monteverdi, Granata and Frescobaldi were performed, the soprano sang an aria by Monteverdi.

During the interval, the visitors were invited to the hut for tea, coffee and home made biscuits. Forty-three people attended the concert and they all enjoyed the hospitality at the hut, the refreshments as well as the opportunity of being

procession through the darkened church. As the Paschal Candle approaches the Choir, the ministers and congregation in turn light candles they are holding from the Paschal Candle, and from each other. This is a powerful image of the way in which we come to share in the living light of Christ, and also spread that light throughout the world.

2. Towards the end of the Vigil, before the Eucharist, the Paschal Candle is taken in procession to the font. There, using the candle as a symbol of Christ, waters of Baptism are blessed as the candle is dipped three times into the font. This reminds us that in Baptism we enter into the tomb of death with Christ, only to rise again with Him whose Resurrection we are about to celebrate.

After Pentecost the Paschal candle is kept in the Baptistry for use during Holy Baptism.

Altar Candles and Processional Lights

The number of candles used to decorate altars can vary, but traditionally they are in combinations of two four and six. A useful rule of thumb is that the more candles, the more important the altar is likely to be.

Side and Lady Chapel altars normally have two, or sometimes four candles (two being lit for low mass, all four only being lit on high feast days). The High Altar would have anything up to six candles, but with modern reforms and celebration facing the people, two candles are becoming standard in most churches.

The more obvious symbolism is that the altar represents the throne of God, from which the light of Christ shines upon His gathered people. You may also find it helpful to meditate upon what the number and arrangement of the candles might suggest. Candles carried in procession are a simple, but effective way of honouring both the cross which they accompany, and also the priest as he represents the person of Christ. Their use adds both dignity and colour to the Church's worship

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Lot

A father was reading a Bible story to his young son. He read, "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt." His son asked, "What happened to the flea?"

The package

There was this gracious lady mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. "Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk.

"Only the Ten Commandments," answered the lady.



Candles



Background: Light is something that most people take so much for granted, that we hardly give it a second thought. Nowadays most of our houses are lit by electricity, but not *so long ago* people relied on gas, oil, and candle power for

artificial light. The need for light is fundamental. There can be no life without light. It will come as no surprise, then, to learn that images of light and darkness recur through-out the Bible.

Almost the first thing that we read in the Old Testament (Gen. ch.1 v.2) is that in the beginning "The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep." The very first action of God in creation was to say "'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good." (v.3).

In the New Testament too, light is a key image. The Gospel according to St. John describes Our Lord as "the light". Not the 'light' created by God, but the Creator Himself! Our Lord, too, uses the image of light to teach His disciples, when He says that we should shine as lights exposed on hilltops, and not hide our faith under buckets.

Candles in Church

The Paschal Candle :A Paschal Candle can be found in most churches, and it is easy to identify. It could well be taller and fatter than any other candle in church, but it is certain to be the only candle to be decorated either with a transfer or by being painted. From Easter to Pentecost, or Whit Sunday, it will be in a prominent position in the Sanctuary near to the High Altar. The Paschal Candle is named after the PASCH, the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord. The candle is blessed at the Easter Vigil ceremonies, and represents Christ the light of the world. The Easter Vigil includes the first Eucharist of Easter, and is a dramatic re-presentation of the mysteries of creation and redemption. It begins in total darkness, but ends in a flood of candle-lit glory!

Two of the ceremonies are of particular interest here:

1. Immediately after lighting, the Paschal Candle is carried in

The church steeple

The church steeple on the old church was very high and was being painted on a rather hot day. The painter was about half way down and, as the steeple was widening out, was taking more paint. The painter felt that he might not have enough paint to finish. Since he was hot and tired, and did not care to make another trip to the ground, he decided to stretch the amount of paint by adding some paint thinner to it. When finished, he lowered himself to the ground and went about cleaning up. Then he looked up to see the results of his work and noted that the area with the thinned paint looked decidedly different. He was pondering about what to do about it when the sky turned dark and there was a lightning flash and loud thunderclap. Then in a loud, booming voice from the sky came the words, "REPAINT AND THIN NO MORE!"

able to sit outside in the sunshine. However, it was soon off back to the church for the second part of the concert.

After the break, the program included music by Van Eyck (Dutch), Dowland, Corelli and finally an Italian Aria by Georg Friedrich Handel.

An interesting piece was a series of Variations on the theme La Folia, well known in the old days. Added to this was an improvisation by the performers themselves. Andrew said in his introduction that improvisation during a performance was common practice in Baroque times. This was for him; originally a jazz bass player (!) an attractive aspect of (early) Baroque music. He got a good laugh when he announced their improvisation, saying, "wie moet'n kiek'n wat't word'..." (Meaning: Let us see what comes out...)

The entire program brought beautiful, interesting and well-sounding music. One of the highlights, if not the outstanding piece was the Cantata by Handel. A beautiful piece, well structured with a lot of interaction between instruments and soprano, and full of spirit. The soprano did very well. The big round of applause that followed was well deserved by all performers, the soprano in particular.

Count Alfred thanked all the performers and the visitors and expressed his hopes that a concert like this might probably grow into a tradition, held once or twice a year.

After the concert, cheese and wine was served in the hut afterwards for those who had the time stay. Afterwards, Count Alfred invited all the visitors to a guided tour of the castle gardens, so most of them, as well as some of the musicians, set off on the tour. The rest stayed behind to finish off their drinks.

The considered opinion of those who attended, an extremely successful afternoon. Hopefully there are plans to have a repeat event later in the year.

©Louw Talstra/Caroline Siertsema

Muldoon's cat

Muldoon lived alone in the Irish countryside with only a pet cat for company. One day the cat died, and Muldoon went to the parish priest and asked, "Father, me cat is dead. Could ya' be sayin' a mass fer the poor creature?" Father Patrick replied, "I'm afraid not; we cannot have services for an animal in the church. But there is a new denomination down the lane, and there's no telling what they believe. Maybe they will do something fer the creature." Muldoon said, "I'll go right away Father. Do ya' think €1,000 is enough to donate fer the service?" Father Patrick exclaimed, "Sweet Mary, Why didn't ya' tell me the cat was Catholic?"



5th June	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev. Paul Rayner
Second Sunday after Trinity	First Reading	Hosea 5; 15 - 6; 6
Sung Eucharist	Psalm	50.7 - 15
	Second Reading	Romans 4: 13-end
	Gospel	Matthew 9: 9-13, 18-26

26th June	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev Jake Dejonge
Fifth Sunday after Trinity	First Reading	Jeremiah 28; 5-9
Sung Eucharist	Psalm	89.1 - 14, 15 - 18
	Second Reading	Romans 6:12-end
	Gospel	Matthew 10:10-40

12th June	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev Jake Dejonge
Third Sunday after Trinity	First Reading	6 Exodus 19; 2-8a.
Sung Eucharist	Psalm	100
	Second Reading	Romans 5: 1-8
	Gospel	Matthew 9:35- 10:8

3rd July	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev Jake Dejonge
Sixth Sunday after Trinity	First Reading	Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67.
Sung Eucharist	Psalm	45.10 - 17
	Second Reading	Romans 7:15-25a.
	Gospel	Matthew 11; 16-19, 25-30.

19th June	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev Jake Dejonge
Fourth Sunday after Trinity	First Reading	Jeremiah 20: 7-13.
Sung Eucharist	Psalm	69.8 -11 [12 - 17] 18- 20
	Second Reading	Romans 6: 1b.-11
	Gospel	Matthew 10: 24-39.

10th July	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev Jake Dejonge
Seventh Sunday after Trinity	First Reading	Isaiah 55.10 -13
Sung Eucharist	Psalm	65.[1 - 7] 8 - 13
	Second Reading	Romans 8.1 - 11
	Gospel	Matthew 13.1 - 9, 18 - 23