Poetry and Prose

Samuel Lover 1797 - 1868

Samuel Lover was born in Dublin on the 24 February. His father was a stockbroker and a he was raised as a staunch protestant.

Samuel started out as a successful a miniaturist, acquiring early recognition for his skilful portraits of the local aristocracy. He developed as an Irish songwriter, novelist and artist.

He produced a number of Irish songs that were in their time, very popular. They include songs such as 'The Angels Whisper', 'Molly Bawn' and 'The Four Leaf Shamrock'.

He also took a stand against the Irish verse of his day and produced a study of his Catholic compatriots.

Ask and Have

"Then suppose I would talk to your father,
Sweet Mary," says I;

"Oh don't talk to my father," says Mary,
Beginning to cry:

"For my father he loves me so dearly,
He'll never consent I should goIf you talk to my father," says Mary,
"He'll surely say, 'No.'"

"Then how shall I get you my jewel?
Sweet Mary," says I;
"If your father and mother's so cruel,
Most surely I'll die."
"Oh never say die dear," says Mary;
"A way now to save you I see:
Since my parents are both so contrary You'd better ask me!"
Samuel Lover 1797 - 1868



St Mary's Magazine

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The Chaplain writes

Thinking Christianly

The media has been filled this end of May with the news of the abrupt departure of Ms Ayaan Hirsi Ali, a controversial, outspoken critic of Islam, from Dutch political life. Her exit was prompted by a declaration from her fellow Liberal party member and Minister for Integration, Rita Verdonk, that Hirsi Ali, originally from Somalia and a former asylum-seeker, had given false information in her asylum and citizenship applications. Verdonk noted that, by a strict interpretation of the law, Hirsi Ali had therefore never really become a Dutch citizen. (By extension, she was thus not entitled to be an MP.) Though the timing and thrust of Verdonk's 'observation' did not win her greater esteem with parliamentary colleagues or in the Liberal Party leadership, Verdonk's mantra that 'rules are rules after all' played well in some parts of the country. While the Parliament forced the Minister to review her analysis of the case, some were left wondering about the limits of 'rules are rules' decision-making. One reflective commentator noted that the 'rules are rules' philosophy does not properly question whether the rules at hand are right and just. On what basis should the Minister decide such cases, though?

We are called to consider the challenge of right decision-making by one of the main things on the heart of those at our Chaplaincy Away Day earlier in the spring: the desire to seek God's will for us as individuals and as a church community. Frequently, we Christians talk a good bit about God's will, but end up making our decisions just as pragmatically as anyone else, with a view to what serves our financial or other interests. Can we do better in genuinely, diligently seeking God's will in all that we do? Perhaps, we might say, but how? There is no simple answer, though ardent prayer is certainly prerequisite: we cannot know God's will if we do not ask Him, and ask Him and ask Him... and listen!

But as a complement and support to guide prayer and reflection, our Anglican tradition offers us a helpful little method, originated by Richard Hooker, a late 16th Century thinker. He suggested that God has given us three great resources of His revelation: Scripture (first and foremost), Tradition (the cumulative wisdom of the saints and sages, past and present), and Reason (our God-given faculties which allow us to interpret our experience). Hooker realized that all three resources relied on each



What a wonderful Lent, Holy Week and Easter we have had at St. Mary's this year! The season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday with a special Taizé service during which the chapel was illuminated by what seemed like hundreds of candles as we sang various Taizé chants.

Here are a few things to think about that you probably have never thought about:

Can you cry under water?

Why does a round pizza come in a square box?

What disease did cured ham actually have?

How important does a person have to be before they are considered assassinated instead of just murdered?

Why are you IN a movie, but you are ON the television.

Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground.

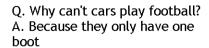
Why do doctors leave the room while you change? They going to see you naked anyway? During Lent several groups have been studying the book "Passing the Test" by David Adam and learning to discover more about themselves.

On Palm Sunday it was the weekend that Bishop Geoffrey was visiting the Chaplaincy. Our service on Sunday morning began outside near the hut. Palm crosses were handed out to everyone and after the readings to set the scene, we processed along the path singing "All Glory Laud and Honour to Thee Redeemer King". The musical accompaniment was provided by Coen and Marije standing near the porch of the church and playing their trumpets and as we entered the church the organ took over. It was a beautiful service. Afterwards there was an opportunity to meet the Bishop over coffee before the lunch meeting between with the Church Council that took place at Erve Brooks.

On Maundy Thursday there was a service in the evening. This was a very moving service during which we were taken back to the time of the Last Supper. We were reminded of how before the supper Jesus had washed the feet of the disciples. This was done in a special way as our Chaplain washed the feet of four parish representatives. It was a moving experience for those of us who had our feet washed.

On Good Friday there was a service of devotion. The story of the passion was really brought home to us during this service. The altar was stripped and the crucifix was covered with a dark cloth. On the altar several small candles and one large candle were burning. At various points in the service objects were brought up to the altar. After the reading where Simon Peter cuts off the ear of the high priest's slave a sword was brought to the altar. After the reading of when Peter denies knowing Jesus and the cock

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Q. What do you get when you drop a piano down a mine shaft?
A. A flat miner

Q. Where does a fish keep its money?

A. In a riverbank.

Q. What has wheels and flies?

A. A garbage truck!

Q. What do you get when you cross a dinosaur with a dog?

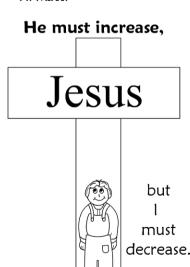
A. A very nervous mailman!

Q. What do you call a man with no arms and no legs floating in the water?

A. Bob.

Q. What do you call a man with no arms and no legs on your doorstep?

A. Matt.



~John 3:30

Q. What do you call a dyslexic, insomniac agnostic?

A. Someone who stays up all night wondering if there is a dog

Q. Who is the greatest babysitter in the Bible?

A. David, he rocked Goliath to sleep.

Q. Why do ducks have web feet?

A. To stamp out forest fires! Q. Why do elephants have big

A. To stamp out flaming ducks

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Social News

Birthdays - June is a wonderful month especially when we can wish a very happy birthday to Nettie, Marykay and Caroline. Intriguingly, which other talented people share េះ ចំ birthdays with our talented trio.

Should you...

Should you find it hard to get to sleep, just remember the homeless families who have no bed to lie in.

Should you have a bad day in traffic. don't despair. there are people in the world for whom driving is an unheard of privilege.

Should you notice a new grey hair in the mirror, think of the cancer patient in chemotherapy who wishes she had hair to examine

Should your car break down leaving you many kilometres from assistance, think of the paraplegic who would love the opportunity to take that walk.

Well. Nettie van Sisseren celebrates her birthday on 14 June and as a matter of literary interest, she shares a birthday with Harriet Beecher Stowe, the woman who wrote Uncle Tom's Cabin, a book that influenced the emancipation of slaves in the US.

On 18 June Marykay Schouten celebrates her birthday and shares her birthday with Sir Paul McCartney. That day is also important for both the Dutch and the British as it was on 18 June that Napoleon was defeated at Waterloo.

Finishing of our talented trio is Caroline Siertsema, who celebrates her birthday on 21 June. Caroline shares her birthday with that remarkable playwright Arthur Miller.

The Archdeaconry of North-West Europe - Choral Festival 2006 17 June

Holy Trinity Pro-Cathedral, rue Capitaine Crespel 29, B-1150 Brussels

This year's Archdeaconry Choral Festival service will take place at 16.00 on Saturday 17 June at Holy Trinity Pro-Cathedral, Brussels. The combined choirs will be conducted by David Ogden, conductor of the RSCM Millennium Choir, and the service will be led by Canon Dr Robert Innes, Chaplain of Holy Trinity. The service will take as its theme the three Persons of the Holy Trinity. The organist will be Chris Farr, from St John and St Philip, The Hague.

The programme for the day is: 09.30 Arrive, coffee available/10.30 First rehearsal/12.00 Lunch /13.30 Second rehearsal /15.45 Robing /16.00 Service /17.15 Refreshments and depart

If you wish to join the choirs you will need a Festival Service Book which can be obtained, price €7.50 (excluding postage), from Martin van Bleek, Pieter Kiesstraat 76, NL-2013 BK Haarlem,: +31 235 42 21 33 or martin.van.bleek@planet.nl. The cost for lunch and other refreshments is €15. For further details speak to Frances Gothard or the Chaplain.

crowed, a feather was brought up. After the reading of when the side of Jesus was pierced, a spear was brought up. Each time an object was brought up to the altar one of the small candles on the altar was blown out. After the reading of when Jesus gave up his spirit, the last candle was blown out. This was a moving moment. But at the end of the service looking forward to the coming days, with the knowledge that the light is still in the world, the last candle was re-lit.

On Easter Sunday there was a really full Church, Again a beautiful service as we celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord. The church had been beautifully decorated for the occasion by the Flower Guild.

So this has been a good Easter and the first one with our new Chaplain. At the end of the service on Easter Sunday during the notices Caroline Siertsema thanked Sam Van Leer for all the wonderful services that he had prepared for this Lent and Easter period. I would like to take this opportunity to do the same in writing. It has also been my first Easter as Warden and not only have the services been very special and moving but it has been interesting to see more behind the scenes what is involved in making this all work. The attendance at the Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday services was very high this year. I am sure that those who were at the services on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday would agree these are also thoroughly to be recommended. © Simon Yallop

Followed forty days later by Ascension Day with a

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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.

Irish Joke

Paddy was in New York. He was patiently waiting, and watching the traffic cop on a busy street crossing. The cop stopped the flow of traffic and shouted, "Okay, pedestrians". Then he'd allow the

traffic to pass. He had done this several times and Paddy still stood on the sidewalk.

After the cop had shouted "Pedestrians@ for the tenth time. Paddy went over to him and said, "Is it not about time ve let the Catholics across?"

Express Lane

I was in the express lane at the supermarket, quietly fuming.

Completely ignoring the sign, a woman ahead of me had slipped in the checkout line pushing a cart piled high with groceries.

Imagine my delight when the cashier beckoned the woman to come forward and asked sweetly, "So, which six items would you like to buy?"

Page:10 PAGE: 3 Quote of the Day

A fanatic is one who can't change his mind and won't change the subject.

Winston Churchill

Breaking Even

Two men are in a bank when armed robbers break in. One robber rushes the teller windows. one guards the door and the third bank robber stands in the middle of the bank and yells, "Right! Everyone up against the wall and empty your pockets. We want valuables. watches and wallets." The first man iams something into his buddy's hand. "What's this?" asks his friend without looking down. "It's that €100 I owe you" answers his friend.

Q: What do you call a nun who walks in her sleep? A:A roaming catholic (Continued from page 3)

wonderful combined service that brought the three congregations of the chaplaincy together. The chapel was beautifully decorated for the occasion and there were so many people attending that the hymn books had to be shared.

After the service everyone in and around the hut drinking coffee, chatting and waiting eagerly for the start of the second great sausage sizzle.

As the weather was threatening rain, Count Alfred had kindly allowed the sizzle to take place in the timber yard storage shed. With only two walls and a stout roof it gave the illusion of being outside while at the same time, keeping any rain off.

Agnes and Colin Lee had not only collected nearly three hundred assorted sausages for the event, they also cooked most of them. Thank you Agnes and Colin, champion sausage sizzlers of St Mary's Chapel, we salute you both.

Everyone had brought along a variety of salads and desserts which were placed out on tables and shared. Ferdinand van Dijk not only bought along a wonderful selection of South African wine, he also cooked up a spicy Namibian sausage stew in little African tripod stew pots. Sadly, Ferdinand and Pandu are leaving as they have decided to set up home in Namibia. However, the chillies in the stew made sure they had a warm farewell.

While everyone was feasting and drinking, Victor Pirenne entertained us all with a wonderful selection of favourite tunes played on the accordion. Impromptu sing-alongs accompanied the music as people would gather around to sing their favourite verses before drifting off and replaced by others. Wonderful music and a big welcome to Victor who has only recently started attending St Mary's.

After everyone was sausage sated, salad filled, pudding packed and had their collective thirst slaked, the games began. Several people helped organize and run the games, but here is the spot to give a special thanks to

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church. So it was "fruit of the vine" that was blessed instead of wine.

In the formal vestibule no longer used (except by the choir members) was a charming bathroom frozen in 1920's Art Deco style. There were black and white square floor tiles, white subway tiles on the walls (wainscoting high) and white wicker furniture. The sanitary fittings were still original. Downstairs in the basement was a large kitchen. We had a black restaurant eight-burner gas stove, rows of glass-fronted built in dressers and a long table with a dozen or so chairs. Even in the fifties we had a commercial size dish washer which we all got to know intimately. Next to the kitchen was a dining hall big enough to seat the congregation. Opposite to all this was a large hall separated into smaller rooms by sliding accordion curtains. The rooms were used for Sunday School (all ages) and the curtains were pushed back for parties. Like most American churches socializing is the backbone of fellowship. We had pot lucks, ice cream socials (hand cranked homemade), lunch basket auctions, Halloween costume parties, etc. The men had a organized baseball team and the women cooked and baked. This was before the sexual revolution. My mom made light as a feather pie pastry. She served as a deaconess (laying out communion and doing the dishes). For teenagers there were retreats to other churches, havrides, Christmas caroling, parties and two weeks of summer camp in the mountains. Vacation Bible School kept the younger ones busy with lots of activities. Our church was maintained and watched over by a custodian, old Mr. Rickman. He kept a daybed in the boiler room but didn't live there. If you were very nice he would let you see the view from the top of the dome.

Everyone was expected to serve the church in some capacity or another. My father also was treasurer for awhile. I had sung with other toddlers in the Angel Choir and later in the Junior Choir. We were given rudimentary music instruction but I was looking out the window. At 16 I was placed in the nursery changing diapers. After a few months of this I gladly accepted a place in the Chancel Choir. Choir practice every Wednesday night for the rest of your life. Actually it was only 20 years.

We were a downtown church and many of our members began moving out to the suburbs. Other churches were built in these areas. In the end we couldn't raise enough money to maintain our white elephant. It was torn down eventually and replaced by a used car lot. Bittersweet. ©Linda ten Berge.

blood, as you know, would run into it, and I would turn red in the face."

"Yes," the class said.
"Then why is it that while I am standing upright in the ordinary position the blood doesn't run into my feet?"

A little fellow shouted, "Cause your feet ain't empty."

A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small. The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human: it was physically impossible. The little girl said, "When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah". The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?" The little girl replied, "Then you ask him".

Home Church in California (or growing up in California - Part 2)



Kids

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted on the apple tray: "Take only ONE. God is watching." Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note, 'Take all you want. God is watching the apples.

A teacher was giving a lesson on the circulation of the blood. Trying to make the matter clearer, she said, "Now, class, if I stood on my head, Page:8

The church I grew up in was called the First Christian Church in Fresno, California. It was built in 1915. Before that services were held in a room over a saloon (the west was wild here too!).

The large brick building had wraparound steps leading up to the front entrance, a dome on top and on top of that a neon cross. When I was a child a new entrance was created on the side, making the steps and grand entrance redundant.

Modernizing over the years stripped the inside of much of its Art Nouveau charm but what survived was spectacular. The building seated 2,000 but our congregation never had more than 500. The dome was filled with stained glass with a huge chandelier suspended from its apex. The two large naves under the dome had stained glass depictions of two famous paintings (the Ascension & Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane). I gazed at the later every Sunday from my perch in the choir. The two balconies running the length of the sanctuary were opera house style with curved stucco work and brass railings. The light fixtures here were stylized flowers. Underneath the balconies along the outer aisles were rows of stained glass windows sponsored and paid for by prominent church members. My favorite was Jesus knocking at the gate with lantern in hand. The front of the sanctuary itself had Greek temple fronts on both sides. In the middle was a solid birch altar (made by my father). Behind that was a suspended simple birch cross (Dad's) in front of a full-length dark red curtain. On days of baptism (traditionally Palm Sunday) the curtains were pulled back and secured to reveal a sunken baptistery from white Carrera marble. Behind all that was a room, full of pipes belonging to a magnificent organ. Guaranteed to make the earth move when all stops were pulled out! I knew where the secret door was to this room and used it while playing hide and seek. Only during church parties of course. On Sundays we were decorum itself. A fire in the church destroyed much of the original wooden theater seats so my father made all new pews. Blond birch wood was very popular in the fifties. He routed out crosses on the end of each pew and made the curve of the back just right so that they were very comfortable even without cushions. Behind each pew were holders for the tiny communion glasses that were passed out by the deacons on segmented silver platters. We (the deaconesses) filled them before the service down in the kitchen with Welch's grape juice. Grape juice was used so not to offend any teetotalers in the (Continued from page 4)

Pauline Talstra, the founding architect of the sausage sizzle. Good on yuh! (Pauline is from Oz)

Finally, at the end of the day the more than ninety people from Arnhem, Nijmegen and Twente parted company and made their way home. A great way to end the Easter story.

As Simon wrote in the first half, this was a wonderful Lent and Easter. Deeply moving and spiritual in the services leading up to Good Friday, then the joy of Easter, and finally, the joining together in a wonderful celebration of the Ascension.

(Continued from page 1)

other and none could be understood in isolation. (You need Reason and Tradition to begin to understand the Bible; you need the Bible and Reason to make sense of Tradition, and so on). These resources are interdependent because they all arose from the same Source, and all three need to be considered to discern God's will for any situation. As we seek God's will in our lives, and as we approach any major decision, we are encouraged, first, to pray early and often. We can also benefit from dwelling on three things: what Scripture has to say about what we are to do, what the voices of the wise and exemplary men and women of our faith have had to say, and what we discover, on the basis of these other two, is reasonable. Prayerfully considering these three resources might be called 'thinking Christianly the Anglican way'. It is not a recipe for quick decisionmaking, à la 'rules are rules, plain and simple'. But it might well help us all toward more satisfactory, wise and (most importantly) Godly decisions for the long run.

Yours in Christ, Sam Van Leer

PS: Don't forget to bring a foreign-language Bible, if you have one and can read from it, to worship for the 10:30 All-Age Pentecost Eucharist service on June 4th. Further instructions will be given! +Sam



Speeding Ticket

"What am I supposed to do with this?" grumbled a motorist as the policeman handed him a speeding ticket.

"Keep it," the cop said, "when you collect four of them you get a bicycle."

Emigrate to Australia

A Brit was hoping to immigrate to Australia. Upon arriving in Australia, he was questioned by a customs officer, "What is your business in Australia?"

"I wish to immigrate," was the Brit's reply.

The customs officer then asked, "Do you have a conviction record?"

Confused, the Brit then replied, "I didn't think you still needed one."

4 th June	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Sam Van Leer
Pentecost	First Reading Mrs. Romeyn	Ezekiel 37.1-14
All Age Eucharist	Second Reading Mrs. te West	Acts 2.1-21
	Gospel	John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15

25 th June	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Sam Van Leer
Second after Trinity	First Reading	Job 38.1-11
(Proper 7)	Second Reading	2 Corinthians 6.1-13
Sung Eucharist	Gospel	Mark 4.35-41

11 th June	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Sam Van Leer
Trinity	First Reading	Isaiah 6.1-8
Sung Eucharist	Second Reading	Romans 8.12-17
	Gospel	John 3.1-17

2 nd July	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Sam Van Leer
Third after Trinity	First Reading	Lamentations 3.23-33
(Proper 8)	Second Reading	2 Corinthians 8.7-15
Sung Eucharist	Gospel	Mark 5.21-43

18th June	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Sam Van Leer
First after Trinity	First Reading	Ezekiel 17.22-24
(Proper 6)	Second Reading	2Corinthians 5.6-10,14-17
Sung Eucharist	Gospel	Mark 4.26-34

9 th July	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Sam Van Leer
Fourth after Trinity	First Reading	Ezekiel 2.1-5
(Proper 9)	Second Reading	2 Corinthians 12.2-10
Sung Eucharist	Gospel	Mark 6.1-13

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Forthcoming Services

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