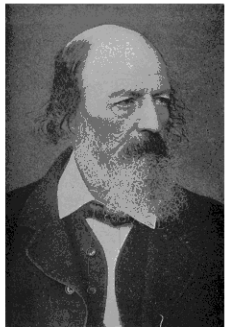


Poetry and Prose

Alfred, Lord Tennyson



6 August 1809 to
6 October 1892
Poet Laureate of the
United Kingdom and one
of the most popular
poets.
Born in Somersby,
Lincolnshire, Alfred was
the fourth of twelve
children. His father was
the local rector who
could trace a direct line
back to Edward III.
Educated at Trinity
College, Cambridge,
Alfred won the
Chancellor's gold medal
for one of his first poems,
Timbuctoo.
Appointed Poet Laureate
at the personal request of
Prince Albert in 1850, he
held the position until his
death.
In 1884 he was created
Baron Tennyson of
Aldworth.

Ring Out, Wild Bells

*Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light;
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.*

*Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.*

*Ring out the grief that saps the mind,
For those that here we see no more,
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
Ring in redress to all mankind.*

*Ring out a slowly dying cause,
And ancient forms of party strife;
Ring in the nobler modes of life,
With sweeter manners, purer laws.*

*Ring out the want, the care the sin,
The faithless coldness of the times;
Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes,
But ring the fuller minstrel in.*

*Ring out false pride in place and blood,
The civic slander and the spite;
Ring in the love of truth and right,
Ring in the common love of good.*

*Ring out old shapes of foul disease,
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.*

*Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.*

Alfred, Lord Tennyson

December
2007

January
2008

The Bishops Christmas Message 2007

Canon Henry Scott Holland is now known, if at all, for the bowdlerised excerpt from one of his sermons – ‘Death is nothing at all’ I have only

passed into the next room – that has become popular at memorial services, and the hymn ‘Judge eternal, throned in splendour.’, was one of the significant Anglican teachers and preachers of the last years of the nineteenth century, concerned above all to relate Christian faith to contemporary social and economic problems. When he died in 1918 a fund was raised in his memory for lectures on ‘the bearing of the religion of the incarnation on the social, economic and political life of mankind.’ I have for some years been chair of the Scott Holland trustees and am delighted that next year we have managed to persuade Dr Neill Macgregor, the Director of the British Museum, to deliver the lectures on the religion of the incarnation as expressed in art and culture. What does ‘incarnation’ mean for our seeing and our imagining?

Christmas, the Feast of the Incarnation, is both a visual and a musical feast. The carols of Christmas with their familiar echoes, melodies and sounds, are one of the small number of touchstones which link many on the edge or beyond the church to the resonances of the Christian story. Cathedrals in England find their carol services at both Advent and Christmas ever growing. Seeing how many come for a carol service in Europe is one litmus test as to whether a new congregation might be established in a place. Visually the Christmas crib, traditionally traced back to St Francis making a nativity scene for the peasant folk at Greccio, incarnates what we hear in the Christmas story. We do not only hear words, we see. The great painters knew this when they showed the shepherds awed into adoration both by the heavenly armies of angels blazoned like the Milky Way across the sky, or the kings in rich array bowing before the child on Mary’s lap. In pictures of the Annunciation Gabriel bows to the one who in becoming the Mother of the incarnate Lord is ‘higher than the cherubim and more glorious than the seraphim’. The trembling space between angelic messenger and village girl is awesome, as in the pictures of the Visitation, of Mary and Elizabeth both bearing children of promise in their womb, a moment of meeting is caught and celebrated, that moment of which Jeremy Taylor exclaimed, ‘What a collision of joys was there!’ And then there are pictures of the flight into Egypt, with the new born child wrapped against the cold and perils of the journey, God incarnate as a refugee and an asylum seeker, fleeing the murderous tyranny of Herod. The massacre of the children of Bethlehem is no tinsel Christmas, but part of the brutality of the world then and the world now. The

(Continued on page 4)



Arthur Cass gave a brief overview of the church accounts for the third quarter. Arthur stated that he wanted to have the books ready for audit by the end of the year in readiness for the next AGM. The auditors this year are Louw Talstra and Arijen Haffmans.

The treasurer also reported that he had so far, only 10 replies to the stewardship letters. The council went on to discuss alternative methods of explaining stewardship.

replies to the stewardship letters. The council went on to discuss alternative methods of explaining stewardship.

Castle Fair Review

The minutes of the Castle Fair committee were attached to the council minutes for the council members to read. The committee will also make a report to the council at a later date. The overall consensus was that the fair was a success. However, there are ongoing discussions on addressing problems identified in the last fair as well as on ways to improve the next fair and agreeing on a date for the next fair.

AGM

The proposed date for the next AGM is the 6 April 2008. The reason for this choice is to allow the meeting to take place after Easter. The next council meeting is on the 11 February to discuss the budget and a final meeting on the 12 March to approve the budget. All reports and papers will have to be completed by the 12 March to allow the secretary to prepare the AGM report, which has to be distributed two weeks before the AGM. It is most likely that the report will be handed out at the end of the Easter Sunday Service.

Council Personnel changes anticipated

As usual, both wardens have to be elected at the AGM. Caroline Siertsema is definitely not standing for election, so there is at least one warden position vacant. Church policy is that if anyone wishes to stand for election as warden, or wishes to nominate a candidate, they are obliged to first discuss this with the chaplain. There are four other positions left on the council that have to be voted on; both of the Archdeaconery representatives and two council seats. Three of the incumbents are eligible for re-election, but if anyone wishes to contest a vacant seat they may do so providing they have been on the electoral roll for more than six months.

The Confused Samaritan

A man was beaten up by robbers on a road to London. He lay there, half dead and in bad shape. A Vicar came along, saw him and passed by on the other side. Next, a tax inspector came by but also walked quickly on the other side. Finally, a social worker came along, looked at the man and said "Whoever did this needs help!"



Shop Early

It was Christmas and the judge was in a merry mood as he asked the prisoner, "What are you charged with?" "Doing my Christmas shopping early," replied the defendant. "That's no offence," said the judge. "How early were you doing this shopping?" "Before the store opened," countered the prisoner

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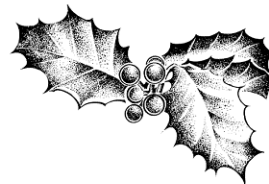


HOLLY

We sing about the 'Holly and the Ivy', and prickly green leaves and red berries are everywhere in Christmas decorations.

In Scandinavian countries the holly is even known as the 'Christ-thorn' and it seems that the name of the holly actually came from the word 'holy'.

The holly reminds us of the death of Jesus – the sharp prickles on the leaves are like the crown of thorns that Jesus was forced to wear on the cross. The red berries remind us of the drops of blood that came where the thorns hurt his head.



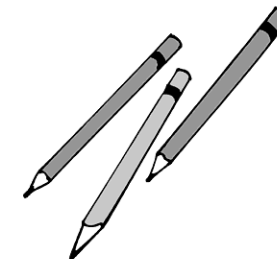
Holly is an evergreen, which means that it does not lose its leaves in the autumn, but keeps them all year round. And because its leaves are always green it is a symbol of eternal life.

SHARP PRESENTS

A quick way to make little presents for all your class and friends.

You will need pencils, glue (spray glue is best) and Christmas wrapping paper with a small pattern on it. Choose round pencils rather than the hexagonal type.

Cut a strip of wrapping paper wide enough to wrap around the pencil and as long as the pencil. Put glue on the back of the paper and wrap it around the pencil. When the glue has dried; trim away any excess paper with small scissors.



What did the werewolf write on his Christmas cards? Best vicious of the season.

What do elves sing to Santa? Freeze a Jolly Good Fellow!





Social News

Middachten Christmas Market 11 to 16 December

The Arnhem/Nijmegen Chaplaincy Social Committee is getting very excited about our contribution to this year's Middachten Christmas Market. This has been our principle fund-raising effort in previous years and very successful it has been too. We hope that you will be able to support us again this year.

Kids

During our church's worship service, the Vicar invites all the young children to join him near the altar for the "Children's Moments Sermon." One day, with seven small children in attendance, he spoke about the ingredients required to make up a church, using a chocolate-chip cookie as an example. He explained to the children that, as with a cookie requiring ingredients such as sugar and eggs, the church needed ingredients to make up the congregation. Holding a cookie aloft, he asked, "If I took the chocolate chips out of this cookie, what would I have?" A shy six-year-old raised his hand. "Six less grams of fat," he replied.



St Mary's Christmas Market December

Following the Carol Service there will be a Mini-Kerstmarkt in the hut. A selection of traditional English fare such as mince pies and Christmas cakes will be available along with other goodies and presents.



Poppy Appeal 11/11/2007

The sale of poppies this year made the grand total of €60, which has been paid to the Royal British Legion. A big thank you to the congregation for your generous support.

Harp Music

This past summer, the harpist Janne-Minke Nijp gave several recitals of harp music in St Mary's chapel. The recitals were held at the same time as the summer teas. Visitors who stopped by for a cup of tea could also enjoy the beautiful music. Janne-Minke Nijp has now released her second CD, 'Mood for Harp-Christmas Special', available for €11.95 on www.moodforharp and at selected shops



Birthdays

A feast of birthdays to enjoy over the long dark winter months. In December, Cathy Warmink and our former PCC secretary James Olaniyi celebrate their birthdays on the 2 December. In January, Kathleen Rusius marks another year on the 9 January, closely followed on the 10 January by one of the magazine editors, Marilyn Charles. Then on the 15 January, our former Reader, Francis Gothard will enjoy her birthday in her lovely new home in Norwich.

A simple celebration, a gathering of friends; here is wishing you each and all, great happiness and joy that never ends

Note: Please remember, if there is any event that you would like to share with your friends at St Mary's Chapel, please feel free to use this page. Contact information is on the back cover.

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Address List

The secretary of the council has an address list of all people on the electoral roll and of regular attendees. There is at present no open access to the list. Use of this list is restricted to church business. The council would like to prepare an address list that will be available for church members, but not for use outside the church. If you would like to be included onto this list please contact Simone Yallop.

Future Dates

16 December - Christmas Carol Service with Christmas Market:

24 December - Christmas Eve (Midnight) Service, Monday

Bible Study Groups

In the Twente Chaplaincy there are the following Bible Study groups.

Apeldoorn has a group that meets regularly every two weeks over the winter months and through to Easter.

The Winterswijk group, which has run for a number of years, is at present not meeting but may do so in the future.

A group is in the process of forming in Rijssen, central for Almelo, Hengelo and Enschede.

Another new group is starting up in the Goor/Lochem area. Meetings will probably take place during the day alternatively in Lochem and Goor.

For further information on any of the above, or if you have more information to give on the groups activities, please contact the chaplain.



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.

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Christmas Thoughts

If athletes get athletes foot, what do astronauts get? Missletoe!

What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus? Claustrophobic



Groan

An elephant is drinking out of a river when he spots a turtle asleep on a log. The elephant ambles over and kicks the unsuspecting turtle clear across the river.

"Why did you do that?" asks a passing giraffe. "Because I recognized it as the same turtle that took a nip out of my trunk 47 years ago." "Wow, what a memory!" says the giraffe. "Yes," says the elephant. "Turtle recall."



Stockings

T'was the night before Christmas and all through the house, Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse. The stockings were hung by the chimney with care. They'd been worn all week and needed the air

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Only at Christmas

This guy goes into his dentist's office, because something is wrong with his mouth. After a brief examination, the dentist exclaims, "Holy Smoke! That plate I installed in your mouth about six months ago has nearly completely corroded! What on earth have you been eating?" "Well... the only thing I can think of is this... my wife made me some asparagus about four months ago with this stuff on it... Hollandaise sauce she called it... and doctor, I'm talkin' DELICIOUS! I've never tasted anything like it, and ever since then I've been putting it on everything... meat, fish, toast, vegetables... you name it!" "That's probably it," replied the dentist "Hollandaise sauce is made with lemon juice, which is acidic and highly corrosive. It seems as though I'll have to install a new plate, but made out of chrome this time." "Why chrome?" the man asked. "Well, everyone knows that there's no plate like chrome for the Hollandaise!"



(Continued from page 1)

carols that sing of the red-berried holly's prickle 'as sharp as any thorn' echo St Bernard preaching on the soft flesh of the new born child cut by the sharp and spiky straw of the manger foreshadowing the crown of thorns of Calvary. The religion of the incarnation is about God embedded and embodied in our world, not a fantasy world, but the world of conflict and pain.

Incarnation means literally 'enfleshing', and one of the heresies that continually afflicts the Church is to turn the Gospel into an idea. As the poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge powerfully put it: 'the almighty goodness doth not abide in generalities nor dwell in abstractions.' The affirmation in the great prologue to St John's Gospel, read still as the gospel on Christmas Day, is that the Word – the creative living word, the structuring reason behind all things, *became flesh*. And the word that became flesh was *with God and was God*. The God with whom we have to do is not a God who stands aside, the distant watchmaker God of deism, a remote abstraction, but a God who, in Lady Julian of Norwich's powerful words 'comes down to the lowest part of our need.' As St Paul writes to the Philippians 'he empties himself – drains himself into our human place, into our woundedness, estrangement and mortality. And this is offensive. The sharp battles of the early church about who Christ was, turned so often on whether indeed God was in Christ, whether the scandal of incarnation, of the 'enfleshing' of God could be endured. Yet only this earthing, this scandalous 'enfleshing' can meet our need. It is one of the points at issue between Christians and Muslims, this God 'contracted to a span, incomprehensibly made man.' We learn what and who God is, the Lord and creator of all, as we trace his life and presence in the fragility of a single human life. This 'scandal of particularity' is both an awesome mystery and that which touches as nothing else can the very heart of our human life and being.

R. S. Thomas, the curmudgeonly poet-priest from Wales, wrestled with the mystery of the absence and the presence of God. He wrote in an essay on 'The Qualities of Christmas' that 'a sense of coldness and crispness... has become the conventional environment of an English Christmas... The very word Christ has that thin, crisp sound so suggestive of frost and snow and the small sheets of ice that crack and splinter under our feet, even as the Host is broken in the priest's fingers.' In a poem he speaks of people stumbling through the snow 'to the bread's purer snow' and in the simple act of taking the broken bread and the cup of wine hearing 'love cry momentarily in their hearts' manger.' The love that came down into the muck and

(Continued on page 5)

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at midnight – a mystical idea in no way hindered by historical evidence! No one knows the hour of his birth. Certainly, in recent times, Holy Communion at midnight on Christmas morning has proved popular with modern families.

December 26 St Stephen' Day (died c 35 AD)

Stephen was one of the first seven deacons of the Christian Church. The apostles had appointed him to look after the distribution of alms to the faithful poor, and to help in the ministry of preaching. Acts 6 and 7 tells us all that we know of his life, and the passages seem to suggest that he was an educated Hellenistic Jew. Certainly, Stephen's famous challenge to the Jews reveals him to have knowledge of the Scriptures and the history of Judaism, besides being eloquent and forceful. Stephen's proclamation on the day of his martyrdom pulled no punches. He challenged his hearers for their resistance of the Spirit and for killing the Christ. Just as their fathers before them had killed the prophets. This so outraged the Jews that they stoned Stephen on the spot for blasphemy.

As he died, Stephen saw a vision of Christ on God's right hand. The men who were witness to the stoning placed their clothes at the feet of Saul (afterwards Paul), who (to his deep regret later) consented to Stephen's death.

1 January - The naming of Jesus

Both Matthew and Luke tell the story of how the angel instructed Mary to name her baby Jesus - a common name meaning 'saviour'. The Church recalls the naming of Jesus on the First of January - eight days after 25 December (by the Jewish way of reckoning days). It is a Jewish tradition to circumcise and name male babies on their eighth day of life.

6 January - Epiphany

On 6 January, we celebrate Epiphany - the visit of the wise men to the baby Jesus. Who were these wise men? Matthew calls them 'Magi', the name of an ancient caste of priests from Persia. It was only in the third century that they were they called kings - by a church father, Tertullian. Another church father, Origin, assumed there were three - to correspond with the gifts given. Later Christian interpretation came to understand gold as a symbol of wisdom and wealth, incense as a symbol of worship and sacrifice, and myrrh as a symbol of healing. Since the eighth century, the magi have had the names Balthasar, Caspar and Melchior.



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unlicensed dogs, a patrolman signalled a car to pull over to the curb. When the driver asked why he had been stopped, the officer pointed to the big dog sitting on the seat beside him and asked, "Does your dog have a license?" "No," the man said, "He doesn't need one." "Yes, he does," answered the officer. "But," said the driver, "I always do all the driving."

50th Wedding Anniversary

At my grandparent's 50th wedding anniversary, I was looking through a photo album of their marriage ceremony. "Grandma, so many of these styles have come back over the years," I commented. Grandma never hesitated. "That's why I've kept Grandpa all this time," she said. "I know he'll be back in style again one of these days."

Five Minutes

A hospital posted a notice in the nurse's lounge saying: "Remember, the first five minutes of a human being's life are the most dangerous." Underneath, a nurse had written: "The last five are pretty risky, too."



High Days & Holy Days

Cherokee Language

A Cherokee Indian was a special guest at an elementary school. He talked to the children about his tribe and its traditions, then shared with them this fun fact: "There are no swear words in the Cherokee language."

One boy raised his hand, "But what if you're hammering a nail and accidentally smash your thumb?"

"That," the man answered, "is when we use your language."

Doctor's Visit

A gentleman was having some physical problems and his doctor told him that he had to drink warm water one hour before breakfast. At the end of a week he returned and the doctor asked if he was feeling better. The man said that he actually felt worse.

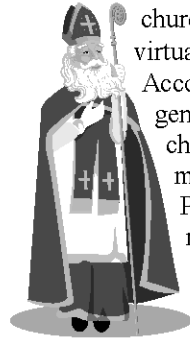
"Did you drink warm water an hour before breakfast each day?"

"No," replied the man, "All I could manage was about 15 minutes!"

Dog License

During a nationwide drive to round up all

(Continued on page 13)



December 6 St Nicholas
Since the 6th century in both Eastern and Western branches of Christianity, the church has venerated St Nicholas, although we know virtually nothing of his life.

According to legend, Nicholas was an extremely generous man. Over the centuries many, including children, sailors, unmarried girls, pawnbrokers and moneylenders have claimed him as their patron. Perhaps because of St Nicholas' generosity, in recent centuries children began to write little notes before 6 December, telling him about the toys they specially wanted. They left their notes on the windowsill at night - or else on a ledge in the

chimney.

However, St Nicholas Day chanced to lie in the magnetic field of a much more potent festival and after awhile his activities moved towards Christmas. Bavarian children still left their notes on the windowsill, but they addressed them to Liebes Christkind - Krishkinkle, as they knew him - and the saint's part in the matter was simply to deliver the letters in heaven. The most popular result of the cult of St Nicholas has been the institution of Santa Claus. Based on Nicholas' patronage of children and the custom in the Low Countries of giving presents on his feast, Santa Claus reached his zenith in America. There the Dutch Protestants of New Amsterdam (New York) united to it Nordic folklore legends of a magician who both punished naughty children and rewarded good ones with presents.

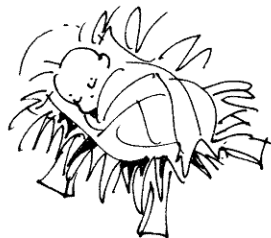
December 22 Winter Solstice

A Midwinter festival has been a part of life since pre-Christian times. When the hours of daylight are the fewest and the warmth of the sun weakest, life itself seemed at a standstill, the pagan peoples of Europe and Western Asia lit bonfires and decorated their buildings with evergreens. Perhaps they believed that the dying sun could be enheartened by fire, and the life of the buried seed assured by the presence of evergreen branches.

December 25 Christmas Day

Why does it begin at midnight with Holy Communion? The hour was first chosen at Rome in the fifth century to symbolise the idea that Christ was born

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(Continued from page 4)

straw and smell of the animal house at Bethlehem, is a love that comes down to us over and over again in the sacrament of the Eucharist, in which, as John Betjeman knew, 'God was man in Palestine, and lives today in bread and wine.'

It goes without saying that the religion of the incarnation is a religion to be lived. We are to embody and live out the new and transforming life of Christ in us, which St Paul calls 'the hope of glory'. Through us, through the church, the religion of the incarnation is to shape and touch the lives of others and the life of the world in all its mire and clay. As Christmas comes once more we come in awe and wonder to the mystery of Emmanuel, 'God with us,' to be caught into the pattern of his redeeming love. If at times, as Thomas wrote in another poem, it can be difficult to detect and hold on to the meaning, the mystery is still there and can still speak to and move our hearts to find a dazzling glory.

*Christmas; the themes are exhausted,
Yet there is always room
on the heart for another
Snowflake to redeem the pattern.*

*Love knocks with such frosted fingers,
I look out. In the shadow
of so vast a God I shiver, unable
to detect the child for the whiteness.*

With every blessing to you all this Christmas and for the New Year, 2008.

+GEOFFREY GIBRALTAR



Four-Letter Surgery

Jerry is recovering from day surgery when a nurse asks him how he is feeling.

"I'm ok but I didn't like the four-letter-word the doctor used in surgery," he answered.

"What did he say," asked the nurse.

"OOPS!"

Friendly Argument

During a friendly argument, my husband asked me why I married him in the first place. "I was just stupid," I teased. When he said he was happy to hear that, I requested an explanation. "People get divorced all the time because they fall out of love," he said.

"But I've never heard of anybody falling out of stupid."

Plane Reservations

Recently, I called to make reservations on a small charter plane that departs from our equally small airport.

I knew that I would be flying in a very small plane, so I was not surprised when the clerk said, "The plane is very full with baggage and passengers."

Then she asked, "How much do you weigh, sir?" Not thinking clearly I answered, "With or without clothes?"

"Well," said the clerk, "how do you intend to travel?"

David Rowlands

1939 - 2007

David Rowlands was born in the Devonshire county town of Exeter in 1939. At an early age, he showed an interest in music. He went on to study at the Royal College of Music in London. Later on, he became musical director of the Royal Shakespeare Company. David moved to The Netherlands in 1974 with his wife Anny and young son Daniel. Benjamin was born while the family lived at 'het Stift' (Weerselo). Later they moved to Oldenzaal.

In the early 1980s, David established the composition department at the Conservatorium in Enschede. His teaching attracted students from many countries. He was well known in the area for the music history courses he provided in evening and weekend classes to a diverse audience of music lovers.

The extensive catalogue of his compositions included music in nearly every genre. The range covered orchestral music through to chamber music, including electronic music, vocal music and theatre music. Of course, much of the music was for David's instrument, the piano. In recent years, he wrote music for ensembles in Salzburg, Weimar and Amsterdam. He had also regularly played the organ at St. Mary's, Weldam.

On the 5th November 2007, David died peacefully in the presence of his family. His many friends at St Mary's mourn David's passing and offer their deepest sympathy to Anny, Daniel and Benjamin.



I wish you enough

I recently overheard a mother and daughter in their last moments together at the airport. The departure announcement had been made. Standing near the security gate, they hugged and the mother said, 'I love you and I wish you enough'. The daughter replied, 'Mom, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all I ever needed. I wish you enough, too, Mom'. They kissed and the daughter left. The mother walked over to where I was sat by the window. As she stood there, I could see she wanted and needed to cry. I tried not to intrude on her privacy but she welcomed me in by asking,

'Did you ever say good-bye to someone knowing it would be forever?' 'Yes, I have,' I replied. 'Forgive me for asking, but why is this good-bye forever?'

'I am old and she lives so far away. I have challenges ahead and the reality is - the next trip back will be for my funeral,' she said.

'When you were saying good-bye, I heard you say, 'I wish you enough'. May I ask what that means?'

She began to smile. 'That's a wish that has been handed down from other generations. My parents used to say it to everyone'. She paused a moment and looked up as if trying to remember it in detail and she smiled even more. 'When we said, 'I wish you enough', we wanted the other person to have a life filled with just enough good things to sustain them'. Then turning toward me, she shared the following as if she were reciting it from memory.

I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright no matter how gray the day may appear.

I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun even more.

I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive and everlasting.

I wish you enough pain so that even the smallest of joys in life may appear bigger.

I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting.

I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess.

I wish you enough hellos to get you through the final good-bye.

Then, crying softly to herself, she walked away.

They say it takes a minute to find a special person, an hour to appreciate them, a day to love them but then an entire life to forget them. Take time out to live...

Tell all your friends and loved ones,

'I wish you enough'

Contributed by D. Wheldon

The Four Stages of Life

- 1) You believe in Santa Claus.
- 2) You don't believe in Santa Claus.
- 3) You are Santa Claus.
- 4) You look like Santa Claus.



Great Truths about Growing Old

- 1) Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional.
- 2) Forget the health food. I need all the preservatives I can get.
- 3) When you fall down, you wonder what else you can do while you're down there.
- 4) You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster.
- 5) It's frustrating when you know all the answers but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.
- 6) Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.
- 7) Wisdom comes with age, but sometimes age comes alone.

Contributed by M. Schouten

20th January	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
	Intercessor	t.b.a.
Second Sunday of Epiphany	First Reading t.b.a.	Isaiah 49:1-7
	Second Reading t.b.a.	1 Corinthians 1:1-9
10:30am Sung Eucharist	Gospel	John 1:29-42

2nd December	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
	Intercessor	Young people?
First Sunday of Advent	First Reading Young people	Isaiah 2:1-5
	Second Reading Young people	Romans 13:11-14
10:30 am All Age Eucharist	Gospel	Matthew 24:36-44

27th January	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
	Intercessor	t.b.a.
Third Sunday of Epiphany	First Reading t.b.a.	Isaiah 9:1-4;
	Second Reading t.b.a.	1 Corinthians 1:10-18
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	Gospel	Matthew 4:12-23

9th December	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
	Intercessor	Caroline Siertsema
Second Sunday of Advent	First Reading Nettie van Sisseren	Isaiah 11:1-10
	Second Reading Simone Yallop	Romans 15:4-13
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	Gospel	Matthew 3:1-12

3rd February	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
	Intercessor	t.b.a.
The Presentation of Christ (Candlemas)	First Reading t.b.a.	Malachi 3:1-5
	Second Reading t.b.a.	Hebrews 2:14-18
10:30am Sung Eucharist	Gospel	Luke 2:22-40

16th December	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
	Intercessor	The Chaplain
Third Sunday of Advent	Selected readings by various members of the congregation in between a selection of traditional, and maybe, not so traditional Christmas Carols.	
	10:30 am Service of Nine Lessons and Carols	

23rd December	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
	Intercessor	Nettie van Sisseren
Fourth Sunday of Advent	First Reading Louw Talstra	Isaiah 7:10-16
	Second Reading Pauline Talstra	Romans 1:1-7
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	Gospel	Matthew 1:18-25

30th December	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
	Intercessor	Joy Romeijn
First Sunday of Christmas	First Reading Linda ten Berge	Isaiah 63:7-9
	Second Reading Abby van Spronsen	Hebrews 2:10-18
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	Gospel	Matthew 2:13-23

24th December	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
	Intercessor	Pauline Talstra
Christmas Eve/ Night	First Reading Joy Romeijn	Isaiah 52:7-10
	Second Reading Arthur Cass	Hebrews 1:1-4
11:00 pm (23:00) Sung Eucharist	Gospel	John 1:1-14

6th January	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
	Intercessor	t.b.a.
Epiphany	First Reading t.b.a.	Isaiah 60:1-6
	Second Reading t.b.a.	Ephesians 3:1-12
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	Gospel	Matthew 2:1-12

25th December	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
Christmas Day Service at Middachten Castle	Nativity readings to be announced	
10:15 am Sung Eucharist		

13th January	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
	Intercessor	t.b.a.
First Sunday of Epiphany	First Reading t.b.a.	Isaiah 42:1-9
	Second Reading t.b.a.	Acts 10:34-43
10:30 am Baptism and Sung Eucharist	Gospel	Matthew 3:13-17