Poetry and Prose

What Psalm 23 is really all about

The Lord is my Shepherd ---That's relationship! I shall not want --- That's Supply! He maketh me to lie down in green pastures --- That's Rest! He leadeth me beside still waters --- That's Refreshment! He restoreth my soul ---That's Healing! He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness --- That's Guidance! For his name sake --- That's Purpose! Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death --- That's Testing! I will fear no evil --- That's Protection! For thou art with me --- That's Faithfulness! Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me --- That's Discipline! Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies --- That's Hope! Thou anointest my head with oil --- That's Consecration! My cup runneth over ---That's Abundance! Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life --- That's Blessing! And I will dwell in the house of the Lord --- That's Security! Forever --- That's Eternity!

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Lenten Fast

Once again that time is here, Time for introspective thought. Time to dwell on sin in fear, And forgiveness that is sought.

Naughty days and naughty nights, Things we ought not, yet have done. Things we've said, illegal rites, Those good works we've ne'er begun.

Modern times deny the lash, And the sackcloth rough side in. We'll make do with holy ash, To remind us of our sin.

Try to find a horsehair shirt, Or a prickly sisal vest. Rough weave fabric in a skirt? You will fail in this your quest.

So, exhorts the Church on high, You must give up pleasures dear. Shun all longings with a sigh. Daily life should be austere.

Chocolate, gin or puddings sweet, Sugar in our morning tea. Snacks and tit-bits, every treat. Turn our backs on luxury.

When we reach our Easter feast,
Honed in prayer, O this we beg!
Then we can with Lent now ceased,
Stuff our face with chocolate egg!
Written by Anonymous



The Chaplain writes

Early Spring?

It is quite possible the above title will be invalidated by a sudden snowstorm,

but the weather analysts and climate scientists think it unlikely. But what is indisputable is that Easter comes early this year – March 23rd, almost the earliest possible date. Easter falls on the first Sunday after the full moon on or following the vernal equinox (around March 21st), so in 2008 it is early, regardless of what the weather will have to say about it. That also means I am already required to write about Lent, which we usually associate with Spring (Lent having a root related to the Dutch word for Spring). This year Lent will be almost entirely in winter.

But if Easter is about new life, then Lent is about preparing the ground for it, much like some farmers do in the midwinter months. It may well be a time to turn over the soil and root out some old, persistent weeds. But it is also a time to plant the new and promising seed that will later bear fruit. Seen that way, Lent is not negative (about renouncing this or that), but positive, about thinking and praying through and doing the things that will lead to flourishing.

This year, as well as offering a Lent course, on Rowan William's book Christ on Trial: How the Gospel unsettles our Judgement (see details elsewhere in this magazine), I thought it would be good if we tried a little, but positive experiment for Lent. Last year, the Church of England's Diocese of Birmingham tried out a little booklet with 50 small actions, one a day, which each church member could try, during the season of Lent. Some of the tasks were things like, 'Say thank you to a schoolteacher', or 'run an errand on a bicycle rather than in your car' (something we accustomed to on this side of the Channel!). Something like 180,000 people took up the little challenge last year, and it seemingly made a significant difference in how people lived and thought during Lent. This year they've produced another little booklet, entitled Love Life, Live Lent 2: Be Good Neighbours. It's based on the theology of the Good Samaritan parable, and suggests practicable little things each of us can try out each day of Lent to live for God and our neighbour. They are simple, fun, and, when you think about them, meaningful. The back cover of the booklet says, 'Warning: these actions could seriously affect you and the world you live in.' All I can say is – Great! We'll be making the booklets available at services (one per household please). Take them away and use them, and have a happy Lent. Really!!

Yours in Christ, Sam Van Leer



Singing Day – 23rd February 2008

We are planning to organise a singing day for 23rd February for the Chaplaincies of Twente and Arnhem and Nijmegen.

We will start at 11 a.m. and continue until 3 p.m. Mr Victor Pirenne, who has experience teaching music and directing choral groups, has graciously offered to lead us.

What is true love?

Here are the answers that a group of four to eight year olds gave....

"When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails any more. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love."

Rebecca- age 8

"When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth."

Billy - age 4

"Love is when a girl puts on perfirme and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other."

Karl-age 5

"If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate."

Nikka - age 6

"Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well."

Tommy - age 6

The following would apply:

- 1. Everyone is welcome;
- 2. You should be able to sing melodies and stay reasonably in tune;
- 3. As we would like to combine the three churches within our chaplaincies for this singing day we would also like aim to sing in all three churches at some point during the year for, for instance, a choral evensong.
- Our aim would be to include voice training, explanation of music where necessary and a varied programme of music;
- 5. When you register your interest, please include whether you sing soprano, alto, tenor or bass.
- 6. Bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee provided.
- 7. The venue is: Oude Borculoseweg 7 in Markelo.

If you have any questions about any of the above please speak to Nettie van Sisseren (tel 055 3559995)

Christ on Trial Lent Book & Course

Synopsis of the Book:

A Powerful and moving Message. The trial, conviction and death of an innocent man 2000 years ago has particular resonance today. Atrocities from around the world shake us every week. And we ourselves also experience trials and challenges in our own lives. Bringing the gospel accounts vividly to life, Archbishop Rowan Williams looks at how the trial of Christ profoundly challenges both what we believe and how we live. Drawing not only from the Bible, but also from contemporary fiction, film and theatre, he explores the ways society continues to put Christ on trial today. In fact, all Christians stand with him before a watching world. How we respond to this challenge is the focus of Christ on Trial. It increases our confidence in the faith we have received, and invites

(Continued on page 3)



LENT

Lent, before Easter, is like Advent before Christmas, a time of preparation. Lent is when we remember that Jesus prepared himself for starting his ministry by going away by himself for 40 days of fasting and prayer. You can read about it in your Bible: Matthew, chapter 4, verses 1-11; Mark, chapter 1, verses 12-13 and Luke, chapter 4, verses 1-13.

Jesus went into the wilderness, a quiet lonely place away from people where he could think things out. He knew that his work would be hard, that many people would not listen to him, or if they listened, they would not believe him. During these 40 days Jesus made his choice: to work in God's way however hard that might be.

This year Lent starts on 6th February and goes three quarters of March: have you thought about how YOU are going to prepare yourself to follow Jesus this Lent?



SPRING COLOURS

The missing words in this puzzle are all colours which are mentioned with these things in the Bible.

- 1. Pastures, herbs and olives are all ____.
- 2. A sea, tents and wine are $_$
- Hangings in the Temple, pomegranates and doors of tents were all ____.
- 4. A horse, robes and teeth were all ____.
- Kings' raiment (clothing), Jesus' robe and the dye that Lydia sold were all
- One of the gifts to the baby Jesus, candlesticks and spoons were _ _ _ _.
- 7. A raven, clouds and chariot horses were _ _ _ _.
- Lips, a thread tied to a window and robes are _ _ _

Answers at the bottom of this page.

What do you do with a green monster?

Wait till he's ripe.

S.scarlet

8.scarlet

Answers: 1.green 2.red 3.blue 4.white 5.purple 6.gold 7.black

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Social News

An old, tired-looking dog

garden. I could tell from

his collar and well-fed

belly that he had a home.

He followed me into the

house, down the hall, and

fell asleep in a comer. An hour later, he went to the

door, and I let him out.

position in the hall, and

slept for an hour. This

continued for several

to his collar: "Every

afternoon your dog

Curious, I pinned a note

comes to my house for a

The next day he arrived with a different note

pinned to his collar:"He

lives in a home with ten children -- he's trying to

catch up on his sleep.

Can I come with him

Contributed by Colin. Lee

tomorrow?"

weeks.

nap."

The next day he was

back, resumed his

wandered into the

Dog

Six Thursday evenings, starting February 7, 7:45 pm at the home of Sjoerd and Erica Bonting,

[♣] Specreyse 12, Goor

One chapter each evening. Summary with discussion points will be made available

Wanted

Room/Space for Painting Group - "Seek and you shall find" or "Ask and you shall be given" - something like that!

I am looking for a space or some kind of room/atelier/whatever so that a small group of us artists can get together to support and encourage each other in our ARTISTIC pursuits. Ideally, the space would be in the Apeldoorn or surrounding area. If you know of something or somebody that might be a contact. I would be very grateful for the idea or information. Please contact Pauline Talstra Tel: 055 366 7057 email: ltalstra@xs4all.nl

Musical Vespers

10 February 2008 at 7.30pm in the Dorpskerk of Rheden. The Anglican Singers from Amsterdam and the Choir of the Anglican Church of St. Anna & Mary from Haarlem will sing a Choral Evensong in the Anglicans tradition.

Further Information: www.muzikalevesperrheden.nl

Anniversarv

Agnes and Colin Lee are hoping to celebrate their 55th wedding 10 th February to mark the occasion.

Birthday

her birthday on the 6 February. Due to health problems Joyce no longer attends. We pray for her and wish her a happy birthday.

would like to share with your friends at St Mary's Chapel, please feel free to use this page.



anniversary on the 7th February. They would like to invite everyone for a 'drankje en hapje' in the coffee hut after the service on Sunday



Happy Birthday to Anja van der Neut, who celebrates her birthday on the 3 February.

Joyce Chesmond, the founding editor of our church magazine, has

Note: Please remember, if there is any event that you Page: 10 Contact information is on the back cover.

us to discover 'what we are and what we might be in God's sight'.

The plan is for the discussion group to meet at the home of Mrs Anja van de Neut, Stationslaan 26, in Goor (just opposite the station). The meetings will take place on Wednesdays, 13, 20, & 27 February (and continue for one or two further sessions in March, dates to be determined). There will also probably be other groups discussing the book, possibly in Apeldoorn, Goor (evenings) and Rijssen. Please contact me for further details on getting the book and joining a group. The Revd Sam Van Leer 026 495 0620.

Sam. Van. Leer@hetnet.nl

Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll is our congregation's register of electors; it is the list of those qualified to attend and to vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Also, all those elected to serve on the church council must have had their names on the Electoral Roll for at least six months before joining council The Electoral Roll is updated each year and has to be completed and published two weeks before the AGM. This year our AGM has been scheduled to take place on Sunday 6 April 2008. This means that we have until 23 March to add any new names to the Electoral Roll. Currently there are 47 names on the Electoral Roll. There are still many church members who do not vet have their names on the Electoral Roll. If anyone wishes to have their name added to the Electoral Roll please contact the Electoral Roll Officer (Simone Yallop) who will provide you with an application form. Please make sure that the completed forms are provided to the Electoral Roll Officer before 23 March 2008.



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.

"I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones."

Lauren - age 4

"When you love somebody, your evelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you."

Karen - age 7

"You shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget."

Jessica - age 8

Irish Shopping

McOuillan walked into a bar and ordered martini after martini, each time removing the olives and placing them in a jar. When the jar was filled with olives and all the drinks consumed, the Irishman started to leave. "S' cuse me." said a customer, who was puzzled over what McQuillan had done, "What was that all about?" "Nothin', said the Irishman, "My wife just sent me out for a jar of olives!"

The Garden

'The melancholy of the garden in winter can stimulate the soul as much as the exuberance of

summer' From Ian Hodgson, the Garden 1999.



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Love in a bag

I asked my nephew whether he bought his wife anything for Valentine's Day. "Yes", he said, "I bought her a belt and a bag."

"That was nice of you", I replied, "I hope she appreciated the thought." He said, "So do I, and hopefully the vacuum cleaner will work better now."

Ticket to ride

A former bishop of Exeter was renowned for his bad memory. On one occasion he was travelling by train to a certain part of his diocese. Before he reached his destination the ticket collector appeared demanding to see all tickets. The bishop groped his way through this pocket and that. inside his purple cassock and out, but no ticket could be found. Finally the ticket. collector lost patience and said; Tha's o'right bishop. We all know you's an hamest man. It don't matter. 'Oh indeed it does!' replied the bishop. Without that ticket I shan't know where to get off this train!'

10 miscellaneous observations on daily life

If you had to identify, in one word, the reason why the human race has not achieved, and never will

How to survive a parish retreat

The Rectory, St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

We have just returned from our annual parish three day retreat at St. Epiphanius' Priory - although the chickpea soup lunches and kidney bean casserole dinners ensured it was a far from silent retreat. We had the usual attendees. The husbands who see it as an opportunity to stop their wives talking, however briefly. The wives who see it as an opportunity to keep their husbands temporarily from the nineteenth hole at the golf club. And of course, those who want to see if it could be a suitable community to persuade an inconvenient relative to join.

It can come as a shock for first-timers; the ladies are appalled to discover that there is neither coffee shop nor hairdressers and the men that there is no bar or billiards table. The resident community frowned on the four male members discovered silently pushing a car down the drive late one evening before starting it at the main gates as they escaped to the nearest pub. Those of us who are older hands know to bring our own supplies - carefully wrapped, so the clinking of bottles is not too obvious as one ascends the main staircase. The near universal retreat to bedrooms before lunch and dinner is less an opportunity for quiet reflection and more one for a restorative sherry.

The more experienced also know that temperatures in the house make Siberia appear tropical. All the movement and hand waving during Services is less charismatic enthusiasm and more an attempt to preserve blood flow to the extremities. The series of addresses given by an aged member of the community are most useful for planning the weekend shopping list. That some of our party fell asleep during the addresses was excusable; that the person giving them also occasionally did so, was not.

During one stroll round the gardens, I noticed clouds of smoke coming from behind the hedges near the chapel. My hope that it was parishioners experimenting with incense to be used in church on our return was soon crushed when I found it was a group of hardened parishioners topping up their nicotine levels. Seeing them nervously huddled in the shrubbery made one think of schools and bike sheds. I now find it difficult not to picture them all in short

(Continued on page 5)

An English Christmas

Yesterday we had our "Service of Nine Lessons and Carols", a religious service with nine bible readings interspersed with the singing of Carols and hymns. This form of Christmas service arose at the end of the 19th century. For us in the Anglican Church Twente, it is still in the original form, namely a religious service. These days you often read that choirs have organized the event so it becomes more like a concert. Naturally, it is still beautiful but the music tends to becomes more important then the readings. I prefer the religious form.

After the service, we had our mini-Christmas market, as well as serving coffee and tea. To many churchgoers it may seem strange having a market on a Sunday. But we run the market for all who visit the church. After all, as most of the congregation members live within a 50 km radius of Goor, it is only possible to hold most of our special events on a Sunday.

On the Christmas market, there were various items for sale, such as jams, chutneys, and lemon curds. There were also English Christmas mince pies and cakes, patchwork and mini-quilts and various other small items. Naturally, we did not sell everything, so the stalls were set up again the following Sunday, and again on Christmas Eve, where after the Midnight Service we served hot Glühwein to all who wanted it.



Contributed by Theda Gord ten Barge Translated by B. Charles

Church Symbols

Ancient churches are fascinating, but modern ones can pack a lot of meaning into the design and symbols they use. Whatever the age of the church you visit, look out for a Crucifix, a cross bearing a painted or sculptured image of Christ. First appeared in the 5th century, and from the 9th century on medieval artists increasingly aimed at a realistic portrayal of Christ's suffering. During the Reformation, Protestants generally rejected the use of religious imagery; and so they reverted back to the 'cross'. This is one way you can quickly see the worship-style of the church you are visiting. The Crucifix clearly shows Christ's humanity and the suffering and the length that God will go to for each of us, whilst the Cross show that Jesus is not there, he is not dead, but has been raised to new life. Perhaps you have other thoughts as you contemplate one or both of them?

return to the refrigerator with hopes that something new to eat will have materialized?

Why do people keep running over a string a dozen times with their vacuum cleaner, then reach down, pick it up, examine it, then put it down to give the vacuum one more chance? Why is it that no plastic bag will open from the end on your first try?

How do those dead bugs get into those enclosed light fixtures?

When we are in the supermarket and someone rams our ankle with a shopping cart then apologizes for doing so, why do we say, "It's all right?" - Well, it isn't all right, so why don't we say, "That hurt, you stupid idiot?"

Why is it that whenever you attempt to catch something that's falling off the table you always manage to knock something else over?

In winter why do we try to keep the house as warm as it was in summer when we complained about the heat?

How come you never hear father-in-law jokes?

And my FAVORITE...The

And my FAVORITE...The statistics on sanity are that one out of every four persons is suffering from some sort of mental illness. Think of your three best friends — if they're okay, then it's you!!

Contributed by M Schouten

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Why?

Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are going dead?

Why do banks charge a fee on "insufficient funds" when they know there is not enough money?

Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet?

Why doesn't glue stick to the bottle?

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?

Why did Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?

Whose idea was it to put an "S" in the word "lisp"? If people evolved from apes, why are there still apes?

Why is it that no matter what colour bubble bath you use the bubbles are always white?

Why do people constantly

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. But why 'Ash' Wednesday? The reason has to do with getting things right between you and God, and the tradition goes right back to the Old Testament.

In the Old Testament, the Israelites often sinned. When they finally came to their senses, and saw

their evil ways as God saw them, they could do nothing but repent in sorrow. They mourned for the damage and evil they had done. As part of this repentance, they covered their heads with ashes. For the Israelites, putting ashes on your head, and even rending your clothes, was an outward sign of their heart-felt repentance and acknowledgement of sin. (See Genesis 18:27; 2 Samuel 13:19; Job 2:8, 30:19; Isaiah 58:5; Jeremiah 6:26; Jonah 3:6)

In the very early Christian Church, the yearly 'class' of penitents had ashes sprinkled over them at the beginning of Lent. They were turning to God for the first time, and mourning their sins. But soon many other Christians wanted to take part in the custom, and to do so at the very start of Lent. They heeded Joel's call to 'rend your hearts and not your garments' (Joel 2:12-19). Ash Wednesday became known as either the 'beginning of the fast' or 'the day of the ashes'.

The collect for today goes back to the Prayer Book, and stresses the penitential character of the day. It encourages us with the reminder of the readiness of God to forgive us and to renew us.

The Bible readings for today are often Joel 2:1-2, 12, 18, Matthew

The Bible readings for today are often Joel 2:1-2, 12 - 18, Matthew 6: 1-6,16 - 21 and Paul's moving catalogue of suffering, "as having nothing and yet possessing everything." (2 Corinthians 5:20b - 6:10)

The actual custom of 'ashing' was abolished at the Reformation, though the old name for the day remained.

Today, throughout the Church of England, receiving the mark of ashes on one's forehead is optional. Certainly the mark of ashes on the forehead reminds people of their mortality: "Remember that you are dust and to dust you will return..." (Genesis 3:19)

The late medieval custom was to burn the branches used on Palm Sunday in the previous year in order to create the ashes for today.



(Continued from page 4)

trousers and wearing caps.

And so we return, knowing that we have done our bit once again for the spiritual vigour of the parish and knowing that three days of vegetarian cooking will mean a long queue at the village butchers tomorrow morning.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

It's Leap Year! - 29 February 2008

This is a Leap Year - February has 29 days in it, bringing the total days for 2008 to 366.

Leap years happen every four years, but this one is more unusual: this February has five Fridays in it. The last time a February had five Fridays was in 1980 and next time will be in 2036.



Henry is making a real effort for Lent – he's giving up the remote control and walking to the TV

So - which years are leap years? In the Gregorian calendar, used by most modern countries, the following rules decide which years are leap years:

- Every year divisible by 4 is a leap year.
- But every year divisible by 100 is NOT a leap year
- Unless the year is also divisible by 400, then it is still a leap year. This means that year 1800, 1900, 2100, 2200, 2300 and 2500 are NOT leap years, while 2000 and 2400 ARE leap years. (Not that any of us will be around in 2400 to care.)

Leap years keep the calendar in alignment with the earth's motion around the sun. If we used a calendar with only ever 365 days, we'd end up 0.2422 days wrong a year - that's about six hours. Not much to begin with - but in 50 years we'd be 12 days ahead of the seasons. By adding a leap year, the calendar follows the seasons much more closely.

achieve, its full potential, that word would be 'meetings'.

There is a very fine line between 'hobby' and 'mental illness'

You should not confuse your career with your life.

No matter what happens, somebody will find a way to take it too seriously.

When trouble arises and things look bad, there is always one individual who perceives a solution and is eager to take command. Very often, that individual is crazy.

Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.

The most powerful force in the universe is gossip.

The one thing that unites all human beings, regardless of age, gender, religion, economic status or ethnic background, is that, deep down inside, we ALL believe that we are above-average drivers.

The main accomplishment of almost all organized protests is to annoy people who are not in them.

A person who is nice to you, but rude to the waiter, is not a nice person. (This is very important. Pay attention. It never fails.)

3 rd February	Celebrant &	Revd. Sam Van Leer
Presentation of	Intercessor	Caroline Siertsema
Christ 'Candlemas'	First Reading Agnes Lee	Malachi 3:1-5
10:30	Second Reading Colin Lee	Hebrews 2:14-18
Sung Eucharist	Gospel	Luke 2:22-40

17 th February A thanksgiving for	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
Caroline and Hans Siertsema's 25 year	Intercessor	Joyce Wigboldus
marriage Second Sunday of	First Reading Vivian Reinders	Genesis 12:1-4a
Lent 10:30	Second Reading Hans Ribbens	Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
Sung Eucharist	Gospel	John 3:1-17

Forthcoming Services

Forthcoming Services

Forthcoming Services

6th February	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
Ash Wednesday	Intercessor	Chaplain
Asn wednesday	First Reading	Psalm 51:1-18
20:00 Eucharist	Second Reading T.B.A	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
	Gospel	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

24 th February	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
	Intercessor	Simone Yallop
Third Sunday of Lent	First Reading Ingeline Ribbens	Exodus 17:1-7
10:30	Second Reading Peter Ribbens	Romans 5:1-11
SungEucharist	Gospel	John 4:5-42

10st February	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Joop Albers
First Sunday of	Intercessor	Pauline Talstra
Lent	First Reading Victor Pirenne	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
10:30 Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Heleen Rauwerda	Romans 5:12-19
	Gospel	Matthew 4:1-11

4 th March	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
	Intercessor	Philippa te West
Mothering Sunday	First Reading Joy Romeijn	1 Samuel 1:20-28
10:30 Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Marykay Schouten	Colossians 3:12-17
	Gospel	Luke 2:33-35

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