

## Poetry and Prose

### Easter Night

All night had shout of men  
and cry

Of woeful women filled  
his way;

Until that noon of sombre  
sky

On Friday, clamour  
and display

Smote him; no solitude had  
he,

No silence, since  
Gethsemane.

Public was Death; but  
Power, but Might,

But Life again, but  
Victory,

Were hushed within the dead  
of night,

The shuttered dark, the  
secrecy.

And all alone, alone, alone,  
He rose again behind the  
stone.

Alice Meynell (1847-1922)



### The Women

(Lk23:49- 24:11)

Mary of Magdala,

Joanna

And Mary, the mother of James,

Watched it all.

*They watched the crucifixion of Jesus.*

*They had followed him,*

*Galilean hopefulness suspended*

*As they stood with his friends*

*At a distance,*

*And watched it all.*

*But they didn't give up,*

*These women.*

*They followed when Joseph*

*Laid their Lord in his tomb, cut in rock.*

*They took note.*

*They watched and they wondered,*

*Before leaving to rest,*

*Returning early on the first day*

*Of the week that re-launched the world.*

*Mary of Magdala,*

*Joanna*

*And Mary, the mother of James,*

*Were there.*

*Surprised by the stone,*

*Dazzled by angels,*

*Terrified by enormity,*

*Re-born by the reality of resurrection,*

*They were first in the telling.*

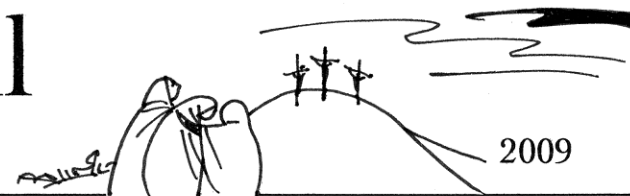
*The women of witness*

*Watched and then went,*

*And were part of it all.*

*Daphne Kitching*

# April



2009

## The Bishop's Easter Message 2009

Is Easter a noun or a verb? Most of us would, I suspect, say it is a noun. We might also, if we were interested in the origins of words, go on to say that our

English word 'Easter' comes from the name of a pagan goddess of spring, Eostre. The old Christian name for this festival was 'the Christian Passover', often called simply the Pasch, from the Hebrew word for the Jewish Passover Festival – hence that mysterious word 'Paschal' in older Easter hymns.

We are used to keeping Holy Week, starting on Palm Sunday and then moving through the great three days – Maundy Thursday, when we commemorate the Last Supper, the Institution of the Eucharist, and Jesus washing the feet of his disciples, the new commandment (mandatum in Latin which gives the day its name) to love one another, followed by Jesus' agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, and his betrayal by Judas; then on Good Friday, the starkest day in the Christian Year, we come to the foot of the Cross to contemplate the three hours of agonising dying, the mockery and the taunts, with the beloved disciple and Mary the Mother of Jesus and the other women at the foot of the Cross; and on Holy Saturday, Easter Eve, there is total nothingness, the life which 'was the light of men' blotted out, engulfed in the darkness of death; and so to the sunburst of the Resurrection on Easter Day.

Although the early Church marked these days and their happenings, in the earliest keeping of Easter it was seen as one great festival and commemoration – the Passover of the Lord. There were echoes of course of the origins of the Jewish Passover Festival in the deliverance of God's people from slavery in Egypt, but the Christian Passover was greater – it was God's deliverance of us all from the burden and chains of sin and death and the powers of evil. The ancient hymns sing of 'the glorious battle', God in Christ in our human nature engaging with all that imprisons us, and routing the spiritual powers of darkness that hold us captive. So on Easter Day we sing 'The fight is o-er, the battle done', and of the victorious Christ binding Satan and bringing to an end the tyranny of sin. He is victorious over death, and it is from the dead that he is raised. No one of the Gospels dares to describe Easter itself, the moment of resurrection, for this cannot be captured in the description of human words which belong to the old order. At Easter the new creation breaks through the old order of sin and death, and Christ – the same Christ – is raised to a new and transfigured life. He is recognised – but not immediately; the empty tomb points as a sign, and St John gives us the detail of the folded grave-clothes, for St John wants us to see that Jesus is not like Lazarus whom he had raised from the dead, and who then had to be unbound and set free. The resurrection of Jesus is new life itself, an eternal life which is shared with us as St John



## Ascension Day

The famous and much loved Ascension day picnic will be held on Thursday 21 May. It will be a "bring and share" event, and Ferdinand has promised to be present with a "Braai" (barbecue).

After the service we will break bread in sharing time and food with our Anglican and

Old Catholic friends from Arnhem, Nijmegen, Twente, Utrecht, Zwolle, and the Achterhoek. The Ascension picnic is a time to meet old friends, reflect on friends that have gone before and to make new friends.

In addition, the Ascension Day picnic will also be used as an opportunity to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Weldam Chaplaincy. A detailed program will be launched after the Easter morning service and a application form will be on the wall in the hut. All are welcome to join us for worship and joy

## Future Dates

- 3-5 April Palm Sunday Bishop Geoffrey's visit
- 12 April Easter Sunday
- 19 April AGM
- 21 May Ascension Day service and picnic
- 20 June (Arnhem) Archdeaconry Choral Festival
- 4 July (Arnhem) Ank Robinson's deaconing
- 12 September Castle Fair
- 19 September National Joint Anglican-Old Catholics pilgrimage in Egmond

## Council Meeting 31 March 2009

1. The Council agreed to incorporate celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the founding of the St Mary's chaplaincy with the Ascension Day picnic.
2. Arthur Cass presented the budget for 2009 for approval by the council before presenting it at the AGM for acceptance by those on the electoral roll.
3. The auditors report was likewise presented and reviewed.
4. Simone Yallop reported changes in the electoral roll. Since last years AGM two long standing members have sadly passed away, Mary Schouten and Colin Lee. Three members joined

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## EASTER JOY!

When you wake up on Easter Day it feels different – really full of joy - because we are celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus.

But on the first Easter morning the friends of Jesus were very sad when they woke up because they didn't know that Jesus had risen. They wouldn't believe Mary when she told them she had seen Jesus in the garden by the tomb. Thomas refused to believe unless he saw Jesus and could feel his wounds (that is why we still call someone a 'doubting Thomas'). But Jesus wasn't angry and he invited Thomas to see for himself the marks the nails had made. Why don't you read about the first Easter Day in each of the Gospels? The accounts are easy to find as they are at the end of each Gospel.

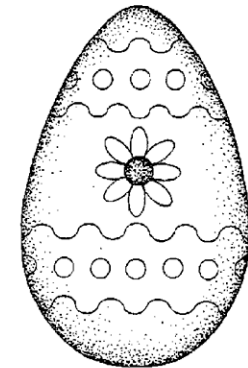
We can't see the actual marks like Thomas, but we can know the real truth, that Jesus is risen. Jesus told Thomas, and all of us. "Happy are they who never saw me and yet have found faith." So Easter Day must be the happiest day of the year!

## EASTER EGGS

Melt 6 oz plain Fairtrade chocolate in a bowl over a pan of hot water. You might need some help with this.

Take the bowl with the chocolate in it away from the hot water. Add 2 eggs yolks, 1 oz butter and 2 teaspoons single cream. Beat the mixture until it is thick then put it into the fridge to chill until it is firm enough to handle.

Shape the mixture into 12 eggs and roll them in chocolate strands.



And here is an Easter egg to colour in - you could trace the pattern off to make Easter cards if you want.



**What did the mother egg say to her baby on its first Easter?**  
Don't get over-eggcited.

## Protection

An article in the *National Geographic* several years ago provided a penetrating picture of God's wings.

After a forest fire in the Yellowstone National Park, forest rangers began their trek up the mountain to assess the inferno's damage. One ranger found a bird literally petrified in ashes, perched statuesquely on the ground at the base of the a tree. Somewhat sickened by the eerie sight, he knocked the bird over with a stick. When he struck it, three tiny chick scurried from under their mother's wings. The loving mother, keenly aware of impending disaster, had carried her offspring to the base of a tree and had gathered them under her wings, instinctively knowing that toxic smoke would rise. She could have flown to safety but had refused to abandon her babies. When the blaze had arrived and the heat had scorched her small body, the mother had remained steadfast. Because she had been willing to die, those under the cover of her wings would live.

"He will cover you with his feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge." *Psalms 91.4*

## Ria Veltrop

On Wednesday 1 April 2009, Ria Veltrop, a long-standing member of St Mary's Chaplaincy, passed away at the Trivium Centre, Twente. Ria had served the chaplaincy in a number of roles over the years including organizing the sideperson's rota and as an Arch Deaconry representative.

Over the last couple of years Ria had suffered from a number of medical problems. Many thanks to Janice, Simone, Maureen and others who have done so much to attend to Ria for quite some time, but especially in this difficult last half year especially.

Ria's funeral service will take place at 13:00 on Tuesday 7 April at the Crematorium in Enschede (actually Usselo). Please keep the family and friends in your prayers on the day and in the time to come.

## Calling all Artists

St. Mary's Art Exhibition will be held again at our annual Fair at Castle Weldam on 12th September. If you are an artist or a budding artist and would like to exhibit at this annual event then please contact Pauline Talstra – 055 366 7057.

## CASTLE FAIR – Saturday 12th September 2009

The Castle Fair Committee is busy with organizing another castle fair which has been scheduled for Saturday 12th September this year.

This event is as you all know a fund raising event, money going to the church and also to a selected charity. Apart from fund raising, the event is a great opportunity for members of the congregation to come together. We all pool our talents, time and energy making each year a success. The fair is an opportunity to have lots of fun, get to know each other better, express our creativity and feel good knowing we have done something worthwhile.

This year we are planning to have a BRAIN STORMING session with members of congregation. In the near future we will have a session after one of our Sunday services and we would welcome new ideas, comments and any suggestions.

We are advertising the fair this year as an ENGLISH FAIR. In the meantime if you would like to chat with any of the members of the CASTLE FAIR COMMITTEE please feel free to do so.

## Members :

Count Alfred Solms, Hans Siertsema, Joyce Wigboldus, Jeanet Luiten, Vivian Reinders, Pauline Talstra, Jonneke Adolfsen, Victor Pirenne

*Contributed by Pauline Talstra*

the electoral roll after the 2008 AGM. Two new members, Michael and Vivian Allan, have enrolled this year. The net result is that the electoral roll now stands at 61 members.

- At the AGM on the 19 April, there will be five seats on the council open for election and one seat for Arch Deaconry Representative. Both wardens have to stand for re-election.

## Would you like to join the PCC?

Almost every Church of England parish has a Parochial Church Council (PCC). Established early in the twentieth century, to give a voice to lay people in the running of their parishes, PCCs have the responsibility of co-operating with their parish priest in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC's powers and duties are defined by legislation, including the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 and the Synodical Government Measure 1969. A helpful publication, the Church Representation Rules (Church House Publishing, ISBN 0 7151 1012 8), gives excellent advice on the law relating to PCCs - each parish should have a copy.

As well as the general responsibility for the chaplaincy, PCCs are responsible for managing the church's money and deciding how it is to be spent. PCCs appoint a secretary, to convene meetings and keep the minutes. The PCC also appoints a treasurer.

The PCC must meet at least four times each year. In small chaplaincies, the PCC may make all the decisions about the church at its meetings. But even small chaplaincies, (like St Mary's) find that they run their affairs better with the use of committees - dealing with matters such as the Castle Fair.

Members of the PCC include the clergy, churchwardens, the parish's representatives on the Deanery Synod and the elected representatives of the laity. Members must be on the parish's electoral roll, be over 16 and must not be disqualified from being charity trustees under the terms of the Charities Act 1993. If the parish is fortunate enough to have a Reader, he or she will usually be a member of the PCC.



## 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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cried : "Oh, God! Forgive me! What should I do?"

And from the thunder, a mighty voice :

"REPAINT! REPAINT! AND THIN NO MORE!"

*Contributed by P. Talstra*

## Women who know their place - A point of view.

Barbara Walters, a TV reporter, did a story on gender roles in Kabul, Afghanistan, several years before the Afghan conflict. She noted that women customarily walked five paces behind their husbands. She recently returned to Kabul and observed that women still walk behind their husbands. From Ms. Walters' vantage point, despite the overthrow of the oppressive Taliban regime, the women now seem to walk even further back behind their husbands, and are happy to maintain the old custom.

Ms Walters approached one of the Afghani women and asked, 'Why do you now seem happy with an old custom that you once tried so desperately to change?'

The woman looked Ms. Walters straight in the eyes, and without hesitation said... "Land Mines".

Moral of the story is (no matter what language you speak and where you go):

**Behind every man there is a smart woman!**

## St James the Least of All

The Rev Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'...

### It adds up

The debt expert was helping a worried householder. "Let's begin with how you spend your present income."

"Well, about 30 per cent is for the mortgage, 10 per cent on household bills, 20 per cent on food and clothes, 20 per cent on our children's education, 10 per cent on holidays, 20 percent on credit card payments...."

"But that adds up to 110 per cent...."

"Yes, that's right. So what do we do?"

### Heat

Teacher: "Give me an example of how heat expands things and cold contracts them."

Pupil: "Well, the days are much longer in the summer."

### Sidesman

Sidesman to newcomer at church door: "Good morning. How far down do you wish to sit?"

Baffled newcomer: "Well, all the way, of course."



On why a vicar should avoid taking weddings

My dear Nephew Darren

Offering to take last week's marriage service for you in your church, so you could attend your weekend plumbing course,

proved to be an unwise act of generosity on my part.

You may now be qualified to unblock church hall kitchen sinks and install drainage to the font, but I will not be taking another marriage ceremony for you again, no matter how much you have set your heart on that electrician's course next year, so that you can re-wire the vestry and put strobe lighting in the sanctuary.

At first, I was delighted when the bride's mother called, inviting me to the reception. I assumed that Charnley Hall would be a fitting location for the reception, even if it was a little puzzling not to be able to find the venue in the directory of stately homes. I did not realise until too late that it was the name of the public house next door to your church.

Clearly the regulars in the Saloon Bar were not used to seeing a gentleman of the cloth in their establishment, because someone was sent over to ask me where the fancy dress party was.

At least I had been placed with the happy couple and both sets of parents, although the privilege was rather spoiled when I was told that my presence there was to stop the bride's mother attacking her newly-acquired son-in-law. My presence may have kept the peace at our table, but had no effect on some of the others.

Well before the speeches, remarks between bride's and groom's supporters had moved from sarcasm to the point where I expected tactical nuclear weapons would be deployed. Phrases such as "Who are you looking at?" and "Want to come outside and sort it out?" that I'd only ever read in the sort of cheap fiction one buys for long train journeys echoed round the room. Battle lines were drawn. The Archduke Ferdinand moment came when a bridesmaid slapped an usher.

Chairs were overturned, fists made contact with noses and bottles were being thrown. I decided it was time to step in and command order, knowing they were bound to obey the Rector of St. James the Less. Approaching one gentleman who was wielding a bottle, I took it from him and then held it aloft above his own head, to demonstrate how threatening such a pose looked.

Unfortunately, that was the moment the police arrived, who, unlike our local village constable, were deaf to explanations. Were our churchwarden, Lord, Jelleby to have been on the bench that day, matters could have been settled quite amicably. It was not to be: you may enthusiastically pass the peace in your church; I am now bound over to keep it.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

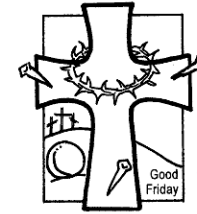


## Good Friday: The Way of the Cross

On April 10<sup>th</sup> at 20:00, we will come together at St Mary's to remember Christ's

final hours leading up to his crucifixion. Using a combination of scripture readings, and reflections,

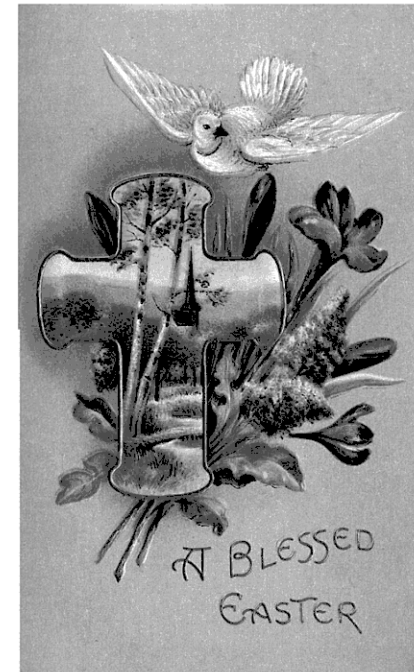
music and images of Christ's journey, we will follow in Christ's footsteps from Pilate's house to Calvary. Through this journeying with Christ, we are aided to appreciate more deeply his great and atoning sacrifice for us and our world.



All of these services lead up to the pinnacle of the Christian year: Easter. Join us for the

**Easter Sunday Service (April 12):  
10:30 Festival Eucharist, at St Mary's, Weldam.**

## The Feast of the Resurrection of Christ



this sea with sparkling waters from the hills. So it laughs in the sunshine. And men build their houses near to it, and birds their nests; and every kind of life is happier because it is there.

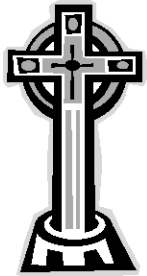
The River Jordan flows on south into another sea. Here is no splash of fish, no fluttering leaf, no song of birds, no children's laughter. Travellers choose another route, unless on urgent business. The air hangs heavy above its waters, and neither man nor beast nor fowl will drink.

What makes this mighty difference in these neighbouring seas? Not the River Jordan. It empties the same good water into both. Not the soil in which they lie, not the country above.

This is the difference. The Sea of Galilee receives but does not keep the Jordan. For every drop that flows into it another drop flows out. The giving and receiving go on in equal measure. The other sea is shrewder, hoarding its income jealously. It will not be tempted into any generous impulse. Every drop it gets it keeps.

The Sea of Galilee gives and lives. The other sea gives nothing. It is named The Dead. There are two kinds of people in the world. There are two seas in Palestine.

Gayle D. Erwin



## Special Services in Holy Week

### Palm Sunday Liturgy of the Palms and of the Passion

April 5, Bishop Geoffrey will be visiting the chaplaincy, and preaching and celebrating at St Mary's Eucharist service, which



starts at by the Hut at 10:30. We will have a short palm procession from the Hut to the Chapel as well as a dramatic reading of the Passion narrative from Mark's Gospel. In addition, the East Netherlands' Choir will sing several moving pieces of music. After the service, the new bench outside the Chapel, dedicated to Marykay and Simon Schouten, will be blessed. There will be a light lunch provided afterwards. Do not miss this celebration, which begins the week of preparation leading up to the most important festival on the Christian calendar, Easter!



### Humility

"God created the world out of nothing, and as long as we are nothing, he can make something out of us."

*Martin Luther*

"It is not a great thing to be humble when you are brought low, but to be humble when you are praised is a great and rare attainment."

*St. Bernard of Clairvaux*

### Selflessness

There are two seas in Palestine. One is fresh, and fish are in it. Splashes of green adorn its banks. Trees spread their branches over it and stretch out their thirsty roots to sip of its healing waters. Along its shores the children play as children played when He was there. He loved it. He could look across its silver surface when Jesus spoke his parables. And on a rolling plain not far away he fed five thousand people.

The River Jordan makes

### Maundy Thursday Eucharist and Foot Washing

On April 9, Maundy Thursday, we gather at St Mary's at 20:00 to remember the Last Supper Jesus shared with his disciples before he was arrested, judged

and crucified. Chapter 13 of John's Gospel records that at that meal, Jesus, in great humility, stooped to wash the feet of his disciples, to show them how their Lord had become a servant, suffering for their salvation, to bring their cleansing, as it were. As part of the Maundy Thursday Eucharist, this poignant moment will be re-enacted, as a way to reconnect us with Jesus, and his new commandment (*Latin*: mandatum à *Middle English*: Maundy) that we love and serve one another as he loved and served us.



*(Continued from page 1)*

again makes clear by setting his Pentecost on Easter evening, when the Risen Lord breathes his life-giving Spirit upon the disciples to be their transforming new life.

It is because of this that Easter is present, Easter is active, Easter is not something mysterious shut up in the past, but a new and transforming life given to us. The poet-priest, Gerard Manley Hopkins, was surely right to make Easter a verb, and to speak of the Risen Christ 'eastering in us', and therefore of Christ 'playing in ten thousand places, lovely in eyes and limbs not us, to the Father, through the brightness of men's faces.'

So St Paul, writing to the Christians of Corinth, in the great fifteenth chapter of his first letter, makes a clear and absolute connection between Christ being raised to new life at Easter, and the sharing of that new life with us. Through our baptism we share in that resurrection life, which is why Easter was and is the time for baptism. But Paul also knows that the present reality of Easter looks to a future reality, the completion and fulfilment of Easter in us at the Last Day. What was true of Jesus who truly died and was taken into the nothingness of death will be true for us. 'As we have worn the likeness of the man made of dust, so we shall wear the likeness of the heavenly man.' What is promised is new creation, transformation and change. For Christians death is not the end, it is not the horizon which closes off our life; for Christians our horizon is the living Christ, and the hope that already gives us.

In St Luke's wonderful and moving story of the unrecognised Risen Lord meeting two dejected disciples on the way to the village of Emmaus from Jerusalem, Jesus points them to how the suffering Messiah was already part of Jewish understanding. They ask the stranger to come and eat with them, and he sits at table with them. He takes bread, blesses it, breaks and shares it. 'Then their eyes were opened, and they recognised him; but he vanished from their sight.' In the Eucharist, in the breaking of bread, Easter comes to us over and over again. Christ feeds us with his new life, his risen life, that he may 'evermore dwell in us and we in him.'

May Christ indeed easter in you, and bring you the joy of his resurrection, his new life, that, like St Paul, writing to the Christians of Rome you may be convinced 'that there is nothing in death or life, in the realm of the spirits or superhuman powers, in the world as it is, or the world as it shall be, in the forces of the universe, in heights or depths – nothing in all creation that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.' 'Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

+GEOFFREY GIBRALTAR

### Family pride

"Yes," boasted the woman to the visiting American priest, "my family can trace its ancestry back to William the Conqueror."

"I suppose," said the American, "You'll be telling me next that your ancestors were in the Ark with Noah."

"Certainly not. My people had a boat of their own."

### Star-gazing


I can see how astronomers figure out the distance of the stars and their size and temperatures and all that. What really gets me is how they find out what their names are!

### Oh dear

The middle-aged man shuffled along, bent over at the waist, as his wife helped him into the doctor's waiting room. He groaned at every step, and the receptionist eyed the scene with sympathy. "Arthritis in the back with complications?" she finally ventured.

The wife shook her head briskly. "Do-it-yourself in the garden," she replied, "with concrete blocks."



<b>5<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Rt. Revd. Geoffrey Rowell</b>
<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Caroline Siertsema</b>
 <b>10:30 am</b> <b>Liturgy of Palms and Passion</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b>	First Reading	Liturgy of Palms: Mark 11:1-11
	Second Reading Linda ten Berge	Liturgy of Passion Philippians 2:5-11
	Gospel	Mark 15:1-39

<b>9<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd. Canon Geoffrey Allan</b>
<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Revd. Canon Geoffrey Allan</b>
	First Reading Arthur Cass	Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14
	Second Reading	1 Corinthians 11:23-26
	Gospel	John 13:1-17, 31b-35
<b>20:00</b> <b>Foot washing and Eucharist</b>		

<b>10<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd. Sam Van Leer</b>
<b>Good Friday</b>		
<b>20:00</b> <b>Service of the Word</b>		



<b>12<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd. Sam Van Leer</b>
<b>Easter Day</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Nettie van Sisseren</b>
	First Reading Janice Collins	Isaiah 25:6-9
	Second Reading Arjen Haffmans	Acts 10:34-43
	Gospel	Mark 16:1-8
<b>10:30 am</b> <b>Sung Eucharist</b>		

<b>19<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd. Sam Van Leer</b>
<b>AGM Sunday</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Pauline Talstra</b>
	First Reading Elizabeth v d Heide	Acts 4:32-35
	Second Reading Maureen v d Heide	1 John 1:1-2:2
	Gospel	John 20:19-31
<b>10:30 am</b> <b>Sung Eucharist</b>		

<b>26<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd. Dr Sjoerd Bonting</b>
<b>Third Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Joy Romeijn</b>
	First Reading Jeanet Luiten	Acts 3:12-19
	Second Reading Els Ottens	1 John 3:1-7
	Gospel	Luke 24:36b-48
<b>10:30am</b> <b>Sung Eucharist</b>		