

## Poetry and Prose

Joy Romeijn was the intercessor at the service held at St Mary's Chapel, Weldam, on 29 May. Drawing the intercessions to a close, she read out a poem – a poem that Linda ten Berge suggested she should share with the readers of this magazine.

Where does this poem come from? It has a history of its own, as Joy tells us: "My Dutch friend, who kindly sent me the poem, emigrated to New Zealand at the age of 65 'to be near the children'. At the age of 87 she died. This is the last message I received from her before her unexpected death."



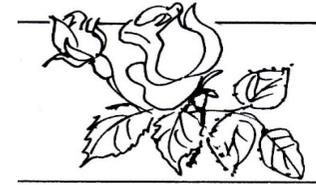
Our thanks go to Joy for this contribution to the magazine.

### *Little Miracles*

*There are special little miracles  
That come and go each day,  
And perhaps we scarcely notice  
As they gently slip away.  
They're not the deep, mysterious things  
That no one can explain;  
They're as simple as the sunshine  
Coming after summer rain.  
They're as quiet as a friendly word  
That makes a warm heart known –  
And as cheering as a tender touch  
That shows we're not alone.  
They come as understanding  
When a doubt of ours is ended;  
And at times these little miracles  
Will see that friendship's mended.  
We find them in the love we share,  
The kind things people do –  
The faith we keep within our hearts  
That makes our whole world new.  
They come to bring us comfort  
That will light a dreary sky  
And they lift our spirits tenderly –  
Then quickly they pass by.  
There's nothing that can harm us  
Or take our faith away,  
If we trust those "little miracles"  
That fill our lives each day.*



## July



## August

2011

### *The Chaplain Writes*

### **Good Things in Threes**

On Trinity Sunday, I suggested that it often appears that good things come in threes. Indeed, the best of all "things" (or rather, Beings), God, is three, and yet one. Loving community is at the heart of God.

But on a more simple level, good things often come in threes. As proud parents of three lovely children, Coretta and I feel we have a wonderful example of this (not that having more or fewer children makes any combination of them less precious, of course!). But anyone who reads the New Testament knows three is special – "grace, mercy and peace" is a frequent greeting, and St Paul, of course, famously reminded us of the centrality of "faith, hope, and love" (but above all, love) (1 Cor. 13).

Someone also wrote that these three good things go together: memories, friends, and dreams.

During our six years here in the East Netherlands, we have gathered many good memories, wonderful friends, and have been alongside you as powerful dreams (vision) for the future developed. One of the sadnesses of having to move on is that we will no longer be an active part of the Anglican Christian communities here, but we will take with us treasured memories, and though we are a bit further away, will still feel connected with our friends. And we hope that the dreams of how the chaplaincies can best be a vibrant part of Christ's body in the East Netherlands will continue to grow and bear fruit.

My recent visit to the Intercontinental Church Society pastors' conference in early June took me back to Switzerland and so reminded me of how far we have come together. I was back in the canton of Bern, where I had served my curacy from 2002-2005. The Intercontinental Church Society, an Anglican Mission Agency, has been supporting seasonal mission work as well as permanent chaplaincies on the Continent for 200 years. It runs a conference every year, for which colleagues gather from all parts of Europe and North Africa. We always

(Continued on page 4)



**Personal Message**

Thank you dear friends for all the cards, pats on the back, encouraging words and good wishes that we have received from you over the recent period – and are still receiving! These have done us a world of good. Although the course of chemotherapy will last for quite some time, we still

hope to be able to meet up with you regularly, and we're really looking forward to these moments. So, for now, till we see one another again,

*Jan and Theda ten Barge*

<http://thedadigitaal.web-log.nl/>

**Local Contacts Network**

The Local Contacts were duly commissioned during the service held on 19 June. To do justice to this new initiative, the back cover of the magazine (inside and out) has been revised to incorporate the additional information.

**Visit**

The visit of the Revd Canon Ambrose Mason, originally scheduled for 19 June, has been postponed for the time being. It will likely take place within the next two months.

**Castle Fair**

A list is now hanging up in the Hut, with the hope that it will speedily attract the names of numerous volunteers. The plan of action can be divided into three main categories: (i) setting up the tearoom and stalls on Friday, 9 September, from 11.00 am onwards; (ii) tearoom and kitchen activities on the Saturday; and (iii) breaking up after the fair is over on the Saturday.

The Castle Fair Committee is composed of Count Alfred Solms, Jeanet Luiten (who is in charge of

**Laughter is Good Medicine**

Here is something you might never have guessed: laughter can literally help wounds to heal more quickly. Scientists at Leeds University have discovered that in wounds where the patient needs to stimulate blood flow for healing, there is something more they can do than use compression bandages, support stockings and exercise ... they can laugh. Having a hearty chuckle gets the diaphragm moving, which in turn increases the blood flow around the body, which then increases the amount of blood sent to the wound, which aids healing! It's all enough to make you smile ...

I have the body of an eighteen-year-old. I keep it in the fridge.

– Spike Milligan

A shin is a device for finding furniture in the dark.

– Colin Bowles



**MARY MAGDALENE  
22 July**

Mary Magdalene is one of the most important women associated with Jesus during his ministry. Mary, who came from the village of Magdala on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, was a devoted follower of Jesus, part of the close group of those taught by Jesus during his ministry. Jesus had healed her of seven devils. She was with Jesus during his travels and followed him to the end, witnessing his crucifixion when others had fled, and his burial.



According to all four Gospels, she was the first person to see the Risen Christ in the garden on the very first Easter Day. She is often shown in pictures holding a pot of ointment because she was among those women who brought ointment and linens to the tomb of Jesus. For this reason, in the Eastern Orthodox Church she is called a Myrrh bearer.

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Source: Parish Pump



## Floral Guild

### Recruits Needed!

St Mary's Floral Guild is in need of more helpers to keep the church decorated with flowers each Sunday. We have a roster posted on the bulletin board showing which dates are open and when weddings and other events are going on that might affect when you come to the church. Sometimes we come a day or two before to arrange the flowers *in situ*. Otherwise we take a vase from our collection in the vestry home the Sunday before and bring the finished product back to be put in place before the service begins. We are allowed to take greenery and rhododendron blossoms from around the church to work into our bouquets. This pruning is done discreetly, of course, not to affect the general look of the gardens! Flower arrangers pay for their own supplies but can be reimbursed if requested. All the costs of holiday decorations, special occasions in church, etc. are paid for out of our Floral Guild fund. Also all of the bouquets brought round to members in their homes and presentations made in church (such as the roses) come from this fund. Our team of Flower Ladies are all in involved in many other church activities and duties besides the Guild. Sometimes an arrangement lasts a second Sunday but must be replaced on a regular basis!



If you think you can help us by providing an arrangement now and then, and would like to join our Flower Ladies, please contact me: *Linda ten Berge (0546-868139)*.

**P.S. Men are also welcome!**

### Key Dates

July-August	Summer Teas
10 September	Castle Fair



Marriage is a wonderful invention. Then again, so is a bicycle repair kit.  
— *Billy Connolly*

### Say Again?

Yogi Berra was a baseball star who played for the New York Yankees for 19 years. Unfortunately, he became just as famous for his malapropisms:

You can observe a lot just by watching.

I knew I was going to take the wrong train, so I left early.

Baseball is 90% mental; the other half is physical.

Half the lies they tell about me aren't true.

This is like déjà vu all over again.

Nobody goes there anymore; it's too crowded.

You should always go to other people's funerals; otherwise, they won't come to yours.

The future ain't what it used to be.

the schedule), Joyce Wigboldus, Jan Willem van Beusekom, Peter Ribbens and Hans Siertsema. They will be happy to answer any questions you may have. New people are always most welcome. If you have energy, muscles, good humour or more specialized talents ... well, we need them all!

### Domestic Issues

We are truly fortunate at St Mary's. In Vivian Reinders we have a conscientious Sacristan who does a wonderful job, devoting a great deal of care and attention to the chapel and the articles used in worship. However, when it comes to dusting, sweeping, vacuuming and chasing away cobwebs throughout the entire chapel, more than one pair of hands are necessary. At the meeting held on 23 June, the Church Council decided to put such assistance on a regular footing and introduce cleaning sessions after the service on the first Sunday of the month (after coffee too for that matter, so that the caffeine can percolate throughout the system, producing its miraculous energizing effect!).



Joyce Wigboldus and Jeanet Luiten have undertaken to coordinate this initiative, and are hoping to hear from many willing volunteers. Jeanet has even come up with a job title: *the holy dusters*. As Everhard Ottens said, while announcing this news to the congregation, "With such a name, who wouldn't like to be one of them?"

### 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.



### The Bottle of Wine

For all of us who are married, were married, wish they were married, or wish they weren't married, this is something to smile about the next time you see a bottle of wine.

Sally was driving home from one of her business trips in Northern Arizona when she saw an elderly Navajo woman walking on the side of the road. As the trip was a long and quiet one, she stopped the car and asked the Navajo woman if she would like a ride. With a silent nod of thanks, the woman got into the car. Resuming the journey, Sally tried in vain to make a bit of small talk with the Navajo woman. The old woman just sat silently, looking intently at everything she saw, studying every little detail, until she noticed a brown bag on the seat next to Sally. "What in bag?" asked the old woman. Sally looked down at the brown bag and said, "It's a bottle of wine. I got it for my husband."

The Navajo woman was silent for another moment or two. Then speaking with the quiet wisdom of an elder, she said: "Good trade!"

— *Contributed by Blair Charles*

## Identification Parade

A police sergeant is questioning three new recruits who are training to become detectives. Testing their recognition skills, he shows the first a photo for five seconds, hides it and says: "This is your suspect. How would you recognize him?" "Easy," comes the quick reply, "He has only one eye." "What on earth are you talking about?" retorts the sergeant. "That's because the photo showed his profile." The sergeant tries again with the second recruit. "How would you recognize your suspect?" he asks. "Easy," answers number two. "He only has one ear." The sergeant angrily responds, "What's wrong with you two? Of course, only one eye and one ear are showing: it's a photo of his profile." Not to be daunted, he shows the photo to the third recruit. After a quick look, he says, "The suspect wears contact lenses." Rather taken aback, the sergeant checks the file. "My goodness, you're absolutely right. How did you make such an astute observation?" "That's easy," said the recruit. "With only one eye and one ear, the suspect couldn't wear regular glasses."

(Continued from page 1)

get input from excellent speakers. This year Bishop Harold Miller of the Diocese of Down & Dromore (Northern Ireland) spoke to us on the Parables of the Kingdom of God, and Prof. Prabhu Guptara (Executor Director of Wolfsberg, subsidiary of UBS Bank) shared his thoughts on the influence of market economics and consumer culture on the Westerner's beliefs. I also did a little seminar on mission challenges in post-modern Europe (using the latest research on the Netherlands as a case study), and there were seminars on youth ministry, discipling mobile congregations, traditions of Christian prayer, and Christian-Muslim relations.

The conference took place in the Bible School in Beatenberg, a village perched on a mountainside overlooking Lake Thun, just across from the valley leading out of Interlaken up to the Bernese alpine trio of the Jungfrau, Mönch, and Eiger mountains (three, again). When the clouds did scatter, we were treated to dazzling views of snow-covered peaks. Fantastic scenery, where singing God's praises for his creation came easily, and one could be forgiven for allowing one's gaze to drift out of a seminar room and be "lifted to the hills" (Psalm 121).

Returning to a place one has lived before is always a bittersweet. Lives there had moved on, and my own perspective had changed. But a poignant thing about such conferences is the realization that we, as Christians, even if we are called frequently to move here or there, are always part of a larger family of people of faith. And so we are welcomed wherever we go, and feel connected with friends wherever we are. As we listened to colleagues based in Cairo and Tunis share their experiences, we appreciated how much an awareness of mutual love and support and prayer strengthens you when the place you live and work is in utter turmoil. At one point, a video conference call, via the internet, enabled all of us to say "hello" to and pray for colleagues in Beirut, the Falkland Islands and in Chile (where my own former mentor, the Revd Dr Richard Pamplin, now

Our thanks and appreciation go to Jeanet Luiten and Pauline Talstra for their organizational skills on this happy occasion – and naturally to Count Alfred Solms for providing us with the perfect venue.

## Flowers with Christian Connections

☩olumbine (*Aquilegia vulgaris*) is also known as "dove flower". The dove is a symbol for new creation and baptism, and carvings of the flower are often found in cathedrals and churches.

☩orrel (*Rumex acetosa*) was one of the bitter herbs that Hebrew people ate with Passover lamb and so possibly part of the Last Supper.

☩oschatel (*Adoxa moschatellina*) is also known as the Good Friday flower. There is no other flower like it, with its five petals facing north, south, east, west and the sky, and with a scent of musk. It is the only species in its genus and the only genus in its family in the world.

☩ild Pansy (*Viola tricolor*), a member of the violet family, is also known as "heart's ease" and "Trinity Violets" because they are yellow, white and purple.

☩ow Parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*) is also sometimes known as "Our Lady's Lace".

☩asque Flowers (*Pulsatilla vulgaris*) are thought to be the lilies of the field Jesus pointed to in his Sermon on the Mount.

☩olomon's Seal (*Polygonatum multiflorum*) grows in the wild now only in a few places.

☩peedwell (*Veronica*): When Jesus carried his cross, legend has it that Veronica was the girl in the crowd who offered him her handkerchief. When Jesus handed it back his face was imprinted on the cloth. An old country name for speedwell is "God's Eye".

☩ady's Smock (*Cardamine pratensis*): In the cloisters of Lincoln Cathedral, which is dedicated to Mary, there is a garden full of her flowers.

Source: Parish Pump

Then we moved on down a long corridor to the second section. The angel said to me, "This is the Packaging and Delivery Section. Here, the graces and blessings that have been asked for are processed and delivered to those who need them." I noticed again how busy it was there. The angels were working hard to package and send back to earth all the blessings that had been requested. Finally, at the farthest end of the corridor, we stopped at the door of a very small station. To my great surprise, only one angel was seated there, doing nothing much. "This is the Acknowledgement Section," my angel friend said quietly. He seemed a bit embarrassed. "How is it that there is no work going on here?" I asked. The angel sighed. "Well, after people receive the blessings that they ask for, it seems very few think to send back any acknowledgement." "How does one acknowledge God's blessings?" I asked. "Simple," the angel answered. "Just say, 'Thank you, Lord.' And mean it."

– Parish Pump



### Good Gifts

When you are lonely  
 May God give you love.  
 When you are down  
 May God give you joy.  
 When you are in trouble  
 May God give you peace.  
 When things are complicated  
 May God give you simply beauty.  
 When things are chaotic  
 May God give you inner silence.  
 When things look empty  
 May God give you hope.  
 – Contributed by Elizabeth van der Heide

### Prayers

I dreamt that I went to Heaven and an angel was deputized to show me around. Our first stop was at a large room filled with angels. They were unfolding, reading and stacking thousands of bits of paper, of all sizes. My angel guide explained, "This is the Receiving Section. Here, all petitions to God said in prayer are received." I looked around the area, and it was terribly busy. Angels were sorting out petitions from all over the world. Some were long, involved and weighty, others merely a sigh on a scrap of paper.

### Ascension Day Picnic

This year Ascension Day fell on 2 June, during a period of absolutely beautiful weather. As is the custom, we were joined by our friends from Arnhem/ Nijmegen for the service of Sung Eucharist in the chapel, and after this we all wended our way to the woodshed to enjoy fellowship, as well as the salads, savouries and desserts created in many a kitchen.



A special event this year was the *Pie Bake-Off* competition organized by Pauline Talstra. As the table displaying the entries could have come straight out of BBC's *Master Chef*, our sympathy for the judges (Caroline Siertsema, Elaine Zomer, Sam Van Leer and Blair Charles) as they scrupulously performed their



arduous duties was a little muted. Time came for the presentations and among the winners were Philippa te West (Best Decorated), Christiaan Koning (Best Savoury) and Mary Cass (Best Sweet and Best Overall), who received their prizes to

enthusiastic applause while facing a barrage of cameras. Actually, the old fairground slogan *Everyone a Winner!* proved true on this occasion as, the presentations over, all could sample slices of the delicious pies. Small financial donations were made and these, together with the proceeds from the sale of potted plants brought by Katelyn Ferguson generated a healthy contribution to the Floral Guild (€90.46).

The weather, rural setting and convivial atmosphere were truly idyllic. So much so, that I cast my eyes around for the ominous appearance of DCI Tom Barnaby. Thankfully he didn't materialize and everyone returned home safe and well.

serves an Anglican chaplaincy). The world is vast, but in the Spirit and in Christian community, despite distances and differences of culture, we are one with each other.

As we go from here, and move just a bit North, my family can look back with fond memories, can and will retain good friends, and will look forward to catching up with you on how your and our dreams are unfolding.

May "the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all evermore" (2 Cor. 13:13).

Yours in Christ,  
 Sam Van Leer



### Olympic Prayer

*Eternal God,*

*Giver of joy and source of all strength, we pray for those who prepare for the London Olympic and Paralympic Games.*

*For the competitors training for the Games and their loved ones,*

*For the many thousands who will support them, And for the Churches and others who are organizing special events and who will welcome many people from many nations.*

*In a world where many are rejected and abused, we pray for a spirit of tolerance and acceptance, of humility and respect and for the health and safety of all.*

*May we at the last be led towards the love of Christ who is more than gold, today and forever.*

*Amen*

*Special prayer for the London 2012 Games written by the Revd Christopher Woods, Chaplain of Christ's College Cambridge*

### Cut and Paste

A young married couple move into a new apartment and decide to re-wallpaper the living room. They ask their neighbour, whose apartment is identical: "How many rolls of wallpaper did you buy when you decorated your living-room?" "Seven," he replies. So the couple buy seven rolls of wallpaper and set to work, but at the end of the fourth roll they've finished the room. Annoyed they go back to their neighbour: "We followed your advice but we've ended up with three extra rolls." "Oh," he replies, "So it happened to you too."

What do I think of Western civilization? I think it would be a very good idea.

– Mahatma Gandhi

### Solution to Sudoku on Page 15

6	8	3	2	5	9	7	4	1
7	5	1	6	4	8	9	2	3
2	4	9	3	1	7	5	6	8
8	1	6	9	2	5	3	7	4
3	2	5	8	7	4	6	1	9
4	9	7	1	3	6	2	8	5
1	6	4	5	9	2	8	3	7
5	3	8	7	6	1	4	9	2
9	7	2	4	8	3	1	5	6

## Jury Service

Mrs Jones is called for jury service but asks to be excused because she doesn't believe in capital punishment. "But, madam," comes the reply, "it's only a civil suit. A woman is suing her former husband because he gambled away the €25,000 he promised to spend on renovating the bathroom for her birthday." "Okay, I'll serve," says Mrs Jones. "And I suppose I could be wrong about capital punishment."

## Who I am?

An elderly woman walked into the local country church. The friendly usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps. "Where would you like to sit?" he asked politely. "The front row please," she answered. "You really don't want to do that," the usher said. "The pastor is really boring and you might want to rest your eyes." "Do you happen to know who I am?" the woman inquired. "No," he said. "I'm the pastor's mother," she replied indignantly. "Do you know who I am?" asked the usher. "No," she retorted. "Good," he grinned.

## St James the Least of All

### On why the clergy should avoid computers

My dear Nephew Darren,

Thank you for the kind offer of your old computer, but I do not want it. I know you find it invaluable for keeping in touch with those doing missionary work in remote parts of Africa, but even if I knew legions of clergy on that continent, I would have few pearls of wisdom to e-mail them and would not be overly interested in what they may be yearning to tell me.

I know that our diocesan offices long for us all to have computers so we can receive at hourly intervals briefings, questionnaires, notifications of meetings and lists of irresistible training days, but I seem to have survived in ministry for the last 50 years without them and suspect I can do so for a little while longer.

When pressed why I have still not purchased one, I tell everyone that I am waiting for a few more weeks when I will be able to get an even better one. And as the wretched things continue to improve, there is every reason to defer a decision until they improve a little more. Surely, if I bought one today, I would regret it by tomorrow, as there would be a more advanced model out by then. Besides, once you get a computer, you will need to buy a telephone connection, then a printer and spare ink cartridges, and then equipment to protect you from viruses. The money can be far more usefully spent on claret.

Being without a computer also saves me much aggravation. From what I can gather, most computer owners spend significant parts of their lives trying to get their machine to do something it doggedly refuses to. Once they admit defeat, they then spend another significant chunk of time on what is called by naïve optimists a "helpline", where someone in a remote part of the world who speaks a jargon only distantly related to English tries to tell you that whatever you did, it would have been better if you hadn't.



## Paraprosdokian Sentences or Wisdom in Comedy

A *paraprosdokian* is a figure of speech in which the second part of a sentence or phrase makes you stop and think again. So start thinking!

I wanted to ask God for a bike, but I know God doesn't work that way. So I stole a bike and asked for forgiveness.

I want to die peacefully in my sleep, like my grandfather. Not screaming and yelling like the passengers in his car.

A bank is a place that will lend you money, if you can prove that you don't need it.



Whenever I fill out an application, in the part that says "If an emergency, notify: ... I put DOCTOR.

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

– Contributed by  
Janet Luiten

## Rural Retreat (translated from Dutch) Loches, 19160 Neuvic, France 21 May 2011

Dear Friends,

We're sitting drinking coffee while soaking up the sun. Not, it is true, at our cottage but on the camping site where we also slept last night, with candles enhancing the atmosphere and a view over the lake, where, according to Riet, a large illuminated boat was sailing.

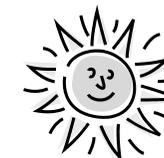
The garden adjoining our cottage was in perfect condition: grass mown, plants in bloom ... but inside it was a tip! The palms inside were frozen solid – dead! When the water system was switched on, water shot out from places where no water had a right to be: we hadn't turned it off properly. The next day the plumber came to repair it.

When the drawers of the bathroom cupboard were opened, it turned out that a whole family of mice had made them their home. They had distributed their droppings like mounds of *hagelslag*.

First of all we thought we could clear everything up with the vacuum cleaner ... but there was no electricity! Outside, the cables were lying in the garden by the meter ... sliced through. This was an even bigger problem than the water and well known at Hannalore – being without electric current, that is. This problem, caused by the electrician, who had failed to request a permanent connection, will be resolved within ten days.

The good news is that the large doors will be installed next Wednesday. While our cottage is being rendered habitable, we have taken flight. This week there's no coffee available for visitors alas, but they're more than welcome to enjoy some wine under the large tree.

With kind regards from the oldies, who will figure out everything while sitting in the sun,  
Riet, Flip Wegenwijs



<b>21<sup>st</sup> August</b>  <b>Ninth Sunday after Trinity</b>  <b>10:30 am</b> <b>Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Canon Geoffrey Allen</b>
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Everhard Ottens</b>
	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Jeanet Luiten</b>
	First Reading Els Ottens	Isaiah 51:1-6
	Second Reading Victor Pirenne	Romans 12:1-8
	Gospel	Matthew 16:13-20

<b>28<sup>th</sup> August</b>  <b>Tenth Sunday after Trinity</b>  <b>10:30 am</b> <b>Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Canon Geoffrey Allen</b>
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Joyce Wigboldus</b>
	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Janice Collins</b>
	First Reading Heleen Rauwerda	Jeremiah 15:15-21
	Second Reading Vivian Reinders	Romans 12: 9-21
	Gospel	Matthew 16:21-28

<b>4<sup>th</sup> September</b>  <b>Eleventh Sunday after Trinity</b>  <b>10:30 am</b> <b>Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Canon Geoffrey Allen</b>
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Everhard Ottens</b>
	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Joy Romeijn</b>
	First Reading Peter Ribbens	Ezekiel 33:7-11
	Second Reading Joy Romeijn	Romans 13:8-14
	Gospel	Matthew 18:15-20

No, no-one over the age of 25 should be allowed to possess a computer. On those rare occasions you really do need to use one, you should adopt my practice: visit your local primary school and get a 6-year-old to do the job – which they do with effortless efficiency, speed and accuracy.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace  
© *The Revd Dr Gary Bowness*

### Adjusting to Change

*"As the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like Him" (2 Corinthians: 3.18)*

We all enjoy the blessings of change; what we hate is the process. First we form habits, then our habits form us. Before we know it, we see the world only from our own perspective. When that happens, we begin to stagnate. Sound familiar? Without change, there is no growth. But if you have the right attitude, every change (whether positive or negative) will be a growing experience. It's up to you!

Consider this: trees need more than one season to produce fruit. Rainy seasons are growing seasons too, and they always come before harvest. You don't have to like the rain, you just have to understand its purpose.

Now the Bible says we're all being changed into his likeness. But to be like Jesus, you have to follow wherever he leads. That means following him through the wilderness of temptation, the pain of rejection, the forfeiting of your reputation, the complete surrender of your will to God and, finally, to the place of crucifixion. There's no other way! To walk with him means you'll be in a different place tomorrow than you are today. The question is: are you willing to follow him all the way? Take a moment and consider your answer, for it will determine your destiny.

*Source Parish Pump: Adapted from UCB The Word for Today*

### Winner Takes All

Danny wins €100,000 at the casino and, wanting to keep it a secret from his wife, buries it in the back garden. The next morning he goes out and finds only an empty hole and footprints leading to the house next door. As his neighbour is a deaf-mute, Danny asks a colleague who knows sign language to help him out. Taking his pistol with him, he tells his colleague to sign to his neighbour that if he doesn't return the money immediately he will shoot him. The message is passed on. The neighbour quickly conveys that the money is now buried under a rose-bush in his own garden. "What's his reply?" demands Danny impatiently. His colleague turns to him and says, "He refuses point blank. He says he'd rather die first."



<b>10<sup>th</sup> July</b>  <b>Third Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Sam Van Leer</b>
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Everhard Ottens</b>
	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Caroline Siertsem</b>
	First Reading Joy Romeijn	Isaiah 55:10-13
	Second Reading Philippa te West	Romans 8:1-11
<b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>	Gospel	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

<b>17<sup>th</sup> July</b>  <b>Fourth Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Sam Van Leer</b>
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Joyce Wigboldus</b>
	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Pauline Talstra</b>
	<i>Final official service of the Revd Sam Van Leer</i> First Reading Janice Collins	Isaiah 44:6-8
	Second Reading Simone Yallop	Romans 8:12-25
<b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>	Gospel	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

<b>24<sup>th</sup> July</b>  <b>Fifth Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Canon Geoffrey Allen</b>
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Everhard Ottens</b>
	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Philippa te West</b>
	First Reading Linda ten Berge	1 Kings 3:5-12
	Second Reading Arthur Cass	Romans 8:26-39
<b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>	Gospel	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

<b>31<sup>st</sup> July</b>  <b>Sixth Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Canon Steve Collis</b>
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Joyce Wigboldus</b>
	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Joyce Wigboldus</b>
	First Reading Joyce Wigboldus	Isaiah 55:1-5
	Second Reading Arjen Haffmans	Romans 9:1-5
<b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>	Gospel	Matthew 14:13-21

<b>7<sup>th</sup> August</b>  <b>Seventh Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Canon Geoffrey Allen</b>
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Everhard Ottens</b>
	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Simone Yallop</b>
	First Reading Elizabeth vd Heide	1 Kings 19:9-18
	Second Reading Maureen vd Heide	Romans 10:5-15
<b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>	Gospel	Matthew 14:22-33

<b>14<sup>th</sup> August</b>  <b>Eight Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Canon Geoffrey Allen</b>
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Joyce Wigboldus</b>
	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Arjan Haffmans</b>
	First Reading Agnes Lee	Isaiah 56:1, 6-8
	Second Reading	Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
<b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>	Gospel	Matthew 15, 10-28