

*The Chaplain Writes*

**Lent**

This year Lent starts on 13th February with the celebration of Ash Wednesday. We impose ashes on our heads, usually with the sign of the cross. To impose ashes on our heads is an old biblical custom (Mt. 11.21: "they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes").

Repentance, ashes and sackcloth. These words carry an atmosphere of wrongdoing and doom, because we have almost forgotten to move on towards healing and renewal. One can only change and be renewed if we are aware of what needs to be changed. The loss we suffer is when we get stuck in repentance without expecting healing. Lent can be a wonderful time of reflection, deepening our faith and looking in hope at Easter to come.

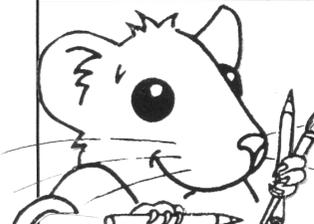
God will help us to heal, to improve and to leave behind what is not right in our life. Instead of giving up things we may help our frame of mind towards a more positive outlook. Let us think of a Lent resolution in doing something extra, something we don't usually do.

Fasting is definitely part of Lent, but it is not the only thing we can do to prepare for Easter.

We cannot "gain" forgiveness, we are forgiven for free. We can, however, offer our willingness to work along with God's plans, to cooperate with him and try to make this world a better world.

*Alja Tollefsen*  
Chaplain East Netherlands





**THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS**

After he was baptised Jesus returned full of the Holy Spirit and was led by the Spirit into the desert where he was tempted by the Devil for forty days. In all that time he ate nothing, so that he was hungry when it was over.

**Mouse Makes** The Devil said to Jesus, "If you are God's Son, order this stone to turn into bread." But Jesus answered, "The scripture says, **Human beings cannot live on bread alone.**"

Then the Devil showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world. "I will give you all this power and all this wealth, it has been handed over to me and I can give it to anyone I choose. All this then will be yours if you worship me." Jesus answered, "The scripture says, **Worship the Lord your God and serve only him.**"

Then the Devil took Jesus to the Temple and said to him, "If you are God's Son, throw yourself down from here. For the scripture says, 'They will hold you up with their hands so that not even your feet will be hurt on the stones.'" But Jesus answered, "The scripture says, **Do not put the Lord your God to the test.**"

READ Luke 4: 1-13

**THE DEVIL SAID:**  
"If you are God's Son, order this stone to turn into bread."

**JESUS REPLIED:**  
"Human beings cannot live on bread alone."  
read Deuteronomy 8:3



**WE LEARN:**  
Read the Bible  
Learn God's word.

**THE DEVIL SAID:**  
"I will give you power and wealth if you worship me"

**JESUS REPLIED:**  
"Worship the Lord your God and serve only him"  
read Deuteronomy 6:13

**1**

**WE LEARN:**  
Put God first  
Worship only Him

**THE DEVIL SAID:**  
"If you are God's Son, throw yourself down, the scriptures say God will take good care of you"

**JESUS REPLIED:**  
"Do not put the Lord your God to the test."  
read Deuteronomy 6:16

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥

**WE LEARN:**  
God cares, trust Him  
do not test Him.



Cut out the three cards and during Lent learn the bible verses



# Twente News

## Retrospective

Perhaps we should rewrite the old proverb to read: *Many hands make lighter work*. Because what a tremendous amount of work was involved in preparing for the Christmas



## Problem Solving

A farmer stopped by the local mechanic's shop to have his truck fixed. They couldn't do it while he waited, so he said he didn't live far and would just walk home.

On the way home he stopped at the hardware store and bought a bucket and a gallon of paint.



He then stopped by the feed

store and picked up a couple of chickens and a goose.



services! Decorating the chapel, erecting the Christmas tree, arranging choir practices, compiling and printing booklets, and decking the Hut out in its festive glory – not to mention making, baking, and manning the coffee machine. But I'm sure all would agree that we can look back on a truly wonderful celebration of Christmas at St Mary's. And just to round things off, despite the dismal weather – somewhat dispelled by the glühwein – the Christmas market made a fine profit of €408 to add to the church coffers.



## Singing Practice

Such was the enjoyment of the singing over Christmas – by both the choir members and the congregation – that the effects have spilled over into the New Year. Perhaps you were greeted by music as you picked up this magazine at the church door this morning. Be that as it may, starting in February a small group will gather in the Chapel at 10:15am to practise hymns (new, old and something a bit special) before the Sunday service. Whoever would like to join in and sing, or simply listen, well, please come along. You'll be most welcome!

*If you have any questions, please call Erica Schotman (0547 260947).*

*To cross the road, and how the toad,  
Will tell you how the lorries load,  
Has passed above and left him chilled,  
With fright, and dread, of being killed.*

*Some enthuse, but others muse  
Over country life, how it can confuse,  
To be the idyll, but still a riddle,  
That folk must ponder, ere venturing yonder.*

*The choice is theirs, as is the hare's,  
When fate may catch him unawares,  
For should he blunder, then comes the thunder,  
As pellets render him asunder*

*Now all you need to do is prove,  
That eastwards is the way to move,  
Is country life the thing for you,  
Think twice before you join the queue.*

© Malcolm McBride 2000



Church of St John the Baptist, Butley (Winter 2013)



## Suffolk Snowfall

*Where creatures glean, can be seen,  
Where their paws and claws have been,  
And noses keen, on bodies lean,  
May follow tracks to a slaughter scene.*

*As truck wheels splash, through dirty mash,  
there comes a clash, when objects smash,  
and in the hedge, a mighty gash,  
where rests a pile of mangled trash.*



*Flakes fall or flutter to the gutter,  
Sweepers mutter, as they clear the clutter,  
Breathing fumes from cars that splutter,  
To them their misery is utter.*

*Between the showers, when no cloud glowers,  
You'll see the flowers before the ploughers,  
Have churned the bowers  
Into crumbling towers.*

*Leeside of a cracked old tomb, snowdrops bloom,  
Peeking from a stony gloom,  
Where lies a once most handsome groom,  
New life now brightens, where sorrows loom.*



*Aside the beck, where pheasants peck,  
Others there might chance their neck,  
To jump the flow, not caring to know,  
What waits for them, whose leap is slow.*

### Key Dates

13 February

10 March

24 March

28 March

29 March

31 March

7 April

Ash

Wednesday

Mothering

Sunday

Palm Sunday

Maundy Thursday:

Service to include  
washing of feet

Good Friday Service:

Stations of the Cross

Easter Sunday

Annual General Meeting  
(AGM)



### Lent Course

LENT  
2013



A Lent Course entitled *Love life, live Lent* (five sessions) will begin on Thursday 21st February and will end on Thursday 21st March.

The course, which will be held in the Hut, will start with a meal at

6.30pm, but people can also join after the meal at 8.00pm.

### Sad News

At the service on 27th January the congregation were saddened to hear that Johan Boessenkool had passed away on 17th January. We said farewell to him on 29th January at St Mary's in a service to celebrate his life. Our heartfelt prayers are with Dina at this difficult time.



### Intercessions

If you wish to have someone included in the intercession, please contact the Chaplain or one of the Churchwardens 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 Churchwardens.

However, struggling outside the store he now had a problem – how to carry all his purchases home.

While he was scratching his head, he was approached by a little old lady who told him she was lost. “Can you tell me how to get to 1603 Mockingbird Lane?” she asked.

The farmer said, “Well, as a matter of fact, my farm is very close to that house. I would walk you there but I can't carry this lot.”

“Why don't you put the can of paint in the bucket. Carry the bucket in one hand, put a chicken under each arm and carry the goose in your other hand?” suggested the old lady.

“Why thank you very much,” said the farmer and proceeded to walk the old lady home.

On the way he said, “Let's take my short cut and go down this alley. We'll be there in no time.”

(Continued on page 4)

The little old lady looked him over cautiously and then said, "I'm a lonely widow without a husband to defend me. How do I know that when we get in the alley you won't hold me up against the wall and have your wicked way with me?"

The farmer said, "Give me a break, lady! I'm carrying a bucket, a gallon of paint, two chickens, and a goose. How in the world could I possibly hold you up against the wall and do something like that?"

"Well," replied the little old lady, "Set the goose down, cover him with the bucket, put the paint on top of the bucket, and I'll hold the chickens."



If you get an email telling you that you can catch swine 'flu from tins of ham, then delete it. It's spam!

## New Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll is the official listing of the members of our Chaplaincy. People who are on the Electoral Roll are entitled to vote at our Annual General Meeting.



Every six years, in accordance with the rules of the Church of England, we have to prepare a brand new Electoral Roll for the Chaplaincy. This year (2013) our electoral roll is due for renewal. In a year of renewal, no names are carried over from the old roll and everyone must make a new application to be included on the new roll.

A letter is being sent out to ask all those, who were on the Electoral Roll in 2012, if they would like to have their names included on the new Electoral Roll for 2013.

Anyone who is not on the Electoral Roll and who wishes to have their name included may also fill in an application form and hand it in to Simone Yallop, who is the Electoral Roll Officer.

In order to be on the Electoral Roll you need to be baptised, at least sixteen years of age and to be a member of the Church of England, a Church in communion with the Church of England or a member of another Church, which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. Also you need to have been attending St. Mary's Weldam for at least six months.

The Electoral Roll has to be up to date two weeks before the date of the Annual General Meeting, which this year has been set for 7th April 2013. Therefore, Simone needs to receive the completed forms by 17th March 2013 so that the new roll can be published in the AGM papers. If you would like to be on the Electoral Roll please see Simone for an application form.

Please note that being on the Electoral Roll does not involve any financial commitment on your part, but it

The bakery produces between 30 and 40 million wafers each year. Big, small, brown, white, with or without gluten. They go not only to Dutch customers, but also to the USA, England and Finland. St Michael enjoys a near-monopoly position in the Netherlands. There is only one other small bakery. But there are threats. "We can't compete with the prices from Poland and Hungary. Nor can we succeed in convincing customers that they are keeping 15 people in worthwhile work if they buy from us."

And there is another threat that is at least as big. Rita picks up a letter lying on her desk and reads it out. A parish is going to fuse: four churches are becoming one. And that's happening all over the place. "So our production and sales are declining." And then there are government plans for cutbacks. It's unclear yet how that will work out but Rita doesn't want to think about the possibility of her people sitting at home. Nor is it a financial solution because they will always need supervision.

But over to the order of the day. The wafers are made from water and flour. When the batter is ready, it goes in buckets to the bakers. Some operate a kind of waffle iron in which the batter is baked into a flat round or rectangular cake. The flat cakes are then taken in a cart to a humid room. Afterwards wafers are made from the cakes with punch machines and then they are dried. At the sorting machine any that are damaged are removed. The last station is the packing service. Maggy sits behind a table with a kind of draughts board on it. She cannot count but can put a wafer in each section. She makes towers of 25 wafers. When Rita comes in, Maggy points out to her the ragged edges that some cakes have. Not nice. "She is quite meticulous," explains Rita. Maggy cannot do sign language and cannot speak but can make herself understood extremely well. Here too the thumb is in the air. The code is clear: good work is being done here.

Warehouse worker Jamy is not satisfied with a thumb. He squeezes behind the executive table and dictates, as the only speaking deaf person on the premises, "Will you write that I'm also a very good DJ?"

*(The names of the workers have been changed.)*



sticker. Most of them also have a permanent workplace. Vivian always sits behind an open rack of shelves. Today there are only a few boxes on Vivian's shelves. She looks into the bakery. If Rita, the manager, passes by her face breaks into a smile. Thumb in the air. They are friends, aren't they? Rita nods; yes, they certainly are. Rita points to the container of wafers under Vivian's desk. How

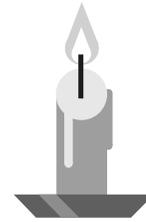
well it's going! Vivian presses wafers out of a large sheet with a kind of mega-perforator. Vivian is deaf. Just like the 14 other workers of the bakery in Brabant's St Michielsgestel. She is also autistic – as are most of her colleagues. With signs she tells the manager Rita de Werdt that the wafers are going to America. Rita nods again. On the plastic containers full of wafers piled up high in the hall there is a sticker with the text *Altar bread*. Churchgoers in the United States will receive a communion wafer from St Michielsgestel from their priest on Christmas Eve. Gerard is the man who pastes the stickers. He is reprimanded by Rita: "Place them upright or they'll be angry over there in America." Rita looks severe, gestures and carefully articulates: "Calm down." Gerard puts an arm round her and pinches her cheek. Rita just has to laugh.

In her office she says that the peace on the work floor is deceptive. Sometimes wafers fly across the work floor. It is a busy period just before Christmas. Many orders have to be filled. "The Feast of St Nicholas is also exciting for our workers. At home with their parents they get all kinds of presents. People with autism value a safe workplace and a clear programme. That's what they find in the bakery. But it's no guarantee of a quiet day. Something can happen on the way here that makes them tense."

Deaf people have made communion wafers in St Michielsgestel since 1844 – formerly supervised by nuns, now by personnel from Kentalis, an organization that provides care and educational services for people for whom the ability to hear or communicate is not a matter of course. The bakery workers also have an autistic disorder or intellectual impairment. Rita has been working here for 37 years and it gives her great satisfaction that she can offer a useful daily occupation to people who are difficult to place. "What else could they do? Here they doing something worthwhile. Really worthwhile."

does entitle you to vote at the Annual General Meeting of the Anglican Church Twente. This enables you to take part in the election of those who represent you on the Church Council and gives you a say in any decisions taken at the AGM.

We hope that you will give some thought to having your name included on the Electoral Roll of the Anglican Church Twente. The more people on our Electoral Roll, the stronger our Chaplaincy will be.  
*Simone Yallop*



### The Presentation of Christ in the Temple/Candlemas

In bygone centuries, Christians said their last farewells to the Christmas season on Candlemas, 2 February. This is exactly 40 days after Christmas Day itself. In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first public appearance. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child, to "present him to the Lord". At the same time, she, as a new mother, was "purified". Thus we have the Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple.

So where does the Candlemas bit come in? Jesus is described in the New Testament as the Light of the World, and early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles in celebration of this day. The Church also fell into the custom of blessing the year's supply of candles for the church on this day – hence the name, Candlemas.

The story of how Candlemas began can be found in Luke 2:22-40. Simeon's great declaration of faith and recognition of who Jesus was is of course found in the *Nunc Dimittis*, which is embedded in the Office of Evening Prayer in the West. But in medieval times, the *Nunc Dimittis* was mostly used just on this day, during the distribution of candles before the Eucharist. Only gradually did it win a place in the daily prayer life of the Church.  
*(Source: Parish Pump February 2013)*

### Roadside Shock

A juggler was driving to a show when he was pulled over by a police officer who became suspicious on discovering matches and lighter fuel in the glove compartment.



"What are these for?" he asked. "I'm a juggler," replied the driver. "Oh yes?" said the officer. "Let's see you prove it." So the driver collected his props and started to juggle three blazing torches at the roadside. Just then an elderly couple drove by. The husband turned to his wife and said, "I'm really glad I quit drinking. Look at the test they're giving now!"

## Love and Marriage

A couple were shopping for bargains at the January sales. The mall was absolutely packed. Crowds everywhere. As the wife walked through the mall, she was suddenly surprised to look round and see her husband was nowhere to be found. She was quite upset because they had a lot to do. As she was so worried, she called him on her mobile phone to ask him where he was.

In a calm voice, her husband replied, "Honey, you remember that jewellery store we went into about five years ago.



The one where you fell in love with that diamond necklace but we

## Five Cappuccinos and an Apple Pie!



Having had the first part of our "financial awakening" published in the October 2012 magazine, here is the next instalment: refer back to refresh your memory!



The wonderful festive season has long ended; we are already into the second month of the year. However, the fact that God gave his greatest gift to us by the birth of baby Jesus at Christmas is still very fresh in our minds. As we explore again the life of Jesus through the gospel readings in this period until the time of Lent, let us keep in mind our gifts to God: our money to the church.

### Part 2

In the Anglican church, there is an unspoken policy of not actually asking people outright to give to the church; also there is not any mention made of how much you should give! Yes, we differ from our Catholic and other Protestant churches in this respect. I would like you to think of what five cappuccinos and an apple pie would cost, as the title suggests, my term for referring to an amount of money! What I want you to do is think how often in a month would you make sure the church had this money to be put to use for our spiritual friendship and growth: in more practical terms, in order for us to keep running financially—most importantly with a view towards future growth.

We grow as a church by getting more people on the electoral roll; we also grow financially by an increase in our annual income. If we can increase our monthly income, we increase our annual income. If we give regularly, just as we come to prayer regularly, it becomes a part of our church life, and is not left at the tail end!

concealment. On the other hand, over the years this area has seen the export of many local products. These range from china clay destined for the Dutch potteries; fertilizer, no doubt intended for the Dutch bulb fields; flax used by Dutch weavers to make linen both in Holland and over here; and so it goes on. And all over the county, architecture in the Dutch style can be seen in great abundance, including the odd windmill.

For those of you who have not yet seen St John's in picture or in reality, then visit this internet address for a peek: <http://www.suffolkchurches.co.uk/butley.html> (or page 19).  
*To be concluded ...*



## Baking Communion Wafers in Silence

*Based on an article by Annemarie Haverkamp in Twentsche Courant Tubantia of Saturday 15 December 2012 (abbreviated and freely translated). This newspaper article was contributed by Count Alfred Solms.*



For the employees of St Michael in St Michielsgestel the last weeks before Christmas are perhaps the busiest weeks of the year. The company has been making communion wafers for almost 170 years. Really remarkable is the fact that all the workers are deaf or have impaired hearing. Every year they produce between 30 and 40 million wafers of "altar bread".

Every employee of the St Michael communion wafer bakery has their own coat hook with name

## Did You Know ...

Each king on playing cards represents a king in history: Spades King David; Clubs Alexander the Great; Hearts Charlemagne; Diamonds Julius Caesar.

It is impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.

Multiplying 111, 111, 111 x 111, 111, 111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321.



A statue in a park of a soldier on a horse with its two feet in the air means the soldier died in combat. If the horse has only one foot in the air, the soldier died of injuries from combat. If the horse has all four feet on the ground, the soldier died of natural causes.

## No Arguments

To mark her one hundredth birthday, a woman was interviewed by a local newspaper reporter who asked her the secret of her longevity. "It's easy," she said. "My motto has always been to avoid arguments at all costs. I never argue with anybody."



The reporter was sceptical. There must be some other explanation – plenty of exercise, a sensible diet, genetics perhaps? I can't believe you have lived to a hundred simply by not arguing!" "You know," said the old lady, "you could be right."

Blessed are the peacemakers; they will never be unemployed.

black poplar, and the male of the species. Those of you who are knowledgeable about trees will appreciate that this particular tree is quite a rarity. As the conditions needed for it to germinate and grow are very special, and as the male and female of the species don't seem to like each other, natural proliferation is an infrequent occurrence. You've probably already guessed what I'm about to say: indeed we have one very close to St John's. Proudly defining the border between the Boyton and Butley parishes, this magnificent specimen stands prominently in Sandy Lane, just a few yards distant from the second of our graveyards. For those interested in giving a home to one of these trees, Suffolk County Council sponsor a nursery programme to keep this species viable, but, to qualify, the intended location must conform to all kinds of specific arboreal conditions, and that's not easy. One natural property of this tree is that it is resistant to fire, so hopefully ours will be around for a long time yet.

The most regular connections with the Netherlands in these parts have now been reduced to a few holidaying yachtsmen, travelling up the River Deben and mooring their craft at the marina in Woodbridge, and the twice-daily Stena Line ferry service between here and the Hoek (a well-known route to most of you). This, I can assure you, is a mere shadow of the traffic in earlier times. Commerce between the two countries was very active. There are of course no records of what was smuggled into England in those days and estimates vary enormously, but it was definitely not insignificant, and their Majesties' customs and excise officers were kept on their toes by the activities (usually nocturnal) of the local lads. Headquarters around here, if you choose call them that, were the Butley Oyster, an ancient characterful pub of fine repute, just down the road from St John's. Here "business" was organized, and the fruits of their labours were distributed or despatched for

In the Bible, the Old Testament refers to giving as a tithe: a tenth part of what is ours. In the New Testament, we are told to give in a different way:

1 Corinthians 16:2. "*On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.*" (NIV)

Everything we have comes from God, we give back to God a part of what he has given us, as an expression of thankfulness and praise to Him. Our giving should be given pride of place in the order of our monthly debts to pay.

On a lighter note, I would like to recall the words from the Bible which we hear every Christmas Day, as used by Alja in the December/January 2012/13 magazine:

John 1: 1-4. "*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him and without him not one thing came into being.*"

Let us be thankful for all we have, and give accordingly.

Caroline Siertsema  
P.S. ... to be continued  
(Final Part 3 in March magazine)

**Joy**  
**All who joy would win**  
**must share it.**  
**Happiness was born a Twin.**  
**Lord Byron**

could not afford it and I told you that I would get it for you one day?"

The wife choked up and her eyes misted with tears: "Yes, I remember that jewellery store."

"Great," said her husband. "Cos, I'm in the bar right next to it."

## Space Exploration

The first pictures transmitted to Earth by NASA's Mars rover Curiosity show no signs of dirty socks, a remote control or two, football boots or golf clubs.



Therefore it would seem the rumours were false: men are not from Mars after all!

## A Lesson Learned

A mother decided one Christmas that she was no longer going to remind her children to write thank-you notes after receiving presents.



As a result their grandfather never received any thanks for the generous cheques he had given them.

But the following year things were different. "All the kids came over personally to thank me," beamed Granddad. "That's great," said the mother. "But why do think they decided to change their behaviour?" "It's obvious," said Granddad. "This year I didn't sign the cheques!"

## St James the Least of All

### On Why Rural Church-Goers Like to Freeze in Church

My dear Nephew Darren,

Winter certainly exposes the difference between those of you who live in cities and us rural folk. While you bask in your centrally heated flat, with every modern convenience that could be imagined and complain about the half an inch of slush that makes your life so inconvenient, we country folk wear overcoats in our houses, open all doors and windows to let the heat in and battle through snow drifts, measured in feet, to get the morning paper.

Colonel Wainwright has acquired a new toy: a snow blower, of sufficient power that I believe it could clear the Antarctic. He kindly volunteered to clear the paths around the church. Working outwards from the church door, the path to the church soon became snow free. Unfortunately, he only realized when his job was complete that the blown snow then formed a ten-foot drift under the lych gate. We now have to climb over the churchyard wall and negotiate buried gravestones before we can reach his pristine paths.

Miss Margison, ever helpful in the worst sense of the word, decided to unfreeze the pipes in the church hall. A blow torch was not the ideal solution, although the resulting burst did make some rather attractive ice sculptures round the kitchen equipment. The village badminton team that uses the hall has now temporarily changed sport to ice hockey.

Inevitably, congregations have soared. There is nothing like adversity for making people want to prove they have the moral fibre to overcome it. Much



mystery. Many proposals have been put forward as to its purpose but none can be fully substantiated, simply because there are no records of this particular aspect and sufficient evidence cannot be found to provide enough clues as to its history. Leading off from the aisle and rising inside of the south wall, after a few steps the stairway makes a right turn and then it simply stops, with no indication as to where it might have led. Some people have suggested that it may have been the way up to where a musicians' gallery once stood, high along the inside of the west wall. However, the most recent idea came from an architect who works from a department in Bury St Edmunds abbey. He said, "After studying the outside of the church, I could identify in the stonework the faint outline of a door at a height of about 25 feet." If this was indeed where the staircase emerged, then it could have led to an outside wooden stairway, which in turn gave access to the bell tower from the outside. We enter the belfry now through a very high trapdoor in its floor. To do this we have a very large ladder, and I can tell you it's not much fun at the top of that! Anyway, if ever you are passing this way, come inside and see what you think about it, we'd love to know.



Boundaries have always played a very important role in the English countryside, and nowhere more so than in defining the borders between parishes. After all it's always good to know to which camp you belong, and thereby pay your dues into the right pot – to say nothing of being buried

in the right place when the time comes! The tradition around these parts is to use a particular sort of tree that will show exactly where one parish ends and the next begins. The tree favoured for this function is the

Lord, thy wondrous works amaze me  
Fearfully have I been made.  
How can I then fail to praise thee?  
Can my worship ever fade?  
*By Nigel Beeton*

### The New Year Blessing

God bless to me the new year that is here.  
With all that is designed ahead for me;  
Above all, I bless thy countenance so dear  
And thank thee for this time, O God, thou givest me to see.

O God, give me a heart of cleanliness,  
Nor hide from me thy watching eye of care;  
And unto me my wife and children bless  
And unto us we pray, your care upon our stock and livelihood.  
*Adapted from an ancient Celtic prayer*

God, Who Knows Me  
Psalm 139

You have searched me and you know me  
Lord, who knowest all my ways  
Knows my works, though good or lowly –  
For you're with me all my days.

Where might I flee from thy Spirit?  
Where from thy great presence hide?  
In the depth – will you be in it?  
Or across the ocean wide?

No! Not e'en the darkness hides me  
Not the darkest hour of night!  
There is nothing that divides me  
From thy loving, holy sight!

For you made my inmost being  
Knit me in my mother's womb,  
My whole life you're overseeing  
From the cradle to the tomb!

**My Butley Story (part 4 of 5)**

*By Malcolm McBride*

In 1971 a pop song was released called *Stairway to Heaven*. What, you may ask, has that got to do with an old church in Suffolk? Well, let me explain. This song, though controversial at the time, is nicely presented by Led Zeppelin but only tells of one such stairway. Now we, at Butley St John's, have two.

One of these stone stairways, built into the church's north wall during the 15th century, is situated at a point where the chancel starts and is tucked behind the pulpit. The inside of the staircase, once lit by a small Norman-style window, leads off from the main body of the building and, when in use, was the access route to the now sadly removed rood loft. This was positioned above the rood screen, which still exists after 500 years.

One of the first jobs I undertook as Churchwarden was to enter this narrow stairway in order to give it a good clean – something that hadn't been done for a while! As I brushed, it occurred to me that the last persons to have seen some of this (now very loose) material were the men who had built the church. And without doubt some of the dust that I was now busy removing was created by the very sandals of the monks from the priory when they were standing watch in the rood gallery all that time ago. The stairway can be closed by shutting a very splendid wooden door. This was hung to commemorate the life and service of Dr Montague John Rendell, one of the founding governors of the BBC, who lived at the priory and worshipped for 22 years in this church (he passed on in 1950). We read that it was he who composed the BBC slogan: "Nation shall speak peace unto nation".

The second stairway, though, remains a bit of a

satisfaction seems to be obtained on discovering who has not dared venture out, which is taken as judgement on their strength of character. The Prentices upstaged most people by arriving on a sleigh. Mr Prentice was warmly wrapped in a travelling rug, while his wife pulled it. As her husband explained, he couldn't possibly let the pony work in such conditions.

What I momentarily thought was applause during my sermon was merely people keeping their hands warm, and the hymns were drowned out by the stamping of feet. Our organist complained that the cold made his fingers so numb that he couldn't play properly – although I didn't notice that things were much different from normal.

No, my dear nephew, you continue to fret about your church heating dropping to temperate from tropical and a few flakes of wet snow obliging you to close your car park for health and safety reasons. We shall continue to triumph heroically over adversity and return home after Matins, knowing we have proved our Christian commitment in being utterly uncomfortable.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace

©The Revd Dr Gary Bowness

**On Self-Doubt**

**The greater the artist, the greater the doubt.**

**Perfect confidence is given to the less**

**talented as a consolation prize.**

**Robert Hughes**  
Writer and art critic

**With Grandparents in Mind**

Becoming a grandmother is wonderful. One moment you're just a mother. The next you are all-wise and prehistoric.

– Pam Brown

My grandkids believe I'm the oldest thing in the world. And after two or three hours with them, I believe it, too.

– Gene Perret

The best baby-sitters, of course, are the baby's grandparents. You feel completely comfortable entrusting your baby to them for long periods of time – which is why most grandparents flee to Florida.

– Dave Barry



I wish I had the energy that my grandchildren have – if only for self-defence.

– Gene Perret

<b>3rd February</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Alja Tollefsen</b>	
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Everhard Ottens</b>	
	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Everhard Ottens</b>	
	<b>Candlemas</b>	<b>Chalice</b>	<b>Janice Collins Simone Yallop</b>
		Simone Yallop	(1) Malachi 3:1-5
		Hans Siertsema	(2) Hebrews 11:1-2; 8-19
<b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Mark 4: 35 to end</b>	

<b>10th February</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Alja Tollefsen</b>	
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Joyce Wigboldus</b>	
	<b>Sunday next before Lent</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Simone Yallop</b>
		<b>Chalice</b>	<b>Caroline Siertsema Pauline Talstra</b>
		Joyce Wigboldus	(1) Exodus 34, 29 to end
		Philippa te West	(2) 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2
<b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Luke 9:28-36</b>	

<b>13th February</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Alja Tollefsen</b>	
	<b>Duty Warden</b>		
	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Phillippa te West</b>	
	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>Chalice</b>	<b>Pauline Talstra Joyce Wigboldus</b>
		Joyce Wigboldus	(1) Isaiah 58:1-12
		Linda ten Berge	(2) 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
<b>20:00 hrs Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21</b>	

<b>17th February</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Alja Tollefsen</b>	
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Joyce Wigboldus</b>	
	<b>Lent 1</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Janice Collins</b>
		<b>Chalice</b>	<b>Janice Collins Joyce Wigboldus</b>
		Agnes Lee	(1) Deuteronomy 26:1-11
		Victor Pirenne	(2) Romans 10:8b-13
<b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Luke 4:1-13</b>	

<b>24th February</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Alja Tollefsen</b>	
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Everhard Ottens</b>	
	<b>Lent 2</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Jeanet Luiten</b>
		<b>Chalice</b>	<b>Count Alfred Solms Simone Yallop</b>
		Louw Talstra	(1) Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
		Pauline Talstra	(2) Philippians 3:17-4:1
<b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Luke 13:31-35</b>	

<b>3 March</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Alja Tollefsen</b>	
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Joyce Wigboldus</b>	
	<b>Lent 3</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Pauline Talstra</b>
		<b>Chalice</b>	<b>Janice Collins Caroline Siertsema</b>
		Erica Schotman	(1) Isaiah 55:1-9
		Joyce Wigboldus	(2) 1 Corinthians 10:1-13
<b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Luke 13:1-9</b>	