

Poetry and Prose

Valentines Day

On February 14. the Romans held the Feast of Lupercalia, in honour of Juno, goddess of women and marriage. Later, Christians moved the feast to St Valentines, honouring the saint martyred on February 14. On that day all three St Valentines were martyred, but in different years. The most popular candidate for St. Valentine was a 3rd century Christian priest who performed secret marriages against direct orders from Emperor Claudius II, who believed single soldiers were more likely to join his army. Legend has it that Valentine sent a friend (the jailer's daughter) a note signed "From Your Valentine" before his execution on February 14 in 270 A.D., (That phrase is still used on today's cards!).

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Because She Would Ask Me Why I Loved Her

a poem by Christopher Brennan

If questioning would make us wise
No eyes would ever gaze in eyes;
If all our tale were told in speech
No mouths would wander each to each.

Were spirits free from mortal mesh
And love not bound in hearts of flesh
No aching breasts would yearn to meet
And find their ecstasy complete.

For who is there that lives and knows
The secret powers by which he grows?
Were knowledge all, what were our need
To thrill and faint and sweetly bleed?.

Then seek not, sweet, the "If" and "Why"
I love you now until I die.
For I must love because I live
And life in me is what you give.



A concise biography of Christopher Brennan

Nationality - Australian

Lifespan - 1870-1932

Family - Father was a merchant

Education - St Ignatius College, Sydney

First Published in 1897

Career - Poet , Librarian and Lecturer

St Mary's Magazine

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The Warden's Write

With this second issue of St. Mary's Magazine, I have the privilege of writing on behalf of both of us

Wardens. I would like to mention that it's wonderful to be now publishing on a monthly basis. All credit to the editor Blair, for taking on this challenge.

Having experienced eight months of our interim period, I feel a mention of gratitude to Marykay is entirely fitting, for being such a pillar of strength in the organization. This means that we may now enter our last six months of the interim with gladness for the Revd. Sam van Leer, who will be with us in August. As well as with happy expectations for the Revd. Paul Faint (Locum from Feb. to mid April) and the Revd. Paul Rainer (Locum from mid-April to 5th June).

This year is the 25th anniversary of the Diocese in Europe. In the Church of England Yearbook 2005, in the forward by our Bishop, the Rt. Revd. Dr. Geoffrey Rowell, we read of him mentioning that we need to be a praying diocese and a pilgrim diocese.

We certainly started the year off praying for all those affected by the Tsunami disaster. We have been numbed and horrified by this terrible natural disaster. We have taken part in the Bishop's appeal for a special collection for Bishop Duleep in Sri Lanka. Our treasurer will be rounding off the amount to be sent off and many thanks to everybody for being so generous.

The front cover illustration of the Diocese in Europe Yearbook 2005 is a large panel icon of Christ Pantocrator painted in 1994 by Sergei Fyodorov, a Russian-born artist. It stands in the nave of Westminster Abbey, close to the Diocesan Office in London. We will be taking part in our pilgrimage to the Monastery of Chevotogne, in Belgium, from 29th April until 1st May 2005. Here, we too will be able to feast our eyes on some beautiful icons. Thanks to Pauline for all her hard work in preparing this, as well as for the "Old Films and Social evening" which we had last night and was a great success.

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Twente News

The PCC meeting was held at the house of Joyce Wigboldus in Deventer, on the 17th January. The news items arising from the meeting are as follows:

Tsunami:

Chaplaincy members gave generously to the Tsunami relief. The Treasurer will round the off donations to £300, which has already been sent off.

Library

Marischka Oliyani has said she would be the librarian. The PCC will be arranging with her the details on setting up, sorting out, and other matters such as any help needed.

The Stichtings

There are two cross-chaplaincy stichtings that help to administer the Arnhem/Nijmegen and Twente joint affairs. The Nellie Zeper stichting manages the Chaplain's house in Rheden. The East Netherlands's Group of Chaplaincies (ENGC) manages such joint financial affairs, as paying the Chaplain's stipend.

There have been several changes in the Nellie Zeper membership recently, with one of the new members being Marykay Schouten. The ENGC has also had changes. Marilyn Charles has resigned, both as secretary and as a Twente member of the to the stichting. Hans Siertsema has replaced Marilyn as a Twente member. A big thank you to Marykay and Hans for agreeing to serve. Another big thank you to Marilyn for holding down the secretarial position through all the changes.

Lent.2005 Services

There will be an evening service on Ash Wednesday. The service will be conducted by the Rev. Paul Faint. So, all those who want to see the new locum, come along on the Wednesday evening and make him feel welcome. Then by the following Sunday when Paul holds his first Sunday service, we can get to know him even better.

Cat Characteristics

Is it possible to know the temperament of a cat by the colour and type of its fur? I believe it is, and here is a list to illustrate the theory.

Short haired greys are thoughtful, gentle, a little slow to mature, capable of developing a considerable degree of intelligence, and are especially good at understanding human conversation.

Long furred greys tend to be melancholy, but they have bouts of gaiety, and even elderly cats of this type are ready to become kittens again. They like to be admired and often show a strong dramatic sense.

Grey tabbies are sedate and usually taciturn, some females are spiteful.

Golden tabbies are soft, amorous and usually very trusting. They tend to remain childish, however long they live.

A RIDDLE

Q - A murderer is condemned to death. He has to choose between three rooms. The first is full of raging fires, the second is full of assassins with loaded guns, and the third is full of lions that haven't eaten in three years. Which room is safest for him?

A - The third room is the safest. Lions that haven't eaten in three years are dead.



Name the creatures

These creatures are described in the book of Job... what do you think they are?

1. It builds a nest high in the mountains. It makes its home on the highest rock and makes the sharpest peaks its fortress. From there it watches near and far for something to kill and eat. _____ (Job 39:27)
2. They keep far away from the noisy cities and no one can tame them and make them work. The mountains are the pastures where they feed, where they search for anything green to eat. _____ (Job 39:5)
3. He eats grass like a cow, but what strength there is in his body. What power there is in his muscles! He lies down under the thorn bushes and hides among the reeds in the swamp. He is not afraid of a rushing river; he is calm when Jordan dashes in his face. _____ (Job 40:15)
4. She leaves her eggs on the ground for the heat of the soil to warm them. She is unaware that the foot may crush them or a wild animal break them. She acts as if the eggs were not hers. _____ (Job 39:14)
5. They leap like locusts and frighten men with their snorting. They eagerly paw the ground; they are very strong and have flowing manes. _____ (Job 39:19)



Social News

College Exam Plea

O Lord, hear my anxious plea
 Calculus is killing me
 I know not of 'dx' or 'dy'
 And probably won't until the day I die.
 Please, Lord, help me in this hour
 As I take my case to the highest power.
 I care not for fame or loot
 Just help me find one square root.
 And Lord, please let me see
 One passing mark in organic chemistry.
 Oh such a thing I constantly dread
 I'd just as soon join the Marines instead.
 Lord, please give me a sign
 That you've been listening all the time.
 Please lead me out of this constant coma
 And give me a shot at my diploma.

Birthdays

From everyone at St Mary's, a very happy birthday to Joyce Chesmond on February 6th. As it is the Sunday before Lent, Joyce, you can still enjoy a slice of Birthday Cake.

Anniversaries

The next day, February 7th, is the wedding anniversary of Agnes and Colin Lee. From everyone at St Mary, congratulations to our treasured treasurer and his bride.

Old Films and Social Evening

The venue is was the Diepenheim Social Centre and by any standards, the event was a great success. Everyone arrived with a plate, or two, of goodies for the finger supper. After having had their fill of the hot drinks, cakes and biscuits provided, plus a chat, everyone then trooped into the small hall to watch the first movie, a Laurel and Hardy, with sound track (and Dutch subtitles). At the interval, everyone mingled and munched their way through the incredible buffet dinner laid out at the back of the hall. The lucky guests also sampled the wonderful range of fine wine donated for the event. Two Charlie Chaplin silent movies, with a music score dubbed on made up the second half of the program. Old fashioned entertainment, maybe. However, was it a good evening out, without a doubt. Make sure not to miss the next one. How was it all possible? Well, while it is difficult to name all the people who worked together before and during the evening to make it such a success, the following do require a special mention and individual thank you.

Pauline Talstra thought up the original idea, and managed the idea through to fruition. A right good Sheila there, (that is Oz dialect for, 'Thank you for the splendid effort Pauline'). Thanks to Nettie van Sisseren provided valuable support as well as her husband Andre, who was the projectionist. (Actually, he provided the laptop computer, sound system, beamer and expertise to project the DVD onto a large screen). Thanks to Ferdinand van Dijk, who kindly donated the wine for the evening, and finally, to Hans Siertsema the splendid multi-lingual, talented Master of Ceremonies.

During lent, Paul is offering a lent course. Information and pamphlets about what further lent literature is available on order will be posted in the church hut.

Mothering Sunday is on the 6th March, with our Reader, Frances Gothard officiating at the Prayer Meeting. That same weekend is the first of the Archdeaconry retreats. The second retreat being the following weekend, March 13th. Details and forms from Marykay.

Sunday afternoon church and tea's:

Details are still coming in, but the outline plan is to open the church, and run the service with a team of willing volunteers from Sunday 8th May until Sunday 11th September. The service will also be available on 'Open Monumentendag.'

Annual General Meeting

The 10th April is the date of the AGM. During interim period, no changes can be made to council. Those members who were due to retire as of 2005 will be on for another year. This will be discussed further at AGM 2006 when we have a chaplain.

Pilgrimage to Chevotogne

Details available from Pauline, with the pilgrimage still scheduled for 29th April to the 1st May.

Liesbeth's ordination 26th June

Looking into making arrangements, details still to come.

Readings

Readers names are now included in the monthly magazine as an extra reminder. If any changes are required, please contact Ria.



Intercessions

If you wish to have someone included in the intercession, please contact one of the Church Wardens before the Service

Dark tabbies are majestic, rather formal and grave. They are wise, love very deeply, and often show great concern for the people they love.

Blacks with short thick fur are passionate, wild, temperamental, but not hysterical. Usually they develop strong personalities, but remain shy.

Blacks with long coats are invariably loving, not really selective in their love, but lavish and generous.

Black-and-whites are always markedly intellectual, and sometimes possessed of devils.

Marmalades tend to be lumpish, are almost particularly domesticated, tender hearted and rather conceited.

Tortoiseshells are Gretchen-like and good mousers, but only affect to be domesticated.

That was as far as I got with the list. Checking it against later experience I still think it is accurate.

© Valentine Ackland
The Countryman
 Winter 1958

Our Locum - an introduction

Visiting

A vicar went visiting on afternoon. He knocked on a parishioner's door several times, but no one answered. He could see through the window that the TV was on, so he took one of his cards and wrote:

Rev. 3:20 - Behold I stand at the door and knock: if anyone will open I will come in' and stuck it on the door.

The following Sunday, a woman handed him a card with her name on it and the following message,

'Genesis 3.20 - I heard thy voice, and I was naked - so I hid myself.'



The Reverend Paul Faint and his wife Rita will be in the Chaplaincy between February and April this year. He is a retired priest who lives in Wantage in Oxfordshire where he made his home many years ago. During his lifetime he

has flown as a Navigator in the Royal Air Force, been the Administrator of the Hexagon Entertainment Centre in Reading, trained at The Queens College, Birmingham, served in parishes in the Black Country, Malvern, London, Cyprus where he was also (and still is) a Chaplain for the Mission to Seafarers.

In retirement (?) he feels privileged to still have a ministry locally in the parishes of Wantage, Charlton, Stanford in the Vale, and also serves in the Convent of St Mary and St Katharine's. He and Rita are still working for the Soldiers, Sailors and Air Force Association and the Royal British Legion in meeting some of the many needs of serving and retired servicemen and women and their dependants. He and Rita are still travellers and get away to both meet and live with people where they are as much as possible.

Ever conscious that life is a pilgrimage to be lived to the full they both look forward to being with us soon!

In addition, he writes that he has put together a possible Lent Course with Four Meetings. Rita thinks it might well be suitable. He has called it **"Yes, Lord, I have Sinned, but I Have Several Excellent Excuses"** ©Paul Faint

Business explained

You see a gorgeous girl at a party
You go up to her and say, "I am very rich. Marry me!"
That's Direct Marketing.

You're at a party with a bunch of friends and see a gorgeous girl.
One of your friends goes up to her and pointing at you says,
"He's very rich. Marry him."
That's Advertising.

You see a gorgeous girl at a party.
You go up to her and get her telephone number.

demanding in the humanities (any mother care to disagree?) and I often work 14 hours a day (24 is more like it). But the job is more challenging than most run-of-the-mill careers and the rewards are in satisfaction rather than just money."

There was an increasing note of respect in the clerk's voice as she completed the form, stood up, and personally ushered me to the door.

As I drove into our driveway buoyed up by my glamorous new career, I was greeted by my lab assistants--age 13, 7, and 3. And upstairs, I could hear our new experimental model (six months) in the child-development program, testing out a new vocal pattern. I felt triumphant. I had scored a beat on bureaucracy! And I had gone down on the official records as someone more distinguished and indispensable to mankind than "just another....."

Home...what a glorious career. Especially when there's a title on the door! ©Anon.



Wrong Number

The curate took his wife to the Maternity Hospital and said that he would ring later for news.

When he phoned later in the day he dialled the wrong number and got the County Cricket Ground.

He said, "I bought my wife to your place this morning, is there any news?"

He was surprised to be told, "Yes, there are seven out and the last two are ducks."

side of death, but I do know one thing, I know my Master is there and that is enough."

More questions!

- Q What do you call a sleepwalking nun?
A A roaming' Catholic!
Q Why do they say 'Amen' at the end of a prayer instead of 'Awomen'?
A The same reason they sing Hymns instead of Hers!
Q Why didn't Noah go fishing?
A He only had two worms!
Q When was the longest day in the Bible?
A The day Adam was created because there was no Eve.
Q Why did God create man before woman?
A He didn't want any advice.
Q Why did Moses wander in the desert for 40 years?
A Even then men wouldn't ask for directions!

Afraid of death?

A sick man turned to his doctor, as he was preparing to leave the examination room and said, "Doctor, I am afraid to die. Tell me what lies on the other side."

Very quietly, the doctor said, "I don't know."

"You don't know? You, a Christian man, do not know what is on the other side?"

The doctor was holding the handle of the door; on the other side of which came a sound of scratching and whining, and as he opened the door, a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with an eager show of gladness.

Turning to the patient, the doctor said, "Did you notice my dog? He's never been in this room before. He didn't know what was inside. He knew nothing except that his master was here, and when the door opened, he sprang in without fear. I know little of what is on the other

Occupation is...?

A few months ago, when I was picking up the children at school, another mother I knew well, rushed up to me. Emily was fuming with indignation. "Do you know what you and I are?" she demanded. Before I could answer - and I didn't really have one handy - she blurted out the reason for her question. It seemed she had just returned from renewing her driver's license at the County Clerk's office. Asked by the woman recorder to state her "occupation," Emily had hesitated, uncertain how to classify herself.

"What I mean is," explained the recorder, "do you have a job, or are you just a...?"

"Of course I have a job," snapped Emily. "I'm a mother."

"We don't list 'mother' as an occupation... 'housewife' covers it," said the recorder emphatically.

I forgot all about her story until one day I found myself in the same situation, this time at our own Town Hall. The Clerk was obviously a career woman, poised, efficient, and possessed of a high-sounding title, like "Official Interrogator" or "Town Registrar."

"And what is your occupation?" she probed.

What made me say it, I do not know. The words simply popped out. "I'm....a Research Associate in the field of Child Development and Human Relations."

The clerk paused, ball-point pen frozen in midair, and looked up as though she had not heard right. I repeated the title slowly, emphasizing the most significant words. Then I stared with wonder as my pompous pronouncement was written in bold, black ink on the official questionnaire. "Might I ask," said the clerk with new interest, "just what you do in your field?"

Coolly, without any trace of fluster in my voice, I heard myself reply, "I have a continuing program of research (what mother doesn't) in the laboratory and in the field (normally I would have said indoors and out). I'm working for my Masters (the whole darned family) and already have four credits (all daughters). Of course, the job is one of the most

(The Warden's Write - continued from Page 1)

Referring back to the ANT church news of November 2004, we read of the Bishop's appointment of the new Archdeacon of North West Europe. The Revd. Canon Dirk van Leeuwen, Chaplain of St. Boniface, Antwerp. The commissioning ceremony was held on Sat. 15th January 2005. Our thoughts and prayers are for both Dirk van Leeuwen, as he settles into this new role as well as for Geoffrey Allen, his predecessor, as he too settles into his new role of retirement.

This February, we think also of everybody in the Nellie Zeper stichting, especially Marykay as new member. In the ENGK, we think especially Hans Siertsema as a new member in place of Marilyn Charles. All the members are volunteers from Arnhem/Nijmegen and Twente. The preparations for the chaplaincy house are well under way, home decorating first, followed by transport of furniture at the end of January.

It's a time of new beginnings for everyone. We look forward to happy harmony, hard work and heavenly guidance.

The Churchwardens.

The next day you call and say, "Hi, I'm very rich. Marry me." That's Telemarketing.

You're at a party and see a gorgeous girl. She walks up to you and says, "You are very rich." That's Brand Recognition.

You see a gorgeous girl at a party. You go up to her and say, "I'm rich. Marry me" She gives you a nice hard slap on your face. That's Customer Feedback !!!!!

Now can you understand what business is?

Tools Required by the average person

A person needs only two tools. WD-40 and duct tape.

If it doesn't move and it should, use WD-40.

If it moves and shouldn't, use the tape.

Questions & Answers

- Q. What do they call priests in Germany?
- A. German Shepherds.
- Q. What is the best way to get to Paradise?
- A. Turn right and go straight
- Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?
- A. Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.
- Q. Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?
- A. Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.

6th February 2005	Officiant & Preacher	Frances Gothard
Sunday next before Lent	First Reading Mr. Lee	Exodus 24.12 - end
	Psalm	2 or 99
Morning Prayer	Second Reading Mrs. Lee	2 Peter 1.16 - end
	Gospel	Matthew 17.1 - 9

9th February Ash Wednesday

20:00 Eucharist Service Celebrant - Rev. Paul Faint

13th February 2005	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev. Paul Faint
First Sunday of Lent	First Reading Mrs Chesmond	Genesis 2.15 - 17;3.1 - 7
	Psalm	32
Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Mrs van Sisseren	Romans 5.12 - 19
	Gospel	Matthew 4.1 - 11

20th February 2005	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev. Paul Faint
Second Sunday of Lent	First Reading Mr Talstra	Genesis 12.1 - 4a
	Psalm	121
Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Mrs Siertsema	Romans 4.1 - 5, 13 - 17
	Gospel	John 3.1 - 17

27th February 2005	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev. Paul Faint
Third Sunday of Lent	First Reading Mrs te West	Exodus 17.1 - 7
	Psalm	95
Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Ms Gothard	Romans 5.1 - 11
	Gospel	John 4.5 - 42

6th March 2005	Officiant & Preacher	Frances Gothard
Mothering Sunday	First Reading Mrs Wigboldus	1 Samuel 1:20 - 28
	Psalm	23
Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Mrs Schouten	Colossians 3:12 - 17
	Gospel	John 19:25b - 27

13th March 2005	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev. Paul Faint
Fifth Sunday of Lent	First Reading Mr Ribbers	Ezekiel 37.1 - 14
	Psalm	130
Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Mr van Dijk	Romans 8.6 - 11
	Gospel	John 11.1 - 45