

## Poetry and Prose

### Advent Sunday

As November closes, Advent begins. The exact birth-date of Jesus is not known, but during the 5<sup>th</sup> century the date of 25 December was chosen to become the Feast of the Nativity, or Christmas.

By the sixth century, the Christian Church was in the habit of spending several weeks leading up to Christmas in prayerful, expectant preparation. The fourth Sunday before Christmas Day became Advent Sunday.

'Advent', of course, means 'coming', or 'coming in', and traditionally special candles have been lit, and more recently, advent calendars used, as the Church prepares itself for the coming of the Holy Child, the long-awaited Messiah.

### God's Tapestry of Love

*A feast before my very eyes.  
This piece of heaven leads me into  
paradise,  
and, mesmerized by golden fields,  
I taste the richness of the fruit they yield.*

*Bright sunny days and moonlit nights illuminate  
the ancient olive trees.*

*For as they shiver in the gentle breeze,  
they dazzle me with green and silver lights.*

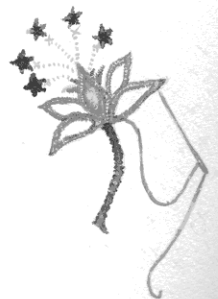
*As autumn limps its way ahead,  
the mauves and blues of lavender are  
gone.*

*Replaced by hues of browns and reds;  
the glowing embers of a setting sun.*

*I've glimpsed a look through heaven's  
door,  
and seen what it may have in store.  
An arc of vibrant colours rich with gold.  
God's tapestry of love unfolds.*

*So I let creation minister to me,  
through every flower, leaf and  
tree, and see  
a multitude of stitches, fashioned  
by my Father's hands.  
Each one a precious gift to all  
mankind.*

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God's Tapestry of Love

# November



2009

## The Chaplain writes 'I can't wait till ...'

I hope my eldest daughter will forgive me quoting her (ah, the perils of having a clergy person as a parent), but she surprised me recently by announcing that she couldn't 'wait till Christmas.' One might expect a child to get excited about the prospect of Christmas. Many of us do, whether we've grown up in a Christian home or not.

What struck me was that, even though we've been living in the Netherlands for four years now, she was not more preoccupied with Sinterklaas, which falls nearly three weeks before Christmas and gets overwhelming media and commercial attention. I was, I confess, a bit pleased that Francisca could manage to see beyond all that to the relatively quieter season of Christmas. Now, I won't bash Sinter Klaas. In the current hard economic times, Sinterklaas will help suffering retailers. And Sinterklaas also forms a relatively benign part of Dutch cultural identity. My chief gripe is that Sinterklaas season now takes at least two months, for even in late September piles of extra pepernoten and chocolate letters begin to appear in shops. Sinterklaas, at least from the perspective of parents of school age children, seems to dominate everything in its path. Mind you, in the US and UK, Christmas and pre-Christmas generate comparable popular hype. There, pre-Christmas can start in October, if Halloween is not observed, or right after, if it is. Americans used to save thinking about Christmas shopping till after Thanksgiving, but now it only signals the bell lap in the final run-up to Christmas.

That is why my daughter's words spoke to me. She can't wait – but at least it's for Christmas, I thought (even if part of her motivation has to do with presents!). But in general, we live in a culture that can't wait. With respect to Sinterklaas and Christmas, we seem to have given up trying. We can go ahead and eat our chocolate letters in October if we want to, and have a mince pie or two, as well. They're available. But the inability to wait isn't an annual autumnal problem, it's perennial and pervasive. We cannot wait for our meals (we go out for fast food, or, when we stay in, might expect our food



# Twente News

Archdeaconry Synod - Antwerp  
*Thoughts & Reflections of a 1<sup>st</sup> timer!*

"It's all new to me!" That could have been my catch phrase as an archdeaconry representative for the first time at an Archdeaconry Synod.

Plunged into academic sessions

certainly not expressed in layman's language and moving at a pace which put my head into a spin, I was wondering in between glimpses of understanding and comprehension what did all this really mean?! Didn't Jesus speak in simple terms – why was my mind being stretched to the limit?

Ethics, morals, pre-modernity, modernity and post modernity, ontological – all 'words' to me so when a few sessions dealing with practical issues were presented my spirit burst forth with a quiet "Hallelujah" and my headache dissipated just in time to enjoy our evening out at a nice restaurant.

A sense of responsibility goes with my attendance at such a Synod. A wonderful experience for me personally – meeting new people, networking, travelling to another city in Europe, worshipping with like minded people and an insight into another level of the hierarchy of the Anglican church, but what can I bring back to our chaplaincy?

Projects such as the Luweero Mission in Uganda where they struggle with Malaria reduction and the need for more wells made me think of how maybe we as a chaplaincy can help. Another session entitled "Back to church Sunday" delivered in a humorous but also factual way made me see that we at St. Mary's are definitely right on form as far as hospitality and welcoming are concerned.

Chatting with members of other chaplaincies made me see that the Anglican church in the Benelux countries is fully alive and growing. Each encounter brought a feeling of excitement and also the realization that none



## POPPIES

Poppies flower in the summer, don't they? So why poppies in November? You will see them everywhere in the next week or so, and everyone from the smallest Rainbow or Beaver to the Queen will be wearing a poppy on Remembrance Sunday.

We wear poppies because, among all the mud and chaos of the battlefields of the Great War, men were amazed to see the humble field flower of home spring up where the earth was disturbed – a blood red splash of colour in a sea of khaki.



When the British Legion started an appeal to help those whose bodies or minds had been smashed by war, the poppy seemed an ideal symbol. And even now, when World War I and II seem so far away, our troops are fighting, being wounded and dying; reminding us that the poppy is also a symbol of sacrifice.

## PRINT A POPPY

How? Well the answer lies in your own hands. You will need a white paper plate, red and black finger or poster paint and two margarine lids or saucers to put the paint on.

Put some newspaper on the table and start. Squeeze some red paint onto one lid or saucer and put black paint on the other one. Put your thumb into the red paint and use it to make 5 overlapping petals in a circle on the edge of your plate. Put your index finger into the black paint and use it to stamp a centre for your poppy.

Continue printing poppies all round the edge of your plate to make a wreath. Leave it to dry and then you can write 'Lest We Forget' or 'Remembrance' in the middle of the plate. You could hang the plate in your front window to share with others.



**When is the first food fight mentioned in the Bible?**

'I looked and behold a flying roll!' (Zech 5:1 KJV)

**Do you know the phone number for the Garden of Eden?**

Adam 8-1-2

**Did you know that Paul was the 1st surfer in the Bible?**

Remember in Acts when he 'came ashore on a board'?

## Some thoughts on genealogy

Genealogy: tracing yourself back to better people.

I trace my family history so I will know who to blame. Can a first cousin, once removed, return? Do you even WANT ancestors?

## Still

We childproof our homes, but they are still getting in

## Worried son

As my five-year-old son and I were heading to McDonald's one day, we passed a car accident. Usually when we see something terrible like that, we say a prayer for whoever might be hurt, so I pointed and said to my son, "We should pray."

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### Fathers then & now

In 1900, a father waited for the doctor to tell him when the baby arrived. Today, a father must wear a smock, know how to breathe, and make sure the batteries are charged in the digital camera recorder.

In 1900, a father smoked a pipe. If he tries that today, he gets sent outside after a lecture on lip cancer.

In 1900, a father came home from work to find his wife and children at the supper table. Today, a father comes home to a note: "Jimmy's at football, Cindy's at gymnastics, I'm at adult-Ed, Pizza in fridge."



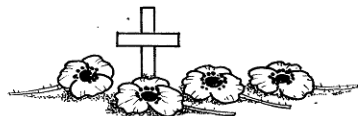
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of gossip throughout the village, leaving the others holding reproachful post-mortems with their partners over their bidding mistakes.

Reproaches are never too violent, however, since the chances are that they will all be meeting again the following afternoon round card tables at another location for yet another re-enactment of the slaughter at Agincourt, the only difference being that the French and English were not entertained with tea and sandwiches at half time.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace



### The Poppies of Flanders Fields

11 November 1918 saw the end of The Great War, when the Armistice was signed. Each year since 1921, the nation has come together to remember the sacrifices that hundreds of thousands of British and Commonwealth Service men and women made not just during the Great War, but World War II and all subsequent wars and conflicts including Iraq and Afghanistan.



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of us is really alone. We all have our struggles, and we all strive to live out our Christian faith in the ways that we feel called to.

Having the privilege of talking with other attendees at the Synod let me see that there are other opportunities for spiritual growth within our diocese. How to access these opportunities is a challenge for an archdeaconry representative! Being able to put a face to the names makes such a difference.

The Venerable John de Wit, archdeacon for the North West European Diocese captured my sentiments about this Synod with his words "It is not the Formal Sessions - it is the Friendships that are important" I couldn't agree more. Without each other, without the sharing of our struggles, our wounds, the joys, and our achievements we would die from isolation, we need each other. I give thanks for the opportunity that has been given to me. ... **Pauline Talstra - Rookie Archdeaconry Representative**



### 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.

### Thanks to All of You

I'd like to thank everyone for your continuing prayers for me. Knowing that you are all praying for me is a really very comforting indeed. Unfortunately my illness has restarted and I began chemo therapy again in October.

Blessings and greetings to you all,  
from  
Pat

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From the back seat I heard his earnest voice: "Dear God, please don't let those cars block the entrance to McDonald's."

### Wake

Shortly after my husband passed away, one of my daughter's Jewish friends approached her with a question. "Kate," he said, "I've never attended a Catholic wake before. What is the significance of the widow not wearing shoes?" Kate replied, "My mum's feet hurt."

### Can't scare me

My wife and I were watching the gorillas at the zoo when several of them charged at the enclosure fence, yelling terribly, rolling their eyes around, and clenching their fists. They looked quite terrifying. The crowd scattered except for one elderly man, who did not bat an eye. Later, my wife asked him how he had kept his

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composure. "Oh, easy," he said cheerfully. "You see, I used to drive a school bus."

### Miscellaneous observations

Dijon Vu - the same mustard as before.

By the time you find greener pastures, you can't climb over the fence.

The psychiatrist really helped me a lot. I would never answer the phone, because I was afraid. Now I answer it whether it rings or not.

I was thinking of becoming a doctor. I have the handwriting for it.

God may have made our relatives - but thank God we can choose our friends!

98 per cent of the time I am right. Why worry about the other three per cent?

The fridge light DOES go out. Now let me out of here!!

to come out of the microwave in less than two minutes); we cannot wait for news or products (the global media is awake 24/7 and internet purchasing is possible day and night); and we cannot wait for a reply (mobile telecommunications are instantaneous and ubiquitous, so we have no excuse for not being reachable).

Thomas à Kempis noted that 'All men commend patience, although few be willing to practice it.' Patience has never been easy, either in the 15<sup>th</sup> C or the 21<sup>st</sup>, but the technological revolution and the market economy, which have generated huge benefits in health and wealth in recent generations, also militate against our developing the virtue of patience. Because we almost come to expect whatever we want yesterday. Symptomatic is the prayer you may have heard: 'Lord, grant me patience... NOW!'

But as I look forward to Christmas, I see that the seasons of All Saints, concluding with Christ the King Sunday, and Advent, both stand before us as solemn reminders of the call to patience, to wait, expectantly. At All Saints/All Souls (we celebrate them together on Nov 1<sup>st</sup> this year) and Remembrance Sunday (Nov 8<sup>th</sup>), we recall the inspiring lives of the faithfully departed and look forward, in some way perhaps, to being united with them in the new kingdom of heaven. (Jesus warns us that for these things, we will have to wait; only the Father knows the time they will come to pass.) Then, Advent calls us to look back at the birth of the baby Jesus, but also to look forward to his coming again as Christ the King. I hope we will all permit ourselves to dwell in these seasons of waiting and praying for awhile, before we rush into Christmas. If we do permit ourselves to wait, we will better know God's peace through the days up to Christmas, and be far better spiritually prepared to greet Christ at Christmastide itself.

To help us prepare for Christmas this year, rather than do a multi-week course, we opted to have a Pre-Advent Quiet Day, or day of reflection, a retreat, if you wish. Maria Kersten, OFS, a Franciscan with considerable international experience leading retreats and a member of our congregation in Nijmegen, will lead us in a one day retreat on 28 November at the Koningsoord Abbey

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## St James the Least of All

### *On the ferocity of the church's Bridge drive*

My dear Nephew Darren

Your suggestion that we should hold a sponsored hymn-singing bicycle ride through the village as a way of raising money was well-meant, but I am not wholly convinced it would suit our clientele here at St. James the Least. While you certainly raised some money, I feel that £5.43, along with assorted foreign coins no longer in use, may mean that the purchase of your pneumatically adjustable stage for liturgical dance, along with equipment for producing holograms of the Holy Land to illustrate sermons, may be somewhat delayed. It makes our fund-raising to repair the tea urn seem somewhat mundane.

You may have musical bike rides, but we have Bridge drives, which are generally as amiable and peaceful as bear baiting. Half of those attending will see the afternoon as an opportunity to catch up on local gossip and to exchange knitting patterns, the game of cards being a minor hindrance to these other activities. The other half arrive primed for a battle to the death, reluctantly conceding that eye-gouging is not allowed. They will demand total silence - which is wholly ignored by those at the tables discovering what Mrs Trumpington confided to Lady Driver half way through "Onward Christian Soldiers" at last Sunday's Mattins. The congregation is eternally grateful to Mrs Mitchell, who as a former mill worker is able to lip read.

Refreshments are regarded by one half as an opportunity to put jam on the cards, spill tea on the score cards and make sure that the other tables get the egg and cress sandwiches while they corner the boiled ham; the others see it as an unwelcome interruption to the serious business of slaughtering their opponents.

Drawing the raffle is the adult equivalent of ringing the school bell at going-home time. Half the players will immediately dash off to relay newly-mined seams

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## 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.



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# ADVENT



East Netherlands  
Pre-Advent Quiet Day,  
Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> November

## All Girls?

When my daughter, Kelli, was 3, she and my son, Cody, would say their nightly prayers, together. As most children do, we have to bless every family member, every friend, and every animal (current and past).

For several weeks, after we had finished the nightly prayer, Kelli would say, "And all girls." This soon became part of her nightly routine, to include this at the end, my curiosity got the best of me and I asked her, "Kelli, why do you always add the part about all girls?"

Her response, "Because we always finish our prayers by saying 'All Men'!"



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This Quiet Day, which will be led by Maria Kersten, OFS, gives us a wonderful opportunity to prepare ourselves together for the season of Advent: that important time which leads us up to the celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. At this very busy time, such a day as this can be seen as an oasis of peace and spiritual

renewal. Please do come if you possibly can. Details are as follows:

Time: 9.45 a.m. for 10.00 a.m. start; finishing about 4.30 p.m.

Place: Koningsoord Abbey, Oosterbeek. (Details for reaching the Abbey will be available for those attending).

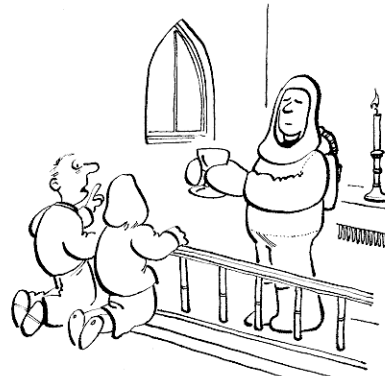
Theme: "Advent: Waiting and Awaiting"

Cost: Those attending are requested to contribute €15. If you can pay more to help cover the actual costs of the day, that is most welcome. Those who would like to attend but are in financial need are welcome to contact the Chaplain.

Refreshments (coffee and tea) and midday soup are provided.

What to bring: a sandwich or two for your self, and something to write with (pen or pencil) and on (notepad). Meditations and Bible verses will be provided.

If you are able to attend this day please sign the list which will be available after services or contact the Chaplain, .Van.Leer@hetnet.nl or 026 4950620): deadline, Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November.



pssssst! Is it just me - or is our Vicar being a bit over-zealous with his 'anti swine flu' precautions?!

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in Oosterbeek. The title is 'Advent: Waiting and Awaiting'. More details are elsewhere in the magazine. I hope you can make time to join us. We can't wait, but hopefully the Lord will teach us to.

Yours in Christ,

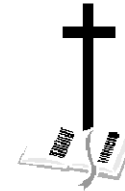
Sam



## To all our friends in the church family in Twente:

On 16 August, we had the privilege and pleasure to bring our youngest daughter, Stephanie Marie Van Leer, forward for baptism into the Christian faith. We were joined, in the Chapel, by good friends from England and elsewhere in the Netherlands, Coretta's family from Emmen, and many, many of you, from both the Arnhem-Nijmegen and Twente chaplaincies. It was a glorious day. The Revd Can Geoffrey Allen baptized little Stephanie, and Alyson & Rupert Kalus (from Durham) and Dianne & Paul Schnieders (Emmen) were the proud Godparents. Coretta and I were, needless to say, delighted on the day, but also surprised and a bit embarrassed by the reception and shower of gifts that many of you gave Stephanie. In some cases, who gave Stephanie which gift got a bit lost in the happy confusion of the moment, but we wish to thank you all so much for all your support and generosity. Hartelijk bedankt! Stephanie is off to a good start, and we pray she'll continue to feel encouraged in her own faith journey, as she grows up and learns more of God's beautiful world and of his wondrous love.

Sam and Coretta



## Wedding report in local newspaper

The bridal veil was fragile net, the bridal gown was lace.

The bride wore slippers on her feet, a smile upon her face.

The bride wore gloves of softest silk, bright garlands graced her hair, her large bouquet was softest pink...

PS: The groom was also there.

## Brand New Baby

A couple took their granddaughter to the hospital to visit her mommy and new baby brother. She was fascinated as she touched his tiny fingers and toes.

When she spotted the baby's name tag on his ankle, she exclaimed, "Oh, look, Mommy! They left the price tag on."

## Plumbing Problems

Because I couldn't unplug the toilet with a plunger, I had to dismantle the entire fixture,

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## Archdeaconry Report: 8-9-10 October - 2009, Antwerp

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no small feat for a non-plumber. Jammed inside the drain was a brown rubber dinosaur, which belonged to my five-year-old son.

I painstakingly got all the toilet parts together again, the tank filled, and I flushed it.

However, it didn't work much better than before! As I pondered what to do next, my son walked into the bathroom.

I pointed to the purple dinosaur I had just dislodged and told him that the toilet still wasn't working. "Did you get the green one, too?" he asked.

### Nine Lives?

A tom cat and a tabby cat were courting on a back fence at night. The tom leaned over to the tabby with pent up passion and purred...

"I'll die for you..."

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The clock in the general meeting room at the Synod in Antwerp had stopped. Symbolical, it seemed to me. Synod is like being in a time-capsule for a few days – one is closed off from ordinary life, hearing lectures, praying, worshiping together and sharing fellowship.

Seven hundred people, two-thirds laity, that is archdeaconry representatives from the whole of the Benelux (like Pauline and myself), and one third clergy. This year we had with us Bishop Geoffrey, and several guests, such as the Roman Catholic Bishop Johann of Antwerp and the Old Catholic Bishop of Haarlem, Dirk Schoon.

The Synod's main aims, among others are:

- electing clerical and lay representatives to Diocesan and General Synods
- discussing the major issues facing the Church of England
- Keeping chaplaincies informed on what is going on.

The central theme this year was **secularism and ethics**. Professor Patrick Nullens and Dr. Ron T. Michener\*, both from the *Evangelische Theologische Faculteit* at Leuven, Belgium, gave talks on:

- The differences and similarities between the ethics in the teachings of Socrates and Jesus. Both were despised by the ruling class. Socrates showed the superficiality of the secular world around him; in that sense we can learn from him. Jesus did the same, but from a theocentric point of view. However, as a church we should not have a mentality of sectarian ethic, but try to stimulate renewal in ethical views.

- The position of the church in a post-modern world. We discern pre-modernity, where the Church had full authority (up to the middle Ages). Modernity, since the time of the Enlightenment where reason was the central focus. Post-modernity in present times where modern secular ethics are questioned.

- Confronting the secular was illustrated by the examples of Abraham Kuyper, the founder of neo-Calvinism in the Netherlands and the German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Neo-Calvinism was one of the causes of the

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Synodians, to laugh and share experiences and stories.

On Saturday morning we had the Business meeting in which the finances of the Archdeaconry were discussed.

Finally, considering that secularism was the main theme of Synod, it was also good to hear a number of very positive news items from the chaplaincies! Archdeacon John de Wit read a letter from Maastricht where a *new* chaplaincy is being set up with great enthusiasm. In Haarlem there has been a successful campaign to approach all people with English-sounding names that were listed in the telephone directory. In Brussels Evening Praise experiences a great revival; the chaplaincies of Ostend and Bruges are being re-organized after a difficult time. In Eindhoven there will be a meeting next year of the evangelically orientated New Wine group. This group is quite successful in the UK. We saw a film on the Schiphol chaplaincy, where there is an ecumenical chapel. It became clear to us, how important such a place is for people when there is sorrow, bereavement, or just a longing for a moment of peace.

At the end of Synod Bishop Geoffrey explained the difficult task of Archbishop Rowan in holding together the Anglican Church worldwide. An Anglican Covenant is in preparation, three quarters has been agreed upon, but the most delicate section, on Human Relationship, is still under consideration. The situation is less critical than the Press insinuates, especially as a number of Bishops attended as well the alternative the Conference in Jerusalem of disagreeing churches (GAFCON), as the regular Lambeth Conference last year. As there exists no international Canon Law binding together different churches in the Anglican Communion - unlike in the Roman Catholic Church worldwide, this Covenant is going to be something like it.

After the final Synod Eucharist we all felt uplifted, inspired and encouraged for a new year in church life! Joyce Wigboldus.

P.S. There will be an Archdeaconry Retreat from 19-21 February, 2010 in Helvoirt. Church members of every chaplaincy within the Benelux are very welcome. For more information, mail to Mrs. Maryon Jägers: Maryon.jagers@planet.nl

\* The speeches were based on a book by Patrick Nullens and Ron T. Michener: *The Matrix of Christian Ethics*, to be published in 2010 at Paternoster.


## Life after Sixty

Every year my daughter puts jingle bells on my grand-daughters shoes for the holidays. One Christmas morning during the church service, my daughter kept telling her little one to keep still. Of course during prayer one of the bells popped off and went rolling under the seats. While everyone had their heads bowed, my granddaughter shot up and announced, 'I'm sorry, Father. I jingled all over the floor!'

©R. Mynes Church Pension Fund

Last Christmas, my daughter and son-in-law went to church with their boys, aged five and eleven. The priest, who was greeting everyone as they went down the aisles, asked the boys if they'd like to be in the Christmas play. He needed more children to be shepherds. My youngest grandson said no, he wanted to be a Husky instead. Needless to say the show consisted of shepherds - and one dog. ©M. Homa Church Pension Fund

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13 <sup>th</sup> December	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev. Sam Van Leer
Third Sunday of Advent	Intercessor	Chaplain
10:30 am Service of Lessons and Carol (followed by the Christmas Market)	The Nine Lessons 	

20 <sup>th</sup> December	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev. Sam Van Leer
Fourth Sunday of Advent	Intercessor	Joy Romeijn
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	First Reading Philippa te West	Micah 5:2-5a
	Second Reading Linda ten Berge	Hebrews 10:5-10
	Gospel	Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

24 <sup>th</sup> December	Celebrant & Preacher	Rev. Sam Van Leer
Christmas Eve/ Night	Intercessor	Joyce Wigboldus
23:00 Sung Eucharist	First Reading Arthur Cass	Isaiah 52:7-10
	Second Reading Blair Charles	Hebrews 1:1-4
	Gospel	John 1:1-14

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segregation or pillarization ('*verzuiling* ') in the Netherlands during the larger part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and greatly influenced Dutch society in all aspects. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the Lutheran theologian, pastor and martyr in Nazi Germany, was an example of what it was to be a Christian in a hostile environment. He deeply distrusted a Christendom that uncritically accommodated to a paganised society, and became a church father of our times.

-The Sermon on the Mount and the secular world. In Bonhoeffer's view the sermon on the Mount is an example of Christ's public teaching; it is still relevant for the calling of the Church today.

We also heard Mr. Michael Harvey on the **Back to Church Sunday** project. This is an initiative in the UK to invite back people who have not been to church for a long time. The idea of the Back to Church Sunday came up after an enquiry in the UK, from which appeared that people still want religion in crucial parts of life, and that 98% of the people are looking for the meaning of life. The focus is on the local church and its potential for renewal of encouragement, inspiration and fellowship. Mr. Harvey showed us hilarious examples, illustrated by cartoons, of the ways regular churchgoers and welcoming committees should **not** behave. We all recognized certain situations! (See also: [www.cartoonchurch.com](http://www.cartoonchurch.com))

The Luweero Project. Archdeacon John related about his visit to Luweero in Uganda this year, together with Alastair MacDonald, Chaplain in Amsterdam. They were very warmly welcomed. Luweero has been an ongoing project of our Archdeaconry for at least 10 years, which St. Mary's Weldam also has contributed to. Archdeacon John had seen with his own eyes what our support means for the people there: clean water (water pumps), malaria reduction (by our supply of mosquito nets), resourcing of the church (by supplying a library). We hope to be able to invite Bishop Evans from Luweero to be with us next Synod.

A very pleasant dinner at a local restaurant followed, with plenty of opportunities to speak to our fellow-

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The tabby gazed at him from under lowered eye lids and asked, "How many times?"

### Cooking Challenged

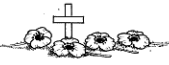
I have a reputation for not being a fantastic cook. One evening I worked particularly hard on a new recipe and, once again, it didn't turn out as well as I'd hoped.

My son, always sweet and conscious of my feelings, chose his words carefully after the meal. "Mom," he said, "that dinner was so good I thought someone else made it."

### Student Letter

One student fell into a cycle of classes, studying, working and sleeping. Didn't realize how long he had neglected writing home until he received the following note: "Dear Son, Your mother and I enjoyed your last letter. Of course, we were much younger then, and more impressionable. Love, Dad."

<b>1<sup>st</sup> November</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Rev. Sam Van Leer</b>
<b>All Saints (with All Souls)</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Joy Romeijn</b>
<i>Annual Remembrance of the Souls of the Faithfully Departed</i>	First Reading Peter Ribbens	Isaiah 25:6-9
<b>10:30 am</b>	Second Reading Joy Romeijn	Revelation 21:1-6a
<b>Sung Eucharist</b>	Gospel	John 11:32-44

<b>8<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Rev. Sam Van Leer</b>
	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Caroline Siertsema</b>
<b>Remembrance Sunday</b>	First Reading Caroline Siertsema	Jonah 3:1-5, 10
<b>10:30 am</b>	Second Reading Hans Siertsema	Hebrews 9:24-28
<b>Service of the Word</b>	Gospel	Mark 1:14-20

<b>15<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Rev. Sam Van Leer</b>
<b>Second Sunday before Advent</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Pauline Talstra</b>
	First Reading Louw Talstra	Daniel 12:1-3
<b>10:30 am</b>	Second Reading Pauline Talstra	Hebrews 10:11-14 19-25
<b>Sung Eucharist</b>	Gospel	Mark 13:1-8

<b>22<sup>nd</sup> November</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Rev. Sam Van Leer</b>
	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Simone Yallop</b>
<b>Christ the King</b>	First Reading Joyce Wigboldus,	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14
<b>10:30 am</b>	Second Reading Simone Yallop	Revelation 1:4b-8
<b>Sung Eucharist</b>	Gospel	John 18:33-37

<b>29<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Rev. Sam Van Leer</b>
	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Philippa te West</b>
<b>First Sunday of Advent</b>	First Reading Mike Allen	Jeremiah 33:14-16
<b>10:30 am</b>	Second Reading Vivian Allen	I Thessalonians 3:9-13
<b>Sung Eucharist</b>	Gospel	Luke 21:25-36

<b>6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Rev. Sam Van Leer</b>
<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Special</b>
	First Reading Young people	Malachi 3:1-4
<b>10:30 am</b>	Second Reading Young people	Philippians 1:3-11
<b>Sung Eucharist</b>	Gospel	Luke 3:1-6