

Poetry
and
Prose

Quiet Peace

O Lord, my heart is all a
prayer,

But it is silent unto thee;
I am too tired to look for
words,

I rest upon thy sympathy
To understand when I am
dumb;

And well I know thou
hearest me.

I know thou hearest me
because

A quiet peace comes down
to me,
And fills the places where
before

Weak thoughts were
wandering wearily;
And deep within me it is
calm,

Though waves are tossing
outwardly.

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Martha, Lazarus and Mary
(Jn12:1-8)

*Martha welcomed and worked hard
And worried about so many things,
Especially that Mary didn't.*

*Lazarus lived again and found fame,
And shared supper with the guest
Who called him from the grave.*

*But Mary...
Mary listened and sat at his feet,
And filled the house with fragrance
In anointing him.*

*Martha served,
Lazarus honoured,
But with her hair and her heart
Mary worshipped
The Lord.*
Daphne Kitching



The Chaplain writes 'Praise the Lord ... in the
assembly of the faithful'

Those who attended the Choral Festival in Arnhem on 20 June will still be basking in the afterglow of a wonderful choral worship service on the theme 'In the light of God's Kingdom'. The members of the various Anglican choirs – nearly 70 singers gathered from all over the Benelux and Germany, including several of our very own singers from St Mary's – sang some brilliant anthems, canticles and other pieces, under the leadership of our inspiring and engaging conductor, Gordon Appleton, of the Royal School of Church Music. And the congregation joined in with hearty and harmonious hymn singing. It was a day to remember, and I trust that so too will have been the 4th of July, when Ank Robinson is deaconed (in the Lutheran Church, Arnhem, 14:30). Although that service falls between my writing this and your reading it, no doubt, we will again have been treated to uplifting music then, to the praise and glory of God.

Even though I mention highlight occasions, with specially prepared choirs and professional conductors, there is no reason why we cannot continue to, as the citation from Psalm 149:1 urges, 'Praise the Lord ... in the assembly of the faithful,' week in and week out. Congregational singing is a key part of our worship, a joyful offering we make together to God. It is a group contribution which has the spiritual potential to lift our hearts heavenward. Martin Luther, for one, believed that music in general, and congregational singing in particular, had the power to drive away evil spirits and make people happy, helping them to forget wrath, arrogance and other vices. Music, for Luther, was a powerful proclamation of the Good News. "When we sing," Luther proclaimed, "we pray twice..."

Our gifted organists, Louw and Cor, as well as our other musicians, like Sietze, Victor and Nettie, bring us their best efforts each Sunday, and we are most grateful to them. (And we are sad to see Nettie, who not only leads music so well, but also has been a driving force behind organizing our 'occasional' choir, move on to England. We'll miss her!) We do have congenial, mid-sized congregations in Twente, large enough to, as Psalm 100 proclaims, 'Make a joyful noise to the Lord', to 'Worship the Lord with gladness,' and to 'come into his presence with singing.' Even though there are few vocal professionals among us (though several are experienced members of choirs), as Louw has kindly commented, it's a pleasure to play when we sing together well. And we can and do!



Twente News

Sunday Teas

Sunday teas start this Sunday, 5 July and go on through to the 9 August, Theda and Jan are doing a great job at organizing and managing the teas. There seem to be people scheduled for every Sunday, but if



you would like to help, please contact them and they will no doubt find you something to do.

However, if you really want to help make the Sunday teas a success, tell your friends, neighbours and family to go for a healthy walk in the Weldam woods and then go and have an English tea in the hut. Actually, on second thought, maybe they should have the tea and cakes first, and then the walk in the woods.

Wedding Announcement

Dear church members,

Just a note to let you know that we, that is, Roland ten Bolscher and Jolanda Wessels, plan to get married on the 11th of July. Our three beautiful children Max, Luc and Marie-José will be in attendance on our big day.

We are very happy that Sam is willing to bless our marriage in the Anglican church. The baptism of our children last year was a very special and precious event for our little family. With this intended marriage we want to ask God for his blessing.

Roland, Jolanda, Max, Luc and Marie-José

English Castle Fair - 12 September

Building on from the successes of the past years, the English Castle Fair will continue to apply the winning formula of a genuine English country fair in the glorious setting of Weldam Castle.

The English Castle Fair is important to St. Mary's chapel for two reasons. First, it raises money that can be used, either to support the chaplaincy, or the charities supported by the chaplaincy. Secondly,

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TAKING & GIVING

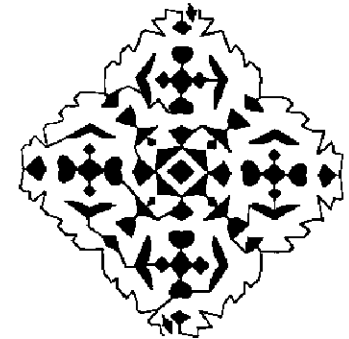
If you look at a map of Israel you will see that there are two small inland seas. And if you look closely you will see that these two seas are linked by the River Jordan. The river starts in the northern hills and goes through the Sea of Galilee, then through the Jordan valley, and ends up in the Dead Sea. But even though the water is all from the same river, the two seas are completely different.

All around the Sea of Galilee are towns and villages, trees and farms. The Dead Sea has no trees or farms, it is dead. What makes the difference? The Sea of Galilee is alive because it has an outlet. It passes the water on as quickly as it flows in. The Dead Sea is dead because it passes no water on.

In St Luke's Gospel we read what Jesus said about giving – 'Give to others, and God will give to you' (chapter 6, verses 27-28). Unlike the two seas we can choose how we want to be: to give and take and be alive. Or just to take - and become sad and lifeless.

IN & OUT

Can you find your way through this lacy maze?



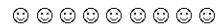
Did you hear about the slimy monster who was famous for his farmyard impressions?
He couldn't do the noises but he could do the smells.



And what about the monster who went shop-lifting?
He was crushed under Tesco's.



Two little old ladies were walking through the park one Sunday afternoon. The band was playing a catchy sounding tune, and one of the old ladies said, "I wonder what the name of that tune is". The other one noticed a sign posted near the bandstand and said, "It looks like they post the names of their selections. I'll go down and see". A while later she came back and told her companion, "It's the Refrain from Spitting".



When William Shakespeare went swimming one day he was obsessed with the notion that moths had been feeding on the back of his trunks! He asked a friend to investigate and make a thorough search. The friend replied, "No holes, bard."



Last night police were called to a branch of Pizza Hut after a body of a member of staff was found covered in mushrooms, onions ham and cheese.

The police spokesman said

THE BROKEN LAWN MOWER

When our lawn mower broke and wouldn't run, my wife kept hinting to me that I should get it fixed. But, somehow I always had something else to take care of first, the truck, the car, playing golf - always something more important to me.

Finally she thought of a clever way to make her point. When I arrived home one day, I found her seated in the tall grass, busily snipping away with a tiny pair of sewing scissors.

I watched silently for a short time and then went into the house. I was gone only a minute, and when I came out again I handed her a toothbrush.

I said, 'When you finish cutting the grass, you might as well sweep the driveway!'

The doctors say I will walk again, but I will always have a limp.

Moral to this story :

Marriage is a relationship in which one person is always right, and the other is the husband.



St James the Least of All

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

On the hazards of the Summer Picnic

The Rectory

St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

It was lovely to see you and your curate friends last week when you came for your Summer picnic in the countryside. I was delighted when you said you were bringing Chardonnay, but somewhat disconcerted to discover that what I assumed would be coming in bottles, arrived in a pink track suit. I had the white wine glasses all ready. I presume your baptismal register is full of Claret Smiths, Burgundy Jones and Beaujolais Browns.

I was saddened to see that almost all of the group were wearing hearing aids, and assumed it must be a consequence of spending so much time with your noisy "music groups" in church. It was only when one of your friends asked me why I was bellowing at them all, that I discovered their hearing was perfect and that they were listening to music. How you manage to fit sets of records into one of those little machines, let alone squeeze in a turntable, is beyond me. And why call them eye-pods when they fit into your ear?

On another occasion, do remind your friends that a farmer's field differs from an inner city park. Fields do not have benches, let alone picnic tables; power points for electric kettles and mobile phone chargers are not in every field corner; you sit on the grass and accommodate yourself around the sheep droppings. I know it will come as a surprise to some of your group, but farm animals are not trained to visit lavatories.

Neither are fields centrally heated; we have what are called hats, coats and scarves when enjoying the open air - anyway, it was not cold, it was bracing. And do remember that barbed wire has that name for a reason. Brandon's left jacket pocket can be retrieved from the fence next time he visits.

In our villages, we tend to think of the dangers lurking in inner city streets, but apparently they are nothing compared with the endless hazards you encounter in the countryside.

I was sorry that the day ended so suddenly. When I got one of our local farmers to let you use his field, it never occurred to me that

Another Greek word used is NIKAI which means 'Victor'. So sometimes you'll see a cross with the four corners having two letters in each: IC meaning Jesus; XC meaning Christ; NI being the first two letters; and KA the last two letters of NIKAI. So you get: 'Jesus Christ, the Victor'.

Sometimes the alpha and omega will be placed either side of another letter or letters. One example is with the letter 'M' which is sometimes used to mean 'found blameless'. So AMQ comes from Philippians 2:15. 'So that you may be innocent and pure as God's perfect children ...'

The Rev Dr Jo White continues her series on the Christian signs and symbols in our churches

A ship of healing

Mercy Ships is a global Christian charity which serves the poor in the developing world. In almost 30 years of operation they have provided thousands of free surgeries and started many community development projects in the areas of health, education, water, agriculture and spiritual needs.

Now Mercy Ships have partnered with Trans World Radio, who will act as the media arm of Mercy Ships as they move along the West Coast of Africa. The ship, Africa Mercy, is currently docked in Cotonou, Benin, and will remain there for 10 months.

Church notice-board with a big difference

The world's first solar-powered church notice board was launched this Spring. The notice board features a discreet, stained glass strip providing a sustainable source of free power. The product is also fitted with a motion sensor which only activates the internal lighting when someone comes close.

"No longer are churches going to be faced with thousands of pounds of electrical costs to get power to their notice boards," explains Simon Johnson, MD of the Church Noticeboard Co from Northwich, Cheshire. "It also gives out an environmentally strong statement to your community whilst advertising your church."

View it at: <http://www.churchnoticeboards.co.uk/newsanddownloads/9/default.aspx>

Two Different doctor's offices

Two patients limp into two different medical clinics with the same complaint.

Both have trouble walking and appear to require a hip replacement.

The FIRST patient is examined within the hour, is x-rayed the same day and has a time booked for surgery the following week.

The SECOND sees his family doctor after waiting three weeks for an appointment, then waits eight weeks to see a specialist, then gets an x-ray, which is not reviewed for another week and finally has his surgery scheduled for a month from then.

Why the different treatment for the two patients?

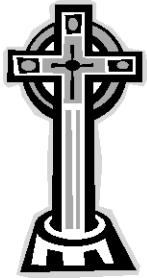
The FIRST is a Golden Retriever.

The SECOND is a Senior Citizen.

Next time take me to a vet!

☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺

My wife sat down on the couch next to me as I was flipping the channels.. She asked, 'What's on TV?' I said, 'Dust!' And then the fight started...



Signs and symbols: alpha, omega and other Greek letters

This month we'll look at a few more symbols to help us think about God using abbreviations from ancient Greek words. The most common and often the most misunderstood is this one - IHC.



Misconceptions

During the Second World War, a baby boy was born to a woman whose husband had been called up. He did not see his dad for three years. His mother tried to ease this loss with a little ritual every bedtime. Every night after putting on his pyjamas, the boy would say his prayers, then kiss a picture of his dad goodnight, before tumbling into bed.

This went on for three years. Then came the great day when dad returned home. That night dad joined in the bedside ritual. Mum said "Now you can kiss your father goodnight". The boy ran over to the picture, kissed the photo, then jumped into bed - leaving his dad standing with open, but empty arms.



People sometimes think they come from the Latin 'Jesus Hominum Salvator' meaning, 'Jesus, saviour of the world', or even 'In his service'. But they don't. They are the first three letters of the Greek for JESUS - which in Greek was IHCOYC.

Just to confuse you, Greek has two ways of writing the sound 's' as in the middle of Jesus. It can be either a 'C' or what looks like a rather stylised 'E'.

To confuse you more, when you translate the Greek letters IHC into Latin they come out as 'IHS'. So you can see both spellings that mean the same thing.

In many churches this abbreviation has been repeated and used to decorate the whole length of the white cloth covering the altar.

A much easier abbreviation is the next one which is the first and last letters of the Greek capital alphabet - Alpha (A) and Omega (a funny-looking O or Q). In English it would be 'AZ'. Alpha/Omega is used to mean the infinity of God, that he is eternal; from the beginning to the end.



You'll sometimes also see AW, because this was the lower case Greek..

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he should be asked to clear it of his stock. I fully realize that the nearest your urban colleagues will have got to a sheep will have been in a supermarket among the lamb chops wrapped in cling film, but the panic that spread through them when the flock ambled over to see if they might be treated to the odd sandwich was something to behold.

Sheep are perfectly amiable, they are most unlikely to trample you underfoot and I have never known anyone torn limb from limb by a crazed ewe. That sort of behaviour is only to be found at church jumble sales.

But it was your loss; it allowed me to finish off the picnic, with my own Chardonnay which was rather more elegantly clad in green glass - and your killer sheep thoroughly enjoyed the chocolate cake.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace



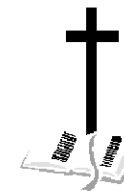
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Singing well as a congregation involves each of us being aware of our own vocal strengths and weaknesses, listening out for the lead given by our musicians, and seeking to blend our voices in harmoniously with the others around us. Music is about listening just as much as it is about making notes!

Balanced, harmonious congregational singing is a great gift of the Anglican music tradition, and is something that has the potential to lift our worship as well as to be attractive. May we continue to learn to 'praise the Lord ... in the assembly of the faithful' and even to 'sing to the Lord a new song' (Psalm 149:1), or an old classic, as well as we are able!

Yours in Christ,

Sam



My wife and I were sitting at a table at my high school reunion, and I kept staring at a drunken lady swigging her drink as she sat alone at a nearby table.

My wife asked, 'Do you know her?'

'Yes,' I sighed, 'She's my old girlfriend.'

I understand she took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and I hear she hasn't been sober since.'

'My God!' says my wife, 'who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?'

And then the fight started...



Life

"If you want my final opinion on the mystery of life and all that, I can give it to you in a nutshell. The universe is like a safe to which there is a combination, but the combination is in the safe."

Peter De Vries



5th July	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
Fourth Sunday after Trinity	Intercessor	Pauline Talstra
	First Reading Eliz van der Heide	Ezekiel 2:1-5
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Maureen van der Heide	2 Corinthians 12:2-10
	Gospel	Mark 6:1-13

26th July	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
Seventh Sunday after Trinity	Intercessor	Simone Yallop
	First Reading Heleen Rauwerda	2 Kings 4:42-44
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Vivian Reinders	Ephesians 3:14-21
	Gospel	John 6:1-21

12th July	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
Fifth Sunday after Trinity	Intercessor	Philippa te West
	First Reading Coretta Van Leer,	Amos 7:7-15
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Jeanet Luiten	Ephesians 1:3-14
	Gospel	Mark 6:14-29

2nd August	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Canon Jake Dejonge
Eighth Sunday after Trinity	Intercessor	Joy Romeijn
	First Reading Peter Ribbens	Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Joy Romeijn	Ephesians 4:1-16
	Gospel	John 6:24-35

19th July	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
Sixth Sunday after Trinity	Intercessor	Joyce Wigboldus
	First Reading Els Ottens	Jeremiah 23:1-6
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Victor Pirenne	Ephesians 2:11-22
	Gospel	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

9th August	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd. Sam Van Leer
Ninth Sunday after Trinity	Intercessor	Caroline Siertsema
	First Reading Caroline Siertsema	1 Kings 19:4-8
10:30am Sung Eucharist	Second Reading Hans Siertsema	Ephesians 4:25-5:2
	Gospel	John 6:35, 41-51