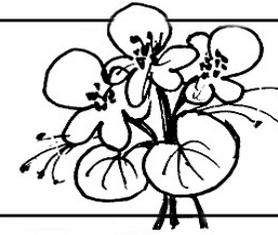


# February



2015

## The Chaplain Writes

## The Price is High

Just recently we witnessed the violent attacks in Paris and a near-attack in Belgium. World leaders marched side by side in Paris to express their belief in the basic rights of our democracy and to show their solidarity with the victims and their families.

The world unanimously condemned the violence and quite rightly so, because violence will never succeed in convincing people but will only work counterproductively. Non-violence, on the other hand, will be more effective and in the long run establish harmony. Gandhi and Nelson Mandela, as well as Martin Luther King, stand out as beacons in our time, because of their choice to live peacefully and not return the violence they had experienced personally or as member of a group.

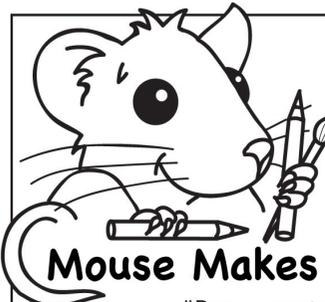
We may be inclined to return violence for violence, aggression for aggression, but this will not solve the problem. It will only make it worse. This is the pragmatic side of the situation. As Christians we have a further obligation and that is to follow the example of Jesus. He brought us the message of peace and lived out his mission until the end.

We may need to look at ourselves as well. What caused this reaction?

Our freedom of speech should not be confused with the right to insult, because this is also an act of violence. Not physical violence and maybe not life-threatening, but still with the aim to hurt people. This is not what the Gospel teaches us, and if we are true to the Gospel we need to reflect on this.

*Alja Tollefsen*  
Chaplain of St Mary's Twente





### Mouse Makes

"Draw near to God"  
James 4:8



The first day of Lent is ASH WEDNESDAY. It is a day of **repentance**, a day for saying **sorry** to God for any wrong things you have said or thought or done.




During Lent **pray** for someone, **encourage** someone and **tell** someone about Jesus

The 40 days before Easter are called **LENT**. Lent is a time for Christians to pray, read the bible and turn to God.



	1 ASH WEDNESDAY	2				
	5	4	3			
20	19	6	7	8	9	10
21	18	17	16	15	14	11
22	23	24	25	26	13	12
	29	28	27			
	30	31	32			
	35	34	33			
	36	37	38			
Tuesday	Monday	40 PALM SUNDAY	39			
Wednesday	The Lord is here, His spirit is with us					
Thursday	GOOD FRIDAY		Saturday	EASTER SUNDAY		

During Lent read Matthew's Gospel

"Love God with all your heart, mind and soul"  
Matthew 22:37

LENT CALENDAR  
Colour in a square each day to Easter

JESUS IS RISEN

ALLELUIA!



# Twente News

## Christmas Market 2014

We all enjoyed a very happy event last year: our Christmas market! Lots of nice gifts, good special produce, mulled wine and hot chocolate, together with good company, made it all worthwhile. Beautifully decorated and a very good atmosphere. Thanks to the help of many bakers and

hands-on people, especially Jan and Theda, we managed to raise the amount of 700 euros. We hope you were happy with the market too, but we are always open to your suggestions for improvement.

So thank you all very much again, and we are grateful for this result.

Joyce Wigboldus and Jeanet Luiten



shutterstock - 117593283

## Website Address



This website address (<http://www.gospelimprint.com/>) has been forwarded to us by Malcolm McBride. Here you will find all sorts of leaflets to download and print, so it may well prove a valuable and interesting addition to your address list.

## Key Dates

- |               |                        |
|---------------|------------------------|
| 18th February | Ash Wednesday          |
| 15th March    | Mothering Sunday       |
| 29th March    | Palm Sunday            |
| 2nd April     | Maundy Thursday        |
| 3rd April     | Good Friday            |
| 5th April     | Easter Sunday          |
| 19th April    | Annual General Meeting |
| 14th May      | Ascension Day          |
| 24th May      | Pentecost              |



## Accident-prone

A pirate walked into a bar, and the bartender said, "Hey, I haven't seen you in a while. What happened? You look terrible."

"What do you mean?" said the pirate, "I feel fine." "What about the wooden leg? You didn't have that before."

"Well," said the pirate, "We were in a battle, and I got hit with a cannon ball, but I'm fine now."

"Well, OK," replied the bartender, "but what about that hook? What happened to your hand?"

The pirate explained, "We were in another battle. I boarded a ship and got into a sword fight. My hand was cut off so I got fitted with a

Stevie Smith, born Florence Margaret Smith in Kingston upon Hull, was the second daughter of Ethel and Charles Smith. She acquired the name Stevie when a friend with whom she was out riding in the park said she reminded him of the jockey Steve Donaghue. Her father abandoned the family and later, when her mother became ill, her aunt Madge Spear came to live with them and raised the two girls. Following a childhood troubled by illness, she worked as a secretary at publishing company in London from 1923 to 1953, retiring after a nervous breakdown. She was subject to depression throughout her life but corresponded and socialized widely with writers and creative writers.

*Not Waving but Drowning*, published in 1957 as part of a collection of the same title, is probably her most famous poem. It strips away the layers: distress signals of a man who loved "larking" have gone unrecognized.



(continued from page 17)

bewilderment about prayer is that we are less occupied about faith in God than about faith in prayer." The only way to learn how to pray is to pray. And God, through his Spirit, teaches us to pray. Through relationship with God, we come into alignment with his will, which leads to believing declaration, petition or action.

First and foremost, prayer is the primary way we relate to and communicate with God. Without communication we can only know *about* someone. Prayerlessness amounts to a rejection of the loving relationship the Father offers. Then, as we spend time in God's presence, our heart and mind become aligned with his. We begin to see God, ourselves, and the people and situations we're concerned about from God's perspective. Our hearts "tune in" to his as we pray, causing us to feel his compassion, sense his pleasure, or mourn with him for our workplaces.

Having aligned ourselves with God's perspective we pray, "Your kingdom come, your will be done" (Matthew 6:10) with increased understanding and conviction. We may also be given direction as to how to act or speak.

## Not Waving but Drowning

*Nobody heard him, the dead man,  
But still he lay moaning:  
I was much further out than you  
thought  
And not waving but drowning.*

*Poor chap, he always loved larking,  
fooling around.  
And now he's dead  
It must have been too cold for him  
His heart gave way,  
They said.*

*Oh, no no no, it was too cold always  
(Still the dead one lay moaning)  
I was much too far out all my life  
And not waving but drowning.*

*Stevie Smith  
(1903-1971)*

### New Email Address ...

... for Cathie and Frits Warmink: [cafr1@caiway.nl](mailto:cafr1@caiway.nl)

### St Mary's Magazine

Once I have seen the May issue of the magazine safely out the door, I will be stepping down as editor and a new team will take hold of the reins. Plans are still in the process of crystallization but, rest assured, we will keep you abreast of the changes in this respect.

For my own part, I would like to thank you all for your constant support and the many interesting contributions that have found their way into my physical and digital mailboxes over the last five years. They have made my time at the computer a real pleasure!

Janice Collins

### Lent Course

The wonderful services of the last two months are still fresh in our memory. Who can forget the beautiful singing of the "ad hoc" choir on Christmas Eve or the Wladimirkoor (Slavic-Byzantine Men's Choir) on the First Sunday after Epiphany? And yet the season of Lent is now rapidly approaching. At the time of writing, dates, themes and leaders have not yet been decided, but more information will be forthcoming once the requested books have arrived. A good reason to keep one eye (or even two) on our website!

\* *My days of veni, vidi, vici are only a dim memory, but surely "ad hoc" must mean "highly accomplished"?*



### 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.

hook, but I'm fine, really."  
"What about that eye patch?"



"Oh," said the pirate, "One day we were at sea, and a flock of birds flew over. I looked up, and splat! Right in my eye."  
"You're kidding," said the bartender. "that couldn't cost you an eye."  
"It was my first day with the hook."

### Public Alert

Police warn that a gang, usually comprised of one adult and three youngsters, is on the prowl. While the three youngsters divert their "mark" with a show of friendliness, the fourth sneaks in from behind to expertly rifle through the target's pockets and bags for valuables. See on page 5 the picture caught on CCTV, showing the gang in operation.

## Question and Answer

A sweet grandmother telephoned St Joseph's Hospital. She timidly asked, "Is it possible to speak to someone who can tell me how a patient is doing?" The operator said, "I'll be glad to help, dear. What's the name and room number of the patient?" The grandmother in her weak, tremulous voice said, "Norma Findlay, Room 302." The operator replied, "Let me put you on hold while I check with the nurse's station for that room." After a few minutes, the operator returned to the phone and said, "I have good news. Her nurse just told me that Norma is doing well. Her blood pressure is fine; her blood test just came back normal, and her physician, Dr Cores, has scheduled her to

## 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.

Anyone who is not yet on the Electoral Roll and who wishes to have their name included may request and fill in an application form.

In order to be on the Electoral Roll you need to be baptized, at least 16 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, if you are not a member of the Church of England, you need to have been attending St Mary's Weldam for at least six months.

Names can be added to the Electoral Roll at any time during the year but it has to be brought up to date and frozen two weeks before the date of the Annual General Meeting. This year our AGM will be on 19th April 2015. Therefore, I need to receive any new forms by 5th April 2015 at the latest, but preferably before 29th March so that the updated roll can be published in the AGM papers. If you would like to be on the Electoral Roll, please see me for an application form.

Please note that being on the Electoral Roll does not involve any financial commitment on your part. However, the annual quota that our Chaplaincy has to pay to the Diocese is based on the number on our Electoral Roll. As already mentioned, being on the Electoral Roll entitles you to vote at the AGM. This enables you to take part in the election of those who represent you on the Church Council and gives you a



Day in 1934. The white poppy is a symbol of commitment to work for a world where conflicts are resolved without violence and with justice.

### *Universal Prayer for Peace*

*Lead us from death to life  
from falsehood to truth  
Lead us from despair to hope  
from fear to trust.  
Lead us from hate to love  
from war to peace.  
Let Peace fill our hearts,  
our world, our universe.  
Let us dream together  
Pray together  
Work together  
to build one world  
of Peace & Justice for all.*

### **How To Be Competent When It Comes to Prayer?**

*By Bev Shepherd*

*One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say: 'Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come.'" (Luke 11:1-2)*

More often than we would care to admit, our desired objective in prayer is to "get what we ask for". If this doesn't happen, we might think that prayer hasn't worked, that its results are, at best, arbitrary, or that we are just not a competent pray-er and so best leave it to those who are! Yet, as P.T. Forsyth points out in *The Soul of Prayer*, "if we got all we asked for we should soon come to treat Him as a convenience, or the request as a magic. The reason for much

*(continued on page 19)*

poems on biblical themes. These were of great value in evangelizing the common folk. For the most part, Anglo-Saxon poetry was oral, and it is only thanks to Bede that Caedmon's *Hymn* survives to this day, together with an account of the miracle behind it.

### **Hymn of Creation**

*Now [we] must honour the guardian of heaven, the might of the architect, and his purpose, the work of the father of glory as he, the eternal lord, established the beginning of wonders; he first created for the children of men heaven as a roof, the holy creator. Then the guardian of mankind, the eternal lord, afterwards appointed the middle earth the lands for men, the Lord almighty.*



**Caedmon (d 680):**  
*the first English poet*  
*who wrote the first*  
*English poem*  
*(Feast day 11th*  
*February)*

We owe Caedmon's *Hymn* to one man: the Venerable Bede, who wrote it down around 731. According to him, Caedmon was not only a mead-drinking cowherd; he was also illiterate, tone-deaf, and so shy that, at feasts when guests took turns singing, "when he saw the harp nearing him, he then arose for shame from that feast and went home to his house." On one such night he dreamed about an angel and, on waking, discovered within himself gifts for song and poetry. He was invited to become a monk, which gave him the time to compose many

## Peace Candle

By Pauline Talstra

On Sunday 21st December 2014, just before Christmas, we installed in our church, St Mary's, a Peace Candle. The following sentiments and thoughts were read out to the congregation.

"We are living in a world where terrible atrocities are happening. Many of us as individuals are horrified at these events and can even feel helpless. Some of us are unable to march in protests or to have our voices heard and listened to in places where it matters. There is one thing we can do and that is *PRAY*. We can pray for *PEACE* so that the spirit of our prayers unite and become a force of good against the evil which exists in our world.

Many Peace candles have now been adopted throughout the world and are lit each Sunday in their churches. Now we too at St Mary's will do the same.

The *PEACE CANDLE* will be a symbol of the *LIGHT* – the Light of our Lord Jesus – and when we see it lit, we will pray and know that we join forces with all those who seek *PEACE & JUSTICE* in our world."



### White Poppies

With our *PEACE CANDLE* we have laid a wreath of White Poppies. White poppies for peace began to be distributed by the Peace Pledge Union on Armistice

say in any decisions taken at the AGM. Anyone standing for election to the Church Council must have been on the Electoral Roll for at least six months prior to election.

The Electoral Roll is completely renewed every six years, which we last did in 2013, and a couple of names were added in 2014. If your name is not yet included please give some thought this year to joining the Electoral Roll of the Anglican Church Twente.

Simone Yallop

### CCTV Shot (cont'd from page 3)



**A computer once beat me at chess,  
 but it was no match for me at kickboxing.**

Emo Philips

be discharged tomorrow." The grandmother said, "Thank you. That's wonderful. I was so worried. God bless you for the good news." The operator replied, "You're more than welcome. Is Norma your daughter?" The grandmother said, "No, I'm Norma Findlay in Room 302. No one tells me anything."

Submitted by Alja Tollefsen

### Highway Robbery

A robber held up a stagecoach in the American Mid-West. "If you don't hand over all your money, I'll shoot the men and molest the women," he snarled. A gentleman passenger stepped forward and said bravely, "You shall not touch the ladies." Hearing this, an elderly woman passenger cried out, "Sit down and leave him alone. He's the one robbing this stagecoach!"

## Stop and Check

Police today pulled over a white van driver. They were amazed to find the vehicle was taxed, tested and insured. It wasn't stolen and no bombs or weapons were found. The vehicle wasn't being used as an illegal taxi and the driver was sober. Moreover, he had a clean licence.



A police spokesman said they had no option but to fine him £80 for wasting police time.

## Dear Alcohol,

We had a deal that you would make me prettier, funnier and a better dancer. I saw the video. We need to talk!

*Lent is supposed to be a time for spiritual self-examination. But suppose our lives are so full of problems that we can scarcely take our eyes off of them?*

## Amid the Winds and the Waves of Life

By Gemma Curran

*Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake ... "Lord, if it's you, Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."*



*"Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came towards Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" (Matthew 14:25-31)*

If you could have any superpower, what would it be? Unfortunately, this story isn't evidence that Jesus is in the habit of handing out superpowers. So, what can we learn from this account? Like most of our modern superhero stories, this incident is less about the superpower on display and more about what the characters learn about themselves and others.

Most significantly of all, the first thing Peter sees is Jesus doing what God alone can do. In Scripture, power over the wind and waves is always attributed to God. Jesus' feat of walking on water is more than just a clever trick. It's further evidence of his authority – an authority which enables Peter himself to walk on water. Even more remarkably, we can trust that the power of Christ residing in us through his Spirit will

In 1842 he painted *Steamboat in a Snowstorm*. We see the water and the sky and the snow all cascading around each other. The clouds and driving snow, the churning of the water are there in abundance, and in the midst there is the steamboat trying to keep afloat and make its way through the forces of nature. Without that title we might think this painting is a modern abstract. With the title, we sense the wildness and wonder of the great forces of sea and sky, snow and clouds.

The months of January and February can bring snow which stops the traffic and maroons us in our homes. Here in the painting the snow and wind beat around the steamboat: it could be an image of human life tossed around by circumstance and event. But I think Turner wanted us to see something of the extraordinary power the great forces of nature have over life – not to make us fatalistic and gloomy, but to proclaim that here in our world are mysteries and marvels that can stop us in our tracks. It is like the voice of God speaking to Job, who has questioned the justice of God's ways in his world. "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?" God asks Job. "Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades or loose the cords of Orion?" Job's response is to question no more. He puts his hand over his mouth and looks out at the world God has created in wonder and amazement.

© The Revd Michael Burgess



**Success is going from failure to failure**

**without losing enthusiasm.**

**Winston Churchill**

## Poetry in Motion

He didn't like the casserole  
He didn't like my cake,  
He said my biscuits were too hard,  
Not like his mother used to make.  
I didn't perk the coffee right  
He didn't like the stew,  
And I didn't mend his special socks  
The way his mother used to do.  
I pondered for an answer  
I was looking for a clue ...



Then I turned around and slapped him hard ...  
Like his mother used to do!

cleaned it, made sure it was running perfectly and had it ready for the President the next day. Al Capone's 1928 Cadillac V-8 Town Sedan became the President's Limo in December 1941

Mechanics are said to have cleaned and checked each feature of the Caddy well into the night of December 7th to make sure that it would run properly the next day for the Commander-in-Chief. And run properly it did. It had been painted black and green to look identical to Chicago's police cars at the time. To top it all, the gangster's 1928 Cadillac Town Sedan had 3,000 pounds of armour and inch-thick bulletproof windows. It also had a specially installed siren and flashing lights hidden behind the grille, along with a police scanner radio.

## God in the Arts

**"He gave us eyes to see them:  
*Steamboat in a Snowstorm*  
by Joseph Turner (1775-1851)**



Amid the hectic, busy lives we lead, many people fall under the control of "the hurry syndrome". We have to do "A" as soon as possible, and we have get to "B" as soon as possible. And along the way, we have phone calls to make, emails to open, and Facebook and twitter and all the social media to check. It means that we often go through the world without giving that world a second glance. As the New Year opens let us pause, and, as the poet says, "stand and stare". Let us look at a painting that celebrates the wonder, the joy, the mystery, and the marvel of the created world in which we live.

Joseph Turner (1775-1851) was one of the great artists of the 19th century. But he did little to conform to that accolade, and that is the theme of Mike Leigh's recent film, *Mr Turner*. But no matter – he was passionate about his vision of the world around which inspired his art. Wherever he went, he sketched and painted. The ending of the Napoleonic wars meant that people could travel safely through Europe, and he visited Italy many times. That country and its scenery taught him the place of light in art, which in many ways was the foundation of the paintings of his last 15 years. Ruskin hailed Turner as "a great angel of the Apocalypse ....sent as a prophet of God to reveal to men the mysteries of the universe." Turner was not particularly religious himself, but in the paintings of his old age, he was like a creator grappling with the elemental forces of light and sky, of water and sun.

enable us to walk through life's storms without fear.

The second thing Peter learns is that he can't do it himself. He began to walk towards Jesus, *but when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"* Peter was aware of the wind and the waves in his peripheral vision when he climbed out of the boat. But when he stopped focusing on Jesus and allowed his vision to be filled with the storm, he began to sink.

Few of us will ever find ourselves in a boat surrounded by a storm, but we regularly weather metaphorical storms. The storms around us might be powered by financial difficulty, impossible deadlines at work, family strife, unstable health, relationship breakdown. But when we find ourselves in a storm, what do we do? Do we allow the wind and waves to fill our vision and overwhelm us, or do we keep focusing on Jesus? Do we trust that, if we begin to sink, he will reach out and catch us?

The one we look to is the Lord, who not only directs the winds and waves but also death and life, the only one who can save us – and carry us through the storms of today.

*(Gemma Curran works with The London Institute for Contemporary Christianity)*



**I always pass on good advice. It is the only thing to do with it.**

**It is never of any use to oneself.**

*Oscar Wilde*

## Spoil for Choice



A store that sells new husbands has opened in Australia, where a woman may go to choose a husband. Among the instructions at the entrance is a description of how the store operates: *You may visit this store only once! There are six floors and the value of the products increase as the shopper ascends the flights. The shopper may choose any item from a particular floor, or may choose to go up to the next floor, but you cannot go back down except to exit the building!*

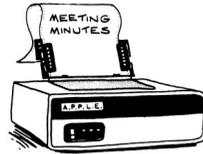
So a woman goes to the Husband Store to find a husband. On the first floor the sign on the door reads: *Floor 1: These men have jobs.*

She is intrigued but continues to the second floor, where the sign reads:

*Floor 2: These men have jobs and love kids.* “That’s nice,” she thinks, “but I want more.” So she continues upward. The third floor sign reads: *Floor 3: These men have jobs, love kids, and are extremely good-looking.* “Wow,” she thinks ... but feels compelled to keep going. On the fourth floor the sign reads: *Floor 4: These men have jobs, love kids, are drop-dead good-looking and help with housework.* “Oh, mercy me!” she exclaims, “I can hardly stand it!” But still she goes to the fifth floor, where the sign reads: *Floor 5: These men have jobs, love kids, are drop-dead gorgeous, help with housework, and have a strong romantic streak.* She is so tempted to stay, but

## St James the Least of All

### On the Importance of *NOT* Keeping Accurate Minutes



My dear Nephew Darren,

Since you were the one to ask this parishioner of yours to act as secretary, you have no reason to complain about the minutes of meetings she produces. You should never let anyone act as a secretary unless they either cannot speak English, or are deaf – preferably both. The more significant the committee and the more contentious the issues being debated, the more you should nobly put yourself forward both to chair the meeting and take the minutes. In the majority of cases, this will spare the other members that awkward moment when you ask for a volunteer and they all feel the need to stare at their feet.

If you act as secretary, then you can be certain that accounts of what took place will only be what you had wanted to happen and that the decisions taken will be what you had already decided before discussions started. Any inconvenient observations from other committee members can be omitted entirely.

Admittedly, the more observant may notice that your accounts of the meeting may not wholly agree with their recollections, but the skill of being a secretary is not to produce the minutes of the previous meeting until the day before the next one. This will mean that the great majority will have long forgotten what actually did happen two months previously, and that many will not have had the time to read them anyway and will avoid having to admit that fact by passing them.

Only the deeply committed will want to pursue apparent discrepancies. In that case, confess to the meeting that your hand-written notes were accidentally left on a bus and so you can no longer check the accuracy of what you have written.

*his middle finger stuck up in the air. I asked my teenage grandson in the back seat what that meant. He said it was probably a Hawaiian good luck sign or something. Well, I've never met anyone from Hawaii, so I leaned out the window and gave him the good luck sign right back. My grandson burst out laughing. Why even he was enjoying this religious experience!*

*A couple of people were so caught up in the joy of the moment that they got out of their cars and started walking towards me. I bet they wanted to pray or ask what church I attended, but this is when I noticed the light had changed. So, grinning, I waved at all my brothers and sisters, and drove on through the intersection.*

*I noticed that I was the only car that got through the intersection before the light changed again and felt kind of sad that I had to leave them after all the love we had shared. So I slowed the car down, leaned out the window and gave them all the Hawaiian good luck sign one last time as I drove away. Praise the Lord for such wonderful folks!*

*Will write again soon,  
Love, Grandma*



*It's called reading. It's how people install new software into their brains.*

**A Bit of History**  
Hours after Pearl Harbor was bombed on 7th December 1941, the Secret Service found themselves in a bind.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt was to give his Day of Infamy speech to Congress on Tuesday, and although the trip from the White House to Capitol Hill was short, agents were not sure how to transport him safely. At the time, Federal Law prohibited buying any cars that cost more than \$750, so they would have to get clearance from Congress to do that, and nobody had time for that. One of the Secret Service members, however, discovered that the US Treasury had seized the bulletproof car that Al Capone had owned when he was sent to jail in 1931. They

### Ever Wonder ...

*Why* people order double cheese-burgers, large fries, and a diet coke?  
*Why* the time of day with the slowest traffic is called the *rush hour*?  
*Why* Superman stops bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?  
*Why* people say they *slept like a baby* when babies wake up about every two hours?  
*Why* people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?  
*Why* someone believes you when you say there are four billion stars, but checks when you say the paint is wet?  
*How* we managed to put a man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?

### Picture This!

*Submitted by Christiaan Koning*

This is an email Grandma, who is 88-years old and still drives her own car, sent to her granddaughter.



*Dear Jessica,*

*The other day I went up to our local Christian bookstore and saw a "Honk if you love Jesus" bumper sticker. I was feeling particularly sassy that day because I had just come from a thrilling choir performance, followed by a thunderous prayer meeting. So, I bought the sticker and put it on my bumper. Boy, am I glad I did; what an uplifting experience followed!*

*I had stopped at a red light at a busy intersection, just lost in thought about the Lord and how good he is, and I didn't notice that the light had changed. It's a good thing someone else loves Jesus because if he hadn't honked, I'd never have noticed. I found that lots of people love Jesus! While I was sitting there, the guy behind started honking like crazy, and then he leaned out of his window and screamed, "For the love of God, go! Go! GO!" What an exuberant cheerleader he was for Jesus!*

*Everyone started honking! I just leaned out my window and started waving and smiling at all those loving people. I even honked my horn a few times to share in the love! There must have been a man from Florida back there because I heard him yelling something about a sunny beach.*

*I saw another guy waving in a funny way with only*

As a way of appearing helpful, you could even give the person challenging you the bus route number and the time of day you travelled – but make sure that that route has subsequently been discontinued. Further challenges will rally the rest of the committee to your side and someone will oil the wheels by suggesting you proceed to the next item on the agenda. Since you are also the chairman, you naturally bow to their request.

Just in the way that church rotas bear no resemblance to the people who actually turn up to do the jobs, minutes of meetings need not bear too much resemblance to what actually happened – especially if what did happen is inconvenient. Democracy is all very well – provided a benign dictator is in overall control.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace

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nevertheless goes to the sixth floor, where the sign reads: *Floor 6: You are visitor 31,456,012 to this floor. There are no men on this floor. This floor exists solely as proof that women are impossible to please. Thank you for shopping at the Husband Store.*

To avoid charges of discrimination, the store's owner opened a New Wives store just across the street. The first floor has wives that enjoy a roll in the hay. The second floor has wives that enjoy a roll in the hay, have money and like beer.

The third, fourth, fifth and sixth floors have never been visited.

*Is that New Year's resolution proving difficult?*

*This inspirational poster found in a Montana history book (circa 1919) may offer encouragement.*

*Or again, it may not!*

<b>8th February</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Alja Tollefsen</b>
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Everhard Ottens</b>
<b>Second Sunday before Lent</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Joyce Wigboldus</b>
	<b>Chalice</b>	<b>Everhard Ottens</b>
<b>Sunday School: Jolanda Wessels</b>	Louw Talstra	(1) Proverbs 8: 1, 22-31
	Pauline Talstra	(2) Colossians 1: 15-20
<b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>	Gospel	John 1: 1-14

<b>15th 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</b>
<b>Sunday School: Caroline Siertsema</b>	Jeanet Luiten	(1) 2 Kings 2: 1-12
	Philippa te West	(2) 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6
<b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>	Gospel	Mark 9: 2-9

<b>18th February</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Alja Tollefsen</b>
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>Ash Wednesday with imposition of ashes</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Janice Collins</b>
	<b>Chalice</b>	<b>Count Alfred Solms</b>
	Hans Siertsema	(1) Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17
	Erica Bonting Schotman	(2) 2 Corinthians 5: 20b - 6: 10
<b>20:00 hrs Sung Eucharist</b>	Gospel	John 8: 1-11

<b>22nd February</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Alja Tollefsen</b>
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Everhard Ottens</b>
<b>First Sunday of Lent</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Jeanet Luiten</b>
	<b>Chalice</b>	<b>Simone Yallop</b>
<b>Sunday School: Patrick Saridjan</b>	John Bestman	Genesis 9: 8-17
	Carla Koomen	1 Peter 3: 18-22
<b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>	Gospel	Mark 1: 9-15

<b>1st March</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Alja Tollefsen</b>
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Joyce Wigboldus</b>
<b>Second Sunday of Lent</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Caroline Siertsema</b>
	<b>Chalice</b>	<b>Janice Collins</b>
<b>Sunday School: Jeanet Luiten</b>	Els Ottens	(1) Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16
	Vivian Reinders	(2) Romans 4: 13-25
<b>10:30 am</b>	Gospel	Mark 8: 31-38

<b>8th March</b>	<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	<b>Revd Alja Tollefsen</b>
	<b>Duty Warden</b>	<b>Joyce Wigboldus</b>
<b>Third Sunday of Lent</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Pauline Talstra</b>
	<b>Chalice</b>	<b>Caroline Siertsema</b>
<b>Sunday School: Diane Wesselink</b>	John Bestman	(1) Exodus 20: 1-17
	Dina Boessenkool	(2) 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25
<b>10:30 am Sung Eucharist</b>	Gospel	John 2: 13-22