

Holy Trinity Church Utrecht and Anglican Church Zwolle



October
2015



Léon Belly – Pilgrims going to Mecca – 1861 (see chaplain's letter)

October 2015 Newsletter

Newsletter Editor

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If you have contributions for the next Newsletter we need to receive them by the middle of the previous month.

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Chaplain's Letter



Over the past few months and especially in September, we have been confronted by the news of vast movements of people around the world fleeing violence and poverty and seeking a new life.

The picture on the front of this month's Newsletter is of a pilgrimage to Mecca, by the French landscape painter, Léon Belly in 1861. It might seem a strange choice, but I thought appropriate for a few reasons. With the camels it evokes the great movements in the Middle East of Abraham from his homeland in Ur, or the Exodus of the people of Israel from Egypt to the Promised Land. Many of the refugees are Muslims. For followers of Islam, going to Mecca, is expressing a kind of universal longing for the heavenly Jerusalem, the longing for heaven, for a promised land that all people in all times in their heart of hearts are longing for – an end of suffering, a place of flourishing, a place of love and peaceful fellowship, a place of ever renewed and eternal life. In the desire of Muslims to come to Europe, their hope is a better life – one that more closely images that perfect heavenly city.

One of the anxieties that people in Europe have is about the dangers of importing into our society some of the troubles that these people are fleeing from, even their religion, and whether or not it will affect our material prosperity – can we afford to care for them?

It is important to remember first that among the refugees are many brothers and sisters in Christ, who will easily find a bridge and make a contribution to our Western society – bringing with them the blessing of their Christian faith and witness lived out in the

furnace of affliction. For those who are followers of Islam, they also bring a witness to faith in God, one that we think could be perfected if they only knew Jesus Christ. Perhaps God's hand is leading them here precisely so they can hear the gospel in a land that allows them to more freely choose.

All the refugees will no doubt bring with them virtues and vices: skills and learning and different perspectives that can open our minds; and lies that need to be broken through and destructive behaviours that require grace to amend. That is because they are just like us.

The Refugee crisis is a blessing for the city of Utrecht for a few reasons. Foremost, because every human being is made in the image and likeness of God and with an eternal soul, there is no greater treasure on earth. Also, they are demanding love, in a sense, by showing up on our doorstep – like Lazarus at the gate of the Rich Man, in the parable that Jesus tells us (Luke 16:19-31, Trinity 1). In calling forth love from our hearts, we are being blessed.

In this Newsletter we have included three articles on the Crisis and the Blessing: one from USRK calling on us to respond; one from USRK representatives showing very practical ways we can help and where to find more information; and one showing what the life of a refugee is like in Utrecht and what one person in our chaplaincy has been doing to help. We can be witnesses as individuals, but I would like us to hold an open meeting in the next few weeks in Utrecht to reflect as a chaplaincy on what, if any, action we can take. Let us pray and God will show us the Way.

In the love of Jesus, David 

Letter from USRK on the Refugee Crisis

*Kanselboodschap van de Utrechtse
Stedelijke Raad van Kerken (USRK) voor
eind september 2015*

*We worden in Europa geconfronteerd met de
grootste vluchtelingenstroom sinds de Tweede
Wereldoorlog. Pas nu realiseren we ons dat
vluchtelingen van alle tijden zijn. Was het niet
Abraham die het beloofde land moest verlaten
wegens hongersnood? Nog beter bekend is het
dat de broers van Jozef door hun Vader Jacob
naar Egypte worden gestuurd om brood te
kopen. Het resulteerde in een langdurig
verblijf dat aanvankelijk gastvrij was en
eindigde na de harde slavernij in de vlucht de
woestijn in.*

*Eind vorig jaar waren er wereldwijd 60
miljoen mensen op de vlucht. Dat waren er
ruim 8 miljoen meer dan in 2013. We kennen
inmiddels allemaal de beelden uit Afrika en de
bootvluchtelingen op de Middellandse Zee.
Europa lijkt een veilig gebied voor talloze
vluchtelingen. Zij hebben huis en haard en
dierbaren achter moeten laten om hun leven
veilig te stellen en ze smeken ons nu om hulp.*

*Op de wens van enkele leden besloot de USRK
in de laatste vergadering zijn hulp aan te
bieden aan de gemeente Utrecht. Vanuit onze
Christelijke overtuiging openen wij ons hart
voor onze naaste. In Mattheus 25 geeft Jezus
enkele voorbeelden wat we zouden kunnen
doen.*

*Wat kunnen we doen? Bidden voor deze
mensen en voor alle vluchtelingen in onze
wereld; warme kleding brengen naar het Rode
Kruis, Koningsweg 2; een gastgezin zijn.
(eerste lezen de volgende brief...)*

*Deze komende week zal de USRK in overleg
met de gemeente Utrecht bepalen hoe de nood
het beste gestructureerd kan worden.*

*Voor nu vragen we uw gebed voor hun nood
en voor de hulp die wij willen bieden.*

In Christus verbonden.

Henk Korff

voorzitter USRK ✂

Message of the Utrecht Municipal Council of
Churches (USRK) to be shared before the
end of September 2015

We are faced in Europe with the largest
refugee migration since World War II. Only
now do we realize that refugees have been a
reality in every age. Was not Abraham a
refugee when he abandoned the promised
land because of famine? Even better known
is the time when the brothers Joseph were
sent by their father Jacob to Egypt to bread
buy. It resulted in a lengthy stay, which was
initially hospitable but ended after hard
slavery with a flight into the desert.

Late last year, there were worldwide 60
million people on the move, which was over
8 million more than in 2013. We know well
all the images from Africa and the boat
people in the Mediterranean. Europe seems
a safe destination for many refugees. They
leave their homes and loved ones behind in
order to safeguard their lives and they beg us
now for help.

At our last meeting some members of
USRK decided to offer assistance to the city
of Utrecht. From our Christian conviction,
we open our hearts to our neighbors. In
Matthew 25, Jesus gives some examples of
what we might do.

What can we do? Pray for these people and
for all refugees in our world; bring warm
clothes to the Red Cross, Koningsweg 2 (see
first the letter that follows...); be a good host
family.

This coming week the USRK in consultation
with the city of Utrecht will determine how
the emergency can best be structured.

For now we ask you to pray for their needs
and for the help that we can offer.

United in Christ,

Henk Korff

Chairman USRK ✂

The Refugee Crisis is a Blessing for Utrecht

The USRK (Utrechtse Stedelijke Raad van Kerken), the largest Christian Ecumenical organization in Utrecht, has been discussing the recent Refugee crisis and blessing for Utrecht and wondering about possible responses by the churches. The following letter has recently been issued, which summarizes ways in which we can work together for good.

(This is an English translation of the Dutch original, which can be found at www.dputrecht.nl/2015/09/vluchtelingen-informatie-brief-voor-de-kerken/)

REFUGEE INFORMATION LETTER TO THE CHURCHES IN THE CITY OF UTRECHT

September 23rd, 2015

Shelter and care for refugees in the Beatrix Building

Dear Churches and Faith Communities,

Because of the arrival of the 500 refugees to the Beatrix building in Utrecht, churches and religious communities have come together for a joint effort in the care of these refugees. The Diaconaal Platform Utrecht (DPU), supported by the Salvation Army and the Utrecht Municipal Council of Churches (USRK) are coordinating this effort with two priorities:

- 1 Provide the Utrecht churches with information from the Centraal Orgaan opvang asielzoekers (COA), the City of Utrecht, Vluchtelingenwerk (a volunteer organization working with Refugees) and the Red Cross regarding the needs of refugees;
- 2 The coordination and management of the offers of help of churches in the direction of the COA and the City of Utrecht.

It is beyond the ability of our small team tasked with this to set up all kinds of initiatives. But we believe in the power of faith communities, stemming from our beliefs, to provide support and a home for these refugees. We hope this letter will inform you of what the situation for the reception of refugees in Utrecht is now, and where the participation of churches is

possible and desirable. An important source of information is our weekly team meetings with COA, municipality of Utrecht, Vluchtelingenwerk, Red Cross and representatives of volunteer organizations. We participate in these meetings, and will inform you, so that together, as churches, we can help!

There are many offers of help!

We have heard that the churches would like to show their commitment to the group of asylum seekers who are staying at the Beatrix building – fantastic! As churches in Utrecht we are certainly not alone in this – there are thousands of people who want to help and a lot of different organizations who want to help to streamline this. With them, we are cooperating and consulting with the municipality about how we can contribute. As churches we don't want to waste our effort by doing what is already being done well by others, but rather to help in vital ways that other organizations are not or can not.

What are the needs?

COA provides the primary care for the men in the hall, with all the basic necessities. Vluchtelingenwerk is present and together with COA will start conducting the first interviews with the refugees to inform them about legal matters. The first need of the refugees is clarity about the asylum procedure. The problem is that there is not complete clarity from the government about this yet. For that reason it is good that there are other activities for the men as they wait. This

should be also the consideration when thinking about the activities that can be offered by volunteers. Activities cannot be offered in the hall and not even conversations. Realize that the space where they are staying is a large dormitory for 500 men.

What can we do as churches?

Gradually this is becoming clearer. There is a website set up where all the questions and offers of help will be posted (www.welkominutrecht.nu). It is a good place to make known what the churches are doing to offer help. In addition, we, as coordinators, would like to hear what is being done by the churches. We will keep faith communities also aware of the offers and activities that other churches undertake, so all can see, and to personalize it, or link it, or supplement it. You can always inform us of concrete actions you are taking via the contact details at the bottom of this letter.

For now we see the following practical possibilities:

1 Collection of goods by the churches

As a church you can organize a collection. This can be done concretely on Sunday mornings, but also by individual members asking others to bring things.

There is a need for the following:

- Winter jackets (not too big)
- Sneakers
- New underwear
- New socks

With regard to clothes, remember that in the Utrecht shelter, there are only men.

In addition, there is also a need for games. This should be international games, such as checkers, chess, triominos, small table football game (www.action.nl/tafelvoetbal-50-5x31x9-5cm)

All things that are collected can be delivered at the Red Cross shop: www.rodekruis.nl/afdeling/utrecht/actueel/nieuws/welkom-winkel-rode-kruis-utrecht

2 Speaking with refugees

We are in discussion with one church about a space to have coffee and conversation for a number of sessions per week. If you would you like to contribute to this initiative you can send an email to: info@dputrecht.nl

It is important that you have some knowledge of languages, at least English, and that you can commit to a few days (or part of a day) per week. If so, you could email the same address giving your name, phone and email address and the shifts in the day (i.e. mornings and/or afternoons) for which you could be available.

3 Commitment Salvation Army

The Salvation Army is looking at how they can support the relief efforts. More information will follow. Now there is a specific vacancy for volunteers for the clothes sorting, see:

www.werkenbijhetlegerdesheils.nl/vacatures/vrijwilliger-kledingsortering.html

4 Meals

The volunteer Christian organization “[Stichting Present](http://www.stichtingpresent.nl)” is preparing an ‘eat-and-meet-action’! When this is finalized it will be reported on the site www.welkominutrecht.nu

5 Church initiatives

If you are going to organize your own initiative as a church, we are happy to help you to find the right starting point, ideas and people. You can email us at info@dputrecht.nl. You can also use the site mentioned above, www.welkominutrecht.nu, to log your activity.

6 Services and celebrations

We also hear of churches that have invited people for their services on Sunday. This is a possibility for the coming weeks. Perhaps special services could be arranged for the refugees.

We look forward to following this and other activities organized by churches. If you contact us by email, we can provide you with an overview of the involvement of churches.

For now this is the information that we can pass on. There are new developments happening almost daily. We will be glad to keep you informed.

Sincerely,

Leon Ball, on behalf of the USRK:
dsleonbal@filternet.nl

Ageeth Weelink, on behalf of the Salvation Army Utrecht and Diaconaal platform Utrecht: info@dputrecht.nl ✉

A day in the life of homeless refugees in Utrecht

This contribution is from Madeleine de Boer from Holy Trinity Utrecht.



At the end of last year all the money from the collections in the Holy Trinity Christmas services was given to Stichting Noodopvang Dakloze Vluchtelingen Utrecht (SNDVU; see the December

Newsletter). This Non Profit Foundation - an initiative of the Roman Catholic Sint Dominicus Church in Oog in Al, Utrecht - helps around 100 homeless refugees from different countries. The municipality of Utrecht has become involved with the work of SNDVU and has provided apartments in different parts of Utrecht for the refugees to live in. In addition the refugees receive 50 euro's of pocket money a week, free health care and legal support.

For over two years now I have been working as a volunteer for SNDVU. The tasks allocated to me vary from occasionally driving refugees to appointments (such as to their Embassy or trauma therapy), to being a 'buddy' to one of the refugees on a weekly basis.

The position of a 'homeless refugee' is pretty depressing. They have been refused a residence permit by the IND

(Immigration and Naturalisation Department), so they are not allowed to stay in the Netherlands. This means that they are not allowed to find a job, they have no right to rent a room or home and they can't participate in education. Usually these refugees don't have identity papers, so they cannot leave the Netherlands either. While they are in the care of SNDVU attempts of appeal are made in court to provide them with a residence permit after all. This process may take years and years, with no guarantee of success.



So what does a day look like in the life of a homeless refugee in Utrecht? You wake up in the morning in the flat you share with three or four other refugees. The breakfast you have has been bought in one of the cheap rate supermarkets, preferably foods on special offer. Then the question is: "What do you do all day?" One possibility

is to stay in and watch TV all day, another to go out for a wander around town. Walking outside always entails the risk of being stopped by the police and then being found out as an 'illegal immigrant' and consequently arrested.

My job as a 'buddy' is to provide a little 'quality time' for the refugees. We meet in town or in their flat, chatter over a coffee, do some cooking together, go to a museum, the library, or a movie, and practice the Dutch language. I also try to help them enhance their social network. This can be done in various ways like going to church services, Ubuntuhuis or Villa Vrede together. The latter two are meeting places

in Utrecht for illegal immigrants and the poor. One of the projects in Villa Vrede is cooking together and selling the meals for one euro to visitors. SNDVU is very grateful for the donation from Holy Trinity Church as there are so many extra costs in their work for the homeless refugees (e.g. extra money needed for new spectacles, medicine, train and bus fares).

Some members of Holy Trinity Church have started a cookery club. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could then invite some of the refugees for the meals they produce at HTC! ✂

Madeleine de Boer

Bible Studies Until Advent: The Church as the Bride of Christ



Ecclesia statue as Bride

Before the summer break we studied Old Testament stories about women, eg. Sarah, Rebecca, Rahab, Hannah, Esther and others.

As in the holy scripture the prophets regularly mentioned the relation of Israel to JHWH as his wife so is in the New Testament the church called the bride of Christ, see the letters of Paul and the book of Revelation.

We started in September with an evening presented by Andrew Tucker about this image of the church. Other

images are:

- the household of God; his children through Christ,
- We are stones in his Temple,
- parts of his body,
- branches of the vine.

Reflecting the stories of the OT women and their husbands we can learn from their histories and ask

questions:

- Can we wait on God's action?
- Can we accept unexpected ways?
- Are we willing to be strangers?
- Are we able to pray permanently?
- Are we willing to take risks?

Concentrating on the fact that we are the church we will study the seven letters in the book of Revelation.

We started in September with Ephesus the first of these letters (Revelation 2: 7-11). We hope to continue in the coming months with the other ones.

- Tuesday October 13 – Smyrna and Pergamum (Revelations 2: 8-17),
- Tuesday October 27 – Thyatira and Sardis (Revelations 2: 18 – 3: 6),
- Tuesday November 10 – Philadelphia and Laodicea (Revelations 3: 7-22).

NB Everybody is welcome. Let us as Christians, as brothers and sisters in the Lord, have a fruitful growth in being Christ church! The last months there is a growing number of participants, more are welcome!

Starting time is 20 hours. Coffee or tea at 19.45, end time is 21.45.

Danielle Los - 030 236 8572
Hans Baars, ebaars@planet.nl ✂

On Prayer and Quiet

This article by Ruth Alkema from Utrecht first appeared in Dutch in De Jeruzalemkerk te Utrecht newsletter. Ruth has kindly offered to share an English translation of the article also with Holy Trinity Chaplaincy.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,



I really want to share with you something that I've learned over the past year about contemplative prayer. More than a year ago I had never heard of this kind of prayer until

someone told me about it, but I have been so blessed by it, that I gladly share. I think it's very important for spiritual growth.

Contemplation: What is it?

When I first heard the term, mentioned in passing, I did not know what was meant by it, but it brought an image to me of being very close to God, and it awoke something in me. I wanted to know more about it. Since then I have searched and read much, and I think that it means that with all the aspects of your soul (both the 'ordinary': your mind, your feelings, as well as the more elusive: your spirit, maybe this is the same as what some people call the subconscious) you open up to God, and so you rely less on yourself and more on God. Basically I think there are two complementary ways of contemplation: first, a seeking out God with your thoughts, by meditating on the Bible, and doing this privately and in a spirit of worship, so that you really take in what God says; and, second, by becoming completely silent, bringing your thoughts to rest and to just be with God.

The Deep valley

Before I say more about these two ways, I want to tell you something else, that for me was also very necessary to know first, otherwise I would probably have given up halfway. The point is, it can be pretty scary

to come so close to God. I was warned and have also noticed that it really is not always nice to see yourself in God's light. Suddenly your own mistakes become very clear, and that can be frightening. I have been very blessed to have a good friend, who also takes seriously God's holiness, and just very lovingly listened, and she pointed out God's love for me. With her I could confess my sins, and that is necessary for me to come closer to God. Only in this way can we be as God intended us, and I believe, greater and holier than we can now imagine. Only in this confidence do I dare honestly look at myself and face how proud and selfish I still am.

Praying the Scriptures

About the "how" of contemplation, I mentioned above that you can prayerfully read the Bible. This is very nicely explained in an excellent book by Timothy Keller, titled "*Prayer: experiencing awe and intimacy with God*." For me it is especially important that I see Bible reading also as prayer. I read the text before God, or rather together with God, and I also speak back. Later, I often use in my prayers the text I read as a starting point for prayer. Timothy Keller, in his book, gives several examples of how you can do that. I myself follow the pattern of Morning Prayer of the Church of England (there is an app for that!). And certainly when I first started, and did not really quite know what to pray, it helped me tremendously to simply pray the Psalms. I felt lifted up to God by these words, and after the space of a year, I still experience it so.

Being Still

In my quest to know what contemplation actually is, I read also about the prayer of

silence. It is to be altogether silent before God. It is a way of praying, which I initially thought could not be good – God has given us understanding, why would we leave that off? Timothy Keller is not positive about it, he looks at it exactly as I also felt. But someone I trust, and through whom I see God working, was positive about it, so I proceeded cautiously to try it. An important criterion to keep in mind is what is the fruit: are you becoming more loving toward other people or not?



Christ Stills the Sea - Unknown French Master

To be silent before God is actually quite confrontational. I tried to be quiet, and immediately I thought, "What am I actually doing here now?" I was doing it for God (I thought), but I wondered a lot whether God really wanted me around, or if he may have thought, "There comes Ruth bothering me again".

Because I was silent, I realized suddenly what I really thought about my relationship with God and my faith was much less firm than I had always thought. That immediately gave me much food for thought. The thoughts that came up in the quiet in me, taught me something about myself, and I

brought them again in prayer to God. But that is still not really being quiet.

My acquaintance also told me of a way to help bring one's mind to rest, namely, to repeat the same short prayer. In the Orthodox Church they use the Jesus Prayer, for example, to pray repeatedly, "Lord Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner", and to pray with the rhythm of breathing. It seemed strange, mantra-like, but it is a way to quiet down the distracting thoughts in one's mind, and thus give God the opportunity to work in us in the background, to recognize that we need Jesus, and also as an act of loving adoration before Jesus. It seems to me good, and I've now integrated this habit as part of my morning prayer.

Books I owe much to in the past year regarding this topic:

Timothy Keller - *Prayer: experiencing awe and intimacy with God*. This is a very well written book about prayer. There are many tips which you can apply immediately in your practice of prayer. What I found very nice about it is that it's such a universal book, he cites many ancient Church Fathers from both the Catholic and the Protestant tradition (eg. Augustine, Luther, Calvin).

Kathleen Norris - *Quotidian Mysteries: Laundry, Liturgy and Women's Work*.

This is a wonderful personal and poetic book, about how to connect the daily grind with staying close to God.

Rod Dreher - *How Dante can save your life*.

This is also a very personal book of a man in mid-life crisis. He describes a process of spiritual growth that he experienced based on the famous poem, *The Divine Comedy*, by Dante. I include this because contemplative prayer and spiritual growth pretty much go hand in hand, and this book shows so clearly that in drawing closer to God one also comes to see and must face one's own shortcomings. He also describes beautifully how the Jesus Prayer is helping him. ✂

Ruth Alkema

News from the Chaplaincy Council Away Day

A contribution from your editor Judy Miller, who is also a member of Council.



The church council have been away for a weekend together in September to 'brain-storm' several 'meaty' subjects they needed to discuss fully but not make decisions about. We met in the Priorij Emmaus, a

convent and retreat centre in Maarssen.



The subjects they covered included how the Amersfoort church plant is developing. We met the new chaplain Grant and his wife Jolanda, who were staying with Lodewijk for a couple of days to view houses and schools for their son and daughter.

The second session we held was led by Sandra who led a very interesting discussion on *Being part of the Anglican Church*. We thought about several questions: What is Anglicanism? When are we considered to be an Anglican church? Why do we come to an Anglican church? What we think Anglicanism means? What would we like to learn about Anglicanism? and What should we be teaching?

These sessions were interspersed with breaks for refreshments and we also joined the nuns of the Priory for some of their services.

The next day we concentrated on *Replanting Holy Trinity Utrecht*: how it is going to challenge us all as the Amersfoort church opens and develops, how we need to reform



and renew, how we can remain vibrant and reinvigorated, how we can engage people in conversation and learn and listen to their views. We spent time in small groups trying to put our thoughts down on paper how we think we can work on the subjects brought up.

And the final session we concentrated on *Mission Outreach at Home and Abroad*. We discussed the way our Charitable giving is divided and how we can improve it, how we can be a willing, actively engaged church. As a result of our deliberations we decided **we need a Mission Co-ordinator** who is willing to communicate with the congregation, liaise with the Charitable Givings Committee and the charities we support locally and coordinate our giving and volunteering in the right direction. So if anyone feels willing and able to help us with this position in the running of Holy Trinity in Utrecht please contact any member of the council.

We closed our time of deliberation with a Holy Communion service held in the beautiful restful surrounding of the Chapel of the Emmaus Priory in Maarssen. ✂



Quiet Day at Holy Trinity with Fr John Wall

Saturday 17th October

10am to 4:00pm

This Quiet Day is an opportunity to rest in the Lord and to hear two talks on the spiritual life given by Fr. John Wall using illustrations from three paintings and a sculpture from the Rijksmuseum.

- 10am – *First Meditation* on two works by Rembrandt – reflecting on the individual and communal call of Christ.
- 12pm – Holy Communion with a short Guided Meditation
- 1pm Lunch (provided)
- 3pm – *Second Meditation* on a painting by de Hooch and a sculpture of the Blessed Virgin Mary – reflecting on holiness in the ordinary and on empathy.

There will be opportunities for quiet in the church, parsonage, garden and/or walks in nearby Wilhelminapark.

Contact Hanna (office@holytrinityutrecht.nl) if you would like to come!

The Revd John Wall is Team Rector in the Moulsecoomb Team Ministry in Brighton England. Fr John writes...

I've been interested in Art History for years and have an M.A. in Medieval Art and did a sabbatical studying the Renaissance in Florence, (which, frankly was as much about the pasta & Chianti as the paintings!) and will be in Rome and Venice for four months next Spring. I have been a columnist in "The Church Times" for 17 years, and a leader of Pilgrimages, Quiet Days & Retreats, including (thanks to the kindness of Karin & Trevor Whitfield) a couple of rather fun Quiet Days in Paris. I came over to the Rijksmuseum recently and fell in love with Dutch Art. As a Parish Priest I see the world around me in terms of Faith and the centrality of the presence of God in all things. Mind you, I've always had an eye for the Holy Spirit's gloriously anarchic sense of humour too, so who knows what will happen? ☿



The Prayer Chain Ministries

Our chaplaincy reaches out to God in prayer to hold up the chaplaincy and its members in particular need. We offer this ministry both in Utrecht and Zwolle. If you have requests for the prayer chain, or if feel called to take part in this ministry of intercession, please contact:



Anne Miechielsen (left) organizes and participates in this ministry at Holy Trinity in Utrecht: anne@miechielsen.nl

Margreet de Roo (right) organizes and participates in this ministry at Zwolle Anglican Church: margreetderoo@gmail.com



Christian Classics Study Group Returns!



The ruins of Rievaulx Abbey, visited by the Chaplain while on holidays in England last July.

We have had a break from our Study Group over the summer, but will return on **Friday, November 20th** to look at Aelred of Rievaulx's great work called "Spiritual Friendship". Aelred was the Abbot from 1147 to 1167 of the great English Cistercian Abbey of Rievaulx, near York in the North of England.

From the back cover of a translation comes this description:


"In a three-book Ciceronian dialogue Aelred defines human friendship as sacramental, beginning in creation, as God sought to place his own love of society in all his creatures, linking friends to Christ in this life and culminating in friendship with God in beatitude."

Aelred, like all of the Early Church Fathers, considered what the Greek philosophers had to say on important subjects and then built on that knowledge from the gift of divine revelation in Scripture.

An English translation of this work by Lawrence C Braceland is available through Amazon, and other translations are also available. More information will soon be available on our website.

We begin with dinner at 6:30pm, discussion 8 to 9:30, concluding with fellowship. All are most welcome!

Please let Hanna know if you're coming so we can plan the dinner:

office@holytrinityutrecht.nl 

'Being in Taize helps each one of us prepare for taking on responsibilities at home, to become bearers of peace and trust'

Brad Hansen has sent in this photo taken at Taize this summer, where he helped to lead a group of 47 WVO6 and Havo 5 students from the College de Heemlanden, Houten.



Thomas Traherne and Thanksgiving

Thomas Traherne was an Anglican priest and divine from the 17th century published very little in his lifetime, but more and more of his writings have been discovered and published in the last century, including Centuries of Meditations. Here is an excerpt (First Century, 44, 47).

It was His wisdom made you the Sun. It was His goodness made you need the sea. Be sensible of what you need, or enjoy neither. Consider how much you need them, for thence they derive their value. Suppose the sun were extinguished: or the sea were dry. There would be no light, no beauty, no warmth, no fruits, no flowers, no pleasant gardens, feasts or prospects, no wine, no oil, no bread, no life, no motion. Would you not give all the gold and silver in the Indies for such a treasure? Prize it now you have it, at that rate, and you shall be a grateful creature: Nay, you shall be a Divine and Heavenly person. For they in

Heaven do prize blessings when they have them. They in Earth when they have them prize them not, they in Hell prize them when they have them not.

To have blessings and to prize them is to be in Heaven; to have them and not to prize them is to be in Hell, I would say upon Earth: To prize them and not to have them, is to be in Hell. Which is evident by the effects. To prize blessings while we have them is to enjoy them, and the effect thereof is contentation, pleasure, thanksgiving, happiness. ✂



Here is our Chaplaincy Council in session in Maarssen. Around the circle clockwise, starting at the bottom left: Renée van Beuningen, Judy Miller, Sandra Sue, Maryon Jagers, Adrian Los, Rosemarie Strengolt, Peter Boswijk, Sheila Kooijman, Henk Korff, Judith Riet, Jolanda Crowe, Peter Gillies, Grant Crowe, Simon Urquhart (and Fr David took the photo). Missing are: Lodewijk Westerbeek van Eerten, Patrick Elenbaas and Paul Kooijman.

Three evenings about Art at the Anglican Church in Zwolle!

Anglican Church Zwolle Leadership Team has been organizing with Marleen Hengelaar-Rookmaaker some public lectures on Christian Art for this November and December. Please note these dates in your calendar and join us if you can!

Dates:

3 Thursday 5 November, Marleen Hengelaar-Rookmaaker about *Looking at Art*

4 Tuesday 17 November, Henrie Vogel about *Postmodern Art*

5 Tuesday 1 December, Marleen Hengelaar-Rookmaaker about *Advent in Art*

1. The first evening will lead us into the world of art, a world that many find quite incomprehensible and hard to enter. Marleen Hengelaar-Rookmaaker will give some guidelines for looking at art with examples of old and contemporary art. We will also ponder the question how works of art can become a source of spiritual nourishment for us.

2. The second evening will focus on postmodern art. Henrie Vogel will give an overview of recent developments in the visual arts. He will illustrate his talk with a few hundred images. He will explore the main themes in postmodern art and will make clear that this art does not show a radical break with the past. But what is it that this art is trying to do and say? This evening may change your view of the world.

3. The third evening will help us enter the spirit of Advent by looking at works of art by old and especially contemporary Christian artists and by listening to some Advent music. What are the central themes of Advent and how have they been portrayed?

Marleen Hengelaar-Rookmaaker is editor-in-chief of *ArtWay*, www.artway.eu, a website about the visual arts and faith and an online resource for individuals and

congregations. She did her studies in musicology at the University of Amsterdam. She edited the *Complete Works* of her father, art historian Hans Rookmaaker and wrote numerous articles about popular music, liturgy, and the visual arts. In 2012 she published a book of daily visual meditations for Lent through Easter (*Jezus voor ogen*) and in 2015 she co-authored a handbook for visual art in the church (*Handboek voor kunst in de kerk*). She lives in Zwolle.



Henrie Vogel is visual artist and coach. He lives in a restored farm on Kampereiland near Kampen, in the delta of the river IJssel. In his spacious studio he paints and gives painting lessons, workshops and courses. He also coaches people with the help of visual techniques. See: www.henrievogel.nl

Doors open at 7.30pm with coffee, talks start 8 pm ending at 9.30 pm, refreshment and fellowship until 10 pm. ⌘

Broken-winged

Here is this month's poem from Oeke Kruythof in Dutch, the English translation / transcreation is by Jenny Narraway.

VLEUGELLAM

*soms zo moe gedacht—
maar met jou
mijn lief
ontstijg ik
alle zwaartekracht.*

BROKEN-WINGED

*To weary to think
but
with you
my love-
an unbelievable dream...
I take wing
soaring high
defying
gravity.*

October Charitable Givings

At every I lam service we use a blue bag for special offerings for particular charities.

- | | | |
|--------|---|--|
| Oct 4 | Tear is a large, Christian, aid organization. | Tear supports local churches and Christian organisations in Africa, Asia and Latin America as they carry out programmes and projects to benefit their communities.
See: www.tear.nl/noodhulp |
| Oct 11 | Compass Braille is a registered charity that transcribes & produces the Braille Bible and other books in various languages. | Compass Braille supports 120 overseas projects worldwide with Braille Bibles and Books in 44 languages. Their aim is not to simply add languages but to provide, wherever possible, Braille Bible portions and books for those who request them. See: www.compassbraille.org/ |
| Oct 18 | Window of Hope promotes health and development of women and children in Malawi | Window Of Hope Foundation is involved in various projects in the field of health, education, community empowerment, and development in Malawi. Projects include: a book about Community Empowerment; supporting orphans to attain education; training economic empowerment of women; providing bikes to Safe Motherhood Field Assistants; initiating Hope Business Centre (offices, conference rooms, restaurant, lodging, internet café, social networking) that will use the profit to invest in social programs. See: //www.facebook.com/pages/Malawi-Window-Of-Hope/529367247132748 |
| Oct 25 | Eye Clinics in Ghana started by the Zonnestraal Eye Hospital in the Netherlands. Performs mainly cataract operations.. | The Dutch Eye Hospital Zonnestraal started a '11e Vestiging' in Ghana, a country where there were almost no facilities to perform cataract operations. Now they have several clinics performing thousands of eye operations and thus helping the population to see.
See: www.eye-clinics-ghana.nl/ |
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EDITH CAVELL

Edith Cavell was a British nurse in charge of a hospital in Belgium during the First World War. She saved the lives of soldiers from both sides and helped Allied soldiers escape from German-occupied Belgium during the First World War, for which she was arrested.

Her strong Christian beliefs led her to help all those who needed it: she said, "I can't stop while there are lives to be saved."

Despite international pleas for mercy, she was shot by a German firing squad. The night before her execution, she told the Revd. Gahan, the Anglican chaplain who gave her Holy Communion: "Patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness towards anyone."

In the Anglican Church, 12th October is her commemoration day. This year Nurse Cavell is featured on a special £5 coin to mark the centenary of the war.



PROPER POORLY

In the Middle Ages certain saints were associated with particular ailments, and became known as patron saints for people suffering from those illnesses. Can you guess who you might have asked to pray for you...

If you had toothache?

Dentista Apollonia Peter

If you had a migraine?

Aspren Aspirin Anthony

If you had a sore throat?

Blaise Flannel Godelina

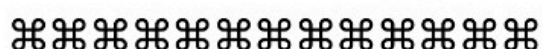
If you had sore knees?

Neale Gangulphus Sebalus

Worst of all, if you got the plague...

Agricola Adrian Quirinius

Answers at the bottom of the page.



Doctor, Doctor I feel like I'm biscuits!

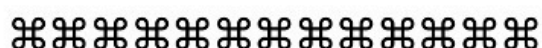
You mean the square ones?

Yes!

The ones you put butter on?

Yes!

Oh, you're crackers!



Answers: 1. Apollonia 2. Aspren (honestly!) 3. Both Blaise and Godelina 4. Gangulphus 5. all of them

Drinking from the Well of Life

This pattern of daily Bible readings is taken from the Book of Common Prayer (revised in 1922). It leads us each year through most of the Old Testament, the whole New Testament twice, and the Gospels four times. This ordered reading of the Bible is intended to immerse us in the images and stories of Scripture, to liberate and lead us to rest in the saving doctrine it teaches, and to enflame our hearts with the love of God and our neighbour!

The Week of Trinity XVIII – October 5 to 10

*Almighty and everlasting God, show your pity upon us your humble servants,
that we who trust not in our merits may know,
not your judgment, but your mercy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

	<i>Morning Prayer</i>		<i>Evening Prayer</i>	
<i>Monday</i>	Job 13	Ephesians 4:1-16	Job 14	Luke 4:1-30
<i>Tuesday</i>	Job 15:1-16	Ephesians 4:17-30	Job 16:1—17:2	Luke 4:31-end
<i>Wednesday</i>	Job 17:3-end	Ephesians 4:31-5:21	Job 18	Luke 5:1-16
<i>Thursday</i>	Job 19	Ephesians 5:22-end	Job 21	Luke 5:17-end
<i>Friday</i>	Job 22	Ephesians 6:1-9	Job 23	Luke 6:1-19
<i>Saturday</i>	Job 24	Ephesians 6:10-end	Job 25:1- 26 end	Luke 6:20-38

The Week of Trinity XIX – October 12 to 17

*O Lord, we beseech you, make us subject to you with a ready will,
and ever stir up our wills to entreat you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

	<i>Morning Prayer</i>		<i>Evening Prayer</i>	
<i>Monday</i>	Job 27	1 Timothy 1:1-17	Job 28	Luke 6:39-7:10
<i>Tuesday</i>	Job 29:1-30:1	1 Timothy 1:18-2 end	Job 31:13-end	Luke 7:11-35
<i>Wednesday</i>	Job 32	1 Timothy 3	Job 33	Luke 7:36-end
<i>Thursday</i>	Job 38:1-21	1 Timothy 4	Job 38:22-end	Luke 8:1-21
<i>Friday</i>	Job 39	1 Timothy 5	Job 40	Luke 8:22-end
<i>Saturday</i>	Job 41	1 Timothy 6	Job 42	Luke 9:1-17

The Week of Trinity XX – October 19 to 24

*Lord, we beseech you,
grant your people grace to avoid the infections of the devil
and with pure hearts and minds to follow you the only God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

	<i>Morning Prayer</i>		<i>Evening Prayer</i>	
<i>Monday</i>	Proverbs 1:1-19	Titus 1:1—2:8	Proverbs 1:20-end	Luke 9:18-50
<i>Tuesday</i>	Proverbs 2	Titus 2:9—3 end	Proverbs 3:1-26	Luke 9:51-end
<i>Wednesday</i>	Proverbs 3:27-4:19	2 Timothy 1	Proverbs 4:20-5:14	Luke 10:1-24
<i>Thursday</i>	Proverbs 6:1-19	2 Timothy 2	Proverbs 8	Luke 10:25-end
<i>Friday</i>	Proverbs 9	2 Timothy 3	Proverbs 10:1-22	Luke 11:1-28
<i>Saturday</i>	Proverbs 11:1-25	2 Timothy 4	Proverbs 12:10-end	Luke 11:29-end

The Week of Trinity XXI – October 26 to 31

*O God, forasmuch as without you we are not able to please you;
Mercifully grant, that your Holy Spirit
may in all things direct and rule our hearts;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

	<i>Morning Prayer</i>		<i>Evening Prayer</i>	
<i>Monday</i>	Proverbs 14:9-27	Luke 12:1-34	Proverbs 15:18-end	Luke 12:35-53
<i>Tuesday</i>	Prov. 16:31-17:17	Luke 12:54-13:9	Proverbs 18:10-end	Luke 13:10-end
<i>Wednesday</i>	Proverbs 20:1-22	Luke 14:1-24	Proverbs 22:1-16	Luke 14:25-15:10
<i>Thursday</i>	Prov. 24:23-end	Luke 15:11-end	Proverbs 25	Luke 16
<i>Friday</i>	Prov. 26:12-end	Luke 17:1-19	Proverbs 27:1-22	Luke 17:20-end
<i>Saturday</i>	Proverbs 30:1-16	Luke 18:1-30	Proverbs 31:10-end	Luke 18:31-19:10

The Week of Trinity XXII – November 2 to 7

*O Almighty and most merciful God, of your bountiful goodness keep us,
we beseech you, from all things that may hurt us;
that we, being ready both in body and soul,
may cheerfully accomplish those things that you would have us do;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

	<i>Morning Prayer</i>		<i>Evening Prayer</i>	
<i>Monday</i>	Ecclesiastes 1	Luke 19:11-28	Ecclesiastes 2:1-23	Luke 19:29-end
<i>Tuesday</i>	Eccles. 3:1-15	Luke 20:1-26	Eccles. 3:16-4:6	Luke 20:27-21:4
<i>Wednesday</i>	Eccles. 4:7-end	Luke 21:5-end	Ecclesiastes 5	Luke 22:1-38
<i>Thursday</i>	Ecclesiastes 6	Luke 22:39-53	Ecclesiastes 7:1-14	Luke 22:54-end
<i>Friday</i>	Eccles. 7:15-end	Luke 23:1-25	Ecclesiastes 8	Luke 23:26-49
<i>Saturday</i>	Ecclesiastes 9	Luke 23:50-24:12	Ecclesiastes 10:5-18	Luke 24:13-end

WORSHIP IN OCTOBER

Services are in English unless otherwise specified.

Sunday 4 th October	The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity 9:00 Sung Communion 11:00 All Age Worship - Sung Communion Zwolle - 16:00 Sung Communion
Sunday 11 th October	The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity 9:00 Sung Communion (Dutch/Eng) 11:00 Sung Communion 14:30 Choral Evensong
Saturday 17 th October	Quiet Day – Fr John Hall (Brighton) (see article p. 12) 10am to 4pm Church and Parsonage Hall (12pm Holy Communion) Evening Prayer and Praise Service 19:30 Service of the Word with Gospel Band <i>Sermon Theme: Vainglory versus True Glory</i>
Sunday 18 th October	The Feast of St Luke the Evangelist 9:00 Sung Communion (Dutch/Eng) – <i>Guest Preacher: Fr John Hall</i> 11:00 Choral Communion with Healing – <i>Guest Preacher: Fr John Hall</i> Zwolle - 16:00 Evensong
Sunday 25 th October	The Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity 9:00 Sung Communion (Dutch/Eng) 11:00 Choral Communion
Wednesday 28 th October	The Feast of St Simon and St Jude, Apostle and Martyr 19:00 Holy Communion (<i>Fr Trevor Whitfield will celebrate</i>)

In addition to the above services, we have these regular midweek services:

Daily:	Morning Prayer (Tuesday to Friday 8.00; Saturday 9.00) and Evening Prayer (Tuesday to Friday 17.30; Saturday 17:00)
Weekly:	Holy Communion (said) (Wednesday at 19.00)
