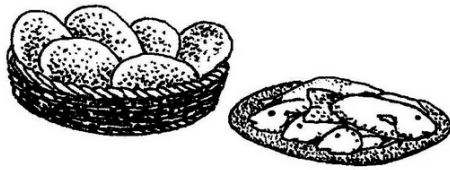


**Holy Trinity Church.Utrecht
and
The Anglican Church in Zwolle**



May 2014



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Chaplains Letter

Dear Friends in Christ:

On March 30 we had our Annual General Meeting and I gave a Chaplain's Report. What follows is a condensed version for those who didn't attend. I have taken out the thanksgivings to so many people who help out in so many ways in the life of the churches in Utrecht and Zwolle. What remains are some highlights of the past year, challenges and some hopes for the coming year.

I arrived in the chaplaincy in Utrecht on May 1st last year, the first day of the new Kingdom of the Netherlands under King Willem Alexander, but I'd been brought by our Lord to concern myself primarily with another Kingdom. This first year has been focussed on getting to know people in the chaplaincy and understanding how things have been done here at Holy Trinity and Zwolle and the dynamics of actually three main groups – the 9am and 10:45am congregations at Holy Trinity and the congregation at Zwolle.

One of the wonderful “problems” I was asked to address before I arrived was overcrowding in some of our services in Utrecht. This past year we have added more 9am Sunday services (on the 1st 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month) to lessen the pressure of numbers in the 10:45am services on those Sundays (our church building holds 80 comfortably and has had up to 150!). This has worked to relieve pressure on the 10:45am services but between the two morning services, praise God, we now have significantly greater overall attendance every Sunday. We will keep our eyes on where else there are bottlenecks to growth.

We've been blessed by the introduction of a new Gospel Band made up of talented youth from the congregation. They now lead our first Sunday of the month All Age Worship service and a new monthly Saturday night Evening prayer and praise service. This is aimed especially at providing a bridge for our younger worshippers, many of whom know this music through camps and youth events where they have experienced a deeper conversion to Christ. We are hoping that the Evening Prayer and Praise congregation will continue to develop with services more often in the future. Many of these same youth also like to attend our more traditional services of Holy Communion.

Five young men in the congregation have been pondering for years a call to ordained ministry, but this past year have taken the next step in that discernment – going to a Vocations Discernment Weekend in England and discussing this desire more openly. We've met monthly since November for suppers in the parsonage and lively discussions. As part of their discernment and to share their gifts they have begun, with the Bishop's permission, preaching at our monthly Choral Evensongs and the Evening Prayer and Praise services.

One of the challenges in the coming years will be to maintain unity. We are made up of people from around the world and from different church backgrounds including many from

the Dutch Catholic Apostolic community. We hold within this body people from high and low church, evangelical, charismatic, and catholic backgrounds, with liberal, broad church, conservative, and traditionalist positions. One of the ways we can minister to this diversity is by offering different kinds of worship. The unity we seek to foster, does not deny that there is truth on questions of doctrine, but it means we don't need to first agree on everything in order to worship together. It calls on us in our fellowship to listen and to forbear – it is the call of love. This reciprocity and exchange with one another is one of the ways that we hope to continue to grow in our faith and love. Our unity will not come about without continual effort, but will be discovered foremost through our mutual loving beholding of Jesus Christ.

This past year we had to bid farewells to the Rev Chris Nicholls, who finished his much appreciated curacy with us in September, and Annelies van de Steeg, our student chaplain who finished her contract with us in January. As I write this we are advertising for a full time Assistant Chaplain who can continue to build on the excellent work of Annelies and who can assist in leading Sunday worship and providing greater coverage in pastoral care (a clear bottleneck to growth!). With an Assistant we hope to be able to give more attention and ministry to the congregation in Zwolle. We are pondering the possibility of a church plant in Amersfoort, a city that neighbours Utrecht and where a large number of our congregation live. With an Assistant, my hope is to be able to give more time to learning Dutch, perhaps the greatest personal challenge!

In the coming year we hope to improve our various means of communication: the website, Newsletter, church bulletins, a sign outside our churches (!), and our use of Facebook and emails. As well as a communications strategy, we will need to think about our strategy for the making of disciples – seeking to provide Christian education to every age group and people in different stages of life and family. We will consider whether to provide greater practical support to Grace Church in Groningen, led by the Rev Sam van Leer, as they enter the next stage of development with a move of their worship gatherings into a church building. Holy Trinity is now engaged in various outreach through financial support of charitable organizations. But we will be trying to discern if there is some hands-on ministry our chaplaincy might take responsibility for as part of our outreach here locally in Utrecht.

The Lord is good indeed – He is blessing us abundantly! I pray that we can continue to see this great treasure and keep our eyes fixed on the larger vision, in a “penitential adoration” of our Lord. And the world around us will be changed. To God be the glory!

In the love of our risen Lord Jesus,

David

Drinking from the Well of Life

These daily readings are meant to augment and fit with the Sunday readings used at the services of Holy Communion.

Thomas à Kempis, a monk who lived most of his life in Zwolle, wrote a devotional book called *The Imitation of Christ* in the 15th century, which has become one of the best-loved books of Christianity. Here are some words he says about reading the Bible:

“In the holy Scriptures, truth is to be looked for rather than fair phrases. All sacred scriptures should be read in the spirit in which they were written. In them, therefore, we should seek food for our souls rather than subtleties of speech... Let the love of pure truth draw you to read... God speaks to us in different ways, and is no respecter of persons. But curiosity often hinders us in the reading of the Scriptures, for we try to examine and dispute over matters that we should pass over and accept in simplicity. If you desire to profit, read with humility, simplicity, and faith, and have no concern to appear learned. Ask questions freely, and listen in silence to the words of the Saints; hear with patience the parables of the fathers, for they are not told without good cause.” [from Chapter 5 of Book I]

The Week of Easter I – April 28 to May 3

ALMIGHTY Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins, and to rise again for our justification: Grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness, that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of the same your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

	<i>Morning Prayer</i>		<i>Evening Prayer</i>	
<i>Monday</i>	Deuteronomy 1:3-18	Acts 1:1-14	Deuteronomy 1:19-end	Acts 1:15-end
<i>Tuesday</i>	Deuteronomy 2:1-25	Acts 2:1-21	Deuteronomy 2:26--3:5	Acts 2:22-end
<i>Wednesday</i>	Deuteronomy 3:18-end	Acts 3:1--4:4	Deuteronomy 4:1-24	Acts 4:5-31
<i>Thursday</i>	Deuteronomy 4:41-end	Acts 4:32--5:11	Deuteronomy 5:1-21	Acts 5:12-end
<i>Friday</i>	Deuteronomy 5:22-end	Acts 6:1--7:16	Deuteronomy 6	Acts 7:17-34
<i>Saturday</i>	Deuteronomy 7:1-11	Acts 7:35--8:4	Deuteronomy 7:12-end	Acts 8:4-25

The Week of Easter II – May 5 to 10

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive that his inestimable benefit, and also daily endeavour ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

	<i>Morning Prayer</i>		<i>Evening Prayer</i>	
<i>Monday</i>	Deuteronomy 8	Acts 8:26-end	Deuteronomy 9:1-10	Acts 9:1-31
<i>Tuesday</i>	Deuteronomy 9:11-end	Acts 9:32-end	Deuteronomy 10	Acts 10:1-23
<i>Wednesday</i>	Deuteronomy 11:1-12	Acts 10:24-end	Deuteronomy 11:13-end	Acts 11:1-18
<i>Thursday</i>	Deuteronomy 12:1-14	Acts 11:19-end	Deuteronomy 15:1-18	Acts 12:1-24
<i>Friday</i>	Deuteronomy 16:1-20	Acts 12:25--13:12	Deuteronomy 17:8-end	Acts 13:13-43
<i>Saturday</i>	Deuteronomy 18:9-end	Acts 13:44--14:7	Deuteronomy 19	Acts 14:8-end

The Week of Easter III – May 12 to 17

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness: Grant unto all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may forsake those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

	Morning Prayer		Evening Prayer	
<i>Monday</i>	Deuteronomy 21:22--22:8	Acts 15:1-21	Deuteronomy 24:5-end	Acts 15:22-35
<i>Tuesday</i>	Deuteronomy 26	Acts 15:36--16:5	Deuteronomy 28:58-end	Acts 16:6-end
<i>Wednesday</i>	Deuteronomy 29:10-end	Acts 17:1-15	Deuteronomy 30	Acts 17:16-end
<i>Thursday</i>	Deuteronomy 31:1-13	Acts 18:1-23	Deuteronomy 31:14-29	Acts 18:24--19:7
<i>Friday</i>	Deuteronomy 31:30--32:14	Acts 19:8-20	Deuteronomy 32:15-47	Acts 19:21-end
<i>Saturday</i>	Deuteronomy 33	Acts 20:1-16	Deuteronomy 32:48-end & 34	Acts 20:17-end

The Week of Easter IV – May 19 to 24

O ALMIGHTY God, you alone order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men: Grant to your people, that they may love the things which you command, and desire that which you do promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

	Morning Prayer		Evening Prayer	
<i>Monday</i>	Joshua 1	Acts 21:1-16	Joshua 2	Acts 21:17-36
<i>Tuesday</i>	Joshua 3	Acts 21:37--22:22	Joshua 4:1--5:1	Acts 22:23--23:11
<i>Wednesday</i>	Joshua 5:13--6:20	Acts 23:12-end	Joshua 7	Acts 24:1-23
<i>Thursday</i>	Joshua 9:3-end	Acts 24:24--25:12	Joshua 10:1-15	Acts 25:13-end
<i>Friday</i>	Joshua 21:43--22:8	Acts 26	Joshua 22:9-end	Acts 27
<i>Saturday</i>	Joshua 23	Acts 28:1-15	Joshua 24:1-28	Acts 28:16-end

The Week of Easter V – May 26 to 30

O LORD, from whom all good things do come: Grant to us your humble servants, that by your holy inspiration we may think those things that are good, and by your merciful guiding perform the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

	Morning Prayer		Evening Prayer	
<i>Rogation Mon.</i>	Deuteronomy 7:6-13	Matthew 6:5-18	Deuteronomy 8	Mt. 6:19-end
<i>Rogation Tues.</i>	Deuteronomy 11:8-21	Luke 5:1-11	1 Kings 8:22-43	Jam. 5:1-18
<i>Rogation Wed.</i>	Joel 2:21-27	John 6:22-40	Song of the 3 Children 29-37	Mt. 28:16-end
<i>Ascension Day</i>	2 Kings 2:1-15	John 17	Daniel 7:9-14	Hebrews 1
<i>Friday</i>	Judges 2:6-end	Hebrews 2	Judges 3:12-end	Hebrews 3
<i>Saturday</i>	Judges 4	Hebrews 4:1-13	Judges 5	Hebrews 4:14--5:10

Bishop David's Easter Message 2014

On 17 March there was an unprecedented announcement from the Vatican and the Anglican Centre in Rome. For the first time ever, the Roman Catholic Church, the Anglican Communion and the Sunni Muslim Community (represented by the Grand Imam of Al Azhar in Cairo) have joined efforts in a project of "practical and spiritual action" to combat the modern slavery of human trafficking. Pope Francis and Archbishop Justin Welby, when they first met last June, shared a vision to build a world-wide movement to eradicate this injustice which enslaves and affects over 27 million people who are forced into labour, sexual exploitation and even into being sources of human organs

. The initiative is called the Global Freedom Network.

The Passion of our Lord which we read in Holy Week presents a world filled with so many forms of slavery. There is the slavery of money – thirty pieces of silver were able to corrupt and "buy" Judas' treachery. The slavery of injustice is seen in the weakness of Pontius Pilate, who knew Jesus was innocent but chose not to defend him. The slavery of brutal and gratuitous violence is seen in the scourging and torture of Christ at the hands of the soldiers. And then there is the slavery of hopelessness seen in the utter despair of the disciples at the arrest and crucifixion of Jesus.

Easter celebrates God's action to deliver us out of slavery to freedom, freedom from sin and all that holds us back from being the people that God created us to be. On the night of the Great Vigil of Easter worshippers gather in darkness, the hopeless darkness that descended upon the world on the first Good Friday. The Paschal candle is lit from a new fire and the light of Christ is spread from person to person, eventually filling the church with joyful brightness, and we proclaim "Christ is Risen!" The ancient song of Easter Eve, the Exultet resounds, "This is the night when Jesus Christ vanquished hell, broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave. This is the night when all who believe in him are freed from sin, restored to grace and holiness and share the victory of Christ".

Our Resurrection faith declares that all the darkness around us, and even the darkness of sin within us, has been overcome by the Risen Christ. Thus our Resurrection witness is about working for all that sets people free from every kind of slavery.

The Global Freedom Network is but one such effort. As Easter people it is our calling to proclaim forgiveness from sin. As Easter people we offer love, compassion and justice where hatred, pain and injustice persist. As Easter people we stand for the dignity and worth of every human being. This is a powerful message of Good News which the world needs and to which we can witness boldly, as we know that we ourselves are born again to new life in the Risen Christ.

May the deep joy which comes from the liberation of Easter fill our lives and enliven our communities, for

Christ is Risen!
He is Risen Indeed!
+David



Ecumenical Matters,

I would like to keep you updated with ecumenical events that are happening in the City of Utrecht, and beyond in this new regular column. As you may know, I represent the congregation of Holy Trinity Church in this council of churches. Its formal name in Dutch is Utrechtse Stedelijke Raad van Kerken. In the future I will use the abbreviation of this long name: USRK.

USRK is made up of twenty churches from all directions of Christianity and meets about five times a year. We talk about things that are connected to the well-being of the citizens of Utrecht. We try to avoid theological subjects, because we are local churches. These items we leave to the National Council of Churches or, even better, to the Worldwide Council. It is wonderful to learn from our brothers and sisters in Christ and happily accept our differences. We have one important thing in common: Christ as our Saviour, and we share the Gospel.

The USRK has a few working parties. One I would like to put in the spotlight is ‘Beraad Kerk en Israel’. They are very active and in the past season they had lectures about the prophets of the Old Testament. The lectures were given by one of the Rabbis, and we were taken to the Jewish roots of what the rabbis teach and have taught.

On Sunday 11th May this working party is organizing the annual vigil *Jom Hasjoah*. Evil is the theme of the vigil and we will look to what has happened to the Jews in the (recent) past. But the event is also optimistic as we look, with them, to the future. The vigil will take place in the Doopsgezinde kerk, Oudegracht 270 and begins at 7pm. All are welcome. Following the vigil there is an opportunity to pay a visit to the exposition ‘Geschiedenis Centraal Israëlitisch Weeshuis’. Mr. Ronald Hené will lead us to MerkAz near the synagogue (Magdalenastraat).

DPU stands for Diaconaal Platform Utrecht and connects all sorts of social organizations to help the less fortunate and elderly people. They will show the Lord Mayor what churches and liaised organizations do in the city. Mr. Van Zanen will meet us on Tuesday 20th May in the Johannescentrum, Moezeldreef 400 (Overvecht). Needless to say that you are most welcome to show/tell him in what manner Holy Trinity Church reaches out to the community. The doors open at 7:30pm and you will be welcomed with coffee/tea. The official part of the evening begins with a word of welcome and prayers at 8pm.

Henk Korff

Accommodation wanted

A mature and responsible woman is urgently looking for accommodation by next July or August ;unfurnished floor/flat or apartment in the city of Utrecht for at least 1 or 2 years. Maximum rent 800 to 1,000 euros per month. Preferably three rooms. Please call Father David on 06 12410431. who will put you in touch with her



Bible Study between Easter and Pentecost!

The subjects for this seven weeks period will be: FAITH, HOPE and LOVE.

Like the disciples got further education and light by the teaching of the risen Lord, during the time between Easter and His Ascension, we will learn by focusing on these three central points of Christian life.

- Tuesday April 22 - FAITH
- Tuesday May 13 - HOPE
- Tuesday May 27 - LOVE

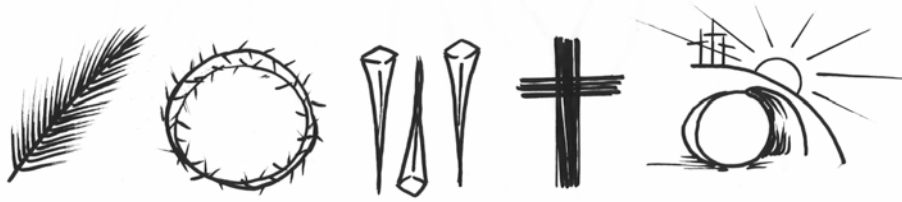
All evenings will be in the parsonage hall

The Bible study starts at 20 hours and ends at 21.45. Tea and coffee at 19.45

Let we be united as the disciples were in studying the Bible.

Everybody is welcome!

*Danielle Los - 030 236 8572
Hans Baars, ebaars@planet*



CTC CHILDRENS TRINITY CLUB CORNER

Hi there! Just a wee bulletin this month from CTC and the team leaders:

Gonny reminds us that there is a large PAPER CROSS in the Childrens' corner in the church hall. The children have been placing symbols on the cross of the different themes they have been concentrating on in Lent:

Standing up for Jesus – hands are shown on the big paper cross

How do you see yourself – mirrors are the symbol here

How do people look at Jesus – glasses (spectacles) is the symbol

And at Easter – Jesus searches for us – symbol – a lantern; the light
Of the Risen Lord!

On Palm Sunday the childrens' groups made 'palm haantjes' and on Easter Sunday a special activity is being planned.

Joyous Easter greetings from CTC and the team leaders – and until next time!

Please continue to pray for the Childrens' groups and the Teenage Group and the tiny ones in the crèche – for strength from the Holy Spirit to guide them.

Nicky for CTC
& the Teenage Group

God hears
our prayers



Time

Time flashes by in leaps and bounds
from yesterday to today, tomorrow
and the days thereafter

People around me are leaping too
The old to a sweet shop
The young to a career
Leaping into the distance

here I sit between them on this terrace
draining my glass
enjoying the here and now

amazingly, time, for a fleeting moment
has acquired a new dimension
and is standing still

Oeke Kruythof

Jenny Narraway- translation/transcreation

De Tijd

De tijd verspringt van
gisteren naar vandaag
naar morgen en overmorgen

de mensen om mij heen
verspringen ook

de oudsten naar een zoete slaap
de jongsten naar een carrière
ver flitsend in 't verschiet

daartussenin zit ik—
letterlijk hier zittend
op dit terras
met volle teugen
genietend van het nu

de tijd
-verrassend-
verspringt even niet

Oeke Kruythof



Heavens Grocery Store

I was walking down life's highway, a long time ago
When one day I saw a sign that read:-Heavens Grocery Store.
As I got a bit closer, the door came wide open and when I came to myself,
I was standing inside

I saw a host of angels, they were standing everywhere,
One handed me a basket and said, My child, shop with care'
Everything a Christian needed was in that grocery store
And all you couldn't carry, you could come back the next day and collect.

First I got some Patience, Love was in the same row
Further down was Understanding, you need that everywhere you go
I got a box or two of Wisdom, a bag or two of Faith and the Milk of Human Kindness was
just all over the place.

I stopped to get some Strength and Courage to help me run this race
By then my basket was getting full but I remembered I needed some Grace,
I didn't get Salvation, for Salvation that was free.,so I tried to get enough of that, to save for
you and me

Then I started up to the counter, to pay my grocery bill,
For I thought that I had everything to do my Master's Will
As I went up the aisle, I saw Prayer and just had to put it in
For I knew when I stepped outside, I would run right into Sin
Peace and Joy were plentiful, they were on the last shelf
Songs and Praises were hanging near, so I just helped myself

Then I said to their Angel, 'Now how much do I owe?'
He just smiled and said 'Just take them everywhere you go.'

Again I smiled at him and said,'How much do I owe?'
He smiled again and said, 'My child, Jesus paid your bill a long long time ago.

Sent to the editor by Cynthia van Riet.

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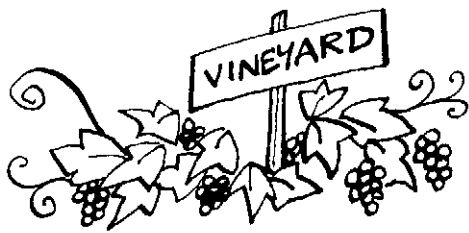
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The tale of the Two Sons



JESUS OFTEN TOLD
STORIES WITH
HIDDEN MEANINGS



HE ONCE TOLD A STORY ABOUT A
FATHER WHO HAD TWO SONS.

THE FATHER WENT TO HIS
OLDER SON AND ASKED HIM
TO WORK IN THE VINEYARD



'NO I WON'T!' SAID THE
OLDER SON...



....BUT THEN HE CHANGED HIS
MIND AND WENT AND HELPED.

THE FATHER THEN WENT TO HIS
YOUNGER SON AND ASKED HIM TO
HELP IN THE VINEYARD TOO.

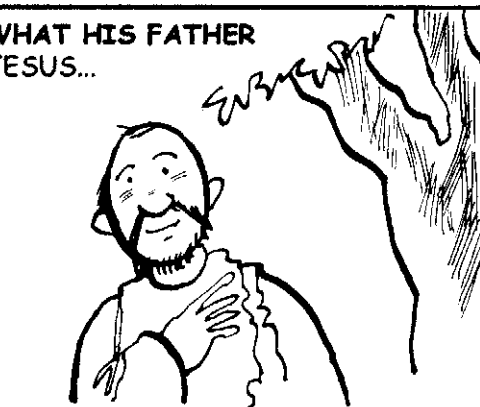


'OF COURSE I WILL!' SAID THE YOUNGER SON. BUT
HE PROMPTLY FORGOT ALL ABOUT IT....

...AND DIDN'T DO A STROKE OF WORK!



'WHICH ONE DID WHAT HIS FATHER
WANTED?' ASKED JESUS...



'WHICH DO YOU THINK IT WAS?

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING ERNEST ...

I'm afraid that I missed the confirmation service in March. Once the original date had been set, I arranged yet another visit to Antwerp on the last day of February. Then fate got involved. As you all know by now, the first bishop had to pull out owing to unspecified illness; then followed the complicated job of matching up a replacement bishop with an available church. Yes, we really do have a positive plethora of assistant bishops in the Diocese in Europe and so it was that a new date could be quite quickly fixed. And wouldn't you know, it was the weekend that I was going to be away! But fate hadn't finished with us yet. I had been earmarked to sing the bass part in the anthem; clearly I would have to sing very loudly indeed if I was going to be in Antwerp so we decided on a far more practical solution and somebody else took over the part. All in all, this was a particularly fortunate turn of events; the week before the confirmation, and my trip to Antwerp, I developed a dreadful bronchitis and laryngitis and my voice completely disappeared. I would not have been able to sing at all, even I had been at the confirmation service. As I write this during the second week of March, my voice still isn't what it should be and I can see a possible visit to the laryngologist looming in the near future! But there I go, digressing again.

Normally when I stay over in the Flemish metropolis (!), breakfast is more like brunch and is a lovely, relaxed affair with excellent bread and pastries from the nearby bakery.

But not this time. Fate was at it again! We had a funeral to attend. The deceased was the youngest aunt of my pal's late partner and the obsequies were scheduled for 10 in the morning in the Belgian equivalent of the boondocks, an hour's drive from Antwerp.

When I asked if I, a total stranger to the family, would be welcome, it was pointed out that the church is open to everybody and so it was that we arrived together at a reasonably large parish church at just before 10 in the morning. There were cars parked all over the place and the church parking lot was full to overflowing.

The deceased had been a much loved grade school teacher in the village and the church was absolutely packed. There must have been in excess of 300 people there. The biggest surprise for me was that the body had already been cremated without ceremony and as we entered the church we were 'greeted' by a very smart stainless steel urn containing the ashes.

We were invited to do a sort of Asperges dry run over the remains: there was a sprinkler but no holy water. The service was very moving and included several rituals that I had never experienced before, in particular taking leave of the deceased.

Each member of the congregation was invited to approach the urn and lay his/her hand on it and then touch a cross held by a server before returning to the pews.

After the service everyone followed the hearse to the graveyard. The procession was most impressive as we walked slowly down the main street, completely blocking the traffic and then entered the cemetery where the ashes were to be placed in the columbarium. It was extremely dignified and rather reminded me of my great Uncle Ernest.

Uncle Ernest, my grandfather's brother, died in the early part of the twentieth century in the north of England at a time and in a place where cremation was definitely not the norm. The fact that his widow, my wonderful great Aunt Lil of whom many tales wait to be told, chose cremation rather than burial was unusual to say the least, but this had apparently been her husband's wish. He had also asked his brother, my grandfather, to scatter his ashes on a recreation ground where they had played as boys. And so it was that grandfather, on an unfortunately rather windy day, took the box of ashes – nothing so chic as the classical urn in Belgium – with him to the field where he and Uncle Ernest had spent so many happy hours. Grandfather had no nautical experience otherwise he would have realised that when disposing of anything in less than clement weather, you do it with the wind coming from behind you. Suffice it to say that a fair amount of Uncle Ernest ended up in grandfather's shirt and before long, he had had quite enough of the exercise and took what was left of his brother's remains back home.

Some years later it struck him that there was something rather inappropriate about a box of ashes being left in the cupboard in the back bedroom. Some form of dignified disposal seemed called for so he decided that the best solution would be to take the ashes and bury them in his mother's grave. So, with half of Uncle Ernest under one arm and a shovel under the other, grandfather caught the bus to the corporation cemetery. It had not been his habit to visit his mother's grave and he probably had last been there when she was buried, nonetheless he had a vague idea where it was and off he went, scouring the headstones until he found her last resting place. It was a fairly mild day and some physical exercise was on the cards so he took off his jacket and rolled up his sleeves before attacking the ground at the foot of the grave with his shovel. The earth had dried out and it was hard going as he attempted to create a hole big enough to take the box of ashes. Needless to say, the sight of someone digging a hole in a grave in a cemetery caught the attention of the graveyard superintendent who came along to investigate.

"And what may I ask do you think you're doing?" he enquired. "I'm just burying these ashes" replied grandfather in all innocence. On came the official tone of voice: "And are those human remains?" Grandfather gave him a peculiar look as if to say, if not, why the heck would I be burying them in a graveyard? "They are," he said. "They're what's left of my brother and I'm just putting them in with our mother." The superintendent was stunned. "You can't just do that!" he exclaimed with a certain amount of justifiable indignation.

"That's a new interment and all the paperwork has to be done. And then there's the fee to be paid." "How much?" asked grandfather. "That'll be 10 shillings*!" "Stuff that for a game of soldiers" was the reaction and the hole got filled in, the ashes tucked back under the arm together with the shovel and grandfather caught the bus back home.

Uncle Ernest, or rather about half of him, returned to his less than salubrious final resting place on the shelf in the cupboard in the back bedroom. As a child I was terrified of that room and I wouldn't go in it because I knew what lurked in the corner cupboard although no one else in the family seemed particularly interested in the fate of the ashes. After grandfather died, I asked my father what had happened to Uncle Ernest's mortal remains. "Oh, we threw them out with the rest of the rubbish" he said. Poor Uncle Ernest!

Harry

* About 90 Euros in today's currency.

Services in May

(services are in English unless otherwise specified)

Sunday 4th May

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

9:00 Sung Communion

10:45 All Age Worship – Communion

Zwolle Anglican Church 16:00 Sung Communion

Sunday 11th May

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

9:00 Sung Communion (Dutch/Eng)

10:45 Sung Communion

14:30 Choral Evensong with preacher: Mr Thomas Fink-Jensen

Saturday 17th May

EVENING PRAYER AND PRAISE

19:30 Service of the Word with Gospel Band

with preacher: Mr Frank Boneschanscher

Sunday 18th May

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

8:45 Sung Communion (Dutch/Eng)

10:45 Choral Communion

Zwolle Anglican Church 16:00 Evensong

Sunday 25th May

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

9:00 Sung Communion (Dutch/Eng)

10:45 Choral Communion

Thursday 29th May

ASCENSION DAY – 10:00 Sung Communion (Dutch)

In addition to the above services we offer at Holy Trinity Utrecht:

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 except not on May 14)

Please send your June Newsletter contributions by 10th May at the latest.