

THE CHURCH OF ST URSULA BERNE



April - May 2011

St Ursula's Church Jubiläumsplatz 2, 3005 Berne, Switzerland

Chaplain

Ven Peter Potter

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Lay Reader

David Low

Honorary Assistant Chaplain

Revd Linda Bisig

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Youth Coordinator

Mary McKinley

Church Office: 031 352 85 67

Marriages, Baptisms and counselling by arrangement with the Chaplain

Normal pattern of Sunday services:

8.30 Said Eucharist (2nd and 4th Sundays)

10.00 Sung Eucharist with Junior Church and Crèche

Our services follow the Church of England's Common Worship Order One (2000)

On the 2nd and 4th Sundays, the 10.00 service is usually more informal.

See Calendar of Services inside for details of the next few weeks.

Services in Thun: see inside.

Services in Neuchâtel: at the Reformed Church at La Coudre (near the Chaumont funicular) See inside for service times.

Information: Mrs Jennifer Veenendaal, 032 841 64 32

ST URSULA'S BERNE

The church is one of the nine Swiss chaplaincies that have a resident chaplain (minister) and together form the Archdeaconry of Switzerland. This is part of the Anglican Diocese of Europe which stretches from the Canary Islands to Ankara, from Moscow to Morocco.

The church was built in 1906 on a site that had been given to the community by the British-Berne Land Co. An American lady, Mrs Castleman from St Louis, provided the bulk of the money for the building as a thank offering for the near miraculous recovery of her adopted daughter, who was treated at the clinic of the famous Professor Kocher.

The hall and the house were added in 1959. An English Missionary Society, the USPG, helped to support the church from its earliest days. Since 1977, however, the chaplaincy has been fully self-supporting, relying solely on its members and well-wishers for its financial support.

St Ursula's has a long tradition of ministry to all English-speaking people in the Canton of Berne and beyond. It also provides a home for Christians from many different denominations and cultural backgrounds. Regular worshippers are encouraged to add their names to the Electoral Roll and so play a full part in the life of the church. Details from the Churchwardens or any member of the Church Council.

See Calendar inside for details of this month's services
St Ursula's Church website: <http://www.anglican.ch/berne>
E-mail: berne@anglican.ch



St Ursula's Church Magazine

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15 May 2011

Please send copy to
magazine@stursula.ch

Chaplain's Message

I sometimes wonder if we do our Easter celebrations right.

We come and find a beautifully decorated church, colourful with flowers. We are keyed up and ready to celebrate, bursting into joyful Alleluias again after their absence in Lent. That's because we know what to expect, having heard the story before.

But what must it have been like for the first disciples? They came to the tomb and found something completely different to what they had been expecting. Their jaws must have dropped as they gazed round the empty tomb in disbelief and bewilderment.

Can we, I wonder, bring something of those feelings of disbelief and bewilderment with us on Easter Day? To feel, not "Well, everything's all right again after all", but "This isn't what I was expecting to find. God has exceeded all expectations". If we react like that, then, we have experienced the effect the first Easter had.

We need to allow ourselves to be surprised by God, to be open to the possibility that he will lead us in directions that we had not imagined possible. The way to experience this surprise most vividly is to come to church on Easter morning not anticipating an outpouring of joy but with the events of Good Friday firmly in mind. This will, of course, be that much easier to do if you have taken part in the Church's keeping of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

The Church rightly keeps Holy Saturday as a "dead" day. Nothing happens, providing space for the awful reality of Good Friday to sink in. If we come to church in that frame of mind, then we will be truly bowled over by what we find. No longer a tomb but a place full of life. How can this be? Only God knows, for to him all things are possible.

Once we have discovered that for ourselves in our Easter celebrations, then we can confidently begin to look for possibilities at other times when there seems to be no way ahead.

If we are surprised by God on Easter Day, then we can expect to be surprised by him at other times too.

Peter



St Ursula's Summer Bazaar

This year we're starting the summer with style at our Summer Bazaar on 21 May from 10:00 - 14:00.

This will be an event for ALL with lots of adults' and children's activities and games, a plant stall, Usborne books, bric à brac, tombola, Pimms on the lawn and of course, a barbecue outside - whilst not forgetting our usual sales of British food and second-hand books.

To make this day a success we'll need lots of help- first and foremost a huge request for all those "stray" plants that are growing in the wrong place in your garden. Or maybe you could sow some extra seeds in pots and give them to be sold.

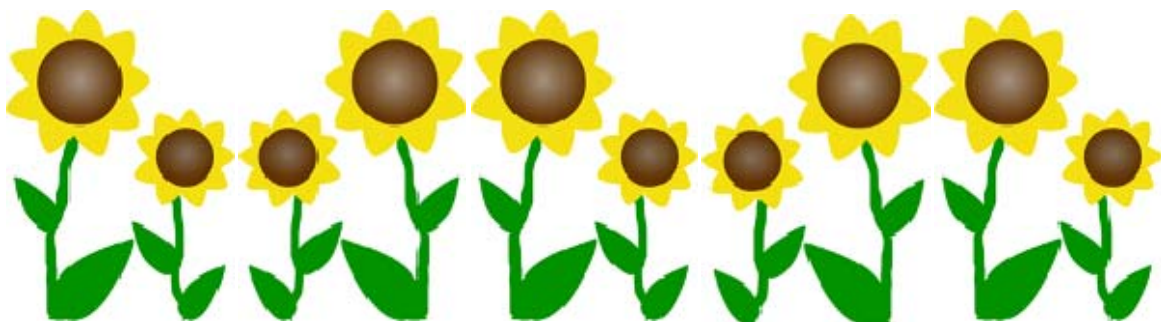
We also need volunteers to help in the restaurant and to bake our usual scrummy selection of cakes.

Anyone wanting to sell their own bric à brac or crafts is welcome to book a space.

New and in perfect condition (please check the sell-by date on any food items first though!) tombola items are also needed - just leave them in the red box in the Upper Hall.

Please use the flyer enclosed with the magazine to help advertise this event - THANKS!

For further information or more flyers please contact the Church Office (031 352 8567) or email berne@anglican.ch



Test Drives

“A moment on the lips, a lifetime on the hips.” Most of us realize that it is not chocolate that we are praying about when we use the Lord's Prayer, when we ask to be led away from temptation. But what is temptation, and if it is not about chocolate, what is it about?

We can get a clue from the Lord's Prayer itself. The Lord's Prayer is one long plea for the coming of God's reign on earth, and the Gospels are full of rather frightening images of what will happen if we miss out on the experience – weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth, indeed. The story of the Foolish Virgins, the girls who were waiting to dance at the wedding-feast, but ran low on their oil supply, shows how single-minded and how organized we all need to be if we are to be guests of the Lord of the Dance.

Many of Jesus' sayings are about the distractions which might lead us to divert our attention. Wars, rumours of wars, people bringing false messages, or just the cares of this world: a new video game, even something new on the television (to update Luke 14:18-20). Any of these can take our eye away from the main goal – bringing in God's rule over the world. It is not the distraction itself, the chocolate, the sex and drugs and rock and roll, so much as its power to distract us from serving God, from doing God's work, from waiting for God's name to be hallowed in all the earth.

Lent is one time when we should take a closer look at ourselves and at the things that are distracting us – and where they really are distracting us, not just “giving them up for Lent”, but sweeping aside their power to distract, for all our lives. The forty days of Lent mirror the forty days Jesus spent in the desert, “tempted by Satan”, as well as the forty days Moses spent on Mount Sinai preparing for his meeting with God, the forty days of total dependence during the great flood, the forty years of total dependence and of testing in the wilderness before the liberated children of Israel could enter the promised land.

Matthew and Luke list three ways in which Satan tempts Jesus: changing stones into bread, serving the Devil in exchange for worldly power, seeing if God will really come to his rescue if he throws himself from the top of the temple. On each occasion, Jesus meets the temptation with a quotation from Deuteronomy. Life is not just about satisfying our bodies. We do not worship worldly power – we worship God. And we trust God – we know this and do not need to put it to the test.

Mark's account of the forty days is much shorter. So short, in fact, that it is easy to pass over it and think it is just another example of Mark's abbreviated style. This is a mistake. Mark's Gospel is just as carefully constructed as the other three, with its own distinctive viewpoint. In Mark, it is the Holy Spirit who drives Jesus out immediately after descending on him like a dove. In Mark, the wilderness is full of wild beasts, but also full of God's angels – definitely a place of testing – which is what temptation is.

Mark even has the three temptations, but elsewhere in the Gospel. On three occasions, the Pharisees test him. They ask for a sign from heaven (8:11). They ask for a public condemnation of divorce (10:2) at the very place where John the Baptist preached against Herod's divorce (hoping perhaps that Jesus, too, would get his head chopped off for saying the same thing). They ask him to declare whether or not Jews should pay taxes to the Romans (12:15). Each time, Jesus refuses to be tempted, refuses to be led into an action or a statement which will distract from his real message, which is not about working miracles for the sake of working miracles, which is not about stirring up feelings against particular sinners, which is not about leading independence movements, but about restoring and redeeming.

This is what temptation is really about – distracting us from our true mission, and in our case putting ourselves and the world first, and putting God last. Jesus uses some extreme language about temptation. “If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away” – not literally, but a command to have our eyes fixed on where we are heading for, not on the distractions along the way. Let us use this Lent to identify in ourselves what these distractions are, and to overcome them.

- *Hector Davie*



© Tim Hyde.

FAQ: Why is Easter so late this year?

Easter and the festivals linked to it are all calculated by the phases of the moon. This lunar calendar was developed by the Babylonians and was still in use in the Middle East in Jesus' day.

Christmas and saints' days, on the other hand, are all calculated by the Roman calendar, which is based on the rotation of the earth round the sun. This means that these festivals always fall on the same date, but on a different day of the week, each year.



We know from the Gospels that Jesus spent the last week of his earthly life in Jerusalem observing the Passover, which is itself calculated by the lunar calendar. Unlike the other festivals, which were introduced gradually into the Early Church, the celebration of Easter has been part of the Church's year from the beginning, before Christians had begun to separate themselves from their Jewish neighbours. It was natural, therefore, that the date of Easter should be linked to that of Passover.

So how do you know when Easter will be?

The First Council of Nicaea, a gathering of bishops from the whole Church in 325, established the date of Easter as the first Sunday after the full moon following the Spring equinox (21 March). The date of Easter therefore can be any time between 22 March and 25 April. Falling on 24 April this year, it is almost as late as it can be. Next year it falls on 8 April, about midway in the range of possibilities. How do I know? I rely on my trusty SBB diary.

There have been moves to have a fixed date for Easter, which could be convenient in some ways. On the other hand, we would lose the symbolism of celebrating Jesus' victory over death on the first day of the week and in the same season as the celebration of God's deliverance of his ancient people, the Jews.

- PMP

A Word for the Month - Apostolic

We all know about the apostles. There were twelve of them, and they went around with Jesus. We can read about them in the Gospels.

Right, and wrong. The word *apostle* only occurs eight times in the Gospels – five of these in Luke. In John's Gospel, it does not occur at all. The men and women who



were called *disciples*, people who learn, and there were plenty of these.

Twelve of these disciples were special, though, and Jesus chose them because after they had learnt from him, he would send them out. *Apostolos* is a Greek word meaning someone who has been sent – we are more at home with the equivalent word which has come to us from Latin, missionary. The apostles were Jesus' missionaries.

So the only time Matthew uses the word apostle is in chapter 10, when he lists the twelve whom Jesus sent in the middle of his ministry to the Jews in the towns and villages around him: “First, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananæan, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.”

The task Jesus gave the apostles was Jesus' own task. It was to proclaim the good news that the Kingdom of God had come near, to cure the sick, to raise the dead, to cleanse the lepers, to cast out demons. After sending them, Jesus sent word to John the Baptist, to say that the prophecies in Isaiah 35 and 61 were being fulfilled.

But when they returned from their mission, the apostles reverted to being disciples. It is not until after the resurrection that Jesus sent them out again, to do his work again, making disciples of all nations, and baptizing them in the

name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. And we read about how they did this in Acts.

Between Jesus' ascension and the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost, the eleven remaining apostles chose Matthias to replace Judas Iscariot. Matthias had been a disciple through all of Jesus' ministry. He was to be "a witness to the resurrection." But then he fades from the story, as do most of the rest of the twelve.

There is a reason for this. There are traditions that some of the twelve travelled abroad, to east, to south, to west and north. But their mission was to other Jews, in the diaspora, but especially in Jerusalem. The Acts of the Apostles is not a history book. Like the Gospels, it was written to "show the truth about Jesus", and it follows a clear plan, showing the gospel spreading from the frightened group in the upper room in Jerusalem to Rome, the capital of the gentile world.

The apostles who did this were led by Paul. He and Barnabas are the new apostles, still sent out by Jesus, and, as Luke is careful to point out, supported by the "apostles and the elders" in Jerusalem.

For an apostle is not merely a propagandist. Unlike some of the jihadists in the Muslim world, the apostles did not fit together an idea in their head and then go out and proclaim it to others. They were sent. Their message is not their own – it is the message of Jesus, who, ultimately, sent them.

At the end of the Nicene Creed, we affirm our belief in "one holy, catholic and apostolic church". The church is holy – it has a relation to God, to the Divine. The church is catholic – it is inclusive, it embraces all its members and binds them together. But the church is also apostolic – it has been sent, by Jesus, to share his good news with the rest of the world. Only by maintaining its links to God, to all its members, and to the world around it, can we do Christ's work and function as Christ's body should, rooted in the one holy, catholic and apostolic body that is the Church.

- Hector Davie

Message to Egypt

In February the Egyptian people made history, when their 18-day revolt led by the young people of Egypt successfully ousted President Mulbarak, shattering three decades of dictatorship and changing the political order of the Arab world.

As young people living in this historic time, the Youth Group talked about what problems and dangers the Egyptian people still have to face, and possible futures that await them. After reading verses in the Bible in which Jesus gives us direct words of encouragement and lays out for us the right way to live, the Youth Group wrote their own words of encouragement for the Egyptian people, and all those people who are struggling for their freedom today.

"Believe in yourself."

"Fight for your rights."

"Let justice be done."

"Justice for all."

"Fight for justice."

"Stay strong."

"Fight for freedom."

"Stand up for your rights!"

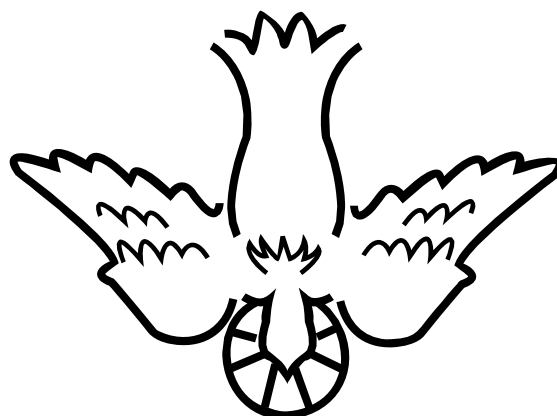
"Be bold; be strong."

"Don't give up."

and a message for us all:

"Love thy neighbour as thyself."

- *Mary McKinley*



Chaplain's Notes

Holy Week – holy and (almost) unique this year

The services at St Ursula's will follow the normal pattern and details are on page 16. The week is not called "holy" for nothing and it is therefore a week when everyone should make a special effort to be in church, not just on Easter Day but during the week too.

This year is also special for another reason. Two of the Holy Week services are very rare, if not unique, events for us.

Tuesday 19 April. During Holy Week the Bishops gather with the clergy and people in different parts of the diocese to bless the oils used for healing, baptism and confirmation during the coming year. The clergy also renew their ordination vows. This year there will be a celebration at Holy Trinity, Geneva, the first time that it has been held in Switzerland for many years. The service starts at 12 noon and will be led by Bishop David. The Archdeacon is preaching. All are welcome.

Royal Maundy. The Maundy ceremony dates back to the Middle Ages when English monarchs washed the feet of beggars, following the example of Christ's washing his disciples' feet at the Last Supper, before his crucifixion on Good Friday. Nowadays the Queen does not wash people's feet but instead distributes gifts of specially minted Maundy money to people who have made significant contributions to the life of the Church and of the local community

This year the Diocese in Europe is involved for the first time ever. During the service in Westminster Abbey, 20 men and 20 women from the Diocese will be honoured in this way. Four people from the Swiss Archdeaconry were selected from the names submitted, one of whom is Nigel Coombs from St Ursula's. It will definitely be a day to remember.

The service will be televised on the BBC and there will be coverage in the *European Anglican*.

Another Royal Touch

We are planning to show the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton on a big screen in the Church Hall. We are extending an open invitation to anyone to come and watch, to join in the hymns perhaps and to experience the big day together. Please bring your friends. You can drop in for as long as

you wish and we shall serve simple but very British refreshments at appropriate intervals.

The exact times will depend on when the broadcast starts – please keep an eye out for flyers and information in the weekly notice sheets.

Baptism dates

We try to space out baptisms in church, so that we do not have them bunching up one after another. We can make an occasional exception if there are good reasons, however, such as family members travelling from abroad.

The dates assigned for 2011 are

- 15 May
- 31 July
- 23 October
- 4 December



On the move

We send prayers and congratulations to the Revd Maree Wilson, assistant chaplain at Holy Trinity Geneva. Maree has been appointed team vicar of the parish of Ludlow in England. We wish her and her husband Edgar well in this move.

Young faces on second Sundays

We are trying out a new rota in Junior Church. The Pilots group will now be in church for the Informal Eucharist on the second Sunday. The idea is to help them be more involved in the main service. We are exploring ways in which they can take part. Sometimes this might be a speaking part but it might also be contributing to other parts of the service (in the ways that adults do too). It is a way of showing that they, like we oldies, are all part of the Church of today.

- PMP

Junior Church Sleepover (6 – 7 May)

This year's Junior Church Sleepover will be held from Friday 6 May at 18.00 to Saturday 7 May at around 11.00. The theme will be “Walking with Jesus” based on the bible passage describing the experiences of two disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24 : 13 – 32).



As always there will be worship, stories, songs, craft and other activities - all related to the subject. The traditional sleepover elements will also be included – eating together, a campfire, s'mores, lots of games and fun, and the pancake breakfast.

As something different this year, the children will be preparing contributions for the Sunday service, in which they will be playing a special part.

All members of the Junior Church aged 6 or over are invited. You should receive an invitation soon – please contact the church office if you have any questions.

- *Tricia Carrick*

PLANTS NEEDED Garden, House and Herbs



I would like to re-introduce the sale of plants at the Summer Bazaar. So a huge request for all those “stray” plants that are growing in the wrong place in your garden. Or maybe you could sow some extra seeds in pots and give them to be sold. Please start now so that there is a good variety to sell. Small plant pots are available from the green box at the side of the church.

Thank you

Sonia Klein (031 819 1756)



Cecily's Fund Traditional Lenten Soup Lunch 2011

www.cecilyfund.org

The event showed our fellowship and solidarity with Cecily's Fund, which enables more than 9,000 orphans and other vulnerable children to go to school. Thank you all for making this event so successful.

Also a big thank you to those who were helping and hosting this day: Adorée Weibel, Andreas Bomonti, kids from the Youth Group and all the spontaneous helpers.



Thanks to Elisabeth Pfyffer, Querida Long, Jana Kutesko, Rose-Marie Coombs, Elisabeth Ambühl, Walter and Benedict Bisig for spoiling us with delicious cakes, cookies and muffins. People like you make it possible to continue to organize and make events like this a success for Cecily's Fund. You all did a great job!



We raised **Fr 790** for the orphans in Zambia and we couldn't have done it without you.

What can we do with such a generous donation?

For example: **Fr 45** enables a child to go to primary school for a whole year by providing a school uniform, shoes, books, pens and all school fees and exam costs. So our **Fr 790** would

supply **17** children with these essential items.

I hope to welcome you at another event on behalf of Cecily's Fund. Our traditional **Pumpkin Soup Lunch** which will take place at St Ursula's on **Wednesday 2 November 2011**.

- *Yvonne Bomonti on behalf of Swiss Friends of Cecily's Fund*

Junior Church News

Junior Church Sleepover



The main activity for the Junior Church team during the next few weeks will be the preparation and organization of the sleepover on Friday, 6 May. The theme for the sleepover will be “The Road to Emmaus” - Luke 24:13-35. All Junior Church members aged 6 and above are welcome. For more information, see the article on page 12.

Classes

The change effected at the start of the year from four to three Junior Church classes has been an improvement. Each class is larger, which makes it more fun, both for the teacher and the children.

It has been agreed that the children from the Sparklers group (age 3-7+) may return to church at the Peace, depending on the group dynamics or on the children's progress with the work they have been doing.

Teaching

Now that we are in the season of Lent, we are reflecting in our classes on the ways in which we can turn from all temptations that separate us from God, and on how God can draw us to himself so that we may know his everlasting love.

The teaching continues with reflections on God's power to forgive and restore, and to breathe new hope into our dry hearts. In the run-up to Easter, we are encouraged to wait for God with eager hope, knowing that he is steadfast in love.

Child Protection

As of 22 February 2011 all new Junior Church teachers will need to do a Swiss criminal record check. The teacher will have to apply for the

“Strafregisterauszug” themselves and, if requested, St Ursula's will pay the Fr20 fee. Shelagh Brawand (the Child Protection Officer) will produce a document outlining the procedures necessary to obtain this check.

- Eva Eigner

All-Age Worship : Sunday 8 May

“Walking with Jesus”

This special service, which is for people of all ages, will include contributions from the children of the Junior Church. They will have prepared these during the sleepover at the weekend. The sleepover has the theme “Walking with Jesus” based on the bible passage describing the experiences of two disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24 : 13 – 32).

Come along and see what you can experience.

- Tricia Carrick



Junior Church Birthdays



**Congratulations to our Junior Church
Children with Birthdays
in April and May**

Anna Batley 8 on 1 April

Roman Roche 1 on 3 April

Lily Janssen 3 on 15 April

Eleanor Kutesko-Pawsey 12 on 28 May

Raphael Hänggi 12 on 29 May

Calendar of Services

Services in Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday (17 April)

10.00 Procession and Sung Eucharist (NB we start in the hall)

Tuesday 19 April

12.00 Chrism Mass, Holy Trinity Geneva (led by Bishop David)
(Blessing of Oils and Renewal of Vows)

Maundy Thursday (21 April)

18.30 Commemoration of the Last Supper
(Starts in the Hall – please bring food to share)

Good Friday (22 April)

10.00 Family Service (making the Easter Garden)
14.00 Liturgy of the Last Hour

Easter Sunday (24 April)

9.00 Sung Eucharist with Easter Ceremonies
10.30 Easter Family Communion and Egg Hunt
17.00 Ecumenical Vespers at St Peter's and St Paul's Church
(churches of many traditions join together to celebrate the resurrection)



Palm Sunday Procession, 2010



Easter Sunday, 2010

3 April – Mothering Sunday (Lent 4)

10.00 Sung Eucharist
Exodus 2:1-10
Colossians 3:12-17
Luke 2:33-35

10 April – Lent 5

8.30 Said Communion
 10.00 Informal Eucharist
Ezekiel 37:1-14
Romans 8:6-11
John 11:1-2,17-27

17 April – Palm Sunday

10.00 Sung Eucharist
Isaiah 50:4-9
Philippians 2:5-11
Mark 14:32-15:41

21 April – Maundy Thursday

18.30 Commemoration of the Last Supper
Exodus 12:1-4
Exodus 12:11-14
John 13:1-17, 31-35

22 April – Good Friday

10.00 Family Service
 14.00 Liturgy of the Last Hour
Isaiah 52:13-53:12

24 April – Easter Day

9.00 Sung Eucharist
Acts 10:34-43
John 20:1-18
 10.30 Family Communion
Colossians 3:1-4
Matthew 28:1-10

1 May – Easter 2

10.00 Sung Eucharist
Acts 2:14a, 22-32
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

8 May – Easter 3

8.30 Said Communion
 10.00 All-Age Eucharist
Luke 24:13-35

15 May – Easter 4

10.00 Sung Eucharist with Holy Baptism
Acts 2:42-47
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10

22 May – Easter 5

8.30 Said Communion
 10.00 Eucharist
Acts 7:55-60
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14

Saturday 28 May

17.30 Choral Evensong
 (Archdeaonry Choir Festival)

29 May – Easter 6

10.00 Sung Eucharist
 (Archdeaonry Choir Festival)
Acts 17:22-31
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-2

Thursday 2 June – Ascension

10.00 Eucharist

Thun

There is also a fortnightly service (normally a eucharist) at the Reformed Church Hall in Bubenbergstrasse in **Thun**. This is held at 19.30 on the first and third Thursdays of the month, usually combined with a Bible study. (It's best to check with the office first!)

Prayer Diary

April

3-9 Fourth Week of Lent

"As we forgive"

Those who build bridges between hostile factions

The healing of our deepest hurts

10-16 Fifth Week of Lent (Passiontide)

"In heaven"

Thanksgiving for glimpses of heaven

Our departed loved ones...May they rise in glory

17-23 Holy Week

"God so loved the world..."

All who attend our Holy Week services

The Royal Maundy service at Westminster Abbey

24-30 Easter Week

"Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!"

Our Easter celebrations

Christians at risk for their faith



May

1-7 Second Week of Easter

"Peace be with you"

Welcoming newcomers

The Junior Church sleepover

8-14 Third Week of Easter

"The Road to Emmaus"

Recognising Jesus in our midst

All who share faith's journey with us

15-21 Fourth Week of Easter

"Many were baptised and added to the company"

Those being baptised on Sunday

Ecumenical relations in Switzerland

22-28 Fifth Week of Easter

"I am the way, the truth and the life"

Relations with those of other faiths or none

The Archdeaconry Choir Festival

For Your Diary

April & May 2011

Regular Weekly Events

Mondays	09.30 – 10.00	Morning Prayer
Wednesdays	09.15 - 11.15	Parents and Tots
Fridays	09.30	Patchwork (not 22 & 29 April)
Saturdays	09.30 - 11.30	Choir Practice (not 28 May)

Other Events

Friday 1 April	12.00	Lent Study Course
Saturday 2 April	14.30 – 16.30	Afternoon Tea hosted by the Pastoral Care Team
Monday 4 April	19.30	Church Council
Wednesday 6 April	19.30	Wohlen Housegroup – Lent Study Course
Friday 8 April	19.00	Youth Group
Saturday 9 April	11.00	Junior Church Activity Club (on the Belpberg)
Wednesday 13 April	19.30	Wohlen Housegroup – Lent Study Course
Friday 15 April	12.00	Lent Study Course
Saturday 16 April	10.00-16.00	SACEP Study Day—Stewardship
Wednesday 20 April	19.30	Wohlen Housegroup – Lent Study Course
Friday 29 April	11.30 – 15.30	Royal Wedding Celebration

Sunday 1 May	10.00	Youth Group
	12.00	Bring & Share Lunch
Tuesday 3 May	19.30	Church Council
Friday 6 May	18.00	Junior Church Sleepover
Saturday 7 May	11.00	Junior Church Activity Club
Sunday 8 May		Junior Church Bake Sale for Tear Fund
Sunday 15 May	10.00	Youth Group
		Copy Date
Saturday 21 May	10.00 – 14.00	Summer Bazaar
Sunday 22 May	10.00	Youth Group
Thursday 26 May	09.00 - 11.00	Magazine Collating
Friday 27 May - Sunday 29 May		Archdeaconry Choir Festival at St Ursula's

Future Dates

Sunday 28 August	Back to Church Sunday International Bring and Share Lunch
Saturday 3 September	Book and Food Sale
Friday 9 - Sunday 11 September	Church Weekend Away
Friday 18 & Saturday 19 November	Christmas Bazaar

Contemplative Prayer

Thursday 7 April

Thursday 21 April

Thursday 5 May

Thursday 26 May

Contemplative prayer meetings are held at the Centre for Prayer in Liebefeld (Falkenstrasse 2) at 19.15 for refreshments, 19.30 to 20.30 for prayer.

Archdeaconry Choir Festival

27 - 29 May 2011

Preparations for the Festival are progressing normally. We are still waiting for first estimates of attendance from the other choirs, so we are not sure whether we will need accommodation or not (these days most choirs stay in hotels) but if you would be willing to host some singers and you live within easy reach



of the church, please contact Nigel on 026 677 25 67 or by e-mail coombs@netplus.ch; also please contact him if you are available to help provide a ferry service from hotels to the church on any of the days.

St. Ursula's choir continues to practise every Saturday from 9.30 to 11.30; all in all there will be 14 singers from Berne.

There will be **Choral Evensong on Saturday** evening at 17.30 and a **Sung Eucharist on Sunday** at 10.00 and we hope for a big turnout at both services. The Director of Music will be Gordon Appleton from England. Of course you are also welcome to come and listen to the rehearsals which start on Friday evening, and will be held all day Saturday and on Sunday morning. Between the rehearsals and services, you will have time to be sociable and make contact with people from the other chaplaincies in the Archdeaconry.

On Sunday Afternoon, there will be **Open Hymn Singing for All** with the opportunity to sing a number of hymns under the leadership of Gordon Appleton. He will introduce a collection of hymns designed to refresh the repertoire for congregational singing on the basis of new material. This Open Hymn Singing is open to all who love singing and would like to join us for this opportunity. The starting time is likely to be 12.30 or 13.00 and will end at the latest at 15.30 or 16.00. Details will be made available later.

- Nigel Coombs & Hans-Karl Pfyffer

Weekend Away 2011

9 –11 September 2011
Jugendhaus Aeschi
Join us for fun, faith
and fellowship!



Includes meals and accommodation, optional sessions for adults and children, as well as worship in the mornings, evenings, and on Sunday.

Fun activities have in the past included an adventure trail, hikes, camp fire & smores, singing around the piano, quiz night, football, ping pong, and chats long into the night.



There is suitable and ample accommodation for singles, young adults in the dorm, adults only, as well as families. Mountain views and friendly atmosphere.

All for a very reasonable price. Please reserve the date today!

- Jennifer Hockley

St Ursula's New Charity: The Bible Society

The Bible Society is one of the 14 charities which we support through your pledges. St Ursula's has already received a thank-you letter from David Catfield, the Chief Executive of the Bible Society (see Fig 1: Letter to St Ursula's Church)

The Society has a very impressive 200-year history in the United Kingdom. From its start in a London tavern in 1804, it was originally known as the British and Foreign Bible Society and began with a translation of John's Gospel into the Canadian Mohawk language. Translation is one of its core activities; a brief timeline of some key events is shown in Fig 2: Bible Society Timeline.

1 Translation Matters

The Bible Society, part of the worldwide Bible Society fellowship, has been responsible for translating 300 of the 457 languages that now have a full bible translation, while 2479 languages have part of the bible (see Fig 3: The Challenge of Translation). The big challenge is that there are more than 6900 languages in the world, leaving more than 4200 still needing one book of the bible. Translation has always been a core part of the Bible Society's work. The worldwide Bible Society fellowship is currently working on more than 550 translation projects, which can impact more than 4 billion people.

"Translation it is that openeth the window, to let in the light"

King James Bible Translators ¹

2 What the Bible Society Does

The Bible Society is involved in the following areas with the world's best seller, The Bible:

The Blind: As well as translating, the Bible Society is committed to making the bible available to more than 300 million people who are either blind or not able to see well by producing Braille bibles.

Growing numbers: Today the Bible Society distributes more than 25 million bibles a year, raising its distribution each year since 2006.

The Poor: It is also helping provide bibles in the world's poorer communities. For millions, many who are 'living' on less than one Swiss Franc a day, the Bible is simply a luxury they can't afford.

The Illiterate: people are now hearing God's word for the first time through a Bible Society project called "Faith comes by hearing"

Children: In addition, the Bible Society's focus is on providing colourful Scripture portions or a full Children's Bible.

From drugs and worse to a life with God

For seven-year-old Michael, forced to live with his drug-dealing uncle in San Jose, Costa Rica, there were no hugs or bedtime stories. Instead, he was sucked into a downward spiral of prostitution and cocaine addiction.

If ever a child needed to know the comfort and unconditional love of the God of the Bible, it was Michael. And, as a teenager, he found it at a Christian centre where he was offered food, a shower, some schooling— and a Bible provided by Bible Society.

With the Bible as his guide, Michael wrestled free of drugs and is training to be a mechanic— his life full of the joy of God's love.



3 We offer our prayers for the Bible Society

- We thank you for the freedoms we enjoy – freedom to worship and to know Jesus, your son.
- We pray for all involved in the translation, distribution and production of the Bible worldwide, and for all who help people understand and live by it.
- Help the Bible Society to press on with its work to make the Bible known through translation, audio and Braille around the world.
- Grant success to their project to distribute the Bible in China and to their work in translating your word so that people everywhere may have it in their own language.
- Please pray for Japan and its Bible Society as the biggest earthquake to strike the country since records began triggered a tsunami, bringing devastation to cities along its Pacific coast.

4 Useful Links:

Bible Society homepage: <http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/>

Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=4182748890#!/BibleSociety>

Follow on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/#!/biblesociety>

Free Audio files for the whole New Testament:

http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/products/1359/49/you_ve_got_the_time_audio_files/

5 Thank-you letter

Fig 1: Letter to St Ursula's Church

10 February 2011

Thank you - From Liu, and countless more Christians in China

Dear Miss Klingler

This is the story of Liu Suqin which will go some small way to helping you know exactly how much the gift of £325.00 from St Ursula's Church is going to help in the fight against Bible poverty in China.

When Liu made the life-changing decision to follow Christ, she realized that she needed the strength of the Bible to support her new-found faith. She bought a copy of her own – but couldn't understand a word. The fact is that her Bible was printed in Traditional Chinese Script – which, for people like Liu who haven't received much education – is just too difficult to decipher.

You can imagine her heartbreak. She poured out her sorrows to God: *What's the point of me buying a Bible if I can't read it?* She asked.

But now, thanks to her prayers and the support of churches like yours, Liu has a Bible she can understand – in Simplified Chinese Script. It speaks to her heart. It gives her the comfort of God's wisdom and love. And it strengthens her on her journey of faith.

I cannot emphasize strongly enough the power of your support. Lives are changing thanks to your gifts and your prayers. And we are deeply grateful for the role you play in our shared mission.

Yet for every man, woman or child who has discovered God's love through the Scriptures, there are thousands more who are still in Bible poverty. We remain steadfast in our determination to ensure that people like Liu are not forgotten. And we hope and pray that you will continue to stand with us.

Thank you, once again for your gift. Please do not hesitate to contact us at any time for more Information about our work, or visit www.biblesociety.org.uk

Yours sincerely

James Catford

Time Line

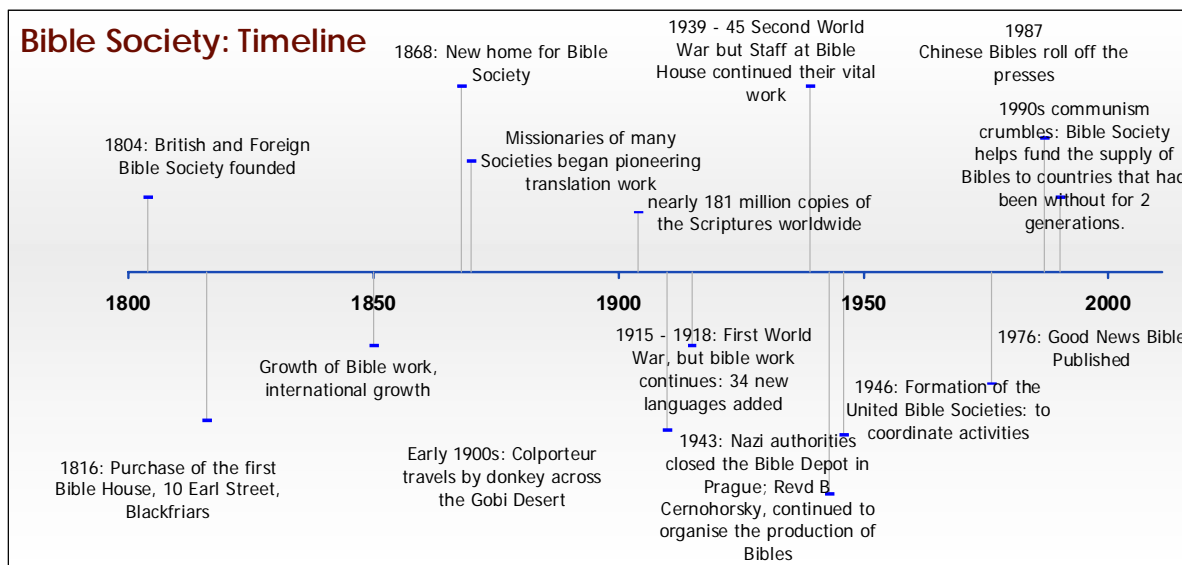


Fig 2: Bible Society Timeline

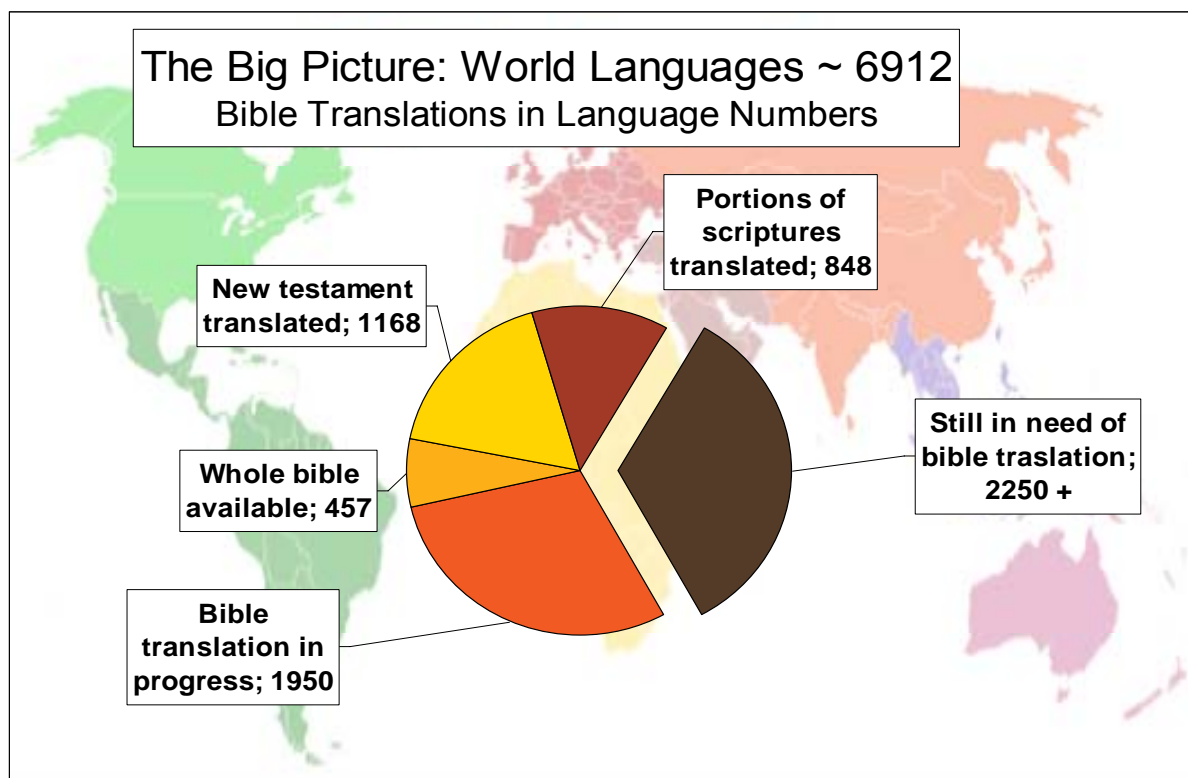


Fig 3: The Challenge of Translation



Diocesan Bishop:

The Right Reverend Dr Geoffrey Rowell

Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe

Lent Appeal 2011

Each year as Bishop of the Diocese I ask our chaplaincies to give through our Advent and Lent Appeals to those whose needs are greater than ours. Jesus gave us two great commandments – the love of God with all our heart and mind and soul and strength, and the love of our neighbour as ourselves. St John in his first Letter reminds us that we cannot say that we love God whom we have not seen, if we do not love our neighbour whom we have seen. Love of God and love of neighbour are bound up together. Over the years the response of congregations throughout the Diocese to these Appeals has been generous and encouraging, and I thank you for that generosity.

This year the Lent Appeal is for our companion Diocese of Luweero in Uganda. Links with Luweero have been maintained over the years by the North-West Archdeaconry, and we are grateful to all in that Archdeaconry for enabling this partnership to be a living link. As you will see from the accompanying materials there are very practical projects in Luweero which our Lent Appeal will be supporting – a maternity wing and laboratory and the Sekamuli Parish Clinic; new motorcycles for the Archdeacons and Diocesan Staff; and a tree planting programme. All of these are about real practical help. Your gift to this year's Lent Appeal can make a real difference. I ask you, as part of your Lenten discipline, to give generously to this Appeal and to our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Diocese of Luweero.

+GEOFFREY GIBALTAR

Bishop's Lodge, Church Road, Worth, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 7RT

Tel: +44 (0)1293 883 051; *Fax:* +44 (0)1293 884 479; *e-mail:* bishop.europe@churchofengland.org

Diocesan web site: www.europe.anglican.org/

Charity Commission registration number: 250186

The Bishop's Lent Appeal 2011

Luweero Diocese in Uganda

In 2011 the Bishop's Lent Appeal is being given to support the work of the Diocese of Luweero in Uganda. Uganda is situated on the northern shores of Lake Victoria, just north of the equator in East Africa. Luweero Town is 64 km north of Kampala, the capital of Uganda. The district of Luweero is largely rural and covers an area of 9198 sq. kilometres and is home to a population that is now approaching one million people.

Luweero was once the centre of the tragic instability and civil war that marked the years of the Idi Amin and Milton Obote regimes in Uganda – and the conflict has left a lasting mark on the local community.

Luweero Diocese has 29 parishes and on average there are 20 churches per parish – bringing the total number of churches to around 600. There are only about 50 trained clergy in the diocese. Each parish has a few lay readers but the majority of the 600 churches in the diocese are led by catechists (church teachers) who have little formal training.

At the 1998 Lambeth conference Bishop John Hind, then the diocesan Bishop in Europe, and Bishop Evans Mukasa Kisekka, from the diocese of Luweero, first discussed the idea of creating a link between the Diocese in Europe and the Diocese of Luweero. Since 1999 there has been a twinning relationship between the archdeaconry of North West Europe and Luweero. The relationship is based on friendship, encouragement, prayer and financial support. During the years there have been a number of exchange visits, and in addition to a number of church projects the link has led to the establishment of the **Healthy Vine Trust** by Jay and Pam Dennet from St John's and St Philip's Chaplaincy in the Hague.



The Healthy Vine Trust aims to improve health through Community Development Programmes in Sekamuli, one of the poorer parishes in the Luweero Diocese. Under Jay and Pam's leadership the Trust is helping the community improve health, sanitation and income generation with a focus on malaria reduction. The programme includes training

local community volunteers and assisting the community with its health, water and education needs as well as income generation projects.



Over the last 5 years the work of Healthy Vine has helped to significantly improve the standard of living in the Sekamuli parish in Luweero. It has established 9 new bore holes to provide clean water. And from a very low starting point over 50% of homes now have proper latrines, 40% have clay cooking stoves and 35% have completed model homes and received mosquito nets

for the whole family. This has enabled a positive downward trend in malaria and a reduction in other common illnesses. In addition the local health clinic now operates 24-7 and the local government is committed to developing it further.

Finally the investment in the Sekamuli Secondary School has enabled it to achieve examination status with 65 students completing exams there in the recent period. Further information on the work of the Healthy Vine Trust can be found at: www.healthy-vine.org



The Bishop's Lent Appeal 2011 will enable the Healthy Vine Trust to continue this good work, and continue to strengthen the link between the Diocese of Luweero and the Diocese in Europe.

These links will be further strengthened by a visit from a group from the North West Europe archdeaconry in September 2011.

The proceeds from the Bishop's Lent Appeal will go towards the following projects in Luweero:

The Sekamuli maternity wing and laboratory (cost €9000). These improvements to the local clinic will significantly improve the health care in the parish, especially for mothers.

A new motorcycle for Diocesan staff (cost €2500). The clergy and staff of the diocese have a large geographical area to visit, often on dirt roads. Motorcycles are therefore a vital form of transport.

A tree planting programme in Sekamuli near the school. Tree planting enables income generation for the Diocese and the local community as well as improving the environment.

We hope you will feel able to join us in praying for and supporting the Diocese of Luweero and the work of the Healthy Vine Trust during this season of Lent.

Marriage Celebration



Dear Friends at St Ursula's

The service for the blessing and celebration of our marriage will be held at the Swiss Reformed Church in Köniz, Saturday 14 May 2011 at 15:00 and will be conducted by Ven. Peter Potter and Rev. Peter Hawker. The service will be followed by an apero riche in the adjoining Rittersaal or, weather permitting, in the Schlosshof.

You are all cordially invited to both service and apero. We would love to have you there.

Love and blessings

Lynn and Brian

Perfect Easter gift for friends & family

It is never easy choosing gifts for friends and family who already seem to have everything they need or could possibly want. But with our special gift cards, you can make the gift of education to an orphaned or vulnerable Zambian child on their behalf. That's something no one can get too much of! Below are some of the gift cards available.

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Thankful, for every donation! The children of Zambia.

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Swiss Friends of Cecily's Fund



16 April: Stewardship – A Training Day

On Saturday 16 April, there will be a SACEP training day (that's the Swiss Archdeaconry Christian Education Programme) at St. Ursula's on the theme of "Stewardship".

It will be led by Mrs. Terry Parsons, for 12 years the National Stewardship Officer for the Episcopal Church in the USA. She has enormous expertise in helping churches around the world develop their stewardship programmes.

The day is intended to appeal to a wide audience - not just treasurers! - and those who attend will learn something about the psychology and theology of stewardship, as well as gaining some very practical ideas which can be used in Real Life! There will also be the opportunity to ask questions.

There is no charge whatsoever for attendance - and a soup lunch and drinks will be provided too. However, we will all be invited to make a donation to Cecily's Fund - to support and educate Zambian children orphaned by AIDS.

A programme for the day and a short biography of Terry Parsons can be seen by clicking the link on the news page on the church's website. Everyone is warmly invited. It would be good if you signify your intention to come to the Parish Office of Holy Trinity, Geneva: geneva-htc@anglican.ch.

- *Revd Roy Taylor / Hector Davie*

House Swap



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Graham Tritt, President, tel. 031 829 34 79, email g.tritt@gmx.net

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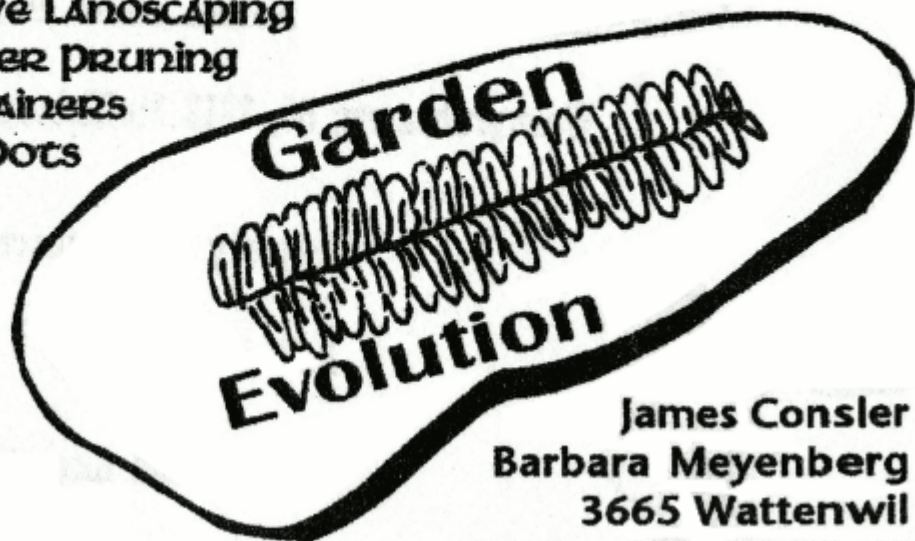
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WHEN Jesus came to Golgotha they hanged Him on a tree,
They drove great nails through hands and feet, and made a Calvary;
They crowned Him with a crown of thorns, red were His wounds and deep,
For those were crude and cruel days, and human flesh was cheap.

When Jesus came to Birmingham they simply passed Him by,
They never hurt a hair of Him, they only let Him die;
For men had grown more tender, and they would not give Him pain,
They only just passed down the street, and left Him in the rain.

Still Jesus cried, "Forgive them, for they know not what they do,"
And still it rained the wintry rain that drenched Him through and through;
The crowds went home and left the streets without a soul to see,
And Jesus crouched against a wall and cried for Calvary.

Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy, MC (27 June 1883 - 8 March 1929),

Priest and Poet

