



Ordination Day: "A very happy day for our church"

In All Saints Church, Cologne, on Saturday 28th June, the Chaplaincy's assistant curates, the Revd Richard Gardiner and the Revd Matthias Grebe were ordained to the sacred priesthood by the Diocese in Europe's Suffragan Bishop, The Right Reverend David Hamid. Revd Doreen Cage, assistant curate of the Anglican Chaplaincy of St George, Málaga, Spain, was also priested during the service.



Doreen Cage Richard Gardiner Bishop David Matthias Grebe
Photo: Reiner Knudsen

The preacher for the service was the Revd Canon William Gulliford, the Director of Ordinands, who had worked with each of the candidates for several years, as their vocation was discerned and they were trained and prepared for this day. This preparation had included reflections on poems by the English metaphysical poet and Church of England cleric, John Donne (1573–1631). Revd Gulliford concluded his sermon with Donne's "*Hymn to God, in my Sickness*" (see Page 2)

At the heart of the ordination rite, just prior to the ordination prayer and laying on of hands, is the solemn invocation of the Holy Spirit. Richard, Matthias and Doreen chose to lie prostrate for this part of the liturgy, to be reminded that they are completely dependent upon God for their ministry, as the ordinal says "you cannot bear the weight of this calling in your own strength, but only by the grace and power of God". During the prostration the ancient hymn *Veni Creator Spiritus* and the litany are sung, in which the community prays for the ordinands to be filled with the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit.

The whole service was also an amazing musical delight for everyone courtesy of the organ skills of Cologne PCC member, Hilary Griffiths. There was a complimentary mixture from the 19th Century *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!* . . . (contd on Page 2)

Upcoming Events:

- ◆ **26th July**
7.30 pm, All Saints
Hallé Youth Orchestra
- ◆ **23rd August**
7.30 pm, All Saints
St. Peter's Choir,
Nottingham
- ◆ **30th August**
12-4pm, All Saints
Cologne Summer Fete

John Ernest Bode's O Jesus, I have promised, to the '60s Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!; the '80s Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here, and '90s Go to the world! Go into all the earth. The service was gloriously rounded off to the sound of the Toccata from Widor's Symphony for Organ No. 5.

Following the service, everyone was treated to the culinary delights of Con Gusto; an opportunity for the Chaplaincy to support a local business. It was a very positive experience for the Chaplaincy with many visitors commenting:

"Hymn to God, in my Sickness"

Since I am coming to that Holy room,
Where, with Thy choir of saints for evermore,
I shall be made Thy music; as I come
I tune the instrument here at the door,
And what I must do then, think here before;

Whilst my physicians by their love are grown
Cosmographers, and I their map, who lie
Flat on this bed, that by them may be shown
That this is my south-west discovery,
Per fretum febris, by these straits to die;

I joy, that in these straits I see my west;
For, though those currents yield return to none,
What shall my west hurt me? As west and east
In all flat maps – and I am one – are one,
So death doth touch the resurrection.

Is the Pacific sea my home? Or are
The eastern riches? Is Jerusalem?
Anyan, and Magellan, and Gibraltar?
All straits, and none but straits are ways to them
Whether where Japhet dwelt, or Cham, or Shem.

We think that Paradise and Calvary,
Christ's cross and Adam's tree, stood in one place;
Look, Lord, and find both Adams met in me;
As the first Adam's sweat surrounds my face,
May the last Adam's blood my soul embrace.

So, in His purple wrapp'd, receive me, Lord;
By these His thorns, give me His other crown;
And as to others' souls I preach'd Thy word,
Be this my text, my sermon to my own,
"Therefore that He may raise, the Lord throws down."

Additional Commentary & Notes available at:
www.sparknotes.com/poetry/donne/section8.rhtml

"What a great day!"

"It was such a wonderful event"

"What an incredible day of uplifting encounters and celebrations"

First Eucharists . . .

The following day, Matthias presided over his First Eucharist with the Bonn congregation in St Paulus, and we had the pleasure of his father-in-law, Revd Andrew Cooke, preaching a very thought-provoking sermon. He spoke of what the difference is for Matthias and Richard becoming priests after a year as deacons, but also about what it means to every member of the congregation in their relationship with the Chaplaincy's three priests, and how members conduct themselves as we are all "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people" (*1 Peter 2: 9 – part of the New Testament reading in Bonn*).

In Cologne, Richard presided over his First Eucharist and we saw the return of Revd. Alan Cole, chaplain from 1982-86. He spoke touchingly about the privilege of the priest in being one with Christ at the altar and of the considerable sacrifice that this demands.

In thanksgiving for their ministry with the Chaplaincy and to mark their future contribution to our community, Matthias and Richard were presented with a Sick Communion Set from the Chaplaincy congregations.

Bonner Kirchennacht

Geoff Sammon

This year was the first time Anglicans did their own thing at the annual *Kirchennacht* in Bonn.

It was masterminded by Katharina, who did the spadework for the event. We decided to combine it with a slimmed-down version of a church fete, so that the event consisted of three elements: a fete, Songs of Praise, and Poems by Candlelight, which all took place on Friday, 6 June between 5 pm and 10 pm.

Helen claimed that the sun shines on the wrong that Friday, because we had glorious sunny weather. The fete was held on the forecourt of St. Paulus. Anna and Rita were on Crafts & Nearly New, which together with the mini-quilt raffle made €236. Jean, Kathy and Rosa ran the café, which Jean and Kathy, and many others, had supplied with a mouth-watering and waistline-expanding array of home-made food. This was the second biggest earner, at €151. Jenny and Rosie catered for



Carol and José came later to do some quality control. These two stalls combined were the third biggest earner at €104. The *General-Anzeiger* came to report and photograph, so Barbara's publicity work resulted in a big spread entitled *Anglikaner stellen sich vor* in next day's paper. At 7.30 there was a mad dash to clear up in time for Songs of Praise at 8 p.m.

Special mention here should be made of Jenny and Rainer, who proved that if faith doesn't always move mountains, at least it helps you to move tables. (*contd on Page 4*)

intellectual tastes (Harry Potter in Aramaic), while Devika brought light into our lives via the candles stall. Helen and Jill quenched ex-pats' thirst for exotics like marmite and Horlicks. On the other side of the forecourt Walt was busy on the barbie and Geoff tested out his versions of Carol's curries on live victims.



Meanwhile, over at Songs of Praise Andrew was doing sterling work giving background info on people's favourite hymns, while the hymn choosers explained why they had chosen them. We were very grateful to Dagmar adding musical quality to the singing by playing the organ.

The three parts of our *Kirchennacht* went off very well. Although the Fete's main aim was to publicise the Chaplaincy and not to make money, it in fact earned us €700 profit, despite the slightly lower prices charged for some food. The Songs of Praise gave us that rare sight outside Christmas or Easter of a full church. More importantly, the event brought a lot of unfamiliar faces into the church; another of our aims. So, the *Kirchennacht* was a lot of work, but fun, and because we tried out something new, it was also invigorating.

Concerts at All Saints Cologne

An evening of Scottish music!

On 30th June, All Saints welcomed the return of Scottish Wind Orchestra and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra along with their acoustic guitar ensemble and pipers. The programme was a mix of Scottish compositions with classical and modern works by Holst, Maxwell Davies and Wilby. The audience was absolutely thrilled with this concert, especially the pipers, who added to the atmosphere, and there was a lot of positive feedback.



Clic Sargent (www.clicsargent.org.uk/) was the chosen charity for this concert and part of the 595,95 € raised from the concert will go towards the charity's work in the UK with children and young people, and their families. The charity provides clinical, practical, financial and emotional support to help them cope with cancer and get the most out of life.

Photos courtesy of Eduard Bungartz

St. Peter's Choir from Nottingham. . .

On 23rd August, 7.30 pm, St Peter's Choir, Nottingham, will be performing for the first time at All Saints, however, it will be a return visit for their conductor, Peter Siepmann, who conducted the "Viva Voce" University choir back in 2005.

The choir sings one or two services every Sunday and often in UK cathedrals. Since 2008, it has performed in Peterborough, Bath, Llandaff, Winchester, Norwich, Durham, Canterbury, Lincoln, Ripon and Southwark cathedrals, as well as at Westminster Abbey and Southwell Minster. Their last foreign tour was to Paris. According to the Nottingham Evening Post, the choir produces an *"outstanding standard of music-making"*.

The choir tackles a broad range of repertoire from plainsong and renaissance polyphony to Romantic and contemporary works from across the world. Their programme at All Saints will include music by Byrd, Tallis, Purcell, Howells, Stanford and Holst.

For more about the choir go to www.nottinghamchurches.org

Hallé Youth Orchestra . . .

On Saturday 26th July, 7.30 pm, we will be welcoming the Hallé Youth Orchestra with a programme including Tam O'Shanter by Malcolm Arnold; Dvorak's Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104, and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No.2 in C Minor, Op.17.

The Youth Orchestra, made up of musicians aged 13-19, embarks on a foreign tour or UK-based residential course/tour each summer. Previous tours have included Italy, Germany, France, Belgium, The Netherlands, Cardiff, Cornwall and Edinburgh.

Youth Orchestra members work regularly with the Hallé, which ranks among the UK's top symphonic ensembles. Some have also worked with artists of international standing including Sir Mark Elder, Heinrich Schiff, Cristian Mandeal and Emma Bell.

Over the last three years, the Youth Orchestra has been working in partnership with the Royal Opera House in a project called "Stage Players".

For more information on the orchestra go to www.halle.co.uk/halle-youth-orchestra.aspx#

English Summer Fete

Saturday, 30th August 2014
12 noon - 4 p.m.



BBQ

Games
for all

Cream
teas

English
home
produce

English
books

Tombola

All Saints' Anglican Church
Lindenallee 61, 50968 Cologne-Marienburg
Bus 132: Arnoldshöhe

Christian Meditation

Revd Andrew Sillis

Meditation has always been part of the practice of christian prayer. Meditation might be characterised as the listening part of the conversation we have with God in prayer. It is as important to listen as it is to speak in our prayers. Someone once described prayer without listening, like going to the doctor and telling her your symptoms in great detail, but not waiting for the advice or medication. In our prayer times we too must "wait for the Lord".

Around the 3rd century, some christian monks and nuns, known as the 'Desert Fathers and Mothers' after their chosen location, began to focus their entire lives on meditating and listening to God. This would be extreme for us, but out of their practice grew helpful traditions of christian meditation. One such would be the practice of 'Lectio Divina' or 'divine reading'. where a passage is read, slowly and carefully, meditation upon the passage takes place, a response is formed, and time is taken simply to rest and 'be' in the presence of the Word of God.



Meditation is scientifically proven method of reducing stress and anxiety. In recent years it has been popularised as 'Mindfulness' which whilst drawing on Buddhist meditative practice, is also useful to Christians working from within our own faith tradition. The prophet Isaiah said, "those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31). So meditation is not just time spent doing nothing, but time during which God can heal and bless you.



Mindfulness Practices are designed to help you shut out the chatter of the world and help you, not to go over the past (*regret*), nor to rehearse the future (*worry*), but to concentrate on what is happening in the present. Of course the mind will wander as you meditate, that is what minds do, but the practice is always to return to the present without feeling guilt, regret or worry. After all, God does not want to us live with past pain or future anxiety, but to enjoy his loving

presence in the here and now. So christians should take time to rejoice in the presence of God, accepting his forgiveness, and trusting in his loving care.

At the beginning of the year I recommended a book of christian meditations and reflective practices "*Running over Rocks*" by Ian Adams (ISBN 978-1-84825-168-7).

I can also highly recommend "*Whispers in the Stillness*" by Martina Lehane Sheehan (ISBN 978-1-84730-555-8) a book of guided exercises which draws on the science of 'mindfulness' for christian meditation.

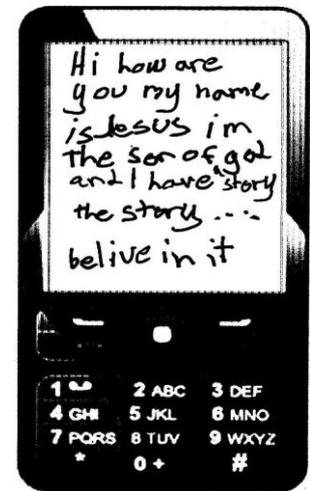
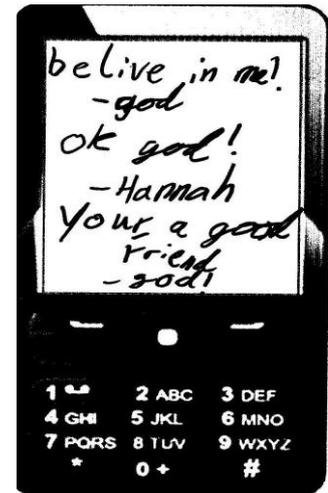
Find out more about Lectio Divina: <http://ocarm.org/en/content/lectio/what-lectio-divina>

Children's Ministry

Since the last newsletter, BLAB has questioned, argued and had deep philosophical chats about a number of God-related things . . . and if you think "empty vessels make most noise", think again. There is no greater challenge to one's own faith than starting with what seems a perfectly innocent, straightforward "lesson" on a Bible text, and ending up being challenged by BLAB member views on the meaning of life; life after death; and the whereabouts of God? Our recent sessions have included establishing a relationship with Jesus as one of his disciples, in particular coming to realise how Jesus can talk to us in everyday life. We looked at teachings in the Bible, and as with any interpretation of the Word, reconsidered what Jesus' messages are, and if he sent us a text today, what would he say.....

The girls were also sent off on a Scavenger Hunt around the Church grounds finding clues to piece together John 14: 1-6 to realise that Jesus is "the way", and then played a truth game to realise that the more you know about someone and the deeper your relationship is, the more likely you are to know "the truth" about them, and so motivating them to learn more and more about Jesus through the Gospels.

Children's groups run in Bonn and Cologne during the service every 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month.



Walt's joke!

Why go to church?

If you're spiritually alive, you're going to love this! If you're spiritually dead, you won't want to read it. If you're spiritually curious, there is still hope!

A Churchgoer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. *"I've gone for 30 years now,"* he wrote, *"and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."*

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher: *"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this. They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"*

When you are DOWN to nothing, God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment!

Anglican Chaplaincy



Bonn and Cologne

We welcome people of all traditions and languages to our **Sunday** services.

9.30 Eucharist in St Paulus, Bonn

Siegburger Strasse 75, 53229 Bonn-Beuel-Ost

11.45 Eucharist in All Saints Cologne

Bonner Straße / Lindentallee, Köln-Marienburg

Friday: 6pm Evening Prayer; 6.30-7.30pm Bible Study Sessions

Chaplain: Rev Andrew Sillis

Assistant Curates: Matthias Grebe, Richard Gardiner

Churchwardens Bonn: Geoff Sammon, Kathy Caldwell

Churchwardens Cologne: Barbara Merkes, Markus Müller

Chair of the FACBC (Friends of the Anglican

Chaplaincy in Bonn and Cologne): Katharina Meier-Cortes

We're on the web: www.anglicanbonncologne.de



Email chaplain@anglicanbonncologne.de

Telephone 0228 3681 6598
0170 693

5538(mobile)

Chaplain's address: Koblenzer Strasse 85,
53177 Bonn

Andrew also uses Facebook, Twitter.

Andrew is a busy man; however he's busy with people like you! He is very happy to hear from you; please leave him a message, and he'll call you back.

Andrew does not work between Friday and Saturday evenings. This may vary depending on commitments. If you need to contact him urgently, you must leave him a message, as he will not answer calls during this period but does check messages.

Please Donate Generously!

The chaplaincy receives no Kirchensteuer or subsidies and relies wholly on the generosity of its members.

We want to continue providing valuable resources and opportunities to our members, and regular income is extremely helpful to us.

If you can, please sign up to a regular donation; however much that is, it will be greatly appreciated!

Payment details can be requested from Andrew.

A receipt (Spendenbescheinigung) can be issued for all donations.

The Anglican Church is in full communion with the Old Catholic Churches of the Union of Utrecht. The chaplaincy has two Old Catholic sister congregations. Bonn: St. Cyprian, Adenauerallee 61, 53111 Bonn. Cologne: Christi Auferstehung, Jülicher Str. 28, 50674 Köln.

More information: www.alt-katholisch.de