



Association Cultuelle de L'Église Anglicane du Pas de Calais BOULOGNE CONGREGATION

February 2017 Newsletter

Fellowship, Hope and Love

No. 55

The cold days of February

Thumbing through some of the past newsletter opening notes, written over the last 5 years (yes it has been that long!), a lot has already been said about the shortest month of the year. Covering St. Valentine, florists, carnivals, seasonal cleaning and changers in the Chaplaincy etc.; so this one is unlikely to yield anything original. The book of Ecclesiastes makes it clear: 'What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun.'

Today the word 'originality', when applied to a creative work, is considered a compliment – yet back in Shakespeare's day it was deemed the norm to admire the similarity of a play, book or painting, with that of another. An audience might applaud difference, but overall favoured likeness. Taste was largely conservative and a piece was judged on its merit in an established mould. Innovation was slow - by design.

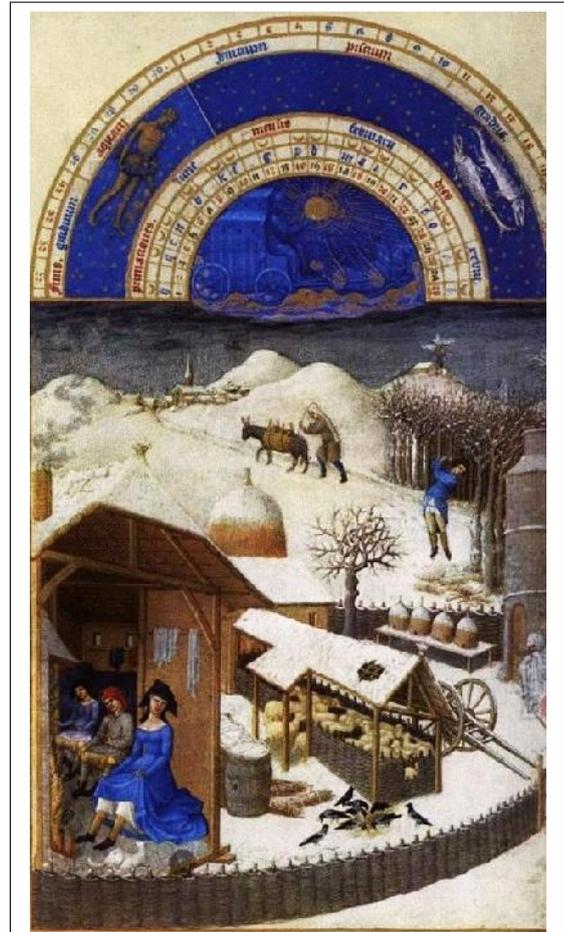
Appearing on earlier newsletter front pages, are some of the lavish 15th century illustrations from a 'livre d'heures', once owned by the Duc de Berry. These might be described as cutting edge for their time. The duke owned many canonical books, but the last of the 'Books of Hours' - a collection of prayers and other religious material for use at set times, that he commissioned, turns out to be by far the best, earning it the title: 'Très Riches Heures'. Unfortunately both the sponsor and the artists died of the plague before it was completed. It was later finished by other hands. In the calendar section, the February picture, historians claim, is the first snowy landscape in the history of European painting; predating the Bruegels' famous snowscapes by a hundred years.

So here, this month, we glance back to a February 600 years past. The sky is dark hinting still more snow is on the way, all work must be done before it comes. Wood for fuel is being cut and a donkey carries it off to the next village; sheep huddle together in the shed, although the roof needs repairing. The beehives and haystacks are crowned with frozen snow and a woman blows on her numb hands to warm them, while birds peck away at the scraps thrown out on the ground. Peeking inside the cottage we see a well dressed lady lifting her dress just enough to warm her ankles in front of the fire, but the two male characters, next to her, have no such modesty, nor underwear – no wonder the lady turns her head away!

The picture -a miniature masterpiece - depicts clearly the contrast between the comfort of a warm interior and the cold hostile world outside. Let us never forget those who have found no place beside the fire and whose life has turned cold. May we share some of that warmth, and pray we never take what we have for granted. (MG)

*Jesus, tender Shepherd, hear me;
Bless Thy little lamb tonight;
Through the darkness be Thou near me;
Watch my sleep till morning light.*

*All this day Thy hand has led me,
And I thank Thee for Thy care;
Thou hast clothed me, warmed and fed me,
Listen to my evening prayer.*



February, attributed to Paul Limbourg, (?1380-1416) From Très Riches Heures du Duc de Berry circa: 1416 Musée Condé, Chantilly



Planned services at the chapel of the Monastère du Carmel, 2 rue du Denacre, Saint-Martin-Boulogne

Sunday 5th February 2017 10h30 / Fourth Sunday before Lent Service of Morning Prayer with hymns and readings led by Linda Pillière

Sunday 19th February 2017 10h30 / Second Sunday before Lent – Eucharist service led by Archdeacon of France: The Ven. Meurig Llwyd Williams at

Condette, open to all congregations –see below for details.

Sunday 5th March 2017 10h30 / First Sunday in Lent - Morning Prayer with hymns and readings led by Jackie and Colin Ley

Sunday 19th March 2017 10h30 / Third Sunday in Lent – Eucharist service (Celebrant to be advised); Readings: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; 1 Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

News and dates for your diary:

Sunday 29th January 11h00 PLEASE NOTE THERE HAS BEEN A FURTHER CHANGE OF VENUE IN RELATION TO THIS SERVICE It will be now be held in the Centre St. Nicolas, Avenue Guynemer, Calais / Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas) - Eucharist service joint with all our congregations, led by Rev. Sara MacVane Readings: Malachi 3: 1-5; Psalm 24: 7-end; Hebrews 2: 14-end; Luke 2: 22-40. Calais congregation will be providing a meal afterwards and therefore it would be useful to know numbers beforehand please contact: Pat Page ☎ 03 21 35 07 65 or e-mail: pat.page@wanadoo.fr

NB : Centre St. Nicolas is close to the 'Centre Commercial MiVoix Carrefour' in Calais

Special service with the Archdeacon of France on Sunday 19th February 2017.



This will take place at the Maison Diocésaine 'Les Tourelles' 12 avenue de l'Yser, 62360 Condette. An outline of the day's programme is as follows: Arrival from 10h30 for meeting at 11h00 followed by reflections; lunch served at 13h00; Eucharist service at 14h00 with close of the day's events at approx. 16h00. There is a charge of €15 per person, which includes lunch and refreshments.

Please make payment at one of our services before February 6th at the latest -cheques should be payable to 'Association Cultuelle Eglise Anglicane Pas-de-Calais' and can be posted to Linda Pillière, 8, Résidence Le Ruisseau, 62360 La Capelle-les-Boulogne



'Les Tourelles' - Condette

Our Archdeacon: Meurig Williams

Meurig is the new Archdeacon of France and Monaco. A native of Bangor in North Wales, he grew up in a Welsh-speaking home (his father was a Baptist Minister) and studied Modern Languages (which included a year in Bordeaux) at Aberystwyth. After a brief period of teaching French and German in a secondary school near Cardiff, Meurig returned to University to read Theology at Cardiff. After training for the priesthood at Westcott House, Cambridge, he served parishes in the Church in Wales in Holyhead, Pwllheli and Cardiff, before being appointed Archdeacon of Bangor in 2004. He was also Team Rector of Bangor. He moved to the Diocese in Europe in 2011 as Bishop Geoffrey's Commissary and Chaplain, and became acting-Archdeacon of North-West Europe in 2012.

Living now in the French-speaking part of Belgium, in Nivelles, Meurig describes himself as a 'Welsh European', who loves France, especially its language, culture - and cuisine! He also enjoys music, travel, literature, walking and cooking.

From the archives... 22 years ago ...

In the early hours of 25th January 1995, a serious landslide above the port of Boulogne, resulted in the loss of the town's Calvaire des Marins. In the summer 1995 issue of our church magazine, this article appeared, tracing the history of that monument. It was written by 'Elisabeth' and is reproduced below:*

Although the Sailors' Calvary, overlooking the port of Boulogne was sadly destroyed earlier this year, it will doubtless be rebuilt and find once again its rightful place near where Caligula's lighthouse once stood and not far from where St. Patrick is said to have been born around 385 AD when his father was the lighthouse keeper.

Ever since times gone by, the sailors of Boulogne have asked for God's protection on leaving the harbour and especially at two specific times of the year: on the third Sunday in July and in the month of October before setting sail for distant waters to fish for herring and cod.

It was customary, in the Middle Ages to build calvaries, the first French one being built at Notre Dame de Tronoën in Finistère at the end of the 15th century. Boulogne's first *calvaire* was built soon after in 1544 on the seashore. Another was erected in the market square, at the entrance to rue d'Aumont, near the town hall; it was moved to the Porte des Dunes in 1703. A third was built on the ruins of the Fort-Rouge. The first mention of a calvary on Mont Saint Adrien, overlooking the port, was 1750, as a meeting place for those running away to England. After the Revolution and during the Reign of Terror, the three calvary crosses were taken down and kept in the parish church of St. Nicolas.

In August 1817, a new *calvaire* was consecrated at the bottom of the cliff by the entrance to rue des Signaux. However the site, which had been donated by a M. Sauvage - who was a customs officer, was soon found to be too near the cafés and dance halls of Boulevard Sainte Beuve. In July 1825, the Mayor, Alexandre Adam agreed to allow the monument to be moved to the top of the cliff - apparently the move took eight years to complete!

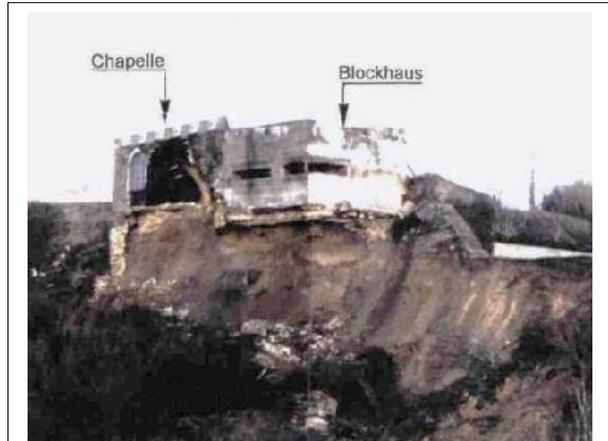
By 1876, the wooden cross was sixty years old and falling apart, so a committee was set up with the aim of purchasing a cast iron crucifix, which would crown the cross, with its foundations set into the cliff. This was done and a chapel built next to it.

Partly destroyed by the Germans in May 1940, the Sailors' Calvary was transformed into an observation post and the chapel linked by a staircase to a blockhaus built underneath the cliff. In 1944 Rommel requested the painting of four false ogival windows and that the roof of the blockhaus be used as an anti-aircraft defence platform. After the war the building was restored and topped by a 9.6m high cross, made from azobe wood and a bronze Christ was made from 500 kilos of metal from Boulogne ships involved in the two World Wars. Around the Calvary were 50 black striped buoys from ships lost since 1914 joined by similar red striped buoys, representing the existing industrial and artisan trawlers based in Boulogne. The chapel was completed in 1974 and had two stained glass windows and a polychrome statue of Our Lady, and also two 3cm thick glass windows at the entrance by Jacques Louarre of Chartres, lighting the interior. The cloister was roofed in 1980.

Let us pray that the Sailors' Calvary will soon find a new safe site overlooking the harbour, as it did in the past, protecting our port and standing once again in memory to those who are part of our everyday life.

Editor's note: The Calvaire des Marins has of course been since rebuilt on a more stable site, overlooking the port. The design of the new monument evokes the hull of a boat and is the work of architect Guy Crespel. Fortunately the cross, and some of the ex-votos were saved and form an integral part of the new Calvary. The view is impressive from the upper terrace across the straits. Open to visitors on weekdays only, mid-June to mid-September.

In next month's issue Rev. David Houghton takes us deep into Romania by local train



Picture taken in January 1995 showing what remained of the chapel and blockhaus



The present Calvaire des Marins

Prayer Diary /Intercessions - A book is now available for the entry of names of those who anyone wishes to have included in the intercessory prayers during the service. Otherwise please pass a note to the person responsible for the intercessions on that day.

If anyone needs any form of help or assistance or if you are aware of someone who is ill, either in hospital or at home and would appreciate a visit; alternatively if you know of anyone who you feel may benefit from prayer, please contact the church warden:

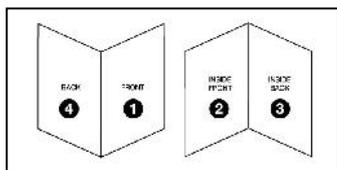
Other services in the Chaplaincy Calais's regular services: Services are held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 10h30. The normal place of worship is now the Oratoire Notre Dame de la Misericorde, rue Gaillard, Calais – (near St Pierre's church). Church Warden: Pat Page ☎ 03 21 35 07 65 or e-mail: pat.page@wanadoo.fr

Hesdin's regular services: Services are held as follows: 1st Sunday monthly – Morning Prayer 10h30; 3rd Sunday monthly – 17h00 Eucharist. Services are held in Salle de l'Arsenal, Rue de l'Arsenal, Hesdin. - Church Warden: Hazel Crompton, ☎03 21 03 31 27 e-mail: james.crompton@free.fr

Facebook: It is now possible to follow the Chaplaincy on Facebook go to: <https://www.facebook.com/Pas-de-Calais-Anglican-Church>

This newsletter can be found, together with other information about the Chaplaincy, on our website at: <http://www.anglicanspdc.com>

If you have any news, short articles, adverts or any form of announcement for inclusion, please send them to: Malcolm Gale: malcolm.gale@dbmail.com - ☎03 21 31 83 57 Port: 06 99 09 60 44 or by post to 76, rue de la Paix, 62200 Boulogne sur Mer.



The next edition of this newsletter will be the March 2017 issue – please send your contributions to the editor (contact details above) before February 28th.

Printing your newsletter: This newsletter is designed to be printed at A5 size - select the 'livret' or 'booklet' printing format on the print management page of Adobe PDF Reader, this turns it into a handy A5 size four-page leaflet – of course remember to pass the paper through your printer twice (i.e. both sides).



Can you form a cross out of the following shapes?

???

