

Maunday Thursday saw the traditional washing of feet and gradual dimming of light for the Watch during the chanting of Psalm 22. The **Good Friday** liturgy at All Saints' has always seen music take a major role, and this year was no exception. During the first hour Bach organ music, played expertly by our titular organist



Narindra and Richard with children

Gabriele Catalucci, was the musical thread throughout, while hymn singing accompanied movement round the Stations of the Cross during the second hour. During the third hour the All Saints' choir joined the service, singing the anthem "Of the glorious body telling" and then paying an important role in the singing of the mainly plainchant setting of the St John Passion. As in several published versions of this setting there were insertions of an English translation of the Passion by Tomas Luis de Victoria. The Chronista (Evangelist) was sung by Father Jonathan, Christ by Andrew Cochlin and the tenor taking the other main roles was Father Tim. The Synagoga or Turba was the rest of the choir.

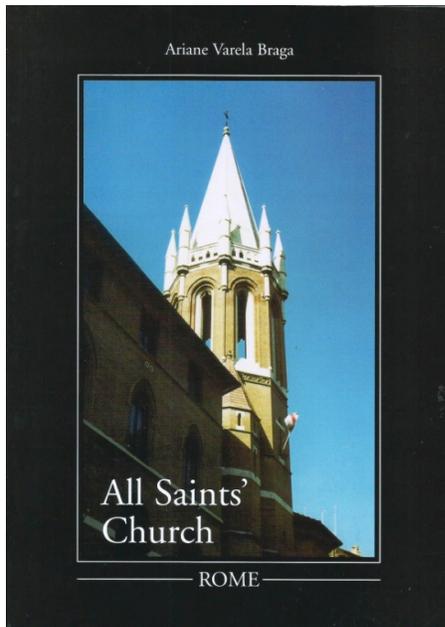
On **Easter Day** a small group of the faithful, accompanied on the organ by Aine Kennedy, attended the 5.30 vigil, and for the main service not only were we regaled with music played by organ, choir, trumpet and flute, plus a tenor solo as an anthem, but we also had the joy of baptising Gioia, daughter of flautist Narindra and tenor Richard! With over 150 people in the congregation it was indeed a festive occasion. During his sermon Father Jonathan read out the following poem by George Herbert:

Easter Wings

Lord, who createdst man in wealth and store,
Though foolishly he lost the same,
Decaying more and more
Till he became
Most poor:
With thee
O let me rise
As larks, harmoniously,
And sing this day thy victories:
Then shall the fall further the flight in me.

My tender age in sorrow did begin:
And still with sicknesses and shame
Thou didst so punish sin,
That I became
Most thin.
With thee
Let me combine,
And feel this day thy victory:
For, if I imp^l my wing on thine,
Affliction shall advance the flight in me.

You will find the full recording of Father Jonathan's Easter sermon on the All Saints' website. We were honoured by the presence of the Rt Rev'd Celso Franco de Oliveira. Bishop Emeritus of the Episcopal Church of Brazil, a leading force in his country behind a project for helping the poor of Rio de Janeiro. Every Saturday in the Praça São Francisco de Paula, the Eucharist is celebrated and a simple meal, clothes, simple medicines, soaps and toothpaste. are distributed to 100 street people.



Did you know that there is a glossy guide book to All Saints' church? Written by Ariane Varela Braga, there are copies available in the vestry.

Thelma Mitchell writes:

Just as I am, without one plea ...

I sang those words at a **Billy Graham** rally in 1966 at Earl's Court, London with thousands of others. This was the point when those wishing to give their heart and life to Jesus were invited to declare it openly and hundreds did. It was quite an evening. I was there with my two best laboratory technician friends from Bart's Medical College – we're still good friends all these years later – and some others to experience a Billy Graham rally for ourselves, though we fitted into the 'already committed Christian who brought along others' category!

It was a memorable evening. Not only were we privileged to hear the mighty George Beverley Shea sing, one of the finest gospel singers of all time, and a choir of 5000 singers, there, on stage, was Cliff Richard proclaiming his new found faith and singing! What a night!

It was still Billy Graham himself who held the evening, as he did at all his rallies. This Southern Baptist minister, born William Franklin Graham in Charlotte, North Carolina in the USA, seemed to command in the palm of his hand the thousands who filled the stadium.

This handsome preacher had the ability to make the listener feel as if he or she were the only one there. He demanded a heartfelt response; 'but that *thy blood was shed for me, and that Thou*

bidst me come to Thee O LAMB OF GOD I COME.' His own faith and Christian commitment shone through, his sincerity breaking barriers of the heart. He preached the Bible as the *infallible word of God.*

*Just as I am Thou wilt receive,
will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve,*

Each year the English speaking **Churches Together** in Rome join together to raise money for a food-related outreach project, this year The Sri Lanka School Meal Program run by WFP. School meals play an important role in the lives of children and their families in the five districts of the Northern Province where primary education has been affected by the three decades of conflict, tsunami and climate shocks. Children from poor households often trek long distances to school and arrive there feeling hungry and weak. In such cases school meals motivate parents to send their children to school, provide children with a daily



nutritious meal, keep children's attention focused on their studies, help increase school enrollment, attendance and retention.

WFP began its School Meals Program in Sri Lanka in July 2003 with only four districts as a pilot in the conflict affected Northern and Eastern Provinces of the country. In 2005, after the tsunami, the school meals program was expanded from 4 districts to 6 provinces, covering 15 out of the 25 districts of the country, feeding approximately 400,000 students. Building on previous successes, the collaboration between WFP and the government provides daily nutritious meals to over 160,000 students in 958 schools in the five districts of the Northern Province.

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH, ROME
Via del Babuino 153, 00187 ROME
Tel/Fax (0039) 0636001881
Email: office@allsaintsrome.org
www.allsaintsrome.org