

Christ is risen; Alleluia! A reminder to us, as we make this proclamation throughout the Easter Season, that Easter lasts for 50 days – right through until our celebrations of Pentecost, and the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the early church. This is the challenge that faces us – how to keep that joy felt so intently last Sunday continually at the forefront of our minds and expressed in our lives.

I was grateful to Rodney, who brought to my attention a number of Easter poems that were published in *Eureka Street* last week. As those of you who attend Morning Prayer here at St. Martin's know, poetry is used regularly in this community as a way of exploring further the mysteries of our faith. I would like to share with you a new poem from Bill Rush, well known to many here. Taken from that wonderful post-resurrection story from Luke's Gospel, of the Road to Emmaus, the poem is entitled: "From the Gospel of Cleophas"

It was a conversation we didn't want to end.
Feet and hands washed, we talked as
lamps were lit.

Bread and salted fish never tasted better;
the wine sweet as any from Herod's cellar.
It was a meal we didn't want to end.

After a prayer he lifted up the loaf,
tore it in two as if it were his own body
broken in Jerusalem.

Our slow hearts quickened;
mouths mute in recognition.
We did not want this meal to end.

Jesus, our host, then and always.

Bill Rush

Congratulations and blessings upon Andrew and Shannon, married in this church on Friday afternoon. Also, please pray for Benjamin Ellis John Campbell, to be baptised in the 10am service next Sunday, and for his parents, Melissa and Stuart, and for Benjamin's God-parents who will make promises on his behalf.

May the Risen Christ, Frederic Barker, Georgina Molloy, William Law, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and all the Saints walk with you this joyful Eastertide... *Sam*