

WORD FROM THE CLOISTERS

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Radical traditionalist

THE UNLIKELY hero of Joseph Shaw's new book, *The Latin Mass and the Intellectuals: Petitions to Save the Ancient Mass from 1966 to 2007* (Arouca Press), is the writer, editor and translator Bernard Wall (1908-1974), one of the great weathervanes of English Catholic life in the twentieth century. At Oxford, Wall discussed neo-Thomism with Victor White and "the lunatic asylum that was daily life" with Eric Gill. He abhorred Pius X's stifling of modernism, scoffed at bishops and priests ("bourgeois, downtrodden yes-men") and lambasted sexual puritanism, bourgeois capitalism and Soviet communism. "Sick of the old liberal muddle", Wall flirted with distributism and, briefly, Mussolini. He shared a Chelsea gaff with Tom Burns for a few months, got several magazines off the ground, including the short-lived *Colosseum*, and with his wife Barbara Lucas co-founded the English avatar of the *Catholic Worker*. He volunteered for the tricky job of translating Teilhard de Chardin's neologisms into English. "Here we are in the Noosphere!" he would announce to his family when wedged in a traffic jam.

"Enthusiasm would be a mild word to express my admiration for all the signs of



passionate holiness, sanity, toleration and rebirth that have inspired and been inspired by the Second Vatican Council," Wall wrote. Yet a few years before his death, he was the chief convenor behind a petition pleading for the continued celebration of the Latin Mass in the *usus antiquior* alongside the shiny *novus ordo*. "I am both a traditionalist and a radical. Traditionalist in Latin, radical in politics," he explained.

Signatures were sent to his and Barbara's home in Notting Hill, in west London, and Wall's petition was delivered to Pope Paul VI in a private audience by Cardinal Heenan in

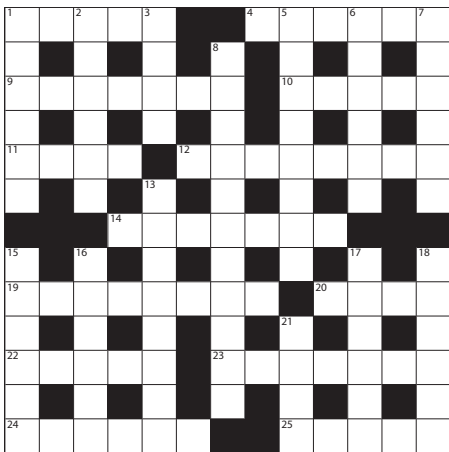
1971. Famously, the Pope is said to have run through the list of distinguished signatories – David Jones, Graham Greene, Kenneth Clark, Philip Toynbee, Cecil Day Lewis, Robert Lowell, Robert Bresson, Jorge Luis Borges, Uncle Tom Cobley and all – his eyes glazing over until they alighted on a familiar name. "Ah," he said, "Agatha Christie!" and signed his approval.

SHAW IS the president of the Latin Mass Society. In the latest edition of its free quarterly magazine, *Mass of Ages*, he announces that it will no longer carry a list of Masses celebrated according to the 1962 Missal, and that the information will no longer appear on the publicly accessible part of the LMS website. Only signed-up members of the LMS will now be able to look up where these Masses are being held.

The list was a lifeline for some members, Shaw writes, especially when travelling. But there were some who, "looking at the list, didn't like what they saw, and didn't think others should be able to see it". He quotes Bernard Wall, who introduced his petition by arguing that "a liberal and plural approach to church ceremonies was in harmony with our age where all are allowed to do and think what suits them best, and that a totalitarian prohibition of the old Mass involved an out-of-date approach".

PUZZLES

PRIZE CROSSWORD No. 883 Alanus



Across

- 1 Bird we follow to find recipient of 24 correspondence (5)
- 4 See 24 Across
- 9 Concerning furniture item for shelf behind altar (7)
- 10 Candle lighter for Our Lady of the Welsh Shrine? (5)
- 11 Vessel holding sound question for Dutch landscape artist Aelbert (4)
- 12 Heavenly body above heather disguising bird (8)
- 14 Illuminated by heavenly bodies! (7)
- 19 Young racehorse "Grey Nail" may be a future winner! (8)
- 20 Bird at the back we hear can't fly (4)

- 22 & 25 Across: Chemist upset with use of what instrumentalist has to play (5,5)
- 23 Fictional detective brother at Scottish chez moi (7)
- 24 & 4 Across: Letter-writing Apostle with own biblical address (4,2,6)
- 25 See 22 Across

Down

- 1 Article about car breakdown people in land of Ancient Greece (6)
- 2 Setback around your old Saturn moon (6)
- 3 Vehicle returns with saint and those who stand in (4)
- 5 Rita's ode is about a heavenly body (8)

- 6 Churned up hops I gave to a saint of Hadrian's Rome (6)
- 7 Small shoots produced by sanctimonious type constrained by saints (6)
- 8 Tudor money with note about Book of the Old Testament (11)
- 13 Sharp heel can also be a killer! (8)
- 15 Shop about with letters revealing nature of stick offered to Christ on Cross (6)
- 16 Lamb's father with French water for French composer (6)
- 17 Non-vegetarian food in first Egyptian pyramid (6)
- 18 Tail off going into time of Old Testament sea (6)
- 21 Saint with belt for car may be a con (4)

Please send your answers to: Crossword Competition 9 December, The Tablet, 1 King Street Cloisters, Clifton Walk, London W6 0GY. Email: thetablet@thetablet.co.uk, with Crossword in the subject field. Please include your full name, telephone number and email address, and a mailing address. Three books – on God, Miracles and Biblical Archaeology – from OUP's Very Short Introduction series will go to the sender of the first correct entry drawn at random.

SUDOKU | Easy

3			2					1
	6	1	5					9
	5	7			3	4		
9	1				8	3		
		8	3		5			4
		4	6			7		2
5	3				7	8		

Each 3x3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9.

Solution to the 18 November puzzle

2	4	7	5	8	9	1	6	3
1	3	5	2	6	7	4	8	9
8	9	6	4	3	1	5	2	7
7	5	3	6	9	2	8	1	4
6	1	9	8	4	3	2	7	5
4	8	2	7	1	5	3	9	6
3	2	1	9	7	4	6	5	8
9	6	4	1	5	8	7	3	2
5	7	8	3	2	6	9	4	1

Solution to the 18 November crossword No. 880

- Across: 1 Sewage; 5 Shook; 8 Stale; 9 Classes; 10 Alto; 11 Tricks me; 13 Acted; 14 Stops; 19 In a state; 21 Undo; 23 Outlast; 24 Canal; 25 Linen; 26 Shekel.
- Down: 2 Elastic; 3 Apex; 4 Encore; 5 Scarcity; 6 Oasis; 7 Koshier; 8 Shaw; 12 Restrain; 15 Penance; 16 Fiscal; 17 Stasis; 18 Goal; 20 Anton; 22 Ache.

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