

WORD FROM THE CLOISTERS

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The spirit of the Mersey

DAVID McLOUGHLIN gives this year's Liverpool Romero Lecture at Hope University (Everton Campus), following a memorial Mass in the nearby church of St Francis Xavier celebrated by Bishop John Rawsthorne.

The event takes place on Wednesday 25 September, the first anniversary of the death of Kevin Kelly, the much loved Crosby-born priest and theologian. Fr Kelly preached on the first anniversary of the assassination of St Oscar Romero in 1981 in Liverpool metropolitan cathedral; the city is the only place to have celebrated the anniversary of Romero's martyrdom every year since then with a special Mass and sermon.

The lives of two other Liverpool priests will also be remembered: Austin Smith, who established the Passionist inner city mission in Toxteth in 1971 and served in the Liverpool 8 district until his death in 2011, and Tom Cullinan, who lived a life of prayer and simplicity at Ince Benet near Liverpool for 40 years, scratching a living off the land as a farmer, book-binder, writer and spiritual guide. It was Fr Cullinan – who died in January this year – who made the parallel between Jesus'



overturning of the tables in the Temple and Romero's provocative homily calling on soldiers to disobey orders to kill innocent campesinos.

Three Merseyside prophets and the saint of San Salvador: four priests, four lives of prayer, study, courage and tenacity in the face of injustice, four deaths that opened the way to resurrection. All are invited to toast this remarkable quartet. Event details at www.romerotrust.org.uk

THE COMPOSER Roxanna Panufnik is one of the great unifiers and bridge-builders in

contemporary culture. Exactly a year ago this weekend, she galvanised the Last Night of the Proms audience with *Songs of Darkness, Dreams of Light*, which drew on Jewish, Maronite and Sufi traditions.

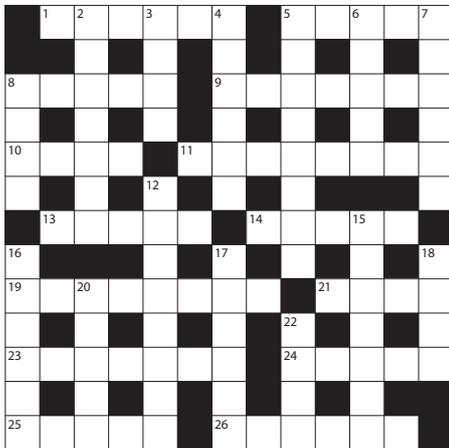
Under the frilly ceiling of Horace Walpole's gothic dining room in Strawberry Hill last week, she held members of the Catholic Theological Association spellbound as she spoke of how "the most powerful religious experience I have ever had" had come to her through music, in Westminster Cathedral, when John Tavener's *Hymn to the Mother of God* began in the Lady Chapel and drifted through to fill the whole space. "Have you all had deep religious experiences listening to music?" she asked. "Aren't we lucky?"

The effervescent Panufnik is the daughter of the composer Andrzej Panufnik. Though he was Polish, the family were not churchgoers. Roxanna did not become a practising Catholic until the age of 21, and wrote her first Mass setting at the age of 29. Jolly *Kyries* annoy her. We need to dig deep inside ourselves for our personal reaction to the words. "Clarity is everything. Why set the words if you are not going to be able to hear them?"

After working with music all day, she does not listen to music for pleasure. "I'd rather listen to *The Archers*," she admitted.

PUZZLES

PRIZE CROSSWORD No. 674 | Alanus



Across

- 1 See 8 Across
- 5 European capital whose cathedral (RC) is dedicated to St Florin (5)
- 8 & 1 Acr: Declaration that a book contains nothing contrary to the faith of the Church (5,6)
- 9 European capital with cathedrals dedicated to St Peter and St Anne (7)
- 10 ---- mater, reference to one's former school or university (4)
- 11 Early martyr dedicatee of a pilgrim church of Rome containing his tomb, "Outside the Walls" (8)
- 13 Karl ----, influential Swiss theologian, author of *Church Dogmatics* (5)
- 14 Anton ----, composer and performer of music for 7 Down film (5)
- 19 Italian Renaissance master whose *Marriage*

- of the *Virgin* inspired Raphael's version (8)
- 21 Mythological river giving us Achilles' heel (4)
- 23 The "Hoosier" state of the USA (7)
- 24 Implement used in Orthodox Church for distributing Holy Communion (5)
- 25 Ancient Greek concept of hospitality and recurrent theme in Homer's *Odyssey* (5)
- 26 Early church martyr and patron saint of bell founders and wet nurses (6)

Down

- 2 Former kingdom of central Europe, monarchs included Wenceslaus IV (7)
- 3 Jethro ----, agricultural pioneer (4)
- 4 Ammonite official who tried to prevent Nehemiah (Ch.4) rebuilding Jerusalem (6)
- 5 Emperor under whose persecution 11 Across was martyred (8)
- 6 Part of and function of a piscina in a

- sanctuary wall (5)
- 7 Instrument made famous in film of Graham Greene's *The Third Man* (6)
- 8 Righteous patriarch farmer in Genesis turned boat-builder to save his family (4)
- 12 Appearance of the bodily wounds of Christ on a living person as with Padre Pio (8)
- 15 Middle Eastern city where followers of Jesus were first called "Christians" (7)
- 16 Mythological creature as subject of huge limestone sculpture near the River Nile (6)
- 17 *Eyeless* ----, Huxley novel (2,4)
- 18 What, inter alia, the merchants Christ drove from the temple were selling (4)
- 20 French sculptor whose works include *The Kiss* and *The Thinker* (5)
- 22 "Pile Pelion upon ----" add further difficulty to a situation (4)

Please send your answers to: Crossword Competition 14 September, 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. A copy of *The Saints: A Short History*, by Simon Yarrow, OUP, will go to the sender of the first correct entry drawn at random on Friday 27 September. The answers to this week's puzzles and the crossword winner's name will appear in the 5 October issue.

SUDOKU | Challenging

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

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